



# PELIGRAM

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1979

## Mardi Gras Rolls as Troops Stand By

# Cops Walk Out — Guard Steps In

New Orleans was preparing for its annual blowout, but police and city officials were huddled in contract negotiations. Talk buzzed around the state about what role the Guard would play if police went on strike during the city's most hectic time, and hotel reservations were being cancelled from around the world following reports of a city without police during Mardi Gras.

Louisiana Guardsmen were called to emergency active duty for two police walkouts in February. The first lasted less than two days and had a call-up of about 100 troops. But the second walkout went on for more than two weeks and resulted in about 1900 Guardsmen being sent to New Orleans from every corner of the state.

Preparation for the second walkout began two days before the strike began, as Major General O. J. Daigle Jr., adjutant general, ordered the call-up of 650 troops. Before police walked off their jobs and took their positions on picket lines at 7 p.m. February 16, Guardsmen were at New Orleans police headquarters, district stations, City Hall, and other municipal properties.

The Guard was charged with the responsibility of protecting the facilities from vandalism from any source, and to assist the police when ordered by Task Force Commander Ansel M. Stroud Jr., assistant adjutant general.

In an unprecedented move before the strike, General Daigle asked for and received from Police Superintendent James Parsons commissions

for his troops. As a result the Guardsmen had the power to arrest, apprehend, and detain, although they did not use the powers during their stay.

About 300 Louisiana State Police augmented non-striking New Orleans police officers for law enforcement throughout the city. Some Guardsmen, however, equipped with police radios, rode the

streets in jeeps in high crime areas, keeping the police informed about suspicious individuals. Two Guardsmen on patrol were credited with foiling an attempted armed robbery merely by their presence.

Parades were cancelled in New Orleans, but it was clear that the revelry that belongs to the French Quarter on Mardi Gras would be hard to stop or reschedule to the suburbs.

Guardsmen were called on to maintain barricades at key intersections in the French Quarter to prevent vehicular traffic, extra state police were assigned, and the party was on.

For many Guardsmen it was their first in-person look at Mardi Gras madness, and there were surprises all day. Costuming was in order for the day, and Guardsmen encountered all manner of beasts—male, female, and undecided. Revellers responded to encouraging comments, refreshments, and an occasional kiss.

General Daigle said that it was the Guard that provided a "stabilizing force" during the crisis, allowing Mardi Gras to go on without major incidents.

Troops who participated in the emergency were presented with the Louisiana Emergency Service Medal  
*(Continued on page 7)*



A lone National Guardsman stands ready behind a police barricade in New Orleans while striking policemen pace along the picket line. Guardsmen throughout the state helped protect the city during the 16-day police strike.

# Killer Twister Strikes Bossier City— Guard Helps In Massive Clean Up Effort

It was a savage tornado which struck the Northwest Louisiana community of Bossier City in the pre-dawn hours of December 3, 1978.

It left four dead, two of them children living less than a block from the National Guard's Alfred Dixon Bond Memorial Armory. And it left the mangled remains of homes, stores and businesses in a path of havoc which amassed more than \$23 million in property damage.

Within hours of its passing, volunteers had already assembled at the National Guard armory as members of the 527th Engineer Battalion and 156th Army Band reported for duty fully aware that they would be needed during this time of crisis for the community.

As soon as daylight came, Major General O. J. Daigle Jr. surveyed the damage and ordered the National Guard into formal duty protecting the property and lives of the victims of the tornado.

By nightfall the numbers of National Guard members working in the disaster area had swelled to more than 250. They included members of the Bossier City Guard units, the 527th Engineer Battalion and 156th Army Band, and they included members of the 1st Battalion 156th Armor from Shreveport.

A special Task Force headquarters was established to work with the administration of Bossier City Mayor Marvin E. Anding, and members of the National Guard headquarters from Jackson Barracks were soon on

*(Continued on page 3)*



The Louisiana National Guard again responded to a community in need when a killer tornado struck Bossier City on Dec. 3. Here a Guardsman clears the debris from a wrecked school as a stunned teacher sits where her classroom was located.

# AG Says "Get Involved"

The Adjutant General is asking members of the Louisiana Guard to "Get Involved."

Major General O. J. Daigle Jr. has encouraged Guard members and employees to recommend recruiting leads to the state Recruiting and Retention office to build the strength of the Louisiana Guard.

The assigned strength of the Louisiana Guard is now at 77 percent, with particular shortages in the New Orleans units.

General Daigle believes that the assistance of members and employees is needed to have a successful, on-going program. All personnel are encouraged to

participate, since the general believes that the example of current members and employees will give impetus to recruiting statewide.

Project "Get Involved" will reward a member or employee if the recommended prospect enlists. For each prospect who enlists a Louisiana National Guard coffee mug will be awarded. Those who are responsible for six enlistees will receive six mugs, a plaque and recognition in *The Peligram*.

For additional information on "Project Get Involved," contact Major Orleans A. Jambon, Recruiting Office, Jackson Barracks, New Orleans 70146.

# Guard Sponsors Scout Troop

The Guard is looking for a few good young men. Know of someone in the Bogalusa area, 11 to 18, interested in scouting and in taking a closer look at the National Guard? Read on.

The 205th National Guard Engineer Battalion in Bogalusa is now sponsoring Boy Scout Troop 86. The program is open to all boys interested in hiking, camping, and in learning about and enjoying the outdoors. Since 1910 the Boy Scouts have been training and teaching young boys skills that they will keep all of their lives, perhaps even when they join the Guard.

Captain John Douglas of the 205th is hoping to use the Guard's expertise to help instruct the boys in

the many areas that scouting encompasses. Captain Douglas says he has some great ideas in the planning, not the least of which will be in April when the 205th is sponsoring a large Scouting show.

All the Boy Scout Troops, Cub Scout Packs, and Explorer Posts in Istruma Council will be there. It will be held at the Foil Memorial Armory, on the corner of Avenue B and Willis Avenue.

If you know someone in the Bogalusa area who might be interested in scouting, this would be a good time to come see what it is all about.

For those boys who do not want to wait, Troop 86 also meets at the Armory every Monday night at 6:30.

# Tickfaw Air Guardsman Awarded La. Commendation Medal



Pinning the Louisiana Commendation Medal on TSGT Robert Hamilton of Tickfaw is Brigadier General Carl L. Trippi, Chief of Staff of the Louisiana Air National Guard. Hamilton was awarded the medal in a ceremony at the 236th Air Traffic Controller Flight, Hammond Airport.

Technical Sergeant Robert B. Hamilton of Tickfaw has been awarded the Louisiana Commendation Medal, announced Brigadier General Carl L. Trippi, Louisiana Air National Guard Chief of Staff. Gen. Trippi presented the award at a ceremony at the 236th ATC Flight located at Hammond Airport.

In a citation to accompany the award of the medal was stated: "Technical Sergeant Robert B. Hamilton distinguished himself in the performance of meritorious service to the Louisiana National Guard while assigned to the 236th Air Traffic Control Flight, Louisiana Air National Guard, from 1 January 1977 to 31 December 1977. During this period, the outstanding professional skill, knowledge, and leadership of Technical Sergeant Hamilton resulted in major contributions to the effectiveness and success of his unit and resulted in his unit nominating him as Louisiana Air National Guard Airman of the Year for 1977."

Hamilton is assistant professor of Mathematics at Southeastern Louisiana University in Hammond,

but serves in the Air Guard as maintenance control noncommissioned officer in charge of that section.

When asked how he feels about serving in the Air Guard he responded, "As a math instructor at Southeastern, I see young people daily who could benefit from the Air Guard program such as the free college tuition program, excellent technical schools, leadership and management training, good pay and other fringe benefits as retirement pay which Guardsmen enjoy. And of course, he said, "I feel a great pride in knowing I am contributing to our national defense."

Hamilton has a total of 14 years service including four years with the U.S. Navy during the Korean conflict. He joined the Louisiana Air Guard as one of the original members of the 236th ATC Flight when it was organized in 1972.

Prior to this, Hamilton had been awarded the Good Conduct, European Occupation, and the National Defense medals.

He is married to the former Doris Jenkins of Tickfaw and they have three children.

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## Check IRS Deductions

Guard members are reminded to insure that they are claiming the correct number of dependents in their income tax withholding. The Internal Revenue Service said wage earners are entitled to claim one exemption for each lawful dependent, plus one additional exemption for each \$750 of itemized deductions in excess of the standard deduction. Unit ASTs should be consulted for changes in number of dependents.

### Pulaski

... ENGLISH TRANSLATIONS OF SOME COMMON ARMY PHRASES ...

by Gauldin

1. "AS YOU WERE..."  
\*I SAID SOMETHING DUMB... ANYBODY WHO LAUGHS IS DEAD WHERE THEY STAND.

2. "ALL PERSONNEL WILL REPORT TO THE MOTOR POOL AT 0930 HOURS."  
\*WILL BE MOVING OUT SOMETIME AROUND NOON.

3. "BUT YOU ARE SIGNED FOR IT, AREN'T YOU?"  
\*YOU'RE IN BIG TROUBLE.

4. "THE SUSPENSE DATE IS JUNE 6. ISN'T IT?"  
\*MAYBE I'LL START WORK ON IT JUNE 7, MAYBE NOT...

5. "MAN, THE CO IS HARASSING ME..."  
\*I GOT CAUGHT AGAIN.

6. "AND I MEAN EVERY SINGLE PERSON IN THIS UNIT WILL RUN PT!"  
\*I'LL BE LOOKING OUT MY WINDOW TO MAKE SURE...

Gauldin

### Col. Dwyer Presented Distinguished Service Medal

Colonel Ralph Dwyer was presented the Louisiana Distinguished Service Medal in January by Brigadier General Joseph L. D'Abadie, Jr., chief of staff. Col. Dwyer, former inspector general and a veteran of 35 years service, was presented the decoration, Louisiana's second highest, at Schiro Hall at Jackson Barracks, for his outstanding achievements and service to the Guard.

## Ellie Angelo First Female to be Promoted to Warrant Officer



SFC Ellie Angelo recently was promoted and became the first woman to obtain the rank of warrant officer in the Louisiana Army National Guard.

by E-7 Ken Barlow

"It was a lot of hard work."

Those were the words of the first woman to obtain the rank of warrant officer in the Louisiana Army National Guard.

Ms. Ellie Angelo has indeed worked hard for the honor she now enjoys. This opinion comes not only from a casual conversation with her, but also from a personal friendship that covers more than four years.

I have seen few people pursue a personal goal with the perseverance and determination that Ellie showed when she went after her warrant

bars. Ellie, a New Orleans native, began her military career six years ago in the Louisiana Guard and did a five-month hitch on active duty.

*Ellie is an energetic person who truly enjoys life. Her ever-present smile is a sign of the spontaneous friendliness felt by everyone who comes in contact with her.*

Ellie's four years of civilian personnel experience in the Guard



WO Angelo, in addition to her military career, enjoys animals. Here she plays with her Irish Setter and the seven puppies the dog recently had.

certainly helped her on the road to her CW1, but there are also her educational credits, which she has piled up higher than many people of her age and rank can boast of. She has a year of college credit in business, and she plans to continue college part-time until she receives her degree; seven hundred hours of subcourses in the personnel field; and three hundred hours of subcourses in related fields.

Ellie is an energetic person who truly enjoys life. Her ever-present smile is a sign of the spontaneous friendliness felt by everyone who comes in contact with her.

To say she loves animals would be an understatement. She has four birds, an aquarium full of fish, and an Irish Setter that recently presented her with seven puppies.

She even manages a regular night for bowling in a local league.

"I know all this sounds special," she said, "but really all it takes is a lot of hard work. Some goals seem to be out of reach," she continued, "and they will stay out of reach until you make your mind up to do what you have to do to get what you want. I'd do this all over again if I had to."

Ellie.



WO1 Angelo always has a ready smile and encouraging word for those seeking help.

## Killer Twister Strikes Bossier City. . .

(Continued from page 1)

hand to lend their efforts to the disaster relief.

Within 48 hours the numbers rose to more than 530 National Guard members lending their sweat and energy to cleaning up the mess left by the twister and helping the citizenry get back on their feet.

National Guard troops cleaned the debris from the Meadowview Elementary School, a part of the town most heavily hit by the twister, while school teachers rummaged through the rubble to find lessons, text books, anything which might be salvaged.

In three days time, the Guard had been credited with removing almost 7000 truckloads of debris from the storm-struck city, and the Bossier City residents were open in their compliments for the Guardsmen and women.

Publisher Don Willie of the *Bossier Press* commented, "We've been really lucky that the members of the Guard have been here to help out. The National Guard has done one damn good job!"

And his comments were often echoed around the cloisters of the Bossier City Hall where Mayor Marvin E. Anding paid his



Ellie makes friends with one of her pet birds. She also enjoys her other hobby, bowling.

compliments to the National Guard in the presence of news media representatives from throughout the region when he said, "The National Guard has done one tremendous job helping us. I don't really know what we would have done without them."

The Guard effort in Bossier City peaked on Friday, December 8, but by that time the Guard members had been involved in protecting the property and lives of the Bossier citizens, clean-up operations, and salvage assistance aiding homeowners and apartment dwellers by helping them move their furniture and household goods to a central

storage facility provided by the city.

Hundreds of wrecked cars were towed to the racing grounds, and men and women from Guard units in Ruston, Homer, Camp Beauregard, Jackson Barracks, and area units from Bossier City and Shreveport came away with a feeling of accomplishment.

As Command Sergeant Major Harold B. Cook of the 527th Engineer Battalion remarked, "We've been fortunate to have the backing of the people of Bossier City for some time, now. I guess it's our turn to return the favor, now that disaster has struck."



Members of the Washington Artillery Battalion direct the spray from a fire hose during a crash course in firefighting for Operation Firefighter I.



A member of the National Guard practices the techniques of connecting fire hoses to a fire hydrant during the strike by St. Bernard firemen.



Members of the Air Guard's 159th Tactical Fighter Group battle the flames from a structure in St. Bernard Parish during their role as firefighters during the strike in that parish.

The summer of '78 found the Guard at Annual Training. Here Guard members work on a building project at Camp Beauregard. 1978 was a year of growth throughout the state.

# 1978: A Year of G

1978 was a year of changes, challenges, construction and call-ups for the men and women of the Louisiana National Guard as both the Army and Air Guard members found themselves proving that, indeed, the Guard "belongs."

State Adjutant General Major General O. J. Daigle Jr. kicked off the year with an intense program called "Operation Involvement" which was aimed at improving management within the Guard by developing closer ties between the Guard's top managers and managers at the national, state and local unit levels.

Before "Operation Involvement" became a reality, however, Guardsmen from the 204th Area Support Group, the 3673rd Maintenance Company and the 39th Military Police Company were already involved in "Operation Tanglewood," a humanitarian response which saw them collect food, furniture and clothing throughout New Orleans for distribution to the families left homeless by a fire which ravaged the Tanglewood Apartments in mid-February.

In March, members of the Air Guard's 236th Combat Communications Flight traveled to Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada, and added their talents to Brave Shield XVII, a joint exercise involving Army, Air Force, Navy and Marine units from both the U.S. and Canada.

Then in April, the 159th Tactical Fighter Group tackled a 9th Air Force Operational Readiness Inspection at the Gulfport Air Guard training site, and flew away with a satisfactory rating setting it on a "par" with regular Air Force units.

### Guard Responds to flood

May saw the rains which poured more than eight inches accumulation onto New Orleans in a six hour period, and brought the city to a virtual stand-still stranding office workers, school children and homeowners, and crippling Hotel Dieu Hospital.

Members of the 141st Field Artillery, 773rd Supply and Service Battalion, 159th Combat Support Hospital and 3673rd Maintenance Company were called to aid the stranded citizens and assist the hospital.

In the period which followed, the Guard's "Gamma Goats" and 2-1/2 ton trucks were the only transportation which could travel the flooded streets and bring help to the stranded. And, when a decision was reached to evacuate Hotel Dieu, Guardsmen provided much of the labor and the litters to accomplish the task.

In May the National Guard Pistol Team made a clean sweep of all six matches held at Ft. Riley, Kansas, setting a record by winning all six of their matches and breaking three individual team records against teams from the active Army, Army Reserve units and National Guard units from a 17 state area.

### Annual Training begins

By June it was time for Annual Training for members of the Guard and the 256th Infantry Brigade, with its headquarters in Lafayette, found a few surprises.

First, there was a new commander for the Brigade, Brigadier General Ansel M. Stroud, Jr., the state's assistant adjutant general. General Stroud assumed command of the more than 3000 man unit on June 22, placing the native of Dixie, La., in charge of the largest organization in the Louisiana National Guard.

And the men and women of the 256th quickly found more surprises during their training at Ft. Riley in June. No longer a separate force, the National Guard's introduction into the Army's Total Force structure meant the 256th had become a full partner in the role of the "round-out" brigade for the 5th Infantry Division (Mechanized). The bright Red Diamond patch of the part-time soldiers was equal to that of their Red Devil active Army counterparts.

In July engineer units of the Guard reached the half-way point in a ten year plan to convert Camp Beauregard into a year-round training center for the national guard and reserve units.

Working during their annual training period, the Guard engineer units from throughout the state renovated buildings, built storage facilities, resurfaced roads, cleared and improved land, and installed electrical and plumbing facilities.

Stafford House, a log cabin, became a project of pride for the



# Growth and Action

Guardsmen as they made it into a comfortable, convenient visitors' quarters.

By September it was time for the official dedication of Camp Beauregard's facilities which now included a new armory, dining facilities, enlisted quarters, barracks, engineer training sites, administration buildings, and Stafford House.

Meanwhile, as most of the members of the Louisiana National Guard were training in their home state, members of the 204th Area Support Group were training in Ft. Lewis, Wa., with active Army members of that state's 693rd Area Support Group.

But work for the National Guard men and women did not end with the completion of their summer training.

## Guard called out during strikes

Fall saw the Guard reacting to a series of crises when firemen from St. Bernard Parish and Lake Charles walked off their jobs during labor disputes.

In St. Bernard Parish members of the Army National Guard's 141st Field Artillery and the Air Guard's 159th Tactical Fighter Group left their regular civilian jobs to man fire stations and fire engines and provide the communities emergency protection.

In Lake Charles, the 3rd Battalion 156th Infantry took over for striking firefighters when that city's firemen walked off their jobs.

Then in December, close on the heels of the work as firemen, the Guard members found themselves reacting to the devastation of a killer tornado which swept through Bossier City.

This proved to be one of the Guard's finest hours, too, as the members of Guard units from throughout the state helped pull the Bossier City residents from beneath the destruction of the twister.

Units from Shreveport, Homer, Ruston, and the Pineville-Alexandria area joined hands with the members of the Bossier City 527th Engineer Battalion and 156th Army Band to help out the hard struck community, and their fellow Guardsmen whose armory was heavily damaged by the storm.

Although these were some of the more obvious National Guard accomplishments for 1978, there were others which had as much if not more impact.

The Recruiting and Retention Division got a tremendous boost in December with the enactment of a program providing enlistment bonuses of up to \$1500 for some Guard enlistees and certain re-enlistees bonuses up to \$1800.

An educational assistance option was included in the package and added to the free tuition at state supported colleges which Guardsmen in Louisiana enjoyed for several years.

In 1978 it became possible for a member of the Guard to enroll in ROTC advanced programs and still be eligible for the free tuition, providing the Guard with another source for its officer strength.

## Work on armories continues

And there were the armories. From Coushatta to DeRidder to West Monroe work on armories continued in 1978 with major construction efforts reaching varied levels of completion during the year. The Alfred Dixon Bond Memorial Armory in Bossier City was officially dedicated in mid-October only to be severely damaged in December by a killer tornado.

By the end of November there were more than 30 major construction projects in motion, each valued at \$100,000 or more, and there were as many as 18 projects underway ranging in cost from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

The Air Guard received its first F-4 Phantom jets in mid-December, to replace the F-100 Super Sabers they had been flying for years. The Phantoms, noted for their speed and maneuverability, were a definite sign the Air Guard would continue to keep pace with the active Air Force.

The continued role of the National Guard as a full-fledged partner in the nation's defense and the multitude of emergency missions it performed throughout the state worked to upgrade the Guard in 1978.

With the coming of 1979 the Guard turned its attention to the changes, challenges construction and call-ups which are inevitably ahead.



National Guard members sift through the rubble of the Meadowview Elementary School in Bossier City following the destruction of a tornado which swept through the community Dec. 3.



One of the many homes and buildings damaged or destroyed by the Dec. 3 tornado that struck Bossier City.



Members of the 527th Engineer Battalion help homeowners in Bossier City clean up in the wake of the tornado which killed four people and did millions of dollars of damage.



← Annual Training was a time spent in practicing skills, like firing at the Ft. Polk ranges.

# Bossier City Killer Tornado Wrecks New Armory

When a killer tornado swept through the Northwest Louisiana community of Bossier City December 3, 1978, Command Sergeant Harold B. Cook, the top non-commissioned officer for the 527th Engineer Battalion, knew exactly what he had to do.

Cook was one of the first volunteer Guard members to gather at Alfred Dixon Bond Memorial Armory which had been officially dedicated just six weeks earlier, and which, for Cook, was a "home away from home."

What he saw on his arrival at the armory brought tears to his eyes.

Instead of finding a rigid structure toward which he had worked for almost five years, the Sergeant Major found a mere skeleton with walls which had buckled under the force of the twister's winds; jeeps and loaded trailers were strewn as far as 300 yards from the motor park; and broken glass littered the halls and offices.

But even as he walked through the debris which had been his "pride and joy" and that of the 527th Engineer Battalion and the 156th Army Band, Cook breathed a sigh of relief.

"The tornado struck at 1:48 a.m.," explained the top-kick, "but just 18 minutes before it hit, we were leaving the armory following a unit social function where there had been as many as 200 people at one time."

"If the tornado had struck when the party was going on, who knows

what the death toll might have been."

Still, the disappointment of the building's destruction remained on his angular face as Cook recalled the efforts which had gone into the



**December 3 twister wrecked a large portion of new Bossier City Armory.**

approval and building of the armory in Bossier City.

"I was one of the first members of the 527th when it was formed," he commented, "and from the very start we knew that an armory where we could conduct much of our business was a must!"

"So, while we were just getting started and working out of what was actually a truck stop, I started assembling the information and the contacts we would be needing to get a permanent armory underway," he continued.

indicated had existed between the Bossier City and Bossier Parish citizens and the members of their local Guard organizations.

Eventually a ten-acre site was found and the progress toward a permanent building was one step closer.

"About that time," Cook added, "We were moved to a corrugated metal building near the site which was finally selected, so we got to watch the construction take place almost under our own eyes."

The main portion of the armory was completed in 1977, and in the mid-summer months the men of the Guard units using its facilities moved into their partially completed new home."

An additional office wing was constructed adjacent to the main armory, and by the beginning of Fall 1978 the building and its addition were ready for dedication.

CSM Cook's dream was about to become total reality.

The Alfred Dixon Bond Memorial Armory was officially dedicated October 15, 1978. The \$1.5 million structure would be the focal point for many Guard activities yet to come—or so it was planned.

The killer tornado did much to alter those plans. But as CSM Cook indicated, "This has changed part of our plans, but it won't stop them. It's just too bad it has to be this way."

## Shreveport Times Praises Guard Efforts in Bossier City

If the worth of the Louisiana National Guard was ever a subject of debate, the actions of the men who came to the aid of Bossier City in the aftermath of the great tornado should dispel all doubt.

To say their work proved invaluable is an understatement—but how else can it be said.

The desire to be of assistance, their personal conduct and the efficiency with which the men fulfilled their duties, demonstrated a high state of training and reflects

great credit on them and on their commanders.

It seemed that hardly had the storm abated than the Guard was with us. Initially their duties were as guards, sentries and security men. Then on Monday night the heavy equipment rolled in and the task of clearing the rubble began. By Sunday night when the bulk of the guardsmen had departed the greatest part of the rubble had been trucked off to a landfill. Using bulldozers, front-end loaders and draglines, they

had emptied some 440 20-ton truckloads of rubble at the dumping grounds.

Other guardsmen hauled vehicles that had been wrecked or damaged to a secured parking area at Louisiana Downs and still others helped families load and haul furniture and other possessions salvaged from the wreckage to the A&P store designated as a temporary storage place for such goods.

Each of us should recall that these men are citizens holding regular jobs who serve at times of crisis such as this at usually a personal loss to themselves. Some leave businesses when the call comes, others must leave their jobs—often without pay—when the word goes out.

Certainly all of us not just those in the stricken areas but all of us, owe them a debt of gratitude.

Louisiana Adjutant General (Maj. Gen.) O. J. Daigle was on the scene early to help set the wheels in motion. Daigle was extremely complimentary of the cooperation his men received from local inhabitants and their willingness to pitch in and help wherever possible. When he departed his assistant, Brig. Gen. A. M. Stroud, a former area resident, took over.

At the height of the operations here there were 566 guardsmen pressed into service. How did they get here so quickly? That's a

testimonial to the organization and efficiency of our state militia.

The units that responded and did the tiresome work were the 1/156 Armored Battalion Hq. and Hq. Co., B Co. and Combat Support Co. of Shreveport, A Co. of Coushatta and C Co. of Vivian and Mansfield, Hq. and Hq. Co. of the 527 Engineer Battalion of Bossier City, A Co. from Camp Beauregard (Pineville) and C Co. of Ruston, which was later replaced by a Jena unit, and the 156 Army Band of Bossier City.

The 528 Engineer Battalion supplied A Co. from Monroe and B Co. from West Monroe.

Headquarters of the 225 Engineer Group, Camp Beauregard, the 1083 Transportation Company and personnel from the 2228 Engineer Co. (Bunkie), the 3671 Maintenance Co. (Camp Beauregard) and the 812 Medical Detachment (New Orleans) rounded out the helping forces.

The Times believes that a vote of thanks is due all of these men and units for their selfless aid and sacrifice during this time of crisis and appoints itself a spokesman for the community in offering it.

We can all take pride in their actions and rest the easier for knowing they are available in times of need.

*Editor's Note: The above is an editorial published in the Shreveport Times following the tornado.*



**Guard on Patrol in Bossier City.**

# Guard Springs to Action During Labor Crises

Labor unrest and a deadly tornado resulted in three call-ups of the Louisiana Army National Guard and Air Guard to State active duty late in 1978. It was an appropriate end to a year that saw the National Guard and Air Guard respond to a number of community crises.

The year-end flurry of activity began in early November when labor negotiations broke down between the St. Bernard Parish Police Jury and St. Bernard fire fighters. Shortly after the members of Local 1468 of the International Association of Fire Fighters walked off the job in St. Bernard, Gov. Edwin Edwards called upon the Guard to protect the 62,000 parish residents.

The 120 Guard members activated represented the following units: State Headquarters, 773d S&S Battalion, 3673d Maintenance Company, and the 39th MP Company. The Guard manned four fire stations and immediately underwent a crash training program.

Through the week that the Army and Air Guard replaced the firemen, they responded to many fires in the parish. Two National Guard members were slightly injured on Saturday, November 11, while fighting a house fire in Mereaux, La. The Guardsmen were treated at Chalmette General Hospital and released.

Sunday, November 12, the 120

Army Guard members were replaced by members of the Air Guard. The rotation from Army Guard members to Air Guard members avoided keeping the same individuals away from their jobs for too long a time.

The St. Bernard firemen ended their eight-day strike on Wednesday, Nov. 15, and relieved the Air Guard members.

## Guard Responds to Storm

Only two weeks passed before the



Members of Company C, 3rd Battalion 156th Infantry (Mechanized), check their hoses as they train for their firefighter role in Lake Charles during the labor action there.

Guard again was called upon to respond to a community in need. This time it was to preserve order and assist survivors of a killer tornado that swept through Bossier City in the pre-dawn hours of Sunday, December 3. In its wake four lay dead and hundreds more injured.

Almost as soon as the terrible storm passed, members of the Louisiana National Guard began to respond to the needs of a community

shocked by the destruction of the tornado.

Within hours Major General O. J. Daigle Jr., Louisiana Adjutant General, surveyed the destruction and ordered the National Guard into formal duty to protect the property and lives of the tornado victims. More than 250 National Guard members from Bossier City units including the 527th Engineer Battalion and the 156th Army Band, and from Shreveport members of the First Battalion of the 156th Armor, were activated.

Within 48 hours almost 550 Guard members were at work in Bossier City cleaning the streets and assisting residents to resume daily activities.

The Bossier City Guard was not only affected by the tornado by being activated, the storm also severely damaged the new Bossier City armory. But the Guard members cleaned up their armory as they helped clean up the community.

## Guard Called to Fight Fires

Shortly before Bossier City was rocked by the killer tornado on Sunday, Dec. 3, firemen in Lake Charles walked off the job in another strike. Once again members of the National Guard was activated to replace the fire fighters and protect the Lake Charles community.

# Mardi Gras '79 Rolls in Spite of Police Strike As Guard Protects the Streets of New Orleans

(Continued from page 1)

by General Daigle, by order of Governor Edwin Edwards.

Guard units responding to the strike included the following units: 2nd Battalion 156th Infantry, Abbeville; SRT-F, Monroe; SRT-D, Abbeville; SRT-C, Baton Rouge; SRT-E, Shreveport; 1st Battalion 156th Infantry; 205th Engineer

Two Guardsmen work to tow away a New Orleans Police car after its tires were deflated when it was driven over roofing nails possibly spread by striking policemen.

Battalion, Bogalusa; 204th Area Support Group, Jackson Barracks.

The New Orleans City Council extended its appreciation to the Guard in a formal resolution, thanking Guardsmen for their professionalism, patience, and also for their sacrifices of being away from their regular jobs and their families.



Louisiana National Guardsmen manned barricades throughout the French Quarter in New Orleans on Mardi Gras day to control crowds and to be available for any emergency.



Major General O. J. Daigle Jr., commander of the Louisiana National Guard pins the Louisiana Commendation Medal to the uniform of Major Vernon Blanchard of Breaux Bridge while the commander of the 2nd Battalion 156th Infantry, Major Gary Whipple of Houma looks on. The presentations were made commending the Guardsmen for their performance during the first week of the New Orleans police strike.

## Guard Receives 28-Wheeler. A 28-Wheeler? That's Right.

Every trucker knows that an 18-wheeler is the dream machine of gear jammers. But a heavy duty transport vehicle recently received by the Louisiana Guard goes ten wheels better than those pushed up and down the super slabs to the sounds of country music, CBs, and "fuzz busters."

The 28-wheel, 22½-ton tractor and low-bed trailer is the Army's newest heavy equipment transport vehicle, and the 1083d Transportation Company (Hyv Trk) of Homer recently received 12 of the "monster machines."

The tractor, called the M-911, is capable of moving any heavy equipment in the state, when coupled with the M-747, 60-ton low bed trailer.

The rig is designed to transport disabled main battle tanks or vehicles of similar weight and dimension along primary or alternate main supply routes, or from vehicle collection points or maintenance units.

Secondary missions include transporting non-disabled tanks or other vehicles over extended distances, as well as performing general cargo missions.

An eight-cylinder, v-type, two-cycle turbocharged diesel engine powers the M-911. It has an automatic transmission, which provides one reverse speed and five forward speeds.

The addition of the 12 new heavy transportation vehicles to the Louisiana Guard inventory gives country and western song writers a chance to record a new tune, "My 28-Wheeler Baby."



The Guard recently received 12 giant 28-wheel trucks capable of transporting tanks and other large equipment.

## NCO Academy Begins Third Year

The Louisiana National Guard Noncommissioned Officer Academy at Camp Beauregard has started its third year, providing vital training for reserve component noncoms.

The NCO Academy started operations in February 1977 offering only the Primary Noncommissioned Officer Course for Combat Arms (PNCOC/CA), and in 1978 the Senior Noncommissioned Officer Course (SNCO) was added.

A third course has been added this year, the Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Course (ANCOC), and the Basic NCO course replaced the PNCOC/CA.

The present offerings of courses provides the opportunity for all potential and existing NCO's to participate in the Noncommissioned Officer Education System, which is a major part of the Enlisted Personnel Management System.

The Basic Course is a leadership course for grades E-3, E-4, and E-5. Only 30 of the 208 hours are taught

in a classroom environment, with emphasis placed on field exercises. The course is taught over a period of seven monthly weekend assemblies and a two-week AT period.

The advanced course is for persons in grades E-5, E-6, and E-7, and the senior course is for those E-7s serving in E-8 positions.

The senior course has a management theme which uses the small group participatory study method patterned after the Sergeants Major Academy.

Last year 42 graduates of the senior course were returned to their units, and the primary course produced 51 graduates, three of whom were females.

The 1979 enrollments have 75 attending the basic course, 50 in the advanced course, and 50 in the senior course.

Those NCO's interested in enrolling for the 1980 classes should contact their first sergeants or unit commanders for more information.

## New Bonus Plan Approved

New enlistees and reenlistees in certain MOS fields now can receive bonuses for joining or staying in the Guard.

Enlistees with no prior service can choose a bonus of \$1500 cash or \$2000 in college education assistance. And members with less than eight years can "re-up" for up to \$1800 for six years, or \$900 for three years.

The plan is devised to provide additional incentive for enlisting in the Guard for extending enlistment. And according to Major Orleans Jambon, state recruiting and retention officer, the new bonus program and the "split training" program make enlistments in the Guard more appealing than ever to young people who wish to continue their education.

"Split training," said Jambon, "allows a high school junior to enlist

and go to basic training the summer between the junior and senior years. The individual can complete the senior year while drilling with the home unit, and then attend AIT the summer after graduating from high school. And if the person intends to go to college, the freshman year can be started without interruption," he said.

Jambon went on to say that a new enlistee can receive considerable benefits just for enlisting. He noted that the \$1800 bonus, in addition to regular pay and benefits and free college tuition for those attending Louisiana colleges and universities, represents a substantial sum of money.

Persons wanting more information can get in touch with any Guard recruiter.

## Share 'Hairy' Feeling With Us

by SP/4 Brad Gonzalez

While on active duty at the United States Army Security Agency Training Center and School, Ft. Devens, Massachusetts, time and again I came in contact with civilian personnel who were cleared to do maintenance on our aging barracks.

On one particular occasion I remember standing in the company street watching a group of civilians repairing a roof. It must have been ten degrees and the snow was piled up to our -- knees.

With the newness of basic combat training boosting the audacity of the troops, a couple of our fellows were prompted to shout at the workers, "Hey, you! Get a haircut." The workers, quick for a laugh, shouted back, "Grow some hair, boys." We had become the brunt of the civilians' humor.

Well, that's the way it was then, is now, but may not always be. The Department of the Army is always reconsidering its policies regarding hair and the serviceman. For years, haircuts have been the headaches of more than one company commander, and certainly the subject of many a barracks bull session. With enlistments down, a liberal haircut

## 204th Area Support Group to Belgium

Four members of the 204th Area Support Group, Louisiana Army National Guard, were "Belgium Bound" in mid-January as they headed for Brussels to watch NATO troops take part in Exercise Reforger 79.

The men from the New Orleans-based unit included Colonel Richard A. Kuntz, commander of the unit and a native of New Orleans; Lieutenant Colonel Charles G. Matthews from Gretna, the personnel officer for the organization; Major Robert Williams, from Jackson Barracks, the Plans and Operations officer; and the supply officer, Major Karl N. Smith Jr., also of New Orleans.

policy may be one incentive to boost morale and increase manpower.

How do you feel about the length of your hair and the military? Can you be a good soldier with long hair, or does performance relate directly to regulation length hair?

Here's what some members of the Louisiana Guard had to say about the military and how they wear their hair:

Specialist Wood of the 769th feels that for him, the current DOA policy regarding haircuts is, "a way of life. Hair regulations have nothing to do with job performances, but they help maintain an air of discipline and uniformity."

Specialist Fourth Class Horne, who spent the last nine months with the 199th Support Bn., also feels that as far as job performances, the haircut regulations mean nothing.

Until the changes come, Guardsmen are going to have to live with things the way they are, but I wonder if Samson could have defeated the Philistines with a regulation haircut.

What do you think about hair regulations? Let the PELIGRAM know. Write PELIGRAM, c/o 241 PAD, Jackson Barracks, New Orleans 70146.

The trip is aimed at allowing the National Guardsmen to closely watch the support to the NATO maneuvers given by the 593rd Area Support Group, an active Army organization from Washington state.

Members of the 204th Group trained with the 593rd in Washington during their annual training this past summer and by monitoring its active Army counterpart during the European maneuvers the men from the 204th hope to gain more insight into their role in the Army's Reserve Component Deployment Training program.