



# Connecticut Guardian

VOL. 4 NO. 6

HARTFORD, CT

JUNE 2003

## Blum tells NGB, TAGs: Combine headquarters

### Connecticut ahead of game

SGT. 1ST CLASS DEBBI NEWTON  
STATE SENIOR PANCO

The new chief of the National Guard Bureau has big plans for downsizing and restructuring the headquarters elements of NGB and the state National Guard headquarters.

And he wants it done by Oct. 1.

Speaking to the adjutants general from around the country at their annual spring conference in May, Lt. Gen. H. Steven Blum told the National Guard leaders that he would be transforming their organization into one of "modern Minutemen that is more responsive for the American people."

During a media briefing at the Pentagon on May 16, Blum talked about his plans to transform the National Guard, both Army and Air, into a more agile force that would better be able to team with the other five services - the Army, the Navy, the Air Force, the Marines and the Coast Guard - and the seven Reserve components, so that the American public gets the best of all the



Lt. Gen. H. Steven Blum, chief of the National Guard Bureau, explains his vision for transforming the National Guard into a more efficient and accessible force at the nation's adjutants general meeting in Columbus, Ohio, on May 18. (Photo by Master Sgt. Bob Haskell, NGB-PA)

services' capabilities that a joint team can provide.

"We are not set up that way right now, and we need to change," Blum told

reporters. "The National Guard must transform for future threats and current realities."

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## Army bids farewell to White

STAFF SGT. MARCIA TRIGGS  
ARMY NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON (Army News Service, May 12, 2003) - A farewell ceremony marked the end of Thomas White's term as the 18th secretary of the Army May 9 at Fort Myer, Va.

The Department of Defense announced April 25 that White submitted his resignation to Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld. The reason for White's sudden decision to step down was not given.

The White House announced May 7 that James Roche, who is currently the secretary of the Air Force, was nominated as White's replacement. Roche now must be confirmed by the U.S. Senate to be the 19th Secretary of the Army.

It was Spring 2001 when White made his first speech as the secretary of the Army. In front of a group of senior noncommissioned officers, he first introduced the Army to his ideas of transformation and better business practices.

As a former Enron executive who specialized in getting companies to outsource services, one of White's goals was to get the Army out of non-war-related business.

"The last two years have been a period of enormous importance for our Army and the country. The Installation Management Agency, Network Enterprise Technology Command and the Army Contracting Agency are examples of improvements to our business practices," White said during an intimate ceremony that was hosted by Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric K. Shinseki.

As a tag team White and Shinseki have both awarded countless soldiers for heroic acts and accomplishments, but this time White stood still while Shinseki pinned the Decoration for Distinguished Civilian Service Medal on him.

White received the highest award for civilian service in an auditorium filled with his family members, close friends, members of Congress and Pentagon personnel. In formation stood units from the 3rd U.S. Infantry (Old Guard), and the Army Band, "Pershing's Own," representing soldiers Armywide.

The soldier and his family is why White said he joined the Army team again after

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## Air Force training kicks in for Guardsman at deadly nightclub fire

STAFF SGT. CAROLYN A. ASELTON  
103<sup>rd</sup> FW

The call came in at 11:06 p.m. Roll call was underway for the midnight shift at the Warwick, Rhode Island, Police Department. Thomas C. Hannon was bringing his ten patrolmen up to speed for their night on the road when he was paged by the department's communication section. It had just received a call from neighboring West Warwick.

More than 200 people were trapped inside a burning building. West Warwick needed any and all help.

The police sergeant, who has nine years with the department, jumped in his cruiser and responded to the scene, the Station nightclub, just over the town line. He was

the first Warwick police officer to arrive at the Feb. 20 fire that would eventually claim the lives of 100 people and injure twice as many. He called back to Warwick to send all available units priority one, leaving just two to handle his city's calls.

He credits his training in the Guard for helping him in what he said was, "the most horrific thing I've seen in my career, both in the military and the police department." Hannon, a captain in the Connecticut Air National Guard is the transportation officer for the 103<sup>rd</sup> Fighter Wing.

He called upon his experiences from the wing's operational readiness exercises and inspections during his 16 years of service.

See **THE STATION** Page 4



Capt. Thomas C. Hannon

# Up Front with the Adjutant General



**MAJ. GEN. WILLIAM A. CUGNO**  
ADJUTANT GENERAL

This month we celebrate the homecomings of two CTNG units who answered the call to duty and have now safely returned home.

The 103<sup>rd</sup> Fighter Wing and the 250<sup>th</sup> Engineer Company have demonstrated performance and duty second to no other unit in this great nation

We celebrate their safe homecoming and congratulate them on a job well done.

In late January the 103<sup>rd</sup> Fighter Wing deployed personnel, support equipment and A-10 "Warthog" fighter jets to Southwest Asia in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The mission supported both coalition land and air operations in Western Iraq. Their primary mission was to deny the Iraqi regime tactical ballistic missile launch opportunities at coalition forces or into neighboring countries.

The mission was performed by successfully integrating coalition air, ground, and support units to seek-out, identify and destroy equipment, personnel, and facilities that posed a threat to the coalition and neighboring countries

All unit members performed their duties magnificently under dangerous and stressful conditions. Also adding to the 103<sup>rd</sup> airmen and women's family stress was the fact that the mission had to be kept

## Welcome home!

secret until they returned and the location from which they operated still remains classified.

The 250<sup>th</sup> EN Company (MGB) also deployed in late January to the mobilization station at Fort Eustis, Va. to validate for their anticipated mission as part of Operation Enduring Freedom.

They deployed combat ready with 100 percent of both personnel and equipment. The medium girder bridge unit is one of two in the Army's inventory with a bridge capacity that expands more than 120 feet.

Their primary mission would be to replace bridges in central Iraq that intelligence analysts speculated would be intentionally destroyed by the Iraqi military.

The unit trained hard, received validation by First Army, loaded equipment and remained mission focused as they patiently awaited orders to deploy to theater.

The pace of the war was fast and furious. Saddam Hussein and the Iraqi regime imploded without destroying the infrastructure of Baghdad. By mid May the speculation over whether the unit would be needed in theater came to an end.

The unit received its demobilization order and began to reconfigure its equipment for the road move to Connecticut. The Mobilization Assistance Team (MAT) Chief at Fort Eustis said the unit "was an outstanding group of soldiers led by an exceptional commander and first sergeant."

He further said "that the CTARNG should be proud of their service here, unfortunately it looks like we won't get a mission for them".

We remain proud of their commitment to duty and their continued efforts to get into the fight. This effort is further exemplified by the fact that more than 25 percent of the unit volunteered for filling CTARNG vacancies for the upcoming Operation Noble Eagle III deployments. This represents the members "in front" attitude and dedication to serve their country.

I thank both units for their attention to detail and commitment to duty. Your outstanding efforts truly represent the compassion of the citizen soldier. Like so many fine warriors of the past you have faced duty without complaint.

Your families have also endured. They have stood by in tough times and have sustained throughout the duration of the deployments.

Their support was equally essential to the success of these two fine units. Their dedication is disciplined and proud and for that I extend my sincere thanks and gratitude to them.

Please join me in welcoming home these fine soldiers and congratulating them on a job well done. God bless you and your families and God bless America.

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Second Company Governors Foot Guard

The *Connecticut Guardian* is an authorized publication for and in the interest of, the personnel of the Connecticut National Guard, State Military Department, State Militia and their families. The editorial content of this publication is the responsibility of the CTNG Hartford Public Affairs Office and is not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, and the Department of the Army or the Department of the Air Force. The *Connecticut Guardian* is published in accordance with AR 360-1 on the first Friday of every month and is printed by The Day Printing Co., New London, Connecticut, a private firm in no way connected with the Department of the Army.

Deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month preceding the month of publication.

Circulation: 10,000

## Perspectives

**This month we asked family members of Connecticut Guardsmen:  
"If you could ask the Adjutant General one question, what would it be?"**



**MICHELLE HORNE**  
WIFE OF SGT. 1ST CLASS JOHN HORN  
HQ 192ND CHEMICAL

*"When I have our first baby in November, what kind of time will John get off?"*

**LORI TAFT**  
WIFE OF A DEPLOYED 103<sup>RD</sup> AIR CONTROL  
SQUADRON MEMBER

*"How to let my daughter know he is gone and how she should cope with it. I have a 5-year-old daughter and that is probably the hardest part, deciding what to say."*



**TONY ROMAN**  
HUSBAND OF 103<sup>RD</sup> SERVICES SQUADRON MEMBER

*"Why did it take so long for Frances (his spouse) to come back?"*

**MARC HEALEY**  
FATHER OF SPEC. JOHN HEALEY  
HQ 192ND CHEMICAL

*"I don't have any questions, but I would want to say this... You guys do a good job. We are happy with everything. This new Army is fantastic. We are very proud of all of the soldiers and what they are doing."*



# Flying Yankees return home

**CAPT. GEORGE WORRALL  
103<sup>rd</sup> FW PA**

About 300 airmen of the Flying Yankees returned from Southwest Asia between the first and last week of May.

Commercial charter aircraft, military transports and A-10's brought the pilots, support and aircraft maintenance personnel home to their families.

These Connecticut airmen deployed to the Central Command Area of Operations in January, February and March and returned because combat operations are complete.

The Connecticut Air National Guard deployed about 400 members to Southwest Asia in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"We still have teams deployed from services, security and the air control squadron," said Col. Dan Scace, commander, 103rd Fighter Wing.

"We expect the services team back before the welcome home party June 8, and the security team, which deployed for an AEF rotation, around the same time."

The returning airmen were mobilized for one year under a Partial Mobilization, Title 10, U.S. Code 12302, and will remain activated for several weeks to months as the equipment and personnel reconstitute at home station.

The 103rd Fighter Wing deployed personnel, support equipment and A-10 "Warthog" fighter jets to Southwest Asia in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The mission supported both coalition land and air operations operating in Western Iraq.

The primary mission was to deny the Iraqi regime tactical ballistic missile launch opportunities at coalition forces or into neighboring countries—a mission the unit successfully, and categorically completed.

That mission was performed by successfully integrating coalition air, ground and support units to seek-out, identify and destroy equipment, personnel, and facilities located throughout Western Iraq that posed a threat to the coalition and neighboring countries.



*Maj. Frank Detorie holds his little girl for the first time since deploying to Southwest Asia in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. Detorie is a member of the 103rd Fighter Wing. (Photo by Capt. Lou Martinez, State Public Affairs Office)*



*Family members of returning airmen from the 103rd Fighter Wing rush the tarmac to hug their loved ones. (Photo by Capt. Lou Martinez, State Public Affairs Office)*



*"My daddy's home!" says the look on this little girl's face as she greets Lt. Col. Rick Mitchell of the 103rd Fighter Wing, who was deployed in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. (Photo by Capt. Lou Martinez, State Public Affairs Office)*



*Airmen of the 103rd Fighter Wing walk across the tarmac at the Bradley Air National Guard Base on their way to family and friends after returning from a deployment in Southwest Asia. (Photo by Capt. Lou Martinez, State Public Affairs Office)*



*A-10, "Warthogs" receive the traditional homecoming wetdown upon arrival at the Bradley Air National Guard Base. The jets and their pilots were returning from deployment in Southwest Asia. (Photo by Capt. Lou Martinez, State Public Affairs Office)*

## The Station Nightclub fire brings out Guard training

From Page 1

"You may not realize how important the training is when you're doing it and it may seem repetitive, but when you need it the most it's there for you if you take it seriously," he said.

As Hannon pulled up to the scene, he was met by roughly 100 people who had escaped the fire. Some were in shock. Some had severe second and third degree burns. The fire was in its infancy and firefighters had begun to battle it.

"It was adrenaline flowing... my training kicked in, I was kind of on autopilot," said Hannon.

The first thing Hannon did was tell the people in the street to go stand by a rescue truck and he would find a paramedic.

"I was just overwhelmed by the number of people that were coming up to me asking for help," he said.

While doing so, an employee of the Cowesett Inn across the street stopped him. Knowing an indoor triage center needed to be established given the amount of injuries and the fact that there was snow on the ground, he told her to go back to the inn and tell her boss that they would be sending everyone there.

He returned to the injured at the rescue trucks and brought them to the triage center. He helped carry a few that could not walk. He then went to the fire scene to tell the paramedics who had vacated their rescues that a triage center had been established and where more injured people were.

"With the help of some of the other officers from my city we administered first aid the best we could," said Hannon. "Some people had severed limbs and stuff as they jumped through the windows."

**"People say that the training kicks in and I can attest to it first hand it did. It can benefit not only you but other people as well and help you save lives."**

**Capt. Thomas Hannon**

He said in attempt to cool some victims who had lost skin over most of their bodies he applied snow to their burns.

His next step was to commandeer the civilian pick up trucks that were in the parking lot and use them to transport the more critically wounded to the triage center.

Hannon said he went to the building where firefighters were pulling people out of the fire and "basically throwing them to the cops and the other people standing behind them to give them first aid. You could still hear everyone screaming inside for help. It wasn't a good time."



Col. Dan Scace, (l) commander, 103rd Fighter Wing, reads a letter from the adjutant general to Capt. Thomas Hannon (r) commending him on his actions during the Station Nightclub fire, Feb. 20 before presenting the letter to Hannon. Also pictured to the rear are Lt. Col. Joseph Prokop (l), commander, 103rd Logistics Squadron, and Master Sgt. John Carter (r), first sergeant, 103rd Logistics Squadron. (Photo courtesy of the 103rd FW)

From there Hannon collaborated with a West Warwick police captain and a Rhode Island state police lieutenant to establish a command post inside the Cowesett Inn. They arranged for busses from the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority to transport the less critically injured people to area hospitals.

And they ordered police officers to drive rescue trucks which freed paramedics to stay at the scene or ride in the back of the rescue with victims.

To make things worse, traffic was a big problem because of all of the different agencies responding to the mutual aid call. The emergency personnel had abandoned their vehicles in the street to run to the scene to help.

"We couldn't get any rescues out because of all the rescues that were parked there so we set up a staging area for the rescues and parked them in a parking lot, backed them in, and got them ready to go," he said.

Then, in the command post, Hannon interviews to determine how many people were actually in the building when the fire, originating from a pyrotechnics display during a show by the musical group Great White, broke out and how many had already been transported.

"At this point the fire suppression efforts were coming to an end and we knew that we were going to be in a body recovery stage," he said.

An image that has not left Hannon is that of the people that had perished from smoke inhalation "stacked up at the exit, overcome by smoke inhalation, severely burned and disfigured," he said.

Still, there was much work to be done.

A criminal investigation into the fire began. The governor and his personnel, people with the Federal Emergency Management Agency as well as the Rhode Island

Emergency Management Agency and the Red Cross were now on scene. They had a meeting at the command post with the first responders.

Next, victim notification was needed, so Hannon helped make arrangements with a local hotel from which to do that. Also, the command post had to establish a perimeter to what was now a crime scene to keep out the media and family members who were arriving.

Through it all one of Hannon's main concerns was for his patrol officers. Most of them are fairly young, just out of the police academy. When the midnight shift was relieved by the day shift, the officers returned to the police department and had a critical incident debriefing, conducted by a police chaplain who is also a member of the Rhode Island National Guard, as is Hannon's wife, Lynne.

Hannon said he received many compliments for being so calm during such a chaotic scene, and for how organized and structured command and control at the scene was. He attributes that to his Air Force training.

"The mass casualties that we find, the self aid and buddy care (training) that we receive here...without that I think I would have reacted a lot differently," he said.

"People say that the training kicks in and I can attest to it first hand it did. It can benefit not only you but other people as well and help you save lives."

Hannon said normally after his shifts he goes home and sleeps. But when he went home the Saturday morning of the fire, he couldn't sleep.

He spent the day watching the live news reports from the fire scene.

"As the body count went up, at that point I realized the severity of what had happened and what I had been involved in," he said.

## Scams target military families, e-mail users

ST. LOUIS (AFP) — Although the federal tax filing season ended April 15, the Internal Revenue Service continues to see isolated instances of new tax scams.

Two new schemes target families of those serving in the armed forces and e-mail users. In both schemes, people represent themselves as being from the IRS.

The IRS warns consumers to beware of any variation of a scenario in which a telephone caller posing as an IRS employee tells a family member he is entitled to a \$4,000 refund because his relative is in the armed forces and then requests a credit card number to cover a \$42 fee for postage. The scammer provides an actual IRS toll-free number as the call-back number to make the call seem legitimate. However, the scammer then charges unauthorized purchases with the victim's card.

Genuine IRS employees who call taxpayers do not ask for credit card numbers or request fees for payment of a refund.

In another scheme, victims receive an e-mail that appears to be from the IRS. The e-mail contains links to a non-IRS Internet Web page that asks for personal and financial information. Such information could be used to steal the respondent's identity and get access to sensitive financial data or accounts.

Identity thieves can use someone's personal data to: take over his or her financial accounts; run up charges on the victim's existing credit cards; apply for loans, credit cards, services or benefits in the victim's name; file fraudulent tax returns.

The IRS does not request sensitive personal or financial data by e-mail.

The IRS wants to get word of these scams to military families before more damage is done, according to IRS spokesman Bill Barksdale.

"In this case (the latest military-related scam), it's not hard for these identity thieves to tell that lots of military folks are still deployed and, in many cases, their loved ones are left behind to figure out and finish the taxes."

Not all the phone calls will be the same, Barksdale said, but military people and their families should be aware of the basic elements of these scams so they can guard against them.

He does not know exactly how many military families have fallen victim to these scams, but he hopes it is not many, Barksdale said.

People who believe they are victims of one of these scams can contact the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration by calling the toll-free fraud referral hotline at (800) 366-4484, faxing a complaint to (202)927-7018 or writing to the TIGTA Hotline, P.O. Box 589, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, DC 20044-0589. TIGTA's Web site is located at [www.ustreas.gov/tigta](http://www.ustreas.gov/tigta). (Courtesy of Air Mobility Command News Service)

# Following in Dad's combat boots...

## Guard kids become soldiers and airmen

MAJ. GEORGE WORRALL  
103RD FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Membership in the Connecticut National Guard is a tradition that stretches across generations and services.

For one airman, just knowing her father would be there made the decision to join easier.

"Joining into the unit with my dad and knowing I would have someone to talk to about it made joining easier," said Senior Airman Stephanie Mencarelli, personnel relocations technician, 103rd Mission Support Flight.

"I would see Staff Sgt. Ryan Starkey with his dad (now retired) at unit picnics and that inspired me. There is something about having that same nametag."

"I was very happy to see her at drill the first time," said Senior Master Sgt. Joseph Mencarelli, mechanical superintendent, 103rd Civil Engineering Squadron.

"To see her name with mine together was very emotional for me," he said as he struggled to put his feelings of pride into words. "We had many pictures taken together in uniform after."



Senior Master Sgt. Joseph Mencarelli and Senior Airman Stephanie Mencarelli

Another airman took following in his father's footsteps literally and entered in the same career field.

"I like food service and I may pursue something in that field so I thought this (joining the 103rd Services Flight) would be a good look at it," said Senior Airman Christopher M. Jones, services specialist, 103rd Services Flight, about why he joined the services flight where his father also serves.

"I am very proud he picked the same branch and section I am in," Senior Master Sgt. Richard A. Bates, services superintendent, 103rd Services Flight, of Jones' choice.

"I tried to talk him into anything but services since I thought he could do other areas, maybe with computers or finance."

For other guard families the tradition continues across services.

"I would have preferred him going to the Army Guard," said Sgt. Maj. Joseph Sevigny, chief operations NCO, HQSTARC, of his son Airman 1st Class Steven Sevigny who enlisted in the 103rd Fighter Wing and leaves for basic training in the fall.

"Now I hope he becomes one of our best airmen."

"I was brought up around it and it has been so much a part of my life it just seemed right I continue (the tradition)," said Airman 1st Class Steven Sevigny, 103rd Student Flight.

"I was trying to get info on all the

branches, Coast Guard, Army and Air Guard and the aerospace propulsion people gave me a very good impression. They just seemed like a great group to be working with so I joined there."

Regardless of the Guard component, the pride and example of the parent influences the children.

"My whole life my father has been in (the Guard) and he is so proud; his pride pushed me to want to join the National Guard myself," said Senior Airman Marina Sedor, training manager, 103rd

Maintenance Operations Flight about her father, Maj. Juan Rivera.

"It feels like I have been in the Guard with dad my whole life and my mother's been with the family program since I was about 9-years-old."

"I always thought she would do that (join guard) or law enforcement since she had joined civil air patrol and the police explorers," said the elder Rivera, a supply management officer, USP&FO.

"I always thought one of my two sons would join first, but she was the first and still the only one"

Although some children saw the path early

age some made the decision later in life.

"Since I was little I always saw him leaving for work or a deployment so it opened up a door that I did not realize I wanted to get through till I was older," said Capt. Amy E. Flynn, of her father, Col. Thomas Heath.

Flynn is a military equal opportunity officer, 103rd Fighter Wing.

"I never thought for an instant she would follow me into the military. It was the greatest gift she could have ever given me," said Heath, executive staff support officer, HQCTANG. "Everytime I come to the drill I take a moment to stop over, we talk a little bit, and it is just phenomenal."

Of course, regardless of how mature and successful children become it is hard for a parent to not remember their

little boy or girl as such.

"He still finds me at lunch time on drill to see if I need lunch money, and I am 29," said Capt. Flynn.



Maj. Juan Rivera and Senior Airman Marina Sedor



Capt. Amy E. Flynn and Col. Thomas Heath

## Father and daughter support Operation Iraqi Freedom

BOB WHISTINE  
AMC-LSE-SWA, PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

The father is a former Marine.

The daughter is a student at Eastern Connecticut State University.

They are both in the National Guard.

He is a Blackhawk mechanic.

She is an automated logistical specialist.

They are both in Kuwait in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"I'd seen my father in the National Guard growing up and it looked interesting, and the Guard pays for your college," said Spec. Amy Charest of the 1109th AVCRAD (Aviation, Classification Repair Activity Depot)

"I'm very proud of having my daughter here," said Staff Sgt. John Charest, also of the 1109th AVCRAD.

"She is the youngest of my two daughters. My oldest is the tomboy and Amy is 100 percent girl. I've been a little cautious, always keeping an eye on her. The majority of the AVCRAD is men, but she handles herself well and I'm really happy and glad she is here."

Amy is deployed at Camp Doha, and her

father is at Camp Arifjan, and while they wish they were together, they find comfort in the fact that they are nearby.

The two write letters to each other, send emails and make phone calls to keep in touch.

"There hasn't been a scud attack that I have not thought about her as I was throwing my mask on saying why did I ever get her involved in this," said John. "If she were here, (at Camp Arifjan) I would be next to



Spec. Amy Charest and her father, Staff Sgt. John Charest share some time together in Kuwait, where they are both deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. (Photo by Bob Whistine, AMC-LSE-SWA, Public Affairs Officer)

her making sure she had her mask on. I could never go home and face her mother having known something terrible had happened to her."

Amy says that although she has been very busy at Camp Doha, there are still times when she gets homesick and would like to go and see her dad.

"I know he is there and I would like to look at pictures from home and just talk to him about them."

But, she says, the mail, phone calls and emails are definite morale boosters.

"I don't really think

of him as not being here because when I joined the unit, he was in the unit and has always been in the unit, so I always knew that if they were going to deploy (the unit) we were both going," said Amy. "I never thought, oh well he might not go."

This is the first long deployment for both father and daughter.

John has been on shorter deployments before, but nothing of this duration.

When this deployment came up, the unit gave the two the option of one of them staying home.

"I couldn't sit around the Thanksgiving table with my daughter telling me how she won the war and Dad stayed back," said John. "And she wasn't about to not go, so we are both here because we both have our egos."

Home occupies both their minds. "You don't realize what you have until it's gone," said John. "I miss my grandsons and other daughter. You know how little boys really love the Army. Maybe one day I will have one of them in the unit, also."

# Celebrating the U. S. Army's birthday by

SPEC. JEFFREY AUSTIN  
65<sup>TH</sup> PCH

The United States Army is a fighting force that is ripe with a storied history and rich traditions.

The U.S. Army has been protecting the national interest of American citizens since the inception of the Army and has posts throughout the world with soldiers protecting friendly nations on six continents.

Yet, the active army, the reserve component and National Guard may have never become the fighting force that it is, if it wasn't for the creation of the colonial state militia.

Early colonial governments did not have the money to provide for a professional standing army so they took on the long-time British tradition of the militia.

The colonial militia of the 15<sup>th</sup> century has developed 400 years later into one of the greatest fighting forces, known as the National Guard.

However, the thirteen colonies, except for Pennsylvania, wrote laws to provide for a town or local militia based mainly on the idea that any able-bodied free male from the age of sixteen to sixty should serve in military service. Much like the National Guard of today,

members of the militia were required to train for combat during a mandatory number of days.

The townships and local governments required the citizen-soldier of the militia to provide for his own weapon, ammunition, clothing and food during times of short expeditions. These expeditions may have included providing help in times of natural disaster.

Moreover, the part-time citizen soldier could have the town government provide all essential equipment during long

expeditions such as fighting in the wildness against Native Americans.

The royal governor and colonial assemblies of a colony usually appointed the general officers of an unit, but electing general officers was also a common practice among the local militia companies.

Above all, the militia then and now continues the proud heritage of defense of the local citizens and volunteerism during emergencies.

Militia units engaged British forces in skirmishes at Lexington, Concord, and Bunker Hill, Mass. In response, the Second Continental Congress voted to create a national army. The need arose to pull together the strengths of all thirteen colonial militias to force the British from the colonies.

Therefore, on June 14, 1775 Congress passed the vote to create the Continental Army. This is the official day the present-day army celebrates as its birthday.

Also, on June 14 Congress voted to develop ten companies of riflemen. These riflemen came primarily from the colonies of Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia.

On June 15 the Congress selected George Washington as Commander-in-Chief of the newly formed army.

However, all was not well with the young Continental Army. Discipline problems and desertion were causes of an ineffective army. When Washington officially took command

on July 3, 1775 he was quoted as saying in describing the members of the army as "a mixed multitude of people... under very little discipline, order or government." He added, "Discipline is the soul of an army. It makes small numbers formidable."

Based on his earlier observations with the British Army, Washington planned to mold the Continental Army in the ways of the

British.

However, Washington's plan to build a 20,000 infantry army was dashed when soldiers returned home after their short enlistments (Short enlistment was a year service.)

Washington and other commanders recruited short-term colonial militia as well as non-white soldiers and women.

One outstanding African-American that was cited for his bravery was named only as Prince.

According to the Pennsylvania Evening Post, August 7, 1777 edition, Prince joined Continental Army Lt. Col. Barton in a raid to capture the British General Prescott at Newport, R.I. The report cited how Prince at a point led the way by smashing through a panel door and pouncing on Prescott while the victim was in bed. When non-freed African-Americans joined the army it was believed they were highly motivated because victory might lead to their own liberation. There are countless other stories like this concerning the bravery of African-Americans.

Moreover, women also played an active role in the Revolutionary War. An example of one case is the report of Deborah

Samson who, in 1780, joined the 4<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts Regiment disguised as a man named Robert Shirliffe. She served three years fighting in battles such as Yorktown and Tarrytown and was wounded at Tappan Bay. Her disguise was discovered when a surgeon treating her fever at a medical facility took her shirt off, and to his surprise, discovered she was a woman. She was later discharged.

Again, there are countless stories of other women, Native Americans, Latinos, and Asians that contributed to freedom and defense of this Nation.

Consequently, Americans who united to fight against the British, later caused the surrender of the British Army when General Cornwallis at Yorktown, Va. passed his sword to Gen. Washington. This event signaled the end of the American Revolution and with that, American victory.

After both the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812, during the presidency of James Madison, Congress in 1815, voted to create a small and efficient 10,000 man professional peacetime army with the addition of the militia.

However, in the decades that followed, the U.S. Army was called upon and was always



Eleven members of the 1st Connecticut Heavy Artillery during the Civil War. (Photo courtesy of the U.S. Army Military History Institute)



Members of the 1st Connecticut Heavy Artillery take a break and read letters from home during the Civil War. (Photo courtesy of the U.S. Army Military History Institute)

# defending freedom yesterday and today

ready to defend both the domestic and foreign policies of the president and Congress.

With the War of the States, better known as the Civil War, a new government called the Confederacy came into existence and the U.S. Army became split between the Northern Union Army and the Confederate Army. The result of the fighting between the two armies produce approximately 359,528 Union deaths and among the Confederacy, approximately 200,000 deaths.

Despite the horror associated with the Civil War, the Union army made changes to enhance the welfare of the soldier that continue to this day. Severe forms of corporal punishment were ended. Union forces wore corps badges to help identify soldiers with their units. Also, other organizations such as the U.S. Christian Commission provided books, reading rooms and coffee bars to injured soldiers in recovery.

Finally, Congress authorized the first Medal of Honor and authorized the president to establish national cemeteries.

After the Civil War, other wars would come and go, and each time the U. S. Army helped provide for defense of America as in the War with Spain and the First World War. After

each war, the America sphere of influence grew as did its territory.

In the Second World War, other changes continued to develop the army into a global power with the creation many special units.

Airborne units were studied and tested

as early as World War I. Once the technique was perfected, airborne units in World War II helped to win the war against Germany and the other axis powers.

Campaigns in the Pacific included the 11<sup>th</sup> Airborne Division and the 503d Parachute Regimental Combat Team.

While fighting against the Japanese in the Philippines, Gen. Douglas MacArthur used these units at Nadzab and Noemfoor.

These units were also used by MacArthur against the enemy-held island of Corregidor and, as a result, liberated the islands from the Japanese.

Other airborne missions arrived in Italy when the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division parachuted to take over the towns of Avellino and Salerno.

Soon after the American victory in the Pacific and Europe, the U.S. Army became involved in the conflict against North Korea.

On June 25, 1950 the North Korea People's Army invaded South Korea and, two days after the invasion, President Harry S. Truman ordered the U.S. Army to South Korea to protect it from northern communist aggression.

After years of battle, the U.S. Army was able to stop the communist invasion and is still providing constant security between the two divided nations at the 38 parallel in Korea.

In 1961, the U.S. Army was sent to Vietnam in Southeast Asia to once again stop communist aggression. Infantry units such as the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry and 1<sup>st</sup> Airborne Brigade distinguished themselves by providing heroic efforts oin defeating the enemy and saving



Members of a Connecticut Gatling Gun Crew stand by their guns during the Revolutionary War. (Photo courtesy of the U.S. Army Military History Institute)

other soldiers.

An example of one daring nighttime rescue mission was in the Central Highlands, Vietnam. Second Lieutenant Joe Anderson led his platoon to set up a perimeter in a clearing, and while looking for a lost platoon, took enemy fire.

Anderson quickly called in artillery and commanded his platoon for more than six hours of continuous fighting.

After the firefight, his platoon was able to rescue the surviving lost soldiers of an earlier fight.

In other battles such as the Panama invasion, the first Gulf War and the most

recent Gulf War, Operation Iraqi Freedom, the U. S. Army has proven to have personnel and state-of-the-art weapons that are second to none.

The U.S. Army has evolved from a small rag tag army of militia fighting against for its own independence into the most powerful fighting force in the world with posts and missions on every continent in the world.

The U.S. Army has helped America remain one of the superpowers in the world. Remember the history and sacrifices on June 14, the 228<sup>th</sup> birthday of the Army - an Army continuing a legacy of protecting freedom and liberty for all.

## First National Museum to honor the Guard

2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. CELINE T. MARINI  
ASSISTANT STATE PIO

The National Guard, the oldest component of the Armed Forces of the United States and one of the nation's longest enduring institutions, opened it's first museum to the public in Washington, D.C on March 17, 2003.

"National Guardsmen are: Citizens most of the time, Soldiers some of the time, Patriots all of the time." Inside the main gallery of the museum, visitors will see this quote from Brig. Gen. James P. Drain of the Washington National Guard.

This museum shows why everyday citizens leave their family, jobs, safety and security behind to secure airports, to fly F-16s and help hunt terrorists.

Exhibits at the new museum trace the history and evolution of the Guard from the very beginning to its duties after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and those they are currently working on: Operation Enduring Freedom, Afghanistan and Operation Iraqi Freedom exhibits.

The museum displays 5,600 square feet of images, uniforms and other artifacts like weaponry, pictures and even letters written by guardsmen during wartime.

There are interactive exhibits that tell the story of the ordinary men and woman (citizen-soldiers) who made remarkable contributions to their communities and their country.

Despite their essential roles, other branches of the military often overshadow the National Guard. Many American citizens do not understand the role of the National Guard.

That's one of the main reasons for building the new museum. The National Guard Educational Foundation hopes to highlight the roles of the soldiers and help people understand the guard's state and federal mission.

The National Guard traces its history back to the earliest English colonies in North America. Responsible for their own defense, the colonists drew on English military tradition and organized their able-bodied

male citizens into militias.

The Guard has changed a lot over the years. However, its citizen-soldiers remain committed to service in the face of conflict. Regardless of the task, the time frame, or the costs, the Guard has always answered the call.

The Guard doubled the size of the Regular Army when it was mobilized in 1940, more than a year before Pearl Harbor, and contributed 19 divisions to that war, as well as numerous other units including Guard aviation squadrons.

More than 138,000 Guardsmen were mobilized for Korea, followed by numerous smaller mobilizations for the Berlin Crisis, Vietnam, and numerous strikes and riots at home.

Approximately 63,000 Army Guardsmen were called to serve in Desert Storm, and in the decade since then, Guardsmen have seen a greater role than ever before — conducting peacekeeping in Somalia, Haiti, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bosnia, and Kosovo.

Following the attacks of September 11,

2001, more than 50,000 Guardsmen were called up by both their States and the Federal government to provide security at home and combat terrorism abroad.

Today's National Guard continues its historic dual mission, providing the states with units trained and equipped to protect life and property, while providing the nation with units ready to defend the United States and its interests around the world.

In the Cold War, the Guard manned Nike-Hercules missile sites and scrambled jet fighters to meet Soviet threats. Today, we have special operations task forces and air expeditionary units engaged in Afghanistan and Iraq, and civil support teams in 32 states.

Located at 1 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C., one block from Union Station, the museum is open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. or by appointment.

Admission is free.

# AMCOM'S Theater Aviation Maintenance Program

**BOB WHISTINE**  
AMC-LSE-SWA PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

The Theater Aviation Maintenance Program (TAMP) is located in Southern Kuwait.

The TAMP is a centrally coordinated and controlled aviation logistics sustainment program developed by the Aviation, Missile Command in Huntsville, Alabama.

The TAMP is organized from the Aviation Depot Maintenance Roundout Unit (ADMURU).

The ADMRU is composed of the 1106th, 1107th, 1108th and the 1109th Aviation Classification Repair Activity Depot (AVCRAD from the Army National Guard).

The TAMP has limited AMCOM depot engineering authority. It operates and manages theater Special Supply Activity (SSA) for Aviation Class IX.

The AVCRAD conducts battle damage repair, provides contact teams and supports AMCOM Logistics Assistants Representatives.

They work the aviation assets that arrive at the airport and seaports by receiving, storing and onward movement of helicopters.

They also conduct retrograde and redeployment operations of aviation assets at the airport and seaports.

The TAMP operation is located at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait.

All four AVCRADs have soldiers in the TAMP with the 1109th from Groton, Conn. having deployed 220 soldiers.

The 1108th from Gulfport, Miss., has 75 soldiers in theater. The 1107th from Springfield, Missouri., has three soldiers and the 1106 AVCRAD from Fresno, Calif. has one soldier in theater.

The TAMP unloaded aircraft from various ships in Kuwait and supported the 3rd and 4th Infantry Divisions and the 159th Aviation Regiment.

They are currently operating in Iraq.

The 1108th from Mississippi brings with them the specialty to repair Apache and OH-58D aircraft.



Sgt. Paul Reed, 1108th AVCRAD from Gulfport, MS., reinstalling the co-pilot step during reassembly of a UH-60 Blackhawk at a Kuwait port. (Photo by Bob Whistine, AMC-LSE-SWA PAO)



Top Photo - Specialists Gregory Gravel from New Britain, Conn. and David Delgado from Hartford, Conn., 1109th AVCRAD, Turbine Engine Repairers, repairing a Chinook engine. (Photo by Bob Whistine, AMC-LSE-SWA Public Affairs Officer)



Staff Sgt. Pete Cawley, 1109th AVCRAD Aircraft Repairmen from Groton, Conn. and Sgt. 1st Class Gerald Howard, 1108th AVCRAD from Pass Christian, MS., are reassembling of a UH-60 Blackhawk that was recently downloaded from a ship in Kuwait. (Photo by Bob Whistine, AMC-LSE-SWA Public Affairs Officer)



Master Sgt. Barry Jones (left) and Staff Sgt. Brian M. Hadix checking a vehicle connection (Photo by Lt. Col. Charles McKellar, HQ CTANG PAO)



Maj. Tanial Lowe reviewing Grecian Firebolt manning document. (Photo by Lt. Col. Charles McKellar, HQ CTANG PAO)

# The 103 ACS prepares for Grecian Firebolt 03

**LT. COL. CHARLES MCKELLAR**  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER, HQ CTANG

During June 8-20 members of the 103<sup>rd</sup> Air Control Squadron (103 ACS), an Air National Guard unit based in Orange, Conn., will participate in Grecian Firebolt 2003 at Fort Meade, Md.

This is the premier Signal exercise that is held annually to provide an Information Assurance infrastructure and training in network operations equipment, software, as well as follow-on integration with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the Information Operation Centers (IOCs), and Directorates of Information Management (DOIMs).

"This is our third year participating in this exercise and it continues to provide invaluable training from mobilization to operations within a joint environment. The hands-on training is essential to skill level progression for our junior members and it contributes to maintaining the proficiency

of our senior staff, at a time when we are constantly seeking training opportunities," said Maj. Tanial Lowe, detachment commander.

Grecian Firebolt is normally directed on alternate years by the two Reserve Components (RC) theater Signal commands, the 311<sup>th</sup> Theater Signal Command (TSC) at Fort Meade, Md., and the 335<sup>th</sup> TSC in Atlanta, Ga. The exercise is normally executed by up to two to four Active Component Signal brigades, as well as other operational attached RC Signal battalions and companies.

Due to current events in Southwest Asia, airport security requirements and the upcoming "Bright Star" exercise, Charlie Company of the Connecticut Army National Guard's 280<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion in Westbrook, Conn., is prevented from participating this year, a role which has been filled by the 103 ACS.

In this role, the 103 ACS is responsible

for providing switch operators at Fort Meade and AN/TRC-170V3 TROPO radio's to back-fill Army line-of-site requirements.

"By working with the Army and Air Force we train in the joint forces arena as would be in war time tasking, and new systems are tested and validated before fielding equipment in a combat environment," said Master Sgt. Barry Jones, the communications supervisor.

The major participants are the 311<sup>th</sup> Signal Command, the 1108<sup>th</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup> and 261<sup>st</sup> Signal Brigades, the 1110<sup>th</sup>, 307<sup>th</sup>, 304<sup>th</sup>, 41<sup>st</sup> and 198<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalions, the 103<sup>rd</sup> Air Control Squadron and 285<sup>th</sup> Combat Communications.

The emphasis in the exercise is to support USARC and Command sponsors, incorporate Homeland Defense scenario, and meet its mission to provide, monitor and control communication systems.

This emphasis will also support three U.S. Army Reserve/Army National Guard

exercises during June, which are "Golden Medic," "Joint Thunder" and "Polex."

Grecian Firebolt 03 exercises joint operations by incorporating various operational locations of its participants at Korea, Hawaii, Fort McCoy, Wis. (103 ACS), Fort Dix, N.J. (103 ACS), Fort Meade (103 ACS), and Fort Gordon, Ga. (103 ACS).

The mission of the 103 ACS is to provide connectivity for secure and non-secure video teleconferencing, Defense Switch Network (DSN), and tactical telephones for more than 5,000 participants in supported exercises.

"This exercise is something we have done before," said Jones. "It's real world that provides us with the opportunity to train our members as we support the Army in meeting its training needs. This provides us with the opportunity to increase our knowledge of joint operations by working with other services in our field. This is a great exercise."



Senior Airman Aaron Tranes (left) and Staff Sgt. Jack A. Norris adjusting a microwave communications terminal for point-to-point communications (Photo by Lt. Col. Charles McKellar, HQ CTANG PAO)

# SIM MAN provides state of the art medical training

MAJ. KEVIN McMAHON

The 118th Area Support Medical Battalion, with the assistance of Medical Detachment 5, has set up and utilized "SIM MAN".

SIM MAN is the newest piece of training equipment purchased by the G-3 Shop to assist with the transition of the 91B (Field Medic) and the 91C (Licensed Practical Nurse) into the newly created MOS, 91W.

The 91W MOS has been created by MEDCOM in Fort Sam Houston, Texas. This new MOS has increased the skills necessary to be a "MEDIC". These soldiers must possess an EMT-B National Registry and also complete two other courses, PHTLS (Pre Hospital Trauma Life Support) and Trauma AIMS (Airway, Intravenous, Medication, and Shock). SIM MAN will be permanently located in building 24 at Camp Rowland and be available to all units within the Guard who have 91W soldiers as well as Combat Lifesavers.

The 118th has created a unique

environment within this building, giving the effects of a BAS (Battalion Aid Station). The newly acquired SIM MAN is extremely complex and was designed by LAERDOL Corporation from Texas. He was designed around the task list for the 91W MOS.

Sgt. Juan Reyes, who was recently trained by a LAERDOL representative who visited Connecticut in March, designed this initial training event around the ABC's of patient assessment, (Airway, Breathing, Circulation).

SIM MAN is capable of breathing, respiratory sounds, bodily fluid exchange and a multitude of other distress symptoms.

Soldiers had to find initial breathing rate, pulse and blood pressure, then utilizing the software provided, the instructor is capable of changing all of these and having soldiers check all functions again.

The initial response to a "MANEQUIN" was that this is just another concept of moulage. After the initial introduction, and actually watching him breathe, the response



Pfc. Kenneth Bell and Sgt. Juan Reyes of the 118th Medical Battalion work with SIM MAN, a medical tool to aid the practice of medical skills. (photo by Maj. Kevin McMahon)

was quite different.

Building 24 will become to the MEDIC what the FATS (Fire-Arms Training Simulator) Building has become to the infantryman.

With the addition of this "State of the Art" medical equipment, we will be able to train and test all skills necessary to maintain the proficiency of our health care providers within the Connecticut National Guard.

## Training equals Morale equals Retention

MAJ. KEVIN McMAHON

Have you ever re-enlisted while suspended 30 feet from the RAPPEL tower?

Sgt. John Tracey has.

Tracey is a member of the 118th Area Support Medical Battalion and was ready to re-enlist while attending Annual Training.

Why not do it a little bit different? That's exactly what happened.

The 118th had planned on using the rappel tower on it's last day in the field, great training with a morale booster, how can you go wrong?

With the assistance of the recruiting force, Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class John Nerkowski, Staff Sgt. Sarah McIntyre, and Staff Sgt. Kevin Filo as our rappel masters, we utilized the tower and decided to add a little morale booster.

With the company commander, Maj. Donald Slater, administering the oath at the 30-foot level, Tracey climbed to the top in his swiss seat and began the rappel. He stopped at 30 feet, braked with his left hand, raised his right hand, and took the oath of re-enlistment. Whoever said training had to be boring?



Sgt. John Tracey accepts the oath of re-enlistment while rappelling at Stone's Ranch. Tracey is a member of the 118th Area Medical Support battalion and was at annual training when he re-enlisted. (Photo by Maj. Kevin McMahon)



Capt. Mark Tallo (in BDUs) receives congratulations from Capt. Joseph Coccia of the United States Coast Guard after receiving the Coast Guard Achievement Medal. (Photo courtesy of the U.S. Coast Guard)

## Tallo receives Coast Guard Achievement Medal

Army National Guard Capt. Mark Tallo was presented the United States Coast Guard Achievement Medal for his superior performance of duty while serving as the principal Connecticut Army National Guard liaison to United States Coast Guard Group/Marine Safety Office in New Haven.

Tallo demonstrated exceptional responsibility, competence and professional as he excelled in coordinating several complex homeland security pulse operations.

He ensured that National Guard and other state assets were apprised of Coast Guard maritime homeland security

objectives and operations while advocating joint operations whenever practicable.

Tallo was also instrumental in the establishment of a local Joint Operations Center, consisting of command and control personnel from the U.S. Coast Guard, Connecticut Army National Guard, Connecticut Office of Emergency management and Connecticut Department of Public Safety.

Tallo received the award from Coast Guard Capt. Joseph Coccia during ceremonies held in the Coast Guard's New Haven headquarters.

# NOMADS send word home via website

*(Editor's Note: Members of Company G, 104<sup>th</sup> Aviation Regiment are currently deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. They have a website established where interested family members and friends can get updates on what they are doing. The address is: This is from the May 3, 2003 entry and is being printed here exactly as it appears on the website.)*

Well, for the most part things have not changed for the Nomads.

It is very sandy and windy all the time. Everything we own is covered with sand. The only up side to this is that the sand in our mouths gets our teeth whiter when we brush our teeth!

As our boat with the equipment gets closer to the port, the Army is starting to realize that they will soon have Company G ready to fight. There are many rumors as to whom we will be working for, but so far they are just that, rumors. We are being "courted" by two different Brigades here in theater, but we are not sure which we will be assigned to. If we have our druthers, we would like to be attached to the Brigade that will allow us to come home first!

We understand that for the most part the fighting is over, although there are still some "hot spots" as the different political and government factions vie for control over Iraq. We are maintaining our vigilance and ensuring that everything we do is done with safety and self-protection first on our minds. At this point all we can do is place our faith in our leaders and perform our jobs to the best of our abilities.

Around Camp Udairi, the Nomads are continuing to make self-improvements on our living arrangements. Numerous sand bags have been filled and emplaced for one reason and one reason only, to keep the dust out of our tents. We are not sure how effective it has been, for everyday there is a new layer of dust on everything. To me it is like trying to push a rope!

SPC Joe Ciccio, SPC Bill Blake, SGT Chris Prokup and SPC Joe Mongrain have been appointed as the Camp Builders. When the Post Commander (The Mayor) found out Joe Ciccio was a contractor, they were asked to begin construction on a door and service counter for the Mayor's Headquarter's tent. They have also significantly helped the moral of G Company by working with CW3 Paul Barnes and CW2 Pat Brinkerhoff to set up the "Internet Café." We now have a tent that is set up only for our company so that we can access our e-mail and talk to the outside world. The camp is not aware that we have constructed this because we have begged, borrowed and "acquired" everything needed to complete our own little computer tent. So "hush" is the word within the unit...it's our little secret! We are now trying to rig a telephone in it so we can call home without waiting in line for 3 hours. We are keeping our fingers crossed and not

making any promises at this time. In any case, don't fret if you don't hear from your soldier on a regular basis. We are all busy, and the communications lines at time can be horrendously long, or even just plain not working!

The soldiers in the POL tent have learned that PFC Doug Caldwell has a tendency to shout in his sleep. I believe it initially scared the dickens out of the soldiers around him, but it made for a good "ribbing" session the next morning!

We are starting to now think more of our mission since the boat is almost here. CPT John Kubitz, SFC John Rea, SSG Bill Hill, SSG Glenn "Willie" Nelson, SSG Shawn McCurdy and SSG

Dan Geyer are beginning to retrain their soldiers for their real world mission.

The guys and gals are excited to begin their own refuel operations and show the active duty how it should be done!

Headquarters platoon is sad to announce the death of the grandmother of SFC Brian Tripp and SSG Mark Tripp. The Tripp brothers have taken emergency leave to return home for a few weeks to help the family in their time of sorrow. The condolences of all NOMADS goes out to the entire Tripp family.

HQ, under the leadership of CPT Todd Smith and SFC Brian Tripp, has embarked on constructing a motor pool. SFC Rich Francke and SGT Bill Galucci have somehow enticed the local contractor to utilize his dump trucks and front end loader to do this work. We have gotten quite a bit accomplished in only 10 days without any equipment! My hat goes off to the gypsies of the NOMADS.

Flight operations, under SFC Mike Gotta and CPT Dana Smith, has been very busy. SGT Tatum Morrow and here crew has been working diligently to acquire all needed training and maps so that when our aircraft arrive, we will be ready to start our flight operations. There have been a lot of questions asked and CPT Smith will have a lot to do to prepare us for our flights into Iraq.

The Maintenance platoon, under the leadership of CPT Dave Sale, CW2 Guy Miller, CW2 Ed Pellitier and SFC Bill Yungk have been getting busier. As the ship gets closer, they are working closely with SFC Tony Savino to figure out how to get the equipment off the boat. They have been making trips down to the port to figure the debarkation procedures and who to talk to for information. Once again, it has been like pushing a rope, but they are getting closer to developing a plan.

The flight platoons, under the leadership of 1LT Keith Graham, SFC Ed Blantz, CPT Bob Detrick and SFC Dave Damron, are also gearing up to begin their mission. CW4

Cooper Hastings, CW4 Jeff Reep, CW4 Larry Murphy, CW3

Craig Ryan, SSG Ken

Gillisse, SFC Ed

Blantz, SSG

Westover and

SGT Bob

Wilcox got to

log their

first flight

time in

country

on

Wednesday.

One of the

"courting"

units sent

down aircraft

and the

Brigade

Standardization

Instructor Pilot to get

these flight crews

current on dust landings and

local area procedures. Furthermore,

some of the crews also did Night Vision

Goggle (NVG) training to get familiar with dust landing under the NVGs. Word around the tent was that "pucker factor" ran pretty high for all crewmembers. With any luck, NVGs missions will not come up for the huddled masses!

CW4 Rich Curadi has been dubbed the "Pad Manager" by the Mayor for all tents (approx. 20) on our pad. For those of you who know Rich, he does NOT speak softly and carries a big stick. He is responsible for all matters pertaining to the living conditions of the soldiers on this pad, which will probably grow to about 1200. The guys in the tent affectionately refer to him as a "slum lord." Rich has been doing a great job taking care of the NOMADS and will bring this pad into compliance. Go for it Rich!

The mess hall started a new menu this week and last night was Mexican night. Burritos and tacos were on the menu and the food wasn't too bad.

But as many of the spouses can probably attest to, the evening became quite "odiferous." All evening it was nothing but

a progression of giggles from every other cot. I had to keep reminding myself that we were grown men and women at war and not a bunch of 3<sup>rd</sup> graders. With the heat and no ventilation in the tent, it made for an interesting evening to say the least!

Major Dave Wood and First Sergeant Dell Christine are keeping a good semblance of order, despite our lack of information. Morale is still running rather high and getting better as the equipment draws nearer. The soldiers know that it will only be a short time before we have work to do and a mission to complete. The MAJ and "Top" are working to improve our "lot in life" at Camp Udairi and attempting to quell any false rumors. Thus far, anything that you all at home have heard as to our unit of attachment, mission or return home date is strictly rumor or speculation. To date, this chain of command has heard nothing concrete and hopes to have some resolution within the next week.

All we can tell you thus far is stand-by to stand-by. As soon as we have something in writing, the Commander will inform the respective Family Support Groups and it should filter down the chain.

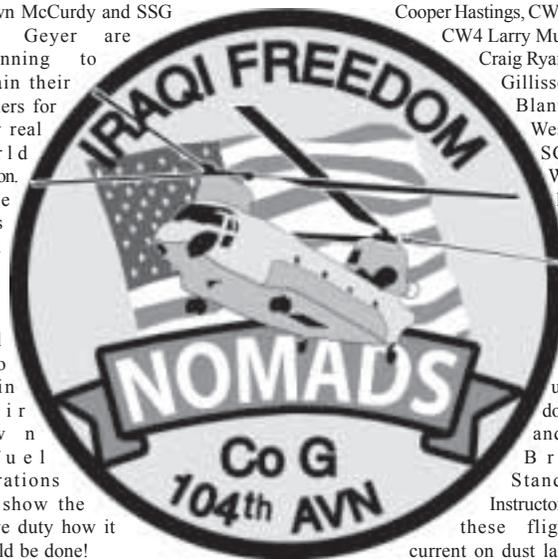
Be careful not to put too much stock in what you hear. Typically, if it is not from the Commander, you can bet information is coming from some Infantry grunt in the chow line who heard from the janitor, who heard from the guy who cleans the Portalet, who heard it from the ...well, you get the picture!

Bottom line is...when we get info...it goes straight through the Commander to the Nomads and their Family Support Group (FSG). Any questions regarding the FSG can be directed to SGT Kelly Barch at 717. 861. 9594. She will direct you to your appropriate "Chain of Notification!"

With that being said, please know that we all miss you very much and we hope that you are all praying for our safe and rapid return.

God Bless America!

**At this point all we can do is place our faith in our leaders and perform our jobs to the best of our abilities.**



## Blue Star Mothers tradition of honor continues today

2<sup>nd</sup> LT. CELINE T. MARINI  
ASSISTANT STATE PIO

They keep alive the memory of all the men and woman who have served our country as members of the Armed Forces and they support those families who are left behind.

What is this organization and where did it come from?

They are the Blue Star Mothers of America Inc.

These women are patriotic, educational, social and for service. They promise to maintain true allegiance and to educate their members and others not to divulge military, naval, or other Government information. They assist in veteran's ceremonies, attend patriotic rallies and meetings to foster true democracy.

Their original goal was to care for unsupported mothers who gave their sons to the service of the Nation and to bring their sons home, to ensure they received the benefits they deserved, and to help each other – by being there if something happened.

They aided in bringing about recognition of the need of permanent civilian defense for each community and to ever be alert against invasion of un-American activities. They uphold the American institutions of freedom, justice, and equal rights, and to defend the United States from all enemies.



The original Blue Star Mothers (Photo courtesy of the Blue Star Mothers website)

Today these women still uphold the same traditions as when they originated they send care packages while they are away and they visit hospitals when our military members come home hurt.

The idea for Blue Star Mother's originally came from Army Capt. George H. Maines in 1942. He ran a newspaper article in Flint, Mich., on Jan. 22, 1942, requesting information about children serving in the military. To his surprise more than 1,000 mothers responded.

It is difficult for a mother to let her son or daughter go to war – they have no way to care for or protect them. Blue Star Mothers wanted their military family members to know we cared for them and supported them in the states. They also wanted to show how proud they were to have a family member protecting our country so they would display the Blue Star Banners sometimes called the Blue Star Flag.

These flags have long been a part of our

wartime history. They have been hung in families' windows since World War I. These banners first became a way for households to indicate they have a family member in the service.

The Blue Star Mothers and the Gold Star mothers reformed themselves and with a vengeance. In the past only the immediate family were allowed by law to display the flag.

This has since changed as of March 25, 2003 when the U.S. House unanimously passed the resolution to encourage all Americans to embrace the tradition of the Blue Star Banner and the Gold Star.

A gold star, symbolizing 'sacrifice to the cause of liberty and freedom,' would be imposed over the top of the blue one, symbolizing 'hope and pride,' if a service member was killed or died on active duty. This led to the formation of the Gold Star History Mothers groups.

For more information on the organization, go to [www.bluestarmothers.org](http://www.bluestarmothers.org)

Mothers interested in becoming a Blue Star Mother should write to:

Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc.

Box 555

Kensington, MD 20895-0555

Or, they can call Susan Naill at or send a fax to: (301)949-0114

Their email address is: [bluestarmom@hotmail.com](mailto:bluestarmom@hotmail.com) (Susan Naill, Maryland)

## Cop's deployed, stateside efforts earn special honors



Tech. Sgt. Kim Harris poses outside the 386<sup>th</sup> Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron operations facility, informally called The Ranch. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Dan Neely)

TECH. SGT. DAN NEELY  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM — A security forces member recently garnered special recognition from her Air National Guard home station – much of it for her deployed efforts at this air base near the Iraqi border.

Tech. Sgt. Kim Harris, a member of the 386th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, was named Honor Person of the Year by the 103rd Security Forces Squadron, a Connecticut ANG unit based at Bradley International Airport, Conn.

Harris, a security controller at the 103rd SFS, serves here on the 386th ESFS commander's support staff as workgroup manager.

"I'm shocked, and I never expected to win anything like this," Harris said of her award.

The NCO admitted coming into the workgroup job "not really knowledgeable about computers," but added, "when I took over this job, I learned a lot. It's very challenging having to deal with about \$200,000 worth of equipment."

Describing herself as "a shy person," the Gardner, Mass., native wasn't timid about ensuring nearly 300 fellow cops in her deployed unit had top-notch computer and administrative support before, during and after Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"Our job here is mainly to do accountability for the commander support staff," she said. "That was our big part of being on the CSS – we had to ensure 100 percent accountability of all our troops here."

According to her nominating officials, Harris revamped and streamlined the accountability tracking system in accordance with base readiness time guidelines, maintaining critical strength reporting during exercise and real world events.

"She performed outstanding in all areas despite the increased challenges and tremendous workload," said Maj. Ron Gray, 386th ESFS commander. "I am proud to have

served with such a talented NCO."

"Tech. Sgt. Harris is one of our most professional and dedicated NCOs," said Senior Master Sgt. Troy Parker, 386th ESFS security forces manager.

"She has been nothing but a superior performer since being deployed here in December. Kim is a true leader, constantly mentoring and guiding the younger troops. I'm extremely proud of her for winning this prestigious award."

At her Connecticut home station, Harris's performance was likewise lauded. Among her many achievements, Harris earned high praise from her commander for her efforts as a Tiger Team member who helped rewrite the unit's operating and special security instructions as well as quick response checklists.

"Tech. Sgt. Harris is a very well-rounded NCO, and it's no surprise to the leadership of the 103rd SFS she was selected for this award," said Maj. Robert Ware, squadron commander. "Since joining our organization she has done a phenomenal job. She understands what it means to be an NCO and takes her leadership responsibility seriously."

"Since joining our organization she has done a phenomenal job. She understands what it means to be an NCO and takes her leadership responsibility seriously."

Maj. Robert Ware

# Connecticut Military Department News



At the Annual Secretary of State's Public Service Awards Presentation on the Campus of Central Connecticut State University in New Britain, Conn., members of the First Company Governor's Foot Guard Color Guard presented the Colors for the honored guests and dignitaries including Governor John Rowland; Secretary of State Susan Bysiewicz, host of the event; The Adjutant General, Major General William A. Cugno, members of Congress John Larson and Nancy Johnson and State Senator Donald De Fronzo. (Photo by Cpl. Kevin Cormack, 1<sup>st</sup> Co. GFG)



The 228<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Powder House Day celebration at Mountainside Outing Club in Wallingford, Conn. Pictured from left are Lt. Col Robert Ruthven, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Robert Devaney, Mayor William Dickinson, Mike Stevens (from WDRC-FM), and Capt. Anthony Baylow.

## Foot Guard awards medals at Prize Drill

First Company Governor's Foot Guard Maj. Commandant Dennis Conroy announced awards presented at the commands Annual Prize Drill held May 19, 2003.

Pfc. Robert Gatewood from East Hartford was awarded the BG Justin A Denino Rifleman's Medal. Established by Mrs. Ellie Denino and her family, the award is presented to the Foot Guard member who has demonstrated efforts for the continued success of the Foot Guard Rifle team. The medal serves as a reminder of the dedication of Gen. Denino as a member and past Commandant of the First Company.

Sgt. Mark Boudreau from Marlborough and Cpl. Kevin Cormack from Newington, have been awarded the George W. Tule Bandsmen of the Year medal. Voted on by their peers, this award is given to the band members who continue to perform above the call of duty.

Sgt. Ed Connors from West Hartford was awarded the Cold Stream Guard medal as the drill sergeant of the B Company prize squad. Members of the prize squad compete and demonstrate military marching and manual of arms movements.

Pfc. Glen Wagner from East Hartford was awarded the Frank E Wilcox Medal as the best-drilled soldier within the First Company. This award is generally regarded as the most prestigious for the members of the infantry troops of the command.



Bob Lefebvre of the Facilities Management Office, (left photo) and Bob Zysk of the Department of Public Works, (right photo) receive awards of appreciation from Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno, Adjutant General, for their work on the 1st Company Governor's Horse Guard facility in Avon. (Photos by Capt. Lou Martinez, State Public Affairs Office)



Members of the First Company Governor's Foot Guard Honor Guard escort Connecticut's First ladies during the Arthritis Foundation of Southern New England's fundraiser that took place at the Goodwin Hotel, Hartford, Conn. on May 6, 2003. Pictured are Mrs. Mary Dempsey, Mrs. Mary Meskill, Mrs. Nicki O'Neill, Mrs. Claudia Weicker, and Mrs. Patti Rowland. OIC for the First Company Governor's Foot Guard was Sergeant Major Roger Conley. Also in attendance was former Governor William O'Neill. ( Photo by Cpl. Kevin Cormack, 1<sup>st</sup> Co., GFG)

## News from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Co. Gov.s Foot Guard

With Memorial Day a distant memory, the Second Company Governor's Foot Guard marched in full strength in the towns of North Haven, Orange, and Branford. The town of Branford enjoyed having two of our own as Parade Marshals—Lt. Col. Robert Ruthven and Honorary Capt. Helen Ruthven. They rode proudly in a M151 jeep. The full command passed in review to the Ruthvens.

The Second Company traveled to Boston for the Annual Drum Election for the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Unit who are located in Boston. We were joined by our local militia units, members of the Massachusetts National Guard, and many members of the Royal Militia from England.



Sons and daughters of Connecticut Army and Air National Guard and State Military Department employees gathered for Take Our Children to Work Day in April. (Photo by Jessica Thomas)

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These three girls are putting a face on their injured space invovling Newton's Laws. (Photo by Jessica Thomas)



Under the watchful eye of "Warthog", Victoria Lewis, daughter of Tony Lewis, State Military Department, talks on the two-way radio to "Earth" from her "space station" during an experiment at the StarBase facility. During the experiment, children learned several lessons about Newton's Laws while trying to safely get an injured "Eggbert" back to Earth. While at StarBase, the children also viewed videos about the space shuttle and space station programs. (Photo by Jessica Thomas)

## The Guard brings the

JESSICA THOMAS  
DAUGHTER OF STAFF SGT. SHEILA TATE

*(Editor's Note: Jessica Thomas shadowed Connecticut Guardian editor, Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Debbi Newton on Take Our Children to Work Day, and in the true spirit of the day, wrote the following article and took the photos)*

On April 24, 2003, 19 children participated in the Connecticut National Guard's "Bring Your Child to Work" Program.

Eager and excited, the children arrived at the Hartford Army to begin their day. To start their day off, each child received a gift bag, consisting of items to use throughout the day, such as disposable cameras and t-shirts donated by the Army and Air National Guard Recruiting Forces and the Drug Demand Reduction Program.

SFgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Ron Mafucci of the 102<sup>nd</sup> Infantry began the day by sharing equipment used by soldiers in the field. The children got to enjoy trying on the different items to get a feel of what it was like to use them.

The kids then boarded a bus to Bradley Air Field where Lt. Col. Landis Cook, 103<sup>rd</sup> Fighter Wing, gave the children a brief presentation of all the equipment used by a pilot during flight. The children were afforded the opportunity to take photos with the cameras from their gift bags received earlier in the day.

Each child was given the opportunity to experience how it felt to sit inside a plane. Each child took turns sitting inside the simulator at the Air Field.

Subway donated lunch for the children at the wing. There were then off to learn about night vision equipment used by soldiers and airmen.

To end the day, the children participated in an experiment involving Newton's



Children worked very hard and showed a great deal of scientific and artistic creativity while working on their "Eggbert" projects. (Photo by Jessica Thomas)



...ured space station partner, "Eggbert", during an experiment  
(mas)

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# their children to work

Three Laws of Motion at the Starbase Program.

The Eggbert experiment started off by putting the children into groups consisting of about four kids each. The groups were then given one egg, (hard-boiled) along with other supplies, such as a plastic bag and a shuttle for Eggbert to ride on.

In the exercise, Eggbert and the children were members of the space station team and Eggbert had been seriously hurt, forcing him to be evacuated to Earth.

The children were asked to use as many of the materials as possible to best support Eggbert on his trip back to earth. The children had the experience of using walkie talkies and learning about the three Newton Laws. The children learned that the Newton Laws pertained to a resting motion, a forced motion and that for every action there is an equal and opposite reaction.

This experience not only let the children be active and have fun, but at the same time, be educated with scientific data. Of all the activities throughout the day, a majority of the children ruled that the Eggbert Project was the best part of the day.

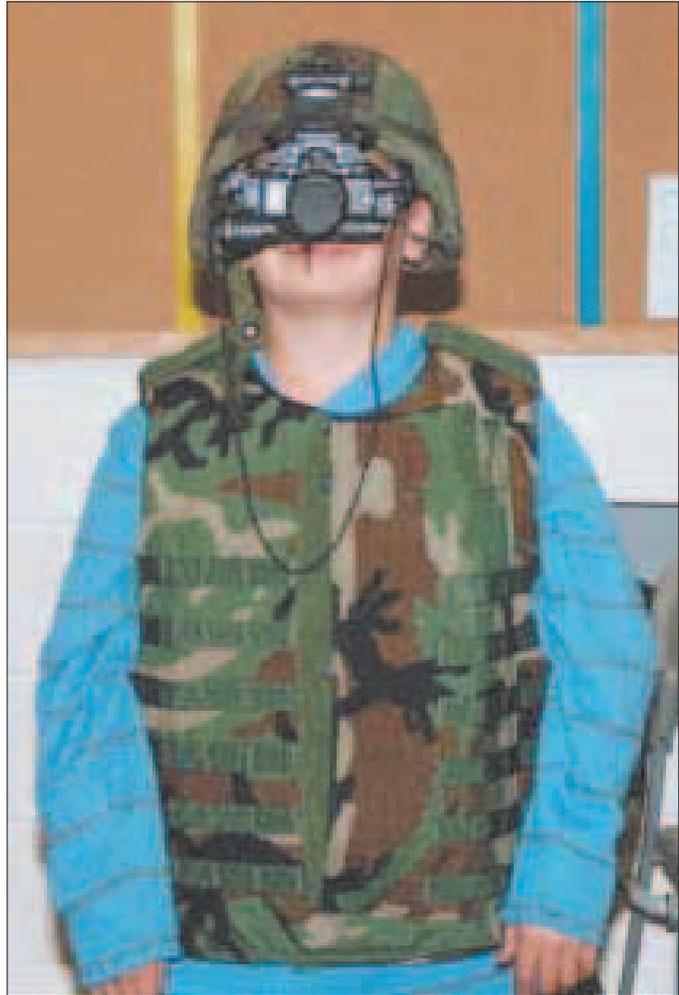
When interviewed, here is what some of the children had to say:

When asked what the favorite part of the day was, six-year-old Zakiya Osayaba replied "Making the egg go down" referring to the experiment at the Starbase Program.

Jennifer Ward, age 9, said that she had learned to appreciate her parent's job a little more.

Amanda Perdue, age 8, was asked if she would like to do this again next year and her reply was a definite yes.

A special thanks was extended to Maj. Barbara Luhn and Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Debbi Newton for the dedication and hard work in the success of the event.



Perhaps a future soldier herself, this young lady models a pair of state-of-the-art night vision goggles. (Photo by Jessica Thomas)



Keith Laraia, son of Bella Caldara, Officer's Club of Connecticut, has the chance to think about what it would be like to pilot a fighter jet while sitting in the flight simulator at Bradley Air National Guard Base. (Photo by Jessica Thomas)



As Dan Laraia (l) looks on, Ryan Irwin (c) gets a helping hand trying on a soldier's field pack from Sgt. 1st Class Ron Mafucci who talked the children who attended the Take Our Children to Work program in April. The children also learned about what an Air Guard pilot wears when they visited with Lt. Col. Landis Cook at the Bradley Air National Guard Base later in the day. Both Mafucci and Cook volunteered their time to help make the day a success for the children. (Photo by Jessica Thomas)

ativity

## Guardsmen receive Coast Guard Meritorious Team Commendation Award

The Commandant of the Coast Guard takes pleasure in presenting the Coast Guard Meritorious Team Commendation to:

Connecticut Army National Guard, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 102<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment, Long Island Sound Marine Transportation System Security Team, Operation Liberty Shield for service as set forth in the following citation:

"For exceptionally meritorious service from 18 March 2003 to 30 April 2003 in support of Homeland Security operations and the surge in domestic port security efforts coinciding with the onset of OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM overseas and OPERATION LIBERTY SHIELD on the home front. With the Homeland Security Advisory System at level ORANGE, the Connecticut Army National Guard (CT ARNG) deployed increased landside security presence at key commercial waterfront facilities and marine transportation system infrastructure nodes in the Coast Guard (USCG) Captain of the Port (COTP) Long Island Sound zone. This security presence and capacity increased protection for the bulk of home heating fuel supplies for southern

New England, the terminus for the primary aviation fuel pipeline serving two military air bases and Bradley International Airport, and the New Haven oil facilities that hold part of the nation's Strategic Petroleum Reserve. This effort also enhanced the security posture at the Dominion Nuclear Power Plant and at critical Gold Star Memorial I-95 Bridge. Complementary security operations between the CT ARNG and USCG teams were arranged in the field providing a visible deterrent to potential terrorist attackers or pre-attack planning activities. This included establishment of a Joint Operations Center at the USCG Group/Marine Safety Office in New Haven to exercise command and control with the field units, ensuring that operations in the

port were seamlessly coordinated. On numerous occasions, intelligence regarding suspicious activity was rapidly disseminated and shared to obtain a rapid shoreside and waterside response. Further, on several occasions, the New Haven Terminal Security Team noted opened gates to key facilities and notified both the facility management and the USCG to ensure mitigation of the security vulnerabilities. The resultant integrated operations served as an immense force multiplier in the overall effectiveness of Maritime Domain Awareness in the COTP zone. It strengthened and reinforced the critical relationship between the USCG and the CT ARNG. The dedication, pride and professionalism of all elements of this highly successful team effort reflect great credit upon each contributing team member, their units, the CT ARNG and the Armed Forces of the United States.

The Operational Distinguishing Device is authorized.

For the Commandant, J. J. COCCIA  
Captain, U. S. Coast  
G u a r d  
Commander, Coast  
Guard Group/Marine  
Safety Office Long  
Island Sound



## CTMA holds reunion

COMMAND SGT. MAJ. (RET.) ANTHONY SAVINO

The annual reunion of the Connecticut Military Academy NCO-Reunion was held on Friday evening, May 9, 2003 at Camp Rowland. Fifteen NCO's attended the function.

A steak and all the fixings dinner was enjoyed at the Point by all who attended.

A short business meeting was held and Command Sgt. Maj. (Ret) Anthony Savino was elected the new Chairman of the Reunion group.

Sgt. Maj. (Ret) Bob Lachance was elected as the Executive Officer, Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class (Ret) Ed Martinolli as the Deputy XO, Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Sue Rapp as the Secretary/Asst Treasurer, and Master Sgt. (Ret) Gary Espelin as the Treasurer.

Also discussed was the possibility of attracting former NCO's who taught at the NCO School to join our ranks. Anyone interested in joining should contact Savino at 860-589-0634 or email [tsavino@ccrpa.org](mailto:tsavino@ccrpa.org)

The evening continued with "War Stories" and memories of the NCO School. A good time was had by all!

The date for next year's reunion will be May 7, 2004 at Camp Rowland. Please reserve the date.

## Officers Club of Connecticut announces June events

**Monday, June 9**

House Committee Meeting, 5:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, June 10**

Ladies O'Club Luncheon, 12 noon

**Thursday, June 12**

AUSA Meeting & Social  
to Celebrate the Army Birthday and Flag Day  
6 p.m.

**Sunday, June 15**

Father's Day Riverboat Cruise on the Mark Twain

A two-and-a-half hour cruise on the Connecticut River including an all-you-can-eat brunch. Cost is \$28.85 for adults and \$15.45 for children and includes the cruise and brunch. Reservations are a must. Stop by the O'Club for a reservation form as soon as possible, there are only 40 seats available through the O'Club

**Tuesday, June 17**

Connecticut Historical Heritage Commission, 10-11:30 a.m.

**Thursday, June 19**

Board of Governors Meeting, 5:30 p.m.

Club open for lunch Monday - Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Bar open Monday - Friday

The O'Club is also available for private parties. Call (860) 249-3634

## Farewell for White

From Page 1

retiring as a brigadier general in 1990.

"We came back to the Army two years ago for only one reason, to give something back to the institution that changed my life and gave so much to me," White said.

The Residential Communities Initiative, which uses commercial contractors to improve family housing, was one accomplishment White listed. "By 2007 we will have contracts in place to provide over 72,000 new or refurbished homes to Army families stationed in the United States," he said.

"We are transforming concurrently with winning the global War on Terrorism. It ain't the 'shock and awe' of the operational plan that wins wars, it's all about having the best soldiers," White said, which was followed by thunderous applause from the audience.

When White came on board, the Army was in the process of transforming under the vision of Shinseki. But the chief told the audience members that White reinforced his efforts to bridge the operational gap between the rapidly deployable lighter forces and the later arriving heavier forces.

"He [White] fought to increase the Army's momentum in its advance toward the objective force and the future combat system,

and he worked tirelessly with Congress to improve housing, pay, and education for soldiers and their family members," Shinseki said.

Two tours in Vietnam and the War on Terrorism are bookends to a career that spans over 36 years and makes White a veteran of three wars, Shinseki said at the end of his 15-minute tribute to White.

White graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1967 and joined the ranks of the Army's officer corps.

The former cavalry officer closed out his Army career holding his grandson, Thomas E. White IV, and watching the Army Band march away playing "The Army Goes Rolling Along."



Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric K. Shinseki pins the Decoration of Distinguished Civilian Service, the highest Army civilian award, on outgoing Secretary of the Army Thomas E. White May 9, 2003. (Photo by Sgt. Reeba Critser)

# National Guard to begin transformation

From Page 1

The Connecticut National Guard has already taken many of the steps Blum has ordered the rest of the country and NGB to take.

"The important thing is that the model Gen. Blum is working towards is in-line with what we already have, a single Connecticut National Guard headquarters," said Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno, the adjutant general, upon his return from the adjutant's general conference.

"Consolidating resources puts more efficiencies into our operations," he said. "Rolling the Army and Air Guard headquarters into a single headquarters makes sense and it works."

According to Cugno, Blum's announcement affords Connecticut the opportunity to move into a new phase of the consolidation begun here two years ago.

Connecticut's National Guard stood up its Joint Headquarters, or J5, nearly a year ago, after a year of planning. The J5 currently is a joint operation of civil and civic affairs that rolled separate entities of the Army and Air Guards into one organization.

With Blum's instructions to consolidate

into one headquarters, Cugno says he can add elements into the Joint Forces Command that he has already been looking at.

"I've previously and formally looked at consolidating the Inspector General's offices into one, that can happen now," said Cugno.

He also said he has directed that a state summit with senior members of the Army and Air Guard staffs take place later this month.

"The purpose of this summit is to plan our third phase of transition into a fully joint operation," said Cugno, who is hoping that the senior leaders will be able to finish the weekend by laying out the final plans for the full transition.

He also said the members of the summit will be looking at transitioning STARC into the Joint Forces Command.

"We have to know look at what we can operate in a joint manner," he said.

What Connecticut already has in place puts it ahead of many other states who now have only until Oct. 1 to complete the process. Blum has said the transformation into a joint headquarters at NGB will be complete by July 1.

Blum has also instructed the states to look at fully implementing the joint command concept by including liaisons from the other

branches in their staffs, something Connecticut already does, with members from the Marine Corps and the Coast Guard already working closely with the J5.

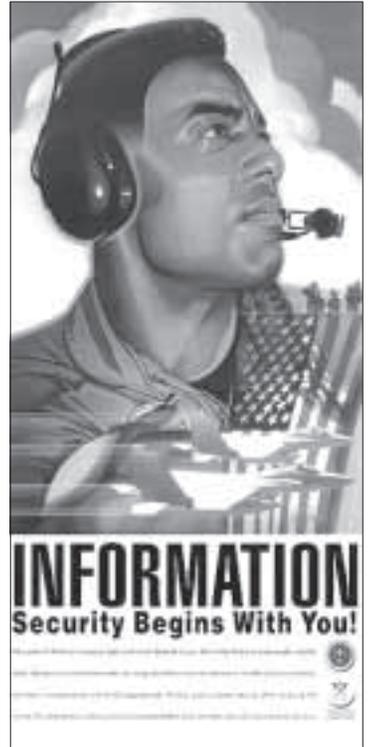
"We fight jointly," said Blum. "We need to train and operate on a daily basis in a joint environment so that we can make that transition very quickly."

By implementing joint headquarters and bringing in the other services where feasible, Blum is certain that the National Guard will be better understood by the active duty counterparts.

"Frankly, we are not training our young men and women to be able to operate in a joint arena, in a joint environment that they will have to operate in in the future," said Blum. "We need to start getting this down to the lowest level as quickly as possible."

Cugno sees this all as very positive for the National Guard, and for Connecticut in particular.

"I see the nation moving far more toward the Connecticut model," said Cugno. "Now we must take this process from concept to reality by virtue of implementation."



# Armed Forces Day Luncheon 2003



Sgt. 1st Class Vaughn Sweatman (second from left) receives his plaque as Army National Guard Honor Person of the Year from Gov. John G. Rowland, The Honorable Thomas F. Hall, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs, Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno, the adjutant general and State Command Sergeant Major, Command Sgt. Maj. Raymond Zastaury during the annual Armed Forces Day Luncheon at the Aqua Turf Club in Southington. More than 500 people attended this year's luncheon.



The Honorable Thomas F. Hall, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs speaks during the annual Armed Forces Day Luncheon. Hall said he was going back to Washington, D.C. to tell the President George W. Bush and Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld that "the spirit of cooperation between services is alive and well in Connecticut"

# Military Matters



## How can I talk to my child about war?

The threat of war is likely to induce some fear in all humans, including children. Use the following tips to help them better cope with the situation.

- Assure your child he or she will be safe;
- Answer questions as honestly as you can, without getting into scary details;
- Try to dispel any rumors your child may have heard regarding war;
- Explain that there are two sides to every situation, and that not everyone will feel as you do, regarding war;
- Explain that war is serious, and many people decide for many hours whether or not it should happen; and
- Encourage your child to ask questions and discuss his or her feelings about the topic.

For younger children, explaining war should be kept to simple terms and examples. Show your child a map or globe of where the war is and where your family lives, emphasizing the distance between the two places; assure him or her that he will be safe and that the family is being protected; and avoid details that may scare your child. Be sure to watch out for any

preoccupations your child may have with weapons, war or strategy. Contact a professional counselor if you feel you or your child need some additional guidance for this situation.

Adolescents can be approached about war in a more mature manner. However, be careful not to offer unnecessary details that may frighten them; keep in mind that he or she is still young. You can ask your adolescent how he or she feels about war, opening a dialogue of both your opinions as well as the facts about the war. Additionally, it may help to work with your child to create a safety plan for the family if an event does occur. This can help him or her feel helpful and capable in an unstable time.

Some ways to help your children cope with the idea of war include:

- Participating in proactive activities such as collecting food for the American Red Cross;
- Discussing your own fears about war outside of the home, so as not to distress your child;
- Displaying your own positive action by helping the relief effort; and

· Offering extra love and support to your children during this time of fear, by spending extra family time together.

### Additional Support

For more information regarding coping techniques or other family matters, simply call: **1-888-290-4327**. Confidential support is available 24 hours a day, 7 days

a week, at no cost to you or your immediate family. For information related to your everyday concerns, go to [www.GuidanceResources.com](http://www.GuidanceResources.com). "First Time Users" will be prompted for their company ID: **FEDSOURCE** to register and create your own username and password.

**Attention all CT National Guard Technicians**  
**CompPsych - The Guidance Resource Company**

This is your new Technician Employee Assistance Program (EAP). They offer professional and confidential counseling services to help assist you in making well-informed decisions.

They are available to you, your dependents 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Your EAP can help you deal with a variety of personal concerns, including:

- Depression
- Job Pressures
- Alcohol and drug abuse
- Marital and Family conflicts
- Stress and anxiety
- Grief and loss

They are available through a toll-free phone number: 1-888-290-4EAP (4327).

If you are looking for information and more resources you can go online. You will find helpful answers to your questions quickly and easily. They have helpSheet topics available for you to review and print, you can ask a GuidanceResource web blog for a personal response via e-mail or phone, and you can also obtain reference books.

The web site is \_\_\_\_\_. Just enter our company ID which is FEDSOURCE.

You don't have to handle your problems alone. Call anytime you need Support.  
 If you have any questions about CompPsych, please contact the Major Luba at the HRD (860) 878-4716.

## Education Essentials: Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB)

The ASVAB is a multi-aptitude test maintained by the Department of Defense. How important is this test? Your scores in four critical areas — Arithmetic Reasoning, Word Knowledge, Paragraph Comprehension and Mathematics Knowledge (see below) — count towards your Armed Forces Qualifying Test (AFQT) score. Your scores in the other areas of the ASVAB determine how qualified you are for certain military specialties. Score high, and your chances of getting the specialty/job you want increase.

### The ASVAB features eight individual subtests:

- Total number of items: 200
- Test Time: 134 minutes
- Administrative Time: 46 minutes
- Total Test Time: 180 minutes

Note: Until recently, "Numerical Operations" and "Coding Speed" were also administered on ASVAB, but have been dropped.

Scoring high on the ASVAB will require study and concentration. Don't skimp on preparing for this test — read about what you should prepare for, and take practice test, which gives you an idea of how well you'll score, identifies areas that need improvement.

Preparing for the ASVAB To score high on the ASVAB, you should begin preparing for the tests ahead. You can do this by studying subject matter, reviewing sample

questions in practice exercises, and by taking practice test batteries. By using the following strategies, you can prepare yourself to achieve the scores you want on your ASVAB test day.

1. Become familiar with the format of multiple-choice test items. These items are used exclusively in the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery.
2. Become familiar with the layout of machine-scored answer sheets. Know the right way to record your answers in the spaces provided. Standard answer sheets are not complicated if you understand the layout and have practiced blackening the answer space in the correct manner.
3. Find out what the test will cover. ASVAB study guides are an excellent source for test-taking tips and strategies as well as information about what type of questions to expect.
4. Review subject matter covered in the test. Review the basics for each subject test.
5. Take a practice test under actual test conditions. Answer all questions within the allotted time of the actual test.
6. Check your answers at the end of the practice test. For questions answered incorrectly, determine why your original answers are incorrect. Be sure that you also understand the rationale for arriving at the correct answer. This is important to expand your knowledge in the subject areas and have a better understanding of the types of questions that may appear on the test.

7. Set aside time every day for concentrated study. Adhere closely to the schedule you set for yourself, and do not waste time with too many breaks.
8. Study with a friend or a group. This can be really helpful and may ease the stress of studying. You can also quiz each other on different subjects as needed.
9. Eliminate distractions. Studying is easier when there are little or no distractions. Disturbances caused by family and neighbor activities (telephone calls, television, radio, conversations etc.) will work to your disadvantage. Try to find a quiet room to study and, if necessary, use the library.
10. Keep physically fit. You cannot study as effectively when you are tired, ill, or tense. Since you are at your mental best when you are in good physical health, make sure you get a good night's sleep, daily exercise and recreation, and maintain a balanced diet.

### Should You Guess on Test Day?

If you do not know the answer to a multiple-choice test item, should you guess?

Yes! There is no penalty for incorrect answers on the ASVAB, so it is to your advantage to answer every question.

If you can eliminate any answer choices you know are definitely wrong, and can then make your selection from one of the remaining answer choices, you have made an "educated" guess rather than having

- guessed blindly.
- You also have increased your probabilities of guessing correctly. Tips on Guessing Be sure to remember these three important points when preparing for the ASVAB and making a decision about guessing:
1. Answer all items. There is no penalty for wrong answers.
  2. An "educated" guess is better than guessing "blindly."
  3. Guessing "blindly" is better than not guessing at all.

**Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB)** The ASVAB is a multi-aptitude test administered by the Department of Defense.

**How important is this test?**  
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**The ASVAB features eight individual subtests:**

Subtest	Minutes	Questions	Description
Armed Services	21	21	Requires knowledge of physical and biological sciences.
Arithmetic Reasoning	26	26	Requires ability to solve arithmetic word problems.
Paragraph Comprehension	11	11	Requires ability to understand the content, main idea, and details of written material.
Mathematics Knowledge	21	21	Requires knowledge of high school mathematics principles.
Technical Information	11	11	Requires knowledge of scientific, technical, and engineering terminology.
Verbal Ability	11	11	Requires knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, and logic.
Mathematics Knowledge	21	21	Requires knowledge of high school mathematics principles.
Technical Information	11	11	Requires knowledge of scientific and technical terminology.
Arithmetic Reasoning	26	26	Requires ability to solve arithmetic word problems.
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Mathematics Knowledge	21	21	Requires knowledge of high school mathematics principles.
Technical Information	11	11	Requires knowledge of scientific, technical, and engineering terminology.
Verbal Ability	11	11	Requires knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, and logic.



COMMAND SGT. MAJ.  
RAYMOND P. ZASTAURY

## Enlisted Update

### Safety and AT

As we begin the Annual Training season, I cannot over emphasize the importance of S A F E T Y .

Commanders and NCOs must insist that SAFETY is the Top Priority for our soldiers. A tool the Army has is Risk Management.

**“Risk Management is the Army’s principle risk-reduction process to protect the force. Our goal is to make risk management a routine part of planning and executing operational missions.”** - Chief of Staff, Army, July 1995.

Safety performance is achieved through a combination of proactive leadership, tasks performed to standard, teamwork, effective communications and this process of identifying hazards and implementing controls called risk management.

By firmly fixing risk management into all of our Guard processes - decision making, training management, force protection, personnel assignments, maintenance, et al - we can stop killing soldiers and destroying equipment.

It can be done, and we’re going to do it. We just need to get on with it. We must get risk management standardized and institutionalized.

Simply put, that means that we’ve got to get into the head space of every leader and every soldier and make risk management an intuitive part of everything we do.

Leaders at every level have the responsibility to identify hazards, to take measures to reduce or eliminate hazards, and then to accept risk only to the point that the benefits outweigh the potential losses.

I expect leaders to ensure our soldiers wear seat belts whether they are driving military vehicles or their POVs.

I am spearheading an effort to have Fasten Seat Belt signs placed at Camp Rowland and at all the Armories. In my opinion safety is that important. If one life is saved, it is well worth the effort.

Another concern I have during the period of Annual Training is heat injuries. Heat injuries are preventable.

Leaders are responsible for the health of their soldiers. They must identify heat injury hazards and take appropriate action

to reduce or eliminate them.

Heat injury occurs when a soldier loses excessive fluids through sweating and fails to adequately replenish water and salt.

The risk of heat injury is increased with the use of heavy or impermeable clothing such as MOPP gear and intense prolonged activity in the heat.

Soldiers who are not adapted to hot environments are at a higher risk

I observed this at FT. Polk, LA (JRTC) two years ago, when there were more than 500 heat casualties prior to going into the box.

Soldiers need time to adjust to the heat. Gradually increasing work in the heat allows for safe adaptation to hot climates.

Ensure that soldiers achieve adequate hydration before strenuous activities. Heat stress accumulates during sequential days of strenuous activity and can be deadly. Salt tablets are unnecessary.

Encourage soldiers to eat regular meals to replace salt. In the course of a day’s work in the heat, a soldier may produce as much as two to three gallons of sweat.

Because so many heat disorders involve excessive dehydration of the body, it is essential that water intake during the duty day be about equal to the amount of sweat produced.

Most soldiers exposed to hot conditions drink less fluids than needed because of an insufficient thirst drive.

A soldier, therefore, should not depend on thirst to signal when and how much to drink. Leaders must ensure that the soldier drinks five to seven ounces of fluids every 15 to 20 minutes to replenish the necessary fluids in the body.

There is no optimum temperature of drinking water, but most people tend not to drink warm or very cold fluids as readily as they will cool ones.

Whatever the temperature of the water, it must be palatable and readily available to the soldier.

Leaders must check to make soldiers do not empty their canteens to reduce the weight they are carrying. Hydrate - Hydrate - Hydrate.

I want every one of our soldiers to have a productive and safe Annual Training this year. HOOAH!

And let us not forget our fellow soldiers and airmen that are deployed. Keep them and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

## Guard Voices

### SMA Tilley shares his thoughts

I just returned from an incredible trip to Iraq, Kuwait, Afghanistan, Qatar and Uzbekistan and wanted to tell you how impressed I was with our soldiers’ performances.

I spent two days in Iraq meeting with soldiers from 3rd Infantry Division, V Corps, 101st Airborne Infantry Division (Air Assault) and 3rd Army. Everywhere I went I met heroes. Soldiers who put their lives on the line to save their buddies, medics braving gunfire to patch up the wounded and sergeants living the NCO Creed.

These soldiers told me they were successful because of their training.

They lived “Train How You Will Fight.” They forced their troops to wear heavy body armor that would stop countless rounds from killing them.

They corrected deficiencies, led tough physical training programs and made safety a priority. They did what NCOs are supposed to do — they enforced standards. This dedication led to our victory and will ensure we bring home America’s sons and daughters alive.

Things are not over. The war on terrorism continues and is not going to get easier. Iraq is not a safe place by far. We still have challenges ahead and cannot allow complacency to settle in.

One area that I want NCOs to take very seriously is negligent discharge. We have had too many incidents involving soldiers failing to properly clear weapons. Leaders should ensure every week during Sergeants’ Time Training or other training events that soldiers practice putting a magazine in a weapon and clearing it. This is a simple task that cannot be taken for granted.

As soldiers begin to redeploy I need your support in getting soldiers to NCOES. The deployments over the past months have created a backlog in our schools and we need to ensure soldiers get in and complete these essential courses.

At the same time, we must continue to take care of our family members back home. It’s easy to get caught up in the mission and forget to keep families informed. Although media on the battlefield has done an incredible job of keeping our families updated, they need and want to hear directly from unit leaders.

Taking care of our families also applies to our retiring NCOs. The Army Career and Alumni Program is there to help ease that transition to civilian life. I encourage soldiers to fully use that resource. This is so vital when soldiers are retiring. You have given so much to our Army; take the necessary time to prepare for your second life.

Finally, Soldiersradio.com has been providing a great resource for military news and information. This site linked directly off the Army homepage and needs your support.

Soldiersradio.com is almost exclusively available via Internet now and will soon only be online. Installation PAOs and Automation officials need to support this effort by allowing access to the streaming audio and video that is provided.

Thank you again for all your hard work and continued support.

**HOOAH!**  
Sgt. Maj. Of the Army Jack Tilley

### A little brother speaks out, shares drawing

Dear *Connecticut Guardian*,  
My name is Thaddaeus Vaichus. I am six years old.

My big brother Nathan is in Basic Training for the Connecticut Army National Guard. He is in Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. Nathan served with the 143rd Military Police Company before he left in March. He will complete his training in July.

I like to draw pictures and send them to Nathan with the letters my brothers and sisters write to him. We send him his copy of the *Connecticut Guardian* after we read it at home.

We are looking forward to Nathan’s return home. We are also praying for his company

which has been deployed. That they will return home soon.

I wanted to share the picture I drew with you. I think alot about what our American soldiers are doing and what it must be like to serve our country.

My Dad tells me to pray for our President and those who make decisions for all of us. I know that’s how I can serve now.

Thank-you for your paper and the encouragement it must be for those who receive it.

Sincerely,  
Thaddaeus Vaichus  
(and my mom)



Drawing by six-year-old Thaddaeus M. Vaichus, brother of a Connecticut Army National Guard soldier. The original color drawing is 23 x 3 3/4 inches.

## HANDYPERSON HOTLINE

(860) 209-0770

CALL TODAY TO VOLUNTEER YOUR SKILLS

# Homefront

## In defense of Connecticut's children: What your Connecticut National Guard has to offer

**CAPT. ANNE-MARIE GARCIA**  
DRUG DEMAND REDUCTION ADMINISTRATOR

The Connecticut National Guard Drug Demand Reduction Program is a community-based, anti-drug program.

This state wide administered program brings together youth, adults, both military dependents and civilians with educational outreach activities to help reduce the demand for illegal drugs.

Since 1991, thousands of Guard members, their families and retirees reached an estimated 500,000 youth and adults with anti-drug messages.

Some of the many programs we offer include an adopt-a-school program that provides a mentorship link between National Guard units, law enforcement, community leaders and youth.

The Drug Demand Reduction Program is part of the National Guard's multi-front effort to halt the spread of drug use.

The Connecticut National Guard Drug Demand Reduction Program mission is to educate and disseminate drug awareness information through the development of initiatives, activities, councils, youth programs, parent training and coalitions in order to support community efforts to educate youth and prevent substance abuse.

**Resources Available:**

There are several resources available through the Connecticut National Guard Drug Demand Reduction Programs, whether it is a child that just needs a mentor, has lost a parent due to a crisis or deployment or someone in need of educational resources; the Connecticut National is there to help.

**Substance Abuse Prevention Drug Awareness Brainstorm Training and HEART Program:**

The Connecticut National Guard Brainstorm Program and HEART Program are designed to teach middle school students, at their level, the health effects of illicit drug use.

Through this program, trained national guardsmen visit elementary classrooms and provide education on drug prevention at the same time they provide mentoring and career choices using the decision making process.

**Residential and Non-Residential Camps:**

The Connecticut National Guard conducts the Drug Education For Youth (DEFY), Aviation Career Education (ACE), Central Science Camp and Bradley Air Cadet Day Program.

These Programs are conducted with various agencies throughout the State of Connecticut.

**Support For Parents:**

The Connecticut National Guard Parent to Parent Program helps communities create a parent culture that is supportive of children and intolerant of negative influences impacting

drug culture.

It covers a wide variety of subjects including drug prevention, communication skills, trust, character development, time management and more, the program presentations are culturally specific; Anglo-American, African-American and Hispanic-American.

**Community Support:**

All of the programs listed above are conducted with Community, Educational Organizations and Law Enforcement Agencies.



our youth. Parent to Parent is a video-based program that helps parents deal directly with their children on critical issues facing adolescents today: drugs and violence. The purpose of this program is to provide parents with the skills, knowledge and enthusiasm to help their children avoid the

If you would like to be connected with one of the many organizations that the Connecticut National Guard Drug Demand Reduction Program is associated with please call Capt. Anne-Marie Garcia at 860-493-2724.

### Chaplain's

#### o r n e r *Dealing realistically with death*

CHAP. (CAPT.) DAVID C. NUTT  
TF 192<sup>nd</sup> CHEM.

Hunters tell us that the most dangerous animal in the world, no matter the species, is a wounded one.

When death occurs in a family's life, it is a wounding experience to that family and behaviors often become quite erratic. The family towers of strength become ineffectual and can't keep it together. The shy and retiring become roaring lions. In short, the entire family dynamic can be turned on its head.

This is because grief wounds, and from the pain of loss, affects our behavior.

Here are three simple things to remember that will help you and your loved ones in time of grief.

- Don't expect normal behavior, even from yourself. Give yourself time to grieve and heal. Let people care for you. Also, extend as much grace as you can to those around you grieving as well...some of their unusual or hurtful behavior may just be their pain talking.

- Don't let any one tell you how you should feel. However you react to loss, as long as it is not hurtful to yourself or others is okay. How you process your grief is fine for you.

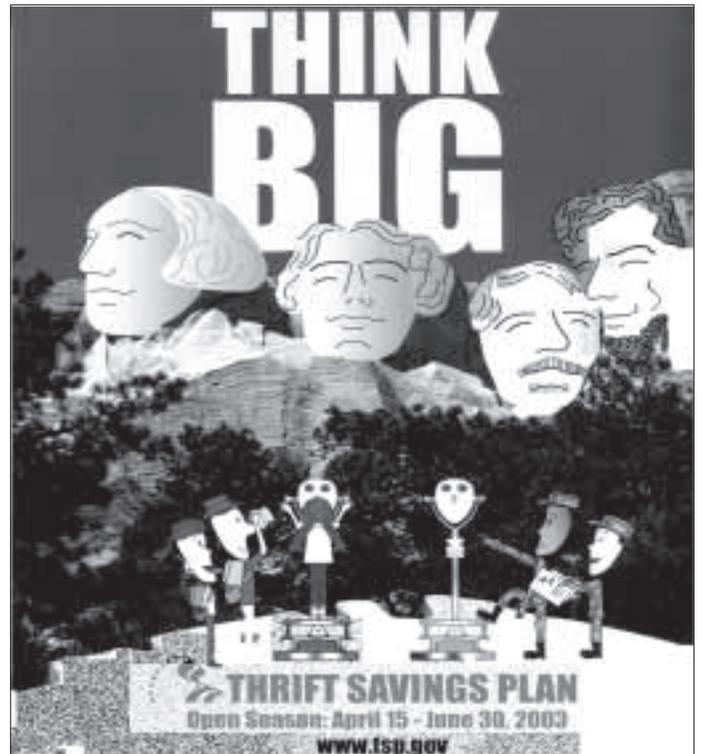
- Let your feelings run their courses. Don't feel like you have to keep it together and be strong. It's okay to let go if you have to. Suppressing all your feelings will just let them "boil over" at a later date. Often the feelings that you suppressed will be twice as painful and disruptive to your life at a alter time than when you first experienced the pain.

Finally, know that while your loss will never go away the pain and grief will subside in time and normalcy will return.

While the length of grieving is different for each person, if a year goes by and the level of pain and grief has not subsided and stops you from living a normal life seek help.

Go to your family clergy or ask your doctor for the name of a counselor who specializes in grief issues.

Remember, no matter your loss you still need to live and celebrate life.



## Split Training Option Company Fills in the Gap

SGT. GREGORY HARRISON  
65<sup>th</sup> PCH

For a freshly minted soldier not long out of basic training, the excitement of being a part of a fully functioning unit in the Connecticut Army National Guard can unfortunately be a short-lived experience if the soldier has to wait for a long period of time to attend Advanced Individual Training (AIT).

AIT is the job training every soldier attends to qualify for and receive his or her specific military occupational specialty (MOS).

For some soldiers, the wait can be as long as one year, and most soldiers are unable to make an effective contribution to their units if they are not qualified in their MOS. This can lead to somewhat of an eroding of a young soldier's morale which is of primary concern to recruiters and retention specialists.

A soldier whose enthusiasm has diminished over a long wait to continue his training might possibly decide to leave the Guard. With this undesirable scenario in mind, the Recruiting and Retention Command conducts a program called Split Training Option Company (STOC).

The Split Training Option Company, mandated by the Chief of Staff of the United

States Army, began in October of 1999 ostensibly with the purpose of preparing soldiers on a physical and mental level to handle the challenges they will encounter at Advanced Individual Training.

It is an eight-month program consisting of three phases.

The first phase is an orientation phase that familiarizes each soldier with the benefits of being in the Guard, and also with the history and traditions of the Connecticut Army National Guard.

The second phase is the sustainment phase that reviews and widens the soldier's current level of knowledge.

And the last phase is the AIT preparation phase. This phase covers such areas as battlefield communication, land navigation, survival behind enemy lines and nuclear biological chemical training. Uniform inspections and the Army Physical Fitness Test round out the variety and depth of this phase.

For Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class John V. Nerkowski, of Recruiting and Retention Command, the course is mainly about instilling confidence and having fun.

"These soldiers come out of basic training and they're all gung-ho ready to go. When they get to their units, there isn't much for them to do since they don't have the

knowledge to do their job. So they come to this program for eight months and we try to continue the momentum by keeping them active and involved."

Nerkowski and his fellow recruiters ran the soldiers through their paces during the May drill weekend at Stone's Ranch with such activities as running the confidence course, and going down the rappelling tower.

"Most of these kids are really motivated," Sgt. Jenny R. Guarin of Recruiting and Retention Command said about what she had observed over the weekend. "It seems as if they're just given busy work to do at their units but when they come here, we try to give them a taste of what's to come in AIT. They really seem to enjoy it."

For Pvt. David H. Tran, Headquarters/Headquarters Company 192<sup>nd</sup> Chemical Company, New Haven, the entire STOC experience has been "a good place to maintain discipline and respect for sergeants. It's a good place to focus your attention." Tran is a pharmacy major at a local university and has been waiting nearly a year since completing basic training to attend his AIT to become a forward artillery observer. Tran feels that a normal civilian routine "can make you very lazy but this program reminds you that you have a very important job to do."



A member of the Split Option Training Company makes his way down the rappelling tower at Stone's Ranch, while other members of the company wait below for their turn. The soldiers in STOC have all completed basic training and spend a year in the company while waiting to go to their advance individual training before rejoining their units. (Photo by Sgt. Greg Harrison, 65<sup>th</sup> PCH)

## JROTC students visit Camp Rowland, learn about military life

SPEC. JOE WALLER  
65<sup>th</sup> PCH

There were a few extra people at the Camp Rowland during the weekend of April 19 and 20; most dressed in civilian clothes.

They could be seen marching their way to the dining facility or standing in formation, perhaps going over drill and ceremony, and they could be heard sounding off with their cheers and mottos.

These people were high school students, each participating in Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps at their respective high schools, a program designed for high school students to instill pride and discipline through camaraderie and exposure to military traditions.

These students dedicated their weekend to learning about military tasks, developing as student leaders, and participating in physical training.

On the first day, the students fired on a simulated 25-meter range through a basic rifle marksmanship qualification program.



JROTC student groups spent a weekend at Camp Rowland and Stone's Ranch getting firsthand experience in teambuilding and leadership. They also got to try MREs. (Photo by Spec. Joe Waller, 65<sup>th</sup> PCH)

The weapons were real enough but instead of rounds and paper targets there were laser beams and silhouettes projected on video screens.

Given a "20-round" magazine, some students excelled at marksmanship, shooting 19/20 and even a few 20/20; better than some soldiers already in the military.

The students themselves were thrilled to get the opportunity to notionally qualify with the M16-A2 rifle (and some with the M-203 grenade launcher).

Time was also spent learning how to tie seat harnesses in preparation for Sunday's trip to the rappelling tower.

The students seemed to pick up the lessons pretty quick, tying the harnesses consistently in two minutes or less.

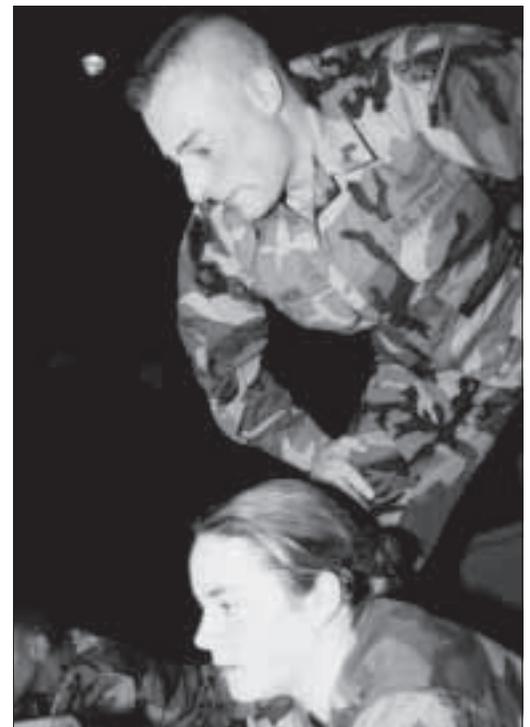
Some students later found that tying the same harness while staring at the actual rappelling tower made the task a little more difficult.

But with the help of the cadre, provided by the 169<sup>th</sup> Leadership Regiment, students conquered their fears and rappelled successfully.

Given their success at the "range" and on the rappel tower, it was no surprise that these students attacked their next task with a sense of confidence, spirit, and professionalism.

The students tackled Stone's Ranch Leadership Reaction Course. Through this course, the students learned to work together to accomplish tasks set by the course instructors.

The students faced military tasks with a high degree of professionalism while maintaining a level of motivation that any commander in the Connecticut National Guard would be proud of. The weekend gave these students an opportunity to develop as cohesive units and individually as leaders.



A JROTC student gets instructions from one of the cadre during training in the Fire Arms Simulator at Camp Rowland. (Photo by Spec. Joe Waller, 65<sup>th</sup> PCH)

## Guarding Your Rights

### Legal Affairs: Overseas mailings explained

CAPT. TIMOTHY TOMCHO  
JAG

Within the past few months, many members of the Connecticut National Guard and their families have utilized and potentially been frustrated by the "APO."

The APO is the product of a long-standing relationship between the United States Postal Service (USPS) and the Department of Defense (DoD). In 1927 the DoD and the USPS executed their first interagency agreement to address mail service to military personnel serving in the United States and abroad.

The acronym "APO" predates World War II and originally meant Army Post Office. In 1952 the term changed to mean either Army Post Office or Air Force Post Office.

An Army (or Air Force) Post Office is an official United States post office established for the use by U.S. military units abroad. It is set up to distribute mail to and from military personnel. This mail may be official or personal in nature. This mail is centralized at certain locations such as San Francisco and New York for transport overseas.

An APO is set up during wartime to prevent revealing personnel and unit locations. Generally, after a conflict ends, the locations become known. USPS Publication 38A and Handbook 630 govern USPS operations regarding delivery of mail to DoD installations and personnel.

Department of Defense Directive 4525.6, "Single Manager for Military Postal Service (MPS), establishes the MPS and authorizes the publication of DoD 4525.6-M, the postal manual for DoD.

The single manager for the MPS is the Secretary of the Army, who operates the MPS as an extension of the USPS. The Secretary is charged with the development of policy for the MPS. Each Service Secretary requires Combatant Commanders to develop integrated Operations Plans utilizing all military postal resources to move and process mail in operational theaters designed to reduce duplication of effort and relieve

forward postal units of mail processing to the maximum extent.

In accordance with Army Regulation 600-8-3, postal operations in the field are performed at three primary levels: unit, battalion and installation (or some equivalent organization in the tactical force).

Army postal units are deployed on the battlefield as an integrated part of the personnel service support network and are collocated with the Personnel Services Company (PSC)/Finance Service Unit (FSU) whenever possible. Separate unit and battalion commanders provide separate and secure space and equipment required to operate a mailroom. Unit commanders appoint in writing a unit postal officer and mail clerks. Distribution to individual soldiers is accomplished through the unit mailroom or via "mail call."

Last year due to transportation and security concerns, the DoD cancelled programs allowing members of the public to send mail addressed to "Any Service Member."

For the same reasons, the DoD recommends that individuals and organizations wishing to mail letters and care packages to deployed servicemembers refocus their support towards servicemember family members at home.

The USPS reports that it is delivering more than 400,000 lbs of military mail to the Middle East region, which requires five flights a day (747 cargo jets). Deployed units should begin receiving mail within thirty days of deployment. However, due to the movement of units, delivery may take longer.

Prohibitions exist on the shipment of certain articles to the Middle East: no obscene materials, religious items contrary to the Islamic faith and pork or pork by-products may be sent.

Additional restrictions pertaining to mail sent to deployed servicemembers may be found at [www.ups.com](http://www.ups.com).



## The 2003 NGA CT Scholarship Program

The National Guard Association of Connecticut (NGACT) proudly announces the 2003 scholarship program.

The following persons are eligible to apply for a scholarship: NGACT Members; Unmarried sons and daughters of NGACT members; Spouses of NGACT members; and Unmarried spouses and unmarried dependent sons and daughters of deceased NGACT members who were members in good standing at the time of their death.

Honorary, Associate and Corporate membership alone does not qualify any of the persons listed above for eligibility to apply for a scholarship.

Scholarships will be awarded in an amount based on available funds for the upcoming school year. Applicants must be enrolled as a full-time or part-time student at an accredited college, university, trade school or business school. Graduate students are not eligible for scholarships.

Awards will be sent directly to the recipient with each check made payable to the recipient's choice of school. To receive the awards, verifications will be required to the effect that enrollment has commenced or will commence.

There shall be no consideration in selecting the awardees of a scholarship because of friendship, rank or grade of the applicant, applicant's parents or applicant's spouse. Awards will be made on the basis of scholarship, character, leadership and need.

All applications will be accompanied by the following: A transcript of high school credits and a transcript of college credits for applicants already in institutions of higher learning; A letter from the applicant with personal, specific facts as to his/her desire to continue his/her education and why financial assistance is required; Two (2) letters of recommendation verifying the application and giving general information & personal traits that would make the applicant a desirable recipient. These letters should ideally be from a community leader, ministers, elected officials, etc.; One (1) letter of academic reference (should be from a principle, counselor, dean or professor).

If the recipient does not complete the school term for which the scholarship is awarded, due to any cause other than sickness, physical injury or military deployment, the recipient will refund the award to the National Guard Association of Connecticut within sixty (60) days from the date enrollment was terminated.

All scholarship applications will be sent to the NGACT Executive Director, NGACT, National Guard Armory, 360 Broad Street, Hartford, CT 06105-3795. Each application will be reviewed for completeness and forwarded to the scholarship committee. Applications must include all materials.

Deadline date for all applications for scholarships will be observed in all instances. The deadline for submitting applications is 15 August 2003. Applications must be postmarked NLT 15 August 2003.

Scholarship Committee. The President of the NGACT will appoint a committee and a chairman. The remainder of the committee will be structured to ensure to include at a minimum of five members, at least two ARNG and two ANG.

Email [david.fecso@ctbrad.ang.af.mil](mailto:david.fecso@ctbrad.ang.af.mil) or [debby.newton@ct.ngb.army.mil](mailto:debby.newton@ct.ngb.army.mil) for applications.



### The care and training of an ESGR volunteer

CARL VENDITTO  
CT ESGR CHAIRMAN

Connecticut residents are more than aware that Connecticut Army and Air National Guard receive some of the best military and professional training in the world.

What is not as well known is that Connecticut ESGR personnel have also been in the forefront of professional growth as well. Let me cite some examples.

This past March, four ESGR committee members attended basic ombudsman training in Washington, D.C. This April, four committee members attended the U.S. Army War College in Carlisle Barracks, Penn., where they studied with future Army leaders and listened to keynote speakers discussing the "New" American Way of War. This course came during the height of the Iraq War.

This month, three members of the Connecticut committee traveled to Denver, Col. where they teamed up with Department of Labor representatives for an advanced ombudsman training to develop "train the trainer" skills. The close cooperation between the two groups enhances the support to our guardsmen.

In June, five committee members will drive to Newport, R.I. and attend three days of training with the future senior flag officers of the United States Navy. Here they will learn and discuss keeping the sea-lanes open and review maritime strategy. The ESGR men and women will also attend seminars with the June graduates of that venerable naval college and will know intimately how the Navy plans to fight in the future.

I mention this to emphasize that the CT ESGR Committee has gone far and wide to maintain its interest in global problems which impact on our guardsmen and reservists.

The leadership of the ESGR, Chair, Executive Director, Boss Lift Coordinator, Ombudsman Chairperson and Mission One and Outreach coordinators in particular are continually attending seminars, conferences, meetings, coordination programs and making contact with federal and state leaders on a monthly basis. This gives this core group a rich understanding of the modern military. I believe that by having these contacts, committee leaders are more aware of trends which potentially may impact on mobilization, demobilization, family support issues, benefits, and employment and reemployment issues to cite but a few.

The May ESGR training meeting was totally committed to establishing a tighter relationship with members of the Connecticut Bar Association. ESGR committee members listened as lawyers explained nuances in legislation that would give them greater ombudsman insights.

The chairman of the ESGR Committee participated in a four-hour-distance learning program on USAR priorities and transformation. I feel this medium can also be used by our committee to our advantage.

In conclusion, simply stated, yes, we are volunteers, but highly trained volunteers who are conversant with military programming and issues so as to better serve the guardsmen and reservists of the State of Connecticut.

## Inside OCS

### Leading from the front: *Finding the method behind the madness*

SENIOR O.C. JEFFREY SAMY  
OCS CLASS 48

I entered the military eight years ago as an enlisted member. My knowledge of the military and its officers was very limited at that time, and I perceived the chain of command and ranks as any outsider might: Officers are the book smart soldiers who do little work and get lots of respect, while NCOs are the experienced ones who get the job done.

While taking my military career as far as PLDC, and now to OCS, I realize that I wasn't so far off with my perception of NCOs, but my definition of an officer has definitely been redefined over the last twelve months.

Being a civilian student and soldier in the CTARNG left me options on the road to becoming an officer. I consulted my sister, brother-in-law, and other respected officers that I have gotten to know over the years when weighing my options between ROTC and OCS. The general consensus I received about OCS was, "Its going to be tough", and "Its a lot of work."

Still, that was the path recommended to me, and I have always seen the benefits of the more challenging road.

Upon entering OCS, my first real interaction with the TAC staff and instructors was in Phase I. It reminded me

of when I first got off the "cattle trucks" in basic training.

These weren't the mild mannered, civilized officers that I was used to, but drill sergeants wearing officer rank!

They expected far higher standards, more initiative, and from soldiers that in my opinion were already a step above average. I could see from that first day that military life, as I knew it, would be very different in the next fourteen months.

OCS can be compared to basic training in some way, and the TAC staff compared to drill sergeants, but of course there are major differences.

In basic training, usually it is what you do that will get you in trouble. In OCS, it is usually what you fail to do that gets you in trouble.

For example, when scheduling an off post road march, did you think to notify the local authorities, provide medical support, and provide a back up plan for inclement weather? Did you think to make a contingency plan for the equipment guard and guide-on bearer to eat during the noon meal so that the class will meet the next time back? Did you think to do PMCS on the radio, the halyard, and perform a rehearsal of Reveille and Retreat details? Did you think to ask for accountability?

The TAC staff trains the candidates to

prepare, ask the questions and come up with the answers before the situation happens. Planning a platoon's training for a day, foreseeing potential problems, devising contingency plans so that the training is on schedule and will unfold flawlessly, can be far more exhausting than hard mindless labor.

The instructors have a different role in the training. Classes and tests are given in detail on several subjects that are crucial to a military leader. The instructors also pose philosophical questions and hypothetical scenarios that we debate on.

The instructor will then offer constructive criticism that is instrumental in fine-tuning our outlook as officers.

Between the TAC staff and the instructors, training goes on for the candidates all month long. Drill weekends can be the least stressful part of the month, but meeting the deadlines for the countless tasks assigned for that drill weekend can be mind-boggling. For example, setting up fundraisers, organizing a dining-in, PT plans, midmonth meetings, monthly OPORDs, leadership positions, military reports, is just the tip of the iceberg.

These details, in addition to your civilian responsibilities, can test the commitment of each candidate to the OCS program. The candidates who continue the challenge to the later phases of OCS learn that with time

management and teamwork, all things can be accomplished.

As time goes by and we grow with the OCS program, we start to see the "method behind the madness" of the TAC staff, and like basic training and its DS, the TAC that you once despised, is greatly respected and appreciated later on.

OCS is winding down for class 48, with graduation being less than two months away. We have been assigned our branches, and the ten remaining senior candidates will soon be looking to new challenges as second lieutenant platoon leaders.

Eight years ago, basic training transformed me from a civilian, to a better man; a military man.

In the past year, OCS has done the same.

I am not the same person I was entering Phase I, and am confident in the guidance the OCS staff has given me to develop me into a leader. I will lead the soldiers in my platoon the same way we were taught to: "From the front", and "By example."

OCS was not an easy experience by any means, but I am grateful for where that experience has taken me in my military and civilian life.

I recommend the Academy to all the strong-willed soldiers with the right stuff in the CTARNG today.

## Why Diversity?

### Recruiting and Retaining Diversity

SGT. 1<sup>st</sup> CLASS SCOTT J. FARRELL  
STATE DIVERSITY INITIATIVES COORDINATOR (SDIC)

Why is this of concern?

It goes back to the fact that with the demographic shifts that we are experiencing in the United States it is essential that everyone feels that they can and will "fit in" our organization.

Having been a recruiting and retention NCO for many years I can attest to the fact that the strength of a unit is determined by its ability to make its members feel valued.

We need to ensure that they are part of the team participating fully and integrated into all aspects of the unit.

If unit members don't feel this way they will stop coming to drill. Or even worse, will keep coming and tell everyone they come in contact with how the Guard is not what they expected and that they should get out.

When they do this it affects retention and people will not reenlist.

On the recruiting side they tell everyone and anyone who will listen who the guard doesn't take care of its people, only selected individuals.

However, if we are able to make everyone in our units feel that they can and will be

valued, and are able to participate in all the guard has to offer, then we as an organization will succeed. We will provide a guard that is "MISSION READY".

So how can we as unit leaders make sure we are providing the things/opportunities that our members want? We need to get to know them better.

So my challenge to you is to take some time out of our busy training schedules and have everyone on the team get to know each other better.

The following is a sample list of question you might want to start off with.

- 1) Where were you born?
- 2) Where did you grow up and how did that influence who you are today?
- 3) Where are your parents from? Where are your grandparents and great grandparents from?
- 4) What generation American are you? (excludes Native Americans of course)
- 5) How many siblings are in your family and are you the oldest, youngest, ect.?
- 6) How did your birth order influence who you are today?
- 7) As a child, which adult had a major

influence in your life and why?

8) What do you remember most about your favorites holidays and traditions as you were growing up?

9) What unique qualities and characteristics do you possess that comes from your unique upbringing?

10) What was your most memorable encounter with someone from another culture/race?

11) Describe a time you experienced prejudice or Discrimination?

12) Please describe something surprising about you that no one can tell by looking at you.

I believe that if we take the time to get to know our team better they will let others know what an outstanding organization we are (Recruit) and they will want to stay in our organization longer (Retention).

If you are willing to take the time, you will discover what it is "you don't know you don't know" that is important to your members. You will find out.

Do they feel valued? Do they feel they can participate? Do they feel fully integrated in the unit?



And if not what can be done to make them know you care.

The bottom line is you have to know your people.

If you could please let me know how this exercise worked with you members it would be greatly appreciated. THANK YOU!!!

If you have an interest in being part of the Diversity Initiatives team please contact me at (860) 878-6718 or E-Mail at scott.farrell@ct.ngb.army.mil

### Thought of the Month

*The real death of America will come when everyone is alike.*

James T. Ellison

# Health & Fitness

## Your Health Matters: Lyme Disease season is here: prevention tips from the experts

EXCERPTS FROM THE HOME PAGES OF THE CENTERS OF DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION  
CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
SUBMITTED BY CAPT. KATHLEEN KING

Summertime is here!!!! Summertime is the best! We think of days spending time with the kids at the beach or park, long drives with the windows down, and, of course, summer camp in the woods. Everything is good, except rare encounters with bees, mosquitoes, and ticks. And ticks from Lyme, Connecticut, are famous...and they're everywhere.

Lyme disease is not a new infection. As early as the 1800s, doctors noted that some patients who were bit by a tick would develop a raised red rash, which would then expand, usually into a small ring. In the 1940s, others noticed that some patients would develop multi-system illnesses following this rash. Patients with a history of a tick bite, followed by a raised, circular rash, were first successfully treated with penicillin in Wisconsin in 1969.

This new disease was finally recognized in 1977 as Lyme arthritis, when a small cluster of children in Lyme, Connecticut were infected and studied. Connecticut has maintained the highest incidence of Lyme disease of any state in the nation since 1992. (In 1996, According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 15,000 cases are reported annually, most of which are found in the northeastern and mid-Atlantic states.

Although Lyme disease is transmitted through a black-legged or deer tick (*Ixodes scapularis*), the infection is actually caused by the bacterium, *Borrelia burgdorferi*. Immature ticks are the primary source for transmitting the bacteria. The ticks are so tiny (less than 2mm, about the size of a poppy seed) that they often go unnoticed and are not removed. As the tick bites the victim, and slowly begins to feed, the bacterium is transmitted. It usually takes two days for the infection to be transmitted to the victim. Not all deer ticks are infectious, but a recent study revealed that 23% of the deer ticks collected in Connecticut were carrying the bacterium that causes Lyme disease. Lyme disease is not transmitted from one person to another.

The earliest sign of Lyme disease appears about one month after a tick bite, and appears as a raised, red area in the shape of a ring (or "bull's eye") round the site of an old tick bite. Fever, headaches, or fatigue

may also be present. This will disappear within a few weeks. Signs of arthritis or facial paralysis can occur several weeks or months after the disappearance of the rash. Lyme disease is rarely fatal.

It is difficult to diagnose Lyme disease because it mimics many other conditions. A blood test is not always helpful. If you suspect

Lyme disease, you should seek a full evaluation by your health care provider as soon as possible, as early treatment is the most effective treatment.

PREVENTION is the key to avoiding Lyme disease or other tick borne diseases. Here are some suggestions: Wear light colored clothing; wear long sleeved shirts and pants; tuck your shirt in, and tuck your pants into your socks; use insect repellent ("skin-so-soft" works well, too!); closely examine yourself at the end of the day for any ticks. Common areas to find ticks are were you tucked in you shirt and pants, scalp, underarms, groin, behind you legs,

any skin folds); wash with soap and water, using a washcloth; after a tick is removed, apply an antiseptic (check for allergies to the antiseptic ingredients, first, before applying); keep your lawn mowed and raked and check your pets daily.

If a tick is found, wash off the area with soap and water. The tick should be removed by grasping the tick mouth as close to the skin as possible with a pair of tweezers, and pulling gently, steadily. Wash the area, again, with soap and water, and apply an antiseptic. Examine the area where the tick was every day for a month, and report any rash in that area to a health care provider. (Although rashes are typically a round, "bull's eye" rash, any rash in the area of a tick bite should be reported.)

With summer camp quickly approaching, get out and have fun. If you have an unfortunate encounter with a tick, take the precautions as outlined above. During drill or AT, make sure you seek the aid of your medical personnel, so you get the proper treatment and the proper documentation done. For further information on Lyme disease, contact your local health department. Websites used for this article include the Connecticut Department of Public Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

[www.dph.state.ct.us/BCH/infectiousdise/tickborne.htm](http://www.dph.state.ct.us/BCH/infectiousdise/tickborne.htm)  
[www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/lyme/htm](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/lyme/htm)



The deer tick (*Ixodes scapularis*) adult female, adult male, nymph, and larva on a centimeter scale. (Photo courtesy of the Centers for Disease Control website)

**CONNECTICUT ARMY NATIONAL GUARD**

**PHYSICAL FITNESS TRAINING**

**HEALTH & WELLNESS PROGRAM**

**HWP Class 003-002- Dates**

**Class Dates**  
 28 & 29 June 2003  
 19 & 20 July 2003  
 16 & 17 August 2003  
 27 & 28 September 2003

**Administrative Requirements (AR):**  
 - CTNG Training Circular 350-02-03 (HWP)  
 - HWP Letter of Instruction to CDM's dated 30 December 2002.

Unit commanders endorsing soldiers for HWP Class 003-002 will provide the following to the MILPO-ATTN: ILT Drooper, NLT 19 May 2003:

- (1) A signed Letter of Recommendation and personnel data sheets for each soldier (example attached).
- (2) Provide copies of DA Form 705 (PT Card), DA Form 5590 (body fat worksheet) and relevant counseling records (DA Form 4856).
- (3) A Letter of Intent signed by the soldier (example attached).
- (4) Copy of any profile or physical limitation documents of the soldier.



Staff Sgt. Daniel Henderson, Spec. Hung Joon Mangiafico, Staff Sgt. Eric Sullivan, Spec. Nick O'Dell, Spec. Arthur Taradejna and Master Sgt. Orlando Anderson (clockwise from top left) of the Connecticut Army National Guard all participated in the 5K River Run for the Fund, benefiting the James A. Greenleaf, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Fund held at Ocean Beach Park in New London.

# Postcards Home



Senior Airman Debra Mendola and Senior Airman Leonard Grissette, both of the 103rd Aircraft Generation Squadron, work on equipment related to the A-10's 30mm cannon in Southwest Asia on March 22. (104 FW Photo)



Sgt. James C. Greenawalt, Co. G, 104th AVN has been mobilized with his unit in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. (Photo courtesy of Leigh Balducci)



Staff Sgt. Ralph Beckers, 1109th AVCRAD Chinook Repairman installs a sheet metal patch in a Chinook. (Photo by Bob Whistine, AMC-LSE-SWA, Public Affairs Officer)



Members of the Satellite, Wideband, and Telemetry Systems section of the 103rd Air Control Squadron deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. From top left: Master Sgt. Brian Talbot, Sr. Airman Nathan Simonis, Sr. Airman Christopher Plasky, Staff Sgt. Kevin Townley, Tech. Sgt. Darryl Tolzman, and Tech. Sgt. Wayne Prior. From bottom left: Tech. Sgt. Gary Goncalo, Sr. Airman Paul Rolla, and Sr. Airman Matthew Allard. Tolzman and Simonis are augmentees from the 128th ACS, Volk Field, Wisconsin. (Photo courtesy of Tech. Sgt. Wayne Prior)



Sgt. Jennifer Wackerman of the 1009th AVCRAD checks her computer for messages from home. (Photo by Bob Whistine, AMC-LSE-SWA, Public Affairs Officer)



Members of the 103rd Fighter Wing prepare to take off for their deployment to Southwest Asia in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

# Retirees' Voice

## West Point hosts retiree open house

SGT. 1<sup>ST</sup> CLASS (RET.) JOHN BEDNARZ

We did it! The wife and I attended the 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Retiree Open House at West Point on Saturday, May 3, 2003. Because it is a long drive and I am not a morning person we decided to head out on Friday evening and stay over, close to the Academy so we could arrive early without having to wake up at 4:00 AM.

We stayed at the Marriott Courtyard motel in Newburgh, NY just over the Beacon-Newburgh Bridge on I-84, and had our first experience eating at an Appleby's Restaurant. The food was marvelous.

The following morning we ate breakfast at the motel and headed out for West Point. The trip from there was about 35 minutes. Because we have a DOD sticker on our car we were able to drive onto the base and park near Eisenhower Hall rather than leave our car at the gate and be bused up to the hall.

Upon arrival at 'Ike' hall we went to the reception and registration area where we signed in, received badges and picked up tickets for the luncheon in the USMA Cadet Mess. (We had earlier sent a registration form and a check for the \$18.00 per person to attend the luncheon.)

From there we entered the hall where we listened to music by the 'Hellcats' of the USMA Band, were welcomed by the Superintendent of the USMA, and listened to an address by the deputy Director of the Military Officers Association (MOAA). Another speaker talked about the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, Cleveland Center, the people that pay us. He later took questions on a one on one basis.

From there we visited the booths of the post and civilian agencies set up in the main hall. There were people from the Pentagon Credit Union, the Staff Judge Advocates Office, the Commissary, the New York Veteran's Affairs Office, Social Security

Administration, Tricare and Army Community Services.

There were also representatives from DFAS, the Defense Finance and Accounting Office, NAUS, National Association of Uniformed Services, AUSA, the Association of the United States Army, and of course MOAA, the Military Officers Association. Also represented were the MWR people who, among other things run the Five Star Inn, where they convinced me that, that is the place to stay on our next trip to West Point. At \$48.00 for efficiency to \$58.00 for a suite it is very reasonable, and you are right there.

Now it was time to walk or be bused to The Plain. Here we would see the Military Academy's Silent Drill Team perform, watch the Cadets March in Review across The Plain, and be treated to a jump by the Academy's Sports Parachute Club.

After all this we went to the Luncheon at the Cadet Mess where we ate a typical cadet meal with two of the cadets at each table. This is an experience, especially when you realize that they can feed thousands of cadets within less than thirty minutes, at one sitting. And the cadets are amazing people when you talk to them, and they tell you about their accomplishments and their goals.

With the official program over we had a choice to visit the monuments and other interesting features of West Point. One scheduled event was a reenactment of the placing of the giant chain across the Hudson River. We instead decided to visit the post gas station, the PX and the Commissary where we spent a good deal of money and then headed home.

We ran into many Connecticut retirees and I think they all agreed it was a worthwhile trip and we recommend it to all.

### For your convenience...

Use the order form below to order name tapes for your Gortex jackets. They **ARE NOT** the same size tapes as the ones you wear on your BDUs or field jacket. You can also use the form to order all other name tapes and plastic name tags.

ARMY AND AIR FORCE EXCHANGE SERVICE			
EMBROIDERED NAMETAPES AND PLASTIC TAGS			
<small>(ORDER FORM MUST BE FILLED IN COMPLETELY OR MAY BE RETURNED)</small>			
BRANCH OF SERVICE		<input type="checkbox"/> US ARMY <input type="checkbox"/> US AIR FORCE <input type="checkbox"/> US MARINES <input type="checkbox"/> US NAVY <input type="checkbox"/> US COAST GUARD <input type="checkbox"/> CIVIL AIR PATROL	
PRINT LAST NAME ONLY		QUANTITY	PRICE    TOTAL
GORTER TAPE			80 EA
NAMETAPES			80 EA
PLASTIC TAGS			1.50 EA
BRANCH OF SERVICE TAPES			80 EA
			1.00
MAIL THIS ORDER FORM ALONG WITH PAYMENT TO: ARMY AIR FORCE EXCHANGE SERVICE Bldg. 84, Bldg. 85, FT. RAOB, KY 40311		SHIPPING & HANDLING TOTAL	
YOUR RETURN ADDRESS LABEL		PLEASE PRINT CLEAR	
NAME	ADDRESS	CITY	
STATE	ZIP CODE	THANK YOU FOR USING YOUR ARMY AND AIR FORCE EXCHANGE SERVICE	

### BILLETING OFFICE

# Employment Opportunity

DATE OF ANNOUNCEMENT:  
03/11/03

LOCATION:  
38 Smith Street,  
Bldg 925, Camp Rowland,  
Norcic, CT  
Tel: (860) 681-4314

## Front Desk Billeting (Hotel) Clerk

Part-time (Up to 20 hours) - \$9.00/hour

Friday Evening: 3:30p.m.- 8:30p.m.  
Saturday: 7:30a.m.- 8:30p.m.  
Sunday: 7:30a.m.- 4:00p.m.

Looking for a responsible person (at least 18 years of age) able to work independently. Would be responsible for scheduling billeting usage, checking-in/out guests, issuing keys, direct housekeeping priorities and completing minimal documentation.



# Retirees Picnic – 2003

## August 20<sup>th</sup>

### 1200-1700

## Camp Rowland, Niantic CT



Bring a guest!

Active Duty Welcome!

Pass the word!

Meet old friends!

Raffle! Prizes!

Lots of Food,  
Beer & Soda!

Live Music!

Card Games!

### Come Join the Fun! Mark your calendar!

Detach and return to COL(Ret) Bob Kelly

2002 Retirees Picnic      Cost: \$18.00/person by July 18th  
\$20.00/person after July 18th

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Rank: \_\_\_\_\_  Army  Air  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Return with payment:  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ COL (Ret) Bob Kelly  
 State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ 214 Church Street  
 Phone: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ Wethersfield, CT 06109  
 E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ 1-860-529-6851

Make Check payable to: NGA CT

My Address has changed from last year.

## WANT TO JOIN OUR TEAM?

### CALL 1-800-716-3530

## Connecticut's Army National Guard

## Coming Events

### June

#### June 6

Retiree Recognition Night - CTANG

#### June 7

250th Welcome Home Celebration

#### June 8

103rd Fighter Wing Welcome Home

#### June 14

Army Birthday

#### June 28

Space and Aviation Day - CTANG  
CTANG Kids' Fishing Derby  
102nd Infantry Regt. Assoc. Family Picnic

#### June 29

OCS Commissioning Ceremony

### July

#### July 4

Independence Day

### August

#### August 16

Unit Family Day

#### August 17-23

EANGUS National Conference, Toledo, Ohio

## In the Next CG

250th Engineers Return

Task Force Husky Kicks Off

2003 Image Awards

Air Base Security

Air Guard Kids' Fishing Derby

Deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month  
previous to publication.

# Shipping



Sgt. 1st Class Ken Malone and Staff Sgt. Lisa Hallett of Task Force 192 leave for their mobilization station at Fort Drum, N.Y. Their unit will be the headquarters for the Northeast Region of the country during Operation Noble Eagle III. Connecticut will be providing more than 400 soldiers for the homeland security operation. (Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Debbi Newton, State Senior PA NCO)



Pfc. Fei Wang of the 248th Engineer Company shares a moment with her mother and father as she prepares to ship out to Southwest Asia in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. (Photo by Maj. John Whitford, State PAO)



# 247<sup>th</sup> Engineer Detachment moves out

MAJ. JOHN WHITFORD  
STATE PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

The 247<sup>th</sup> Well Drilling Detachment has now deployed to Southwest Asia. At 3 a.m. on May 8, 2003, Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class John Lane and the nine other members of the detachment departed Ft. Drum, N.Y., a place they've called home for the last nine weeks, bound for Kuwait. From there, they'll be deployed into Iraq as part of the second phase of the war effort, the reconstruction of the country.

Lane had planned to spend Mother's Day with his wife, and their two children, ages 5 and 9.

"But they came up last weekend instead," he said. "We talked about putting it off until this weekend, thinking the weather might be nicer." They spent the afternoon visiting a local zoo and went swimming at the indoor swimming pool on the base. It was the right decision.

Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno, the adjutant general and commander of the Connecticut National Guard visited the unit prior to their departure.

"I would never let you guys leave without me saying goodbye," he told the unit. "And remember my orders, write home. Don't let me hear from your mothers that you haven't."

In receiving word of their deployment, the soldiers had a few messages for their loved ones at home.

Spec. Rafe Walters wanted to send this message, "To my wife Christine, Audie and

Hayden, I miss you and love you and hope to see you soon."

Sgt. Mathew Collins sends this message, "Just want to say hi to my family and friends and hope to see all of you soon."

Sgt. Bill Maloney says, "I love and miss my daughter, Joan and listen your mother."

Staff Sgt. Jabar Fatah says, "Maria, I love you, to Dad, I love you, to my daughter Yasmine, You're going to the prom and your date should treat your right, to my daughter Sabree, Do well in school and stay in school. I'll be home soon."

Spec. Joshua Murray says, "To my fiancé Andrea, I love you and I'll be home soon."

Staff Sgt. Stephen Pearson says, "I'll be home soon for the baby."

Spec. Stephen Zargar of Middletown says, "We'll be home soon."

Sgt. Ronald Smith says to his family, "I love them and miss them and can't wait to see them."

Spec. Michael Robinson says to his family, "I'm thinking of you and will be home soon."

Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class John Lane sends this message, to children Sean and Johnny, "Liamli," to his wife, "I love you and will be home soon."

The unit's primary mission is humanitarian — they drill wells for water. Lane said they haven't been told exactly what they will be doing or where, but he suspects part of the job will be construction of military bases inside Iraq, and likely well drilling in some areas of the country where water is scarce.

Staff Sgt. Jabar Fatah (l), Spec. Rafe Walters (c) and Spec. Stephen Zagar of the 247<sup>th</sup> Engineer Detachment prior to their departure from Ft. Drum, NY to Southwest Asia. (Photo by Maj. John Whitford, State PAO)



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