

# Connecticut Guardian



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*Home for the Holidays...*



*Spc. Jeffrey Austin gets a hug and kiss from his wife upon the triumphant return of his unit, the 65<sup>th</sup> Press Camp Headquarters, from a six-month deployment in Bosnia. (Photo by Maj. John Whitford, State PAO. Story on page 3.)*

# Holiday Greetings From Governor Rowland



JOHN G. ROWLAND  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS  
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT  
06106

November 22, 2000

Dear Members and Families of the Connecticut National Guard & Office of Emergency Management:

The holiday season is upon us once again. It is a special time for warm thoughts, sharing and good will. It is a time for remembering those around us and for appreciating the many blessings we enjoy.

During the holiday season, the people of our state and our nation remember with gratitude the dedicated men and women who serve in our armed services and who give true meaning to the peace on earth we celebrate at this time.

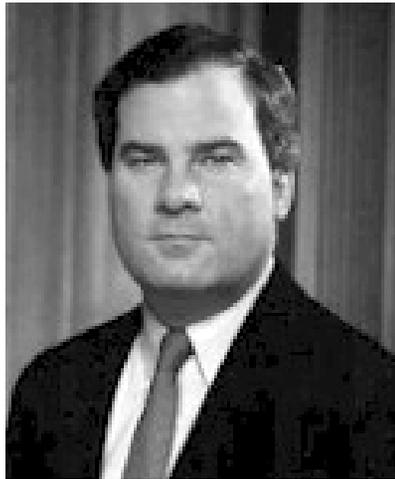
To the men and women who serve in the Connecticut National Guard, who have returned from serving in Bosnia and to those who will deploy overseas next year, you bring great honor to our state and nation. Your service, performance and devotion to duty reflect the highest standards of patriotism, courage and honor.

It is my privilege and pleasure to extend warmest greetings of this joyous season and best wishes for health and happiness in the New Year.

From all of us to all of you, Happy Holidays and a sincere thank you for all you do.

Sincerely,

JOHN G. ROWLAND  
Governor



# Up Front With The Adjutant General



December 2000

Dear Members and Families of the Connecticut Military Department:

As we approach the holiday season, I would like to express my appreciation and gratitude to the men and women of the Connecticut Military Department for your professionalism, contributions and sacrifices throughout this past year. I wish you and your family a most joyous, healthy, and enjoyable holiday season.

Throughout this special season of joy, sharing, and family festivities, I ask that you consider **safety** in all your activities.

Happy Holidays to you and your family and all the best in the New Year.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM A. CUGNO  
Major General  
The Adjutant General  
State of Connecticut



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# Freedom is Not Free

## 65<sup>th</sup> PCH returns from Bosnia

STORY BY STAFF SGT. STEVE MARKOWSKI, 65TH PCH  
PHOTOS BY MAJ. JOHN WHITFORD, STATE PAO AND  
SPC. KARYN REYNOLDS, 65TH PCH

After seven months of active Army duty in support of the U.S. mission in the Balkans, Connecticut Army National Guard members from the 65<sup>th</sup> Press Camp

Headquarters know more about the effects of war, the purpose of peacekeeping and why they are not only proud to be Americans, but fortunate.

Earlier this year, 20 members of the 65<sup>th</sup> PCH, including four from Connecticut, were called to active duty for 270 days. They left New England in April, and worked as journalists, public affairs representatives and media escorts in Bosnia, Croatia and Hungary. On November 3rd, they were welcomed home by family members, friends and fellow Guard members at the armory in Lexington, Mass., where the unit is based. And while they are happy to be home, they also know more about why they left home to serve as part of Operation Joint Endeavor the U.S. mission in the Balkan Republics.

"I now know that freedom is not free," said Capt. Robert Bartholomew, who spent the bulk of the deployment at Camp Dobol, in Bosnia, near the Zone of Separation where tensions continue to run high. "I think (the U.S. military has) saved lives by going over there. Some of the people (in Bosnia and surrounding republics) appreciate it... others hate us for it. But I'm really glad I had the opportunity to go over there because the people there really need our help."

"I never felt so proud to be an American. Now when I hear patriotic songs, I really feel them - the words that are there. I have a huge appreciation in my life, now. We are the most powerful nation on earth, and for the first time I realize exactly what that means and why it is so important," he said.

The Connecticut members of the 65<sup>th</sup> agree that the deployment was the experience of a lifetime. Each member speaks of feeling pride and a special satisfaction of being involved in the historic peacekeeping mission that halted the brutal fighting that tore apart Yugoslavia, which was once seen as a model republic in that region of the world.

Maj. Sherman McGrew also expresses satisfaction for deploying to a real-world mission as a member of the Connecticut Army National Guard. He's the commander of the Hartford-based Detachment 1, of the 65<sup>th</sup> PCH.

"After 20 years of training with the National

Guard, to actually go somewhere and do something... it just feels great. We actually did it, rather than just train in case we had to do it some day," McGrew said. This was the first of



the seven Stabilization Force rotations (SFOR-7) to be taken over by a National Guard unit. The 49<sup>th</sup> Armored Cavalry Regiment of the Texas National

Guard handled that duty.

U.S. soldiers served alongside soldiers from 41 other countries.



McGrew served as public affairs officer for the National Support Element based out of Tazsar, Hungary. Witnessing the destructive aftermath wrought by years of fighting and the infamous ethnic cleansing in Bosnia and Croatia had an impact on McGrew, as represented in his monthly columns that appeared in the Connecticut Guardian throughout the deployment.

Spc. Jeff Austin, a member of the Hartford-based Detachment 1, did not have to wait 20 years for his first deployment. He was barely six months removed from his advanced individual training as a photojournalist before he was boarding a C-130 on his way to Fort Benning, Ga., where the 65<sup>th</sup> performed the final phases of training before officially joining SFOR-7 in the Balkans.

As a college-educated professional in his 30's, Austin did not take to well to drill sergeants... at first. I hated it, until I learned to apply a lot of what they were teaching us to other aspects of my life. And because there was such a short time between basic training and our deployment, the information was fresh and I was able to apply a lot of that to the deployment.

While force protection is a main concern for

all U.S. soldiers in the Balkans, Austin received a clear reminder of its importance while in the darkness on a mountain road in an area unfamiliar to him. It was toward the end of the deployment while he was in a convoy traveling through Croatia at a time of heated tensions due to local elections.

"It was pitch black as we were going through the mountains. One of the vehicles (a



"Hemmit") in our convoy was cut off and hit a tree. It slid about 8-feet down, off the side of the road. We weren't sure if we were being attacked, so we all reacted as if we were. All of the principles from our training came right back to me, and I was reminded how important it is to be well-trained at all times."

The matter was resolved with no serious injuries.

While serving with the 33<sup>rd</sup> Armored Cavalry Regiments respectively, Bartholomew crossed into the Zone of Separation daily into the Republic of Serbska, where simmering ethnic tensions remain. The town of Civc, Serbska had riots more than once while Bartholomew was in the area.

"They are still very hostile toward each other and like to make accusations about each other," Bartholomew said. "They would never attack a soldier, but they would verbally harass the Muslims. Demonstrations and rock throwing are common. There's still notable tension, but not in all areas."

Radio programs offered a way for SFOR soldiers to win over the local populace, and to keep them informed of the importance of

the U.S. presence there.

"We would buy radio time and have talk shows. The commander would host a show and take phone calls from the local people. We would get our message out that way. It worked better in some areas, but others are so tightly held by the Serbian influence that they were more interested in getting out of their town," Bartholomew said.

The largest contingent of the 65<sup>th</sup> is from Massachusetts, while Rhode Island's detachment is the same size as Connecticut's. But, once the unit was activated, there was no doubt that the 65<sup>th</sup> is one unit, McGrew said.

"We merged into one unit much faster than anticipated," McGrew said. "Particularly, once we got over there, it was strictly one unit. We just did our job."

That job included publishing a weekly magazine "The Talon" out of Eagle Base in Tuzla, and a bi-weekly magazine "The Endeavor" out of Tazsar. Public affairs teams from the 65<sup>th</sup> were spread out at various locations, writing stories about military activities involving the multi-national forces. They also escorted civilian reporters from throughout the world.

McGrew said that there was no clear way to tell which people were members of the reserve components or the regular Army - other than asking them directly.

"It's one of the good points of the deployment. There is a lot of interaction with the active and reserve soldiers, which is a good thing," McGrew said. There was no shortage of work for the Guard members, regardless of where they were stationed.

"At Camp Dobol, I worked some of the longest days I've ever worked, and we never seemed to get a break. But, it was also some of the most satisfying work I've done. So, I didn't mind the hours." Bartholomew also spoke of the interaction between active and reserve soldiers, saying that once everyone got to work, there was really no way to tell the difference. Although he said he always made sure that people knew he was a member of the Connecticut Guard.

Each of the four Connecticut Guardsmen who deployed on the mission said they loved the experience, and will miss it in many ways. But, there's still no place like home.

"It was a phenomenal feeling to be part of this peacekeeping mission. It was quite an adventure," said Bartholomew who has returned to work just after a restructuring was implemented at Hamilton Standard. "It's so weird to be home, and I really wasn't gone that long. But, my youngest daughter is absolutely ecstatic that I'm home, and is demanding a lot of my attention. Also, I gutted a room in my home just for something to do to get involved again in the maintenance of my home." Bartholomew lives in Somers.

See 65th PCH on page 4



By STATE COMMAND  
SERGEANT MAJOR  
STEPHEN L. PRIMETT

## ENLISTED UPDATE

The Connecticut Air National Guard has a new State Senior Enlisted Advisor. Soon, Command Chief Master Sgt. Joe King will begin sharing this column with me. I am looking forward to his valuable insight and input to this column, which will truly make this a valuable tool, not only for Army Guardsmen, but for the Air Guardsmen as well.

King has served in the military for over 30 years starting with his active duty time in 1961 and ending in 1973. He entered the Connecticut Air National Guard in 1975, took a break in 1977 and re-enlisted in 1978. He has been serving in the Air Guard ever since.

He is affiliated with the Air Force Sergeants Association and the National Guard Association, and works full-time as the Assistant Vice President for Operations and Production Services at the Cigna Corporation in Bloomfield.

His personal and professional goal is "To do the best that I can in whatever I do."

I look forward to sharing this column with him, and to our airmen

and soldiers having the opportunity to learn from Joe.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for all the hard work and dedication you have shown this past year. Things have moved at a very fast and furious pace this year, and you have all shown why the Connecticut Guard is the best...you kept up, you completed your missions, and you did so in a most professional manner. I know we can count on you to continue to maintain these high standards in the coming year.

Finally, with the holidays upon us, I want to urge you all to enjoy the season with your families, but to do so with safety in mind. This is the Year of the Family, and many of you are getting ready to deploy overseas soon. Whether you celebrate Christmas, Chanukah, and/or Kwanzaa, enjoy this time with your families. Think about how fortunate we all are to live in a country where we are free to choose which holiday we celebrate, and to celebrate it openly, without fear.

Command Chief Master Sergeant Joe King and his wife Virginia, and my wife Jo and I look forward to sharing a healthy, happy, prosperous New Year with you all.



Laura Danao, Officer Records, State Area Command, Hartford, has the rank of sergeant major pinned on by Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno, Adjutant General, and her husband, Maj. Joseph Danao, during ceremonies held recently at the Hartford Armory. Danao is only the second female in the Connecticut Army National Guard to attain the rank of sergeant major, the highest enlisted military rank, and the first full time female to reach that level. (Photo by Maj. John Whitford, State PAO)

## Guardsmen Can Help Make a Child's Christmas Brighter

By MAJ. GEN. WILLIAM A. CUGNO,  
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

In cooperation with radio station WTIC-FM 96.5 and the Governor's Military Staff, I am proud to announce that the Connecticut National Guard/State Military Department will host and help sponsor the "We are the Children" Charity Party at the Hartford Armory on Christmas Day, Dec. 25, 2000. First Lady Patricia Rowland is the Honorary Chairperson.

This nationally recognized event is expected to benefit 1,500 disadvantaged children from throughout Greater Hartford. So successful in drawing toy donations and volunteer help, WTIC-FM has outgrown its previous

venues and needs the Armory to expand this year's party.

Our contribution will be staffing, preparing and cleaning the building at no cost to the charity. Volunteers are needed on Dec. 24 and 25 to help set up and clear the drill floor as well as provide maintenance support. Because we are expecting the Connecticut Pride to have scheduled games before and after Christmas Day, setup and cleanup must be accomplished quickly.

This is an important time of year for family gatherings and I do not want to take people away from their families. I invite those of you who might have some flexibility in your schedules to consider donating a few hours

to help those less fortunate. This event captures the true meaning of the holidays and is sure to touch all those who volunteer. If you are able to help, please contact Mrs. Kimberly Hoffman, Family Program Coordinator at (860) 524-4801 or via email at kimberly.hoffman@ct.nbg.army.mil.

I have designated John Wiltse, OEM Director, as the coordinator of our support. He may be reached at (860) 566-3180 for further information.

As we enter this holiday season, please allow me to take this opportunity to thank you for all of your dedication over the last year. I look forward to participating with you.



Paul Therrien, State Area Command, Hartford, has the rank of Master Chief Warrant Officer (Warrant Officer 5) pinned on by Brig. Gen. I.J. Zembrzuski, Assistant Adjutant General, Army, and his wife Debbie, during ceremonies held at the Hartford Armory recently. Therrien is only the second Connecticut Army National Guardsman to attain this rank. (Photo by Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Debbi Newton, State Senior PA NCO)

## 65<sup>th</sup> PCH returns from Bosnia

65<sup>th</sup> PCH continued from page 3

McGrew, a Harwinton resident, has returned to his job as a Waterbury police officer, and is also trying to pick up where he left off in his private practice as an attorney. He tried to keep the practice going through long-distance phone calls and email, but in some cases had to find fellow attorneys to assist his clients.

"It's great to be back and see my friends at the Police Department. I do miss the deployment quite a bit. It was a lot of work, but it was a good time, too. I was missed by my family, and it's good to be back," McGrew said.

Austin, a fiber optics technician from Queens, N.Y., is happy to be back with his family, although he will miss many of his military and civilian friends from many different countries.

"Many of them will continue to be friends for life. I plan to stay in touch with many of them." In fact, he continues to work on his foreign language skills. "I held onto my Hungarian dictionary and my Croatian language tape. I still to run some words and phrases through my head, and I try to say certain things in either Hungarian or Croatian when I talk to people I know."

NOTE: Sgt. Joseph DeCaro, of Norwalk,

deployed with the 65<sup>th</sup> PCH, and worked as a photojournalist in Tuzla. He is still on active duty recuperating from medical treatment, at Fort Benning, GA and is due to return to Connecticut on Dec. 8th.

We honor our veterans for their bravery and because by seeing death on the battlefield, they truly know the greatness of life. -Winnebago Elder

# Zembrzuski Promoted To Brigadier General

STORY BY MAJ. JOHN WHITFORD,  
STATE PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER  
PHOTOS BY SGT. 1ST CLASS DEBBI NEWTON,  
STATE SENIOR PA NCO

I. J. Zembrzuski, of Berlin, Conn., a colonel in the Connecticut Army National Guard, was officially promoted to the federal rank of brigadier general on Saturday, November 4, 2000 at the State Armory.

The U.S. Senate approved his promotion to brigadier general November 1st after being nominated by President Bill Clinton.

Zembrzuski, 54, received the symbols of his new rank – a single, general officer's silver star at the pinning ceremony.

Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno, Connecticut's adjutant general and senior Guard officer, has named Zembrzuski the full-time assistant adjutant general, commander of the

Connecticut Army National Guard. His responsibilities include coordinating and overseeing training, resources, and readiness for Connecticut's 4,000 Army Guard members in 20 different locations throughout the state. He also represents Cugno at various meetings and ceremonies throughout the country and state.

"General Zembrzuski has been a key member of my staff for years and will bring great energy and vision to his new position," said Cugno. "He has earned this distinctive honor through selfless service since enlisting as a private in 1967. Our Connecticut soldiers are fortunate to have such a dynamic and dedicated leader."

Zembrzuski's military career spans over 33 years with the majority of that service in the Connecticut Army National Guard.

"It's a great honor and privilege to continue serving my nation and state as a general officer," said Zembrzuski. "I look forward to



Group Training officer with the 8<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group in the Canal Zone with missions throughout Latin America.

Zembrzuski joined the Connecticut Army National Guard in 1971 and has served in command positions at company, battalion, and brigade levels as well as a variety of senior staff positions that included assistant chief of staff (G-3), and later chief of staff for the Connecticut Army National Guard. Most recently, he was assigned as the United States Property and Fiscal officer for the Connecticut National Guard.

In 1993, Zembrzuski was selected to attend in residence the Naval War College where

he earned a masters degree in National Security and Strategic Studies. He also holds a bachelors degree in mathematics from the University of Connecticut.

Zembrzuski's military awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters, Army Commendation Medal with four oak leaf clusters, Army Achievement Medal, the Expert Infantryman's badge, Senior Parachutist Badge and the Special Forces Tab.

During Zembrzuski's heartfelt remarks, he dedicated his promotion to three individuals, his big brother Brig. Gen. Lugli, his not so big brother Col. Devoe and his little brother Brig. Gen. Cordon.

Zembrzuski was born in Olsztyn, Poland, immigrated to the United States in 1962, graduated from New Britain High School in 1965. He married his high school sweetheart, and has two daughters and two grandchildren.

Zembrzuski lives in Berlin with his wife Helen.

continuing my work with the dedicated soldiers of the Connecticut Guard."

After graduating from the Infantry Officer Candidate School (OCS) at Fort Benning, Zembrzuski served as commander of Operational Detachment A, and later as the

# Chiefs' Induction Ceremony

By MAJ. CHARLES MCKELLAR  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS HQ CTANG

On October 14, members of the Armed Forces, veterans, family members and friends of the Connecticut Air National Guard gathered at Bradley Air National Guard Base to induct Air Guard chiefs.

The evening activities signified the commitment and support to the outstanding individuals who were inducted. The audience witnessed the pride in being Chiefs in the Air Force and Air National Guard. The induction ceremony stressed the importance of the enlisted leaders and reaffirmed the Chiefs' commitment to maintaining the state of constant readiness to fly, to fight and to win.

The Chiefs being inducted represented that two-percent of the enlisted men and women who, through their leadership, courage, knowledge, and commitment, rose through the ranks to become senior noncommissioned officers. Those recognized have earned the right to be called "Chief" as a result of their hard work, loyal service and distinctive accomplishments. The induction ceremony honored those accomplishments in a time honored tradition that pays tribute not only to those who went before, but to those who will someday step into their shoes and continue to make this a great organization and nation.

After acknowledging the distinguished guests, dinner was served. Dinner provided an opportunity to meet Command Chief Master Sgt. Gary R. Broadbent, the guest speaker.

When asked about the significance of the chiefs' induction, Broadbent said, "This is a commitment of the chiefs to the welfare of the enlisted force as pledged in the Chiefs' Creed." The Chiefs' Creed regards each Chief Master Sergeant individually as people: Who cannot be brought; Whose word is their bond; Who put character above wealth; Who possess opinions and a will;



Chief Master Sgt. Robert B. Woodward, 103rd Maintenance Squadron, receives his induction certificate from Brig. Gen. George A. Demers and Command Chief Master Sgt. Gary R. Broadbent. (photo by Master Sgt. Linas Veclauskas, 103rd Communications Flight Multi-Media Branch)

***"The young men and women I talked with today were very positive. The senior leadership in the officers corps and the enlisted ranks should listen to what our young airmen have to say, because they do have a lot to say."***

***Command Chief Master Sgt. Gary R. Broadbent***

Who are larger than their vocations; Who will not lose their individuality in a crowd; Who do not hesitate to take chances; Who will be honest in small things as in great ones; Who will make no compromise with wrong; Whose ambitions are not confined to their own selfish desire and interest; Who are true to their friends through good report and evil report, in adversity as well as prosperity; Who do not believe that

shrewdness, cunning, and hardheadedness are the best qualities for winning success; and Who are not ashamed or afraid to stand for the truth when it is unpopular, who can say "no" with emphasis, although all the world is saying "yes."

Broadbent, a fellow "New Englander" from the state of New Hampshire and the seventh Command Chief Master Sgt. of the Air National Guard, praised the airmen of the 103rd Air Control Squadron who he had visited with earlier in the day, and the airmen of the 103rd Fighter Wing he met with in the afternoon.

"The young men and women I talked with today were very positive. The senior leadership in the officers corps and the enlisted ranks should listen to what our young airmen have to say, because they do have a lot to say."

He then took the audience on a journey through his experiences as a member of the active military and Air National Guard. His story is of an individual who was not always perfect, but who learned from his mistakes, stayed focused on his goal, and was able to reach the zenith of his career path.

The inductees included: Chief Master Sgt. Doreen J. Bassingthwaite, 103rd Medical

Squadron; Chief Master Sgt. Melvyn L. Bemis, 103rd Civil Engineer Squadron; Chief Master Sgt. Kenneth Brock, New Hampshire Air National Guard; Chief Master Sgt. Archie J. Cochrane II, 103rd Civil Engineer Squadron; Chief Master Sgt. (Select) Michael P. Dion, 103rd Communications Flight; Chief Master Sgt. Larry B. Dunn, 103rd Fighter Wing; Chief Master Sgt. John E. Fedorka III, 103rd Air Control Squadron; Chief Master Sgt. Kenneth Ferris, 103rd Air Control Squadron; Chief Master Sgt. Robert Goguen, 103rd Logistics Group; Chief Master Sgt. Christopher Johnstone, 103rd Logistics Group; Chief Master Sgt. (Select) Albert A. Hunt, 103rd Air Control Squadron; Chief Master Sgt. Joseph L. King, Headquarters Connecticut Air National Guard; Chief Master Sgt. Francis E. Macsata, 103rd Maintenance Squadron; Chief Master Sgt. Robert F. Mulazzi, 103rd Communications Flight; Chief Master Sgt. Donald F. Osborn, 103rd Logistics Support Flight; Chief Master Sgt. (Select) Anthony Palladino, Headquarters Connecticut Air National Guard; Chief Master Sgt. Jerome P. Remkiewicz, 103rd Security Forces Squadron; Chief Master Sgt. (Select) Ronald S. Richardson, 103rd Logistics Group; Chief Master Sgt. Stephan L. Starkey, 103rd Civil Engineer Squadron; Chief Master Sgt. Patrick L. Wheeler, 103rd Air Feneration Squadron; and Chief Master Sgt. Robert Woodward, 103rd Maintenance Squadron.

King and Dunn then joined Broadbent to make two special presentations. The first of the two special guests was Command Chief Master Sgt. (Retired) Ronald Palmer who was instrumental in bringing the idea of an induction to the 103rd Air Guard organization. To recognize Palmer's many contributions while a member of the organization, he was presented with the same trophy as the inductees. The second guest to be recognized as the first honorary Chief was Col. Walter L. "Buster" Burns, former commander of the 103rd Fighter Wing. Burns was credited with being the driving force behind the Chiefs' Induction Ceremony.

Burns was so moved that he was at a loss for words when it came time for him to speak. However, after a moment he stated with emotions a few words expressing his thanks for his induction, to the men and women he proudly worked with at the 103rd Fighter Wing, and the many friends he and his family now have in Connecticut. He will always be a member of the Flying Yankees and the Air National Guard family.

*My people honored me as a warrior. We had a feast and my parents and grandparents thanked everyone who prayed for my safe return. We had a "special" (dance) and I remembered as we circled the drum, I got a feeling of pride. I felt good inside because that's the way the Kiowa people tell you that you've done well.*  
-Kiowa Vietnam veteran



Air National Guard Command Chief Master Sgt. Gary R. Broadbent (at podium) administers the oath to the chief inductees. (Photo by Master Sgt. Linas Venclauskas)

# CT's 118th Smokes the Competition at "Hawgsmoke"

STORY BY CAPT. GEORGE H. WORRALL, 103RD FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER  
PHOTOGRAPHS BY STAFF SGT. JEANNE DAIGNEAU, 103RD COMMUNICATIONS FLIGHT MULTI-MEDIA MANAGER

The military's top tank killing aviators came together to test their mettle through a bombing and strafing competition in Michigan.

On October 20 fifteen Air Force, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard teams fought for the title of "Hawgsmoke" champion. The competition is named for the A-10 Thunderbolt-II, affectionately known as the "Warhog," which is flown by all the teams.

Crews came from units stationed as far away as Korea and Germany to compete. Only three A-10 flying units did not participate. Considering the turnout, the competition was a true worldwide A-10 competition.

The Connecticut Air National Guard's 118th Fighter Squadron took top honors as first place overall (winner of the Al "Mud" Moore Trophy) for their combined scores in the Tactical and Bomber portions of the competition.

The Air Force Reserve's 47th Fighter Squadron earned second place overall, and the Pennsylvania Air National Guard's 103rd Fighter Squadron placed third.

"First time it [A-10 shoot-out] has ever been done at this level ... with all the A-10 units except two reserve units," said Lt. Col. Daniel Peabody, commander, 118th Fighter Squadron. "We took third place in the tactical team, a combination of our first run attack, strafe and maverick scores. Together with our second place for weapons delivery team we were the best overall team," said Peabody.

Beyond the team awards, 118th team members also took top individual awards: Lt. Col. Russ Thomas, who was also the 118th's team leader, bull's-eyed twice for the best 10 degree low angle high drag bomb delivery. Peabody, who flew with the team from Korea, hit for second place in long range strafe, and Maj. Jose Torres, of the winning team, captured second for manual low altitude high drag.

"We did well although conditions were tough Friday, winds gusting at 30-40 knots," said Maj. Dennis Yount, of the 118th's winning team. "We knew we had some really good airplanes as long as



*The Hawgsmoke Team*

we could get them there [the target] and minimize the mistakes."

Team leader Thomas credited the win to the experience level of the team. "The wind level on the range was horrendous, I think inexperienced crews were fooled by some of the solutions and pattern adjustments they had to make for 40 knots of wind on the run in heading. If you did not take the time to plot an alternate...you would lose out on the tactical portion. We of course allowed for that and did quite well." Thomas had two direct hits in the low angle bomb portion, the only person to do so in the competition.

Lt. Col. Rizzo, who flew with the team from Korea, credited the 118th's win to preparation. "We were fully prepared. If we had not gone through all the preparation the way we did we would have been way behind. Not just the crews but people in the operations group made sure we had everything we needed to win the competition. Maintenance was there for us as well, they did a bang up job out there, and making sure the airplanes were ready for us when we departed."

"Maintenance did an absolutely spectacular job," said Thomas.

At the event, all the maintenance was

pooled together as opposed to requiring units to each bring a full complement of support. "All the units were committed," said Staff Sgt. Willis Potter who was one of four to work avionics. "The majority of people who went were crew chiefs and weapons loaders. It was great I would definitely do it again. All the maintainers had spent a bunch of hours trying to get the jets ready to go ... and we had probably the best record for flying with literally no problems."

Summing up the whole experience for the wing, Col. Daniel Scace, commander, 103rd Fighter Wing said, "Great job, we have bragging rights now. I think we're well on our way to being the best unit, of any kind, in the universe."



*...Maj. Dennis Yount, Maj. Ken Latona, Maj. Jose Torres and Lt. Col. Lawrence Rizzo (with back to camera).*



*The pilots: Lt. Col. Daniel Peabody, Lt. Col. Russ Thomas (118th Hawgsmoke Team Leader)...*

Thanks to my military service ( in the Navy ),  
I know have friends in 500 tribes.

-Lakota Korean veteran

# Diversity Dialogue

## Connecticut's Changing Face

By DIANE SCARPONI, ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER  
SUBMITTED BY SMSGT TONY PALLADINO, HQ CTANG  
STATE HUMAN RESOURCE ADVISOR

The following is a reprint of a copyrighted article that appeared in the New Haven Register on Wednesday, August 30, 2000 and is being reprinted with the permission of the Associated Press.

The end of the 1990s brings a Connecticut that is less white and more ethnically diverse than 10 years ago, the last census estimates for the decade show.

The estimates also suggest Connecticut has not gained back all of the people it lost during the economic recession of the mid-90s, although the population is on the rise again.

These estimates will be eclipsed by the 2000 census figures that are scheduled to be released in December.

The projections released today offer snapshots on the estimated 3,282,031 people who call the Nutmeg State home:

- Fairfield County has edged out Hartford County over the past 10 years as the most populous region of the state.
- Windham and Tolland counties remain the least settled.
- Hispanics are poised to overtake black, non-Hispanic residents as the biggest minority group in Connecticut.
- The Asian population is estimated to have increased 60 percent over the decade.
- Litchfield County is home to the fewest non-white residents; Fairfield has the most.

Connecticut's changing face is mirrored nationally. Between July 1, 1990 and July 1, 1999, the nation's Asian and Pacific Islander population grew 43 percent to 10.8 million, and the Hispanic population grew 38.8 percent to 31.3 million, the census estimates show. These are the last such estimates to be released before detailed Census 2000 results come out next year.

California, Texas and New York – the three most populous states – continue to have the biggest numbers of minorities, but Nevada, Georgia and North Carolina experienced the biggest percent increases, census analyst Larry Sink said.

"It's largely a condition of jobs and the network of people they know here," said John Haaga of the Population Reference Bureau, a Washington, D.C. – based research group. "That's the traditional American experience."

Nationally, the country's white population increased 7.3 percent between 1990 and 1999 to 224.6 million. Blacks remained the country's largest minority group, experiencing a 13.8 percent spike during the same period to 34.8 million, while the American Indian and Alaska Native population increased 15.5 percent to 2.3 million.

"The white, black and American Indian populations for the most part just don't show that dramatic of a change," Sink said. Overall, the Hispanic and Asian growth is "largely being fueled by immigration."



In Connecticut, leaders of minority groups said they are eager to see the real numbers from the census that was taken this spring and summer. Community groups and the U.S. Census Bureau actively encouraged minority participation in the survey, which was criticized for undercounting minorities in 1990.

"It was more organized than previous efforts, but we don't know how effective it's been," said Fernando Betancourt, executive director of the state Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission.

James Slaughter, head of the state African-American Affairs Commission, also said there was heightened awareness of the census this time around, but it remained to be seen what the actual numbers would show.

"We certainly want to see if the Census Department – by having these second and third checkbacks this time to homes – whether that's going to help cut down on some of the undercount and to deal with the issue of homelessness this time around," Slaughter said.

Slaughter and Betancourt predicted Hispanics would surpass blacks in Connecticut soon, possibly affecting the realignments of political districts.

According to the 1999 census estimates, this change already might be at hand, because the Hispanic population is growing at a faster rate.

The census projected that there were about 3,700 more blacks than Hispanics in 1999. Population growth since 1990 was estimated to have increased about 8 percent for blacks and 30 percent for Hispanics.

"It has so many implications – for local funding, federal funding, about where there's a concentration of Latinos and the redistricting," Betancourt said. "The new configuration affects how many Latinos will maybe be in higher office."

Overall, the largest group by far remains non-Hispanic whites, with an estimated population of 2.6 million.

The white population, however, is the only subgroup to have lost members over the past 10 years. The 1990 census recorded 2.7 million whites in Connecticut.

The fastest-growing racial group in the state were Asians. The census estimated there were 80,405 Asians in the state in 1999, up from 49,776 a decade ago.

The American Indian population was projected to have added 150 people to 6,119.

## Safe GUARDing Connecticut's Youth

By MAJOR CHUCK STRONG,  
DRUG DEMAND REDUCTION ADMINISTRATOR

### Guard Youth and Adults start 1 mile Run as part of the physical fitness test at Camp Rowland.

Of all the Drug Demand Reduction Programs conducted for Community Coalitions by the Connecticut National Guard, the Substance Abuse Free Everyday – Guard (SAFE-Guard) Program requires an intense commitment from the Community and volunteer Mentors. This is probably why we conduct only two or three each year. The commitment involves many hours and sometimes days away from the mentor's own families and jobs. It takes a special kind of adult to commit to a mentorship program. Sometimes it can be taxing on their families and careers. But despite the obstacles, generous and committed adults are out there. In fact it may be the challenge of over coming obstacles that motivates them. These concerned adults continue to make a difference in the lives of Connecticut's young people. There are twelve such adults in Bridgeport's East End.

Twenty-six youth from Bridgeport's Weed & Seed Site located in the cities east end, participated in two weekend Leadership Camps in September and October at Camp Rowland in Niantic. The twelve adult mentors that came with them had their hands full even with a packed weekend schedule. Youth were awoken each day at 0700 and hit the rack each night at 2300. The youth said they could have stayed up longer but, within minutes were sleeping soundly, proof the daily activities tired them out. The mentors wanted nothing more than to put their heads to the pillows too but instead waited for the youth to fall asleep. In the morning they were out of bed at least one hour before the youth. That makes for quite a challenging weekend.

Bridgeport's Weed & Seed Coordinator, Tom Flynn, when asked if the activities and instruction are relevant to these young people said, "Youth were involved and enthusiastic about presentations. Both classroom and field exercises were relevant to building self confidence and enhancing self esteem through accomplishing the tasks set up by the National Guard".

The SAFE-Guard Program presents quality

of life subjects for youth between the ages of 11 and 14 dealing with relationship/conflict management, goal setting, drug abuse prevention, physical fitness and self-confidence. The program has two Phases. Phase I is an intense environment where the students are exposed to these life subjects including a physical fitness test. The outcome of this Phase is for the youth to plan a community project that they will complete before attending Phase II. The youth divided into 4 teams, planned community activities and conducted them during the month of October. One team collected cans, redeemed them and donated the cash to the YMCA's Family Shelter. The other team's activities were just as impressive, cleaning up a municipal parking lot that had been loaded with trash for years; cleaning up an area park and helping out at a local church fair. Each team received letters of appreciation and thanks from agency sponsors.

Phase II is a weekend retreat designed with team building and group dynamic exercises with an emphasis placed on skills learned during Phase I. The focus of the Phase II weekend was completing 7 of the 17 stations of the Leadership Reaction Course at Stone's Ranch Military Reservation. It was quite impressive watching the youth and mentors solve the scenarios. The teamwork was something they're not accustomed to in their Bridgeport neighborhoods. However, it wasn't all work and no play. The October weekend included a Halloween Party where music and movies were featured along with candy food and everyone dressed up as ghouls and goblins with a few queens and ballerinas too.

I asked Tom Flynn if National Guard support enhanced his organizations impact in preventing these youth from experimentation with illicit drugs. He said, "We hope to instill a strong anti-drug message that will enable the participants to resist both peer and environmental pressures to use drugs. The National Guard exercises should facilitate that objective".

For more information please call Major Chuck Strong or Lieutenant Pamela Townsend at 860.493.2724.



# Dispatches From the Front

By SGT. JOSEPH DECARO,  
65TH PCH



LANDSTUHL, Germany — All military personnel from both Bosnia and Kosovo are sent here for medical referrals. Coincidentally, I was flown here for thyroid tests on a C-9A Nightingale air ambulance, the same aircraft I did a story on two weeks ago when it played a part of a mass casualty exercise on Eagle Base!

Landstuhl is a small, quaint German town nestled in a wooded valley between two hills. On one hill sits Nanstein Castle, old, dark and forboding, while the other side boasts a modern, white gleaming U.S. Army medical center.

In the center of Landstuhl is a town square. There is a statue of a World War I German soldier sitting astride a horse, head bowed in prayer. There is also a marker bearing an Imperial German Eagle with the names of dozens of Landstuhl dead who had fallen during that war.

Less conspicuous is a small chapel across the street from the square surrounded with about 50 modest Maltese cross headstones. There are no emblems or statues here, but the dates of the tombstones show German dead, mostly from 1944-1945 when the Allies took the offensive in Europe.

But for these German soldiers there is no fanfare, just a well-maintained lawn adorned with some freshly cut flowers.

Even coming from the killing fields and mass graves of Bosnia, I am still amazed at how many men from this small town died during the World Wars.

LANDSTUHL, Germany (Nov. 4) — While the 65th Press Camp Headquarters has left Fort Benning and is homeward bound, I am still at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center recovering from surgery and facing the prospect of yet another operation.

But I am not taking it lying down.

Last night I attended a jazz fest in the basement of Unnerhaus; a local restaurant within walking distance from the LRMC. If you thought Germans loved David Hasselhoff, you should see how they

appreciated Dixieland Jazz. The 5-member native jazz troupe — keyboard, drums, bass, clarinet and trumpet — was applauded after every note. The trumpet player also doubled as vocalist and did an amazing impression of the immortal Louie Armstrong such that if you closed your eyes and just listened you would swear you could hear Sachmo sing Deutch.

The following day I spent with a knight.

Robert — a German tour guide with the local USO here — dressed-up in full medieval regalia to give about 50 local service members a tour of Marksburg Castle.

The home of the German Castle Association, Marksburg is the only remaining medieval castle on the Rhine River as the rest were filled with gunpowder and destroyed by the French as they were forced to renounce all claim to the area during the Palatinate War of Succession (1689-93). Castles not only offered protection but served to collect tolls, taxes and tithes from their respective fiefdoms. So despite their grandeur, they are really nothing more than glorified toll booths

and were built aside major rivers and other roads of commerce.

Today you can still find their descendents along I-95 in Connecticut, some of which — like the Stratford tolls — now lie “in ruins.”

LANDSTUHL, Germany (Nov. 11) — Children in costume carrying lit lanterns descended upon the sleepy town under a cold full moon.

No, it wasn't Halloween but St. Martin's Day which is observed here and throughout Germany.

The son of a Roman civil servant, Martin was born around A.D. 316 and joined the emperor's cavalry 15 years later.

According to tradition, Martin was traveling on horseback through the countryside when he came upon a beggar. Having neither food nor money, Martin took his sword and cut his cloak in half, sharing it with the freezing man.

That night Martin dreamed he saw Jesus wearing a military cape and surrounded by a heavenly host. When one of the angels approached and asked Jesus where he got the shabby cloak from, He replied; “My servant Martin gave it to me.”

The dream prompted Martin to leave the military and become baptized. He began to evangelize and founded the first Gallic monastery in Liguge in 361 and was elected bishop of Tours in 375. According to legend, Martin tried to avoid the election by hiding, but chattering geese gave him away.

Tonight, the children of Landstuhl dressed as geese gave away singing programs in front of Heilig Geist Kirche (Holy Ghost Church) as hundreds of German and American families gathered inside for a reenactment of Martin's conversion. After

the short play, they all went outside where a knight on horseback — with a police escort — led them through the streets to a nearby retirement home. There a raging bonfire, hot sweet tea and pretzels awaited the faithful.

For added safety, the feuerwehr (firechief) and his engine stood closely by.

As the bonfire died down, so did the crowd as it disappeared into the night.

Today also marked the observance of Veteran's Day at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, commemorating the armistice (cease fire) and subsequent treaty between the United States and Germany ending World War I.

It was appropriate that a soldier-saint and a peace treaty were celebrated here concurrently.

LANDSTUHL, Germany (Nov. 14) — “For the thing that I fear comes upon me and what I dread befalls me” (Job 3:25).

Today I was confirmed to have papillary cancer. However, it is the best of all possible worst case cancer scenarios and I am currently receiving treatment here at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center.

My condition was, incidentally, discovered by the staff of Task Force Med Eagle, SFOR VIII, while investigating a routine complaint caused from slinging my M-16A2 rifle over the same shoulder for five months (the cure proved to be the other shoulder).

Amazingly, if I had not volunteered to go to Bosnia with the 65th Press Camp, my cancer may never have been detected in time for treatment.

To paraphrase scripture; He who loses six months of his life while deployed to Bosnia may very well have saved it!

## Memories of a Bosnian Deployment

By MAJ. SHERMAN MCGREW, 65TH PCH

I am writing this as the C-130 aircraft lifts off from Tuzla, Bosnia with the 65th Press Camp Headquarters. We are beginning the long trek back to our homes and our families. It was back in April that this same type of aircraft took us from Rhode Island to Fort Benning and then finally on to Bosnia. Much has happened since we arrived in April. Some of the changes are easy to see. Our soldiers are now the “old timers” here in Bosnia. The new replacements for the Stabilization Force 8 (SFOR8) rotation have arrived in “the box.”

Other changes are subtler and not noticeable at first glance. Our soldiers have matured and grown. Many, for the first time in their military careers, have done something in the Army other than train for a real world mission—they have *performed* a real world mission. They have taken the measure of their active duty counterparts and found that they are capable of performing alongside them, and performing well.

As I take a final look from the airfield, I am still struck by the beauty of this place. The surrounding hills and valleys take one's breath away. Even after all this time, this place seems too beautiful to have witnessed the horrors of the fighting that occurred here and across the Balkans.

Awards have been given to the soldiers for their service here. The 65th will receive the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal for their service, a prestigious award. It is earned for deploying with your unit to a hostile fire zone. It will also make those who have earned it eligible for membership in the VFW.

More than medals and awards however, is the feeling that we have done something good here. The sacrifice that unit members have made in order to deploy, while not even close to that required by an actual war, has, however, been a large one. We have left our families, homes, and jobs for nine months. This has required all of us to re-order our lives to some degree.

“Was it worth it?” I'm sure that I will be

asked this question a hundred times when I get home. The answer is an unqualified and resounding, “Yes.” The Balkans are hardly at peace, as we would define peace in the United States. However, the killing that was occurring in this part of the world only a few, short years ago has stopped. There is a sense of stability among the populace. The rebuilding continues.

I recently went to Vukovar, Croatia as part of an officer and NCO development program. Vukovar was the scene of a three month long battle in 1991 between Croats and Serbs. We toured the city that had been a battleground. We had the opportunity to speak with the some of the officers who had fought in the very bitter battle.

Vukovar was once a very beautiful city on the banks of the Danube River. It is rising from the ashes, but it will be many years until it becomes what it once was. A Croat colonel, the 5th Guards Brigade Commander, gave a tour of the city where he had fought years earlier as a company commander. He

had lost both his parents in the fighting. A captain accompanying him had lost a five and a three-year-old child. He would point out people as we walked through the city that had lost relatives.

We toured a church whose walls and pillars had been hollowed out for shape charges. Fortunately, it was never blown up, but great destruction was done to the interior. Every single building in the city, without exception, showed scars from the fighting nine years ago. Some buildings were completely destroyed. Others showed the effects of shrapnel and small arms. The asphalt in the streets still shows where mortars and artillery rounds had landed.

Vukovar is, in many ways, symbolic of the throughout the seven-month deployment. It truly brought home to me the reality that our families had paid a price with us, and for us, so that we could serve our country.

As we hugged our loved ones, we all

See *MEMORIES* on page 11

# Service and Tradition: A Foot Guard Hallmark

BY CAPT. ROBERT J. NEARINE, 1ST CO. GOVERNOR'S FOOT GUARD (COL. AUS RET.)

Harvard historian Samuel Eliot Morison called the Buna campaign the "nastiest fighting" of World War II. Bloodier than Guadalcanal," while an Australian military historian described Buna simply as a "ghastly nightmare." Twenty years later, an American officer who fought with the 32<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division in its two-year advance from New Guinea to the northern Philippines looked back in horror on Buna as his worst wartime experience. The Japanese called it "a magnificent tragedy" and even General Douglas MacArthur swore that there would be "no more Bunas." Fifty-eight years later, Charlie Spencer will still agree with all of them.

Charlie started his military career just after his twenty-first birthday, the minimal age for militia enlistment at the time. He joined the First Company, Governor's Foot Guard in December 1939, and a few months later, in 1940, Charlie transferred to the Connecticut Army National Guard's 208<sup>th</sup> Coast Artillery Anti Aircraft Regiment, located in West Hartford. This unit, which was set up to man large coastal defense guns had been converted to an anti-aircraft regiment and was now armed with mobile quad fifty-caliber machine guns. This was a dual-purpose weapon, which could be used against aircraft and to support ground troops in the field.

In October 1940, the regiment was federalized, and was sent to Camp Edwards, Massachusetts for basic training. Although much of Europe had been over run by the German blitzkrieg, America was not as yet a combatant. In consequence, federalized National Guard units continued their training; for the 208<sup>th</sup>, this meant guarding the Massachusetts coast.

The nation's peace was shattered by the Japanese sneak attack on Pearl Harbor. A short month later, in January 1942, The 208<sup>th</sup> shipped out to Brisbane, Australia to support the 32<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division, a federalized National Guard unit from Wisconsin. After three or four months of training, first in Brisbane and later in Townsville, the Division along with the 208<sup>th</sup> was shipped to Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea.

Papua New Guinea was divided into two parts; northern New Guinea proper, and the southern half of the island, which comprised the Australian colony of Papua. The island was located north of Australia and was in the direct path of a planned Japanese invasion route.

Since 1941, the Japs (as they were called by their American and Australian enemies) had captured Wake Island, the Philippines, and Hong Kong, and were moving south toward Australia. It was not until 1942, that American, Dutch and Australian forces were able to mount an offensive. Under the leadership of General Douglas MacArthur, the Japs were defeated at Midway,

Guadalcanal, and in the Bismarck Sea in a march to return to the Philippines.

While Allied victories were impressive, Papua New Guinea Japanese air bases still threatened the American navy in the Solomon Islands as well as bases on mainland Australia. Shutting down air bases in the Buna region became an Allied priority.

On paper, the Buna campaign seemed a simple one. Allied troops would move from Port Moresby by land and by sea to Buna on the northern coast. They would defeat the Japanese forces, seize the airfields, and stand ready to continue to assist in MacArthur's island-hopping campaign to the north.

Unfortunately, the plan faced several problems. The threat of Japanese naval reinforcement had not been totally eliminated, while the island itself was bisected by the Owen Stanley mountain range. This range was covered by dense jungle with only a few trails and passageways. Add this to the fact that MacArthur had limited forces, most of whom had little or no experience with jungle warfare, and a resupply system which often did not work in an environment which could quickly go from hot to cold but was always wet. In addition, the enemy was well trained, experienced, well dug in, and heavily camouflaged.

Despite these problems, two major elements of the 32<sup>nd</sup> Division set out for Buna. One group marched across the mountains while the second group moved by sea to the small port of Melan Bay, southeast of Buna. The later group included the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion of the 208<sup>th</sup> CA Regiment, which had been redesignated the 211<sup>th</sup> Coast Artillery Battalion.

The 211<sup>th</sup>, along with elements of the 32<sup>nd</sup> Division moved inland, to positions in the vicinity of Dobodura, about five miles south of Buna. These troops were joined by the Americans who had crossed the Owen Stanley mountains, and by elements of the Imperial Australian Army. During this movement, all of the soldiers were plagued by little food, rotting clothing and shoes, and rusting weapons. These three curses typified the battle for Buna.

On November twenty-first, a land-based attack on Buna was initiated. Elements of the 32<sup>nd</sup> Division's 128<sup>th</sup> Infantry moved toward Buna on two axes; one group moved north along the coast, while a second group, called the Warren Force, moved over land from Dobodura on the Samboga River. Also moving north on the 32<sup>nd</sup> Division's left flank were elements of its 126<sup>th</sup> Infantry and with them the guns of the 211<sup>th</sup> Coast Artillery in direct support.

Our story moves back to a more peaceful venue. While the Connecticut soldiers were training in Port Moresby Charlie Spencer,



Brig. Gen. George A. Demers, Assistant Adjutant General, Air congratulates Charlie Spencer on his years of military service.

then a Sergeant in B Company, was befriended by an older Australian Sergeant Major. The young American and the older Australian NCO hit it off; and as it turned out, became fast friends. Sergeant Major Al Gill may well have introduced Charlie to warm Australian beer, a taste he maintains to this day. The two NCO's parted when their respective units were shipped out to Papua New Guinea; they would meet one more time near Buna.

As the Allied forces advanced toward Buna along the banks of a small river near the Hown Peninsula, Charlie's unit along with the 126<sup>th</sup> infantry regiment formed the left flank of the 32<sup>nd</sup> Division forces. Moving forward on their left flank, and on the opposite side of the river, were elements of the Imperial Australian Army, among them SGM Gill's company.

During this advance, a sniper shot SGM Gill. Knowing that he had but a short time to live, the Sergeant Major called for a runner and instructed his young Australian corporal to find the "Yankee Sergeant.

The corporal forded the river, located Sergeant Spencer, and they both recrossed the river to where the Sergeant Major lay dying. Sergeant Spencer did what he could to make his friend comfortable but to no avail. As he lay dying the Sergeant Major asked Sergeant Spencer to do what he could for the Australian's men. He also gave Charlie his symbol of leadership, an Australian mahogany swagger stick saying, "I want you to have this." The Sergeant Major's last thought was for the care of his men; a basic tenant of the noncommissioned officer.

Sergeant Charlie Spencer carried the swagger stick throughout Papua New Guinea until June 1943 when his regiment along with other elements of the 32<sup>nd</sup> Division were relieved by Connecticut's own 43<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division. He carried the swagger stick for

the remainder of the war and back to the Governor's Foot Guard where he resumed his active service in October 1945.

Charlie Spencer moved quickly up through the Foot Guard ranks. He became First Sergeant of B Company, and later Sergeant Major of the Command. In this latter position, Spencer carried his Australian friend's swagger stick with justifiable pride. When Charlie was retired from the Command as Executive Officer and was promoted to the rank of Major in 1988, he presented his swagger stick to the Company with one stipulation. The Australian mahogany stick was to be carried by the incumbent Sergeant Major with the admonition that he like Sergeant Major Gill was to take care of his men. This tradition and memory continues to the present day

In May 2000, Charles Spencer was honored for his sixty years of service to the nation, the state, and the First Company, Governor's Foot Guard. By special permission of the adjutant general, Spencer was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel and awarded a sixty-year service medal by the First Company, Governor's Foot Guard. He also received a framed resolution commending his service from the Connecticut General Assembly. Presentations were made by Major Commandant John L. O'Connell, assisted by the Assistant Adjutant General, Brigadier General George W. Demers.

At the time of these presentations, Lieutenant Colonel Spencer continued the tradition which was initiated during the bloody battle of Buna. Before the assembled command, LTC Charles Spencer presented the Sergeant Major's swagger stick to the First Company's Sergeant Major, Leo Godreau, with the same admonition which had been given to him in the jungle, "Take care of your men."

# Air Guard Knows Meaning of "To Honor with Dignity"

By CAPT. GEORGE H. WORRALL, 103<sup>RD</sup> FIGHTER WING  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

"To Honor With Dignity" is the official motto of the Base Honor Guard. The motto is emblazoned on the honor guard badge and demonstrated as the team renders honors.

What is the Honor Guard at Bradley Air National Guard Base, in East Granby? It is a professional group of volunteers that represent the flag by presenting military honors, according to Master Sgt. Robert P. Zukauskas Jr. NCOIC of the Base Honor Guard.

"Members from a cross section of the unit airman to colonel have told me how impressed they are with the Honor Guard's professionalism during events," said LT. Wayne B. Ferris, OIC for the Base Honor Guard. Much of the work is "after hours and on weekends, it demonstrates their love of the uniform and dedication to the flag. Ultimately that is what they are representing the wing and the flag."

The Honor Guard performs 20-25 details a year, about two per month, according to Zukauskas. "I am really proud of them, they think it is important for the base to have this team."

"Out there in the honor guard outfit, you really feel part of the team," said Staff Sgt. Eric R. Larson, honor guard member from the 103<sup>rd</sup> Communications Flight.

"I want to join the honor guard because I was at the Tuskegee event last year and saw what they did," said Airman 1st Class Meisha A. Wright, honor guard trainee from the 103<sup>rd</sup> Mission Support Flight. "I don't think a lot of young people are involved, and I just want to get involved, it is an honor to be accepted."

The members are true volunteers - they are

not paid for the duty - while the unit supports the group with uniforms and training. "We do our own local training and we are planning to send two people to the Air Force Honor Guard instructor school, so they can learn the tricks of the trade," said Zukauskas.

The Honor Guard renders honors with color guards, buglers, and demonstrations of military honors.

At the Eastern States Exhibition (Big-E) in October, the honor guard demonstrated three areas of military honors. They performed several demonstrations of folding the flag, explaining the significance of each fold to the crowd that gathered; carried the colors in the parade; then played a special two-bugler service of taps and lit memorial



candles at a veteran's remembrance ceremony.

Tech. Sgt. Robert A. Burgess, honor guard member from the 103<sup>rd</sup> Medical Squadron, played taps in the Big-E's 5,000-seat main exhibition hall. "Besides practice, I only



The Bradley Air National Guard Base Honor Guard prepares to present the colors at the New England Air Museum before the Tuskegee Airmen take the stage. (Photo by Capt. George Worrall III, 103<sup>rd</sup> FW Public Affairs Officer)

played taps one time before, behind trees at a funeral ... I was scared to death," said Burgess. "Playing in-front of all those people the pressure is on. Honoring the war dead you do not want to make a mistake. I don't know if god was watching and saying 'let him do this right' but it sounded great when we did an echo effect."

To recognize their dedication, members were presented badges to wear on their uniforms indicating their membership in the Base Honor Guard.

"I think it is wonderful getting the badge, we give a little more of our time to the base volunteering whether helping on base or off," said Tech. Sgt. Holly L. Holty, honor guard member from the 103<sup>rd</sup> Air Generation Squadron. "A highlight for me was when I had the honor to lead the Memorial Day parade in Enfield."

"I think it will make us more noticed for what we do for the unit," said Staff Sgt. William A. Prato, honor guard member from the 103<sup>rd</sup> Logistics Squadron.

"It [getting the badge] was big surprise but a very pleasant one." Staff Sgt. Suzanne Barkyoumb, honor guard member from the 103<sup>rd</sup> Air Generation Squadron.

"It is nice to be recognized for the extra we put in," said Tech. Sgt. Scott E. McIntosh, honor guard member from the 103<sup>rd</sup> Medical Squadron.

It has been a long time coming they deserve it ... when people see the honor guard people wear the badge, they are going to know they are in the organization" said Zukauskas. The organization is about 13 years old, Zukauskas was a charter member.

"People request the honor guard and they make us proud because they represent the

flag and the unit very well," said Col. Daniel R. Scace, commander, 103<sup>rd</sup> Fighter Wing. "It does not come without a price though. They contribute a lot of their personnel time, and they don't get reimbursed for all that time. All they ask from us is support, giving them a little bit of time on drill weekend to get together, and the support getting them uniforms."

The honor guard performs at: funerals for unit members, augmenting funeral squads; parades, e.g. Governors Inauguration, Veteran's Day Parades; ceremonies and celebrations, e.g. retirements, annual Black History and Hispanic Heritage celebrations; Annual National Guard Association of Connecticut Conference; Military Reunions; Veterans services; Annual Red, White and Blue Military mass; Military weddings, where they provide an honor cordon; change of command ceremonies, not just on base, but for other military detachments throughout the state.

The Honor Guard also trains boy scouts to perform proper flag folding ceremonies and demonstrate at schools on request. "We like to do things with kids," said Zukauskas. One school, Winding Lane Elementary in West Hartford, has had honor guard visits for the past four years.

The Honor Guard team now consists of 13 members, only six of who are full-time AGR's or Technicians. In addition there is an NCOIC and OIC.

Zukauskas, the NCOIC, goes on most details how does his family feel about all the time he dedicates? "They understand, sometimes I can bring my kids and they can see what I do, I even bring them to some funerals when I play taps."

## Memories of a Bosnian Deployment

Continued from page 9

remembered that one of us was still left behind. Sgt. Joseph DeCaro, a decorated Gulf War veteran, had left Bosnia a few days before the unit and was now undergoing treatment in Landstuhl, Germany for a serious illness. Joe, we will not forget you and will be there for you when you get home too.

All things must end. As we stood in formation for the last time during this deployment at the welcome home ceremony, I realized what a tremendous experience this had been. I felt very

honored to have been a leader in this unit. Many of these soldiers joined the Guard, as many do, for educational benefits, technical training, etc. They knew that mobilization was a possibility, but no one really expected to be called up.

Yet when the call came, these fine young soldiers didn't try to find a position in another unit, didn't try to get out of the Guard, they didn't make excuses. They put their lives on hold, put their uniforms on, and served their country. They are Americans at their best.

# Gulf War: 10 Years Later

By STAFF SGT. STEVE MARKOWSKI, 65TH PCH

The prospect of Connecticut Army National Guard units being called to active duty has changed notably in the decade. The Persian Gulf War brought the largest deployment of Reserve Component soldiers since World War II.

And within the past ten years, the consolidation of forces by the U.S. Army, and the increased concentration of important support roles for Reserve Component units assured citizen-soldiers it was likely that call-ups could be on the way.

The future arrived quickly.

Several Connecticut Guard units, like their colleagues in other states, are preparing to deploy to the Balkans in the next calendar year. Two different deployments have brought journalists from Connecticut to the theatre, with one of those deployments ending this past month.

Based upon current plans, those deployments will contribute to a total of more than 11,000 Army Guard troops deploying to the peacekeeping mission in Bosnia, since fighting stopped in November 1995. Connecticut infantrymen, for example, will serve with the 10<sup>th</sup> rotation of the Stabilization Force, which will see the Virginia Guard's 29<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division take command of the U.S. sector.

By contrast, after the Korean War ended, 50 years elapsed before a Connecticut Army

Guard unit was called up to federal service.

November 2000 marks the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first activation of a Connecticut Army National Guard unit in support of Operation Desert Shield. The 142<sup>nd</sup> Medical Company (Clearing) was that unit. It had also been the last Connecticut unit called to federal active duty. When the official announcement came on November 19, 1991, unit members were shocked.

Despite the unrest in the Persian Gulf at the time, the news of the activation came as a clear reminder of the purpose of the National Guard, and the duties of its members. One member fainted in the formation, according to a published report.

The unit has since retired its colors, but veterans of the war are still serving their country and their state. Some of them hope that information they share with newly mobilizing citizen-soldiers will help ease some of the stress and fear of the unknown that they had ten years ago.

For some unit members, it doesn't seem like an entire decade has passed since the deployment.

"It went by pretty quickly. It really flew by," said 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Javier Alvarado, who is now the officer-in-charge of the Mental Health Section of the 118<sup>th</sup> Medical Battalion. He hadn't been thinking of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, until a senior officer e unit brought it up. Alvarado, 20-years old at the time, was a relatively new medical specialist with the unit

when he was standing in formation and the unit was given the news.

"It was Sunday at four o'clock, the final formation of the drill. My friends and I were in shock," Alvarado said. He was surprised at the time, but in looking back ten years later, he recalls some factors that might have provided clues, had he been looking for them.

"It was a drill like any other drill, but there were many high-ranking officers walking around," he said. The unit also welcomed a new commander.

It was quite a welcome.

As a captain coming in as the new commander, Paul Rouleau, a captain at the time, had the unenviable task of telling the unit it was being called up to active duty. He made the announcement on the same day he took command.

The ensuing days were spent getting ready to deploy. The mobilization brought visitors to the armory.

"There were media people all over the place," Alvarado said. The news coverage of The Persian Gulf War was unprecedented, and Alvarado said he recently watched videotape including some of the news stories about the activation of the 142<sup>nd</sup>. That's not his only source of memories from the deployment.

The 118<sup>th</sup> Med. Bn. is based at the Goffe St. Armory in New Haven, which was the home

of the 142<sup>nd</sup> Med. Co.

"It's strange... I walk around the same armory and still see some of the pictures of the 142<sup>nd</sup>. It's pretty eerie," said Alvarado, who also remembers the feelings he and his family experienced during the activation, especially with the uncertainty involved in going off to war.

The overall experience led him, in part, to become a social worker. He is now the only Connecticut Guardsman to hold a position in the state Guard as a social worker. With so many Guardsmen around the state preparing for deployments to the Balkans, Alvarado is offering any support he can – especially for those with families.

Rouleau is also drawing on his experience with the deployment, in offering helpful advice to members of the 143<sup>rd</sup> Forward Support Battalion, which is preparing soldiers for deployment to Bosnia. The 141<sup>st</sup> Ambulance is sending a platoon overseas in March. Rouleau, a psychiatric social worker for Connecticut Valley Hospital, has a special interest in family issues.

"I've talked to people at staff meetings about relevant issues," he said. "I'm attuned to this, having been through it. I'd rather not have anyone deal with those issues, such as financial issues. In many cases, the principal source of income for a family is going to be sent overseas, as we saw in the Gulf War. I'd like to see people take care of that in advance."

## Connecticut Units Called to Service

By STAFF SGT. STEVE MARKOWSKI, 65TH PCH

On November 18, 1990, when the 142<sup>nd</sup> Medical Company (Clearing) officially was called to active duty in support of Operation Desert Shield, it was the first time a Connecticut Army National Guard unit was federally activated since the same unit was called up during the Korean War. Components of the unit were assigned to support the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division during the main advance into Kuwait and Southern Iraq.

Desert Shield became Desert Storm, and more Connecticut Guard units got the call.

By the time it was over, President George H. Bush called up four state units, with a total of 620 citizen-soldiers called to active duty in support of the mission. Their active duty time lasted well past the Feb. 21, 1991 cease-fire.

The 143<sup>rd</sup> Military Police Company (Combat Support) got the call January 3, 1991. The unit, based in Windsor Locks at the time, sent 116 members of its unit to the Gulf, where they were very busy detaining Iraqi prisoners. The unit was on active duty until June 11, 1991.

The Aviation Classification Repair Activity Depot, of Groton, had more soldiers activated than the three other Connecticut units combined. AVCRAD's mission, which includes assessing damaged aircraft and either repairing them or disposing of them, kept soldiers from the unit in the Gulf long after the war ended. While approximately 4-million people offered a rousing "Welcome home!" to U.S. service members at New York City's tickertape parade, AVCRAD members were living in the post-war zone, battling the staggering heat and infamous, fine

desert sand, which became another enemy, attacking mechanical equipment.

AVCRAD, based in Groton, was activated February 1, 1991, and officially came off Gulf War service on July 13, 1991. While many of its members were working in the desert, far away from the celebrations back home, then Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Colin C. Powell toured the Groton facility, talking to unit members and their families. He told them he "couldn't miss this opportunity to stop and just say 'Thank you!' for what you did to support your nation in time of need." He congratulated them, thanked them, and told them it was embarrassing that he received so much attention for the successful operations, when it was actually soldiers such as those from the Connecticut Guard units that were doing the work on the ground.

AVCRAD soldiers also provided a valuable service to many aircraft that were transported to and from the Gulf. The unit had already been known for its innovative "shrink-wrapping" procedure, which features the application of large sheets of polyethylene and using heat cannons to shrink the material so it fits snugly around the aircraft to offer protection from the elements. Shrink wrapping was well-suited to protect aircraft from the salt air and drifting sand of the Persian Gulf area, was the providing shields for countless aircraft that were faced with potential damage.

Eighteen members of the Connecticut Health Services Liaison Detachment Augmentation, 213<sup>th</sup> Medical Detachment, served on active duty from Feb. 1, 1991 until April 2, 1991. They served at military medical facilities in the Washington D.C. area.

# Is There a Doctor in the House?

By CAPT. GEORGE WORRALL III, 103RD FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

The answer to that question is too often no because the Connecticut Air National Guard has a shortage of doctors. As a member or friend of the Guard reading the Connecticut Guardian, you can help change that answer.

Dentists and physicians are needed to fill Guard positions right now at the 103rd Fighter Wing Medical Squadron in East Granby.

"Right now we have two dentist positions open and could take on four physicians," said Lt. Col. Michael P. Byrnes, Chief, 103rd Military Personnel Flight. "We have one dentist in process due by February, so are searching for one more. We need the physicians as flight surgeons and could bring in one non-flight doctor."

According to Byrnes, experience and education determines at what grade doctors and dentists are commissioned, which normally ranges from second

lieutenant to captain.

Besides officer pay and retirement benefits, medical professional officers enjoy other perks.

"Dentists can attend a special school called Top Drill, and optometrists attend Top Eye," said Chief Master Sgt. Doreen J. Bassingthwaite, Health Services Manager, 103rd Medical Squadron. The school orientates them to the flying community and includes a flight in a fighter aircraft like an F-16."

Flight surgeons, as the name implies, fly on a regular basis. "A doctor stationed here flies in Army Guard helicopters, plus the transports and fighter aircraft of nearby bases and during deployed training," said Bassingthwaite. "They need to meet a minimum number of flights every quarter."

Flights are a routine part of training at active duty hospitals. Bassingthwaite explained that training fits a four-year cycle with two training trips to active duty

hospitals, support of an operational readiness inspection and medical field training at a Medical Readiness Training Center.

"We provided humanitarian medical aid in Honduras four years ago," said Bassingthwaite. "It was very gratifying to help the people there."

"If you are current and earn at least a satisfactory in inspections, you can deploy overseas every five years. We are going to an active duty hospital in England in the coming year."

Beyond training and flights, medical officers earn continuing education units, required by both the military and civilian medical communities, by attending annual conventions and training schools.

For more information, contact Lt. Col. Michael P. Byrnes to discuss requirements and set up an interview with the medical staff at (\*60) 292-2339. General background information is available from the Internet at [www.goang.af.mil](http://www.goang.af.mil)

## Dentist

Must possess a Doctor of Dental Surgery or degree of Dental Medicine from a school of dentistry acceptable to the Surgeon General. Other qualifications include:

- Have 24 months of experience or completion of a general practice residency.
- Be a U.S. citizen.
- Be in good physical health.
- Be of high moral character.
- Be able to meet certain age requirements.

## Doctor of Medicine

Qualifications:

- Must be a graduate of a medical school approved by the Surgeon General, the USAF or of a foreign medical school with permanent certification by the Educational Council for Foreign Medical Graduates.
- There are opportunities for many clinical specialties including General Practice and Emergency Medicine.
- Medical units meet one weekend a month.
- You will be required to perform 15 days of paid annual active duty.
- You will be eligible to attend one professional meeting, seminar or workshop per year at the Air Guard's expense.

# DDR Surprised By Veteran's Day Event

By 2ND LT. PAMELA TOWNSEND, DRUG DEMAND REDUCTION OFFICER

Sometimes our quest for Drug Demand Reduction (DDR) goes far deeper than the education of our youth. On Nov. 9, 2000 the Counter Drug Education Team (1st Lt. Chris Anderson, 2nd Lt. Pamela Townsend, Chief Warrant Officer 4 Robert Braceland, Chief Master Sgt. Mike Romeo and Staff Sgt. Tony Savino) set out on a quest to education middle school and high school students on the importance of staying drug free. To our wonderful surprise New Fairfield High School had planned a Veterans Day event to remember.



World War II

Veterans were honored to include diplomas from New Fairfield High School.

These men were called off to serve their country and did not have an opportunity to completed high school.

As we landed with our message on drugs, the high school students, their teachers and our World War II Veterans listened attentively.

Each team member provided quality input in educating our community. Veterans, parents, teachers, and students expressed an interest, deep concern or excitement about the message from the Connecticut National Guard.

One of the WWII Veterans enthusiastically stated "This is a proud day for all of us. It is good to see the military providing education on the importance of a drug free life style. After all, being drug free is key; you must indeed work hard and get a good education." To all Veterans recently awarded Honorary Diplomas we congratulate you and thank you for a clearer path.



# The Year in Review

By SPC. MARIAN ROSADO AND SPC. KARYN REYNOLDS,  
65TH PCH

The new millennium brought many changes and accolades to the Connecticut Military Department, which includes the Army National Guard, the Air National Guard, Office of Emergency Management (OEM) and the state militia. There were many firsts, several awards, and new construction keeping the soldiers and airmen busy over the past year. This month we take a look back at some of Connecticut's greatest accomplishments.

## MARCH 2000

The Connecticut Guardian made its debut. The new, monthly newspaper covers Army and Air Guard, OEM, and the Governor's Horse and Foot Guards, bringing news of what is going on to all members of the Connecticut Military Department community.



A new partnership between the Connecticut Army National Guard and Howell Cheney Regional Vocational Technical High School in Manchester is doing what it can to help prepare and give hands-on-training to high school students. The program is called Maintenance Assistance Instruction Team (MAIT 2000). The program is intended to bring diesel mechanics students from Cheney Tech to three different maintenance facilities the Guard operates to give students a wider variety of equipment and tools. This is the second year MAIT 2000 has helped students get the best training alongside professionals in the field, which in turn has helped promote good work ethics. (Note: The first MAIT 2000 class graduated in June 2000.)

The 169<sup>th</sup> Leadership Regiment's Noncommissioned Officers Academy (NCOA) has received its accreditation from the United States Sergeants Major Academy (USASMA), Fort Bliss. The academy, located at Camp Rowland, Niantic, Conn., runs the Basic Noncommissioned Officers Course (BNCOC) and the Advanced Noncommissioned Officers Course (ANCOC) for soldiers in the Army National Guard and the Army Reserve. These courses are needed for promotion and the accreditation means that Connecticut will be able to continue running both courses and

does not have to send soldiers out of state for schooling. There were 42 areas that were reviewed by evaluators from USASMA. The NCOA received a "go" in all areas, which aided the accreditation recommendation.

Staff Sgt. Josephine Grey received the Red Cross Hero Award for efforts that helped her in a potentially lifesaving event. Grey was on board an airplane headed for Florida when an elderly gentleman became ill and needed immediate medical attention. Grey suggested the pilot divert the plane to a closer airport so the man could be taken to a hospital.

## APRIL 2000

In lieu of downsizing the Connecticut National Guard to under 4,000 members, Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno, State Adjutant General, unveiled a "Bold Move" for the Guard to boost its membership to 4,300 members. This move would create an additional 164 slots enabling the Guard to become more agile, versatile and sustainable, fostering leadership and career development.



Twenty members of the 65<sup>th</sup> Press Camp Headquarters were deployed to Bosnia and Hungary in support of Operation Joint Endeavor. Two of the four Connecticut Guardsmen, Capt. Robert Bartholomew and Sgt. Joseph DeCaro were deployed to Eagle Base, Tuzla, Bosnia, while Maj. Sherman McGrew and Spc. Jeffery Austin were deployed to Taszar, Hungary. Their mission was to run the Coalition Press Information Center (CPIC), to support the National Support Element, to publish "The Talon" and "The Endeavor" along with gathering news and preparing print and broadcast stories for the media and VIP's.

## MAY 2000

In order to practice the skills necessary to meet their mission, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 192<sup>nd</sup> Field Artillery traveled to Fort Dix, N.J. in April for the first of three live-fire exercises on their 2000 training calendar. The exercise was the first step in the unit's preparation for its annual training exercise, which will be held at Fort Pickett, Va. The 2/192<sup>nd</sup> has a troop strength of 340 soldiers which staff three firing batteries and a headquarters support element. As the fire support element

for the 26<sup>th</sup> Brigade, the unit must stay ready for deployment at any time. The 2/192<sup>nd</sup> completed its live-fire exercise successfully, meeting all of its commander's intents, and truly meeting its core objective – steel on target.

Over 100 National Guardsmen, Army Reservists and State Militia members received Phase I graduation and completion certificates from the 2<sup>nd</sup> General Studies Battalion Advanced and Basic Noncommissioned Officer Courses (ANCOC, BNCOC) during ceremonies held in April at Leamy Hall, U.S. Coast Guard Academy, New London. The six-month program was held at Camp Rowland, Niantic, offering rigorous instruction in subjects such as equal opportunity, risk management, troop leading procedures, battle focused training, military justice, law of warfare and combat orders, among others. This was the first time for members of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Companies, Governor's Foot Guard and 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Companies, Governor's Horse Guard to participate in the course of instruction. Awards were presented during the ceremonies to distinguished soldiers.

## JUNE 2000

Twenty personnel from the Connecticut National Guard and 35 people with 23 horses from the 1<sup>st</sup> Company Governor's Horse Guard were used in search of Mr. Ralph Strong, a 77-year-old East Hampton man suffering from age-related dementia, diabetes and arthritis. The search began May 13 and was halted May 16 with no success. A hunter found his body in Portland in late September.



Over 400 personnel participated in an exercise to help prepare various groups to work together in the instance of a mass casualty (MASCAL) event. The New London Fire Department held the "incident command," with members of the Connecticut Army National Guard, police force and paramedics reporting to it. The "victims" were played by members of the U.S. Submarine School, the Naval Sea Cadets, members of the National Guard, civilian volunteers and family/dependents of the service members. All victims were given makeup, fake blood, plastic wounds and acting instruction. Many

spoke different languages to make it a more realistic situation. All who participated in the exercise learned a great deal and gained confidence to take control of a situation of this magnitude if and when it occurs for real.



A total of 28 cadets from three Connecticut high schools participated in the Connecticut Army National Guard Recruiting and Retention Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) Mini Camp, and learned how to work with leadership scenarios in the form of a competition. The mini camp is designed to strengthen leadership skills and promote the values of teamwork. The high school students utilized the Leadership Reaction Course at Stone" Ranch, crossed the one-rope bridge and took the Army Physical Fitness Test among many other scenarios used by service members.

## JULY 2000

Staff Sgt. Ana V. Ortiz of the 103<sup>rd</sup> Fighter Wing, Connecticut Air National Guard received the 2000 National Image Award. Ortiz, principal of Dr. Ramon E. Bitances School in Hartford, was one of 12 awardees chosen nationally. The award was presented in Puerto Rico.

Spc. Gary Mandelburg of Connecticut's Aviation, Classification Repair Activity Depot (AVCRAD) rescued a Lake Compounce roller coaster worker from a cliff at the park. The employee was a lift operator whose shift ended early due to inclement weather. When trying to descend the mountain himself, the worker slid and fell off a 20-foot cliff and onto a rock. The employee dislocated his shoulder and broke and severed his nose. Mandelburg rescued the employee off the mountain by sliding him down the rock on his back to the EMTs who arrived on the scene within 15 minutes. The



victim received 45 stitches in his nose and was severely bruised. His shoulder was popped back into place during the descent off the mountain. (See related story on page 32 of this issue)

AUGUST 2000

The Connecticut National Guard, along with family and friends, gathered for the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual NAACP Armed Services and Veterans Affairs Award Dinner to support 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Pamela D. Townsend, a member of the Connecticut Air National Guard. She was one of the recipients of the 2000 Roy Wilkens Renown Service Award. This award is given annually to a number of military personnel who have distinguished themselves by contributing to military equal opportunity policies and programs.



The 192<sup>nd</sup> Engineer Battalion had its Annual Training at Stone's Ranch and Camp Rowland with the mission to improve the accessibility and usability of these training areas. The 192<sup>nd</sup>, along with the 247<sup>th</sup> and the 248<sup>th</sup> Engineer companies got right down to business and met its mission objectives by doing road improvements and drilling a well at Stone's Ranch and by the construction of the pavilion at Camp Rowland.

A British officer from the 75<sup>th</sup> Engineer Regiment, 107<sup>th</sup> Field Squadron, Territorial Army stationed in Liverpool, visited the Connecticut Army National Guard to share and learn from American soldiers. Capt. Mark Grey was one of 19 British officers chosen for this year's exchange program. He has been a member of the British equivalent of the National Guard for 14 years. Grey spent two weeks with the State Area Command (STARC) and visited units and training areas in the state. He was impressed with how much alike the two country's militaries are.

SEPTEMBER 2000

Company B, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 102<sup>nd</sup> Infantry conducted late Annual Training at Fort Dix, N.J. in preparation for deployment to Bosnia. Realistic training included Rules of Engagement, OPFOR, Combat Lifesaver Training and cultural and language barrier situations.



The end of Fiscal Year 2000 drew to a close with Connecticut coming out on top. The Connecticut Army National Guard was recognized for having the best end strength maintenance posture for the Northeast Region.



Camp Rowland opened the doors to its new facility. The facility, formally known as "Chargeable Transient Quarters, (CTQ), Building Number 32" provides for temporary accommodations for eligible military personnel of all grades and DOD civilians at a cost, allowing Guardsmen and their families great opportunity to spend personal time as a family at Camp Rowland.



Governor's Day shifted its focus to a more family oriented day drawing thousands to Camp Rowland for the first of what is to become an annual "Family Day." A great time was had by all and plans are in the works to make next year's event even better.



The new Improved Physical Fitness Uniform (IPFU) made its debut. The Army National Guard and U.S. Army Reserve began issue and will continue until 2003. The IPFU consists of a gray and black jacket, black pants, black trunks and gray short and long sleeve T-shirts.

Phase I of the Officer Candidate School was hosted by the 169<sup>th</sup> Leadership Regiment for 15 days at Camp Rowland. Part of the 14-month transition to becoming second lieutenants, these candidates received more than they expected. The Leadership Program was more specifically designed to meet specific needs and career objectives of the candidates. The program more closely resembled one of mentoring, capturing and capitalizing on capabilities of the individuals.

OCTOBER 2000

With reserve components being called to active duty, it is more important than ever before to have soldiers trained to the same level and standards as the active Army counterparts. That was the emphasis at a conference detailing the importance of The Army School System (TASS) held this past September at the U.S. Naval Base in Groton. The conference drew 70 senior officers and senior enlisted personnel from throughout the northeast and as far away as Washington State. Organizers stated that the vision of the conference is to enhance readiness through an efficient, fully integrated educational system that guarantees soldiers of all components to be trained to a single standard. The importance of this subject matter is highlighted by the stated mission of the Deputy Chief of the Secretary of Defense for Education, which is to prepare for war by facilitating successful implementation of TASS.



In September, 144 golfers and a dozen volunteers descended on Keney Golf Course in Hartford with clubs in hand. The

golfers participated in raising funds for the Connecticut Children's Hospital and the National Guard Association of Connecticut's Scholarship Fund. Trophies were handed out to the low scorers and raffle prizes were presented to the lucky ticket holders. The real winners were the charities for picking up over \$8,000 between them.



This was the second year the family members of the 103<sup>rd</sup> Fighter Wing, Connecticut Air National Guard were able to participate in a program hosted by the Connecticut National Guard's Drug Demand Reduction Program (DDRP). Forty Guard family members came up to the base for a Bradley Air Cadet Day.



Parents and counselors escorted the children through a tour of the base and demonstrations of aircraft and fire-fighting equipment. The children were also treated to a short bus trip to see the Army National Guard helicopters. Not counting the season finale of Guard member's children, 480 children came through the program this year.



# The Year in Review



# Command Chief Master Sergeant Addresses Jr. Enlisted Council

BY SENIOR AIRMAN JULIE BRAGG, PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST

PHOTOS BY MASTER SGT. LINAS VENCLAUSKAS, MULTI-MEDIA BRANCH

On Saturday of the October UTA, Command Chief Master Sergeant Gary R. Broadbent met with members of the 103<sup>rd</sup> Junior Enlisted Council to discuss important issues relevant to them. Chief Broadbent is the seventh Command Chief Master Sergeant to the Director, Air National Guard, NGB, Washington D.C.

When the Chief walked into the Logistics classroom on Saturday, he greeted everyone individually, shaking each airman's hand. He made a point to ask every member of the student flight when he/she is scheduled to leave for basic training.

"When he talked about some of the issues at hand, we could tell he has been in our shoes," said Senior Airman Piper Masse, electronic warfare journeyman, 103<sup>rd</sup> Maintenance Squadron. "He still remembers what it was like to be a junior enlisted member himself."

Chief Broadbent enlisted in the active duty Air Force at age 18. He served four years as a fuels specialist with the 509<sup>th</sup> Bomb Wing, Pease Air Force Base, N.H. After his first son was born, he decided not to re-enlist. "About a week after I got out, I decided I missed the military," said Broadbent. Fourteen months later, he joined the New Hampshire Air National Guard. Chief Broadbent has served 27 years and holds six Air Force Specialty Codes (AFSC's).

Chief Broadbent stressed the importance of professional military education (PME) to the junior enlisted members. His main piece of advice was to talk to people who can



ANG Command Chief Master Sergeant Gary R. Broadbent addresses some junior members of the 103<sup>rd</sup> Fighter Wing.

influence you to move in the right direction. "Ask someone to sit down with you to help you make a plan for your military career," he said.

"He really seemed to have a grasp on the issues important to the junior enlisted and seemed to welcome concerns and suggestions we had to offer," said Masse. One topic brought up was the difficulty there is scheduling ancillary training requirements. He acknowledged this concern and let the council know that there is a team at the Air National Guard Readiness Training Center that is devoted to making training more efficient for guardsmen. "We're working on streamlining ancillary training," said Broadbent.

Other important topics he addressed included promotion and retention issues.



103<sup>rd</sup> Logistics Squadron 1st Sgt., Master Sgt. Daniel Jones meets Chief Broadbent.

## COMMISSARY & EXCHANGE DIRECTORY

Here is a current directory of area commissaries and exchanges along with their phone numbers. Always call ahead to verify hours as they may change without notice. A valid i.d. card is necessary to use these facilities. Contact your unit administrator if you or your dependants need a card. If you have trouble, contact the State Family Program Office at 1-800-858-2677.

### CAMP ROWLAND POST EXCHANGE

MONDAY: Closed  
TUESDAY – SATURDAY: 10:00 – 5:00  
SUNDAY: 10:00 – 4:00  
Phone: (860) 739-9672

### ARMY RESERVE CENTER

700 South Quaker Lane  
West Hartford, CT  
MONDAY – FRIDAY: 10:00 – 1:00  
MONDAY – FRIDAY: 1:45 – 4:00  
SATURDAY & SUNDAY: Closed  
Phone: (860) 236-3393

### COAST GUARD ACADEMY

New London  
MONDAY – FRIDAY: 9:00 – 5:00  
SATURDAY: 9:00 – 3:00 SUNDAY: Closed  
Phone: (860) 444-8488

### SUB BASE, NEW LONDON

**Exchange Hours:**  
MON., TUES., WED., FRI.: 9:00 – 6:00  
THURSDAY: 9:00 – 7:00  
SATURDAY & SUNDAY: 9:00 – 5:00  
HOLIDAYS: 9:00 – 4:00  
Phone: (860) 694-3811  
**Commissary Hours:**  
MONDAY: Closed  
TUE., WED. & FRI.: 9:00 – 6:00  
THURSDAY: 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.  
SATURDAY: 8:00 – 5:00  
SUNDAY: 10:00 – 5:00  
Phone: (860) 694-2244

### COAST GUARD STATION

120 Woodward Avenue, New Haven, CT  
MONDAY – FRIDAY: 9:00 – 4:30 SATURDAY: 9:00 – 2:00, SUNDAY: Closed  
Phone: (203) 468-2712

### WESTOVER AIR FORCE BASE

Chicopee, Mass.  
MONDAY – FRIDAY: 10:00 – 5:00  
SATURDAY: 10:00- 5:00  
SUNDAY: 11:00 – 5:00  
Phone: (413) 593-5583

### AIR NATIONAL GUARD

East Granby  
TUESDAY – FRIDAY: 10:00 – 5:00  
SATURDAY: 10:00 – 4:00  
SUNDAY & MONDAY: Closed  
UTAs: Open Saturday & Sunday: 10:00 – 5:00  
Phone: (860) 653-6994

### WEST POINT, NEW YORK

**Exchange Hours:**  
SATURDAY – WEDNESDAY:  
10:00 – 6:00  
THURSDAY & FRIDAY: 10:00 – 7:00  
Phone: (914) 446-5406  
**Commissary Hours:**  
MONDAY: Closed  
TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY:  
10:00 – 6:00  
THURSDAY: 10:00 – 7:00  
FRIDAY: 10:00 – 6:00  
SATURDAY: 9:00 – 5:00  
SUNDAY: 11:00 – 5:00  
Phone: (914) 446-5406

# Frankenstein, Dracula and Other Ghouls Take Over the Bradley Air Guard Base

STORY BY CAPT. GEORGE WORRALL III, 103RD FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER  
PHOTOS BY SENIOR AIRMAN EILEEN S. CASEY, 103RD COMMUNICATIONS FLIGHT MULTIMEDIA SECTION

The haunted hayride took spectators on a ride through the backwoods of Bradley Air National Guard Base. There in the woods, riders were met by mummies, Dracula, Frankenstein, witches, a misty graveyard, hangings and electrocutions all in the name of morbid family entertainment.

On Oct. 20 and 21, the Connecticut Air National Guard Family Program ran its Second Annual Warthog Haunted Hayride at the air base in Granby.

"I am grateful to the unit members who supported and participated in the event," said Master Sgt. Julie D. Janes, family program coordinator, 103rd Fighter Wing. "We had a great year and raised money for the programs we do throughout the year. The two-day event brought in \$3,200...a significant increase from the \$900 raised in 1999, which was about the same amount as expenses. Organizationally things went very well. We had no long lag time between rides and had twice as many small children attend over last year."

Frankenstein, better known as Master Sgt. Charles E. Moss, stock fund managers, 103rd Logistics Squadron, spearheaded setting up the event.

"The turnout was better than last year," said Moss. "I think support from units on the

base could have been a little better, but overall this year had a lot more involvement. The folks at civil engineering did a lot, both the state and military side, did an outstanding job.

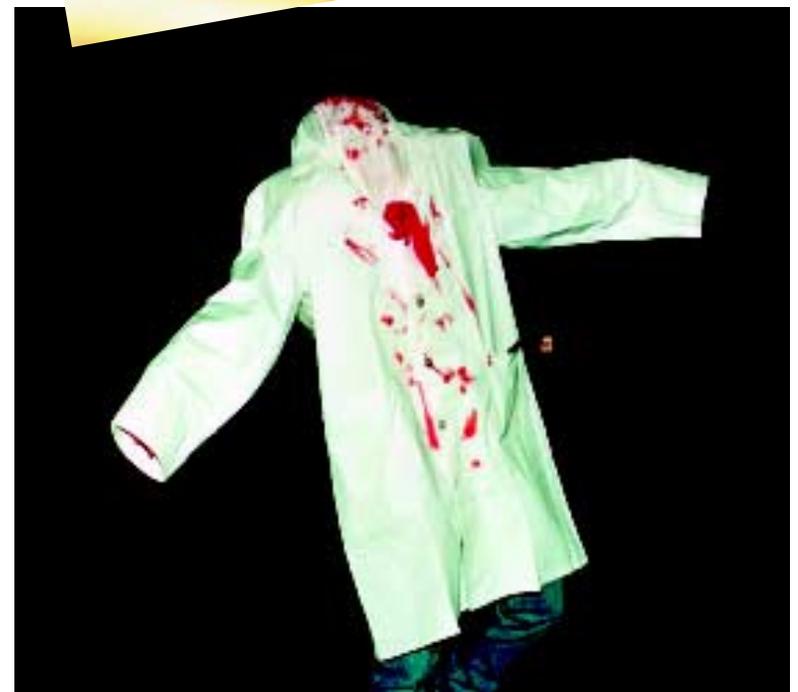


"Logistics group was a big part, since it is the largest organization on the base. They did good," said Moss. "You can always improve, but the weather was good and we had a great turnout so I can only see it going up. People in the community know it's here now."

"I was impressed," said Senior Airman Cheryl L. Mayo, services technician, 103rd Services Flight. "I did the graveyard with the Junior Enlisted Advisory Council and the Civil Air Patrol, and heard a lot of good comments and better, I scared a bunch of people. I had two of my cousins come up. One was scared and the other thought it was cool."

"For those of you who missed the event, there's always next year, so start thinking about ideas for next year's hayride," said Janes.

"I would tell anyone to try out volunteering," said Mayo. "It was my first year and it was fun and something you can participate in with the family."



# Memories of Leader Inspire Connecticut Runners at Marine Corps Marathon

STORY AND PHOTOS BY SGT. 1<sup>ST</sup> CLASS DEBBI NEWTON, STATE SENIOR PANCO

He was a leader, mentor, friend, athlete, and inspiration. A year after his death, he is still an inspiration to many in the Connecticut National Guard family. This inspiration was never more evident than it was recently when a small group of Connecticut's airmen and soldiers traveled to Washington, D.C. for the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Marine Corps Marathon in October.

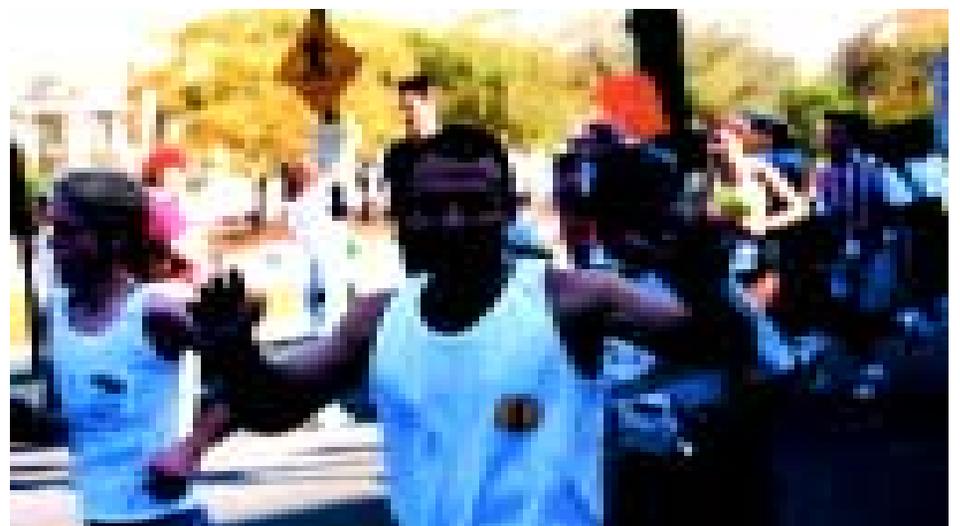
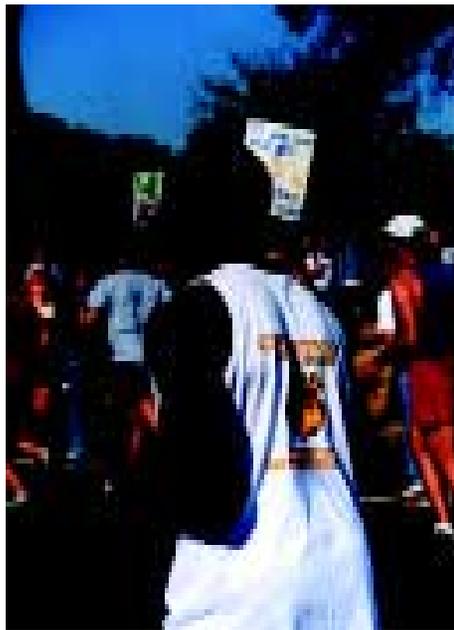
Brig. Gen. Steven Cordon passed away last year after a long battle with cancer. Second only to his love of family and the Guard, was his love of running, a love he passed on and shared with anyone who would listen. Cordon inspired many soldiers and airmen, not only to begin running programs, but also to run competitively. Rare was the day that Cordon could not be seen running with, and encouraging, fellow soldiers during his lunch hour.

"Brig. Gen. Cordon was someone who I and many others cared for greatly," said 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Cassandra L. Allsop, Connecticut Army National Guard (CTARNG). "He enjoyed running more than everything, except his family. I miss running with him, like everyone else, but I knew this (marathon) was one of his favorites and knew that he was there watching us." This was Allsop's first Marine Corps Marathon, and in addition to running as part of Connecticut's contingent, she was also running as member of the All-Guard Team.

The 15 Connecticut Guard members that participated in the Silver Anniversary edition of the Marine Corps Marathon along with thousands of runners from all over the world, all had similar reasons for running and were willing to share some of their fondest memories of a man who meant so much to so many. And they all received something very special that they had not expected from someone very close to Cordon – his daughter Elizabeth.

Liz, as she is known to many Guardsmen, is a Reserve Officer Training Course (ROTC) cadet and a simultaneous member of the CTARNG. Prior to the Guardsmen's departure for Washington, she sent each of them a letter.

See **MARATHON** on page 25



# Native American Participation in the United States Military

In November we honor Native Americans and their contributions to our national heritage, and on November 11 we do the same for veterans who gave so much in service to their country. As these two observances overlap, so too do the particular contributions of Native Americans to the defense of our nation.

The following was prepared for the United States Department of Defense by CEHP Incorporated, Washington, D.C. in partnership with Native American Advisors Roger Bucholz, Lakota; William Fields, Cherokee; and Ursula P. Roach, Hopi and appears on the DOD Web site.

American Indians have participated with distinction in United States military actions for more than 200 years. Their courage, determination and fighting spirit were recognized by American military leaders as early as the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

Many tribes were involved in the War of 1812, and Indians fought for both sides as auxiliary troops in the Civil War. Scouting the enemy was recognized as a particular skill of the Native American soldier. In 1866, the U.S. Army established its Indian Scouts to exploit this aptitude. The Scouts were active in the American West in the late 1800s and early 1900s, accompanying Gen. John J. Pershing's expedition into Mexico in pursuit of Pancho Villa in 1916. They were deactivated in 1947 when their last member retired from the Army in ceremonies at Ft. Huachuca, Arizona. Native Americans from Indian Territory were also recruited by Teddy Roosevelt's Rough Riders and saw action in Cuba in the Spanish-American War in 1898. As the military entered the 20<sup>th</sup> century, American Indians had already made a substantial contribution through military service and were on the brink of playing an even larger role.

It is estimated that more than 12,000 American Indians served in the United States military in World War I. Approximately 600 Oklahoma Indians, mostly Choctaw and Cherokee were assigned to the 142<sup>nd</sup> Infantry of the 36<sup>th</sup> Texas-Oklahoma National Guard Division. The 142<sup>nd</sup> saw action in France and its soldiers were widely recognized for their contributions in battle. Four men from this unit were awarded the Croix de Guerre, while others received the Church War Cross for gallantry.

The outbreak of World War II brought American Indian warriors back to the battlefield in defense of their homeland. Although now eligible for the draft by virtue of the Snyder Act, which gave citizenship to American Indians in 1924, conscription alone does not account for the disproportionate number of Indians who joined the armed services. More than 44,000 American Indians, out of a total Native American population of less than 350,000, served with distinction between 1941 and

1945 in both the European and Pacific theaters of war. Native American men and women on the home front also showed an intense desire to serve their country, and were an integral part of the war effort. More than 40,000 Indian people left their reservations to work in ordnance depots, factories and other war industries. American Indians also invested more than \$50 million in war bonds, and contributed generously to the Red Cross and the Army and Navy Relief societies.

Battle-experienced American Indian troops from World War II were joined by newly recruited Native Americans to fight Communist aggression during the Korean conflict. The Native American's strong sense of patriotism and courage emerged once again during the Vietnam era. More than 42,000 Native Americans, more than 90 percent of them volunteers, fought in Vietnam. Native American contributions in United States military combat continued in the 1980s and the 1990s as they saw duty in Grenada, Panama, Somalia and the Persian Gulf.

As the 20<sup>th</sup> century comes to a close, there are nearly 190,000 Native American military veterans. It is well recognized that, historically, Native Americans have the highest record of service per capita when compared to other ethnic groups. The reasons behind this disproportionate contribution are complex and deeply rooted in traditional Native American culture. In many respects, Native Americans are no different from others who volunteer for military service. They do, however, have distinctive cultural values that drive them to serve their country. One such value is their proud warrior tradition.

In part, the warrior tradition is a willingness to engage the enemy in battle. This characteristic has been clearly demonstrated by the courageous deeds of Native Americans in combat. However, the warrior tradition is best exemplified by the following qualities said to be inherent to most if not all Native American societies: Strength, Honor, Pride, Devotion and Wisdom. These qualities make a perfect fit with military tradition.

To be an American Indian warrior is to have physical, mental and spiritual strength. A warrior must be prepared to overpower the enemy and face death head-on.

American Indian soldiers, sailors, marines and airmen have fought heroically in all of this century's wars and armed conflicts. They have not only been formally recognized for their bravery through military decoration but through anecdotal observation as well.

More important, however, is the warrior's spiritual strength. Many traditional cultures recognize that war disrupts the natural order

of life and causes a spiritual disharmony. To survive the chaos of war is to gain a more intimate knowledge of life. Therefore, military service is a unique way to develop an inner strength that is valued in Native American society.

Having a strong sense of inner spirituality is also a part of the Indian character. Many Native Americans are raised on rural or remote reservations, an environment that fosters self-reliance, introspection and a meditative way of thinking. These character traits can be very beneficial when adapting to the occasional isolation of military life in times of both peace and war.

Warriors are honored – honored by their family and their tribe. Before and upon their return, warriors are recognized by family and community. Recognition takes place through private family gatherings, or through such public ceremonies as tribals or ceremonials.

Being a warrior in traditional society gives one a sense of pride and a sense of accomplishment at a time in life when self-esteem is just developing. Becoming a warrior brings status to young men and women in their culture. The ceremonies that honor the warrior create a special place in the tribe's spiritual world.

United States military service provides an outlet for Native Americans to fulfill a cultural purpose rooted in tradition – to fight and defend their homeland. This purpose is particularly important since it comes when young people of the tribe are normally not old enough to assume a leadership role in their traditional culture. The cultural expectation to be a warrior provides a purpose in life and is an important step in gaining status in Native American culture.

Native American warriors are devoted to the survival of their people and their homeland; if necessary, warriors will lay down their lives for the preservation of their culture, for death to the American Indian warrior is but another step in the advancement of life. It is understood that the warrior's spirit lives in eternally. So, warriors do not fear death, but rather regard it as the ultimate sacrifice for their own and their people's continued survival.

The warrior seeks wisdom. Wisdom, as used in this context, means the sum total of formal learning and worldly experiences. In wartime, those Native Americans seeing heavy combat had to learn how to survive, often using skills that many unit commanders thought were inherent to the American Indian's cultural background.

Many American Indians (as well as non-Indian volunteers) joined the military in World War I to satisfy their sense of adventure. Most had never left the confines of their hometown, much less marched on the battlefields of Europe. These experiences provided a wisdom through exposure to other

people and cultures. This was sometimes threatening to the elders of a tribe, who feared that this newfound worldliness would cause unwanted change to their culture. Over time, however, this wisdom of worldly events and peoples was accepted by tribal leaders.

Today, Native Americans are increasingly exposed to the non-Indian world through movies and television. Although the military is still an avenue for seeing the world, it has, in the latter half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, also provided other types of wisdom. Military service offers excellent educational and job skill opportunities for Native American men and women who frequently come from educationally disadvantaged communities.

Wisdom can also be gained from interaction with others. Military policy in the 20<sup>th</sup> century has preferred assimilating the American Indian into regular units. Although some divisions had more Native American troops than others, there were never all-Indian units. This meant that Indians and non-Indians were placed in close-knit groups, perhaps each experiencing each other's culture up close for the first time.

Similarly, intertribal relationships were developed, sometimes with a person who was a traditional "enemy." Many times these intercultural and intertribal contacts broke through stereotypes and resulted in lifelong friendships; friendships that otherwise might never have been cultivated.

The requirements for successful military service – strength, bravery, pride and wisdom – match those of the Indian warrior. Military service affords an outlet for combat that fulfills a culturally determined role for the warrior. Therefore, the military is an opportunity for cultural self-fulfillment. By sending young tribal members off to be warriors, they return with experiences that make them valued members of their society. Finally, the military provides educational opportunities, which allow Native American veterans to return to their community with productive job skills to improve their quality of life.

With the 21<sup>st</sup> century on the horizon, the United States military can be expected to provide continuing opportunities for Native American men and women. For their part, Native Americans can be expected to carry on their centuries-old warrior tradition – serving with pride, courage and distinction.

*My platoon commander always sent me out on patrols. He...probably thought that I could track down the enemy. I don't know for sure, but I guess he figured Indians were warriors and hunters by nature.*  
-Sac and Fox/Creek Korean veteran

## American Indian Medal of Honor Recipients

In the 20<sup>th</sup> century, five American Indians have been among those soldiers to be distinguished by receiving the United States' highest military honor: the Medal of Honor. Given for military heroism "above and beyond the call of duty," these warriors exhibited extraordinary bravery in the face of the enemy and, in two cases, made the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

**JACK C. MONTGOMERY:** A Cherokee from Oklahoma, and a first lieutenant with the 45<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Thunderbirds. On Feb. 22, 1944, near Padiglione, Italy, Montgomery's rifle platoon was under fire by three echelons of enemy forces, when he single-handedly attacked all three positions, taking prisoners in the process. As a result of his courage, Montgomery's actions demoralized the enemy and inspired his men to defeat the Axis troops.

**ERNEST CHILDERS:** A Creek from Oklahoma, and a first lieutenant with the

45<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. Childers received the Medal of Honor for heroic action in 1943 when, up against machine gun fire, he and eight men charged the enemy. Although suffering a broken foot in the assault, Childers ordered covering fire and advanced up the hill, single-handedly killing two snipers, silencing two machine gun nests, and capturing an enemy mortar observer.

**VAN BARFOOT:** A Choctaw from Mississippi, and a second lieutenant in the Thunderbirds. On May 23, 1944, during a breakout from Anzio to Rome, Barfoot knocked out two machine gun nests and captured 17 German soldiers. Later that same day, he repelled a German tank assault, destroyed a Nazi fieldpiece and while returning to camp carried two wounded commanders to safety.

**MITCHELL RED CLOUD JR.:** A Winnebago from Wisconsin, and a corporal in Company E, 19<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment in Korea. On Nov. 5, 1950, Red Cloud was on a ridge guarding his company command post

when he was surprised by Chinese communist forces. He sounded the alarm and stayed in his position firing his automatic rifle and point-blank to check the assault. This gave his company time to consolidate their defenses. After being severely wounded by enemy fire, he refused assistance and continued firing upon the enemy until he was fatally wounded. His heroic action prevented the enemy from overrunning his company's position and gained time for evacuation of the wounded.

**CHARLES GEORGE:** A Cherokee from North Carolina and a private first class in Korea when he was killed on Nov. 30, 1952. During battle, George threw himself upon a grenade and smothered it with his body. In doing so, he sacrificed his own life but saved the lives of his comrades. For his brave and selfless act, George was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor in 1954.

## Native American History

By COL. ANTHONY VALLOMBROSO

What comes to mind when I mention Native Americans? I think of stories related to early settlers being taught how to take advantage of the rich agricultural bounty that America offered, I think of Thanksgiving and how this plentiful bounty was shared by everyone, I think of how the Indian scouts were able to accurately guide the Cavalry with their keen knowledge of nature, and I also think of a flawed image that was created by Hollywood producers in the early days of television and how it has taken two generations and several decades to clearly define what the true image of these proud ancestral Americans is.

The early days of European settlement brought major change to the way of life for the Native American and despite the many hardships they endured including a transition to a mandated existence many years ago, we now witness a revitalization of a truly rich and honorable heritage in this new century.

Native Americans have made significant contributions as members of our military forces as far back as the War of 1812. Their valor continued through both World Wars, and every United States campaign and operation and their bravery has been an integral part of every American military conflict. During America's last major conflict, the Gulf War, over 3,000 Native Americans served in the Persian Gulf, with three making the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

Forty years after the end of World War II, Raymond Nakai, a former Navajo Code Talker, stated his feelings about Native American participation in World War II. "Many people ask why we fight the White man's war. Our answer is that we are proud to be Americans. We're proud to be American Indians. We always stand ready when our country needs us."

From art to agriculture, from science to soldiering, all Americans have learned and benefited from the native peoples, whether they know it or not. The modern Native American warrior is a proud member of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard. They, like us and every other U.S. service member, "support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic."

Celebrate Native American culture with your unit. Learn more about Native Americans from the following websites. <http://www.doi.gov/bureau-indian-affairs.html>, <http://www.tuscon.his.gov/>, and <http://phs.os.dhhs.gov/>.

## Code-Talking: An American Indian Tradition

The story of the code-talkers is a uniquely American one. During World War I and World War II, one of the most brilliant tactics devised by the U.S. forces to confuse the enemy was the use of American Indian languages as "codes" for sending radio messages. The codes were derived from Navajo and other Native American speech which are virtually unintelligible to non-Indian Americans much less the enemy. Where ordinary codes are considered obsolete within 24 hours after use, the American Indian codes were so effective that they were never broken.

The first code-talkers were eight Choctaw soldiers serving in the same battalion during the closing days of World War I. Surrounded by the German army, the Choctaw took over the field telephones and baffled

the enemy with strategic messages sent back and forth in their native language. Code-talkers were used on an even greater scale during World War II throughout the Pacific and European theaters to deliver classified dispatches without enemy detection. The largest number of code-talkers were the 420 Navajo Marines who hit every Pacific beach from Guadalcanal to Okinawa.

While they were an integral part of the Allied victory in the Pacific, the Navajo were not the only code-talkers to serve in the war. In Europe, 17 Comanche code-talkers saw brutal fighting as part of the Army Signal Corps. Along with the Comanche, the Army Signal Corps also employed members of the Oneida, Chippewa, Sac and Fox, and Hopi tribes, who used their native languages to help the Allied effort throughout the war.

## A Warrior Hero: Joseph Oklahombi

The World War I killing fields on the Franco-German border were the stage for a Choctaw private to exemplify the courageous fighting spirit of the American Indian. Joseph Oklahombi and his fellow infantrymen of Company D, 141<sup>st</sup> Infantry, crossed the barbed wire entanglements of "No Man's Land" to attack German machine gun emplacements. Upon reaching the German position, Private Oklahombi single-handedly captured 171 German soldiers, taking them in their own trenches. Under constant enemy fire, he crossed back and forth over the battlefield to pinpoint enemy positions and rescue his wounded companions. For these acts of heroism and extreme bravery, Oklahombi was awarded France's highest military honor, the Croix de Guerre.

**After I got home, my uncles sat me down and had me tell them what it (the war) was all about. One of them had been in the service in World War II and knew what war was like. We talked about what went on over there, about the killing and the waste, and one of my uncles said that was why God's laws are against war. They never really talked about those kinds of things with me before.**

**-Cherokee Vietnam veteran**

## T.G.I.F. The Guard Is Family

By KIM HOFFMAN,  
FAMILY PROGRAM MANAGER



### Reserve, Guard Forces' Dental Benefits to Expand

Reserve and National Guard families will be included as beneficiaries for the new TRICARE Dental Program (TDP) beginning Feb. 1, 2001 under Department of Defense policy guidelines. This will significantly expand the number of Reserve forces personnel eligible for TDP.

One important new feature will allow Reserve and National Guard members called to active duty in support of contingency operations to sign their family members up for the TDP by excluding them from the mandatory enrollment period.

"The TDP will be a tremendous benefit to National Guard and Reserve personnel in the very near future," said Charles L. Cragin, principal deputy assistant secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs. "And the new policy guidelines will significantly improve the readiness of Reserve force families."

Under the current program, all military personnel are required to have at least 24 months remaining on active duty to enroll in the TRICARE Family Member Dental Plan (TFMDP). The new program will reduce this mandatory enrollment period from 24 months to 12 months of Service commitment. It also will combine the TFMDP and the TRICARE Selected Reserve Dental Program (TSRDP). For Reserve and National Guard members, this means more covered services than were available under the TSRDP and a larger provider network.

Since 1995, more than 30,000 Reserve force personnel have served on involuntary active duty tours to support presidential Reserve call-ups for Bosnia, Kosovo and Southwest Asia. Reserve and National Guard personnel ordered to active duty in support of contingency operations are limited by statute to serving an active duty tour of 270 days or less.

"The TFMDP mandatory enrollment period has precluded these reservists from enrolling their families in the TFMDP," said Cragin. "Without the new guidelines, reservists who cannot afford to pay the full premium for continuing their civilian dental plan would be denied family dental coverage while on active duty."

The new policy guidelines for TDP were recently published in the Federal Register. The program will be administered through a new contract with United Concordia Companies Inc.

"Contingency operations are ongoing and the new dental program will be a significant benefit for Reserve families in the near future," Cragin said. "The authority to waive the mandatory enrollment period demonstrates our commitment to military readiness. If our families receive better care, the more ready our Total Force will be."



## ESGR

By Lt. Col. (Ret) Harry  
Ritson  
ESGR Public Affairs

When Russia began its descent as a world power, it was logical that the United States no longer had to compete in the arms race and that an orderly, paced reduction of America's armed forces was not only rational, but it would also contribute billions of dollars to the then just emerging economy. In the very late 1980's just such a reduction was put into action, and it must have had some financial impact because that was exactly when most economists believe the American economy began its major upswing.

However, its impact was also felt on the armed forces just two years later when we participated in Desert Shield and Desert Storm. Despite the armed participation of a whole coalition of Allied Nations, America's contribution not only included almost all of our mainstay Active Forces, but even then it also required the call-up of over 240,000 National Guard and Reserve troops to supplement the Active Forces to wage war against a single, relatively small aggressor country.

Since then, the ever-increasing "Peace Dividend" has bolstered the American economy. By 1999, \$788 billion had been deleted from defense budgets and the figure grows approximately \$100 billion per year. The Active forces were cut between 40 and 50 percent during a time period when the overseas operational tempo was increased 300 percent. The result is that our country is in the process of wearing out its military personnel and war making equipment through constant deployments and redeployments and literally no procurement. Even though between 20 and 25 percent of all deployed forces worldwide now come from the

## The Peace Dividend - At What Cost? (An Old Soldier's Opinion)

reserve components, the pressure is being revealed in the increasing numbers of soldiers, sailors and airmen with critical skills that are voluntarily leaving the active services, as well in the increasing maintenance rate and cost of maintaining our equipment.

About \$350 billion of the "Peace Dividend" came from a 70 percent cut in procurement. The obvious result of intensively using existing equipment and spending less for procurement is accelerated aging, and accelerated maintenance and repair budget (up 70 percent), and questionable readiness. The average age of Air Force tankers is 39 years; Army attack helicopters 21 years and Army tanks 12 years. Marine Corps CH-46 Sea Knight helicopters are over 30 years old and have been limited in range and payload which affects the Corps' ability to perform its missions. The larger CH-53 requires 38 hours of maintenance for every hour of flight. In fact, this year 75 percent of our fleet of military aircraft will have an average age of 20 years, and when the B-52 finally meets its planned retirement date, its airframes will average 75 years old.

Facilities have fared no better. There are many WWII military buildings still around that are deteriorating around their users. Many armories are running out of 50-year leases without planned funds to re-lease let alone repair. Countrywide, the National Guard has over 1,340 projects with a value of over \$4 billion in its military construction backlog awaiting inclusion in the budget. This fiscal year it was awarded \$16 million against a \$500 million subset of "Critical needs requirements". The Air Guard also has a backlog of required construction projects of \$1.4 billion. It received \$21 million of its

\$700 million of critical needs. At this rate it will take 1,100 years to fund just the total Guard's current projects and this doesn't include the needs of the other reserve components.

The administration's planned procurement for FY 2000 and the Future-Years Defense Plan comes nowhere close to easing the aging of the inventory or to providing new systems to reverse the aging and increased maintenance spiral. Instead we are stretching out our replacement schedules to ridiculous lengths and reducing the quantities of the new equipment that we do purchase - which raises their costs and still further delays modernization.

It's said that today's reduced military must depend on technology and "smart weapons" to be successful in carrying out its missions. Then it must also be true that the government owes those proud young men and women who serve in our active and reserve components the most modern, effective and dependable weapons, technology and training available. This is particularly true of a government that chooses to send them into harm's way so often. We owe them no less! Appropriate funds must be made available to support immediate research and upgrading of our armaments, materials and facilities to satisfy our planned military and peacekeeping objectives. Our military may be reduced but it must never be diminished!

Our Senators and Congress members have the capability to rectify this situation. If you share this opinion, let them hear from you.

## 'Tis The Season

By COL. ANTHONY VALLOMBROSO

It is likely that your holiday plans have been made by now and that you are gearing up for a season of celebration. This is a very special holiday season because it is the first of the new century. We all celebrate in many ways, but mostly think about what goes on during "our" special event. Take a moment this year to respect our brothers and sisters that celebrate in fascinatingly different ways. Learn what their traditions are and how they celebrate the season. Our diversity does not end with our social or ethnic differences, it begins there, and what an amazing journey it can be for a small investment of time.

Christmas celebrates the birth of Jesus for members of the Christian religion and dates back to 336 AD.

Chanukah, or the Festival of Lights, is a

Jewish holiday that celebrates the victory of the Maccabees and the rededication of the Jerusalem Temple.

Kwanzaa, which is neither religious or political, or a substitute for Christmas, celebrates traditional African values of family, community responsibility, commerce, and self-improvement.

Ramadan is celebrated by our Islamic brothers and sisters and marks the period when the Islamic Prophet Mohammed received the holy words from Allah (God) and placed them into the Koran.

There are other religious and non-religious celebrations this season that we are fortunately free to celebrate as Americans. Whether you celebrate Christmas, Chanukah, Kwanzaa, Ramadan, Boxing Day, or Solstice; enjoy the season and give

thanks for our right to be free.

Log onto the internet and surf around holiday celebrations. Did you ever wonder why some people exchange gifts, why evergreen trees are decorated, what mistletoe over our front doors represents, what a Yule log is, what Iftar or Karamu are, what a Dreidel is, what poinsettias represent, who Santa Claus is, why stockings are hung over the fireplace, or where those dreadfully delicious (or sometimes just dreadful) fruit cakes came from?

You will be delightfully surprised how much you can learn about the many ways we celebrate the season, and...there are some great recipes to reward your efforts.

Happy Holidays from all of us at the Soldier-Airman Support Center!

# Yankees take Barnstormers 6-2

BY CAPT. GEORGE H. WORRALL III, 103RD FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

Connecticut's Air National Guard Hockey team defeated Massachusetts's Air Guard team for the first time, Oct. 21 at the Hartford Civic Center (HCC).

The victory for the 103rd Fighter Wing "Flying Yankees" brings the record to one Connecticut win, two for Massachusetts' 104th Fighter Wing "Barnstormers" and one draw.

The Yankees came out strong in the first (of three) periods scoring four goals to the Barnstormers one. In the second period the Yankees made one unanswered goal. Each team scored one goal in the third period.

"They [Barnstormers] had 13 players and a goal tender; but, we had more players [17 skaters and 3 goal tenders] and without a doubt that helped," said Flying Yankees Coach, Tech. Sgt. Anthony L. Leitao, weapons expediter, 103rd Aircraft Generation Squadron. "We could change our lines, and keep the lines fresh with four defensive parings. We did not have to keep people out there, and that gives the players energy late in the game to continue playing."

The Flying Yankee team carried a wide variety of experience levels. In fact, one player and a goalie were relatively new to ice hockey.

"It was my brother's [Michael Scheidel] first time playing hockey on ice, and only my tenth time skating on ice," said defensive player Staff Sgt. Matthew P. Scheidel, 103rd Maintenance Squadron. "I am more of a roller blade player, we both play roller hockey in Plainville. There were two goal shots taken on him [his brother] and no goals."

Michael Scheidel, who served in the Marines, was the only goal tender in the game not to give up a goal. Each of the Flying Yankee goaltenders played one period.

"It was blast. I had so much fun playing in the big house [civic center]," said first period Flying Yankee goalie Staff Sgt. M. Darryl Johnson, ordinance systems specialist, 103rd Maintenance Squadron, who has played ice hockey for 31 years. "Last year we got killed, so it was a good feeling to win. I played the second half of the game last year. I played for Stamford Catholic High and then played Juniors in Milford. Juniors is the highest level before you start getting paid, and this [HCC] is the biggest arena I ever played." Johnson has played ice hockey since he was nine years old.

The teams alternate playing at the Springfield and Hartford Civic centers before the Hartford Wolfpack and Springfield Falcons games. The game this year brought about 200 spectators to the arena. Those who purchase tickets (about \$10) for the unit's games are also able to stay and watch the Wolfpack-Falcons game. The next game is tentatively scheduled for Sunday March

18th in Springfield.

How did it start?

"I was contacted by my old unit [104th FW] in July 1998 and they asked me if there was a team here," said Master Sgt. Brian B. Dutton, weapons loading supervisor, 103rd Aircraft Generation Squadron. "I did not know many people here, but luckily Tony Leitao was in the shop, so between him and Joe Abele we found enough people for a team. Since then, Tony took over and does it all now. He's taken the idea and run with it.

"I would like to see it [the sports] expand ... since the units are so close. It's ok to call [104th] when you need a part, but we should work more together, sports seems like a good way."

"Most of the games have been close; but, this was a little bit of a blowout, 6-2," said Master Sgt. James P. Burke, one of the original organizers for the Barnstormers, plans NCO, 104th Fighter Wing, Mass. ANG. "Connecticut has gotten better and we have a new goalie and new guys. We won the first two and the last time we tied. It will be interesting to see how the next game progresses."

"One week before the game I had no goal tenders," said Leitao. "Standing in the lobby an hour before face off, I only knew for certain of 14 players and one goaltender. Then to have three good goaltenders and 17 players ... we had more players show up for this game, in the third season of matchups, than any in the past. The goaltenders played

one period each, and the other 17 players rotated to create three forward lines and four defensive parings."

"How well we played was a surprise," said Assistant Coach Master Sgt. Harry J. Daniel Jr., aircraft production controller/expediter, 103rd Aircraft Generation Squadron. "The game went well. We started strong and did not let up. Tommy [Martin] did an outstanding job."

"I wish we had the interest for some intrastate play, like a hockey family day, with the Army Guard," said Team Captain Master Sgt. Joseph P. Abele, traffic manger, 103rd Logistics Squadron. "I think it is a good thing to get together in fun ... a good time with the kids getting involved." Abele said he became team captain as "I was the first guy on the team."

"I would like to try and create a competitive tournament with other guard units in the area," said Burke. "Next for the 104th is the team from Otis [Air National Guard Base, near Cape Cod]. The first few games had more kids, family members, father and sons, etc. This year [Barnstormers] only had one family member play, the rest were unit members. The utilization of all 104th personnel is happening."



The Flying Yankees and Barnstormers fight it out in front of the Yankee's goal. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Kelly A. Cloutier, 103rd FW)



The final score of 6-2 remains in lights on the Hartford Civic Center scoreboard. (Photo by Sandra J. Andstrom)



The teams prepare for referee 1st Lt. Thomas C. Hannon, 103rd Logistics Squadron, to drop the puck, signaling resumption of play. (Photo by Sandra J. Andstrom)

# National Guard Association of Connecticut Military Funeral Honors Expanded

By SGT. MAJ. (RET.) JOSEPH AMATRUDA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NGA CT

With the passage of the FY-2000 National Defense Authorization Act, many more veterans, including members of the Reserve Components, are entitled to military funeral honors.

The bill made numerous amendments to existing legislation relating to the provision of funeral honors for deceased veterans. One amendment requires a minimum of two members of the armed forces instead of three and would require that at least one of these members be a member of the same armed force as the deceased. The detail would be expected to perform a ceremony which, at a minimum, includes the folding of the United States flag, presentation of the flag to the veteran's family, and the playing of Taps (this could be a recorded version of Taps).

Upon hearing of this legislation, your National Guard Association of Connecticut (NGACT) immediately went on record supporting a change to the State laws to bring them into agreement with the federal legislation. Members of your Board of Directors joined forces with other veteran's groups and the Adjutant General supporting and urging

State legislation. It is here that we learned

the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat.

Our efforts were successful in raising the stipend paid to members who serve on the honor details to \$50 per day. However we were not successful in expanding the eligibility requirements. The State of Connecticut still holds to a standard of service during certain periods of time, usually wartime, to qualify for a military funeral. So, at the present time, the Federal government will pay a \$50 stipend to any M-day soldier or technician or AGR soldier (in a leave or pass status) who serves on a military funeral. The state of Connecticut will pay the same stipend to anyone who performs a military funeral for a deceased veteran who served during any of the periods enumerated in the state law. In order to delineate who gets paid by whom, the State Military Department has brought on board retired SGM Joe Amatruda to act as the Military Funeral Honors Coordinator. He works full time at the Hartford Armory and can be reached at 860-493-2773 for anyone who has any questions regarding military funerals.

This legislation is important in light of recent history. On average, 1500 veterans die each day in the United States. This is expected to reach 1700 in the year 2008 when the veteran death rate is expected to peak. At the same

time, the Department of Defense

(DOD) has made significant reductions in its military force. This inverse convergence has made it difficult for DOD to respond to the higher demand for military funerals. It is hoped that the increase in the stipend will cause more service members to become involved in this final fitting tribute.

Members of the Executive Council of your NGACT are already working on the Adjutant General's Legislative Tiger Team and other military groups to once again work on the development of state and federal legislation to enhance the Connecticut Army & Air National Guard. Your National Guard Association will be in the forefront of legislative action.

You can reach the NGACT at our office (860) 247-5000. There is an answering machine in the office. If no one is there, please leave a message. You will receive a return call. The NGACT Website is <http://www.ngact.org>.

## EDUCATION ESSENTIALS

By SGT. CRISSY TRAYNER

The State Education Office has several tests that can be administered to members of the Guard. These include the Armed Forces Classification Test, Regents, Dantes, CLEP and Flight tests. Testing will be scheduled on the following dates:

Saturday	December 16, 2000
Saturday	January 6 and 13, 2001
Saturday	February 3 and 17, 2001
Saturday	March 10 and 17, 2001

The testing will start at 0900 hours on each day. Call Master Sgt. Richard Miller at (860) 524-4807 to order tests and to make arrangements for your testing. Testing will **NOT** be given on your drill weekend.

When I went to Germany, I never thought about war honors, or the four "coups" which an old-time Crow warrior had to earn in battle...But afterwards, when I came back and went through this telling of war deeds ceremony...lo and behold I (had) completed the four requirements to become a chief.

-Crow World War II veteran

## My Printer Won't Print!!!???!?

The most common trouble call we respond to in the DOIM is for Printer Problems. Usually, the users have already checked the connections and paper jams and even tried turning the printer off, waiting for about a minute and turning it back on. Those are all the right things to do!

Now let's tell you what the technician you requested does to clear up most of the problems that are not fixed by the above. When you to print again; Pay **attention to the print settings box that pops up**. Most of the problems we solve are as simple as selecting the correct printer. If you find that you had sent some print jobs to the printer with the wrong printer selected you may have a problem. When the laser printer gets a print job written for an ink jet printer or another model laser printer it keeps on trying to do its best to print it. Sometimes it can't figure out anything and just sits there and sometimes it prints out some gibberish, which is not what you wanted. In any event, the printer won't move on to the next print job until it finishes with the first one. Hitting the re-try buttons just keeps scrambling the computer and your printer further and further. To clean out the old print jobs, click on the Windows Start Button down in the lower left corner of your screen. Put your cursor on the **Settings** selection and you should see a pop-up menu. Click on the menu item that says **Printers**. You should see at least one printer icon, probably more. When you double click on them it lists all the print jobs in the queue for that printer. Delete all the ones that are jamming you up. Now go back and try to print remembering; **Pay attention to the print settings box that pops up**.

If your printer still does not work. Now check all of the connections, check for jams, turn off the printer, wait one minute, then turn it on again. As a final user troubleshooting step, reboot your computer then go through the steps above one more time. These steps will solve well over 90 percent of the printer problems we encounter daily.

If you still have a problem, you probably either need a new or updated print driver or you have bad hardware. Call the help desk.

CHAPLAIN'S  
CORNER

### Navy CREDO Program comes to Connecticut

By CMDR. THEODORE W. EDWARDS, CHC, USN,  
REGIONAL CHAPLAIN, NAVY REGION NORTHEAST

Something new is coming to Connecticut, and the benefits of it will be available to everybody in the uniformed services.

Navy Region NORTHEAST will open the CREDO Center of Excellence this fall on board the Submarine Base. CREDO is the Chaplain's Religious Enrichment Development Operation. Over the 29 year development and operation of CREDO at 8 locations around the world, CREDO has served as a highly effective resource for personnel and their commands to build stronger people, improve readiness of uniformed service members and their families, and secondarily to improve motivation for retention and recruiting.

CREDO takes a distinctly spiritual approach to build trust, experience mature acceptance in community, heighten understanding of personal responsibility, and encourage teamwork in community. CREDO invites personal growth and reflection, but it does not attempt to "fix" broken people or force them to work on perceived "issues." The CREDO operating philosophy is that each person is a unique

creation of God with value and significance of his or her own. This process of personal growth has yielded a long history of transforming many poorly functioning Marines and Sailors into productive team players that contribute to operational readiness and mission accomplishment.

CREDO Center of Excellence is being stood up in the fall. With the beginning of 2001, CREDO will offer sessions of the 4-day Personal Growth Retreat, the 3-day Marriage Enrichment Retreat, and a Teens Retreat in the summer. Retreat programs are entirely free of cost to participants and their commands. Eligible to participate are all service members active, reserve, retired, and from any of the uniformed services. ID card-carrying family members are eligible, too. Transportation is provided to the retreat sites to and from Groton.

Retreat dates for 2001 will be put out separately soon. The point of contact for information or registration will be the Northeast Regional Chaplain's Office at (860) 694-5730. The Program Sponsor is the Navy Chief of Chaplains. You are most cordially invited to register and attend.

# Going Back In Time . . . . .

STORY BY MAJ. JOHN WHITFORD, STATE SENIOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER  
PHOTOS BY SGT. FIRST CLASS DEBBI NEWTON, STATE SENIOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS NCO

On October 12, 2000, 25 veterans of Tank Company, 169<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment and their family members reunited for their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Korean War at the Hartford Armory. They received a tour of the Hartford Armory that included the OEM, CLIN site, the Officer's Club and viewed the actual order calling them to Active Duty.

On August 11, 1950, the 43<sup>rd</sup> Division was called to Federal Service, effective September 5, 1950 for a period of twenty-four months.

The 169<sup>th</sup> Infantry remained at the unit armories for approximately 10 days, completing the final phase of mobilization including physical examinations, immunizations and a mass of paperwork.

On September 15, 1950, the 169<sup>th</sup> Infantry began its move to Camp Pickett, Virginia. The regiment completed its reorganization and shortly thereafter, the regiment started receiving the first of thousands of inductees for basic training and Advanced Infantry training. The 169<sup>th</sup> became a training regiment for the units of the division and later for units all over the United States and Korea.

From August 13 to September 25, 1951, the regiment moved to the Southern Pines, Fort Bragg, North Carolina to participate in the Southern Pines maneuvers. Shortly after returning to Camp Pickett from the maneuver area, the regiment was alerted on September 15 for movement to an overseas station.

On October 20, 1951, the Associated Press story datelined Bremerhaven, announced, "The first American National Guard Division



ever sent to Europe in peacetime, docked here to help strengthen the Anti-Communist watch on the Rhine." After debarking at Bremerhaven, the troops were moved to Camp Y-79, a tent-city staging area located near Manheim, Germany.

Regimental special units and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion were assigned quarters in Flint Kaserne (used as a training Kaserne by the elite SS Guards of Hitler's Germany in World War II) in Bad Tolz, while the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalions were assigned quarters in Will Kaserne in

Munich, Germany.

After the initial period of organization, the rotation of the infantry battalions to the training areas of Hohenfels and Grafenwhar, the Czechoslovakian border and the Kasernes became routine.

During March 1952, the division commander informed the regimental commander that the first of the personnel assigned would be authorized to return to the United States for separation, using a point system.

In June 1952, all units of the regiment moved to Furth, located near Nurnberg in Bavaria. Most of the Connecticut troops returned home during this period although the unit designation remained in Germany.

As we fast forward back to the future to October 12, 2000, it was a few hours for those vets and their families to share memories, laughs and tears. "It was great to see these men and their families come to re-live that historic day in Connecticut Guard history," said STARC historian Rene Provost.

## Marathon

### Marathon continued from page 19

Her letter read: "I just wanted to take the time to say, 'Good luck, and have fun!' to those running in the Marine Corps Marathon this weekend. Just remember when you are at the point of exhaustion and you're not quite at the finish line, my Dad is there with you to keep you going. (And for a lot of you, I know that it was COL Cordon that got you into marathon running, so that's another thing to keep you going!) I'm sorry that due to personal problems I cannot attend, but you all will be in my thoughts. Have a great race."

"It meant a lot to have her acknowledge what we were doing," said Maj. Barbara Luhn, 103<sup>rd</sup> Fighter Wing, the only member of the Connecticut Air National Guard to participate in the marathon. "The whole family was in our thoughts during the race."

The letter carried a very special inspiration for third time marathoner Staff Sgt. Jackie Milhomme, State Area Command, CTARNG.

"I carried a copy of it with me on the run, (as did many of the runners)" she said. "At a couple of the later mile markers, when I felt like I was done, I would ask him to help me finish this. Then at mile 25, I pulled out the letter and read it and it kept me going. Then at the finish line, I thanked God and him (Cordon) for getting me through."

All the runners, and many of the non-running family members and Guardsmen who went to cheer on the more hardy, wore white tank tops emblazoned with the Connecticut National Guard logo on the front, and the words "In Memory of BG Steven Cordon" on the back.

"(Brig.) Gen. Cordon was my friend and former boss," said Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Chris King. "We ran this marathon in 98 together. We ran it as a team with other soldiers from the Guard. I was the last of the team to come in...way last. His only concern was that everybody was okay and accounted for. When you finish a marathon, it is very difficult to think of anything but yourself. He made sure I was all right and accounted for. That speaks to his leadership and his

friendship."

As for the letter Cordon's daughter sent out, King said, "Your greatest hope as a parent is that you can pass on your values to your children. Brig. Gen. Cordon can rest well."

Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Alia Avnayim was also running his third Marine Corps Marathon and talked about the importance of running in this particular one. Cordon had always planned on returning to run the 25<sup>th</sup>, Silver, edition of the marathon.

"He and I talked often about running various road races, some of which we participated in together. At times when we met each other during the road races, I felt we inspired each other just by the presence of one another. A familiar runner always seems to make the run easier.

"It had to be around mile 20 on my first marathon in 1995 that Brig. Gen. Cordon tapped me on my back and said, 'How are you doing, Lee?' 'Sir, I'm hurting.' 'Don't feel bad, so am I. We are almost there. We'll make it.' Although it is just a memory, I'll always remember it. As in the first marathon,

this one I also started to hurt, and my thoughts went back to mile 20 of my first marathon."

Maj. Scott Dilley, a long-time friend and colleague of Cordon's, was instrumental in getting many of the runners together for this, as well as several other races, this year. He said it had always been Cordon's plan to return to Washington for this year's race. His memory and encouragement, and Liz Cordon's letter, meant a great deal to him.

"That letter meant that he was running along side each of us," said Dilley. "It was like I could feel him right there during the race. He was truly a leader and a running friend."

Members of the Connecticut National Guard who ran in the 2000 Marine Corps Marathon:

Maj. Scott Dilley, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Cassandra Allsop, Sgt. Crissy Trayner, Staff Sgt. Jackie Milhomme, Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Chris King, Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Elia Avnayim, Maj. Barbara Luhn, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Donald Chiverton, Chaplain (Maj.) James Finn, Master Sgt. Richard Miller, Sgt. Maj. (Ret.) Joseph Sousa, Lt. Col. Mark Russo, Lt. Col. Gary Ottenbriet, Capt. Pat Lopiano and Staff Sgt. Paul Hanlon.

# Proper Wear and Appearance Standards for the Army: What you may and may not know

By **SPC. KARYN REYNOLDS, 65TH PCH**

Pride in service starts with pride in appearance. A well-groomed and neat appearance is fundamental to the Army standard of discipline. It is the duty of military personnel to take pride in their appearance at all times, while commanders are tasked with ensuring a neat and soldierly appearance of their command.

The guidelines for proper appearance for the Army Uniforms and Insignia can be found under AR 670-1. Some of the guidelines have been modified over time to reflect changing conditions and our nation's rich and ever changing cultural diversity.

For personal grooming and hygiene, the standards have changed somewhat for both male and female soldiers in areas such as hair and cosmetics. Good daily hygiene is an expected standard to include proper maintenance of the uniform, and also includes the restriction of tattoos on any visible areas of the body such as face, neck and legs so as not to detract from the overall soldierly appearance.

Hair length and style has become less restricted so long as the style is not faddish or extreme and the length is not excessive. The standard for males is above the eyebrows, above the ears and a tapered

appearance in the back. Lines or designs may not be cut or shaven into the hair or scalp. Sideburns must be neatly trimmed and horizontally cut and may not exceed the lowest part of the exterior ear opening. A mustache is permitted so long as it does not cover the upper lip line and does not extend beyond the corner of the mouth. In all instances, the face should be kept clean-shaven.

Females may also have hair of varying length, style and color. It should be neatly groomed, not covering the eyebrows or extending below the bottom edge of the collar and may be colored, but the hair color must be natural for hair. Hairstyles cannot interfere with proper wearing of military headgear or protective masks. Hair-holding items such as barrettes, bands or clips may be worn if natural in color and inconspicuous.

Nails should be groomed at all times. Females may wear neutral color polish and may maintain longer nails if they are trimmed to a length that does not interfere with their soldierly appearance or performance of duties. Extreme shades of polish such as purple, green, gold, blue, black and white will not be worn.

The appearance of the uniform should be

maintained to a high standard including the appearance and fit of such. The uniform should be kept buttoned, zipped and snapped with all insignia kept in proper luster and no personal items protruding from the pockets, to include pens and eyeglasses.

The wearing of jewelry is permitted, including rings, wristwatches, bracelets and earrings, but no jewelry, including pens and pencils, may appear exposed on uniforms. No more than two rings are authorized with Army uniforms. A wedding set counts as one ring. Wristwatches may be worn in conjunction with wrist ID bracelets, but no more than one item per wrist is allowed. Female soldiers are allowed to wear earrings except in Class C uniforms (BDUs, cooks whites, etc.), and they must be spherical, unadorned and not exceed 1/4 inch in size, and be of gold, silver, white pearl or diamond only. Males are not allowed to wear earrings at any time while they are on duty.

Finally, conservative eyeglasses are authorized for wear so long as they are not faddish. Conservative civilian sunglasses are also authorized for wear except in formation or indoors.

For further information on the Proper Wear and Appearance of Army Uniforms and Insignia, go to <http://www.usapa.Army.mil>

## Name, Rank Placement on Gore-tex

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A change in the regulations standardizes the size and the type of cloth nametapes and ranks authorized for the Extended Cold Weather Clothing System (ECWCS) parka.

The change to the Army Regulation 670-1 applies to the regular Army, National Guard and Reserve soldiers wearing the ECWCS parka, more commonly called "Gore-Tex" among the ranks.

According to the new Army guidance, nametapes attached to ECWCS will be 1/2-inch wide and 3 1/2-inches long, with 1/4-inch block lettering. The nametapes will hold up to 14 characters and be attached to the pocket flap on the left side of the parka, only.

Cloth insignias of the grade with Velcro fasteners are no longer authorized for wear. The only authorized cloth rank insignias are those that are sewn closed (like shoulder bars). The loop slips over the front tab of the parka the same way that shoulder boards slip over the epaulets on the green shirt and sweater. Soldiers may use pin-on insignias of grade if they desire.

The new size nametape and closed-loop cloth insignias of grade are available in the Army military clothing sales stores. Since Sept. 30, 2000, no other sizes of nametapes are authorized for wear on the ECWCS parka.

The above information covering the wear of nametapes and cloth rank insignia on the ECWCS parka have been included in the latest revision of AR 670-1.

## Berets to Make Debut

By **GARY SHEFTICK, ARMY NEWS SERVICE**

WASHINGTON (Army News Service, Oct. 25, 2000) — The BDU cap will still be used in the field, even after the Army adopts the black beret for garrison wear as part of its ongoing transformation, Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack L. Tilley said last week.

"The saucer cap and garrison cap could go away," Tilley said, "But those are things we've got to work out." Tilley will work with a group of senior NCOs to iron out the details of how the Army will adopt the black beret next June. He was charged by Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric K. Shinseki with devising an implementation plan for the entire Army to don the berets.

"This is a great idea - it's a way to pull the Army together," Tilley said. "The beret has instilled pride in soldiers for years."

Shinseki announced last week that soldiers will begin wearing the black beret on June 14, the Army's first birthday of the new millennium. Shinseki said the beret will be a symbol of the Army's transformation to a lighter, more deployable force.

"Starting next June, the black beret will be symbolic of our commitment to transform

this magnificent Army into a new force - a strategically responsive force for the 21st century," Shinseki said. "It will be a symbol of unity, a symbol of Army excellence, a symbol of our values. When we wear the beret, it will say that we, the soldiers of the world's best army, are committed to making ourselves even better."

Tilley said black was chosen for the beret because it's a standard color that has been worn in the past by soldiers in several types of units. Prior to the U.S. Army Rangers adopting the black beret in the mid-1970s, it was worn by armor troops at Fort Knox, Ky., and by those in armored cavalry units.

"The black beret has been used by light and heavy forces before, on and off over the years," Tilley said. The Army's elite Ranger units may select a different color for their beret, Tilley said.

"I've been talking to the regimental sergeant major," Tilley said, referring to Command Sgt. Maj. Walter Rakow of the 75th Ranger Regiment headquartered at Fort Benning, Ga. "We're going to do what's good for him and what's good for the rest of the Army."

Tilley indicated that Rakow may be part of the group that decides how wearing of the

black beret will be implemented across the Army. The group will decide how many berets need to be ordered. It will decide what kind of instruction needs to be provided on how the beret is worn. It will also recommend when new soldiers will be issued the beret — for instance upon graduation from basic training, advanced individual training or perhaps when they arrive at their first permanent unit.

"It will be a rite of passage," Tilley said of new soldiers donning the beret, but explained the details have not yet been worked out.

Tilley also indicated that Armywide ceremonies may be planned for June 14 when soldiers at posts and stations worldwide don the black beret for the first time. National Guard and Army Reserve soldiers will be involved as well, for they will also wear the black beret, Tilley said.

He said the BDU cap will remain the optimum headgear in the field when the kevlar helmet isn't worn. Berets just don't shade the eyes from sun and hold up to weather the way a cap does, he said.

Tilley said he doesn't expect any new Army regulations on hairstyles to accompany wear

of the berets. He predicted that the berets may help recruiting, but said that had nothing to do with the reasoning behind the decision to adopt them.

Tilley said he has been receiving lots of positive e-mail from soldiers about the berets, but admitted that the comments have been "mixed" and that some people are less than enamored with the idea. He said young soldiers seem more excited about the idea of wearing berets than senior NCOs and veterans.

"I think that it's uplifting for soldiers," Tilley said about adopting the beret. "It's very positive. It's a part of change. I've been in the Army a long time and change is part of being a soldier."

And, Tilley said, change is what transformation is all about.

# The Army National Guard at CALL

Fort Leavenworth, KS. – Are you, or do you know, a Guard soldier or leader about to deploy to Bosnia, the National Training Center, the Joint Readiness Training Center or Battle Command Training Program? Are you, or do you know someone beginning a new assignment and needing to know more about a job or just need to know and understand Lessons Learned from those who have done it? The Center for Army Lessons Learned (CALL) has someone who can help Army National Guard (ARNG) soldiers with those challenges.

On July 10, 2000, Maj. William L. “Lynn” Borel, Jr., and ARNG Active Guard and Reserve (AGR) officer, became the Reserve Component (RC) Liaison to CALL. His assignment is assisting soldiers and leaders by, as he states, “...increasing their knowledge to accomplish the mission first time and save lives. Smarter soldiers and leaders move decisively, sustain momentum, and accomplish their mission.”

The ARNG has very little training time to prepare itself – to ensure soldiers and units are combat ready – usually only 39 days each year. Although tasks and standards are the same for the entire Army, the training conditions and the resources associated with those conditions are substantially different – therein rests the challenge. In order to reduce the learning curve and assist in accomplishing ARNG missions, CALL has an immense amount of information for leaders and soldiers at every echelon and branch that can be used as force multipliers for any operation, exercise or training event. With today’s digital reach-back capabilities, even deployed units can enhance their force package and intelligence posture by using CALL. The challenge is to alert Guardsmen

to the lessons learned/tactics, techniques and procedures (or TTP) and significant issues available at <http://call.army.mil>, CALL’s website, and to support the efforts of the ARNG with the best of the Army. In short, RC soldiers can use the CALL website as a source to enhance the Army’s knowledge base.

CALL’s website includes tools such as: “CALL Products” featuring Combat Training Center (CTC) bulletins and CTC trends going back more than 15 years; Videos produced by the CTCs that can be viewed on your or your unit’s computer, down-loaded to your or your unit’s computer for ODP/NCODP (Officer Development Programs/ Noncommissioned Officer Development Programs); Video tapes that can be sent to units if requested from CALL – all free. Also available are “Real World Operations and Training Vignettes” and links to the Foreign Military Studies site (available on the CALL website) that can actually give anyone a country study worthy of the best Corps or Army intelligence officer.

CALL’s website also features very powerful search engines, both military and civilian, with links to hundreds of other sites. CALL’s Military Domain Search can even find Army Regulations and Field Manuals; no more keeping them on the shelf or calling around for the right regulation or updated editions. The site also features CALL’s own database with more than two million pages of archives. There are two databases available, public and secure by password. Users who do not have a password can request one right on the CALL’s database page under “Application for Access”.

Borel stated that the CALL’s website has information that can reduce the “what if

jitters” based on previous deployments or exercise requirements. “Again, the key is getting soldiers to use the site and take the TTP to the field, ODPs/NCODPs and train using TTP.”

CALL’s website has links to 26 news WebPages including the Early Bird, CNN, New York Times and China Today (in English). The site also has a “Thesauri page” with CALL’s own Thesaurus and links to an additional 14 thesauri.

Borel, who commanded an ARNG Mechanized Infantry Battalion’s Headquarters Company (HHC) for three years and an HHC/Base Camp in Honduras for Joint Task Force Aguan ( a Joint Chiefs of Staff Humanitarian Relief Mission in the wake of Hurricane Mitch), said, “If I would have known this site was available as a commander or when I was a platoon leader...well let’s just leave it as many problems of ‘how tos’ would have been easily answered. I would have been on CALL’s website daily.”

One requirement recently completed by Borel was the creation of an NTC “Heads-up” compact disk for enhanced Separate Brigades (eSBs). “I did a search on CALL’s website for ‘Task Force’ and ‘NTC’ and downloaded more than 63 Meg of documents. I organized the documents on the CD by Battlefield Operating System as well as MILES II, OPFOR, RSOI and Safety. The information’s not the 100 percent solution, but it’s a close 65 percent, the other 35 percent of NTC success must come from the deliberate, knowledge-based, team-focused effort by soldiers and leaders. If anyone wants a CD, all they need to do is ask, but again; it’s all on the web. My next step is to do the same with JRTC information.

One already exists for BCTP.”

An area here Borel says CALL needs help is in gathering Lessons Learned in Operations Other Than War (OOTW) regarding disaster relief. “The ARNG has state missions, of which many units have become experts. CALL’s website needs those experts to send their Training Plans, OPORDS, AARs, real world developments and those tactics, techniques and procedures from hurricane relief, tornadoes, riots. Basically, any state emergency in which Guardsmen were activated has lessons learned/TTP. We need to share that information with all soldiers. We have a good amount of lessons and information on fires from Montana and hurricanes from Louisiana, but we need all we can get and more. Any soldier or leader should be able to go to the CALL website and quickly gather lessons learned/TTP and information on natural disasters, however, there is not much available from the ARNG - yet. It’s just like any successful Combined Arms fight, get the right pieces at the right place and the right time and you win – the ARNG has great soldiers, assigned to missions where they are most needed, more frequently than ever before and now it’s time to capture lessons/TTP. Therefore, follow-on units can be successful and we can multiply our forces’ capabilities.”

To contact Borel or submit articles on RC Lessons Learned, provide Tactics, Techniques and Procedures, or to get help finding something on the website, call COMM: (913) 684-9588, DSN: 552-9588, email: [borelw@leavenworth.army.mil](mailto:borelw@leavenworth.army.mil) or U.S. Mail: Center for Army Lessons Learned, Lessons Learned Division, Actual Operations Branch, 10 Meade Avenue, Fort Leavenworth, KS 66027.



*The Connecticut Military Department represented the best of the state at the Eastern States Exposition, along with Governor John G. Rowland and First Lady Patty Rowland, State Adjutant General Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno, and Assistant Adjutant General Brig. Gen. George A. Demers.*

*Members of the Army National Guard, the 1st Company, Governor’s, Foot Guard, and the 1st Company, Governor’s Horse Guard all participated in the Connecticut Day Parade, September 27, 2000. Participants marched around the “Big E” fairgrounds, ending near the Connecticut Building. The Army and Air National Guards provided 20 support people for the parade.*

*Also during this year’s Big E, The Connecticut National Guard and the Department of Economic Community Development hosted “Veterans’ Remembrance Day: Salute to Connecticut Military,” on September 29th, at the Connecticut Building. Governor Rowland presented a proclamation to Cugno, in recognition of Connecticut’s Armed Forces for their distinguished service, dedication and selfless sacrifice. (Photos by Staff Sgt. Steve Markowski, 65th PCH)*

# SEA Conference and Senior NCO Dining In Bring Top Advisors to Connecticut

STORY AND CONFERENCE PHOTOS BY SGT. 1<sup>ST</sup> CLASS  
DEBBI NEWTON, STATE SR. PA NCO  
DINING IN PHOTOS BY STAFF SGT. STEVEN MARKOWSKI,  
65<sup>TH</sup> PCH

Just over a year ago, he came to Connecticut to attend the Senior Noncommissioned Officer's Dining-In and was invited to come back this year as the guest speaker. He had such a good time last year; he invited seven others to come with him this year. And he decided that Connecticut held a unique opportunity for a meeting.

Command Sgt. Maj. Collin L. Younger, Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs, and chairman of the Senior Enlisted Advisors (SEA) Council, brought the rest of the council to Connecticut where they held one of their many conferences at the U.S. Submarine Base in Groton. While there, the top enlisted advisors from all branches of service discussed issues that were important to them and their soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines, as well as receiving a tour of the Submariner School.

Joining Younger on the two-day odyssey in Connecticut were Command Sgt. Maj. Alex Ray Lackey, U.S. Army Reserve; Sgt. Maj. Michael J. McHugh Jr., U.S. Marine Corps Reserve; Fleet Master Chief Chris Glennon, U.S. Naval Reserve; Master Chief Petty Officer George P. Ingraham, U.S. Coast Guard Reserve; Command Sgt. Maj. John L. Leonard Jr., Army National Guard; Command Master Sgt. Gary R. Broadbent, Air National Guard and Command Master Sgt. Billy G. Blackburn, U.S. Air Force Reserve.

Following an early morning breakfast meeting, the council members were taken to the Sub Base where they received a briefing on the mission of the submarine force in today's military; toured the sub school where they were able to talk to the young sailors, visit classrooms, and inspect the high-tech equipment and learning tools of the school; toured a nuclear-powered submarine and attended a graduation.

Later that evening, the men attended the annual Senior Noncommissioned Officers Dining In and had a chance to participate in an evening of camaraderie building events, talk to the soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines, and learn of concerns shared by all members of the U.S. military.

All agreed it was a two-day conference that showed them no matter how long you've been in the military; there is always something new to learn, and someone new to meet.



## 43<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division Veterans Association to Hold Reunion

By AL LENDZIAN JR., VICE-COMMANDER

At last, after more than 55 years, a monument to commemorate and honor the veterans of World War II will be built. The vast majority of Americans weren't born at the beginning of that world-changing event which claimed the lives of more than 406,000 patriotic servicemen and women. Most people view World War II as past history and many more lack knowledge of the sacrifices made to enable us to live in a free society.

There does remain a dwindling number of those former heroes who suffered and

gave so much to protect the American continent and its residents from the power and influence of foreign governments. Had it not been for them, the freedom and peace we enjoy today would only be a past memory. They, along with millions who served so valiantly with, and before them, deserve all the thought and appreciation that can be bestowed.

The 43<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division Veterans Association and I are attempting to establish contact with those remaining veterans to honor and reunite them with some of their former comrades. Over the years, many of these men have relocated and addresses for

them no longer apply. Therefore, I am looking for assistance in locating those that we have been unable to contact by any other means.

The 43<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division Veterans Association will hold a reunion for all former members of the 43<sup>rd</sup> Division at the Colony Plaza Resort, Orlando, Florida, January 25 thru 28, 2001. Contact Al Lendzian Jr., Vice-Commander at 14341 Donavan Ct., Spring Hill (Pasco), FL 34610-1042, or call (727) 856-8568, or e-mail at [Tanker143d@aol.com](mailto:Tanker143d@aol.com)

## CLOSING THE BACK DOOR CTARNG Exceeds Strength Maintenance Goals

By MAJ. MICHAEL VASILE, RECRUITING AND RETENTION  
COMMAND

The Connecticut Army National Guard (CTARNG) has for the first time exceeded all three strength maintenance objectives established by the National Guard Bureau for FY 2000. The CTARNG completed 102 percent, its end strength mission for a positive gain in personnel strength for the third consecutive year. Additionally the CTARNG exceeded its attrition objective by limiting personnel turnover this year to 17.7 percent.

Most important is that for the first time the CTARNG met these two objectives while maintaining the statewide non-drilling soldier percentage below the National Guard Bureau Goal of 3.5 percent. There were only eight other states nationwide to achieve this success and the CTARNG will be recognized formally by the National Guard Bureau along with them in November.

This unprecedented achievement occurred as a result of the hard work and effort of the entire command and staff of our organization placing strength maintenance as the top priority for the CTARNG this year. The "Bring a Soldier Back to Drill" campaign in the fourth quarter certainly made the difference for our organization this year. Equally important is the fact that as our strength maintenance posture continues to improve so does personnel readiness.

Recruiting, retention and attrition management has become a shared responsibility of each and every member of our organization. It is precisely this philosophy which has brought us to this unprecedented achievement and the one which will bring back this success in FY 2001.

## TROA to Give Free \$1,000 Scholarship Grants

The Retired Officers Association (TROA) is giving \$1,000 individual scholarship grants (Base/Post Scholarships) for the 2001-2002 school year to 100 dependents of active duty personnel world wide, including drilling members of the Reserves and National Guard.

The grants are based on merit and leadership qualities, not financial need. No essay is required in the application. TROA membership is not required.

To be eligible, a student must be under the age of 24, working on a first undergraduate degree, and a dependent child of an active duty service person – enlisted, warrant officer or officer – in the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard,

Public Health Service or National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. This includes members of the drilling Reserves and National Guard. The applicant must be planning to attend an accredited college or university as a full-time student in the fall of 2001.

Application is by the World Wide Web only. To apply, go to <http://www.troa.org>. Look for "Scholarships" on the opening TROA web site page. Follow the easy instructions. The deadline for submission is March 1, 2001 at midnight. Semi-finalists will be notified via email and the self-check on the web site by March 30. If chosen as a semi-finalist, applicants must send a certified transcript and verification of SAT (or ACT) scores and

a copy of the sponsoring parent's recent Leave and Earnings Statement to TROA. Winners will be notified in May.

If a computer is not available at home, an applicant should go to the school counselor's office or public library. Applications will only be accepted via the web. For questions not answered at the website, the applicant may email [grant200@troa.org](mailto:grant200@troa.org).

TROA is the nation's leading association for military officers, with nearly 390,000 members. Membership is open to active duty officers and warrant officers, Reserves and National Guard, plus former and retired officers and warrant officers, and surviving spouses.



*The 242nd Engineer Battalion held a dedication ceremony to recognize the completion of its 2000 Annual Training projects. The projects, including construction of a new road, a new MEDEVAC helipad, and improvements to bivouac areas, were commemorated by a plaque set into a large boulder at the beginning of the new road. These projects represent the beginning of efforts to open areas at the Stone's Ranch training area that were previously difficult to access. (Photo by Capt. Scott Wilson, Assistant State Public Affairs Officer)*

# Connecticut Artist Takes up his Pastels for Military: White's Depiction of Plane Earns Place in Historical Collection

By MIKE CHAIKEN, EDITOR, THE EXPRESS

(Reprinted by permission from The Express, Thomaston, CT)

PLYMOUTH, CT – Local artist Ray White has earned his slot in American military history.

But he hasn't done it with a gun or an aircraft. He has achieved his piece of posterity with pastels.

A pastel by White, which depicts a flying Vietnam War-era F-4 Phantom jet fighter from the "Triple Nickel," is now part of the Air Force Art Program. The program focuses on artistic renderings of United States aviation history.

White's slot in the art program is not the only honor the resident of Plymouth has received.

Since his art will be part of the historical collection, he and his wife Linda were invited by the Secretary of the Air Force to attend the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary party for the collection. The party was held at Andrews Air Force Base outside of Washington, D.C. (That's the same Air Force base that

Air Force One calls home.)

"It was a nice time," said White of the party. The Plymouth resident was one of 150 artists invited to the bash. Among the artists in attendance was Keith Ferris, who has a mural of aircraft in the Smithsonian Institute. The trip was an all-expense paid event White said. Although the Whites and their friends the Martis drove down from Connecticut, the Air Force took care of all other expenses once they arrived in Washington.

"We were given the rank of colonel (at Andrews)," White said, "to make sure we had a good time."

The party, which was held Oct. 20, featured a reception with a pianist, 25 violinists, an orchestra, dinner and more.

"It was quite a show," White said. "It was the party of a lifetime."

Each artist in attendance received a commemorative coin from the Franklin Mint honoring the Air Force Art Program's anniversary.

White said he had known about his honor

for about a year before the party. Asked if it was a prestigious honor for an artist to be part of the Air Force Art Program, White said, "I would say so."

How did White's honor come about?

White said he created his work about a year ago. When it was finished, he entered it into the Bethlehem Fair where it took best in show. He was so surprised by the award at the fair, he decided to pack it up and send it to Washington for consideration in the Air Force Art Program. And soon enough, he said, he heard they had accepted it.

White's work, just like all of the work in the collection, is stored in the Pentagon, the artist said.

From there, the military lends it out for gallery showings. According to the Air Force's Web site, [www.af.mil](http://www.af.mil), the Air Force Art Program was founded by Gen. Hoyt S. Vandenberg, Air Force chief of staff, in 1950. Artists donate their work – usually as an outright gift to the government – and they are accepted into the collection by the Secretary of the Air Force.

In an article for National Geographic in 1960 about the program, then-Air Force Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Curtis E. LeMay said, "To posterity, these paintings furnish a priceless pictorial history of our Air Force in a brilliant era."

The plane depicted in White's pastel is part of the "Triple Nickel." White said the Triple Nickel, or the 555<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron, flew out of Danang, Vietnam during the war and was given the task of shooting down MiG fighters for the VietCong.

Although the original work is in Washington, White said he made about 1,500 copies of it before shipping it off. One copy will be donated to the Plymouth Town Hall.

He also intends to sell copies of the work to pilots who flew the F-4 Phantom during Vietnam. He hopes to use some of the money he raises to help finance his nonprofit artists group, the Nutmeg Artists.

Looking back on his experience with the Air Force Art Program, White said, "You never know when you pick a stamp up (what will happen)."

## Connecticut Teams Compete in National Guard Shooting Championships

By MASTER SGT. MARK R. WHITSON  
ARKANSAS AIR NATIONAL GUARD

NORTH LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — The best combat shooters in the Army and Air National Guard from 46 states, including Connecticut, the District of Columbia, and two U.S. territories competed for top honors during the 30th annual Winston P. Wilson Rifle, Pistol, Sniper, and Light Machinegun Championship Matches held here at Camp Joseph T. Robinson, October 14-21.

This year, 726 competitors vied for the distinction of "Best of the Best" in four different shooting disciplines. The WPW Matches are conducted by the National Guard Marksmanship Training Center.

Sgt. Vic McEntire, a middle school science teacher, was making his eighth appearance at the Wilson matches. He has competed as a pistol shooter, until the last two years when he switched to the rifle team.

Contrasting shooting the pistol to the rifle, McEntire explained, "The focus of how to shoot the rifle is different. Shooting the pistol, you look at more of the basics and having a good sight alignment, trigger control, that kind of thing.

On the rifle side, you have to start thinking

of the wind and then everything else so that makes it a different kind of competition." He went on to say, "So far, my scores could be better, but the matches are going good. They seem to be running them very well, and I'm just having a good time and treating it as a learning experience," concluded McEntire.

The matches are designed to promote marksmanship by providing high level training and competition among states. Particular emphasis is devoted to improving individual battle focused "move and shoot" combat marksmanship skills.

The matches have continued to evolve over the years to reflect more realistic training, team spirit, physical fitness, and leadership qualities of the Army and Air National Guard participants.

With the active forces relying more heavily on the readiness of reserve components, combat training and combat marksmanship skills are receiving greater emphasis throughout the National Guard.

The Wilson Matches are named for Maj. Gen. Winston P. Wilson, former chief of the National Guard Bureau, and a member of the Arkansas Air National Guard.

## Good News for Retirees; Test Vets Sought

MILITARYREPORT.COM

Some retirees and their families may face substantially lower maximum out-of-pocket medical expenses under a Provision unexpectedly inserted into the 2001 Defense Authorization Bill. Army Times reports that the upper limit on costs, or "catastrophic Cap," would drop from \$7,500 a year to \$3,000 a year effective January 1, 2001. The change would affect only retirees covered by TRICARE Standard or TRICARE Extra. The catastrophic cap for active duty families is not affected by this legislation and remains at \$1,000 a year under all three TRICARE options.

Meanwhile, the Pentagon has agreed to search its records for the names of ships and crewmembers who participated in a series of exercises in the 1960's which were designed to test ships' abilities to withstand attack from chemical and biological weapons.

The Associated Press reports that the tests were among 113 conducted as a part of a project called Shipboard Hazard and Defense (SHAD). The decision follows a request by the Department of Veterans Affairs in August to provide information that could help the department process claims filed by veterans who believe they suffered health damage from their participation in the tests.

Some of the tests apparently involved the use of chemical and biological agents, although the Pentagon says the two tests of interest to the Department of Veterans Affairs used stimulants rather than live chemical or biological agents.

The Pentagon has agreed to provide a list of the chemical, biological and other agents used in the tests and to consider waiving secrecy agreements that test participants may have been required to sign.

**There was a camaraderie (in the Air Force) that transcends ethnicity when you serve your country overseas in wartime. —Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell, Cheyenne Korean veteran**

# A-10 Pilots Impress Connecticut Employers

By Lt. Col. HARRY R. RITSON (RET.), ESGR PUBLIC AFFAIRS

In a joint effort, Connecticut Air Guard's 103<sup>rd</sup> Fighter Wing and the Marine Corps Air Reserve, provide forty Connecticut employers the opportunity to witness the crew skill and devastating firepower of the A-10 fighter.

A KC-130 flown by the Marine unit from Newburgh, N.Y., transported participants in the Connecticut Committee, Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve's (ESGR) one-day "Boss Lift" to Fort Drum, N.Y. to witness the A-10 live fire exercises on the air-to-ground firing range.

In separate runs the fighters fired their 30 millimeter gatling guns, air-to-ground rockets and practice bombs, and demonstrated the accuracy that has earned the 103<sup>rd</sup> trophies in three out of the last four "Gunsmoke"

competitions of all Air Force A-10 units worldwide. The skill of the pilots and their supporting crews was evident and many participating employers remarked about how impressed they were with the professionalism and level of teamwork they had just witnessed.

Col. Dan Scace, commander of the 103<sup>rd</sup>, based at the Bradley Air Guard Base in Granby, CT, accompanied the employers on the flight, and throughout the day gave briefings and explanations that outlined the level of difficulty and what to look for as each event unfolded. He brought a pilot's perspective to the exercise that broadened the understanding of what was happening and of the multiple skills of the many Air Guard personnel it took to make it so effective.

During a field lunch prepared by the Air

Guard personnel, the employers had the opportunity to meet the pilots they had just watched on the range and to examine their aircraft at close range. This first exposure of many of the participants with no previous relationship to the military had a very positive impact on their understanding of the skills, dedication and importance of the Guard and Reserve in our Nation's defense posture.

The Marine air crew then transported the employers to Stewart Field in Newburgh where they were briefed on the operation of the Marine Air Refueling Squadron and also had the opportunity to try the night vision goggles used by the crews during night operations.

Next stop was across the tarmac where the participants toured the Air Force Reserve's C-5A, the largest transportation aircraft in

the U.S. inventory. With the capacity of carrying up to six civilian size busses, the size of the aircraft and its capability to transport military or peacekeeping cargoes around the world drew an impressive reaction.

Finally, the KC-130 brought the employers back to Bradley Field right on schedule. It took the combine efforts of the Marine Air Reserve, the Air Force Reserve and the host unit, Connecticut Air Guard's 103<sup>rd</sup> Fighter Wing, to coordinate, and operationally make this such an educational and impressive exposure to the skills and value of the various crews involved.

The Connecticut ESGR Committee salutes the personnel of these units for their dedication and skills, and appreciates their contribution to this recent, very educational "Boss Lift" for these Connecticut employers.

## In Memoriam Col. Bruce S. Byrne

The Connecticut National Guard lost a good friend in October with the passing of Col. Bruce S. Byrne, Commander of the 169<sup>th</sup> Leadership Regiment. He was a soldier, a leader, a teacher, a parent and a friend.

Col. Byrne was concerned about his soldiers, concerned about his state and dedicated to his country, and he gave 32 years of his life to serving his country in uniform.

Col. Byrne attended the Officer Candidate School in Niantic in 1970 where he served as student battalion commander and class president, and earned the prestigious Commandant's Trophy. He liked challenges and knew the importance of education. The love of education that he exhibited in Niantic would translate into a vision and dedication to move training into the 21<sup>st</sup> century through distance learning. Col. Byrne was instrumental in Connecticut being put on the map with distance learning. He pioneered the Combat Lifesaver course through distance learning with the class being held in Pennsylvania and Connecticut soldiers benefiting by taking the course via VTC. He strongly believed that Distance Learning is the way of the future.

He also firmly believed in The Army School System (TASS) and carried his usual dedication with him as he became the commander of the 169<sup>th</sup>. He brought the first ever Regional TASS conference to Connecticut, he saw the 1<sup>st</sup> OCS Battalion through its accreditation, and

he saw the 2<sup>nd</sup> General Studies Battalion (Noncommissioned Officers School) through its accreditation nearly a year early. But he was not the type of man to sit behind a desk and make things happen.

Interacting with students, young people and soldiers was what kept Col. Byrne working so hard to make his visions reality. He could be seen in the early morning hours joining his Officer Candidates for a run through the streets of Niantic. He knew the importance of leadership by example and he knew the importance of his positive outlook and support.

The military was not the only part of Col. Byrne's life, but he carried the same dedication to his personal life as he showed in the military. He owned a farm in Nova Scotia and climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro.

He left one son, Frederick, of Newington.

Although his physical strength would leave him in the end, his sharp and positive mind and ultimately, his courage never did. Col. Byrne taught us, clearly, that there is another type of courage than what we all respect on the battlefield – the courage to brave pain...to live it...to not let others be troubled with it...and to still find the joy in life...to wake up in the morning with an enthusiasm for the day ahead.

Col. Byrne left us too early. But his accomplishments, his example, his friendship will not be so fleeting.

## Korean War Stories Wanted

The Connecticut Guardian is planning a special section for an upcoming issue commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Korean War.

We are looking for people who have stories to tell and photographs to share. You can write your own article or we can interview you.

If you choose to write your own story, please keep it to no more than two typed, double-spaced pages, preferably in Word and emailed to [debbi.newton@ct.ngb.army.mil](mailto:debbi.newton@ct.ngb.army.mil) If you do not have access to a computer, you

may type your story and send it via U.S. Postal Service to SFC Debbi Newton, Editor, National Guard Armory, 360 Broad Street, Hartford, CT 06105-3795. Photographs may be dropped off or sent to the same address. All photographs will be returned.

Stories from veterans, spouses, and children are all welcome. If you worked for a civilian military contractor or the Red Cross, we are interested in any story you may be willing to share.

Please contact us with your stories by January 30, 2001.



The Bradley Air National Guard Base Honor Guard carries the colors in the Big E closing ceremonies parade. (Photo by 1st Lt. Wayne Ferris)

# Guardian Honored by American Red Cross

BY MAJ. JOHN R. WHITFORD  
STATE PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

Spec. Gary Mandelburg of AVCRAD, who led an injured chairlift operator down a rocky hillside at Lake Compounce this past summer, was honored at the second annual Heroes of Greater Hartford breakfast recently. The Greater Hartford Chapter of the American Red Cross recognized ten local people including Mandelburg.

"Mr. Mandelburg was chosen for this honor because of the skill, patience and courage he displayed while saving a human being," said Marcia Herrera Chairperson of the Heroes of Greater Hartford.



The keynote address given by Lt. Gov. M.

Jodi Rell, told the crowd that the heroes that are being honored here today has shown a responsibility that is truly beyond the call of duty.

"I don't consider myself as a hero, I just happened to be in the right place at the right time," said a humbled Mandelburg. "I train on this everyday in the Guard. It is great to be honored with these heroes here today."

During the ceremony, everyone got hear and see first hand what actually happened that one June afternoon at Lake Compounce.

At 4:30 p.m., Mandelburg and his wife sat down to eat dinner in the Picnic Pavilion, when his wife heard someone off in the distance calling for help. Gary could not hear it, but was convinced by his wife that someone was in trouble, so he walked into the woods to investigate.

As the Gary climbed up a 45-degree incline through the overgrowth, trees and rocks, he was able to see the injured attendant. When it started raining, the Chair Lift was shut down. The Lake Compounce attendant operating the booth at the top of the lift was going to be picked up by other employees, but decided to walk down the hillside rather than wait. The attendant lost his way in the rough terrain, fell off a 20-foot cliff and landed on rock. His shoulder was dislocated, his ankle was twisted and his

nose had been cut from top to bottom and was lying over on the side of his face.

With the victim bleeding heavily, Gary decided that the best course of action was to stabilize him.

With no first-aid equipment to stop the bleeding, Gary realized that he had to get this man down the rocky terrain as quickly as possible.

With the victim weighing over 200 pounds, and the rough terrain, time was getting critical. "To get him off the cliff, I slid backwards down the rocks on my stomach with the victim's feet on my shoulders. He slid off the rock on top of me," said Mandelburg.

Gary led the victim down the hillside 10 feet at a time. "He had his arm around me and was hopping down. When it got steep enough to where we could not walk, we would sit down and slide together down the terrain," said Mandelburg to the audience.

For over 35 minutes, they worked their way down. The EMT's arrived and they bandaged up the victim, now as a team, they collectively carried the victim the rest of the way down the hill. It had been an hour and a half since Mandelburg's wife first heard the cries for help.

The victim received 45 stitches in his nose and was severely bruised from head to toe. His shoulder had been dislocated, but in the process of sliding down the hill, it popped back into place.

"When we got to the bottom, I sat on a bench and realized I was exhausted," says Mandelburg. "If my wife didn't hear his cries for help and quickly getting him down to safety, the outcome would have been different."

"We have such great men and women in the Connecticut National Guard, and Spec. Mandelburg's heroic actions that day reflect just that," said Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno, Adjutant General and top Connecticut National Guard officer.

# Web Sightings: ACCP

BY STAFF SGT. CHARLES ROWLAND, PERSONNEL SERVICES NCO, HHD STARC

"Tis the season to review NCOPS." At this time of the year, many enlisted soldiers are receiving their NGB 4100 Promotion Worksheets. One question commonly asked is "How do I get more points?" There are many different ways.

Army Correspondence Courses are a great way to further your military career two ways. First, taking a course gives you further knowledge within your MOS or refreshes knowledge you received many years ago, but may have forgotten or teaches you new and better ways to perform in your MOS. Secondly, the credits you earn can count towards promotion points and retirement points. Enlisted soldiers receive 1 promotion point for every 5 credits of correspondence courses completed. All soldiers receive 1 retirement point for every 3 credits of correspondence courses completed.

Great, so now you want to sign up for all the correspondence courses you can take, right? Well how do you do it? It used to be you went to your Training NCO on the drill weekend and said "Sign me up for a correspondence course." Then the Training NCO would type up the paperwork, get you and the commander to sign, and you might get your correspondence course in about a month or two. Now there's a better way to sign up for correspondence courses and you don't have to wait for your next drill to do it. You can sign up...online. Computers are changing our world, and the Internet gives us a connection to our world we never had before. The Internet has also given soldiers the ability to manage their careers and improve themselves.

Log onto this website: [http://www.aimsrdl.atsc.army.mil/secured/accp\\_top.htm](http://www.aimsrdl.atsc.army.mil/secured/accp_top.htm). This is the Logon Page for the Army Correspondence Course Program Website. From here, you can either enter your current User ID and Password if you have used this system before, or request a User ID and Password to use the system. Once you are properly logged in, you will have several options:

HOME – Army Institute for Professional Development Home Page

CATALOGUE – DA Pam 351-20 "Army Correspondence Course Listing"

NEWS – Army Correspondence Course Program (ACCP) News

PHONES – ACCP Help Phone Listing

ENROLL – Enroll On-Line for Correspondence Courses or Sub-Courses

UPDATE – Update Student Information

PASSWORD – Change your User ID and/or Password

EXAMS – Take On-Line Exams and receive instant feedback

ACTIVE – Review active enrollments

HISTORY – Review history records for students not actively enrolled

COURSE – List of available Correspondence Courses

SUBCOURSE – List of available Sub-Courses

With these options, you can check the requirements to take Courses and Sub-Courses. Be aware of the fact that certain Courses and Sub-Courses are limited to soldiers in specific MOSs. For instance, an 11B Infantry soldier cannot take a Course in Patient Administration. There are, however, many Courses and Sub-Courses available to any soldier such as Land Navigation. The key here is to use common sense and check the pre-requisites listed in DA Pam 351-20.

If you take a Course or Sub-Course On-Line, you will not receive a paper course; you must study the material On-Line. But by taking the Course On-Line, you answer the test On-Line and get the results of the test instantly. Also, remember there are only certain Courses and Sub-Courses that are available in the On-Line format. More will become available as time goes by.

In order to get credit for Promotion Points or Retirement Points, you still must submit the results to your Unit Administrator for input into the SIDPERS Database. This is your responsibility, and will not happen automatically.

Now you have the tools to increase your MOS knowledge while earning Promotion and Retirement Points. Your career is in your own hands, and you can make it better.

(Editors Note: Web Sightings will become a regular feature of this publication. In it, will highlight web sites of interest to the soldier, airman, retiree or family member. If you have a web site you would like to share with our readers, please contact us via email with your suggestions. If we decide to use your web site, please be prepared to write the article.)

## DoD Appropriations Act Signed

BY MAJ. JOHN WHITFORD, STATE PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

President Clinton signed the fiscal 2001 Defense Appropriations Act August 22, 2000, paving the way for a 3.7 percent pay raise for active service members January 1,

2001.

The budget of \$288 billion is an increase of \$18 billion over fiscal 2000 and about \$3.5 billion more than the president requested.

The Defense Health Program is funded at

\$12.1 billion. That share includes money Congress added to support changes to the military pharmacy benefit. Members of Congress said that legislation also would provide a blueprint for implementing permanent health care for retirees.

The Fiscal 2001 Defense Authorization Bill is being worked on at this time. The authorization bill allows DoD to spend money. The appropriation act actually provides the funds.

# FSB Trains for Deployment

STORY AND PHOTOS BY SGT.  
1<sup>ST</sup> CLASS DEBBI NEWTON,  
STATE SENIOR PANCO

As a Guardsman, a soldier always knows there exists the possibility of deployment. With the downsizing of the U.S. military over the past years and the increase in operations tempo (OPTEMP), this possibility is more likely to become a reality. That reality is now looking the soldiers of several Connecticut Army National Guard units squarely in the face.

The 143<sup>rd</sup> Forward Support Battalion (FSB) has yet to receive orders placing its soldiers in a deployment status, but has begun training up for a six-month tour in Bosnia. The unit has been notified that it will likely receive the deployment orders, and is doing everything necessary to be ready when those orders come through.

This is to be a volunteer deployment, which means that while the unit will be ordered to deploy, the positions will be filled by soldiers who volunteer to go. To that end, the FSB has begun actively recruiting Guardsmen from within and without its ranks. While many positions have been filled, there remain vacancies. Despite this, the unit is actively preparing its soldiers for deployment.

Among the many things the unit must do is ensure all soldiers receive the necessary shots, have medical and dental screenings, receive driver's training and licenses, have their records checked, prepare family care plans where needed, have clothing and equipment checked and issued, complete lanes training, qualify with their assigned weapons, and have all their military occupational specialty training (MOS) completed.

But perhaps one of the biggest challenges



to the unit is getting all its soldiers TSIRT qualified.

TSIRT – or Theater Specific Individual Readiness Training – is a mandatory requirement for all soldiers deploying to Bosnia, and is conducted at Fort Benning, GA. The FSB sent 117 soldiers there in October, and all came back successful.

A 28-year member of the military, Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Arthur Porter said TSIRT was the best training he had ever received. He spent 14 years on active duty with the Army, and the past 14 years as a member of the Connecticut Army National Guard. He serves as a member of the Support Operations Section of Headquarters Service Company (HSC), 143<sup>rd</sup> FSB.

“TSIRT helps us prepare for deployment in such areas as mine awareness, reacting to sniper fire, security searches of personnel and vehicles, reacting to indirect fire and media awareness,” he said. “I enjoyed the training. It’s the best drill I’ve had in years. They gave us the training, then placed us in real-life scenarios to use what we had learned.”

Throughout his military career, Porter has been deployed overseas four times – to Panama, Honduras and twice to Korea.

The four-day drill was very intense with non-stop training and long hours according to several soldiers. Battalion Commander Lt. Col. Mike Casey recently took command of the FSB and had not been with the unit long enough to know what to expect from his soldiers throughout the long weekend. But he was very impressed.

“They hit the ground running,” he said. “And they never stopped. The NCOs (noncommissioned officers) did an excellent job keeping everyone motivated. As soon as we got off the plane, they took charge. I expected there to be ramp-up time, but there wasn’t. Morale was exceptionally high, and I attribute that the quality of NCO leadership in this battalion.”



The training started on a Thursday, with the soldiers meeting at the Southington armory to prepare for the trip to Fort Benning. After arrival at the training site, rooms were assigned and training began. The TSIRT staff at Benning had constructed a mock Eagle Base training compound to resemble the actual Eagle Base in Bosnia in an effort to make training more realistic. Days two and three began at 0400 hours and ended at 2300 with soldiers getting training in many areas.

“It was like basic training again,” said Spc. Thomas Criscitiello, an administrative specialist with HSC. “They drilled things into our heads, then we got to go out and do what we had learned. We learned how to do body searches, inspect vehicles and about mines. I’ve been a member of the Guard for two years, but I learned so much about things I didn’t know at TSIRT.”

He said they learned how to react to sniper fire, how to convoy and what to do when they came upon COBS (Civilians on the Battlefield), they proper way to exit a vehicle and security when approaching the COBS.

“We also received media training,” he said.

“They taught us to be prepared...to know what to say to the media, what not to say and when to say it. They put us into worst case scenarios and had us put our training into action.”

When Criscitiello says it was like going through basic training again, he wasn’t just talking about the training itself. All soldiers going through TSIRT are treated exactly alike. Whether a soldier is a private, an NCO or an officer, it didn’t matter. As the unit was broken down into squads, it wasn’t the highest-ranking member who became the squad leader, but the privates and specialists. Besides Criscitiello, Pfc. Raquel Quintana was a squad leader.

The automated supply specialist with HSC said the training was invaluable for all the usual reasons, but had some unexpected value as well.

“I had the lieutenant colonel, the battalion sergeant major, lieutenants, captains and senior NCOs in my squad, and I was the squad leader,” she said. “It was a little strange at first, but then it became really interesting. They were all privates again, and they had to take direction from me. It turned out to be an opportunity for our senior leadership to see if their privates could handle a leadership role. I think we handled it very well.”

Quintana said she now had a different perspective on her leaders. Very often, she said, by the time a mission or an order gets to her level, it’s only a piece of the puzzle, and it may not always be understood.

“This training gave us an opportunity to see what our sergeants have to go through,” she said. “I definitely understand more now. We, as privates, don’t see a lot of what goes on backstage, so to speak. We don’t always know the big picture. I have a lot of respect for all the planning, knowledge and decision making that goes into a mission before it gets to my level now. So this training was very good for all levels of the unit.”

Criscitiello was also very impressed with the role reversal aspect of the training. “It made me feel like I was important,” he said. “It put a lot of pressure on me, to do well, not to fail in front of my leadership. It built up my self-esteem. I know I can handle the job now. Before TSIRT I wasn’t sure.”

The remaining members of the FSB who have not attended TSIRT will travel to Fort Benning with in the next few months to receive their certification.

(Editor’s Note: The Connecticut Guardian will be following the training of the FSB as well as Company B, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 102<sup>nd</sup> Infantry and the 141<sup>st</sup> Medical Company as they prepare to receive their deployment orders. We will also be sending a reporter/photographer along with at least one group as they go through TSIRT. Look for more articles in future issues.)



# The Lamp

BY FIRST SGT. JOHN BUTLER

I, as first sergeant at the 169th Leadership Regiment, often find myself wondering what this (the Noncommissioned Officer Education System) all means to us as leaders. How seriously are we, as leaders, taking the schooling?

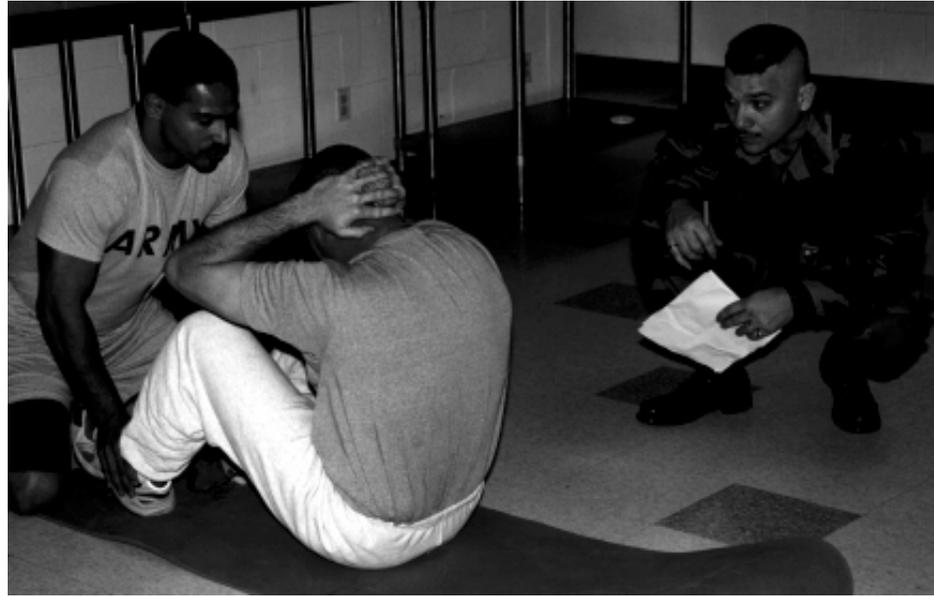
On Nov. 18 and 19, 2000 the 2nd General Studies Battalion started this year's Advanced NCO Course (ANCOC) and the Basic NCO Course (BNCOC). ANCOC had nine no-shows and BNCOC had 20 no-shows. One of the requirements for enrollment in both courses, is to pass an Army Physical Fitness Test (APFT) upon arrival at the school site. ANCOC had four student failures and BNCOC had 12.

Are we preparing our soldiers? Are we sending the soldiers we want promoted? Are we sending qualified soldiers? Or are we just filling seats?

We must inform and help prepare our soldiers for these schools. They need to know what will be required of them. They need to meet all course pre-requisites and be soldiers who want to attend.

We currently have some students from Rhode Island, New Hampshire and the Army Reserves attending these courses. We have invited the Governor's Horse and Foot Guards to send soldiers from their units to the courses again, as we did last year. This has proven very beneficial to all soldiers involved. The Horse and Foot Guard soldiers represented their units and themselves professionally, and stated that they received great training and experience from the course.

The Hallowed Ground is almost complete, and is located between buildings 18 and 19 (



the General Studies Battalion Headquarters) at Camp Rowland. (Editor's Note: See article on Hallowed Ground in the January 2001 issue.) Soon there will be arches over the sidewalk between the two buildings that will have the following profound statement etched on them forever: "Through these

arches walk the Backbone of the Army...the NCO." You can be a part of this project by contacting Sgt. Maj. George Brown at the 169th Leadership Regiment about purchasing a piece of history.

Remember, we as leaders are "Training Tomorrows Leaders."

# Notes From the Editor

The Connecticut Guardian is looking for Korean War veterans from any branch of service who are willing to tell their stories for an article commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the war.

We are also looking for retirees of the Connecticut Guard, Army or Air, who have interesting historical stories to share, either by writing them themselves or by being interviewed by one of our writers.

Units who have interesting training coming up should contact our office in writing with requests for coverage. There are a great deal of stories out there, we just need to know where they are. Units that have holiday celebrations scheduled that they would like to have covered should contact us immediately so we can assign someone to come out. These events will have to be covered on a first come, first served basis.

Finally, we are always looking for the soldier, airman, retiree or family member that has an interesting civilian job, hobby or sports interest for personality features. Some of the past features we have done include skydiving, bodybuilding, deep sea diving and starting a new Boys and Girls Club.

Please contact us with your ideas by phone at (860) 524-4857 or via e-mail at [debbi.newton@ct.ngb.army.mil](mailto:debbi.newton@ct.ngb.army.mil)

This is your paper and we want to tell your stories.

# Care and Share Kicked-off by Breakfast with the Boss

STORY AND PHOTOS BY SGT. 1<sup>ST</sup> CLASS DEBBI NEWTON, STATE SENIOR PANCO

With over 116 people attending, Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno, Adjutant General, kicked off the annual Governor's Care and Share Program with a Breakfast with the Boss at the Hartford armory.

Attendees were asked to bring one non-perishable food item as part of their admission to the breakfast. As they arrived at the armory, soldiers, airmen and civilian Military Department employees dropped



their donations off in an Army trailer at the front door. Within a short time, the trailer was near capacity with food to help feed the less fortunate of Connecticut during the holiday season.

"Members of Connecticut's National Guard and Military Department have always been generous with their time and talents, and once again have proven how caring they are," said Cugno.

Cugno began the Breakfast with the Boss program earlier in the year as a way to share

information with the soldiers, airmen and civilians under his command. It has also turned out to be a forum for those same soldiers, airmen and civilians to ask questions and express their own concerns.

During this breakfast, held in the Officer's Club at the Hartford armory, Cugno talked about the Partnership for Peace Connecticut has entered into with Uruguay, future moves of many of Connecticut's units, improvements to training facilities and armories that have been



accomplished and those that still need to be done and stressed the importance of continued training, especially in light of all the units that will be deploying to Bosnia and the Persian Gulf in the next year.

The Governor's Care and Share Program is still accepting donations of non-perishable food items.

These items may be dropped off at any National Guard armory and will be delivered to Hartford for distribution to those in need.

## RETIREE'S VOICE

The following is an article by Gerry J. Gilmore, American Forces Press Service.

### Military Retirees Get Dental Plan With More 'Bite'

WASHINGTON, Oct. 5, 2000 — Military retirees asked for a more comprehensive dental plan, and now they have one.

As a result of retiree feedback, the enhanced TRICARE Retiree Dental Program went into effect Oct. 1 and adds more than 100 new procedures and extends eligibility criteria, said Navy Capt. Lawrence McKinley, TRICARE senior consultant for dentistry.

The new program supersedes one started in February 1998 that augmented "space-available" retiree dental care at military hospitals and clinics.

"The basic TRDP didn't cover all the dental needs of the retired community," McKinley said. After listening to retirees and cataloging their needs and requests over the past 18 months, he said, Delta Dental Plan of California, the insurance administrator; the TRICARE Management Activity; and the dental service chiefs worked together to determine the best program possible while keeping the premium costs affordable.

Eligible beneficiaries include:

- o Military retirees, including those over age 65;
- o Reserve members entitled to retired pay, but under age 60;
- o Spouses of retirees;
- o Children under age 21, or full-time students under age 23;
- o A nonremarried surviving spouse or eligible child of a deceased member or member who died while on active duty for more than 30 days and who aren't eligible for the TRICARE Dental Program.

The enhanced dental program also offers expanded eligibility, McKinley said. Now, members can enroll a spouse or child without enrolling themselves provided they have documented proof that they are:

- o Eligible to receive dental care from the Department of Veterans Affairs.
- o Enrolled in an employers' dental plan that isn't available to family members.
- o Unable to obtain benefits from the TRICARE Retiree Dental Plan due to a current and enduring medical or dental condition.

McKinley, a Navy Dental Corps officer since 1971, said the 114 new procedures make the enhanced TRICARE plan "a very comprehensive dental program now." New services include crowns and bridges, full and partial dentures, orthodontics, and allowance for composite-resin — "white" — fillings in the back teeth, a second annual cleaning, and dental accident coverage for traumatic injury.

About the only things not covered in the

new program are certain extremely expensive procedures such as dental implants, he added.

The new services come at a price. Beneficiaries will pay about double for the enhanced coverage under the new dental plan, McKinley said. Monthly premiums, dependent upon geographic region, range from \$21 to \$34 for one person; \$40 to \$65 for two; and \$62 to \$105 for a family of three or more.

The rates are good until Jan. 31, 2003, when new contract bids are scheduled. However, additional DoD-directed enhancements could increase those premiums.

"We asked beneficiaries through surveys whether they would be willing to pay more for an enhanced program, and 62 percent said yes," McKinley said. "In fact, over 20 percent said they would be willing to pay more than double the old premium for an enhanced program.

"The benefit package doubles the number of procedures found in the basic plan. That is a very good value and is very comparable to the best of the civilian programs," he added.

Enrollment in the new program began Sept. 1, and should top the 500,000-plus beneficiaries that participated in its predecessor, McKinley said. Expanded eligibility rules should reach an estimated 4.2 million retirees and family members, he added.

So far, 45,000 people have signed up for the enhanced program, McKinley said. Those enrolled agree to stay with the program for at least 24 months. New enrollees who change their minds can quit within the first 30 days provided they haven't used any program benefits.

McKinley said enrollment in the basic dental program ceased Aug. 31. Basic program beneficiaries, he said, may continue coverage under the old program with no change in terms or upgrade to the enhanced program.

The retired military beneficiaries who will use the enhanced dental program range in age "from 38 to 108 ... and are a very significant part of our business," McKinley said.

"We value the retiree community and are concerned about their overall dental health," he added. "I think they have confidence that Uncle Sam, that DoD, that TRICARE are looking out for their best interest" to establish the best retiree dental program possible.

"And we have worked very hard to do that," he concluded.

To determine eligibility for the enhanced TRICARE Retiree Dental Program, or monthly premium rates per region, call Enrollment

Services toll-free at 1 (888) 838-8737. Visit the <a href="http://www.ddpdelta.org"><http://www.ddpdelta.org></a></p>
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<h3>Brigadier General George A. Demers</h3>
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</div>
<div data-bbox="501 223 720 240" data-label="Text">
<p>Celebrating 46 years of Service</p>
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<div data-bbox="501 242 718 260" data-label="Text">
<p>Date: Friday, January 26, 2001</p>
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<div data-bbox="501 263 720 293" data-label="Text">
<p>Location: Aqua Turf Club, Plantsville, CT</p>
</div>
<div data-bbox="501 296 704 312" data-label="Text">
<p>Civilian Attire, Semi-Formal</p>
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<div data-bbox="501 311 703 327" data-label="Text">
<p>Cocktails: 6:30, Dinner 7:30</p>
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<div data-bbox="501 325 940 354" data-label="Text">
<p>Dinner Choices: Prime Rib, Baked Stuffed Shrimp, Chicken Francaise</p>
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<div data-bbox="501 358 679 375" data-label="Text">
<p>Cost per person: \$45.00</p>
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<div data-bbox="501 377 909 394" data-label="Text">
<p>POC: MSgt Kris Toro, (860) 548-3221; DSN-636-7955</p>
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<div data-bbox="501 396 761 413" data-label="Text">
<p>Mrs. Donna Mullen, (860) 524-4957</p>
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<p>Lyme Disease is the second fastest growing infectious disease in the United States. Usually Lyme Disease is passed by the bite of a tick, which passes bacteria to humans or animals. Three types of ticks are the most common carriers of the disease. The black legged tick, the Western black legged tick and the</p>
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<img alt="Poster for Lyme Disease Vaccinations. The poster features the word 'VOLUNTARY' vertically on the left. Text on the poster includes: 'Lyme Disease Vaccinations', 'A limited quantity of Lyme Vaccine has been procured for soldiers and airmen desiring the vaccination on a voluntary basis.', '1st Come 1st Serve', '3 Shots over 1st Year', '1st Shot 30 Days', '2nd Shot 6 Months', and 'For an appointment or additional information, contact LTC (P) Frank Diener at (860) 386-4071 ext. 100'." data-bbox="544 620 714 815"/>
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<p>one star tick. Present the states that are listed as prevalent areas for Lyme are New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and California. Getting this vaccination will help prevent you from getting Lyme disease.</p>
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<p>A limited quantity of Lyme Vaccine has been procured for soldiers and airmen desiring the</p>
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# Chinese Public Safety and Emergency Management Delegation Visits CT

By **MARY ROSE McDONALD,**  
PROGRAM ANALYST, OEM

On Monday, November 20, 2000, twenty-five senior Chinese public safety officials representing 18 western provinces of China toured the State Capitol, the Legislative Office Building and the State Armory, home of Connecticut's Military Department. The mission of the Chinese delegation was to better understand the emergency management practices of the United States. China has no dedicated local or national emergency planning or management agencies, with the responsibility of all disaster response activities falling on law enforcement agencies. The guests of Dr. Henry Lee, Connecticut's Director Emeritus of the State Forensics Lab and Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno, Connecticut's adjutant general and Commissioner of the State's Military Department were treated to an extensive presentation on the state's emergency management program.

Cugno welcomed the visitors to the State Armory and summarized the Military's role in emergency management. He described the command structure of emergency management, the role of the Governor and the responsibility of the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) that is part of Connecticut's Military Department. With the delegates sitting in the Governor's Emergency Operations Center, Cugno also described the importance of other state agencies and the roles and responsibilities they have in providing public safety to the citizens of this State.

John T. Wiltse, Director of the Office of Emergency Management, began his presentation by pointing out that the U.S. and China share common threats. Each country is faced with hurricanes, severe thunderstorms, winter storms, terrorism



(Above) The Chinese Delegation visits the State Armory. (Below) Mr. Wang Yadong, Deputy Director General Ministry of Public Safety of the People's Republic of China poses with the Chinese flag flying in the background at the State Capitol.

and nuclear power incidents.

"Even though we share the same threats, the way we respond to those threats is

very different," explained Wiltse. One major difference is the U.S. emergency response structure. Local, state and federal emergency management

agencies form a partnership to combat the affects of natural and manmade disasters. Local emergency management officials, police and fire departments are the first responders. The State supports local emergency response efforts by directing and coordinating all state resources. On the federal level the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), supports the efforts of the State. Wiltse also noted that other major factors involved in emergency management include extensive emergency planning for all types of disasters, training and exercising those plans.

To stress the importance of these partnership efforts, Bridgeport's Emergency Management Director, Scott Appleby, described his city's emergency management efforts and how they interface with the CT OEM. Sharon Stoffel, Chief of the Response and Recovery Division at FEMA Region 1 provided an explanation of FEMA's key role in coordinating and funding national recovery programs.

Besides visiting the Military Department, the Chinese delegation toured the Connecticut Fire Academy, the Connecticut Forensics Lab, Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Sikorsky Aircraft and the University of New Haven. The delegation's entire four-day itinerary was planned and executed by OEM staff members.

Mr. Wang Yadong, Deputy Director General of China's Ministry of Public Safety was pleased with the cultural exchange. "We want to learn as much as we can while we are here and bring it back to enhance public safety systems for the people of China," said Yadong.

After leaving Connecticut the delegation was headed for New York, Chicago, Washington D.C. and Los Angeles.

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