

# PELIGRAM

Vol. 2, No. 5

Oct-Nov 1979



**Ooooh that OCS!**

# ... from the flagpole

It's been years since the arch-bishop barely got five hours sleep before he arrived at the skid row soup line kitchen to help prepare Christmas dinner. And, it's been years since some of the Volunteers of America or the Salvation Army have shared holidays with their families.

The fireman who rescues two elderly sisters from a burning apartment house. The deputy who buys a hot breakfast for a lonely young hitchhiker on La. 1 near Vivian.

It's that tender understanding of someone else's misfortune that sometimes moves us. It is also the thankfulness we feel about the things we have. Our motives may be different, but the message is the same: The Guard Belongs.

The Guard belongs in Bossier City after a tornado, in New Orleans during a police strike, in Lake Charles during a firemen strike, in Olla after an ice storm, in Alexandria after rising water.

The Guard belongs at blood drives, at children's hospitals, with Scout troops.

The Guard also belongs on overnight ARTEPs in the woods at Ft. Polk, or breaking the sound barrier at 20,000 feet over the California desert.

It's that something special in each of us that commits us to a standard higher than the average — a standard that calls us to serve our neighbors and our nation willingly and with pride.

We serve because we are thankful for our heritage and our freedom, our beliefs and our right to believe.

It is at these holiday times that we are most mindful of what we have and what we can share. But we must remember that our duty is not seasonal. It demands our everyday dedication to what we treasure as Americans. It demands a love of our nation and of our fellow humans.

## TAG's Holiday Message

STATE OF LOUISIANA  
MILITARY DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL  
JACKSON BARRACKS  
NEW ORLEANS 70146

EDWIN EDWARDS  
GOVERNOR

O. J. DAIGLE, JR.  
MAJOR GENERAL  
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

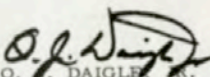
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2 December 1979

SUBJECT: Holiday Message 1979

Members and Employees Louisiana National Guard

1. Traditionally, the Yuletide period has been a time for joy and reflection upon the events of the passing year.
2. This Yule season we in the Louisiana National Guard can look back upon 1979 as a period of challenges and accomplishments which have greatly enhanced our image in the communities which we serve throughout the State.
3. To each of you who has helped make 1979 such a tremendously successful year, I express my "thanks" and my best wishes for a happy and safe Holiday season.

  
O. J. DAIGLE, JR.  
Major General, LAARNG  
The Adjutant General

*The PELIGRAM is a bi-monthly unofficial publication of the 241st Public Affairs Detachment, Louisiana Army National Guard, under the provisions of 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 the Department of the Army.*

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# Air Guard Sisters are Honor Grads

by MSG Addison Thompson  
241st Public Affairs Detachment

Two sisters, both members of the 214th Electronic Installation Squadron, Louisiana Air National Guard were Honor Graduates from their basic training unit at Lackland Air Force Base. But then, they're used to doing things together.

The sisters, Laurene and Vicki Ojeda began their active duty training on August 21st with the 3706th Basic Training Squadron, Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

Competing with 50 other members of the training unit Laurene and Vicki were named Honor Graduates after each of them finished in the top 5 percent of the class.

To be named "Honor Graduate" each girl had to score an Outstanding in all academic evaluations; they also had to have less than half the number of demerits allowed the other students, be recommended by the training instructors, and receive the approval of the training school commander.

The sisters agree that they seem to do everything together. Both graduated from PGT Beauregard High School, in St. Bernard parish. Both live with their grandmother Ms. Rose Soria, in Arabi. Laurene joined the Air National Guard on May 16 and was soon followed by Vicki who enlisted on May 25.

After graduating from high school, Laurene, 20, was a secretary at Barry Academy where she worked part-time prior to graduating from school. She was employed at the academy until she was hired by the National Guard as a civilian employee, clerk typist in purchasing. It was about one year



**SISTER ACT**—Vicki, left, and Laurene Ojeda of Arabi topped their basic training at Lackland Air Force Base, Tx. with a "sister act" which saw both of them being named Honor Graduates of the course. Both are members of the Louisiana Air National Guard.

later that she decided to join the "Guard Team" and enlisted.

Asked why she joined the National Guard she said, "I was impressed with the better opportunities, better educational benefits and was just interested in the military." She also indicated that her hobbies were sewing and dancing. Laurene proudly pointed out she was a small arms expert. In her words, "I like the military."

Her hopes for the future included attending St. Bernard Community College where she aims to major in Business Management or Accounting.

Vicki, 19, enjoys working with animals. Prior to entering the Air Guard she worked as a veterinary

assistant at St. Bernard Veterinarian Hospital. She said she would like "very much to attend a veterinarian school under the Guard tuition program, possibly LSU in Baton Rouge."

Vicki also said she joined the National Guard with her sister under the "Buddy System" and was "thinking about the regular service, too."

"I love cats, and all animals," she commented, "and New Orleans food, as well." Like her sister, she too lists dancing as a hobby. Vicki boasts that she was selected to perform in an honor position as guidon-bearer for her unit during basic training.



## CONSTRUCTION: *Building the Guard from the ground up*

It might be a 60-troop armory or a \$2 million training site. The design and engineering can be done either by one of many private firms the state invites to bid, or the plans may come out of the Directorate of Facilities Engineering at Jackson Barracks.

Whatever the project or its design, the construction projects for the Louisiana National Guard, including those under construction and those recently completed amount to more than \$9 million, with projects continually on the drawing board.

Most of the projects throughout the state involve new armories or expansions to existing ones. Training facilities at Ft. Polk and Camp Beauregard also consume a large portion of the budget.

Company B of the 528th has been authorized to occupy a new 150-troop armory constructed in West Monroe. The \$825,000 facility was built by Jesse F. Heard & Sons of West Monroe; architectural design was done by Lawton & Cookston of Monroe.

A \$540,000 60-troop armory in Winnesboro is now occupied by the 1086th Transportation Co. Contractor for the building was Don Barron of Farmerville, and architects were Heuer, Johns, Neel, Rivers & Webbl.

E.C. Breedlove Construction Co. of Natchitoches and Corne & Sellers, architects from Lafayette, combined for the \$600,000 100-troop armory in Coushatta now occupied by Co. A 1st Battalion, 156th Infantry (Armor).

In Bossier City, HHC of the 527th and the 156th Army Band have occupied the \$450,000 reconstruction of their armory. The armory was destroyed last December by tornado, six months after it was completed. The original contractor, the Forsheim Co. of Shreveport, and architect, Harold Burns of New Orleans, were used for the rebuilding project.

Recently completed is the multi-purpose, tank mini range at Camp Beauregard. The \$100,000 contract for constructing the metal building and moving target foundation went to A.A. Gremillion of Alexandria. Engineering and architectural designs were done by the Guard's in-house staff.

And another project recently completed is an addition to the Alexandria Armory for repair parts, storage and processing. Contractor was A.A. Gremillion and Stoffle & Associates were architects.

Works under construction are considerable in dollar value, such as the \$870,000 expansion to the

Lafayette armory, which includes renovation of some interior space plus the addition of the Brigade Headquarters. Contractor for the project is the Max Construction Co. of Hattiesburg, Mississippi, and Nehr, Bass & Lee of Lafayette were architects.

At Ft. Polk, more than \$1.8 million is being spent on the Mobilization and Training Equipment Site (MATES). Lemoine Bros. of Bunkie is the contractor and architect is Charles Lampkin of Alexandria. The MATES is a maintenance facility for vehicles the Guard uses at Ft. Polk, such as heavy equipment, tanks, APCs and armor.

Additions and renovations to the Raymond H. Fleming Memorial Armory (office of the Adjutant General and State Headquarters) are being done by Pittman Construction Co. and Blitch & Associates, architects, both of New Orleans. The \$600,000 project includes the addition of space and the renovation and upgrading of existing space.

A 60-troop armory in DeRidder is under construction by Joe B. Dees Construction Co. of DeRidder and Glankler & Broadwell, architects, of Alexandria at a cost of about \$760,000.

(see Construction p. 8)

# HHD holds annual awards ceremony

Major General O.J. Daigle, Jr., Louisiana Adjutant General, decorated 42 Guardsmen in October in the annual awards ceremony for Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, Louisiana Army National Guard, at Jackson Barracks.

In a ceremony that included a 13-gun salute by a firing battery from the Washington Artillery and music by the 156th Army band, from Bossier City, General Daigle congratulated all who were decorated and gave special tribute to the men and women who provided the backup for the Guardsmen who were honored.

Daigle went on to say that the people of Louisiana have confidence in the Guard, and pointed to the outstanding work done on more than seven occasions where the Guard has been called out in the past 18 months.

General Daigle presented 31 enlisted guardsmen with the Louisiana Commendation Medal for their service during last year's 16-day strike by New Orleans Police. Receiving the awards were Sergeants Major James E. Blount, James J. Ferret, William H. McKamey, Henry P. Meliet, Walter D. Renshaw, and Norvin J. Schexnaildre; Master Sergeants Bartholomew J. Dawson, James Caruso, Patrick R. Haley, Louis P. Ray, John T. Spano, Wilson J. Thibodeaux; First Sergeant Donald A. Puig; Sergeants First Class John M. Balancie, Kenneth W. Barlow, Michael R. Donnelly, Dwaine E. Janet, Lucas J. Landreneau, Edwin L. Lohr, Roderic P. Sanchez; Staff Sergeants Victor L. Crozat, Jr., Juanita Olvera, Michael Royer, Errol L. Schwartz, Robert L. Turner and Clifton J. Couture; Specialists Five Ricky L. Robertson, Eric Mortara; Specialists Four Joseph Dyer, Bobbie K. Sibley, Edna M. Steptore.

Other awards included the Louisiana Distinguished Service Medal, which was presented to Brigadier General Carl L. Trippi, Assistant Adjutant General, Louisiana Air National Guard, Colonel Karl M. Samuels, Director of Plans and Training, Colonel Sidney J. Scholl, Deputy Chief of Staff, Colonel Camille J. Chaisson, Director of Facilities Engineering, Colonel Roy I. Nomey, Director of Personnel and Administration, Colonel Richard A. Kuntz, commander of the 204th Area Support Group, Colonel Lacy W. Rogers, of the Camp Beauregard Training Site, and Colonel Garvin Leroy Courtney, for his service as Commander, 225th Engineer Group.

Colonel Kuntz also received the

Army Commendation Medal, for his service as the State Military Judge, along with Major Walter R. Gay, Jr., for his service as Brigade Supply Officer for the 256th Infantry Brigade, and Command Sergeant Major John K. Saleeby, for his work at the Louisiana Army National Guard Training Site, Camp Beauregard.

Lieutenant Colonel Charles R. Lindsay received the Meritorious Service Medal for outstanding service as the Battalion Commander, First Battalion, 156th Armor.

Chief Warrant Officer Gerald Elliott received the 35 Year Longevity Medal for his service in the Louisiana Army National Guard.



**WELL DONE**—Major General O.J. Daigle, Jr., Louisiana Adjutant General, awards Sergeant Major James E. Blount the Louisiana Commendation Medal at the annual awards ceremony for Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, Louisiana National Guard, Jackson Barracks.

# OCS Class

*When you try  
to cross a river,  
sometimes you get  
your feet wet!*



# 20 takes a p

# l u n g e !

*photos by  
PFC Donna Morales  
241st PAD*



## Construction:

(from page 4)

Phase IV of construction at Camp Beauregard is underway with the construction of barracks, headquarters buildings and mess halls. Lemoine Bros. is the contractor and architect is J. David Bronson of Baton Rouge. The work will cost about \$750,000.

Also at Camp Beauregard, renovation work is being done on the Combined Support Maintenance Shop at a cost of about \$100,000. Contractor is A.V. Smith of Alexandria, and architects are Pan American Engineers from Alexandria.

Renovation of the interim MATES at Ft. Polk is being carried out by R.H.G. Systems of Leesville, with Ronald Kilcrease of New Orleans architect. The project will cost about \$75,000.

Barracks renovations at Camp Beauregard, costing approximately \$700,000, is being done by Conerstone Development Co. of Alexandria, with Forte & Tablada, architects, of Baton Rouge.

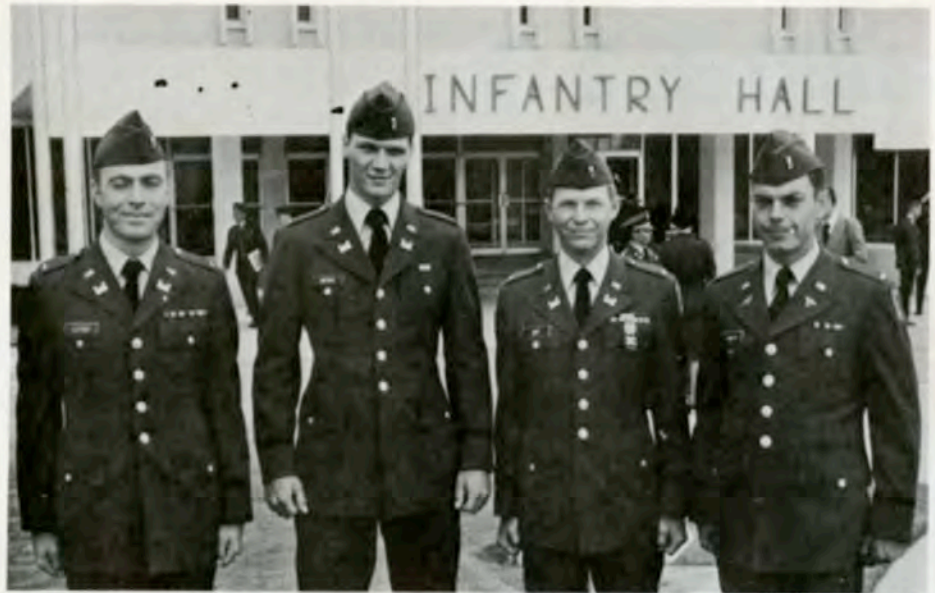
Two 60-troop armories are being planned, one at Vidalia, Glinkler & Associates, architect; and the other at Oakgrove, Jenkins & Lazenby, architects.

Nehr, Bass & Lee are architects for the armory annex project for the 159th Combat Support Hospital at Jackson Barracks, and Glinkler & Associates are architects for an armory annex project at Camp Beauregard.

Corn & Sellers are architects for a planned OMS at Lake Charles, and Unit Training & Equipment Site #2 at Camp Villere is being designed by Kenneth Wells, architect.

Designs for the expansion of the Bossier City Armory are being drawn by Walker & Walker, and a 100-troop armory at Baker is being designed by Lott & Campbell.

Throughout the state are numerous other projects of less than \$15,000 apiece, which average a total of about \$150,000 per year in expenditures.



**FEDERAL OCS GRADS**—Newly commissioned Lieutenants Troy L. Lizenby, Richard G. Bryan, Denver R. Mut and Ronald J. Comeaux stand before the entrance to Infantry Hall at Ft. Benning, Ga. following their graduation from Infantry OCS. All are members of the Louisiana Army National Guard.

# Peligram Celebrates First Birthday

We made it! Your Louisiana National Guard newspaper is now a full year old. For one full year we have been rolling the presses, putting out news for and about you, the men and women of the Louisiana National Guard.

In our first edition we brought you the story of the Guard's monumental efforts during the May third flood of 1978, a period during which ten inches of rainfall paralyzed New Orleans. In the same issue we discussed women in the Guard, and brought you up to date on the then-new pay scale.

The next issue is hard to forget. In spring, 1979, the *Peligram* reported the Guard call-up to aid New Orleans during two police strikes, and documented call-ups for a killer tornado in Bossier City, and firefighters' strikes in Lake Charles and St. Bernard Parish. The *Peligram* brought you the story and the photos on all of it.

In the April-May issue the lead

story focused on Annual Training. The *Peligram* gave you a brief history of A-T, and started its still laboring "Dear Bill" column.

In the June-July edition, a new magazine format came into being. The staff got its first shot of publicity, and a new publishing ballgame was underway. The new *Peligram* brought you news on recruiting, new Guard programs, and even alligators in green.

The last issue, Aug-Sept 1979, was devoted to sergeants, concentrating on the who, what, and how to become one. For those interested, it delved into the history of the Cavalry, taking the readers from horses to tanks. And, the *Peligram* beat its wings about the Guard's newest and finest mini-tank range.

With this issue, the last for 1979, the *Peligram* opens a new volume for 1980, with hopes for expanded, better news coverage of the activities and individuals of the Louisiana Army National Guard.



# They call him 'The Jolly Old Sergeant'

by MSG Addison Thompson  
241st Public Affairs Detachment

Walk into the dining facility for Headquarters Detachment Louisiana Army National Guard and greet Sergeant First class Joseph K. Rowan by saying "Hi, Joe, how are you doing?" And his usual response will be, "You know my slogan. I have no complaints. I'm happy."

And indeed he is. Most people who know Rowan say he is a dedicated and jovial Dining Facility Manager. Some call him the "Jolly Sarge." He recalls his many years in the National Guard saying "I am very proud that I will have completed 29 years December 13, 1979. And, at least 20 of those years were in the Mess Hall. I have prepared at least 20 Christmas meals for the troops."

Joe got his first taste of the military in 1950, during the Korean Conflict, when he was drafted. He reported to Fort Riley, Kansas and was given two choices. He could stay in the Regular Army, or could join the Army National Guard.

"Frankly I didn't know what the National Guard was," he said, "so I picked the Regular Army. The Army was cutting back at that time and the Drill Instructor talked me into the National Guard. He was a quick talking man, I can see that now." Rowan added with a chuckle.

Rowan's assignments ranged from being a cannoneer to being a First Sergeant. On December 13, 1950 he joined Battery A-935, Washington Artillery as a cannoneer and went on to become a cook's helper. His next assignment was with the Battery B, 3rd Battalion 141 Artillery where he served as the Mess Steward and later became the First Sergeant.

Re-organization saw him winding up his service as Mess Steward for the 204th Area Support Group. He was then sent to the 1st Battalion 141 Field Artillery as a Mess Steward, but was forced to move



**PIE MAKING**—Whether he is at his stove or at the grill, Sergeant First Class Joe "Jolly Sarge" Rowan is convinced that his relationship with the Guard has been the topping for the "pie" in his life. (LANG Photo by MSG Addison Thompson).

when yet another re-organization caught him.

This time he wound up as the Mess Steward for Company C, 205th Engineer Group, and, after about two years, transferred to the 225th Engineer Group as the Mess Sergeant for Headquarters Company.

His next move was to Company D, 769th Engineer Battalion where he was placed in charge of organizing a new unit which started with only six enlisted people.

"This new unit in Lutch was a challenge, and I was assigned as the field First Sergeant," he said, adding, "My assignment was the recruiting and organization of this unit. When I left, the unit was up to 48 enlisted people."

After leaving the 769th Rowan became the Dining Facility Manager for the Army Guard's

Headquarters Detachment.

According to Rowan he owes everything he owns to the National Guard. He recalled when he was a carpenter with Bernard Lumber Company and was laid off because of a lack of work. While he was collecting unemployment he filled out one form on which he listed his National Guard experience as a cook. Noticing his experience as a cook the unemployment office sent him to A&G Kitchen where he was immediately hired.

His plans include attending the Louisiana Non-Commissioned Officers Course at Camp Beauregard, and the Jolly Sarge says, "My greatest aim at this time is attaining the rank of E8 before I retire. But I have a Christian message for all those who know me, and even those that don't. Have a good, safe and Merry Christmas and a good New Year."

# *Air Guard tackles civil disturbance training*

Civil disturbance operations, long regarded a mainstay of Army National Guard training got a new twist recently, with some 30 Air Guard officers and NCO's undergoing Civil Disaster and Emergency training at Gulfport, Miss.

Noting the unusual training role for the Air Guard, the Air Guard Chief of Staff, Colonel George J.E. Dowd commented, "With all the possibilities for a Louisiana National Guard callup in the future, the inevitability of the use of the Air Guard in a civil disturbance role is apparent."

The Air National Guard was

indeed called up for state emergency duty in 1978 when its members filled in for striking firemen in St. Bernard Parish.

Lieutenant Colonel Roger Bacon, Training officer for the Directorate of Plans and Training prepared and coordinated the instruction for the Air Guard representatives, while Major William Rutledge, commandant of the Louisiana Military Academy and three members of the Louisiana State Police helped with the actual instruction.

The Air Guard "trainees" became "versed" in collective behavior, crowd and mob control, search and seizure, traffic control, as well as

the use of chemical agents in crowd dispersal.

The intent of the training was to develop a cadre of qualified instructors who would in turn train members of their own Air Guard units at home stations. And to insure the continuity of the training, each class of instruction was videotaped for use in the classrooms at the home sites.

Whether the students learned how to man-handle a high pressure water hose, or pull the pin and throw a "tear gas" cannister, for the Air Guard the training had a distinctively different flair.

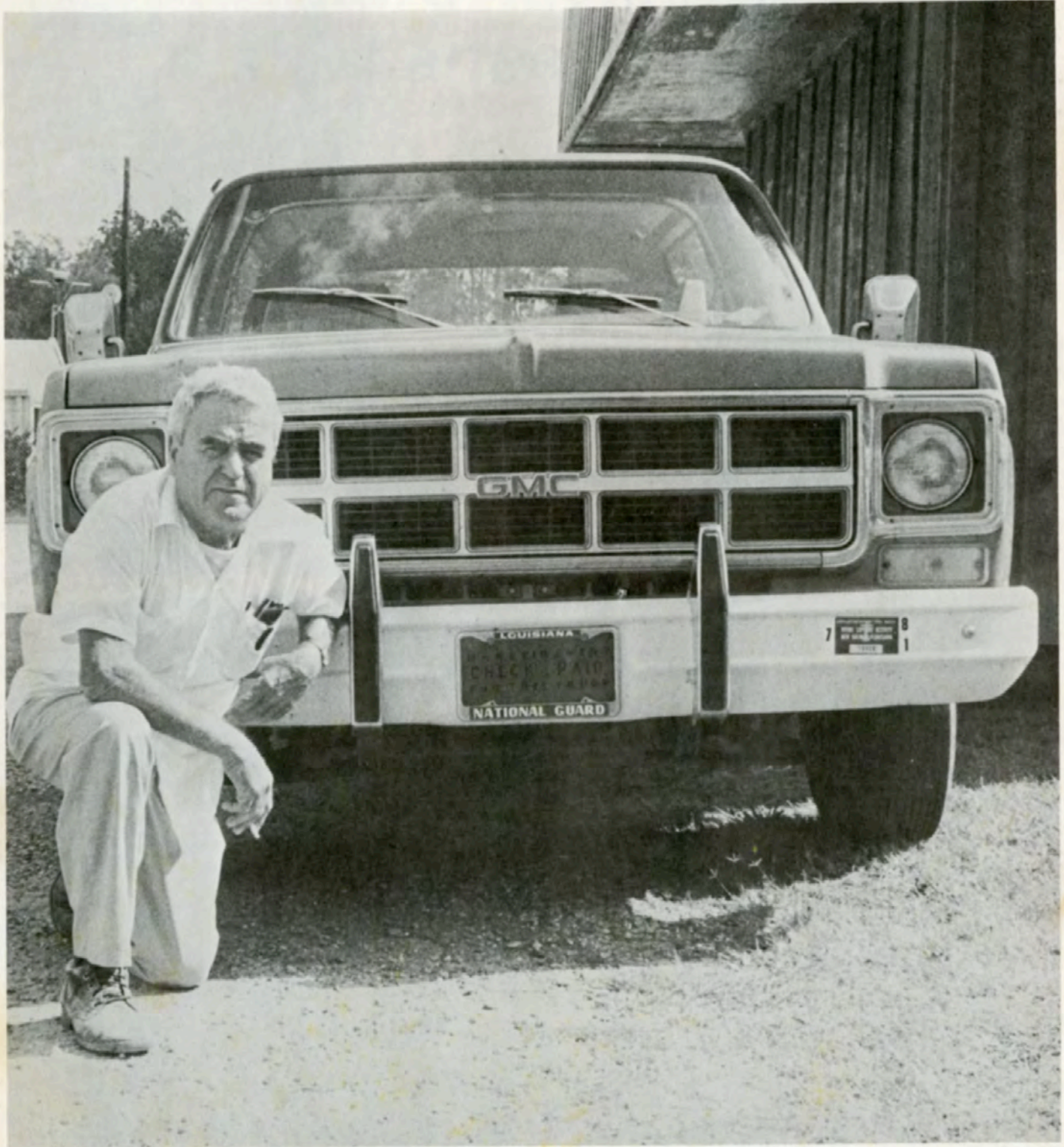




*photos by  
CPT Gary Borne  
&  
SSG Clem Lescalle*



# Why is this man happy???



## Here's why!

"MY RETIREMENT CHECK PAID FOR THIS TRUCK"—So says the

special license of Sergeant Major Frank E. Cutti, Sr. (Ret.) who

recently ended 26 years of service in the Guard.