



Vol. 2, No. 2

PELIGRAM

AT: 79

April-May, 1979

It's that time again!

Although the refrains of "Summertime and the livin' is easy" will undoubtedly be on the lips of many Louisianans this summer, for the men and women of the Louisiana National Guard the refrain goes something like, "Summertime, and the A-T ain't easy."

KICK-OFF

The bulk of the National Guard is gearing up for a series of two-week encampments this summer at sites throughout the state with the major portion of the units kicking off the season of their Annual Training (AT) either at Ft. Polk, LA or at Camp Beauregard near Pineville.



Members of the 256th Infantry Brigade will be fighting the dust of the tank trails around Ft. Polk while they work to achieve squad level proficiency.

The 256th received its own armored personnel carriers and tanks last year as part of the Total Force policy of the Army. That policy considers the Brigade a roundout unit for the 5th Infantry Division (Mechanized).

This year, the brigade will train at Ft. Polk from June 2 through June 16th and in one recent comment the Brigade commander, Brigadier General Ansel M. Stroud, Jr. said, "We're aiming to train on the squad level, which is something we haven't done before. But, I believe we can do it." The members of the Louisiana Brigade, in recent years, were trained by active Army instructors from the 5th Division. This year the brigade will "train its own."

During the same period, members of the 527th Engineer Battalion will be working the trails and roads of Camp Beauregard while also kicking off some of the vertical construction efforts to be completed during the summer.

Company B of the 527th will be pitting its skills against projects at Camp Villere near Slidell during the same period.

The period from June 2 to June 16th will witness the AT efforts of members of Headquarters Detachment of the 2223rd Engineer Battalion, the majority of the 39th Military Police Company and the 3671st Heavy Equipment Maintenance Company, at Camp Beauregard.

Meanwhile, Headquarters Detachment from the 773rd Supply and Service Battalion will conduct AT at Ft. Chaffe, Ark., joined by a detachment from the 39th Military Police company.

The second session of AT this summer will see the 205th Engineer Battalion heading into Camp Beauregard for more construction projects and training. Joining the engineers will be members of the 239th Military Police and a detachment from the 3671st. One detachment from Headquarters Company of the 225th Engineer group will conduct its AT at Camp Beauregard from June 23 to July 7th.

The 769th Engineer Battalion rolls into Beauregard June 30 for two weeks of annual training and will be joined

(See AT 79, page 8)



Notes from the FLAGPOLE

This Annual Training period is one of the most crucial periods we in the National Guard must undergo each year. It is the one time, outside of call-ups to state active duty, during which we can refine and modify our training and our ability to work effectively with each other.

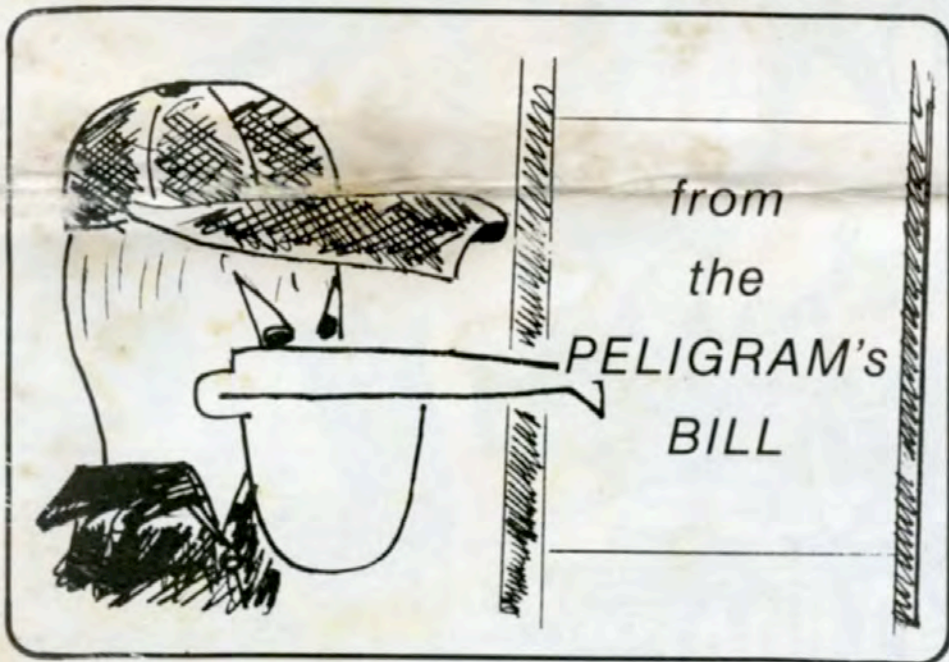
Annual training is our time to shine, to give it everything we have and to see just how effective we can be in our national defense mission and our ability to do our jobs.

Each person in the Louisiana National Guard must be able to look forward to these training periods. This period for many is the best training which they receive during the year.

In addition, we are on display for both our combined efforts and for the manner in which we perform and appear individually.

The Louisiana National Guard has done much this year already for which it can justly be proud and there will surely be more to come.

So, we each must do everything we can to insure our Annual Training is another in the growing list of commendable accomplishments toward which we can point with pride, the pride that comes from a job well done. We must do our best. We owe it to the Guard, to each other and to ourselves.



Dear Bill:

Why can't you just mail the PELIGRAM out? It would probably get to the individual Guardsmen faster and be better received, not to mention cutting down on some of the work I already have to do.

DISGRUNTLED AST

Dear Disgruntled:

The PELIGRAM is presently still getting on its feet and trying to become a genuine periodical. . . that is, getting to a point where it is out on time. It is still in its infant stages but growing fast.

However, it is by regulation mailed to the units in bulk in accordance with the number of people assigned to that unit. Ideally the PELIGRAM would be on the scene when the unit is drilling and could then be easily distributed. But we all know this is not the case.

Can the PELIGRAM be mailed directly to an individual? The

answer is "yes", but there are some requirements on the part of the individual that must first be met.

The PELIGRAM may be mailed directly to an individual who submits, in writing, a request to receive it at his residence. The request should be mailed to the Public Affairs Office where it must be kept on file. Anyone wishing to receive the PELIGRAM in this fashion would have to indicate that preference and include a current address.

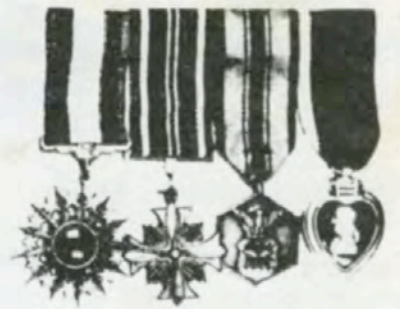
This newspaper cannot solicit this request, and in all cases other than those where there is a direct request the newspaper must be mailed to the unit for its distribution at that point. It is that direct and simple.

Can a unit submit a list of requestors for the newspaper? No—each individual must do so on his own initiative.

Those are the facts.

Bill

Awards and Decorations



The following awards have been presented since the last publication of the PELIGRAM to members of, and workers with the Louisiana National Guard.

LOUISIANA DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL

Major General W. Stanford Smith, Military Executive, Reserve Forces Policy Board, for his tireless and instrumental efforts which revitalized the Board and transformed it into a dynamic advisory body and a paramount spokesman for the best interests of the Guard and Reserve.

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL

Sergeant First Class Louis C. Bodin, for distinguished duty during REFORGER 78 as a member attached to the 7th Engineer Battalion.

Major Frank G. Pacholik, for meritorious achievement during the period from September 20 to 22, 1978, in which his efforts assured the timely logistics support for portions of the REFORGER operations.

Captain Charles M. Hammons, for his meritorious work during REFORGER 78.

Chief Warrant Officer Francis J. Sanders, for his continued meritorious service during the period from October 1, 1976 to September 1, 1978 as the chief manager for the Officer Personnel Branch of the Louisiana Army National Guard.

Specialist Five Vernon Primeaux for his professionalism while working with the patient care unit of the 5th Medical Battalion during the period from September 12 to September 26, 1978.

Sergeant First Class William L. Look for his efforts which resulted in 3000 accessions as the Command Recruiter Supervisor assigned to the 256th Infantry Brigade (Mechanized), and an additional 215 enlistments while working as the Production Recruiter for the 199th Support Battalion.

LOUISIANA CROSS OF MERIT

Major Curtis Hanks for his diligent efforts in transforming the 773rd Supply and Service Battalion into its present state from its previous organization as an engineer battalion.

Lieutenant Robert D. Hudnall, for his valuable assistance during the tornado clean-up operations in Bossier City.

Sergeant First Class Robert T. Turner, for his leadership and response to the devastation of Bossier City tornado.

Staff Sergeant Billy R. Thorn, for his work in initiating search efforts for survivors of the Bossier City tornado.

Staff Sergeant Gary L. Hammett for his efforts in organizing and providing maintenance, security and clean-up teams to work in the aftermath of the Bossier City tornado.

Specialist Four Jerry D. Rivers for his diligent recruiting efforts which resulted in 30 enlistments in his unit from September 1 to December 29, 1978.

OOPS!

In a story in the last PELIGRAM, the 141st Washington Artillery was credited with work in the St. Bernard Parish Firemen's strike. This was incorrect. The work was actually performed by members of the 39th Military Police company. The PELIGRAM regrets the error.

The PELIGRAM is a bi-monthly publication of the 241st Public Affairs Detachment, Louisiana Army National Guard under the provisions of the AR 360-81, and is distributed without charge to members of the Louisiana National Guard. Units or individuals wishing to submit articles to the PELIGRAM are encouraged to mail their submissions to "PELIGRAM, 241st Public Affairs Detachment, Louisiana National Guard, Jackson Barracks, New Orleans, Louisiana 70146." Opinions expressed in the PELIGRAM do not necessarily represent those of the Louisiana National Guard, or Department of the Army.

The Adjutant General Major General O. J. Daigle, Jr.
Commander, 241st PAD Captain Pete Wyro

For further information contact the State Public Affairs officer at (504) 271-6262 extension 227.

Where have all the Guardsmen gone?

"Where have all the soldiers gone?" The song made popular by the singing group of Peter, Paul and Mary in the 60's has become a reflection of one of the most perplexing problems faced by the Guard in Louisiana today.

The reason is simple. More people are leaving the Guard today than are enlisting, this in spite of a recruiting program which has practically outdone itself on many occasions by bringing in new people. The impact could be significant for more reasons than meets the eye. And, the big question is "why?"

To find some of the answers, Guard members and planners met March 24 and 25th in a seminar aimed at recruiting and retention problems and perceptions throughout the state.

Organized around three discussion groups from the major commands, and guided by a team of "moderators" and "observers" the enlisted and officer members of each group "let it all hang loose" and



kicked off their talks with an appraisal of what was "wrong" with the Guard leadership. Then they moved to the topic of training, from there to the personnel and administrative topics of concern, and from there to discussions of the career counselling and retention program as it exists.

Some 60 individuals attended the two-day seminar. They included Guard members in rank from private

first class to major general. One female Guard member attended the meetings.

By the time the groups had met for their first session and had compiled their findings into a report to the general audience composed of all of those attending the seminar, it became apparent that many of the perceptions were identical, although they occurred in different major commands.

Leadership, rather the lack of good leadership, proved to be the major factor identified by those in attendance as the reason for people leaving the Guard. More than one-third of those completing a questionnaire at the end of the sessions said their units' major problems were in the area of leadership. And, the perception of leadership as a problem was seven times more prevalent from the questionnaire than the two categories which were second highest in the balloting.

The second major problem area, according to the survey, was training with problems associated with unit pride and appearance farther down the line.

Few of the people attending the seminar indicated the problem of incompatibility with employers or their families was a major concern for retention. Three said the problems resulted from AWOL, and one said a lack of patriotism was the major problem with people leaving the Guard.

What's in it for me?

What's in it for me? The old adage goes on and on and almost everyone at some time has echoed it to himself.

But "what's in it" for someone to be a member of the Guard?

Without sounding like a recruiting message it would be pretty difficult to tell anyone just what he or she might expect for being a member of the National Guard. And some of the benefits would vary depending upon the time and the service one performs in the Guard.

So, don't take the list provided the PELIGRAM by the recruiting office to heart completely. Some of the benefits listed require a good deal of research to see if you might actually

fit into the categories for which the benefits were intended.

But just to answer the question "what's in it for me," take a look at the benefits qualified individuals can expect if they are members of the Guard.

There are medical and dental care benefits, access to the Military Affiliate Radio system and its worldwide stations, access to credit unions and the benefits from some unit funds.

In addition, there are the benefits from social security, standby authorization for commercial travel, space available military travel, and access to some guest houses.

Additional benefits include homeowners assistance, retirement services, benefits of the Retired Serviceman's Family Protection Plan, and the Survivor Benefit Plan.

Also, there is the awards and decorations, and incentive awards to individuals.

There is also motor vehicle training and licensing, access to civilian marksmanship programs, post exchange privileges, commissary privileges for some, the help of the American Red Cross and coverage under Serviceman's Group Life Insurance.

The United Service Organization is another of the benefits available to
(See What's in it? - page 8)

Problems, perceptions: now for some answers

If it did nothing else, the recent retention seminar held at Jackson Barracks at least pointed to some perceptions of problems which could be plaguing the efforts of maintaining Guard strength. But what were some of those perceptions and the problems they pointed to?

LEADERSHIP

One of the major problem areas agreed on by almost all of the participants was the effect that poor leadership, or the lack of leadership had on discouraging someone to remain in the Guard.

Specific problems included a lack of uniform punishment for AWOL in some units. Some individuals complained that their commanders came down "heavy" on a few Guardsmen in their units while they

handed out "light", or no punishment for the same offense to others. The overall effect was to indicate preferential treatment to the person getting the "light" discipline.

"Why should I care to hang around," one participant commented, "when I see someone who doesn't make half the effort that I do, and even goes AWOL, getting off without anything being done?"

The same preferential treatment was noted in the area of rewards. Some felt their commanders failed to treat everyone as equals when they were handing out awards and "attaboys" yet they concentrated on a few when it came time to mete out punishment.

Other leadership problems were concentrated in the area of NCO versus officer responsibility.

More than one NCO felt his officers had destroyed the authority of the NCO by interferring when the NCO was attempting to fulfill his responsibilities by using his rank to complete a mission.

"Why should I keep knocking my head off to get someone to do something at drill, when the moment I tell a soldier to do something, my officer comes along and tells him to do something else or nothing at all," one participant said.

TRAINING

Most of the participants felt their training lacked realism and was not worthwhile. Therefore it was a factor in causing people to leave the Guard.

"We spend too much time at drill trying to get our 'stuff together,' one man commented. Others echoed his statement saying their training

also lacked planning and provided them no satisfaction or reason to continue being motivated about what they were accomplishing at their MUTAs.

Another participant noted the lack of dismounted drill as a deterrent to unit pride, and the feeling of belonging to the unit. He, too, was echoed by the other members of his panel.

Other panel groups pointed to the training time they lost when a new individual was processed into their unit saying, "We keep trying to get to one level of training, and suddenly we're held back by having to hold off until the newcomer can get caught up to the group."

PERSONNEL, ADMIN

In this field, there were few
(See Problems, answers - page 8)

Dynamic duo tackles recruiting

BIFF! BAM! POW! The Dynamic Duo is back in action!

But it's not the caped crusader and his faithful partner Robin, this time.

Instead, it's a former Nevada showgirl who once posed as Batgirl, and her sidekick, who admittedly is a sports car fanatic.

The former showgirl is now, Captain Sharon L. Boudreaux, the new recruiting and induction officer for the Louisiana Army National Guard, and her "sidekick" on the recruiting and induction team is Lieutenant Wilmer L. (Leland) Bennett III, an avid enthusiast when it comes to his work and to his interest in sports cars.

Both, however, have set their sights on their work and believe in the product they are "selling". And, both stand behind the programs they promote.

But the selling takes some effort and like the dynamo of Batman and Robin, they spend much time telling the virtues of the 23 programs the Guard has for degreed people interested in its organization and benefits.

Unlike the dynamic duo of the television cartoon series and the comic books, this team of recruiting enthusiasts are not confined to the



RECRUITING DUO—Captain Sharon Boudreaux and Lieutenant W. Leland Bennett respond to PELIGRAM reporter Donna Morales' questions concerning their multiple programs for recruiting. (LANG photo by PV2 Donna Morales)

major metropolis of the city. Telling the Guard programs takes time and travel and that's the major portion of their efforts.

Both agree the National Guard is a place for "professionals" and they agree that those individuals who belong to the Guard do so because they want to be a part, or because they feel they have something they can contribute to their nation's defense and their state's need in emergencies.

Boudreaux calls the Louisiana National Guard "responsive" saying that is the "catchword" for the way

in which the Guard is regarded in the state's communities and countryside.

And, Bennett echoes much the same, saying the response by the Guard to the recent New Orleans Police strike and its response in time of natural disasters only adds to the good perception with which people view the Louisiana National Guard.

Boudreaux goes further, however, pointing out that in many ways the Guard already outdoes the regular Army and the Reserves.

Ready when the beacon shines upon the clouds of night, this is one dynamic duo who is committed to its work.



CPT BOUDREAUX



LT BENNETT

Sailor to Guardsman; and 30 years later

Editor's Note: From farmer, to sailor, to National Guardsman, and back to civilian after 30 years. The life and times of Chief Warrant Officer Francis J. Sanders, better known as "Curley" to his friends.

What an assignment to send someone on. Especially when that "someone" happens to be the son of the man who is to be featured.

But that's exactly what the PELIGRAM called for and it is what it got.

Here is the father to son story.

By: SGT Duke Sanders

Francis Sanders was born November 3, 1923 in the small town of Arcola, Louisiana. He grew up in what you might consider an average size family in those days; there was his mother, Lula; his father, Inglow; and his five brothers, Fulton, Harold, Bob, Aubra and John.

Most of Sander's early years were focused around farming. Due to the large amount of acreage the family owned, farming was a way of life.

He attended a small school that was conducted by his aunt. Grades 1-8 were taught in 2 rooms.

When he found time for the city, he and his brothers would go to Roseland, a city where "your fists

were your form of communication".

You could say Francis Sanders' military career started at age 16. He decided to "lie" about his age and attend the "Citizens Military Training Course" at Camp Beauregard in 1939. The school was terminated shortly after his arrival due to the progress of World War II.

Sanders joined the Navy a year later, and was enlisted in the Navy through the entire period of World War II. The ships he served on were the Sub Chaser 1045, Aviation rescue boat 1210, USS Bonifal and the USS Iowa Battleship. A highlight in his Navy career was the transition from "pollywog" to "Shell Back". Sanders explained that before you cross the equator you are a "pollywog". After crossing the equator you become a "shell back". During the whole day you go through an initiation rite that is "unforgettable".

At the end of the war, then E-6, Sanders was stationed at the Naval Hospital in Pensacola, Florida. Francis recalls the post war days as being financially tough. With an income of \$120 a month and his outlook on promotion not good considering the fact that E-7 was the highest enlisted man's rank, he decided to return to civilian life.

On November 2, 1948, he and his family moved to New Orleans where they lived with his wife's parents for 5 months. During this time he built his house with the aid of his father-in-law who was a carpenter.

Sanders was hired by Louisiana Power & Light but had to leave shortly afterward because he had a brother working for the company. The following day his brother-in-law informed him that the National Guard at Jackson Barracks needed clerical workers.

So, he reported to a Colonel Cave at 10:00 a.m. and at noon he was sworn in as PVT Sanders, of the Louisiana Army National Guard.

Sanders was assigned to the Headquarters Detachment 39th Infantry Division, and worked as an administration specialist under Colonel Cave. He climbed the ranks quickly and in May 1950 was appointed as an administrative Warrant Officer, CW2.

In 1965, now CW4, Sanders became the Administrative Specialist for Headquarters Detachment, Louisiana Army National Guard. In 1969 he became the Senior Command Staff Administrative Specialist in the personnel section. And, 1975 he was assigned Chief, of

the Officer Action Branch in the Directorate. CW4 Sanders announced his retirement in August 1978 and in December 1978 retired from his full time technician position with the Army National Guard. He will remain in the National Guard and drill with the Selective Service Section in part-time status.

FATHER'S DAY
JUNE 17



TO DADS
EVERYWHERE!

Readiness dominates NGALA conference talks

"Readiness was the major topic for both active and National Guard speakers to the 49th Annual Conference of the National Guard Association of Louisiana in the Lake Charles Civic Center April 21.

Some 500 National Guard officers throughout Louisiana listened to Lieutenant General Arnold W. Braswell, commander of Ninth Air Force warn that the traditional belief that the United States would have adequate time to draft and train replacements for its combat forces in the event of a conflict in Europe was greatly outmolded.

"The Soviets," he said, "have been and in effect are mobilized." He also stressed the personnel requirements and training needs to keep pace with the threats posed by potential enemies.

The veteran of 155 missions in Korea and some 40 voluntary missions in Vietnam also urged more joint training between Army and Air National Guard units to insure the combined firepower teams could function in combat.

Following General Braswell, Lieutenant General John F. Forrest, a native Louisianan and the Deputy Commander of the Army's Forces Command, stressed his belief that regardless of the manpower pool problems, the U.S. would be able to defend itself. Forrest was optimistic that the active forces would find a means of using the reserve forces and providing for their replacements on the battlefield.

"We realize the major problems," he said, "and we are tackling them one at a time, bit by bit and eventually we will solve them."

Louisiana Adjutant General, Major General O. J. Daigle, Jr., was not so optimistic, however and warned the group that the National Guard as it is presently known would be destroyed unless some provisions are made to beef-up the reserves to their required strength.

Daigle proposed the establishment of a registration system for all males and females between the ages of 18 and 26, with all males required to be classified by the selective service system.

Once classified, male registrants would be vulnerable to induction into the combat arms of the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) for periods from 12 weeks upward. They would be required to serve a six-year obligation with the balance after any active service being served in the IRR.

"Such legislation," said Daigle, "would insure the Selective Service System would be capable of meeting the Department of Defense requirements for untrained manpower, solve the IRR problem and provide additional motivation for membership in the unit programs of the Guard and Reserve."

General Daigle continued his presentation addressing problems in Title 10 and Title 32 workers under Full-Time Manning programs. He urged a change in Title 32 inequities which result in retirement pay differences between officers and noncommissioned officers.

In an afternoon address, Assistant Adjutant General, Brigadier General Ansel M. Stroud, Jr., called for continued emphasis on readiness saying all other matters were not as important as preparedness.

OFFICERS ELECTED

In a related activity, the members of the National Guard Association of Louisiana elected their officers for 1979-1980.

They are: President, Colonel Richard Kuntz; Vice-President, Major William H. Rutledge; President Elect, Lieutenant Colonel Russell A. Mayeur; and Treasurer, Captain William R. Hilborn. Appointed Secretary for the organization was Major Ignatius P. Purpera, Jr. while Colonel (Ret.) William H. Hogan remains the Executive Secretary.

Outgoing President Lieutenant Colonel Ralph H. Brown presided over the ceremonies and activities of the day.

Colonel George C. Connolly was named to a representative post in the first and second district with incumbents Lieutenant Colonel's Alvin Vath and Lynn Bergeron.

Major Gary Whipple remained as representative for the third district, Major Joseph Garland for the fourth, Captain Allen Brown the fifth, and Captain Maxwell Swinger, Jr., the

seventh.

Captain John Douglas became the sixth district representative and Lieutenant Colonel Urban E. Beebee the representative for district eight.



LTG BRASWELL



LTG FORREST



WELCOME—Lieutenant Colonel Ralph Brown, departing president of the National Guard Association of Louisiana welcomes Louisiana Adjutant General, Major O. J. Daigle, Jr., to the stage during the convention in April.



DISCO TIME—Members of the National Guard Association of Louisiana and their wives and guests relax to the disco beat during social activities of the 1979 conference in Lake Charles.



CHANGEOVER—Lieutenant Colonel Ralph H. Brown, (left), departing President for the Louisiana chapter of the National Guard Association welcomes his successor, Colonel Richard A. Kuntz in ceremonies held at the Lake Charles, La. Civic Center April 21. (LANG Photo)

LMA graduates senior, advanced NCO's

Almost 80 Louisiana Army National Guard members were scheduled at press time to graduate the Louisiana Military Academy Senior and Advanced Noncommissioned Officer classes May 6 with Major General O. J. Daigle, Jr., Louisiana Adjutant General on hand to present the honor graduate the Adjutant General's Award.

Those attending the course included:

SENIOR COURSE

SGM Edward B. Gainey, ISG's Ronald J. Cortez, Ward P. Cothorn, Harvey R. Harrell, MSG's Elmer L. Hathaway, Michael Vercher, SFC's Kenneth W. Barlow, Robert H. Bott, Jr., Jerry R. Galloway, Floyd R. Girlinghouse, Harmon J. Hatten, Marshall A. Linton, and Murrill R. Mims.

Also, SGM Adolph A. Boudreaux, ISG's Robert D. Addington, Vernon A. Dooley, Francis A. Vercher, MSG's Walter A. Alford, Ernest G. Guerra, William B. Levie, Alfred J. Nunez, SFC's Lendal Albert, Lloyd Baham, Jimmie G. Hagle, Donald Hebert, Billy F. Tubbs and SSG Louis P. Ray, Jr.

Additionally, ISG's Irvin J. Boyer and William L. Jones, MSG's Paul S. Abbott, Jr., Fred J. Bryant, Patrick R. Haley, Charles F. Lacour, John C.

Sage, John W. Shaw, SFC's Malcom C. Campbell, James W. Goss, Clinton L. Lounsbury, William D. Mayo, John J. Peterson, Oliver M. Vanderhoven, and Kerry G. Waguespack.

ADVANCE COURSE

SFC's Billy R. Brewer, James Tolliver, SSG's Charles E. Chastant, Elijah L. Christian, Gordon E. Dickerson, Ronald J. Driscoll, Gary L. Hammett, Marc E. McNeal, Richard F. Parrish, Daniel R. Strahan and SGT Richard W. Authement.

Also, SFC's Larry M. Billberry, Hilton N. Lenard, and SSG's Delia Desadier, Frank J. Honeycutt, Roger A. Hylan, Charles M. Lalanne, John E. Rod, Gary W. Sonnier, Albert B. Taylor, and SGT Peter McGruder and SP5 Leroy A. Vincent.

Additionally, SFC's Kathy Berlin, Joseph W. Comeaux, August Manual, Billy R. Honeycutt, Robert T. Turner, Steve L. Flenniken, Jerry G. Lewis, Ardie R. Roberts, Julious J. White, SP6 James M. Pugh, SGT Alvin Aubert and SP5 Everast A. Stout.

The rigorous training undergone by the graduates was conducted over several months with the men and women attending doing so in addition to their normal drill periods with their units.



WELL DONE—Even crutches could not keep Staff Sergeant John E. Rod, Company A, 1st Battalion 156th Armor from accepting the award presented to him by Command Sergeant Major John Saleeby during the recent NCO Academy Graduation ceremonies at Camp Beauregard. (LANG Photo by PVT Donna Morales)

Enlisted Association ends successful 1979 conference

The Louisiana National Guard Enlisted Association elected its new officers for the coming year at its conference in Lafayette April 21.

Elected for the 1979-1980 term were: President, Command Sergeant Major Jack D. Williamson; Vice-president (Army), Master Sergeant Riley D. Woods; Vice-president (Air), Tech Sergeant Andre A. Thibodeaux; Secretary, Staff Sergeant Karin G. Slocum; Treasurer, First Sergeant James H.

Dugdale; and Parliamentarian, Command Sergeant Major John K. Saleeby.

Louisiana Assistant Adjutant General and commander of the 256th Infantry Brigade, Brigadier General Ansel M. Stroud, Jr. spoke to the Enlisted Association members centering his remarks on the need for readiness and training commitments from NCO's and the Guard as a whole.



CSM Jack D. Williamson

SAVING
ENERGY
IS
SAVING
MONEY

DON'T BE FUELISH.



BG Stroud



CSM Saleeby

Floods force fourth call-up for '79

Torrential rains and drainage problems caused by the release of waters from the Bonne Carre spillway resulted in another call-up of National Guardsmen, the fourth this year, to aid citizens of at least a half dozen communities in Southern Louisiana when the rising waters inundated their homes in April.

Men from the Baton Rouge-based 769th Engineer Battalion worked around the clock during the initial flooding in Sorrento, Pierre Part, Gonzales, St. Amant, Baker, and Plaquemines areas to help families sandbag their homes and evacuate to dry ground. They also monitored the rising flood stages along the Amite and Comite tributaries and added their help as the flooding spread to Denham Springs and the Port Vincent region.

Aiding the 769th Guardsmen were

elements from the Headquarters for the Louisiana Army National Guard.

When the waters began to flow through nearby Slidell, approximately 15 men from the 205th Engineer battalion were called on to lend a hand as that community, too, became waterlogged by the rising Pearl River.

Governor Edwin Edwards overflowed the troubled area in a National Guard helicopter Monday, April 23 with Major General O. J. Daigle, Jr., Louisiana Adjutant General, whose own home in Gonzales was under an estimated three foot of water.

Almost 150 Guardsmen were committed to this fourth in a series of state call-ups this year aiding what Governor Edwards estimated as some 500 families left homeless as a result of the flood waters.

Air Guard retires "Super" Saber

a tribute. . .

*Together we have flown the misty skies
Dropped through the clouds to a dizzying tempo,
Climbed back to Heaven's Gates,
And dived through Hell's portals.
We have sped on the winds of time
And together have grown older.
You have been my steady steed and carpet
to the skies,
For years you have lifted me high and
now, it is time for you to pass on. . .
not to a final ending, but to
a resting place which soon those
which replace you will find.
You have been my ever present partner in
unending etherial flight. . .
And now in this departing
I will reminisce and say "Friend, Goodbye."*



Photo by MSG Ralph Lincks

AT: a look through history

by SP4 Morgan Banks

Summer is on its way, and with it, as we all know so well, is AT — annual training. And, of course, all that goes with it: the fresh air, the good clean exercise, the travel to foreign parishes.

As it so happens, a short time ago, your fearless newspaper staff was sitting around discussing how we were all looking forward to spending two weeks in the boondocks, I mean in the field, when our staff history buff brought up some examples of how men in uniform have always trained for their mission. His accounts were so interesting that we thought we would share them with you.

Take the Greek city-state of Sparta for example. All Spartan men were required by law to serve as professional soldiers, whether or not a war was taking place at the time. When the men were not out fighting, they all lived in military barracks, married or not, until their children were born. This sort of training, while admittedly making the men more aggressive, tended to ruin a man's family life, and incidentally, set an interesting precedent for living on post.

And let us not forget the troops of the great Carthaginian general Hannibal, whose training would have, of necessity, included a manual of arms for taking care of (and picking up after) the elephants he used in the campaigns against the Romans.

But, you ask, how about something a little closer to home? After all, wasn't this country founded on the fighting abilities of the average farmer, the militia, the famous minutemen? Yes, it was, but this ability came as a surprise to both friend and foe alike. During the French and Indian War, the British Brigadier Forbes considered the



American troops "an extreme bad Collection of broken innkeepers, horse jockeys, and Indian traders. . ." Nor was there much argument from our side, for Washington himself had

declared that no militia would "ever acquire the habits necessary to resist a regular force." This is perhaps an example of how seriously one should take expert opinion.

Consequently, as soon as Washington took command, he instituted a rigorous program of training, importing, as you will probably remember, Friedrich Wilhelm Ludolf Gerhard Augustin Freiherr von Steuben. Baron von Steuben, as he was known to his friends, taught drill from three in the morning until six in the evening.

To increase the solidarity of his troops, Washington also suggested that hunting shirts be worn "to unite the men and abolish those provincial distinctions." It seems that we have here another precedent, this time for the color green. (I await correction from those of you who know your military history.)

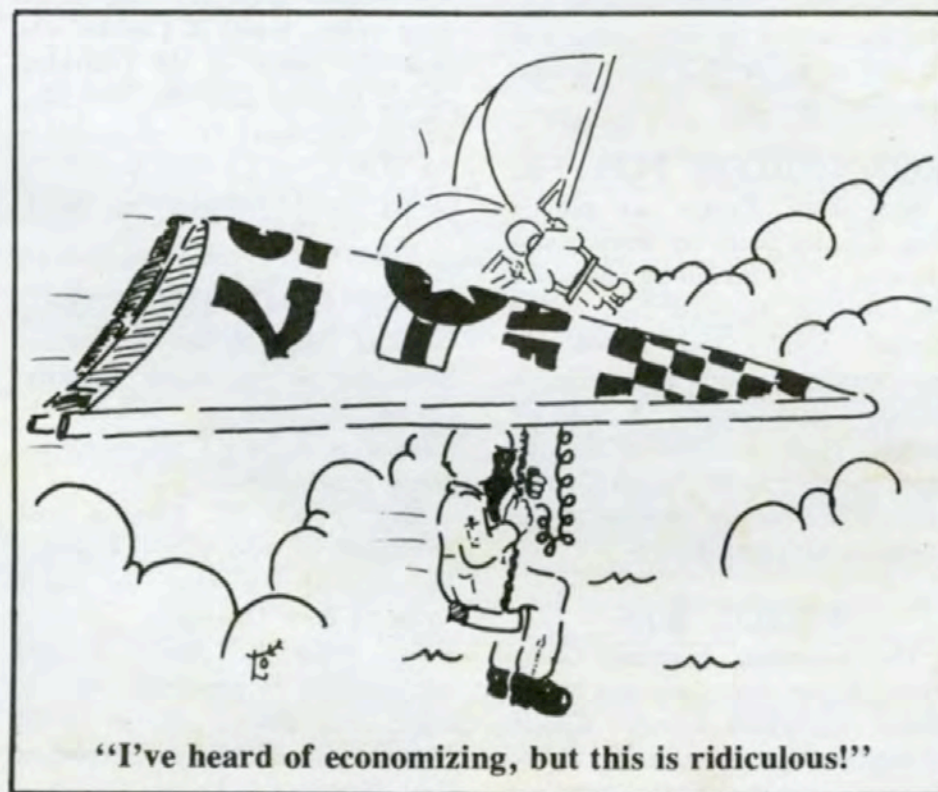
Interestingly, one precedent that did not take hold was that of the officers being elected by their men. I can hear the campaign promises now.

But now that I have you all green with envy, I must say that there were a few minor drawbacks to training with Washington's Army that winter of 1777.

The pay? Privates received a little over six dollars per month; sergeants, eight dollars per month; and captains, the remarkable sum of twenty dollars every month.

And if that isn't enough to dissuade you from time travel, punishment was, well, different. Offenses from disobedience and dishonesty to playing cards were dealt with by flogging. After the more serious offenses the miscreant was "to be well washed with salt and water". We must presume that some officers were not re-elected.

So there you have it, and as you prepare for two weeks of fun in the field, kissing loved ones and utility bills temporarily good-bye, remember how much fun you could be having, barefoot with Washington, supping with the boys in Sparta, or cleaning up after Hannibal.



AT:79

(Continued from page 1)

by the 2228th Engineer Company, a detachment from the 239th Military Police Battalion and the majority of the 3673rd Maintenance Company.

From July 14 to 28th, members of the 528th Engineer Battalion will tackle the challenges of several projects at Camp Beauregard with help from Headquarters detachment of the 165th Transportation Battalion, the 1083rd Transportation Company and detachments from the 239th Military Police Company and the 3673rd Maintenance Company.

During the same period, one detachment from the 165th Transportation Battalion and the 1087th Transportation Company will be training from Jackson Barracks.

From June 2 to 16th, Company B, 205th Engineer Battalion will tackle AT projects at Camp Villere.

Outside Louisiana, the 1086th Transportation Company will be at Ft. Chaffe from July 6 to 21st for its annual training.

At far-off Ft. Lewis, Wash., headquarters company for the 204th Area Support Group will be undergoing its training from June 9 to 23rd, while one detachment from the 199th Support Battalion will be

at Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo. during the same two-week period.

Rounding out the summer training, the Louisiana Military Academy, the 399th Medical Detachment and the Louisiana National Guard Youth Camp will be underway from August 5 to 19th.

The 156th Army Band, Headquarters Detachment for the Louisiana Army National Guard, the Army National Guard Training Site and the 241st Public Affairs Detachment will be tackling the job of keeping up with the AT for the remainder of the units.

Part of that task has been simplified, however, by the fact that several units will have already completed their AT.

These include headquarters company for the 225th Engineer Group which trained at Karlsruhe, West Germany from March 17 to 31st, and the 813th Medical detachment members who trained at Ft. Sam Houston, Tex. from April 28 to May 12th.

One thing remains certain. Although it's definitely "Summer-time," it certainly is not forecast to be easy. It's AT-79.

159th launches award program

Know a soldier deserving of some appreciation? If he or she is in the 159th Combat Support Hospital there is now a way to give them some concrete recognition.

The N.C.O.'s have just instituted a "Soldier of the Quarter Award" for enlisted members from grade E-1 to E-5 who have demonstrated outstanding qualities of leadership, grooming, performance, and soldierly conduct.

How will the soldier be chosen? Nominations are made by each section's platoon sergeant. From there, a board, made up of ISG DePascual and two junior grade NCO's will decide who best deserve the award. The nomination will then go to the unit commander, for approval.

The first award will be given in June, and every quarter thereafter. Lt. William Hymel says that there is also an "N.C.O. of the Year" award in the works, to be given out each December.

Guard mourns NCO's death

It is with profound regret that announcement is made of the untimely death of Staff Sergeant Walter J. Williams, a member of the 1st Battalion 141st Field Artillery, New Orleans, Louisiana, on Sunday, April 29, 1979. He was 31 years of age.

Sergeant Williams was a veteran of the Vietnam conflict. He enlisted as a member of the United States Army on March 22, 1966 and remained through March 21, 1969. After a period of reserve service, he enlisted in the Louisiana National Guard on August 23, 1975. He was an excellent soldier who performed his assigned duties in a dedicated and efficient manner. He had been awarded the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with two Bronze Stars, the Republic of Vietnam Commendation Medal with device, Good Conduct Medal, Louisiana Cross of Merit, Louisiana War Cross, and Louisiana Emergency Service Medal.

He is survived by his wife, Mildred; son, Walter J., Jr.; and daughter, Felicia; as well as by his mother, Mrs. Mary Louise Williams.

What's in it?

(Continued from page 3)

comments. Most of the people said their major complaint was usually the lengthy procedures involved in sorting out pay complaints and providing an individual who had a "pay" problem some sort of relief while the processes were working to correct the matter.

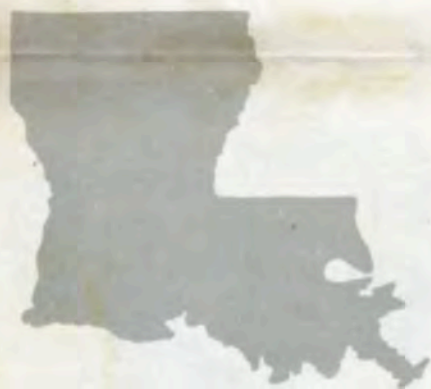
Other panel members presented their perception that the present uniform standards for hair and beards were a factor in causing individuals to leave the Guard.

This subject initially emerged as a complaint that some commanders enforced the haircut rules more stringently than others. Offhand, the group then stressed the need for uniform ruling throughout the state.

PRESENT PROGRAM

Most of the participants felt the current retention programs are adequate and found few items to comment on under the general heading, without going back over their comments regarding leadership within their own units.

And while much of the subjects aired by the groups could be considered as "perceptions" by some leaders, Major General O. J. Daigle, Jr., Adjutant General, listened quietly during the final day of the seminar before thanking the groups for their comments and ordering a follow-up seminar in September to examine the subject once more. He wanted to know more.



ROUNDUP & ROLLCALL

FILM STARS

Don't be surprised the first two weeks of AT if you see a film crew and a director yelling "Action". It is part of efforts to film a new movie of the Louisiana National Guard which will concentrate on the training and preparedness of the Guardsmen and women to accomplish their federal and state missions.

RON GUIDRY POSTER

New York Yankee ace pitcher Ron Guidry will be lending his name to a new recruiting poster for the Louisiana National Guard. The popular Guidry has added his endorsement recently to a series of television commercials. So, now, his newest "pitch" is aimed at bringing more people into the Guard. Guidry, himself is a former member of the Louisiana National Guard.

PISTOL WIN

The Louisiana National Guard Pistol Team shot their way to the Forces Command Central Region Championships held at Ft. Riley, Kansas, recently. Team members

Lt. Terry Anderson, Sgt. James R. Comley, Sgt. First Class Daniel Saxon and MSgt. Barry Labourette outshot their nearest competitor from the Arkansas National Guard to take the winning score.

Individual high shooting scores went to Sgt. James R. Comley who took first place in the Individual Match Course, and the Individual Rapid Fire Course. He was second in the FORSCOM Central Region .22 caliber Pistol Championship Match.

COMMAND CHANGES

LtCol. Ralph H. Brown has taken command of the 225th Engineer Group in time to assume the leadership of the AT efforts for the group this summer.

Maj. Frank M. Denton took command of the 205th Engineer Battalion shortly after the police strike in New Orleans.

Lt. Mike C. Appe assumed command of Headquarters Detachment for the Louisiana Army National Guard, March 6, replacing Capt. Stafford J. Landry.

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Problems, Answers

(Continued from page 3)

qualified Guard members, as are the benefits of the military ID cards, legal assistance, access to Army recreation services, Army-wide small arms competition and military education and training.

Also, the Guard provides openings for qualified individuals to apply for appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point and West Point Preparatory School as well.

For others there are the NCO academies, and the Army's correspondence course programs as well as actual service school training.

Some Guard members could be eligible for the General Educational Development or Noncommissioned-Officer Educational System (NCOES) benefits. And, still others could qualify for the job classification programs not to mention the pay and other monetary rewards to Guardsmen and women.

So that is in essence "what's in it". But to check it out, interested individuals are asked to contact their unit recruiter or the main recruiting office at Jackson Barracks. After all, what's in it will depend on "who" the "what" belongs to.