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Troops in Transition Tackle Training with GRIT

New Units Help Student-Soldiers Make the Grade

By Lt. Col. Paul Fanning
Guard Times Staff

LATHAM – The New York Army National Guard has launched a revolutionary program on select college campuses this fall to support new recruits as they prepare for their future careers with the Guard.

Dubbed “GRIT”— Guard Recruits in Transition, the program provides young Guard recruits with essential preparations for Basic and Advanced Individual Training, while they attend college classes. The program is the latest development in the growing partnership between the National Guard and the educational community.

Ten locations have been established at State and City Universities of New York and community college campuses. These include the John Jay College of Criminal Justice and NY City Technical College, the University of Buffalo, Tompkins Cortland Community College, Farmingdale State University, Onondaga Community College, Plattsburgh State University, Orange County Community College, Monroe County Community and Hudson Valley Community College.

“Grit is really been quite fantastic for us at John Jay College”

The program flows from Governor George E. Pataki’s recent improvement of the New York National Guard Tuition Incentive Program, through which thousands of New York National Guard and Naval Militia personnel are getting their degree “tuition free.” With passage of the Governor’s Executive Budget last June, new Guard members became immediately eligible for tuition support and have up to two years to complete the required entrance training.

“Grit is really been quite fantastic for us at John Jay College,” said Gerald Lynch, President of John Jay Col-

lege. “This program gives our students a chance to receive a tuition stipend, military pay for training, and the opportunity to add considerable accomplishments to a resume during school. There’s really nothing quite like it out there.”

Developing the Millennium Guard Force

GRIT detachments support young recruits through a flexible curriculum. This is expected to better prepare student soldiers for their gaining units once they have completed initial entry training. The customer-focused aspects of the new program are also expected to further



GRIT training: At top, 1st Lt. Michael Fullam at John Jay College gives recruits an overview of Army Physical Fitness. Above, Privates Daniel Bent and Charlie Dubovici perform situps with their platoon. Photos by Maj. Richard Goldenberg.

attract other college students to the ranks. Schools have been benefiting from increased numbers of students attending



classes with financial aid from the Guard. GRIT promises to elevate the win-win equation to a new height.

“The bottom-line: GRIT is a ‘take care of soldiers’ program.”

For commanders in the field, better recruits translates directly into better training. “GRIT is a program that the Guard has needed for years. Finally our soldiers have a venue to accomplish both their civilian and military educational requirements simultaneously,” said Colonel Robert Schnurr, 27th Brigade Commander. “The bottom-line: GRIT is a ‘take care of soldiers’ program.”

“We feel that if we start things right with new recruits, things will end right,” said Maj. Gary Machina, GRIT battalion commander who helped originate the concept and create the program. “But, its not just about getting them through Basic and AIT. It is about the mechanics of getting them to training and developing them for the long run,” he added.

State headquarters developed GRIT from its work on the “inverted funnel” — the recruiting barrier which formed when young people were unwilling to wait up to two years to complete initial entry training before becoming eligible for tuition support. Many potential recruits were being lost because of that.

GRIT Continues on Page 3...

Guard Notes

VA Program Extended for Guardsmen

WASHINGTON (Army News Service) — National Guardsmen now have until Sept. 30, 2007, to apply for the Department of Veterans Affairs home loan guarantee.

"Our objective, though, is to make this a permanent option for reservists," said Mike Cline, executive director for the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS).

Started in 1992, the VA loan guarantee program was originally intended to expire in 1999. Since then, it has received two extensions: One to 2003, and just recently to 2007.

Cline said there's a great push — not only in his organization but in VA as well — to permanently extend the program for reservists.

"VA wants to see the Guard and Reserve stay in the program," he said. "The default rate is two-thirds lower for reservists as compared to the active-duty soldier," he said. Cline said he believes this is because homebuyers in the reserves tend to be older and more stabilized within a community.

Another benefit that VA offers the purchaser is the option of not making a down payment on the home, according to Chuck Owen, senior real estate loan officer for Armed Forces Bank on Fort Leavenworth.

Owen said the only required investment is what VA calls the "funding fee." He said this is a one-time cost that the veteran does not have to pay up front.

"You can either pay the fee at once or finance it into the loan amount," he said.

Owen said the fee varies from 2.75 percent of the loan amount for a first-time purchase to 0.5 percent of the loan when the owner refinances.

According to Gardner, to be eligible for a VA loan a guardsman or reservist must have completed six years of service, have been discharged under other than dishonorable conditions, or currently serving.

Gardner said the process for applying for a VA-guaranteed loan is relatively simple. First the veteran submits VA form 26-1880, or "Request for Determination of Eligibility and Available Loan Guarantee Entitlement," to a local VA office.

Gardner said VA Form 26-1880 can be obtained from VA or most mortgage companies. On this form, the veteran lists all military service. VA then issues a certificate of eligibility that confirms his eligibility status. The veteran is then able to approach a mortgage company to begin the process for qualifying to buy a home.

Army Issues New PT Uniform

WASHINGTON (Army News Service) — The Army began issuing the "Improved Physical Fitness Uniform" to basic trainees Aug. 15.

"My staff loves the new uniform," said 1st Sgt. Charles Hire of the company that runs the Reception Station at Fort Jackson, SC. "The shirt actually wicks away moisture and seems to wash better than the other shirt," Hire said.

"Used to be when you finished PT, you'd see the whole group walk away with big brown spots (grass stains) on their butts," Hire said, explaining this doesn't happen with the new PT uniform.

The new PT uniform consists of a gray and black jacket with a reflective stripe costing \$55.80; black pants priced at \$28.80; black, moisture-wicking trunks with reflective letters priced at \$10.35; a gray, moisture-wicking, short-sleeved T-shirt with reflective letters costing \$6.10; and a gray, moisture-wicking, long-sleeved T-shirt with reflective letters priced at \$7.90. The total cost of the entire uniform is \$108.75.

The mandatory possession date for the Improved Physical Fitness Uniform, or IPFU, is not until Oct. 1, 2003 and officials said the old PT uniform can be worn until then.

For the next three years, commanders should expect to see some soldiers wearing the old PT uniform and some the new, said Martin Fadden, acting chief of the Clothing and Individual Equipment Team for the Army's Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics.

While individual soldiers may choose to wear the old items until the wear-out date or purchase the new one as soon as possible, Fadden said they cannot "mix and match" wearing the old and new. For instance, he said wearing the old trunks with the new shirt is not authorized. Pants and shirt must be from the same uniform, he said.

Army National Guard and Army Reserve soldiers do not receive an annual clothing replacement allowance, so reserve component units will begin an Issue-in-Kind replacement of the old PT uniform beginning in October, Fadden said.

Upon reporting to basic training, new soldiers will receive three pairs of trunks, two long-sleeved T-shirts, and three short-sleeved T-shirts. Upon graduation from basic training, the new soldiers will receive their black warm-up pants and jacket. Saving the most expensive items until graduation emphasizes the new soldiers' "Rights of Passage," DCSLOG officials said.

By October 2003, all soldiers will be required to have one jacket, one pair of pants, two pairs of trunks, two short-sleeved T-shirts, and one long-sleeved T-shirt.

When wearing the new PT uniform, the jacket sleeves should be kept down and not rolled up, officials said. The legs of the pants should also never be rolled up, they said, and the shirt should be tucked inside the trunks.

TAG Talk

New York's Enlisted Association: Looking Straight Ahead

Once again New York is headed into the national spotlight. This time the point of light will be on EANYNG — the Enlisted Association of the New York National Guard.

The association's leadership here is already projecting towards the August 18-22, 2002 window. Then, EANYNG will be the local host for the national enlisted association which will bring NCO and enlisted delegates from the 50 states, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the territories, to Niagara Falls.

It will be the first time one of the Empire State's professional military associations has hosted a national conference since MANY (the Militia Association of New York) hosted the huge NGAUS (National Guard Association of the United States) national convention in mid-town Manhattan. That was practically a generation ago — 1984.

The Office of the Adjutant General is working directly with EANYNG's leadership here to ensure that we not only provide a welcome and supportive venue for this most worthwhile organization to do its work, but also carry forth a clear message to the enlisted association: New York is serious about asserting a rightful leadership role in the policy determinations and aspirations of the national organization.

Delegates for the upcoming 31st general session of national enlisted association in 2002 will be determining legislative initiatives and priorities for the rest of the first decade of the 21st Century. It is an opportunity for New York to shine. We welcome this chance to support the conference under proper guidelines and procedures established by the National Guard Bureau.

It is anticipated New York will host over 2,500 delegates, auxiliary members and families as they formulate plans and initiatives aimed at fostering an improved quality of life, services and benefits for National Guard enlisted members.

"It is anticipated New York will host over 2,500 delegates, auxiliary members and families"

Although a good deal of work, even at this seemingly early date, has already been put into meeting this responsibility, much more is required. A conference task force has been established. It will aggressively



Maj. Gen. John H. Fenimore, V
The Adjutant General

coordinate military support requirements through the Division of Military and Naval Affairs/National Guard state headquarters.

Direct conference support is authorized according to Chapter 151, Title 10, of the U.S. Code and any assignments made will be done with a view towards providing maximum, appropriate military training of personnel, due consideration of unit mission priorities first, and the intelligent use of human and materiel resources.

I had an opportunity to accompany 20 members of EANYNG to Bismarck, ND for the 29th session of the national association in August. I couldn't help but be impressed with the energy, resolve and fortitude of this worthwhile group.

"New York is serious about asserting a rightful leadership role in the policy determinations and aspirations of the national organization"

At the Bismarck conference a total of 25 resolutions were passed and forwarded to federal and state elected representatives embracing a variety of issues: establishment of protection for students called up to serve in support of federal missions; proposed elimination of Controlled Grade Promotion Restrictions; establishment of an immediate annuity retirement system for Guard and Reserve members upon obtaining 20 years of credited service, and proposed legislation to equalize the flight incentive entitlement for all air crew personnel of US military forces, including the Guard and Reserve. Worthwhile goals all!

Additional resolutions include increasing the annual limit on days of inactive duty training creditable toward reserve retirement and convincing national legislators to encourage tax incentives for employers of Reserve component members.

We're looking forward to the 2002 conference and wish EANYNG the best of fortune as it travels the road advancing the best interests of our dedicated enlisted personnel across New York.

'True GRIT' (from Front Page)

The improved Tuition Program solved that by turning the funnel around to as many incoming recruits as possible, increasing the potential numbers of Guard college student applicants.

All states operate programs to prepare new recruits for basic training. Historically, these were at unit level or in special training. Through GRIT, New York is taking an all-new approach to prepare recruits for basic training, and expects greater results than just successful graduation. National Guard Bureau has awarded New York authorization for the GRIT force structure as a prototype for the nation.

Hand Picked Team

GRIT addresses training in a systematic way, but more importantly, it is customer-focused. The curriculum takes student-soldiers' academics into consideration and adapts to their needs. New York expects GRIT participants to excel at Basic Training since the students will have greater knowledge and confidence in themselves, and units will get better members once AIT is finished. In addition, units will be freed from conducting separate training for new recruits so they can better focus their limited resources on unit training.

The GRIT cadre provides coaching and supervision during the critical initial period of membership for new recruits. Each detachment includes a traditional (part-time) National Guard commander and first sergeant supported by a full-time recruiter. Machina said his cadre were hand selected, and he is pleased with how his team is doing.

"These are very dedicated and talented Guard members, and they have had to put a lot of extra time into our start-up efforts," said Machina. "We are starting a new program from the ground up. It is not just like going into one of our armories and setting up shop," he said.

"When we came to set up here, we were welcomed," said Capt. Richard Galusha, detachment commander at Plattsburgh State University. "Plattsburgh is a former Air Force community and we frequently heard comments that 'it's nice to have the military back.' We have total freedom here. We got a great office right away. The school put signs up in our building giving directions to our GRIT office. And the telephone number they assigned us - 564-GIJO - really tells the story," said Galusha.



"I am really impressed with the outside of the classroom skills that GRIT is teaching including leadership, working as a team, developing self esteem and other interpersonal skills," said Plattsburgh State University Provost Cynthia Hirtzel. "People need different venues in order to bring out the best of what may be inside them. GRIT will serve that purpose very well." Here, Staff Sgt. Richard Stephenson, Plattsburgh GRIT NCOIC reviews wear and appearance of military uniforms with recruits. Photo by Lt. Col. Paul Fanning.

Made it!

Army National Guard Exceeds Strength Goal

By Lt. Col. Paul Fanning
Guard Times Staff

LATHAM - Following a successful summer recruiting push, the New York Army National Guard reached its year end strength goal, thus boosting New York among a handful of states that ended the fiscal year "in the green."

By the end of September, assigned strength numbers in the Army Guard had reached 11,990, exceeding New York's assigned goal from National Guard Bureau of 11,950 by 40 troops. State leaders feel the achievement is especially notable given the level of difficulty faced by all the military services to meet recruiting and retention goals under present economic conditions. States make every effort to achieve year end goals for their Army National Guard forces and to be awarded green status by NGB, thus avoiding red status for coming up short and facing the potential of detrimental force structure decisions regarding their state that could be made by Pentagon officials.



Brig. General Michael Van Patten, NY Army National Guard Commander, congratulates Private Tim Olsen following his swearing in ceremony. Private Olsen represents the one recruit that pushed the NY Army National Guard over its strength goal for 2000. With Private Olsen is his referral to the Guard, Colonel Russ Catalano (center). Photo by Lt. Col. Paul Fanning.

Van Patten, New York Army National Guard Commanding General. "There was a lot of pressure to rise to the occasion in the middle of a busy Annual Training season. I am grateful for the hard work performed by commanders, all of our soldiers, and especially our recruiting force which made this possible. This is a big win for us," he said.

At the beginning of the summer, the commanding general and his staff came to the conclusion that the Army Guard was in danger of coming in almost 200 troops short of the assigned strength goal. By the end of June, the commanding general had ordered increased emphasis on recruiting and sent letters to the field offering special incentives for soldiers to produce increased numbers of referrals. The always-busy recruiting force went into overdrive to generate and process referrals in time to meet a September deadline. It was close right up to the end.

"We truly mobilized the entire force to focus on the goal,"

said Major General Van Patten. "Every one contributed and now everyone in the NY Army National Guard can be proud of our accomplishment."

"We always have to look to the future. When we analyzed our data in the spring and looked at many factors, we predicted that we would run short by the end of the year. So, we needed to put a push on," said Command Sgt. Maj. Don Brawley. "Strength has been and remains 'priority one.' The simple reality is that our present standing on strength will dictate our future. If we can't do it now (maintain strength), we will not be entrusted by NGB to do more later," he said. "States that make the numbers have a brighter future."

"The simple reality is that our present standing on strength will dictate our future"

"This is extremely important for New York," said Maj. Gen. Jack Fenimore, the Adjutant General during a recent address to the employees at state headquarters. "NGB assigns goals to the states and expects them to be met by the end of the fiscal year. States that meet those goals get better treatment when it comes to future force structure cuts or additions," he said. "The Army Guard worked hard and met the goal. Great job."

"I am extremely proud of the New York Army National Guard for having met this challenge," said Maj. Gen. Michael

"I think GRIT will bring these new young people a better military experience," said Staff Sgt. Richard Stephenson, an electrician from Saranac Lake and detachment first sergeant. Stephenson feels his Guard and active duty experiences will help his ten GRIT members. "I hope they digest some of what I can share with them. I really think this is the way for the Guard to go. As time goes by, the detachments will grow and the program will sell itself," he said.

"There is still an element of hesitation about Basic Training for many of these new recruits," said 1st Lt. Mike Fullum, GRIT Detachment commander at New York City's John Jay College. "By giving them the chance to train and talk with their peers who just graduated, we are setting them up for success."

"We really have to look down the road to appreciate just how important this program can be for the future NCOs and officers in the National Guard. We have a lot riding on these recruits, and I do not intend to let them down," said Sgt. 1st Class George Lamboy, John Jay College detachment first sergeant.

"There's so much enthusiasm at the college for the program; the more I learn about the Guard and Tuition Program, the more I'm impressed."

"At first I wanted to just stay with my unit," said Pvt. George McMahon, a new member of company B, 1st Battalion 105th Infantry, who had already completed basic training. "But here I can work as a squad leader. I will miss out on some infantry-type training at the unit before AIT, but I am glad to get a chance at a leadership role here. I probably wouldn't get this chance with my unit until much later."

"I have a lot of friends in the military, so it wasn't too unusual when I decided to join," said Pvt. Patience Webb, a transplanted Texan attending Clinton County Community College with Guard tuition support. She completed basic earlier this year and was put in charge of her fellow soldiers. "This is about sharing and preparing. I wasn't sure what to expect at first, but this is going to be okay. My motto is 'if its not fun, than don't do it.' I am having fun, and learning, too," she added.

"The National Guard has done an exceptional job in exposing our faculty and staff to the benefits of military training and the tuition program," said President Lynch regarding the impact the program is beginning to have at John Jay College. "And, our students respond to the opportunity to serve in a field that directly benefits their local communities. This program has come out of the starting blocks quite strong. I could foresee a thousand new GRIT students in the years to come, absolutely," he added. "There's so much enthusiasm at the college for the program; the more I learn about the Guard and the Tuition Program, the more I'm impressed. I wish I had this opportunity when I was in college."

Army Embraces Guard Combat Units

By Master Sgt. Bob Haskell
National Guard Bureau

ATLANTIC CITY, NJ — The Army's ranking soldier endorsed the ability of the Army National Guard's front-line combat units to take their place in the total force this September. Under a new concept called "corps packaging," all of the National Guard's eight combat divisions and 15 enhanced separate brigades will be matched with active-component divisions at the corps level.

"It's about readiness," Shinseki said in his announcement to some 3,000 officers and defense industry representatives at the National Guard Association of the United States' (NGAUS) annual conference.

It's also about credibility, stressed Maj. Gen. Roger Schultz who devoted his two years as director of the Army National Guard to fostering closer ties with the active Army.

"Having our combat divisions and our enhanced brigades aligned with the Army's four corps gives us the credibility we have been striving to achieve for the past ten years, since so many of our citizen-soldiers took part in Desert Shield and Desert Storm," he said.

"We are gratified that the Army's chief of staff has expressed this level of confidence in our Guard soldiers as part of his vision for The Army. We welcome this opportunity," added Schultz, ten years after mas-

sive Desert Shield mobilizations helped allied forces drive the Iraqi army out of Kuwait during the Persian Gulf War.

The Atlantic City announcement is an extension of a policy the Army embraced last year when six Army Guard enhanced brigades became the primary combat forces for two integrated Army divisions that were reactivated at Fort Carson, Colo., and at Fort

Riley, Kan.

Guard infantry brigades based in Arkansas, Oregon and Oklahoma will remain with the 7th Infantry Division at Fort Carson in the new assignments announced by Shinseki. That division is part of the Army's III Corps based at Fort Hood, Texas. The 7th Infantry Division will be reinforced with the Mississippi Guard's 155th Armored Brigade.

The Guard's brigades in North Carolina, Georgia and South Carolina will remain with the Army's 24th Infantry Division, at Fort Riley, that falls under the XVIII Airborne Corps based at Bragg, NC. The packaging concept will roughly double the size of the 24th Division with the addition of

Guard brigades in New York (the 27th Separate Infantry Brigade), Florida and Indiana.

Shinseki also indicated that 122 Black Hawk utility helicopters and 68 Apache attack helicopters will be transferred from the active Army to the Army Guard in 2002 to replace older, Vietnam-era helicopters.

All of the Army Guard's eight divisions, however, will benefit most from the new corps assignments because they have not been incorporated in Army training and war-fighting plans for many years.

"Those alignments are going to bring us to a level of readiness we've always talked about getting to," he said. "And this is our commitment to get there. We will all be expected to respond to missions and operational requirements that span the entire spectrum of operation."

The XVIII Airborne Corps gets most of the Army Guard combat units including three infantry divisions - the 28th in Pennsylvania, the 29th in Virginia and the 42nd (Rainbow Division) in New York.

The III Corps will also be reinforced with three Guard divisions - the 34th and 38th infantry divisions in Minne-



Army Chief of Staff General Eric K. Shinseki

sota and Indiana and the 49th Armored Division in Texas. The California Army Guard's 40th Infantry Division will be assigned to I Corps at Ft. Lewis and will be teamed with the Army's 2nd Infantry Division based in South Korea.

"I am convinced our Army Guard soldiers will rise to the challenges of their new assignments with active Army units,"

Schultz predicted. "Just as the citizen-soldiers from the 29th Division rose to the challenges of Omaha Beach on D-Day, June 6, 1944, this same magnificent division is preparing for deployment to Bosnia in 2001."

Black Beret to be Army's Standard Headgear

by Gary Sheftick
Army News Service

WASHINGTON, DC -- Black berets, now worn by soldiers in elite Ranger units, will become the Army's standard headgear beginning next June, Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric K. Shinseki announced October 17th.

"It is time for the entire Army to accept the challenge of excellence that has so long been a hallmark of our special operations and airborne units," Shinseki said. Adopting the berets will be "another step toward achieving the capabilities of the objective force" of Army transformation, he said.

Soldiers will begin wearing the beret June 14, "the first Army birthday of the new millennium," Shinseki said.

Sgt. Major of the Army Jack L. Tilley will lead a group of senior NCOs to work out the details of adopting the black beret. "Putting that beret on will become part of a soldier's rite of passage," Tilley said.

All soldiers, regardless of rank or branch, will wear the beret if they meet the Army standard, Tilley said. The BDU cap will still be used in the field when a kevlar helmet isn't worn. Berets simply do not shade the wtes from the sun or hold up to the weather like a BDU cap, he said.

"I've got to tell you I was genuinely excited when I first heard about it," Tilley said of the beret idea. "I think it will do a lot for soldiers' pride and image. It will probably be something of a shock when soldiers first hear about it, but



it's something we need as the Army moves through transformation. It's a part of change. I've been in the Army a long time and change is part of being a soldier."

Shinseki made the beret announcement at the end of his speech to more than 2,000 members of the Association of the United States Army at the organization's annual meeting in Washington, D.C.

"Soldiering is an affair of the heart," Shinseki said as he began to explain the symbolism of the beret. He officiated a change-of-command ceremony last week for the Army's Special Operations Command. He said as he watched the troops, he was reminded that the agility, deployability and adaptability of those soldiers was symbolized by their berets.

"Starting next June, the black beret will be symbolic of our commitment to transform this magnificent Army into a new force - a strategically responsive force for the 21st century," Shinseki said. "It will be a symbol of unity, a symbol of Army excellence, a symbol of our values."

Shinseki said special operations and airborne soldiers will continue to wear their distinctive berets. Soldiers in airborne units wear maroon berets and Special Forces wear green.

The Ranger Regiment may choose a different color for their beret, Sgt. Major of the Army Tilley said.

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

"The black beret has a lot of tradition," said Maj. Gary Kolb, a spokesman for the Army's Special Operations Command. "It's something they (Rangers) wear with pride... They hold it in high esteem."

Troop Command Spearheads SINCGARS Fielding

By Capt. Ira Promisel

HQ, 53rd Troop Command

VALHALLA — The 53rd Troop Command completed fielding SINCGARS (Single Channel Ground and Airborne Radio System) this summer to its units. It replaces the current AN/VRC-12 family of radios.

SINCGARS is a VHF/FM radio system enhanced encryption and channel hopping capabilities. It provides combat communications a greater protection from enemy direction finding or jamming capabilities by random and multiple frequency "hops" across the radio spectrum. It is fielded for all Army elements and is a backbone for digital communications.

In 1997 the process began to field SINCGARS for the 53rd Troop Command units. The culmination of this effort took place over the last few months. In May 2000 a meeting took place at the 53rd Troop Command with representatives of all the NY Army National Guard Major Commands (MACOMS) and units receiving SINCGARS. In a cooperative action between MACOMS, the Troop Command aviation units were installed at Fort Drum under the direction of the 27th BDE, while 27th BDE vehicles and even a unit from the Connecticut Army National Guard were installed at Camp Smith under the supervision of the 53rd Troop Command. During the first two weeks of installation at Camp Smith, in another cooperative action between MACOMS, mechanics from the 642d Military Intelligence Battalion of the 42d Infantry Division performed the deinstallation of the 27th BDE vehicles.

From May 2000 through July 2000, several courses of instruction were given to support SINCGARS. This NET (new equipment training) included an assistant instructor course, a unit level maintenance course, a Direct Support maintenance course, and a Signal Officer's course. All were given at Fort Drum.

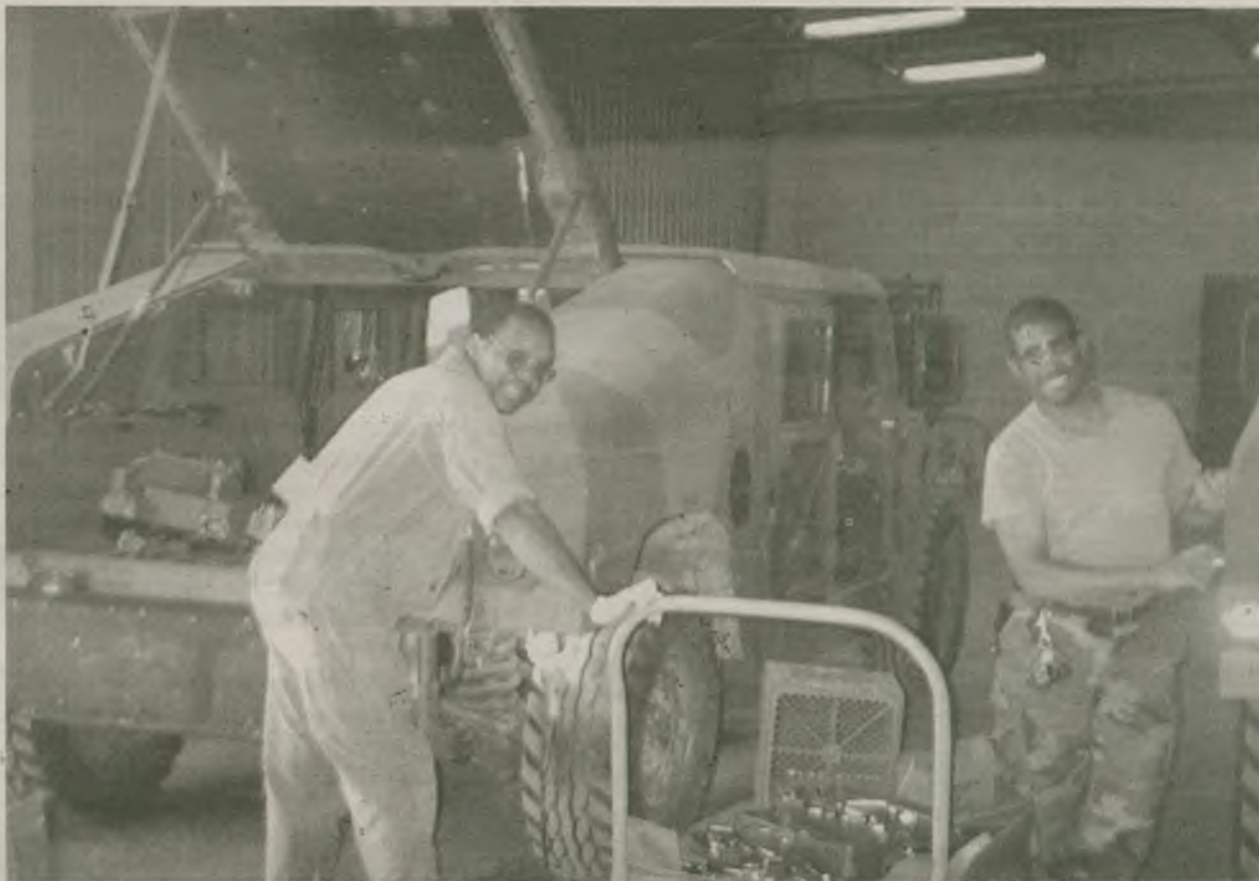
Then the bulk of the work began. Under the direction of Troop Command, along with members of the 102nd, 133rd and 145th Maintenance Companies, the 206th Corps Support Battalion and the 1569th Transportation Company, the warehouse at Camp Smith was set up as a SINCGARS fielding site. Civilian contractors from Nations Corporation completed the installation.

In addition to fielding the new system, the old VRC radios were turned in and the lateral transfers to the Rainbow Division units completed.

Almost immediately, a problem was discovered. Installation kits were ordered for the Army's newer vehicles back in 1997 with the expectation that they would be available by 2000. Unfortunately, many of these vehicles have yet to be fielded. The team, in coordination with Nations, adapted the newer system to the old vehicles. This greatly expanded the number of vehicles that would have the SINCGARS. The remaining systems will be installed when the units receive the new vehicles.

Members from the entire MACOM and from the 27th Brigade overcame obstacles such as units away at Annual Training and deadlined vehicles to ensure the mission was completed. Several units literally dragged vehicles to the site to ensure that they were installed. Other units came directly from their Annual Training to the installation site. Unit members not only had to inventory the new sets, but also had to move their vehicles through the process.

Soldiers installed close to 500 radio systems in almost 300 vehicles from June to August this year. This was truly a cooperative effort. The team's efforts and the assistance of State Headquarters, Camp Smith Training Site, CSMS A, the 27th Brigade, the 42d Infantry Division, and all the units of the 53rd Troop Command ensured the success of this mission.



Soldiers from the 53rd Troop Command prepare to install new radio installation kits and Single Channel Ground and Airborne Radio System (SINCGARS) radios in a M998 HMMWV vehicle at Camp Smith, New York. The SINCGARS radio provides much greater communications capabilities by frequency hopping during transmissions. The units provided manpower and expertise to upgrade more than 300 vehicles and 500 radios for the 27th Enhanced Separate Infantry Brigade and Troop Command units. Courtesy photo.

Mentorship Program Ensures Success for 53rd Troop Command Diversity

By Lt. Col. Robert M. Edelman

HQ, 53rd Troop Command

ALBANY -- After spending an informative weekend at the recently held Northeast Diversity Conference in Albany, the command staff of the 53d Troop Command discussed ways that it could ensure diversity at command levels in the years to come.

In view of the fact that many of the recent Officer Candidate School graduates newly assigned to the Troop Command were either minority males or females, it was believed that if these new Second Lieutenants received some additional mentorship by the command's senior officers, they would have a better chance of surviving their early officer years and eventually progress to senior rank. Unfortunately, recent da boards have passed over many of our company grade officers thus affecting the ability of future staffs to have a diverse representation.

Accordingly, each senior staff officer (Major and above) at Troop Command headquarters was assigned as a mentor to a newly assigned Second Lieutenant. Each young officer will be contacted on a quarterly basis. They will be counseled on areas pertinent to the development of their military career, i.e. military education, future assignments, etc. Each new Lt will be

encouraged to call their mentor if they have any questions that may have remained unanswered by their chain of command.

It is not meant for the 53d Troop Command mentor to take over the role that the officer's own chain of command should be playing, instead they will be using their many years of experience to supplement the advice the officer may be receiving and ensure that the junior officer is being guided in the right direction.

Additionally, the new officer will have another individual that he or she can talk to if military problems arise.

The goal of this mentorship program is to help guide newly assigned officers through their sometimes turbulent early years and help them along a path that will eventually lead to a productive and meaningful military career.

Brig. General Dale Barber, commander of the 53d Troop Command stated to his staff, "that by helping these officers now, the diversity of future command staffs will be guaranteed in the future". "this mentorship program", he explained, "is not only the right thing to do, it is also the smart thing to do."

OCS Graduate Sees TAC Officer Role in New Light

By First Lt. David M. Douglas
HQ, 42d Infantry Division (Mech)

CAMP SMITH — Soldiers who pass through the halls of New York's Officer Candidate School tell the tales of their encounters with TAC officers. They are the foundation for those soldiers who want to start a career path in military leadership.

What makes a TAC officer you ask? A TAC officer is a number of things, a teacher, a mentor, a counselor, a drill instructor and a subject matter expert in a number of military specialties to include infantry skills and drill and ceremony. TAC by definition stands for Teach, Assist, and Counsel but in reality it stands for so much more. TAC officers are a hand picked group of officers who display the skills to become the backbone of the Officer Candidate School (OCS) program.



Officers assigned to a TAC position are required to attend intensive leader training before being allowed to perform TAC officer duties. Upon completing formal training to prepare you for the position it is customary for a new TAC officer to be assigned to work with another TAC who has more experience. Now that you have an idea of who and what a TAC officer is let's move on to the role of Officer Candidate, where it all begins.

The Officer Candidate can also be a number of things and generally is. One thing holds true that to be an Officer Candidate you must meet all of the prerequisites to be considered for the OCS program. There are a lot of them, including at least 60 credit hours of college at the beginning of the program, 90 credit hours in a matriculated degree program by graduation from the program and a GT score of at least 110 or higher just to name a few. Officer Candidates come from a number of different backgrounds: former NCO's and enlisted personnel from not just the Army National Guard but from all branches of the service. Regardless of where they come from they all come with the same goal, to receive a commission as an officer in the Army National Guard. Once in the program all candidates are treated equally and I know because I graduated from the very same program some eight years ago.

The Course to a Commission

The OCS program is broken down into three formal phases and one informal phase. Phase zero is the informal phase and was just developed a couple of years ago. This phase is normally comprised of three weekends over the three months just prior to the beginning of phase one, the first formal phase in the program. Phase zero allows candidates to adjust to the OCS environment. It allows candidates to get their administrative paperwork in order

so that the transition from their unit to the Regional Training Institute (RTI) goes smoothly.

The three formal phases of the OCS program are Phase One (Basic Phase) where candidates learn basic leadership skills and dimensions, Phase Two (Intermediate Phase) where candidates learn more of the technical skills required of an officer and finally Phase Three (Senior Phase) where candidates put all of their skills to use and prove through evaluation that they are ready to become newly commissioned officers.

I began my career in the military in 1981, when I enlisted in the United States Navy. I still remember my first day of basic training like it was yesterday. Over the course of those eight weeks I learned more about myself than anything else.

I learned just how much stress I could take, accomplishing tasks that I never thought I would be able to do, learning just how important teamwork is. Much of these attributes I now try to instill in the candidates that I teach, assist and counsel.

From the first time I saw a commissioned officer and the professional image he portrayed I made a commitment to myself that one day I also would become a commissioned officer. In June of 1991, I graduated from the Empire State Military Academy (now the 106th Regional Training Institute, or RTI) as a newly

commissioned Second Lieutenant. It was then that I made another commitment to myself to return as a TAC officer and teach OCS.

Jumping at a TAC Officer Role

After a number of positions in the New York Army National Guard, including Platoon Leader, Executive Officer, Battalion Chemical Officer and Public Affairs Officer to name a few, I was asked to be a TAC officer for the Year 2000 OCS class at the NY Regional Training Institute. Needless to say, I didn't think twice about it and jumped at the chance to return to the program.

Upon arriving at the RTI at Camp Smith I was briefed by the OCS Commander. It didn't take long to realize that becoming a TAC officer would be a challenge in itself. I had formal courses to complete and much to learn about the



Photos above and above left: Officer Candidates process through Phase One administrative tasks to begin their formal training towards an officer's commission. Photo by First Lt. David Douglas.

program. The program viewed through the eyes of a former OCS candidate some eight years after graduation was completely different and presented me with quite a challenge.

The Daily Demands of OCS

A training day begins at about 0500 with wake up for the candidates. This is an experience all to itself, much like basic training. You find yourself surrounded by TAC officers who are yelling instructions at you before you've even had a chance to wipe the sleep out of your eyes. You try to grasp what you're being told and quickly fall outside into PT formation. Without fail some one of your fellow candidates will arrive in formation in the improper uniform or some other deficiency that will cause the TAC's to again start yelling and making on the spot corrections. Officer candidates are held to very high standards while attending Officer Candidate School. The sooner that you learn how to work as a team and watch out for each other the easier the whole experience becomes.

Next comes about an hour of physical training followed by breakfast and personal hygiene which you have little time to complete but if you manage your time wisely you can accomplish these things in time to make it to your next formation on time. The rest of the day is normally comprised of a combination of classroom training and practical exercises which are key in preparing you for each module exam that you must pass to continue in the program.

Every candidate in the program is given a leadership position at least once in each phase of the program so that they can be evaluated on leadership potential. At various times throughout the day you will have formations, chow, etc and no matter when or where you make a mistake it seems as if there is always a TAC there to correct you. Finally the day is done, usually between 2100-2200 and your friendly TAC officer is there to tuck you in because even mounting your bunk is done as a team. You go to sleep wondering what tomorrow will bring and hoping that you don't make as many mistakes as you made today.

What I didn't already know is what a TAC officer day was like, but I soon found out. In order to wake candidates at 0500 you had better plan on being up at 0400 to prepare yourself for the day, then do PT with them and be ready for formation before they arrive. While the candidates are in class is your opportunity to catch up on all the administrative paperwork that goes with the job. Everything from

writing evaluations and counselling forms to making sure that things are all prepared for the next block of instruction so that training runs smoothly. As an officer candidate you never really see what the TAC officers do while you're involved in training. All you know is that when you go to your next class or training exercise you find that everything has been set up for it ahead of time. It is not until you become a TAC officer that you really begin to realize and appreciate all of the work that goes on behind the scenes to make the OCS program successful.

So who volunteers for a job with 18-20 hour days, endless paperwork and a lot of physical exercise? They are a group of dedicated men and women, the TAC officers, NCO's and support staff of the Officer Candidates School. They all have one goal in mind: to produce the finest officers the Army National Guard has ever seen. To the leaders of tomorrow I say congratulations; I salute each and every one of you and commend you on a job well done.

By Captains William Moore
& Daniel Brown
HQ, 206th Corps Support Battalion

206th CSB Deploys to NTC

(A Cactus Now Grows in Brooklyn)

FORT IRWIN, CA -- The National Training Center located at Ft. Irwin, California, is the primary training facility for US mechanized and armored forces, preparing units for operations and deployments throughout the world. This past summer, the 206th Corps Support Battalion was part of a history-making event at the NTC. The 218th Mechanized Infantry Brigade, South Carolina Army National Guard deployed from its home station in South Carolina to Fort Irwin, and conducted its Annual Training from 15 July to 5 August. This was to be the largest deployment of National Guard assets to the NTC since Guard units first started training at the desert post.

Calling the NY National Guard for Help

How do you deploy, move and ready a force from three thousand miles from its home station? The 30th Corps Support Group, North Carolina Army National Guard, from Durham, NC provided logistical support for the in and outbound task forces of the 218th. The scale of the operation was something the Army National Guard had never attempted before. The brigade's equipment would arrive on rail cars at Yermo Marine Corps Logistics Base, off-loaded and shipped to Ft. Irwin, 45 miles from the rail yards. The 30th CSG requested the aid and assistance of the 206th to provide life support and oversee operations at Yermo. The 218th Brigade's equipment was transported on 500 rail cars and consisted of 800 armored vehicles, 1200 wheeled vehicles and other equipment. For a normal rotation at the NTC by an active duty unit, 100 rail cars are usually brought into Yermo. This deployment was five times larger and even amazed the staff of the NTC.

To insure successful completion of the mission, the 206th began a detailed study of the mission with its higher headquarters and subordinate units. In September of 1999, the battalion staff and commander participated in a terrain walk at Ft. Irwin and Yermo to understand the scope of the operations and visit the various facilities located at both installations.

In addition to operating the Yermo site, the 206th would also have several companies assigned to it for the duration of the operation. The 133 MP Company from South Carolina Army National Guard, the 1451st Transportation Company from North Carolina Army National Guard, along with the 691st MST from North Carolina and Detachment 4, STARC, South Carolina Army National Guard. All totaled Army Guard units from 22 states would be participating in the operation. Lt. Col. Peter Sammarco, commander of the 206th, stated, "This is a great opportunity for the 206th and the New York Army National Guard. The soldiers of the battalion will be working with other units and states, supporting an operation



Armored personnel carriers and other assorted vehicles from South Carolina's 218th Mechanized Infantry Brigade line up in an assembly yard at Yermo Marine Corps Logistics Base after rail download. The 206th coordinated the off-load of more than 500 rail cars of the brigade's equipment for a rotation to the National Training Center. Photo by Lt. Col. Peter Sammarco.

that will be the model for all future NTC deployments for the Army National Guard."

On 22 June, the advance party of the 206th departed for Yermo as the vanguard of the operations to be conducted during the 22-day tour. The advanced parties of the subordinate units were incorporated into the operation and 25 GP Medium tents were erected, water buffalos staged, the MKTS emplaced, rations drawn and the first of the 500 rail cars were off-loaded with equipment from the 730 Quartermaster Battalion from North Carolina. To lessen the logistical burden and smooth the transition between the 206th, the incoming task force and the 730th, the outgoing task force, it was agreed that the 730th would ship their equipment, to be used by the 206th during their rotation at Yermo.

500 Vehicles, One at a Time

Operating in the extreme heat of the Mojave Desert, where temperatures exceeded 115 degrees during the day and dropping 40 degrees at night, the soldiers off-loaded, staged, conducted technical inspections and assembled convoys for vehicle movements. Convoy operations were conducted during the day and night. Due to restrictions imposed by the local governments, wheeled vehicle convoys could only operate during the hours of 0900 to 1500 on the main road to and from Ft. Irwin. The Heavy Equipment Transports (HET's), which carried the M1A2 Abrams tanks, Bradley Fighting Vehicles and other heavy equipment, could only move at night, by tank trails due to the inability of the main highway network to support the weight of these loads during the heat of the day. Military Police support had to be coordinated for each convoy, plus escorts, medical support, and fuel usage.

The 206th established a water distribution system for soldiers working in and around the rail yards. The brainchild of Major Henry Gim, the Support Operations Officer and Master Sgt. Louis Aiese, the Support Op-

erations NCO, a Humvee loaded with cold water and Gatorade drove a continuous circuit through the rail operations area, distributing bottled water to soldiers when and where needed. In addition, each convoy received a load of bottled water before their departure from Yermo. This was so effective that during the entire tour the assigned medics treated only two minor heat casualties. The NTC Movement Control Center was also impressed and has incorporated this into the standard procedure for future Yermo operations.

The transportation companies moved supplies and equipment between Ft. Irwin and Yermo, requiring the support operations



Command and staff of the 206th CSB pause from the summer heat with Brig. Gen. Louis Brown (center), commander of the 218th Mech Infantry Brigade. Courtesy Photo.

section to establish a movement control center to control the supply convoys. This was especially important since the convoys operated almost around the clock.

As the operation became more intense, additional coordination had to be made with the Union Pacific Railroad to coordinate the arrival of the trains. Civilian railroad workers moved the trains from the staging area outside of Yermo to the off-load sites. From there, soldiers from the 206th and the Palmetto State Task Force off-loaded the vehicles to an assembly area and prepared for movement to Ft. Irwin. Contact teams were on hand for any vehicles that could not start or needed maintenance support before the

move to Ft. Irwin. During the height of the operation, more than 600 soldiers from various states and units were working to off-load and move the vehicles to Ft. Irwin.

The 206th, as the real estate manager for Yermo, was also responsible for the billeting of transient soldiers, such as vehicle drivers, who had to rest after the completion of their runs. Capt. William Moore, Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment commander, became the "hotel manager", billeting these soldiers whenever billeting was required or requested. Sgt. First Class Ross, mess steward of the 145th Maintenance Company and his staff of cooks, consisting of soldiers of the 206th and its subordinate units, provided meals. In fact, as word spread how good the food was at Yermo, the vehicle drivers would purposely end their runs at Yermo in order to eat with the 206th, rather than at Ft. Irwin or even at the commercial food establishments located in the immediate area. Col. Buck, 30th CSG commander, awarded the title "Best Mess in the West" to Ross and his cooks for their great operation. Even Brig. Gen. Louis Brown, commander 218th Mechanized Infantry Brigade, SC Army National Guard, commended the mess operations during an evening meal commemorating the completion of the Yermo mission.

The 206th deployed to Yermo for the 22 day tour, and included several soldiers who were part of the advance and rear detachments, for a total time on station of 30 days. During this time, an entire brigade was off-loaded and made ready for its demanding training schedule at the NTC, all within the time parameters established. Before the 206th departed for home station on 15 July, Col. Buck and General Brown both thanked and praised the 206th for its efforts in support of the 218th. Both commanders, however, requested that the 206th soldiers lose their "New York accents" and learn to speak Southern. Funny, but we had the same comment to them.

Cornell History Class Visits Armor Training

By Lt. Col. Paul Fanning
Guard Times Staff

FORT DRUM – The New York National Guard hosted a visit by college students and their professor in October at Fort Drum during tank gunnery training on Range 23.

More than a dozen history students from Cornell University came to the post to witness live fire gunnery training to better envision what combat must have been like for American soldiers in France during World War II. The students drove to Fort Drum in the morning by car pool and met with officials from Rainbow Division headquarters, the 1st Battalion 127th Armor, state headquarters and the Fort Drum Public Affairs Officer at the post media center. After a short welcome and safety briefing, the students were driven to the training area aboard a National Guard bus. At the range, they got the chance to get a close look at an Abrams tank, listened to explanations by armor crewmen and saw the action as two platoons of tanks drove onto the range in sequence and conducted live fire operations. The visitors climbed the range tower for a full view of the range from the observation deck. After that, the students traveled back onto the main post to visit the Fort Drum historic vehicle collection off Nash Boulevard, and then drove to the nearby National Guard armory in Carthage, where a World War II Sherman tank is on public display.

Professor John Weiss, Cornell University History Department, had asked the Guard in September for an opportunity for his World War II history students to view tank maneuver training as a class field trip during the fall semester. He was in luck.

The Western NY-based 1st Battalion 127th Armor scheduled gunnery during its October drill for tank platoons of Company B in Jamestown and Company C in Olean.

The 127th, a unit of the New York Army National Guard's 42nd Infantry Division (Mechanized), agreed to host the students' visit. The Rainbow Division served in Europe during World War II and is credited for liberating the Dachau death camp in April 1945. The Rainbow Division's World War II connection helped frame the educational context of the visit for the students.

The tankers conducted Tank Table XII gunnery, which involved a full platoon of four tanks engaging targets on a moving tank and moving target range. This platoon-engagement range simulated a battlefield situation, in which the tankers had to react to enemy targets in a synchronized way. This included timed and sequenced, and simultaneous firing of the tanks using the 105mm main gun, the 7.62mm coax machinegun and turret mounted .50 caliber machinegun (see related story on pages 12 and 13). To defeat the numerous enemy targets, the tankers had to work as a team. Over 80 National Guard soldiers participated in the training, using 10 of the Guard's M1 tanks.

The M1 Abrams Main Battle Tank is named after Creighton Abrams, a World War II tank commander in General George S. Patton JR's famous US Third Army, which swept through France following the Normandy break out. Abrams commanded the 37th Tank Battalion in the US Army's Fourth Armored Division in 1944-45, which



The view from the range tower provided Cornell University students a perspective on the challenges of platoon tank gunnery. The students were on hand to see armor training and tactics as part of their college history course on WWII and European Theater armored warfare. Here, crews from Bravo Company, 127th Armor and their evaluation team from the 2d Brigade, 78th Training Support Division, move to the tank range ready line. The Rainbow Tankers weekend training included the unit's first-ever Tank Table Twelve Platoon Gunnery (see related story on page 12-13). Photo by Maj. Richard Goldenberg.

was also the unit that broke through the German forces surrounding Bastogne during the Battle of the Bulge to rescue encircled American forces. Abrams stayed in the Army and eventually became Army Chief of Staff in the 1960s after succeeding General Westmoreland as commander of US forces in Vietnam.

"I want to thank you gentlemen for the most satisfying day of my 25-year teaching career – and I wasn't the one who did the teaching," said Professor Weiss. "I am most grateful for your enthusiastic assistance embedded in warm hospitality. You gave the students a superb encounter with

some of the essential elements of armored warfare, which was in my opinion the most distinctive core experience of World War II," he said. "I was especially happy to hear the students' reactions on their way back to Ithaca. You scored the max in all categories," he added.

"I just wanted to take the opportunity to thank the Guard for a wonderful Saturday," wrote Steve McBrady, a Cornell senior. "For someone like me who has dreamed of driving a tank his whole life, just seeing them up close was incredible," he added. "Please express my gratitude to all who were so helpful in such a great experience."



Company A, 152nd Engineers road march with the 27th Brigade Heavy Team during this summer's Exercise Empire Peak. Photo by Spec. James Sylvester.

By Maj. Richard Goldenberg
HQ, 42nd Infantry Division (Mech)

FORT DRUM – In warfare, there is generally a winner and a loser. The 152nd Engineer Battalion has turned that idea on its head by training on both sides of the field, as the friendly and enemy force.

The Rainbow Division sappers are training with the 27th enhanced Brigade for next summer's Joint Readiness

Rainbow Engineers Hedging Their Bets

152nd Training in Both BLUFOR and OPFOR Roles for JRTC

Training Center (JRTC) deployment to Fort Polk, Louisiana. The battalion's Alpha Company, from Niagara Falls and Fort Drum are working alongside the Alabama National Guard's Echo Troop, 31st Cavalry as the brigade's heavy team. The infantry and engineers will support the tankers to give the task force a heavy punch.

Deployed for the brigade's last full rehearsal for next year's deployment, the M113 Armored Personnel Carriers of the 152^d Engineers maneuvered alongside M3 Bradleys and M1A1 tanks from E-31 Cavalry at Fort Drum during Exercise Empire Peak. The sappers provided obstacle and mine clearance as well as defensive preparations to the brigade's critical sites.



"Satan's Sappers" worked alongside the 69th Infantry OPFOR during this summer's Exercise Empire Peak. Photo by Spec. James Sylvester.

Across the woodline at Fort Drum maneuvered the 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry, the opposing force, or Opfor for Empire Peak. Alongside the dismounted infantrymen were 152nd sappers also training for combat operations. However, the mixed unit from the engineer battalion intended to destroy their counterparts on the battlefield.

"This is an opportunity for our engineers to really make a difference in the quality of (the

27th Brigade) training," said Col. Jeffrey Yeaw, Engineer Brigade Commander. "And our soldiers get a chance to really discover our strengths and weaknesses in the field."

"What makes this training so great is that we come out the winner no matter the battle's outcome," Col Yeaw said.

106th Rescue Wing Celebrates Milestones in 2000

By Staff Sgt. Paul Connors
106th Rescue Wing Historian

WESTHAMPTON -- Celebrating a number of milestones of military service and military history, the 106th Rescue Wing, one of only three rescue units in the Air National Guard, can claim the birthright of the Air National Guard. It is the home of the Air National Guard's oldest flying unit, the 102nd Rescue Squadron. This year marks 85 years of Air National Guard military service, 30 years of support at Gabreski Air National Guard Base on Eastern Long Island, and 25 years of devotion to the federal and state mission of search and rescue.

The Early Years

The 102d Rescue Squadron traces its lineage to an "aeronautical corps" formed by aviation enthusiasts in the New York National Guard in April 1908. In 1910, the unit raised \$500.00 to finance its first aircraft. The investment was lost later that year when the airplane crashed on takeoff during maneuvers. In 1911, the Curtiss Aeroplane Company loaned the NY National Guard an aircraft and a pilot named Beckwith Havens. He later joined the unit as a private and was recognized as the National Guard's first aviator.

It became an aviation company when the 1st Aero Company, Signal Corps, NY National Guard was established 1 November 1915. First Federal recognition as a unit is traced from that time.

The 1st Aero Company became the first National Guard aviation unit called into Federal service when it was federalized on 13 July 1916 for the Punitive Expedition against Pancho Villa in northern Mexico. It remained in camp at Mineola, NY and mustered out of Federal service on 2 November 1916.

When the United States entered World War I all National Guard aviation units were dissolved. New York's 1st Aero Company was no different and disbanded on 23 May 1917. The founder of the unit, Captain Raynall Cawthorne Bolling and almost all of the members of the unit joined the Army Signal Corps Reserve and in May 1917 founded the 1st Aero Reserve Squadron. The unit went to France in August 1917.

After World War I, many WW I veterans and other aviation enthusiasts worked to re-establish an aviation unit in New York. In November 1922, the 102nd Observation Squadron, attached at the time to an infantry unit in Mineola, NY was federally recognized. It has had an unbroken record of service ever since.

After re-establishment, the 102nd Observation Squadron spent most of the 1920s and 1930s at Miller Field, a wartime facility on Staten Island. When the United States entered WW II, the 102nd Observation Squadron was again activated for Federal service. However, like many of the organized Guard aviation



Private First Class Beckwith Havens, of the New York National Guard, flew his Curtiss plane in joint National Guard/Army maneuvers in Connecticut in 1912 becoming the first Guardsman to fly on federal status. Havens is shown here on an aerial photo mission; note the bellows camera mounted on the aircraft, visible at the far right. At the age of 76, Havens received his "pilot's wings" and an "aeronautical certificate" from Secretary of the Air Force Harold Brown in October 1966. Archives photo.

bombardment wing (Light). The wing was relocated to the naval air station at Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn, NY. The 106th Bombardment Wing received the lineage and honors from a World War II Army Air Forces unit, the 394th Bombardment Group (Medium), a 9th Air Force B-26 group that operated out of England and France.

The postwar years saw numerous mission and aircraft changes. When the Korean War broke out in June 1950, the entire 106th Bomb Wing returned to Federal service and deployed to March AFB, CA.

The wing traded its Douglas B-26 *Invaders* for the larger Boeing B-29 *Superfortress* in 1951, returning to state control in 1952. After returning to New York, the 106th Bomb Wing regained its light bombers until its conversion to an air defense fighter unit in 1956.

In the space of three years, the newly redesignated 106th Fighter Wing completed three aircraft conversions. The Wing flew the Lockheed T-33, a trainer version of the F-80 *Shooting Star*, the Lockheed F-94 *Starfire* and the North American F-86 *Sabrejet*.

In 1959, the unit again received a new mission and new aircraft when it became an airlift group equipped with the Fairchild C-119 *Flying Boxcar*. It operated as a general transport and aeromedical evacuation unit until being re-equipped with the Boeing C-97 *Stratofreighter* in 1962. In 1969, the C-97s were modified into the tanker version, the KC-97 *Stratotanker*.

In 1969, the Air Force closed Suffolk County Air Force Base; it remained vacant for less than

a year when the Air National Guard relocated the 106th to eastern Long Island. The 106th Air Refueling Group moved to Suffolk County Airport in 1970 and returned to the air defense community in 1972 when it received the Convair F-102 *Delta Dagger*. Once again, the wing's mission was short lived.

units, it was stripped of experienced pilots and maintenance personnel who were used as cadres for the rapidly expanding Army Air Forces. The 102d served as a reconnaissance squadron and a light bombardment unit. It flew coastal defense missions along the eastern seaboard and the Gulf of Mexico.

The 102nd Bombardment Squadron returned to state control once more at the end of World War II. On May 24, 1946, it was assigned to the newly formed 106th Bom-

"That Others May Live" The 106th from 1975 to Present

In 1975, the 106th converted again. The 106th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group was the new name for the former fighter unit. The F-102s were replaced by Lockheed HC-130 *Hercules*, a four engine transport adapted for aerial refueling and the Sikorsky HH-3, *Jolly Green Giant* rescue helicopter. The group's new home at Suffolk County Airport was ideally suited for the rescue mission along the eastern seaboard of the country. The 106th became the only Air Force rescue organization in the northeastern portion of the U.S.

The primary federal mission of the 106th is combat search and rescue (CSAR). In peacetime the 106th performs search and rescue missions on behalf of the State of New York and the Federal government. It performs long range over-water missions using the aerial refueling capabilities of the HC-130s and the wing's newest helicopters, the Sikorsky HH-60G *Pavehawks*.

In 1993 the 106th Rescue Group was redesignated the 106th Rescue Wing. In 1994 it received national and international recognition when the aircrews and pararescuemen of the 102nd Rescue Squadron successfully completed the "longest over-water rescue with a helicopter in aviation history." In December 1994, the 106th Rescue Wing launched two HH-60s on a mission to Halifax, Canada and then, 750 miles out over the

Atlantic to search for survivors of the Ukrainian merchant ship *Salvador Allende*. The Ukrainian freighter had foundered and sunk almost 800 miles at sea. By the time the two helicopters and their crews arrived, most of the ship's crew had perished. A merchant ship picked up one survivor. After searching the sea, a crew member spotted a survivor. Tech. Sgt. James "Doc" Dougherty jumped into the water and retrieved the last living member of the crew, Alexander Taranov. The two helicopters then began the arduous seven-hour return flight to Halifax, Nova Scotia. During the 14-hour mission, the two helicopter crews were refueled in flight 10 times by the wing's HC-130s. The pilots in both heli-

copters were at the controls without relief for 14 hours, all to save one life.

The 106th Rescue Wing received national attention again in July 1996 when its aircraft and rescue personnel were the first unit on-scene after the TWA Flight 800 disaster. It assisted local, state and federal authorities for more than a week after that tragic event.

The 106th also supports the active Air Force in contingency operations around the world. Since the Gulf War, it has provided personnel and aircraft to support Air Force missions for Operation Northern Watch in Turkey and Southern Watch in Southwest Asia. The wing also serves as the primary rescue organization for space shuttle launches from Florida.

In peacetime, the 106th Rescue Wing reports through the Adjutant General to the Governor of New York. The wing is a subordinate command of Ninth Air Force in Air Combat Command when activated to support Federal missions.



The 106th Rescue Wing today. Archives photo.



A Douglas O-38, flown by the 102nd Observation Squadron during the 1930s. Archives photo.

Thunderbirds & Golden Knights Fill Skies Over Long Island Airshow

Guard Times Staff

SUNKEN MEADOW STATE PARK, KINGS PARK, LONG ISLAND — The Air Force and Army's premier performance teams took to the sky over Sunken Meadow State Park Saturday and Sunday, October 28 & 29 as part of the weekend's "Long Island Airshow Spectacular."

The United States Air Force Air Demonstration Squadron, better known as the "Thunderbirds," tell the Air Force story of flight with dramatic and breathtaking air demonstrations in F-16 Fighting Falcon jets. The Air Force's "Ambassadors in Blue" for example, perform a diamond formation, flying an average distance between 18 inches and three feet apart, representing the skill and training of every U.S. Air Force pilot.

The U.S. Army "Golden Knights" world-champion precision parachute team performed several jumps during the airshow. The Knights Black and Gold Demonstration Teams spend more than 270 days a year entertaining more than 12 million people at air shows and special events around the country and the world. The teams have performed more than 8,500 live aerial demonstrations in all

Niagara Falls Honors Former Commander

Guard Times Staff

NIAGARA FALLS -- A street dedication ceremony was held at the 107th Air Refueling Wing Headquarters during September guard drill to honor a former wing commander who was an original member of the Air National Guard at Niagara Falls.

Brig. Gen. John E. Blewett, Jr., was posthumously honored by the 107th ARW for his meritorious service in a ceremony in which the base renamed Guardian Street, Blewett Avenue.

During the dedication, Col. James Kwiatkowski, 107th ARW commander spoke about how Blewett's leadership qualities were a benchmark for him, then a young lieutenant.

"When I got here, as a 2nd Lt., brand new, just out of flying training, Col. Blewett, at the time, took the time to say hello to me, influence me. He was a great mentor and he taught me a lot. As I reflect now on my leadership today, I think I owe a lot to Gen. John Blewett."

The general was remembered by other wing members as well.

"Gen. Blewett was a commander's commander. You always knew where you stood with him. He set firm, fair guidelines, but he was never too busy to take the time to talk to you," said Senior Master Sgt. Joe Riccio, 107th ARW safety office.

The ceremony was officiated by Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Karl Kristoff and Col. James Kwiatkowski, 107th ARW commander. Mrs. Christine Edwards, the general's daughter spoke on behalf of her family thanking the unit for their past support and this honor to her father. Mrs. Margaret Blewett, the general's wife, and several other family members and friends were present at the ceremony.

Blewett held the position of commander at Niagara Falls twice. His first tenure as commander was 1962-1969 and then again from 1972-1981. In 1981, he went on to become the New York Air National Guard Assistant Adjutant General for Air. He was also the first 107th member to achieve the rank of brigadier general.

50 states and 47 countries, earning them the title of the "Army's Goodwill Ambassadors to the World."

"The Volunteers" - the U.S. Army Field Band's premier touring show ensemble - provided a "musical salute" at the airshow. Since its inception in 1981, this talented five-piece group has performed in all fifty states, Canada, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Nicaragua, Belgium, and Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The Washington, D.C.-based musical unit has been described as "outstanding entertainment with energy and inspiration."

Bernadette Castro, commissioner of the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservations, invites the public to "show your patriotism for the United State of America and salute the men and women of our Armed Forces at this dynamic airshow." According to Castro, it's been at least 15 years since such premier military units have performed on Long Island.

Beyond the Thunderbirds, Golden Knights and Volunteers, there were static displays of military equipment, more musical entertainment, food and refreshments. The local Long Island newspaper Newsday presented the airshow and sponsors included the Parks Office, Natural Heritage Trust, Radio Station WALK, Petillo Prime Meats and the Foundation for Long Island State Parks. Corporate contributors include Irish Coffee Pub, Kikkoman, Naudus Communications, Long Island.com and Long Island Jet Center, Inc.



The Army's Golden Knight precision parachute jump into the LI Airshow Spectacular stacked 3-high. Courtesy Photo.

Air Guard Suffers Loss with Cristiano Passing

Guard Times Staff

WESTHAMPTON -- The 106th Rescue Wing and the entire family of the NY Air National Guard recently suffered a devastating loss with the sudden death of Col. Anthony J. Cristiano. He was 51. Col. Cristiano's military career spanned four decades and his experiences crossed all areas of Air Force skills.

Cristiano enlisted in the Air Force in 1969 and was assigned as an aircraft mechanic to the 4787th Air Base Group, Duluth, Minnesota. He joined the NY Air National Guard's 106th Fighter Interceptor Group in 1972 during the unit's transition from tankers to fighters.

In 1973, he became a full time member of the 106th and was assigned as a crew chief on the T-33A. In 1981, Cristiano was commissioned a captain and assigned to the aircraft maintenance squadron and then as the 102nd Rescue Squadron intelligence officer. In 1983, he became the logistics plans officer for the 106th Air Rescue Group.

In 1986, Cristiano transferred to the supply squadron as the management and procedures officer. In 1987 he was assigned to 106th Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, first as the assistant chief of maintenance, then as the chief of maintenance and squadron commander. During his tenure in maintenance,

Cristiano oversaw the unit's conversion from the HH-3E helicopters to the HH-60G.

In 1993, Cristiano moved to the wing headquarters as the wing executive officer. He became the director of support in 1995, overseeing four flights and one squadron. It was during this time that he also became the director of the Galaxy Youth Program which touched the lives over 2500 children from seven different school districts on the East End of Long Island by teaching children about Aerospace Science.

His final move was in 1998, when he became the wing community manager. Here, he worked as public affairs officer and acted as the liaison between the Air National Guard and the communities on Long Island.

Cristiano had just recently celebrated his retirement from the military in the autumn of this year.

"NYANG has indeed suffered a devastating loss with the passing of Col. Cristiano," stated NYANG Public Affairs Officer Maj Bob Bullock. "Col. Cristiano was that representative of the unit who served as a beacon for so many wonderful 106th community programs out on Long Island. He was a true gentleman and will be missed by, not only the members of the 106th, but all of NY Air National Guard."



Col. Anthony Cristiano is laid to rest with military honors. Photo courtesy of 106th Rescue Wing.

Nation's Youngest Mayor Taps GuardHELP

204th Engineers Help Make Nature Preserve Plan a Reality

By Scott Sandman
Guard Times Staff



a call. Mayor Nastke took him up on that advice and the latest GuardHELP project was born.

In early September, 16 soldiers from the 204th Engineers, Army National Guard and a bulldozer operator from the Air National Guard's 109th Air Wing descended on the site, armed with chain saws, a roller, dump trucks, graders, loaders and bulldozers. Working for nearly three weeks through weather that at times proved extremely uncooperative, the engineers constructed a parking lot, picnic area and cut a 2-mile recreation trail along the banks of the creek. As they trained, the soldiers and airman

VALATIE — At 20, Mayor Jason Nastke exudes the vitality and exuberance one would expect from the nation's youngest mayor. The enthusiasm he has for his job, coupled with an unflinching optimism are reflective of his belief that "anything is possible."

While the young mayor of this Columbia County village surely benefits from the energy and drive characteristic of his youth, at the same time he exhibits a pragmatic, sensible side that belies his young age. "One of my main goals as mayor is to improve our village and the quality of life here despite the financial constraints that come with being a small community," Nastke said. "People give you a hundred reasons why you can't do something — the challenge is to be innovative and bold enough to find a way you can."



One of ways Nastke sought to improve his village was to turn some Village land adjacent to the Kinderhook Creek into a public preserve and recreation area. "The Creek is one of our best assets — I wanted some way to connect our community to it in a meaningful way," Nastke said.

The problem was that the Village lacked the financial resources for such a project. "It was clear that this was going to cost some money, and raising taxes to do it was definitely not an option," he joked.

As part of his broad-scoped search to find a solution to this dilemma, he mentioned the situation to his local congressman, Rep. John Sweeney. Rep. Sweeney, formerly a top aide to Gov. George E. Pataki, was intimately familiar with the Governor's GuardHELP non-emergency community support program. He suggested the mayor give the Guard



cleared, graded and rolled all the land, then covered the areas with crushed stone provided by the Village.

"A lot of people don't realize everything the Guard can do," said Nastke. "The fact that the Guard can provide communities like ours with this type of support while they train is incredible."

Nastke, who said he counts Gov. Pataki as a major influence, praised the State Commander in Chief for the implementation of GuardHELP. "This is the kind of innovation and creativity I hope to bring to my own career in public service," he said. "GuardHELP makes sense for both the people of New York and their National Guard — that's good government."

During breaks in his class schedule at Siena College where he majors in finance, Nastke made several trips to the site to show his gratitude and support to the troops. "They look like they're having more fun doing their job than I have doing mine, which says a lot," he remarked to Deputy Adjutant General Brig. Gen. Bill Martin, who on two occasions joined him at the construction site.

"The Guard made the impossible possible, and their work will be remembered around here for a very long time"

"Some of these guys are my age and look like they've been doing this [construction] for years. Many of the local people who have stopped by to watch the construction have said how much they admire the soldiers' skill and professionalism," Nastke said.

Brig. Gen. Martin also praised the engineers' hard work and professionalism. "These troops are making a lasting positive impact on this community and earning the admiration and respect of a future leader in New York State," he said. "The value of what they have accomplished here cannot be overstated."

Martin recognized the troop's efforts with the new Deputy Adjutant General's coin, which he presented to each troop working on the project. "New York's Guard force is stronger and more relevant than ever before, and you are the ones on the front lines making it happen. On behalf of the Governor, the TAG and myself, I just want to let you know that we greatly appreciate the pride you take in your work and the effort you put into it," said Martin.

The new recreation area is named Pachaquak (Iroquois for "where the rivers meet") Preserve, and is emblazoned with a permanent sign describing the park as "A joint project of the Village of Valatie and the New York National Guard."

"The fact is that we simply could not have afforded this great project without the tremendous support of the New York National Guard. The Guard made the impossible possible, and their work will be remembered around here for a very long time," Nastke said.

Photos clockwise from top: The 204th Engineers promote recruiting and the tuition program even while on the job; Cmd. Sgt. Major Allan Keeler, a 24 year National Guard veteran, operates the grader in the park parking lot; below, Spec. Patrick McCarthy directs tree stump removal for Spec. Kyle Cassidy, operating the dozer; Valatie Mayor Jason Nastke takes a moment to address the engineers on the GuardHELP project site. Photos by Maj. Richard Goldenberg.



Rainbow Tankers Putting

127th Armor Battalion First in NY to Complete

By Maj. Richard Goldenberg
HQ, 42nd Infantry Division (Mech)

FORT DRUM – Autumn leaves rustled with the sound of tank fire on Fort Drum's Range 23 gunnery complex as Rainbow tankers from the 1st Battalion, 127th Armor tackled one of the Army's most challenging qualification gunneries.

The tankers deployed to conduct Tank Table XII gunnery on October 14th. The gunnery involves a full platoon of four tanks engaging targets on a moving tank and moving target range. This platoon-engagement range simulates a battlefield situation, in which the tankers must react to enemy targets in a synchronized way. This includes timed and sequenced, and simultaneous firing of the tanks using the 105mm main gun, the 7.62mm coax machinegun and turret mounted .50 caliber machinegun.

The scenario includes occupying a platoon assembly area, movement up to the range firing line to occupy battle positions, and engagements against multiple targets for individual tank crews as well as the platoon maneuver down the range to successive battle position. To defeat the numerous enemy targets, the tankers must be able to work as a team.



"If this is not what being in an armored force is all about, then I just don't know what is"

In the cool fall air, the echoes of armor gunnery carried across the Fort Drum training areas while the 10th Mountain Division's light infantry soldiers conducted their own field training. The heavy booms of main tank guns certainly added to the realistic sounds of the light infantry training. And fortunately for the 10th Mountain Division troops, the tank fire was friendly.

"As we watch the Army transformation to a lighter, more deployable force, it becomes more important than ever to sharpen our skills as the Army's strategic armor force," said Division Chief of Staff Colonel Joseph Taluto. "The 127th Armor is proving its worth for the Army if the call should come. Now that the 42nd Division is associated with the 18th

Platoon live-fire tank gunnery involves all four M1 Abrams main battle tanks moving and firing under the control and leadership of the tank platoon leader. All four tank commanders and tank crews are evaluated for working not merely as a crew, but as members of the armor team. Photos from above show tank crews from Charlie Company, 127th Armor on the firing line at Fort Drum's Range 23 for the very first Tank Table Twelve gunnery in the history of the NY Army National Guard. Platoons from both B and C Companies successfully completed day and night gunnery qualification this September. Photos by Maj. Richard Goldenberg.



Airborne Corps, we could someday find ourselves right alongside the 10th Mountain Division's light fighters."

To ensure the battalion achieved the best possible training, the unit enlisted a formal evaluation of training and qualification by the Army's 2nd Brigade, 78th Division, the training support element stationed at Fort Drum. The team of Observer-Controllers provided the format right from the Army's Armor Center for Table XII evaluation of the platoons.

"The assistance and evaluation from the OCs really validates our work here in completing one of the most difficult tank gunneries a unit can attempt," said Capt. Chris Guzak, the battalion logistics officer and former Charlie Company Commander. "They give us the real stamp of approval that we did it right."

Historically, the autumn months are relatively quiet for National Guard training at Fort Drum. The battalion and division headquarters spent immeasurable hours planning the ammunition and training resources to start the new fiscal year. Key leaders and other full-time staff arrived at Fort Drum on Tuesday to begin equipment and vehicle draw and ammunition issue for the range.

Serious Steel on Target

Complete Army's Most Rigorous Tank Gunnery

"This is simply awesome," said Capt. David Runkle, assistant operations officer in the battalion. Overseeing the range operations for the companies,

For the tankers of the Bravo Company from Jamestown and Charlie Company from Olean, the weekend drill began Thursday for movement to the North Country and a full day of reconnaissance and rehearsals for the tank platoons.

The battalion drew ten M1 Abrams Main Battle Tanks for the gunnery. Each platoon would operate four tanks and the battalion would hold two in reserve. In all, more than 80 battalion soldiers deployed to shoot or support the gunnery. For everyone involved, it was an historic event for the battalion and the Rainbow Division's Third Brigade.

"This is simply the best tank training we can offer our crews"

"Many of our tank commanders have been preparing for this event for five years, when the training plan was first proposed," said Sgt. Clifford Withey, a tank commander from Charlie Company after the first firing order with his platoon. "It's great to see this process from start to finish and the thrill of firing all four tanks together as a team is simply great."



Tank Crews from Bravo and Charlie Companies, 127th Armor Battalion conducted NY State's first Tank Table Twelve Gunnery this September at Fort Drum. The gunnery qualification provides tank platoons to simultaneously maneuver and fire four M1 tanks in a tactical scenario. The battalion staff and unit leaders planned and coordinated the exercise for five years to achieve the weekend gunnery.

Photos from top: Crews from Charlie Company, based in Olean, NY move to the firing line from the platoon tactical assembly area to establish battle positions. Left: Sgt. Clifford Withey and his crew from C Company refuel their tank after the very first qualification firing. Sgt. Cooley Sylvester from Headquarters Company, 127th Armor mans the fuel point for the crews. The crew and platoon would go on to fire again as a unit under night conditions as well. Below: Bravo Company M1 Abrams maneuver together to forward battle positions where main tank guns and machine gun fire filled the air of the Fort Drum Range. The 127th Armor Battalion expects to qualify all its platoons in Tank Table Twelve in the coming years. Photos by Maj. Richard Goldenberg.



"If this is not what being in an armored force is all about, then I just don't know what is," commented Col. Arnold Soeder, the Third Brigade Commander as the first platoon maneuvered down the range, thundering as all four main guns fired in sequence.

The battalion expects to qualify more platoons in Tank Table XXII next summer during annual training with a goal of firing all its tank platoons. "This is simply the best tank training we can offer our crews," said Captain John Burke, Bravo Company Commander. "This is the ultimate challenge we can offer our tankers, and they excelled."



Naval Militia Inspection From Bow to Stern

Sailors' Training Certifies USS LITTLE ROCK for Public Tours

By Lt. Cdr. Randy Eldred
NY Naval Militia

BUFFALO – Sailors from two Syracuse Naval Reserve Units (Portsmouth New Hampshire Naval Shipyard Detachment 602, and Ship Repair Team 2 Detachment 105) departed for a two day training/travel event to visit the former USS LITTLE ROCK, located in Buffalo, New York. LITTLE ROCK was a Navy Cruiser of Korean War vintage, and is currently on loan from the Navy to the city of Buffalo Servicemen's Park and now serves as a tour ship and tourist attraction. The Navy still requires an annual inspection by a Naval engineering activity to verify that it is safe for public tours.

The sailors arrive in the evening and spend the night onboard, along with a group of more than 150 Cub Scouts. The following morning, the rest of the inspection team arrives for a shipboard breakfast in the galley, cheerfully prepared by Machinist Mate First Class Robert Moskal. After breakfast, Lieutenant Stuart Harris, who is in charge of the inspection, briefs the inspectors and organizes the inspection teams. The briefing outlines the plan of attack to inspect the ship for rust, corrosion, flooded spaces, other damage or unsafe conditions.

The inspection checklist consists of 75 items of concern and requires physical inspection of the entire ship. Dozens of photographs are required to document the ship's condition. Draft marks and soundings are documented and void fluid levels are verified.

The inspection team is divided into two groups; a below deck inspection team, headed by Lieutenant Tom Vidoni, and a superstructure inspection team, headed by Commander William Nichols. Armed with safety equipment, flashlights, pen, paper and a camera, the teams set out to complete their tasks. As one team makes their way above decks, the other team plunges into the depths below. Areas of the ship not on the tour route lack lighting and recent maintenance, which makes entering some spaces a difficult task.

One gets a better appreciation for the size of the ship when peering down the series of ladders that span the gap of four decks as one prepares to descend to "shaft alley". Don't drop the flashlight! The ladders and rails haven't been cleaned or painted in years. (If it's not on the tour route, it doesn't need to be clean or look pretty.) Once in shaft alley, it doesn't get any better. Paint peels from the bulkheads and overheads, and rust is everywhere. The space is small and cramped, so inspectors must crawl to the far end of the shaft to check the shaft seals. Of course, everyone wants to see the entire space, so they all have to maneuver past each other. This is good, as more eyes increase the probability of spotting problems. The photographer goes everywhere and twists himself into knots to get the camera into position. Both shafts must be photographed to record their state of repair and water leakage. This year is better than last – the drip rate is less! The space is scoured for corrosion, leakage and old fire extinguisher bottles, which seem to multiply on their own! Before the day is over, inspectors will find nearly a dozen of these old, outdated CO2 cylinders, which must be removed and disposed.

It's a big ship. The boiler rooms are next. This year, one space that was previously reported as partially flooded has dried out, but another has nearly three feet of oily wastewater on deck, which requires another set of photographs. Later, another void is found with several feet of water, all of which the staff will have to pump.

Anchor windlass compartment, Auxiliary machinery spaces, ship's stores – on and on throughout the entire ship...

Meanwhile, the topside team is climbing over the entire superstructure and walking the tour route. All topside compartments, ladders and structures are inspected. Anything that is loose or corroded must be identified, all the way up to the top of the masts! They check for safety hazards and emergency lighting on the tour route, corrosion and flooding above decks.

The inspection is completed the following morning. The two inspection teams meet to discuss discrepancies, re-check areas of concern, consolidate notes and organize photographs. After several hours of typing, the report is

completed and briefed to museum staff members. The sailors then returned to Syracuse with the personal satisfaction of knowing they have completed a job well done.



Sailors Give Navy Maintenance Help

By Electrician's Mate Tim Clark
Naval Reserve Ship Repair Team Two

NORFOLK, VA – Naval Reserve Ship Repair Team Two (Detachment 105) recently completed a very productive year with a deployment to support their active component gaining command. The September deployment to the Shore Intermediate Maintenance Activity (SIMA) in Norfolk gives the Navy much needed maintenance manpower while accomplishing quality in-rate training.

Ship Repair Team Two is one of only 20 units established for the Navy's Battle Force IMA (BFIMA), and Amphibious Readiness Group IMA (ARGIMA) maintenance requirements. The unit consists of an all enlisted technician staff with one officer leading the team.



Specialty components are frequently required for ship repair support. Here Machine Repairman Terrance Baxter machines down the raw stock and cuts threads for fitted bolts in Shop 38 at SIMA, Norfolk. Photo Courtesy of Naval Militia.

The BFIMA and ARGIMA reserve units were established to ensure those maintenance needs of the fleet continued following decommissioning of tenders.

During the past year Ship Repair Team Two out of Syracuse, NY spent over 100 man-days of effort at SIMA, Norfolk including three extended weekend drills and the unit's annual training.



Hull Technician Robin Connelly prepares shim stock for final component assembly in the 11A shop at SIMA, Norfolk. Photo Courtesy of Naval Militia.

Reserve integration with the active duty component is a reality at SIMA. Reserve members move immediately to their assigned shops after initial muster on the first day and report to their work center supervisor for the remaining training period. Multiple work packages get staffed, with active duty and reserve members working side by side in many cases and independently on other jobs.

Work can vary from machining specialty parts such as fitted bolts to manufacture of deck harnesses to shipboard removal of auxiliary equipment and repair of pump mechanical seals.

Commander R.M. Eldred from the detachment commented that the training was significant. "This another example of the quality contributions reserve members are making to the fleet by providing support to SIMA while accomplishing valuable training to support our mobilization readiness," he said.

Naval Militia Sailor Earns Top Honors

Photo & article by Lt. Craig Bratter
NY Naval Militia

ALBANY — Master-At-Arms Third Class Kevin P. Faber was selected as the Distinguished Graduate of the Non-Prior Service Accession Course, Division 805. Petty Officer Faber attended this course from 15-29 June 2000 at the Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, IL. This award is presented to the Recruit whose enthusiasm, supportive attitude, and willingness to help others during his or her training period exceeded Navy training standards. Petty Officer Faber was recently recognized for this achievement at Naval and Marine Corps Reserve Center Albany, NY where he is attached to the Naval Reserve Commander-in-Chief U.S. Atlantic Fleet Mobile Integrated Command Facility (NR CLF MICFAC) Unit.

Petty Officer Faber joined the Naval Reserve in December 1999 and is the second member from the Albany Reserve Center to have attended the NPSAC course in Great Lakes. Petty Officer Faber believes that this course provided him with good insight into the Navy and how it operates. He devel-



Cdr. Krawczyk from N&MCRC Albany, presents Petty Officer Faber the Letter of Commendation from Recruit Training Command Great Lakes for achieving Distinguished Graduate.

oped an understanding of basic military requirements, such as the chain of command, military bearing, and the importance of team effort.

Petty Officer Faber's advice for future sailors preparing to attend this course is to study the basic military requirements and to "keep in mind it's a team effort there." Faber is looking forward to being able to participate in annual training, unit evolutions, and to learn how he can contribute to the success of the unit and the gaining command.

In his civilian career, Petty Officer Kevin Faber works as a Police Officer for the Town of Poughkeepsie, NY.

Riding for a Reason

NY Guard Supports Multiple Sclerosis Bike Tour

By Maj. John W. Sacca
HQ, 10th Brigade, NY Guard

SARATOGA SPRINGS—For the fourth consecutive year, members of the all-volunteer New York Guard's Tenth Brigade joined with civilian volunteers to support the annual Cycling Series of the Northeastern Chapter of the Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Society.

About 200 cyclists participated in the event, held September 16th and 17th. Last year's tour raised \$32,750 in pledges to support research in the cause and cure for multiple sclerosis. This year's pledges promise \$40,000. The Northeastern Chapter serves more than 2,400 individuals in a 17-county area.

The event began Saturday, as cyclists started out on the two-day "Revolutionary Tour." Starting in Saratoga Springs, the cyclists rode north through Fort Edward and Fort Ann on to Vermont. They then returned to New York by ferry across Lake Champlain where they spent the night at Fort Ticonderoga, before the return trip on Sunday. Three shorter events were also held on Sunday, including a 62, 25, and 10-mile course.

Thirty soldier-volunteers of the 10th Brigade provided route security over the 150-mile course. As officer-in-charge of the Guard operation, Major Joseph C. D'Antoni, supervised the NY Guard volunteers from a mobile command post

operating from the Saratoga harness track. Participating were 10th Brigade members from Binghamton, Saratoga, Syracuse, and Troy. Chapter president Barbara Roland-Milano remarked that, "These guys (from the Guard) are making it happen for us."

Security patrols were stationed at critical points along the route. Using both military and civilian vehicles and connected by cellular phones and radios, the teams kept track of the cyclists' progress and halted traffic at intersections and dangerous road turns along the route.

Generosity characterizes both participants and residents of the North Country during the annual tour. While the chapter provides volunteers with breakfast and lunch, Saturday night's dinner is on Maj. D'Antoni. For the past four years, he has treated his soldiers to an evening meal at the Anchor Inn on Saratoga Lake.

Under new proprietorship this year, owner Peter Vorro was curious as to the invasion of his restaurant by the diners in

camouflage uniforms. Once informed of their annual volunteer mission in support of the MS Tour, he confided that his mother has MS and promptly made a generous donation through D'Antoni.

Over the past four years Sgt. First Class Cary Carpenter, 1st Battalion, 3rd Regiment



Bicyclists prepare for the start of their 150-mile trek. Photo courtesy of the NY Guard Public Affairs Office.

from Syracuse, has met many cyclists who are intimately familiar with the disease they raise pledges to combat. "Some have family and friends with MS, and others even have the disease themselves," said Carpenter. "They are riding for a reason."

"The NY Guard and the Chapter have developed a perfect match over the past four years," noted D'Antoni. "And our people are very enthusiastic about their annual participation. They also appreciate the acknowledgement given them by individual cyclists along the route." That simple gratitude for the safety provided by the Guard, like the 150-mile route itself, goes a long way.

Syracuse Recognizes Their Hispanic Sailors

By Petty Officer Dan Meaney
NY Naval Militia

SYRACUSE -- National Hispanic Heritage Month has special meaning at the Naval Reserve Center Syracuse. Central and Northern New York is a region where less than one percent of the total population speaks Spanish, but the language is booming at the Reserve Center. More than 20% of the full time staff is of Hispanic descent - bringing a Latin flare to the workplace along with a deep commitment to the Navy.

Petty Officer Second Class Carlos Colon is one of the newest additions to the staff. Originally from the South Bronx, near the famous "Fort Apache", Colon is as close to a Renaissance man as there is on board. Since he joined the service in 1983, he has attended Skidmore Jazz Institute (where he played with Tito Puente), started his own performing band, studied painting

and even finds time to go into Syracuse's inner city to counsel young people. What's it like trying to stay involved with his Latin roots where there are more snowy hills than sandy beaches?



Petty Officer Carlos Colon

"Challenging, but very rewarding", says the Petty Officer. "I grew up in the city and all cities are pretty much the same - it's just colder here than what I like. Because of my background, it's easier in some ways to get the kids respect when they know where I've come from and the difficulties that

I've had to face to succeed in the Navy. They can see that if I could do it, they can too. That makes a difference."

Yeoman Rogelio Casanova is also a hard working and dedicated sailor - but without the love of the North Country. "Don't get me wrong, I love working here - I would just love working in Miami a little more!" Casanova's family is origi-

nally from Cuba and the Dominican Republic, but he grew up in the Miami area. "I had never seen so much snow until I got to Syracuse. Now, I've seen enough to last a lifetime! When I tell everyone back home about having six feet of snow on the ground or drifts that are more than ten feet tall, they all think that I'm making this stuff up. Well guess what, I'm NOT!" In his short stint in the Navy, Casanova has already advanced to Second Class Petty Officer. "I love the work and the people that I work with, so that makes it easy for me. I even think that I could stand the long winters a little better if I could just find a good Cuban restaurant nearby!"

Lt. Commander Greg Tiemann is quick to point out how lucky the Naval Militia is to have such the two outstanding Sailors. "We know how proud these two sailors are of their heritage. I just want to take some time now, during National Hispanic Heritage Month, to let them know how proud we are to be able to serve with them."

'Air & Space 2000'

Joint Guard Staff guardHELPS Scouts through an Aviation Odyssey

By Lucinda Lawyer
Guard Times Staff

GLENVILLE – The New York National Guard helped support an "Odyssey of Aviation" at the Schenectady County Airport in Glenville, for thousands of Boy Scouts recently as part of another guardHELP community support mission.

A joint Army and Air National Guard team supported the Twin Rivers Council Boy Scouts of America Fall Camporee 13 – 15 October. The event drew scout troops from across the state, with over 4200 scouts participating in numerous aviation activities that were offered.

The Scouts encamped at the airport on 13 October, and with Guard help, rapidly erected their "tent city." Very soon, scouts lined up for tours of the Air Guard's LC-130 on display from the 109th Airlift Wing, based at the Stratton Air National Guard Base on the other side of the airport. More aircraft from the Schenectady County Airport-based Empire State Aero-



One of the Boy Scout spectators at the Schenectady County Airport "Odyssey of Aviation" marvels at the 109th Air Wing's LC-130. Photo by Lucinda Lawyer.

Representatives from Emery Riddle Aeronautical University and Daniel Webster College from New Hampshire were on hand to run an aviation career day for the scouts. Scout leaders designed the event to offer an opportunity for high school age scouts to explore the possibilities for careers in aviation.

On Saturday morning, two of the 109th's LC-130 "Ski Planes" took off for Antarctica as part of the unit's mission in support of the National Science Foundation. Scouts watched in amazement as the aircraft lifted off the runway to begin their long journey.

GuardHELP coordinators Maj. Wendell B. Garlick from Headquarters New York Air National Guard and Capt. Kelly Hilland from Headquarters New York Army National Guard spearheaded Guard support efforts for the Camporee. The National Guard has a long tradition of supporting scout programs and other youth organizations.

"Scouting organizations work with adult support," said Staff Sgt. Daniel J. Engel, a parent and cubmaster for Troop 112, Johnstown, and member of the Army Guard. "Events of this nature, allow my son Schuyler, 7, a cubscout, to witness what the Guard is about. This is a case of how the two work together," Engel said.

"Dedication to youth is our belief," said Joseph Mayberry, a 22-year scoutmaster, who sponsored the troop from the Sacred Heart Church in Gloversville. "We believe that our children are our future leaders."

Don McCoy, a 44-year veteran scoutmaster for the Great Northern District's Troop 15, said "this is a 'win/win' situation for all. The scouts get to see what the Guard is about and can get ideas for possible future careers. We are becoming more and more involved in more and more areas than ever before. The Boy Scouts has been a very strong tradition in our communities for the past 50 years, and it's all based on teamwork. Much like the Guard, the scouts work together to complete their missions." McCoy said that his district is preparing for their annual Klondike Derby in January and in February, Operation Oakpick.

The final event of the weekend was the award ceremony, where many of the scouts were awarded merit badges for their achievements. Following the ceremony the GuardHELP team helped the scouts break camp.



Boy Scout Ryan Granito from Troop 528 in Ballston Spa, NY takes a moment to show his pride with NY Air National Guard LC-130 pilot Capt. David Panavera. Photo by Lucinda Lawyer.

space Museum, a New York Army National Guard Black Hawk helicopter from the 3rd Battalion 142nd Aviation in Latham and a New York State Police helicopter were also on display. Over the weekend, scouts built rockets, raced through obstacle courses, flew kites and toured the aircraft on display.

Behind Lessons in Fire Safety...



"He's nothing to be afraid of – just a man in a protective suit," Assistant Chief Pete Jellison said of firefighter Dave Baumann to the children at the "Calling all Kids" program. Courtesy Photo.

Children Meet Future Friends and Supporters

By Senior Airman Paul Dean
107th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs Office

NIAGARA FALLS -- Young children sat attentively on mats in the Family Support Center Sept. 1 as they learned about fire safety in the home and met other children and their parents.

An educational program arranged and hosted by family support volunteer Jennifer Grier, wife of Senior Master Sgt. Mark Grier, taught children about home evacuation procedures in case of fire and familiarized them with what could be a scary encounter with a firefighter in all his gear. As the children played, watched a video, and listened to a presentation, they formed bonds which may be important in the future.

The event was part of a new family support program: "Calling all Kids." According to Grier, "This program was started with hopes of educating the unit's children on various topics such as fire safety, but more importantly, allowing the children and their parents to meet with other unit families."

Having somebody with similar experiences and concerns can be important to family members left behind when unit members are deployed. "When a child is angry about a parent not being home [because of a deployment] it helps if the child knows somebody their own age to talk to. Somebody who they've met before who understands," Grier said. And this isn't only for the children. "If a child is acting out because of their anger and frustration that a parent isn't home, it can make the situation easier when you know another family in the same situation," she added.

Base fire inspector, Assistant Chief Pete Jellison arrived at the center after the children had been playing games, coloring, and enjoying snacks and drinks. The presentation started with an age appropriate video, which taught the children how to design and practice evacuation plans. Then, firefighter Dave Baumann was introduced to the children. Baumann was fully geared, and talked to the children through his breathing apparatus to familiarize them with the sight and sounds of the people who would be sent to rescue them if they were trapped in a fire.

The children were quizzed after the demonstration. Jellison tossed-out questions to the audience (children and parents). The children responded with answers that were sometimes funny, but always correct. As a reward, the children received coloring books, balloons and pencils to take home.

NEW YORK ARMY NATIONAL GUARD PROMOTIONS

MAJOR GENERAL

GEORGE T. GARRETT HHC 42 IN DIV(-)

COLONEL

ANDREW B. LEIDER HHD STARC (-) NYARNG
JEFF W. MATHIS III HHD STARC (-) NYARNG
STEPHEN M. SARCIONE HHD STARC (-) NYARNG

LIEUTENANT COLONEL

EDWARD M. BARRY HHD STARC (-) NYARNG
THOMAS L. BOSCO HSC (-) 642D SUPPORT BN
SUSAN E. KOLB HHD STARC (-) NYARNG
THOMAS G. MEIER HHD STARC (-) NYARNG

MAJOR

EARL BALL HHD STARC (-) NYARNG
PATRICK J. CHAISSON HHC 42 IN DIV(-)
CHARLES T. CROSBY HHC 2 BN 108 INF
SCOTT A. DOUST HHD 206 CORPS SPT BN
RICHARD GOLDENBERG HHC 42 IN DIV(-)
STEPHEN E. MUELLER HHD STARC (-) NYARNG
BRUCE E. POOLE HHC 152D ENGINEER BN
ALBERT THIEM HHC 42 IN DIV(-)

CAPTAIN

MICHAEL S. MURPHY HHC 1-105TH INF

FIRST LIEUTENANT

ROBERT E. ALLEN CO D 1-108TH INF
MICHAEL E. BATT DET 1 CO A 1-108TH INF
ELIZABETH A. CONDONCO B 342D FWD SPT BN
STANLEY N. FARMER CO C 1-69TH INFANTRY(M)
BRUCE F. HOPE HHC 1-69TH INFANTRY(M)
CHRISTOPHER JENSEN HHC 2 BN 108 INF
RICHARD D. OBRIEN CO D 2-108 IN
JASON R. PARRISH H & S CO 204 ENGR BN
MICHAEL B. WALLEY H & S CO 204 ENGR BN
KURT WERGER DET 1 CO C 2 BN 108 INF

CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 5

JOHN B. LILL HHC AVN BDE 42 IN DIV

CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 4

ROBERT J. SHEPARD HHD STARC (-) NYARNG

CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 3

KENNETH GEORGE 719 TRANS CO (MDM TRK)

MASTER SERGEANT

MICHAEL P. ALAVANJA HHC 107TH SPT GROUP
SCOTT A. RAGER HHC 427TH SPT BN
PEDRO SANCHEZ CO A 1-69TH INFANTRY (M)
JORGE L. VASQUEZ CO B 1-69TH INFANTRY (M)

SERGEANT FIRST CLASS

DAVID T. ALDI 107TH MP CO (-)
JEFFREY L. BLODGETT HHD STARC (-) NYARNG
LISA CURRIER 642D MI BN
PHILIP DELCOSTELLO DET 6 STARC-NY MED DET
JOSEPH F. EWING HHC 3D BDE 42ID
HAROLD FAIRWEATHER 27TH SPT CTR (CORPS RAOC)
MARK E. FORBES HHC 1-105TH INF
FRANK GAZZILLO HHC 42 IN DIV(-)
ORELL GOLDING 442D MP CO (-)
THOMAS R. HOUSE HHC (-) 1-108TH INF
STEVEN R. HUCK HHD STARC (-) NYARNG
LARRY T. JOHNSON HHD STARC (-) NYARNG
GINA M. LIPPI HHD STARC (-) NYARNG
ROLLAND A. MINER III HHC 2 BN 108 INF
TERRY D. NAYLOR HHC (-) 1-108TH INF
VERNADINE E. NUWERE 37TH FINANCE DET
DAVID P. PHILLIPS HHC (-) 27TH IN BDE
DAVID A. REGER HHD STARC (-) NYARNG
JAMES ROMANOWSKI HHD STARC (-) NYARNG
ANTONIO SANCHEZ HHD 342D FWD SPT BN
ROBERT J. STROZEWSKI CO B 152D ENGINEER BN

LOUIS J. SZASZ JR HHD STARC (-) NYARNG
GERALD N. VAUTRIN CO C 230TH SIGNAL BN
MAUREEN A. WEISE DET 7 STARC (1BN 53RDT C)

STAFF SERGEANT

STEVEN J. ACEVEDO HHB 1-258TH FA
JEFFREY M. ALLISON CO D 1-101ST CAVALRY
THOMAS W. DEIS CO D 1-108TH INF
RICHARD E. FOX CO A (-) 1 BN 105 INF
CARMETTA FREEMAN HHC AVN BDE 42 IN DIV
RICHARD W. GLYNN CO C (-) 427TH SPT BN
JOHN W. HILL 102D MAINTENANCE CO
DEENA E. JOHNSON HHD STARC (-) NYARNG
CHRISTOPHER KLIMEK CO B 3-142D AVIATION
JOHN L. LEROUX DET 1 CO C 427TH SPT BN
JEFFREY G. MANCUSO HHD STARC (-) NYARNG
ANTHONY R. PAYNE HHC (-) 1-127TH ARMOR
SURVINS PETITFRERE CO A 642D SUPPORT BN
RICHARD G. REDMOND CO D 2-108 IN
SCOTT C. SMILINICH DET 1 HHC 1-108TH INF
WILLIAM J. TRUMBLE HHD STARC (-) NYARNG
WILLIAM VIANA 133D MAINTENANCE CO

SERGEANT

BRENDAN W. BELLAMY CO D 1-101ST CAVALRY
JEFREY BLAKE 145TH MAINTENANCE CO
JUDITH CESAIRE DET 1 STARC-NY 53TRPCMD
WENDELL M. CHASE CO C 230TH SIGNAL BN
ANNMARIE COLEBROOKE 102D MAINTENANCE CO
CARMEN COSENTINO HHC 427TH SPT BN
GINA M. CREEDON HHC (-) 1-108TH INF
SEAN F. DEWEY CO C (-) 427TH SPT BN
DANIEL B. DONOVAN III DET 1 HHC 1-108TH INF
WILLIAM F. DREW CO A (-) 204 ENGR BN
AGUSTIN GOTAY HHD 27TH FINANCE BN
MARK E. HOLDER CO B 642D SUPPORT BN
REYNALDO NARVAEZ HHC 1-101ST CAVALRY
GREGG C. PELLICCIA DET 6 STARC-NY MED DET
CHARLES SHERMAN JR 133D MAINTENANCE CO
PAUL W. STEWART CO B 1-108TH INF
KEVIN J. VERSHAY DET 1 HHS 1-156TH FA
JOHN A. WISE HHC 427TH SPT BN

SPECIALIST

CHRISTOPHER S. ABRAHAM DET 2 CO C 2 BN 108 INF
DAVID L. ALCOTT CO B 152D ENGINEER BN
DARLENE A. ALLEYNE HHD 206 CORPS SPT BN
LAUREN P. BAEZ CO B 342D FWD SPT BN
AIMEE M. BARONE 105 MP CO (-)
MICHAEL T. BEDFORD CO C 152D ENGINEER BN
ROBERT J. BELL HHC (-) 1-108TH INF
AHMAD A. BENU 102D MAINTENANCE CO
TODD M. BISHOP HHC (-) 1-108TH INF
BRUCE BRENES HHC 1-101ST CAVALRY
AMY L. BRUNNER 642D MI BN
PENNY L. BURLINGAME HHC (-) 1-108TH INF
MICHAEL E. CAMPNEY DET 2 CO A 2 BN 108 INF
MELISSA A. CAREY HHC 3D BDE 42ID
CHRISTOPHER CARMODY HHC (-) 1-108TH INF
KELLY A. CLARK HHC 1-142D AVIATION
STEPHEN T. CLEARY 442D MP CO (-)
ROBERT A. COHEN II CO A (-) 1 BN 105 INF
PETER D. CONYNE CO C (-) 2 BN 108 INF
JONATHAN W. COONS CO B 1-108TH INF
COREY J. CRANE CO B 1-108TH INF
DESRINE N. CYRUS CO A 342D FWD SPT BN
MAHENDRANAOUTH D. SERVICE BTRY 1-258TH FA
JOHN DAMATO SERVICE BTRY 1-258TH FA
VLADIMIR DELBRUNE 102D MAINTENANCE CO
JASON M. DENOFRIO HHC 2 BN 108 INF
MICHELLE A. DODGE CO C (-) 427TH SPT BN
JASON T. FARNDILL DET 2 CO C 2 BN 108 INF
JOSE A. GARCIA 145TH MAINTENANCE CO
JAMES A. GETTER CO D 1-101ST CAVALRY

DAVID J. GILLESPIE HHC (-) 1-108TH INF
JUSTIN B. GLASSER 642D MI BN
DAVID M. GLIDDEN CO B 1-108TH INF
ANGEL L. GONZALEZ JR 102D MAINTENANCE CO
MELISSA S. GREEN HHS (-) 1-156 FA
GLORIA J. GREENWOOD HHC 2 BN 108 INF
PETER F. GUERCIO 29TH PERS SERVICE DET
JOSHUA M. GUY HHC (-) 1-108TH INF
MARC E. HANER CO B 1-108TH INF
CHARLES W. HATCH CO B 1-101ST CAVALRY
MELANIE L. HECKO HHC 3D BDE 42ID
CHARLES M. HILL CO C (-) 2 BN 108 INF
EDDY A. HIRALDO 145TH MAINTENANCE CO
ROBERT M. KANE CO B 1-69TH INFANTRY (M)
JOHN W. KELLER CO B 1-108TH INF
MARK A. KNISELY JR HHC 1-142D AVIATION
STEVEN KOZLOWSKY CO A (-) 1 BN 105 INF
KEVIN R. LAIR BTRY C 1 BN 156 FA
ALBERT M. LESLIE 102D MAINTENANCE CO
ROBERT E. LEWIS HHC 3D BDE 42ID
ROBERT C. LOHNES JR CO C 230TH SIGNAL BN
ALFRED J. LUTTMAN JR DET 1 CO B 1-105TH INF
MICHAEL J. MADISON DET 1 CO A 1 BN 105 INF
TIFFANY MATTHEWS 102D MAINTENANCE CO
PATRICK MCCARTHY IV CO B (-) 204 EN (CBT HVY)
KATIE A. MCGOVERN 642D MI BN
EDDY V. MELENDEZ CO C (-) 2 BN 108 INF
TAKNIKA A. MICKEY 642D MI BN
JULIAN MONCAYORIVERA HHD 206 CORPS SPT BN
JOHN D. MORGANTI CO B (-) 427TH SPT BN
MELANIE A. MOTEL DET 1 HHC 27TH IN BDE
MICHELLE E. MURPHY HHS (-) 1-156 FA
ROBERT A. PERAGINE HHC 1-105TH INF
CARMELO L. PEREZ 145TH MAINTENANCE CO
EDUARDO R. PERRY 145TH MAINTENANCE CO
CHRISTOPHER POLONCARZ CO B 152D ENGINEER BN
CRAIG J. POTTER DET 1 CO A 1 BN 105 INF
DOUGLAS S. REID DET 1 CO A 1 BN 105 INF
ARAMIS T. RIOS CO B 152D ENGINEER BN
MARIO RIVERA 102D MAINTENANCE CO
PABLO RIVERA DET 1 CO B 1-105TH INF
BENJAMIN ROBINSON BTRY C 1 BN 156 FA
CARLOS ROBLES 145TH MAINTENANCE CO
RAUL RODRIGUEZ DET 1 442D MP
ANTHONY SOTOMAYOR CO A 1-101ST CAVALRY
IAN M. TABER DET 2 HHC 27TH IN BDE
RACHEL UNDERWOOD 642D MI BN
JANET M. VANANDEN HHS (-) 1-156 FA
MICHAEL VANITALLIE CO B 1-108TH INF
JENNIFER WHITAKER DET 1 CO B 2 BN 108 INF
BRANDON C. WHITE CO A (-) 1 BN 105 INF
GISELLE N. WILLIAMS 102D MAINTENANCE CO
NATHAN R. WOOD BTRY C 1 BN 156 FA
ANDREW ZALIKOWSKI HHD ENGINEER BDE 42 ID
MATTHEW ZIMMERMAN CO C (-) 2 BN 108 INF

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS

ADAM G. ANDERSON CO A 1-127TH ARMOR
SHEPHERD ANDERSON 145TH MAINTENANCE CO
PATRICK J. APPNEL JR HSC (-) 642D SUPPORT BN
GERALD I. ARCELIN CO B 642D SUPPORT BN
MALVYN J. BACOTT JR HHD 342D FWD SPT BN
JORGE O. BARDON HHD 206 CORPS SPT BN
NYRISHA A. BECKMAN HHC 152D ENGINEER BN
PETER J. BERGEN DET 1 HHS 1-156TH FA
MATTHEW I. BILOW CO B (-) 2 BN 108 INF
TABITHA BOROWSKY HHS (-) 1-156 FA
CALVIN L. BROWN DET 1 CO A 427TH SPT BN
GREGORY J. BURKE CO B (-) 1 BN 105TH INF
NICHOLAS CABRERA CO D 1-108TH INF
LEO N. CAPRIA III CO D 2-108 IN
STEVEN J. CARPENTER 442D MP CO (-)
JUSTO CARRION CO A 342D FWD SPT BN

MICHAEL R. CASTER	DET 2 CO C 1-108TH INF	LENNY A. MURILLO	145TH MAINTENANCE CO	ROGER M. BROWN	CO A (-) 1-108TH INF
DARREN CECKANOWICZ	CO A (-) 1 BN 105 INF	STEPHEN D. OBIT	CO D 2-108 IN	DANIEL D. BRYANT	145TH MAINTENANCE CO
THOMAS C. CHURCH	COE 1-69TH INFANTRY (M)	MAURICIO R.	DET 1 1569TH TRANS CO	LOUIS M. BURGIO	CO B 1-108TH INF
AMANDA C. CIESLAK	105 MP CO (-)	PETER C. PELITERA	DET 1 HHC 1-108TH INF	COREY E. BUSKEY	CO B (-) 2 BN 108 INF
SHAWN E. COLE	DET 1 CO A 427TH SPT BN	JASON T. PIACENTE	4TH PERSONNEL SVC DET	STEVEN BYERWALTERS	CO D 1-105 INF
GARY COLEMAN	BTRY C 1 BN 156 FA	ALBERT D. PRAGA III	HHC 1-105TH INF	VERNAL F. CARPENTER	CO B 1-127TH ARMOR
FRANCISCO J. COLON	HHC 107TH SUPPORT GROUP	GREGORY A. QUINN	DET 1 HHS 1-156TH FA	DAVID J. CASEY	HHC 1-105TH INF
EUGENE L. CORBETT	BTRY C 1 BN 156 FA	EVITA C. RAMOS	HHC 107TH SUPPORT GROUP	EDGAR D. CASTILLO	145TH MAINTENANCE CO
WILFREDO I. CORDOVA	HHC 1-101ST CAVALRY	DEMETRIUS RICHARDSON	7TH FINANCE DET	DONNA J. CASTRO	CO B 642D SUPPORT BN
DONNA M. CORNELIUS	CO A 342D FWD SPT BN	CARLOS J. RIVERA	719 TRANS CO (MDM TRK)	CHARLES E. CAYEA	CO B (-) 2 BN 108 INF
JOSE E. CRUZ JR	145TH MAINTENANCE CO	ZACHARY ROBERTSON	HHC 1-258TH FA	MATTHEW W. CHASE	DET 2 CO B 2 BN 108 INF
JUSTIN N. CUMMINS	CO C (-) 427TH SPT BN	CHRISTOPHER D. ROCK	CO B (-) 2 BN 108 INF	KEVIN M. COFFEY	DET 5 HQ STARC-NY
HENRY DACOSTA GOMEZ	HHC 42 IN DIV (-)	JEFFREY M. ROCK	CO B (-) 2 BN 108 INF	BRIAN J. COLLIER	CO A 1-69TH INFANTRY (M)
ANDREW A. DAS	CO B (-) 1 BN 105TH INF	MARCO A. ROLDAN	SERVICE BTRY 1-258TH FA	RONALD E. COLLISON	CO C (-) 2 BN 108 INF
JUAN C. DISEN	7TH FINANCE DET	MARIECHA G. ROWE	DET 5 HQ STARC-NY	JUAN P. CORREA	145TH MAINTENANCE CO
JACQUELINE DIXON	719 TRANS CO (MDM TRK)	ANTHONY F. RUSSO	CO D 1-101ST CAVALRY	JEREMY C. COX	CO B 1-108TH INF
MATTHEW J. DONALS	CO A (-) 1-108TH INF	MICHAEL R. SABOL	HHC 3D BDE 42ID	BRIAN R. CRANE	DET 1 CO A 1-108TH INF
MARCOS A. DONES	133D MAINTENANCE CO	CHRISTOPHER SALHANY	CO C 152D ENGINEER BN	CHRISTOPHER CUMMINGS	H & S CO 204 ENGR BN
JONATHAN DORNBUSH	CO C 230TH SIGNAL BN	DANIEL W. SEMPLE	HHC (-) 27TH IN BDE	DAVID C. DARGAN	HHS (-) 1-156 FA
DIANA M. DURAN	HHC (-) 27TH IN BDE	REGAN M. SHARRON	DET 1 CO C 427TH SPT BN	ANDREW J. DAVIS JR	TROOPE 101ST CAVALRY
MAXIMO FERNANDEZ	DET 1 CO C 204TH EN BN	MARK S. SHAUT	DET 1 HHC 1-108TH INF	MARK F. EGGLESTON	CO A 1-127TH ARMOR
JESSE FIGUEROA	DET 1 1569TH TRANS CO	KEVIN SHELANSKEY JR	107TH MP CO (-)	FRANK N. EHLERS	HHC 1-101ST CAVALRY
MICHAEL J. FOX	CO B 1-108TH INF	DUANE R. SIMMONS JR	HHC 2 BN 108 INF	JOSHUA A. ELLIOT	BTRY A 1 BN 156 FA
MIKE E. GOMAN	CO A (-) 2 BN 108 INF	DUSTIN J. SMITH	CO B (-) 2 BN 108 INF	JOSE A. ESQUILIN JR	105 MP CO (-)
WAYLON K. GOODING	DET 1 107TH MP CO	FRANCIS J. SMITH JR	HHS (-) 1-156 FA	CHUCK A. EVANS JR	CO B 1-69TH INFANTRY (M)
CLEED L. HARRIS JR	145TH MAINTENANCE CO	REBECCA L. SMITH	HHC 152D ENGINEER BN	COREY M. FEHLN	DET 1 CO A 2 BN 108 INF
JAMAR J. HARRISON	DET 1 107TH MP CO	DANA E. SOMERVILLE	HHC 1-101ST CAVALRY	NICHOLAS L. FOELS	CO B 1-108TH INF
KAREN C. HAYNES	DET 2 CO B 50TH MSB	ERIC A. SPITALE	CO B 1-127TH ARMOR	HASHANI FORRESTER	CO A 1-69TH INFANTRY (M)
GAVIN L. HEADLEY	CO C (-) 204TH ENGR BN	CASANDRA M. STONE	CO B (-) 204 EN BN (CBTHVY)	ROGER K. FREEMAN	CO B 342D FWD SPT BN
MICHAEL R. HEBERT	CO B 1-108TH INF	SHIH K. SU	CO A 642D SUPPORT BN	KHIA O. FULTON	HHC 107TH SUPPORT GROUP
JAMIE M. HERMAN	HHC 3D BDE 42ID	GABRIEL L. SWARTZ	BTRY A 1 BN 156 FA	CARLOS A. GARCIA JR	HHB 1-258TH FA
DANIEL R. HEUMAN	HHC 42 IN DIV (-)	DANIEL J. SWIFT	CO A (-) 1 BN 105 INF	JOHN R. GILBERT III	HHC 3-142D AVIATION
KYLE R. HOBART	CO B (-) 427TH SPT BN	KEVIN J. SWINT	CO E 3-142D AVIATION	JOSE O. GOMEZ	CO C (-) 204TH ENGR BN
MARTY G. HUNT	HHC 2 BN 108 INF	PATRICK J. TEEHAN	CO A (-) 1 BN 105 INF	ALEKSEY GONOPOLSKIY	CO A 1-69TH INFANTRY (M)
JEFFREY JACKSON	DET 1 1569TH TRANS CO	ANDREAS P. THID	BTRY B 1 BN 156 FA	NOEL GONZALEZ	CO A 1-69TH INFANTRY (M)
ERIC R. JOHNSON	DET 5 HQ STARC-NY	AARON M. TISDALE	HSC (-) 642D SUPPORT BN	MICHAEL A. GRAHAM	BATTERY B 1-258TH FA
ADAM P. JONES	HHC 2 BN 108 INF	NEFFERTITI N. TOWLER	DET 1 107TH MP CO	DESIREE M. GRAMBY	SPT PLT 152D ENGINEER BN
CHRISTINA G. JONES	CO B (-) 427TH SPT BN	MARK A. TRACEY	HHC 1-69TH INFANTRY (M)	EDWIN GUZMAN	37TH FINANCE DET
YOUNG H. JUNG	H & S CO 204 ENGR BN	BINH S. TRAN	HHC 1-69TH INFANTRY (M)	JOSEPH A. HARMON	DET 1 CO B 1-105TH INF
JENNINE M. KEARNEY	HHC 3-142D AVIATION	NICHOLAS P. VACANTI	CO C (-) 342D FWD SPT BN	DERRICK R. HOLDER	CO A (-) 427TH SPT BN
KELLY M. KENYON	DET 1 CO C 427TH SPT BN	CHRISTOPHER VANENBURG	CO C 1-69TH INFANTRY (M)	CHRISTOPHER HRONCICH	HHC 1-69TH INFANTRY (M)
JEFFREY M. KOPPERS	CO D 1-142 AVIATION	JEFFREY D. VASKO	CO D 1-108TH INF	ARRON A. INWOOD	HHS (-) 1-156 FA
CORY J. KROEGER	DET 2 CO B 2 BN 108 INF	ADAM VAZQUEZ	HHC 1-101ST CAVALRY	CHRISTOPHER R. JONES	CO A 1-127TH ARMOR
PETER T. LARKIN	107TH MP CO (-)	JEFFREY B. VECERE	HHD ENGINEER BDE 42 ID	ANDREW D. KELLY	102D MAINTENANCE CO
BENJAMIN J. LEE	BTRY C 1 BN 156 FA	MIGUEL VEGA	BATTERY A 1-258TH FA	SALEEM A. KHAN	BTRY A 1 BN 156 FA
DAVID C. LEE	HHC 1-69TH INFANTRY (M)	JUAN VELEZ RODRIGUEZ	DET 1 107TH MP CO	JI H. KIM	HHC 1-69TH INFANTRY (M)
ROBINSON W. LINGO	227TH MI CO	JASON A. WAITE	DET 1 CO A 2 BN 108 INF	CHRISTOPHER KO	CO B 1-101ST CAVALRY
ANTONIO R. LIPSCOMB	CO A (-) 427TH SPT BN	JULIE WALLACE	37TH FINANCE DET	ADAM J. LAGROW	H & S CO 204 ENGR BN
PANAUPIO LOUIS	DET 1 CO C 204TH EN BN	KELLEY M. WEAVER	CO B 1-108TH INF	STEVEN P. LAWRIE	HHC 427TH SPT BN
HENRIETTA LUTTERODT	DET 2 CO B 50TH MSB	RAPHAEL A. WILLIAMS	827TH ENGR CO	DONALD LEINFELDER	CO B 1-127TH ARMOR
SHANNON R. LYON	CO B (-) 204 EN BN (CBTHVY)	ALAN E. WITHEROW	DET 1 HHC 1-108TH INF	PATRICK G. LENEHAN	CO D 1-105 INF
SCOTT C. MACK	SPT PLT 152D ENGINEER BN	BRIAN D. WRIGHT	BTRY A 1 BN 156 FA	ROBINSON LISSAIN	BATTERY A 1-258TH FA
TINA M. MACK	SPT PLT 152D ENGINEER BN			JOHN E. LOCKHART	10TH TRANS (HWY REG PT)
DANIELLE R. MALONE	CO B (-) 427TH SPT BN	MATTHEW T. ALDRICH	HHC (-) 27TH IN BDE	JOSE L. LOPEZ JR	COD 1-69TH INFANTRY (M)
DANIEL C. MARCELLUS	CO C (-) 2 BN 108 INF	STEFAN N. ALI	CO B 1-69TH INFANTRY (M)	RAMON A. LOPEZ	145TH MAINTENANCE CO
ANGEL F. MARIN	HHC (-) 1-127TH ARMOR	YOUSIF ALMONTASER	CO C 230TH SIGNAL BN	MOISES E. LUGO	DET 1 1569TH TRANS CO
SEAN M. MARKHAM	CO A (-) 1 BN 105 INF	MAXIMILIAN ALVAREZ	1569TH TRANS CO (-)	MICHAEL MACIEJEWSKI	102D MAINTENANCE CO
KATIE R. MARRARA	HHC 3D BDE 42ID	ROBERT J. ANDERSON	DET 1 HHC 1-127TH ARMOR	MARTHALICIA MATARRITA	DET 1 105TH MP CO
MARK J. MASSARO	HHC 152D ENGINEER BN	JULIA S. ANDREWS	29TH PERS SERVICE DET	JAMES R. MAYO	HHD 342D FWD SPT BN
MARK MASTROIANNI JR	4TH PERSONNEL SVC DET	JESSICA R. ARCE	HHD 27TH FINANCE BN	HHS (-) 1-156 FA	HHC (-) 1-156 FA
ALTON G. MATTHEWS	BTRY C 1 BN 156 FA	JOHN M. BAKER	CO B 1-108TH INF	JEANNE B. MCCARTHY	DET 1 CO C 204TH EN BN
ROWAN E.	719 TRANS CO (MDM TRK)	DANIEL B. BARAHONA	COC 1-69TH INFANTRY (M)	MORIA F. MCCAULIFFE	CO A 3-142 AVIATION
LAWRENCE R. MAZAL	HHC 1-105TH INF	PHILIP J. BARR II	CO B 1-108TH INF	TALIA L. MILLS	29TH PERS SERVICE DET
CASSIUS F. MCCOY	CO C (-) 1 BN 105 INF	DONALD M. BASSO	DET 1 442D MP	MATTHEW MONDOUX	827TH ENGR CO
JOHN L. MCFIELD	CO B 230TH SIGNAL BN	ERIC A. BEAVERS	CO D 1-108TH INF	JERRY C. MOORE JR	HHC 1-69TH INFANTRY (M)
LEROY I. MCLEAN	719 TRANS CO (MDM TRK)	JARED A. BEECHER	H & S CO 204 ENGR BN	WILLIAM MOREHOUSE JR	CO C (-) 427TH SPT BN
TIMOTHY P. MECCA	CO B 1-108TH INF	STEPHEN J. BENT	HHS (-) 1-156 FA	MICHAEL A. MOSES	CO A 342D FWD SPT BN
SAIDA Y. MELENDEZ	HHD 342D FWD SPT BN	JOSEPH D. BIANCHI	4TH PERSONNEL SVC DET	ROBERT M. MURPHY	COC 1-69TH INFANTRY (M)
JAVIER MERCADO	HHS (-) 1-156 FA	ANGELA M. BORDACK	HHC (-) 27TH IN BDE	DEANNA D. NAGEL	DET 1 105TH MP CO
JENNIFER M. MICHEL	29TH PERS SERVICE DET	NISA T.	HHC 107TH SUPPORT GROUP	RYAN NAPIERKOWSKI	HHC 2 BN 108 INF
ANDREW G. MODEAS	CO C 152D ENGINEER BN	BRADLEY B. BRITTON	HHC (-) 1-127TH ARMOR	MELISSA S. NARVAEZ	COD 1-69TH INFANTRY (M)
LEROY J. MUCCI	CO B 1-69TH INFANTRY (M)	KENNETH N. BROWN	HHC 152D ENGINEER BN	JOSHUA J. OLEARY	HHC 1-105TH INF
				JUSTIN T. OOMMEN	CO B 1-101ST CAVALRY

PRIVATE

ANNA M. ORTEGA	CO B 1-127TH ARMOR
KEVIN E. PENDELTON	CO B(-) 1 BN 105TH INF
JOLENE A. POVITCH	HHC 1-101ST CAVALRY
JEFFREY L. PROCTOR	14TH FINANCE DET
MIGUEL A. RAMOS III	HHC 1-101ST CAVALRY
PAUL S. RAY	HHC (-) 27TH IN BDE
SEAN P. RICE	CO D 1-108TH INF
ROSAISELA RIVASRAMIREZ	H & S CO 204 ENGR BN
LUIS E. RIVERA JR	BTRY B 1 BN 156 FA
PATRICIA RODRIGUEZ	HHC 1-101ST CAVALRY
RICHARD RODRIGUEZ	227TH MI CO
MATTHEW D. ROHNER	CO D 1-101ST CAVALRY
ALEX ROMAN	CO C 230TH SIGNAL BN
JEREMY R. RUE	642D MI BN
FRANKLIN M. SALAS	DET 1 1569TH TRANS CO
DEANA M. SANTOSKY	HHS (-) 1-156 FA
GLENDA SARVIS	1569TH TRANS CO (-)
LEVI S. SAYWARD	DET 1 CO C 2 BN 108 INF
TIMOTHY SCHRAUTH	COB(-)204ENBN(CBTHVY)
BENJAMIN SCHWARTZ	HHC 1-105TH INF
EDWARD SCRIBER III	HHS (-) 1-156 FA
DONALD E. SEFCIK	HHC 1-101ST CAVALRY
LIZA M. SEGO	DET 1 HHC 1-108TH INF
CRAIG W. SHARPE	DET 2 CO B 2 BN 108 INF
JOSE L. SHEPARD	DET 1 CO B 1-105TH INF
SCOTT R. SKOMPINSKI	827TH ENGR CO
DEON T. THOMAS	29TH PERS SERVICE DET
ANTHONY R. TIRADO	HHD 342D FWD SPT BN
AMPARO C. VASQUEZ	107TH MP CO (-)
AURORA J. VERA	CO A 342D FWD SPT BN
SANTO VILLAR	CO B(-) 1 BN 105TH INF
JEFFREY W. WALKER	HHC 3D BDE 42ID
KERI J. WALKER	HHD 206 CORPS SPT BN
MARY E. WHITE	DET 1 CO C 427TH SPT BN
TARA J. WICHTOWSKI	SPT PLT 152D ENGINEER BN
JULIAN F. WITH	642D MI BN
NATHAN C. WOOLLETT	CO A (-) 1-108TH INF

NEW YORK AIR NATIONAL GUARD**PROMOTIONS****Colonel**

CLARK SPEICHER	NEADS
ANDREW BUZZELLI	105 AW
JOSEPH BULMER JR	152 AOG

Lieutenant Colonel

VIRGINIA HAMSHAR	HQ
DOMINIC ISOPO	109 AW
KENNETH TRZASKOS	109 LS
JEFFREY JOHNSON	152 AOG
MICHAEL WEIR	NEADS

Major

DARIN DENNIS	139 AS
BRYAN ELSWORTH	139 AS
WILLIAM SMITH	139 AS
RICHARD BRIDGEFORD	139 AES
MATTHEW LECLAIR	139 AS
RICHARD BRIDGEFORD	109 AW
GEORGE KOCHIS	106 RQW
ROBERT CARBONE	105 AW
BRETT GENNARELLI	106 RQW
JOHN WASIELEWSKI	213 EIS
DAVID BEIKIRCH	107 ARW

Captain

PATRICK BREW	139 AS
DANIEL PEREZ	NEADS
RAYMOND JOHNSON JR.	139 AS
GREGORY GLENNON	106 RQW

First Lieutenant

LAWRENCE WOOD	105 AW
KRISTEN CLARK	174 FW
KEVIN COSTELLO	106 RQW

KEVIN KELLY	106 RQW
ANDREW MIHALEY	106 RQW
WALTER MODDISON	107 ARW

Chief Master Sergeant

PETER TAUTZNIK	109 AW
PAUL BUTTERFIELD	109 AW
RICHARD DEYULIO	174 FW
ROBERT LICARI	106 RQW
STEPHEN STEVENSON	174 FW
JAMES ACORS	109 CES

Senior Master Sergeant

CHARLES MUSCATO	109 AW
EDWARD METCALF	106 RQW
RICHARD ESTRO	106 RQW

JOHN KOMPARE	105 AW
JUTTA BARTEL	105 AW
DONALD MACINNES	105 AW
RODNEY DUNBAR	139 AES
ELLIOTT MCGUIGAN	139 AS

Master Sergeant

TIMOTHY JOHNSON	109 CES
CHARLES FOX	109 MXS
WILLIAM G. DAVIS	107 ARW
DANIEL R JONES	107 ARW
DALE M. SELBERT	107 ARW
DAVID J. VENDITTI	107 ARW
PETER F. BUSCH	107 ARW
GLENN A DUBOIS	107 ARW

NY Establishes Warrant Officer Committee

By Chief Warrant Officer Charles M. Amoroso
HQ, NY Army National Guard

LATHAM -- Recognizing the need for increased emphasis in warrant officer management and procurement, the NY Army National Guard's Chief of Staff, Col. Paul Duttge and the Director of Military Personnel, Col. Cheryl M. Machina, authorized the organization of the first NYARNG Warrant Officer Advisory Committee.

This committee, chaired by Chief Warrant Officer Charles M. Amoroso, the state Command Chief Warrant Officer, is designed to serve all warrant officers under the overall guidance of the Military Personnel Officer, the Chief of Staff, the Army Commander, and The Adjutant General.

The committee is composed of senior warrant officers from each major command and military occupational speciality. The committee serves as a communication link with all the state's warrant officers. It provides, for the first time in history, the opportunity for warrant officers to participate in the management of warrant officers.

Committee members include Chief Warrant Officer Amoroso as chairman, Chief Warrant Officer Howard C. Haider as Vice Chairman, Chief Warrant Officer Renaldo Sardanopoli as 53rd Troop Command representative, Chief Warrant Officer Lawrence Sicheri from the 42d Infantry Division, Chief Warrant Officer Howard Smith of the 27th Brigade, and Chief Warrant Officer Jeffery Borges, Chief Warrant Officer Edward Krutka, Chief Warrant Officer Howard Warrington, Chief Warrant Officer Henry Cartmell, Chief Warrant Officer Michael Depew, and Chief Warrant Officer Shultz as Military Occupational Skills representatives. Lt. Col. Anthony Crawford, Deputy Chief of Staff, serves as the Chief of Staff's representative attending all committee meetings.

Several changes in overall warrant officer management and policies have been developed and approved for imple-

mentation as a result of committee recommendations. Changes include the establishment of the Monthly Vacancy Listing/Advertisement as the new method of position fill for warrant officer positions WO1 through CW4. The approval for the use of an application for a Certificate of Eligibility as an option for those soldiers for whom a current warrant officer vacancy does not exist. The central-

ized management of all Chief Warrant Officer Five positions, providing an opportunity for all eligible CW4s, state-wide, within a military occupational speciality to be considered. The involvement of the major command Warrant Officer Advisory Committee representative in the administrative review of warrant officer action requests.

The state Warrant Officer Advisory Committee serves as a sub committee to the national Warrant Officer Senior Advisory Committee, at National Guard Bureau (NGB). CW5 Amoroso, also serves as the North East representative on this committee providing a direct channel for information to and from NGB.

The Warrant Officer Advisory Committee has proved to be an outstanding vehicle to address

warrant officer issues and foster necessary changes. It is making progress in addressing critical issues, it provides a valuable communication link to all warrant officers within the state, and has elevated the overall management of warrant officers to a higher level.

The committee's current initiatives include a state-wide Warrant Officer Career Day and a Warrant Officer Web. The web page can be found at dmna.state.ny.us homepage. It has up to date useful information for individuals who are or want to be - warrant officers. It includes the vacancy listing, the procurement guide, and the latest Advisory Board minutes. The committee expects to update the web page monthly.



The NY State Warrant Officer Advisory Committee chairman, vice chairman, and major command committee members. The are, from left to right, Chief Warrant Officer Renaldo Sardanopoli (53rd Troop Command), Chief Warrant Officer Lawrence Sicheri (42d Infantry Division), Chief Warrant Officer Charles Amoroso (NY State Command Chief Warrant Officer), Chief Warrant Officer Howard Smith (27th Bde), and Chief Warrant Officer Howard Haider (Vice Chairman). Courtesy Photo.

PAUL J FRUEHAUF 107 ARW
 DWAYNE M GACZEWSKI 107 ARW
 VINCENT M GERVASI 107 ARW
 BRIAN G. HOWES 107 ARW
 RAYMOND L LLOYD JR. 107 ARW
 KAROL J. LOZINSKI 107 ARW
 NANCY L LYDELL 107 ARW
 LEONARD MARTINELLI 107 ARW
 JOSEPH M. POLAK 107 ARW
 BENJAMIN RODRIGUEZ 107 ARW
 JOHN M. SNYDER 107 ARW

Technical Sergeant

LISA ALDRETE 109 LS
 JOHN CASE 109 MXS
 JAMES HANAWAY 109 AGS
 DARRELL MAXIMO 109 MSF
 HEIDI MERRITHEW 109 MSF
 PAUL SCHILLING 109 LS
 VERONICA M. JADOCH 107 ARW
 PAUL M MOORE 107 ARW
 NGHIA Q. TRUONG 107 ARW
 JOSEPH S ARGONA 107 ARW
 JAMES E BAINES JR. 107 ARW
 JOHN A BARONE 107 ARW
 WILLIS E. BURTCH JR. 107 ARW
 JOHN J BYSTRAK 107 ARW
 STEPHAN J. CRYAN 107 ARW
 DANIEL FEHRENBACH 107 ARW
 PATRICK MCDONOUGH 107 ARW
 JAMES R. PALUMBO 107 ARW
 JOHN J POTERA 107 ARW
 LAURA M. TAYLOR 107 ARW
 ROBERT A WHITE 107 ARW
 KENNETH R. YORK 107 ARW
 JAMES L ZEAMES 107 ARW
 JON J ZYWICZYNSKI 107 ARW

STAFF SERGEANT

PATRICK HART 109 SFS
 SUZANNE MIELCAREK 139 AES
 PATRICIA WILKINSON 109 APF
 JEFFREY AUGUST 109 MDS
 STEVEN RAMOS 109 CES
 DENISE HAUSER 107 ARW
 KEVIN L. HUFF 107 ARW
 THOMAS M. KIERA 107 ARW
 DAMIAN L MARTELLI 107 ARW
 BRYON S. SHERRIFF 107 ARW
 ANTHONY N. BARRESE 107 ARW

SENIOR AIRMAN

ANDREW KWIATKOWSKI 107 ARW
 RICHARD S. BRAUTMAN 107 ARW
 PAUL R BOUDREAU 107 ARW
 LINDSAY R ESCHER 107 ARW
 JOSEPH A NEGLIA 107 ARW
 ANTHONY J RE 107 ARW

NEW YORK ARMY NATIONAL GUARD AWARDS**LEGION OF MERIT**

CHIEFARI, PETER A. COL HHD STARC
 MCINTOSH, JAMES D. COL HHD STARC

MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

BALFE, BRIAN K. MAJ HQS 1-156 FA
 BILLS, NELSON L. SFC HHD STARC
 BRADY, KEVIN J. CW2 HQS 204 EN
 CARPENTER, GAYLE N. MAJ HHD STARC
 CLEVELAND, CARLTON C. CPT HHD STARC
 DAVIS, AARON SFC 106 REGT
 DECUYPER, CONRAD J. LTC DET 4 STARC
 DIXON, DONALD E. SFC CO B 2-108 IN
 DUKES, FRANK R. JR. MAJ 106 REGT
 EDELMAN, ROBERT M. LTC 53 TRP CMD
 FISHER, JOSEPH SSG HHD STARC

FORNEY, SHAWN F. SFC HHD STARC
 GAUDIO, JAMES M. LTC HHD STARC
 GEBHARD, MICHAEL V. SFC HQS 204 ENGR
 JURACKA, JEFFREY J. SSG HHD STARC
 KISSELBRACK, EDWARD SFC HHD STARC
 LAKE, EDWARD C. JR. SFC HHD STARC
 LOTEMPIO, RICHARD J. CW4 HQS 27 BDE
 MARCHI, ROBERT M. II MAJ HHC 1-105 IN
 ORDWAY, BYRON A. MSG 106 REGT
 PENDERGAST, GEORGE SFC HHD STARC
 PFEIFFER, CARL E. MAJ HQS 2-108 IN
 SCALISE, BENJAMIN SFC HQS 2-108 IN
 TARNOWSKI, ROMAN J. SFC HHC 1-105 IN
 VAILLANCOURT, PETER SFC 106 REGT
 VARIAN, WILLARD G. COL HHD STARC
 WEILDER, JOSEPH H. MAJ HQS 27 BDE
 WHALEY, DANA A. MAJ HHD STARC
 WILLIAMS, WALTER CSM 53 TRP CMD

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL

ABBATOY, JAMES SFC HHD STARC
 CAMPFIELD, FLOYD SFC HHD STARC
 CAMPOLI, DENISE SFC HHD STARC
 CHMURA, DOUGLAS SFC HHD STARC
 COLELLO, DANIEL SGT HHD STARC
 HERNANDEZ, RENE SFC HHD STARC
 LOPEZ, VICTOR SG HHD STARC
 MEKEEL, DOUGLAS J. SGT DET 6 STARC
 NARDINI, EDWARD SFC HHD STARC
 PIETROWSKI, PETER M. LTC HHD STARC
 SANCHEZ, JOSEPH SFC HHD STARC
 STEGER, MICHAEL SFC HHD STARC

ARMY ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

BURKEY, WILLIAM R. SGM HHC 1-101 CAV
 BURLEY, CHRISTOPHER SSG HHD STARC
 COVERT, RICHARD SFC HHD STARC
 CRISTALDI, MARIO J. SGT HHD STARC
 CRUZ, NYDIA SFC HHD STARC
 DIAZ, JUAN R. JR. SPC HHB 1-258 FA
 DONES, JESUS SFC HHD STARC
 HUCK, STEVEN SFC HHD STARC



HUGHES, LAGRETTA SFC HHD STARC
 LAVASTIER, JULIANA SSG HHD STARC
 LEE, JAMES SFC HHD STARC
 LOMBARDO, CORINE L. SSG HHD STARC
 ORELLANA, YOOLLERR R. SPC HHC 1-69 IN
 PARDEE, JON SFC HHD STARC
 PARKER, JASON R. SPC DET 6 STARC
 PERRY, MOSE SFC HHD STARC
 RUSSELL, JACQUELINE L. LTC 53 TRP CMD
 SAEZ, GILBERT SGT CO C 230 SIG BN
 SCHOLL, GEORGE CW4 HHD STARC
 STUART, EDWYN SSG 442 MP CO
 WILKES, VIRGEE SSG HHD STARC

NYS CONSPICIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

CHIEFARI, PETER A. COL HHD STARC
 LOTEMPIO, RICHARD J. CW4 HQS 27 BDE
 MCINTOSH, JAMES D. COL HHD STARC
 ORDWAY, BYRON A. MSG 106 REGT
 VAILLANCOURT, PETER SFC 106 REGT
 WILLIAMS, WALTER CSM 53 TRP CMD

NYS MEDAL FOR MERIT SERVICE

GIBSON, CHARLES W. SSG CO C 2-108 IN
 MORALES, JOSE R. SPC HQS 107 CSG

NYS MILITARY COMMENDATION MEDAL

BURCH, FORD J. SGT HHD STARC
 DAVIS, AARON SFC 106 REGT
 DUTTON, TERRY H. MSG HQS 427 SB
 HAGER, KEITH E. CDT CO A 1-108 IN
 WHITE, RICHARD C. SFC HQS 427 SB

NY AIR NATIONAL GUARD AWARDS**Meritorious Service Medal**

JOHN S. PETRASKIEWCHZ MSGT 105 LSF
 ROBERT J. REILLY TSGT 105 MXS
 ANGELA M. TRAVIS TSGT 105 AW
 FRANK B. WINBUSH TSGT 105 MXS
 EUGENE R. SENGSTACKEN MAJ 102 RQS
 KEVIN FENNELL MAJ 106 OPS
 JOHN A. KRULDER MSG 102 RQS
 JAMES R. MIOLI TSG 102 RQS
 RAYMOND N. MITCHEL MSG 102 RQS
 ROBERT HAMPTON MSG 106 RQW
 CHRISTOPHER F. HARDEJ MAJ 106 OPS
 DALE J. STITZ CMS 106 OPS
 MICHAEL WERN SMS 106 OPS
 ROBERT A. HERREROS SMS 106 RQW
 CRAIG C. JOHNSON MSG 102 RQS
 JOHN W. SPILLANE MSG 106 RQW
 DENNIS M. DIGGETT LTC 106 OPS
 KEVIN D. METZ MAJ 106 RQW
 KEVIN L. ZELTMANN CPT 106 RQW
 JAMES J. FINKLE MAJ 106 RQW
 EUGENE A. GRASSIE CCMS 106 RQW
 RONALD J. DEJOSEPH MSG 106 RQW
 THOMAS GRUGAN SMSGT 139 AS
 CARLA ROCHON MSGT 174 FW
 CHRISTOPHER SCHMIDT MSGT 174 MAI
 MAUREEN McNAMARA MSGT 174 FW

Air Force Commendation Medal

ROBERT L. DANA MSGT 105 MSF
 ROBERT H. AUDETTE, JR. MSGT 107 ARW
 DENNIS C. CARROW TSGT 107 ARW
 TIMOTHY BONK MAJ 109 SVF
 DAVID BULL MSGT 109 OSF
 ROBERT KELLER MSGT 109 MXS
 SCOTT KING MSGT 109 MXS
 CHARLES FOX TSGT 109 MXS
 DAVID FOUNTAIN LTC 109 AGS
 CHAD SESSLER SSGT 174 LGS
 JAMES PILLION SSGT 174 FW
 PATRICK GARCIA SSGT 174 FW

JOANN FIORE MSGT 174 FW
 CAROL EATON SSGT 174 FW
 JOHN BUCCI II SSGT 174 MAI
 MARSHA ROWE MSGT 174 MAI
 NORMAN PIRAINO TSGT 174 MAI
 STEPHEN MACAULEY MSGT 174 LG
 NORRIS CONTO MSGT 174 MAI

AIR FORCE Achievement Medal

BRUCE J. LUBKEMAN CMSGT 105 LS
 KAREN L. DAWSON SSGT 105 LS
 LUIS OLIVAREZ MSGT 105 LS
 PAUL C. HAUG SMSGT 105 LS
 RICHARD A. DAVID TSGT 105 LS
 ANDY P. ANDREW SSGT 105 LS
 MICHAEL SPINATO TSGT 105 LS
 NICHOLAS L. ROSTANZOTSGT 105 MXS
 MARK E. TEETER MSGT 105 LS
 MONA M. JOHNSON MAJ 105 CES
 KATHLEEN P. SILENO SSGT 105 MSF
 ROBERT L. DANA MSGT 105 MSF
 HUGO M. RAMIERZ TSGT 105 MSF
 PAUL J. RIBAUDO MSG 106 RQW
 NICHOLAS GAVEGLIA TSG 106 RQW
 ALBERTO MEDINA TSG 106 RQW
 JOSEPH A. MIDDLETON TSG 106 RQW
 DENIS M. MIRONCHIK TSG 106 RQW
 WARREN B. FRANK MSG 106 RQW
 PAUL R. JONES TSG 106 RQW
 ANTHONY MOCCALDI SSG 102 RQS
 NICHOLAS A. DANGELO SSG 106 RQW
 JEFFREY J. BAKER TSG 102 RQS
 BRUCE J. TESTA SSG 102 RQS
 STEVEN D. VELJI SRA 102 102 RQS
 CATHY M. SWEENEY SRA 102 RQS
 LEON I. PHILLIPS SMS 106 RQW
 LEROY H. BALDWIN MSG 102 RQS
 JOHN A. KRULDER, JR. MSG 102 RQS
 JAMES R. MIOLI MSG 102 RQS
 CHRISTINA PERRIGO TSGT 139 AS

JENNIFER BARNES SSGT 139 AS
 DAVID CLARK TSGT 174 FW
 ROBERT DECOSTE SSGT 174 MAI
 NORRIS CONTO MSGT 174 MAI
 GARY LAGOE TSGT 174 AGS
 KIMBERLY JONES SRA 174 AGS

AERIAL Achievement Medal

DOUGLAS PRIESKORN MAJ 138 FS
 ANGEL FIGUEROA CPT 138 ES
 MARK RAZZONE MAJ 174 OSF
 TREVOR ALBRO LTC 138 FS
 JOSEPH PASCUZZO LTC 138 FS

NYS CONSPICUOUS SERVICE MEDAL

EDWARD A. MANN MSGT 105 AW

LONG & FAITHFUL - 20 yrs

JOHN R. STOOKS, JR MSGT 174 FW
 JEFFREY M. WILCZEK SMSGT 107 ARW
 VERNON E. CALANDER JR. MSGT 107 ARW
 MICHAEL A. MARGARUCCI TSGT 107 ARW
 STACEY M. LEWIS TSGT 107 ARW
 NANCY L. LYDELL MSGT 107 ARW
 DAVID K. SMITH TSGT 107 ARW
 ERIC V. WISOR MSGT 107 ARW
 BRIAN G. DAHL TSGT 174 FW
 TODD D. FLETCHER SSGT 174 FW
 NORRIS P. CONTO MSGT 174 FW
 TANIA R. MOUSAW LTC 174 FW
 JOHN REYGERS MSGT 174 FW

LONG & FAITHFUL - 25 yrs

ROBERT A. WEINS SMSGT 174 FW

LONG & FAITHFUL - 30 yrs

THOMAS J. KEOUGH LTC 107ARW

Naval Militia Readiness



Rear Admiral John R. Comins, Commander, Region III, New York Naval Militia presents the Josephthal Unit Award for Best Marine Militia Unit of 1999 at the Rochester Naval Reserve Center to Major Nafus, US Marine Corps Reserve, 8th Tank Battalion, 4th Marine Division. Photo courtesy of NY Naval Militia.

NEW YORK NAVAL MILITIA

1999-2000 Josephthal Awards

Militiaman of the Year(Navy)

IT1 Garrett Aldershoff NR VTU Albany

Militiaman of the Year(CB)

BUCS Edward-Baertschi N-27 Staff

Militiaman of the Year(Marine)

LCPL Jonathan Quinn Co. F,2/25 Marines Albany

Militia Unit of the Year(Navy)

NAVICP Philadelphia 02 Amityville

Militia Unit of the Year(CB)

NMCB 133 Augment Unit (Albany, Glens Falls, Watertown)

Militia Unit of the Year(Marine)

H&S CO 8th TANK BN 4th MARDIV Rochester

National Guard Honors Revolutionary Battle

By 1st Lt. David Douglas
 HQ, 42nd Infantry Division (Mech)

MOUNT VERNON, NY -- On the 224th anniversary of the Battle of Pell's point, October 21st 2000, the National Park Service honored those that fought and gave their lives for their countries with a wreath laying ceremony on the graves of the unknown soldiers which is located behind St. Paul's Church.

Both American and German forces were represented at the ceremony. American forces were represented by the



Capt. James Gonyo (right), US Army contingent OIC discusses the memorial ceremony to honor fallen soldiers from the battle of Pell's Point with C. Stevens Laise of the National Park Service and Col. Friedhelm Zweiner of the German Air Force. Photo by 1st Lt. David Douglas.

New York Army National Guard's Capt. James Gonyo from Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 105th Infantry and the German Forces by Col. Friedhelm Zwiener of the German Air Force. Both commanders expressed their gratitude and honor to participate in the wreath laying ceremony. They also conveyed their sympathy to the families of those soldiers who gave their lives more than 200 years ago.

New York National Guardsmen Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Lattimer, Corporal Chris Maher, and Spec. John O'Brien from Alpha Company as well as Spec. Michael Maher from the 1st Battalion, 156th Field Artillery comprised the US Army contingent for the memorial ceremony.

The unknown soldiers graves at St. Paul's Church contain six american soldiers and approximately forty german soldiers, all of whom gave their lives for their countries during the battle to delay the British envelopment of Washington's Army in 1776 and should be remembered and honored for their sacrifice.

C. Stevens Laise, a representative for the National Park Service and sponsor of the event was asked, "Why invite the German military when they were our enemies during te Battle of Pell's Point?" Mr. Laise responded by saying, "All of the soldiers buried here have one thing in common, they have sacrificed their lives for their countries and regardless of what country they come from they have made the ultimate sacrifice, we are here today to pay tribute to each and every one of them. As such, it was perfectly appropriate to have invited representatives from each of their countries to be a part of this ceremony."



NY Army National Guard soldiers lay a wreath to honor heroes of the Revolutionary War battle of Pell's Point. The soldiers joined with a German delegation honoring fallen Hessian soldiers. The battle was critical to General George Washington's delaying actions to save the Continental Army. Photo by 1st Lt. David Douglas.

27th Remembered for WWI Heroics

Pershing Doughboys Provide Living History 82 Years After Battle

By Maj. Richard Goldenberg
Guard Times Staff

BONY AMERICAN CEMETARY, FRANCE – The Orion Symbol of New York's 27th Enhanced Separate Infantry Brigade again saw service this September on a former battlefield of World War One. This time the Orion presence commemorated the 27th Division's action at the Battle of the Somme.

Exactly 82 years to the day that National Guard soldiers of the 27th Division entered the line at the Somme, a group of historical re-enactors, arrived in France to lay a wreath honoring the American Service Members or "Doughboys" as they were called during the Great War.

On behalf of the 27th Infantry Division, now reorganized as a light infantry brigade in the NY Army National Guard, members of the living history group known as the "Pershing Doughboys" deployed a squad in complete World War One uniforms and equipment to provide the honor guard for the commemoration.

Membership Executive Howard Aran said that the ceremony was quite moving for the participants, even after so many years. "Speaking for myself and I am sure the rest of the Pershing Doughboys Group, I would like to say that it was a massive honor for us to go to this historic battle site and honor the memory of those brave men that we have read so much about in the US history books," he said.



The Pershing Doughboys, largely active historical researchers, provide accurate and original uniforms and equipment for the re-enactors. The group conducts ceremonial honor guards for memorials as well as attending educational and memorial events to preserve the memory and significance of the American soldier from 1916 to 1918. "Being re-enactors- we feel more akin to the spirit of the National Guard 'part time soldiers' as we all have regular normal day jobs," said Aran.

Gary Howard, one of the Doughboy re-enactors depicting the 1st NY Cavalry of the 27th Division in World War One was also impressed with the scale of the American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC) Cemetery at the Somme. "The grounds themselves were as you can imagine in

pristine condition and of a wonderful architectural layout. We were made most welcome and were honored by being allowed to raise the flag on both mornings. The flag pole, incidentally, is the tallest over any US Graves Commission site in Europe, and is a hell of a sight to see and brought a lump to my throat on seeing it from miles away," Howard said.



The Pershing Doughboys regularly support Armistice Day remembrances at the United Kingdom's Brookwood Cemetery. At the invitation of the Somme Cemetery Superintendent Mr. David Atkinson, the group began planning to bring the Doughboys back on the continent to commemorate the contributions of the 27th Division and the American Expeditionary Forces of the Great War. "The funding for this trip took us three years to raise," Aran noted.

The sector of the 27th Division in the Somme running north of the French village of St. Quentin was one of the most heavily fortified sectors. Known as the Hindenberg Line, the Orion Guardsmen broke the German Line after four days of fierce combat on September 27, 1918.

"Having only ever read about the Hindenberg battles in the history books - it was very enlightening to visit the locations- One cannot help but be surprised by the total lack of cover in this area- which consists of rolling farmland and small copses of trees," said Aran.

One of the most striking areas of the battlefield is the St. Quentin Canal Tunnel, at that time drained and converted into a virtually impregnable for-

ress of wire trenches and machine gun emplacements. British forces had tried for three years to take the position without success.

Andy Bradley of the Pershing Doughboys wrote of the challenges the soldiers of the New York National Guard faced for the ceremony at the Somme Cemetery. Duncan Aran, Pershing Doughboy in the uniform of an Orion infantry Lieutenant and brother of Howard Aran deliv-



The Pershing Doughboys tribute at the Somme where the 27th Division, NY National Guard first broke the German lines in 1918. Above, a wreath is laid at the Somme Cemetery in France. Left and below left, soldiers in authentic uniforms drill on the silent battlefield. Below, a lone Doughboy walks among the heroes of the Somme. Photos courtesy Duncan Aran.

ered the speech at the memorial. "It was over this ground that the men of the New York and Tennessee had to walk. On September the 27th, 1918, the men of the 106th Infantry Regiment, 27th Division formed along a white taped line and waited for the whistles. Upon hear those whistles the New York boys prayed to their god and headed for the German lines. Their only protection was a 40 minute rolling barrage. They never had a chance. The British had been trying to take these same positions and had used up four divisions in the process. Now a single regiment was expected to achieve what four divisions had failed to do. The 106th fought into the night and gained many of their assigned objectives but without support and facing overwhelming odds, could not hold. The shattered remnants of the regiment fell back to Willow Trench and waited the remainder of the 27th and 30th Divisions to arrive.

"Two days later on September 29th, the 30,000 infantrymen assaulted the Hindenberg Line. In the annals of American History, there has been no greater show of steadfastness and courage under fire than that shown by the men of the 27th Infantry Division. No men have brought greater honor to their nation than these sons of New York.

"There is nothing we can say to add to their glory, their actions speak for themselves," Aran continued. "Nothing we can do will ever be enough to repay the debt we owe them. The least we can do, the most we can do is to remember them. This corner of France will forever be on American soil. The men who sleep here paid for this land with their lives, they were asked to do the impossible and they did it."



Top NCOs Meet on Personnel Concerns

By Staff Sgt. Cori Lombardo
Guard Times Staff

LATHAM — Command waivers, fixing overdue suspense promotion selections and standardizing Non-Commissioned Officer Evaluation Reports (NCOERs) were some of the significant issues concerning enlisted members discussed at a recent meeting of over 40 senior NCOs here.

On the agenda were attempts to find solutions to many personnel-related challenges facing New York Army National Guard NCOs and enlisted personnel.

The two-day Command Sergeants Major conference was held in late September. "The NYARNG senior leadership has entrusted us to identify and recommend appropriate and realistic changes to how we do business, as well as, reviewing our governing regulations in an effort to benefit our current and future members," State Command Sergeant Major Don Brawley, Jr. related.

Currently the STAP program, which stands for Select Train Assign Promote is forefront in the concerns of enlisted members. A strong message was articulated, encouraging senior enlisted members to take a more active role in their soldier's career development by educating the NCO support channel on its fundamental requirements. They in turn will be able to assist soldiers within their platoons and sections on the current regulations governing the program. This will allow individual soldiers to take initiative and responsibility for their own career development.

The forum, held yearly, provides attendees an opportunity to discover and discuss specific issues effecting individual major commands (MACOMs) in the state and an occasion to share ideas and experiences to effectively resolve problems and concerns on behalf of the enlisted members within the Guard. "Although the issues may be the same, the solutions are often different from one command to the next," said Brawley.

An annual dinner has become a tradition at the conference. It affords the opportunity to recognize newly promoted Sergeants Majors and honor those who will retire throughout the year. In an effort to mentor future leaders, NY Army National Guard unit First Sergeants were invited to participate in the meeting and subsequent discussions.

53rd Troop Command Awards Full-Time Staff

Guard Times Staff

VALHALLA --The 53rd Troop Command Headquarters announced the Quarterly Full Time Staff (FTS) Achievement Award for July-September 2000 to Sgt. First Class Edward Shiffert, Readiness NCO for Company A, 3rd Battalion 142d Aviation.

Sgt. First Class Shiffert was recognized for his outstanding efforts not only in his own unit but for his additional work in Headquarters Company, covering for the Readiness NCO who was away at school. Sgt. First Class Shiffert is a tireless Active Guard & Reserve (AGR) soldier who displays a genuine concern for his fellow soldiers and is highly deserving of this recognition.

Sgt. First Class Shiffert received a personalized 53d Troop Command Coin Desk Holder, a gift certificate to Blockbuster Video and a congratulatory letter from the Commanding General, 53d Troop Command, Brig. Gen. Dale Barber. Additionally, Sgt. Shiffert's name will be permanently inscribed on the 53d Troop Command Awards Plaque located at the Valhalla Armory.

The next Troop Command quarterly achievement award will be presented in January 2001.

Presidential Honors

ALBANY -- State Adjutant General, Major General John H. Fenimore this October presented a gravesite wreath for former President Chester A. Arthur on the



anniversary of his birth. The military ceremony is conducted each year on behalf of President William J. Clinton. At left, a joint color guard awaits the beginning of the ceremony. Chester A. Arthur, a former National Guard officer in New York, was elected Vice President of the United States and later assumed the Presidency upon the death of James A. Garfield and served until 1885. Photo by Maj. Richard Goldenberg.

Guard Trivia Questions Answered

LATHAM -- Looking back to the spring issue of the Guard Times and we'll finally answer your remaining New York National Guard Trivia questions. Again, the editors wish to thank the NY State Military History Directorate for providing the questions and answers.

38. The only U.S. military command to routinely fly to the Arctic and Antarctic is the 109th Airlift Wing in Scotia, NY.

39. New York had a "California Regiment" during the Mexican American War when the 7th NY Volunteer Infantry (also known as the 1st NY Regiment) specially recruited skilled young men who expected to settle the newly won territory after the fighting.

40. The only NY Militia officer always called "sir" - even when out of uniform and by civilians was Major General Sir William Johnson, His Majesty's Superintendent for the Six Nations, victor of the Lake George and Fort Niagara and an officer of the militia of the Province of New York.

41. Thomas F. Meagher designed the Irish national flag. Arrested during the Young Ireland rebellion in 1848, Meagher was sentenced to death but instead was transported to Tasmania for exile, from which he escaped and made his way to New York. After commanding the Irish Brigade and other units during the Civil War, he later went on to become Governor of Montana.

42. New York State Police are probably called "Troopers" because the first and second superintendents and all four original Troop Commanders were NY National Guard officers who had served in or with the New York Cavalry. The first training program for troopers was conducted at the NY cavalry training grounds at Manlius, New York.

43. The HELP in guardHELP stands for HEAR - EDUCATE - LINK - PARTNER. The program, inaugurated by Governor George Pataki in February 1998, seeks to use the state military forces' equipment and talent for decisive community improvement projects in a non-emergency role. GuardHELP cements the ties of Guard units to their communities: the Guard seeks to hear what

community leaders feel are the needs, educate them about the state's military forces capabilities, linking the needs to capabilities to achieve decisive results and innovative training, and then partnering with community members to accomplish more together than either the communities or the Guard could ever have achieved separately.

44. According to one account, the "stars and stripes" were first flown in combat by the defenders of Fort Stanwix (now Rome, NY) in 1777.

45. The New York State flag is based on the regimental battle flag of the 3rd NY Regiment during the American Revolution.

46. The New York State second Irish colors of the 69th NY volunteers are displayed in the Irish Parliament. President John F. Kennedy presented the battle flag in 1963.

47. Governor Pataki signed into law on July 31, 1996 the Recruiting and Retention Incentive Program - the "Tuition incentive" bill. It is the first modern state benefit for members of the NY Air and Army National Guard and NY Naval Militia. The program allows up to SUNY tuition at either state or local schools for qualified members.

48. The 106th Air Rescue Wing has saved more than 250 (and increasing continually) since it was converted to this mission in 1975.

49. The Veteran Corps of Artillery (VCA), a historic command of New York State, wrote the first air defense doctrine for the U.S. Army. Although no longer part of the organized militia of the state, the VCA offered its services to the Governor and the President in WWI. Members undertook (sometimes at their own expense) to study the latest French and British antiaircraft equipment and procedures. The results of their studies were incorporated into the US Army's first field manual on defense from aerial attack.

50. The first U.S. troops to garrison Hawaii were from the 1st NY Volunteer Infantry in 1898. Enroute to the Philippines during the Spanish American War, the regiment disembarked at Honolulu immediately after the annexation of the Hawaiian territory by the United States.

NY National Guardsman Gives His All for Veterans Arts Festival

By Major Richard Goldenberg
Guard Times Staff

WASHINGTON, DC – A former musician from the Rainbow Division Band revived his special talents this October as the gold medal winner for musical talent with the clarinet.

David George, a National Guard Staff Sgt. now serving in 53rd Troop Command, recently received national honors for his talents in the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival.

"It made me very proud to be among the ranks of the US Veterans in the Festival," said George, "especially having served with Army Bands in San Francisco and Korea as well as the 42^d Infantry Division Band for the last 15 years."

George is one of more than 100 US military veterans from across the country chosen for the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival, held on Saturday, October 21st in Washington DC. The stage show culminates a week of artist workshops and rehearsals. The individual performances of music, drama and dance provide the stage show while artists' exhibits drape the lobby of the Daughters of the American Revolution Constitution Hall.

Nearly 3,000 entries were evaluated in the year-long talent competition for all veterans treated at Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) hospitals and clinics.

For David George, the rise to the top of the Creative Arts Festival was unexpected and unusual. While waiting at a local VA hospital in New York City for an eye examination, Staff Sgt. George leafed through the advertisement for the Festival.

"I noticed some flyers on a nearby table with the heading, 'Creative Arts Competition' catching my attention. After glancing through a pamphlet, I decided to investigate further." Encouraged by the local Recreation Therapist Linn Schlaifer, George agreed to prepare entries to the contest.

"I decided to enter both the instrumental music category - on the clarinet, my primary instrument - as well as color photography. I chose a Benny Goodman/Charlie Christian tune called, 'AC-DC Current' for my pop music on clarinet entry and a violin transcription for the Classical Music entry."

Locally, Staff Sgt. George took first place in all three categories and sent off a video tape for the national judging in April of this year.

Turning his attention back to military matters and his responsibilities with the 107th Support Group in Manhattan, George deployed to his Annual Training in South Dakota.

Beginning a new career as a Procurement Non-Commissioned Officer last year, George packed his bags and deployed with the 107th to Camp Rapid and Custer State Park near Rapid City, South Dakota.

"To my surprise, (it) turned out to be a positive experience

- partly because we were able to see some of the historic national sites like Mt. Rushmore and Crazy Horse," George said.

After more than three months of national judging, Linn Schlaifer had great news for George after redeploying from South Dakota. With 96 VA facilities submitting entries, he had won first place in the national music competition, instrumental solo, pop category.

"Just about the time I returned from AT I got a call from the hospital, informing me that I had won first place and a gold medal in the Pop Instrumental category and was being invited to take part in a creative arts festival in our nation's Capitol in October. This was quite an honor, since almost 3,000 Vets applied and only about 125 of these were selected for this very special event," said George.

While in the nation's capital for the Arts Festival, Staff Sgt. George toured the White House and Mount Vernon, visited monuments in the area, and attended daily workshops focused on ways to improve the lives of veterans.

"The festival week is a time of celebration," wrote Elizabeth Mackey, Director for the event. "It is a time for recognizing our nation's veterans for the creative accomplishments they have achieved and provide them opportunities to strengthen and enhance these skills."

"It is a special honor and privilege to be selected to perform here in Washington, said Staff Sgt. George. "I have never received such a special award in all my years as a musician," he said.

George recommends this festival to all Guard members. "You too may learn you have a special talent and be able to share it with others."



Staff Sgt. David George from the 107th Support Group and formerly of the 42d Infantry Division Band, performs at the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival in Washington, DC. George was selected from nearly 3,000 applicants from Veteran's Administration facilities across the country. Courtesy Photo.

About Guard Times

The Guard Times is authorized under provisions of Army Regulation 360-81 and Air Force Regulation 190-1 and is a publication of the New York State Division of Military and Naval Affairs, and the New York Army and Air National Guard. Views which appear in this newspaper are not necessarily those of the Department of Defense.

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Articles, photos and letters are welcome. Please provide article submissions on a computer disk with a hard print out and a name and telephone number for a point of contact. We prefer stories saved in Microsoft Word or ASCII text. Submission deadlines are February 15, April 15, June 15, August 15, October 15 and December 15. Send your submissions to:

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Guard Times Address Changes

Changed your address recently?
Is the Guard Times still coming to an old address?

If so, it may be time to check with your unit administrator. Chances are, the old address is still listed at the unit.

Computerized shipping labels are produced for Guard Times at state headquarters from the electronic data base. This information is updated through periodic submissions from the field. The unit, SIDPERS, the Personnel Services Branch and military pay all need to have a document supplied by the soldier to change the home address.

Before writing us at the Guard Times about your address change, start with your unit. It takes about two months before the change hits the system, but, guess what! The Guard Times comes out every two months. So if you have verified the unit has the correct information and the Guard Times still came to the old address, be patient. The next issue should come to the new address.

Reminder. It is the soldier's responsibility to submit address changes in a prompt manner.

Complimentary or Back Issues

Complimentary or back issues of the Militia Times or Guard Times are available. Contact us at the address above.