

PELIGRAM

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Sept-Dec 1980

204th goes Dutch



... and the 159th TFG takes an ORI...

Stroud named new AG

Governor David C. Treen has appointed Brigadier General Ansel M. Stroud Jr., as Louisiana Adjutant General since 1972.

Stroud has been the Assistant Adjutant General since 1972 and has a career in the Guard which spans some 30 years. He first enlisted in the Army in 1944, and received a commission through Officer Candidate School at Ft. Knox, Ky. in 1946. He served with the Army at Ft. Knox and Fort Lewis, Wa. until 1947 when he joined the Louisiana National Guard.

He has served as a platoon leader, regimental supply officer, information and education officer and battalion executive officer as well as commander of the 4th Battalion, 156th Infantry.

Promoted to Colonel in 1969, he served as the Chief Officer, 356th Support Center (RAO) from April 1971 until his appointment as Assistant Adjutant General in May 1972.

From June 1978 to January 1980 he served in an additional capacity as the commander of the 3000-man 256th Infantry Brigade (Mechanized), the "roundout" unit for the Army's Fifth Infantry Division (Mech). Following vast improvements in the retention, training and readiness of the brigade, he relinquished command of the unit to devote more attention to other areas of the Guard in Louisiana.

His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit with Oak leaf cluster, Meritorious Service Medal with Oak leaf cluster, and the



Army Commendation Medal as well as the Louisiana Distinguished Service Medal, Louisiana Cross of Merit and Louisiana War Cross.

He is a graduate of the Command and General Staff College, and Army War College, and attended Baylor and Texas A&M Universities.

The native of Shreveport, La. who was raised in Dixie, La., is known as a "soldier's soldier" and includes with his civic affiliations work with the Boy Scouts of America as a member of the New Orleans Area Council, and as an Executive Board Member, Council Commissioner and Council Representative to the National Council. He is a recipient of the Silver Beaver award.

General Stroud has also served as a member of the Executive Council of the National Guard Association of the United States, was a past president of the National Guard

Association of Louisiana, and has been a member of the Department of the Army Reserve Forces Policy Committee.

In 1977, General Stroud was selected to direct a Department of the Army study on fulltime manning of the Guard and Reserve. His completed work, called the "Stroud Study" has been the basis for recent fulltime manning programs adopted for the reserve components.

Guardsmen Receive Awards

Some members of the Louisiana National Guard will be issued the Humanitarian Service Medal for their efforts after a killer tornado struck two Texas communities on April 10, 1979.

The tornado that struck the communities of Witchita Falls and Vernon, Texas, caused about \$300 million in damage and left 58 dead and 600 injured in its wake.

During their relief work after the disaster, the guardsmen helped deliver food and water and helped local officials recover bodies from the debris.

The guardsmen from Louisiana were members of its state headquarters and members of the Louisiana Guard's 1st Battalion, 141st Field Artillery.

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The Adjutant General	Brigadier General A.M. Stroud
Commander, 241st PAD	Major Peter L. Wyro
Editor	SP4 John A. Sullivan
Editorial Assistant	PFC Donna M. Morales



Veteran Recruiter Joins Air Guard

Master Sergeant Klaus D. Siebert has been appointed as the Lead Recruiter for the Louisiana Air National Guard and has been assigned to the Air National Guard Headquarters at Jackson Barracks, New Orleans.

Siebert was formerly a recruiter with the 180th Tactical Fighter Group in Toledo, Ohio. He was honored by being named the "Top Recruiter" in the nation for the ANG in 1979.

He was born Sept. 18, 1938, in Muelhausen, Germany, and lived in Nazi Germany until 1945 when the country was divided among the allied nations. From 1945 until his escape in 1954, Siebert lived in Communist East Germany.

One of those years under the

communist regime in East Germany was spent in a concentration camp.

In 1955 he immigrated to the United States when his mother married an American serviceman.

From 1957 until his discharge in 1966, Siebert served with the U.S. Army as a transportation company first sergeant, a Nike-Hercules missile mechanic, a maintenance and supply technician, platoon sergeant with the 3rd Infantry Division, and a tank commander.

During his time in the Army, he also served with the 519th Military Intelligence Battalion and attended the 7th Army's NCO Academy and the 3rd Infantry Division NCO Academy.

(Continued on page 9)

Ship-shape vet Is encountered

During its overseas deployment training, members of the 204th found a variety of interesting and unusual subjects, one of which was an almost ancient transport ship, the USS Washington, veteran of a war some 36 years ago.

The Washington, built in 1944, was decommissioned and eventually mothballed 15 years ago.

But with renewed emphasis on being able to transport troops and material to a war zone, the old transport was once more pressed into service, this time to support Reforger 1980.

Leaving Beaumont, Texas, in late August, the ship trudged its way across the Atlantic carrying, in its holds, jeeps, trailers and ammunition to be used by the forces in the wargames.

Five days out of port it developed boiler problems, but it simply kept on plowing through the waves headed for The Netherlands with its cargo.

Stephen Ergon, the ship's Second Officer noted, "Boiler problems can be serious, but in most cases it is repairable at sea." So the 45 year-old merchant marine veteran was not surprised when the problem was soon remedied.

A deep-sea pilot came aboard outside of Brixham, England, to guide the vessel through the English Channel, and a Dutch pilot took over at Vlissingen to dock the cargo ship in port.

That's where the members of the 204th, working with the Dutch dockworkers unloading the ship, came to know of the old transport once more pressed into service for modern wargames.



ROPE CROSSING — Sergeant Lionel Hill grapples his way across a rope bridge during rivercrossing training with his unit.



MOVING UP — Guardsmen Mitchell Ross, Mike McCauley, Charles Herron, Jeff McRae, and Wade Keys move toward the Sabine River for rivercrossing training.

Infantrymen Tackle the river

For most people, walking through the woods and coming to a stream or river usually means walking toward the nearest bridge to get across, but not to the men of Company A, 3rd Battalion, 156th Infantry (Mechanized).

During a recent exercise carried out by two platoons from the Guard company stationed in Leesville, the objective was simple enough; get the men across the river by the best means.

After moving about 1,000 meters to the Sabine River, the men began preparing for the rivercrossing by using natural material from nearby woods.

A device called a "dead man" was constructed out of logs to secure the rope on one side while a trooper took the rope, swam to the other side and secured it. A "dead man" consists of logs buried in the sand to hold the mens' weight as they pull themselves across the river on the rope.

After crossing the river, the job wasn't over for the infantrymen, as they had to cross several gullies and a couple of smaller streams before they could call it a day.

To cross the gullies, a two-rope bridge was strung between the two sides, and the troops had to pull themselves over the obstacles, upside down. Crossing the smaller streams turned out to be a little easier since the water was only about knee-deep.

Captain Dallas W. Robertson, commander for the Leesville troops, said the training was supervised by Major Thomas Jaeger, the battalion's Army advisor.

Robertson added that this type of training was necessary because in a combat situation you can't count on a bridge being nearby when you have to cross a river.

MORE MONEY — This new military pay scales for MUTA-4's went into effect October 1, 1980.

PAY GRADE	YEARS													
	-2	2	3	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	26
COMMISSIONED														
O-8	422.00	434.64	444.96	—	—	478.16	—	500.76	—	521.56	544.20	565.20	587.72	—
O-7	350.64	374.52	—	—	391.28	—	414.00	—	434.64	478.16	511.00	—	—	—
O-6	259.92	285.60	304.24	—	—	—	—	—	314.56	364.36	383.00	391.28	414.00	449.00
O-5	207.88	244.12	260.96	—	—	—	268.92	283.32	302.28	324.92	343.60	353.96	366.32	—
O-4	175.24	213.32	227.60	—	231.76	242.08	258.56	273.12	285.60	298.08	306.36	—	—	—
O-3	162.84	182.04	194.60	215.32	225.60	233.76	246.32	258.56	264.92	—	—	—	—	—
O-2	141.96	155.08	186.28	192.56	196.56	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
O-1	123.24	128.28	155.08	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
COMMISSIONED OFFICERS WITH OVER 4 YEARS SERVICE AS ENLISTED MEMBERS														
O-3	—	—	—	215.32	225.60	233.76	246.32	258.56	268.92	—	—	—	—	—
O-2	—	—	—	192.56	196.56	202.80	213.32	221.52	227.60	—	—	—	—	—
O-1	—	—	—	155.08	165.64	171.76	177.96	184.16	192.56	—	—	—	—	—
WARRANT OFFICERS														
W-4	165.88	177.96	—	182.04	190.32	198.72	207.04	221.52	231.76	239.96	246.32	254.36	262.88	283.32
W-3	150.80	163.56	—	165.64	167.60	179.84	190.32	196.56	202.80	208.88	215.32	223.64	231.76	239.96
W-2	132.08	142.84	—	147.00	155.08	163.56	169.72	175.96	182.04	188.40	194.60	200.76	208.88	—
W-1	110.04	126.16	—	136.68	142.84	149.00	155.08	161.48	167.60	173.76	179.84	186.28	—	—
ENLISTED MEMBERS														
E-9	—	—	—	—	—	—	188.48	192.76	197.12	201.68	206.16	210.16	221.24	242.72
E-8	—	—	—	—	—	158.12	162.56	166.88	171.24	175.72	179.80	184.20	195.04	216.80
E-7	110.40	119.16	123.60	127.88	132.28	136.44	140.84	145.20	151.76	156.08	160.48	162.56	173.48	195.04
E-6	95.36	103.96	108.32	112.88	117.08	121.36	125.80	132.28	136.44	140.84	142.96	—	—	—
E-5	83.72	91.12	95.52	99.68	106.20	110.52	114.96	119.16	121.36	—	—	—	—	—
E-4	80.48	85.00	89.96	96.96	100.80	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
E-3	77.40	81.64	84.92	88.28	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
E-2	74.48	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
E-1	66.84	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Wording change aids Free tuition plan

The special legislative session called by Governor David C. Treen in early September held a special note for members of the Louisiana National Guard participating in the state's tuition exemption program.

According to Representative Frank Simoneaux of Baton Rouge, during the special session, legislation was passed which eliminated some wording in the statutes governing the tuition exemption program.

That wording, which had been

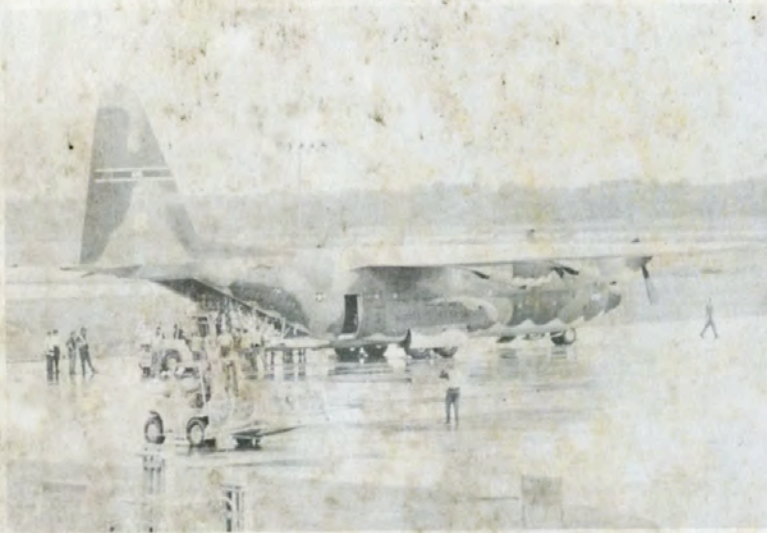
upheld in 1979 in a decision by State Attorney General William J. Guste Jr., called for specific funding for the program by the legislature before it could be enacted. As a result, some student Guardspersons encountered reluctance on the part of schools to honor the program.

Simoneaux, who is also the Staff Judge Advocate for the Louisiana Army National Guard, indicated Act 7 of the Special Legislative session

repealed that portion of the wording in the statute. As a result, schools and universities participating in the program may include funding for the program in their general appropriations.

Some 700 members of the Guard attending state colleges and universities are affected by the change. The program is reported by a Guard spokesman as the only one of its kind in the United States, and has been in effect since 1974.

The Air Guard's 159th Tactical F



The deployment begins. . .

*a story in photos
TSGT Ken Ba
and
SSG Adolph Ro*



*Sandbags are needed
to protect equipment. . .*



*Damage control teams
check things out. . .*

ghter Group tackles its ORI. . .

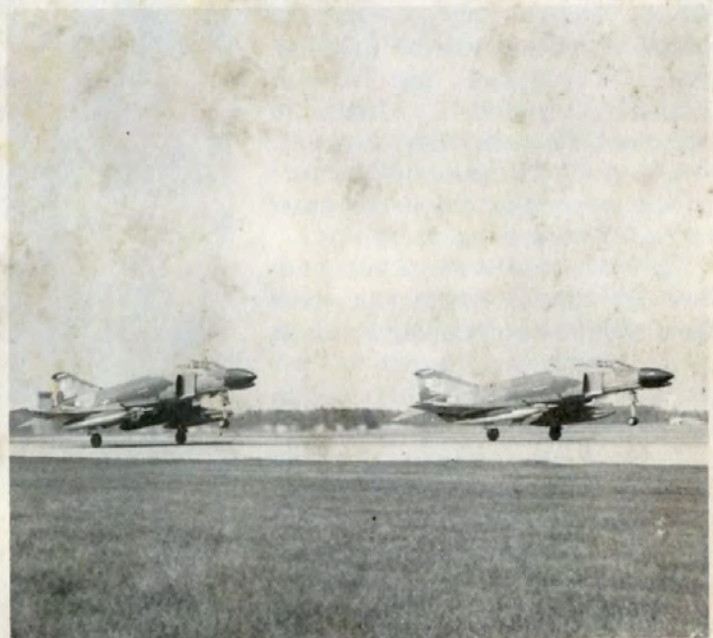
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To Keep 'em ready. . .



*Maintenance teams work thru the day
And into the night. . .*



To fly and fight!

The 204th journeys to Holland, Finds a challenge, and a treat!

by Private Tim Ruppert,
204th ASG

Holland's beautiful landscape reflected a healthy, and simple lifestyle — hardly the place one would expect to find the 204th Area Support Group of the Louisiana Army National Guard training for war.

But that was exactly the case when members of Headquarters Company, some 130 strong, travelled to the green pastures and gentle landscape of The Netherlands as part of overseas deployment exercises during the 1980 edition of REFORGER.

For the members of the Louisiana National Guard, REFORGER provided a chance to work alongside its active Army counterpart from Ft. Lewis, Washington, the 593rd Area Support Group.

But it also offered a chance to encounter a totally different culture and come to know a people whose lifestyle was so vastly different, and whose homeland was so beautiful that it prompted one officer, Lieutenant Cedris S. Grant, to comment, almost paradoxically, "Holland is so beautiful that we should indeed practice war here just to insure it stays that way."

For two weeks in September members of the 204th supervised Dutch nationals offloading precious cargo from ships docked in their ports to support the wargames in central Europe.

Their efforts brought them into contact with the Army's 2nd Armored Division from Ft. Hood which, along with other U.S. units, was shipped and airlifted to sites in The Netherlands from whence the workers, under the supervision of the 204th's personnel, aided them in moving by rail, air and land to jump-off points in West Germany.

"We saw just a piece of the ball,"

said Captain Chris Laborde, adding, "And we got a good idea of what is needed for our operations to be a success."

Other members of the 204th worked with soldiers of the Royal Netherlands Army and found them somewhat different from what they had expected."

The Dutch are required to serve 14 months in the military, so, they are not very disciplined," noted Specialist David C. Hymel who added, "but the professional soldiers, the commandos, NCO's and officers are very impressive."

Laborde echoes Hymel's thoughts saying, "The officers are

quite knowledgeable, and the enlisted and NCO's are dedicated and helpful."

Many of the Guardsmen were surprised at the length of the hair allowed the Dutch soldiers. On some, their hair hung loosely at their shoulders.

The Dutch were one of several nations which recently allowed the formation of labor unions in their military forces. As part of the union bargaining agreements, there are no regulations on haircuts or for military courtesy, something the Louisiana Guard members found startling.

(continued on page 12)



DUTCH PALS—Sergeant James Light (right) and an unidentified fellow member of the 204th Area Support Group pose with Soldier First Class Hans Monster of the Royal Dutch Army in front of one of the traditional trademarks of the Dutch countryside. (Photo 204th ASG PIO)



COINCIDENTAL PALS — New Orleans area Captains Tom Reso, Chris Laborde and David Kuebler (left to right), stand beside the sign outside their "temporary home" in The Netherlands during their training for the Louisiana Army National Guard as part of major NATO exercise REFORGER-80.

Overseas journey reveals coincidental pals

by Private Pamela Drake

Coincidence or fate?

This is a frequently asked question when supposedly dissimilar events or characteristics occur with amazing similarity.

For example, when John F. Kennedy was president, he had a secretary whose last name was Lincoln. And, by coincidence, President Abraham Lincoln had a secretary who was named Kennedy.

For three members of the 204th Area Support Group, Louisiana Army National Guard, another coincidence came to light as they landed in The Netherlands for two weeks of training as part of the annual Reforger exercises testing the United States' ability to deploy troops to Europe under a wartime environment.

Captains Tom Reso of New Orleans, Chris Laborde of Arabi, and David Kuebler of Metairie found they had quite a lot in common as they performed their work in the Netherlands' countryside.

Reso and Kuebler learned they both were born on the same day, April 18, 1947, in New Orleans. Laborde was born two years later on, you guessed it, April 18th.

Both Kuebler and Reso went to the same high school, and Reso worked with Laborde while they were both employed with the New Orleans Chamber of Commerce.

The coincidences go further, however, when one learns that all three of the captains have served as the Public Information Officer the Guard's 204th Area Support Group headquartered in New Orleans. Reso currently holds that post, while Kuebler is the company commander for the headquarters company and Laborde is a personnel management officer for the Group.

It took a trip half-a-world away for the three to learn how often their paths had crossed. And, now that some of the coincidences are known, the three are waiting to see how many other similarities crop-up when they return to the States.

Siebert: (from page 3)

Following his discharge in 1966, Siebert joined Metropolitan Life Insurance Company in Toledo, as a sales consultant and later as a sales manager.

In 1972, he joined the Air National Guard as a management analyst and in July 1973, was placed on active duty as a recruiter, serving in that capacity until September 1980.

Accredited by the Community College of the Air Force, Siebert has attended the University of Maryland and the U.S. Air Force Recruiter Course at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

He is the son of Mrs. George Noaker, of Custer, Ohio, and is married to the former Wanda Haynes of Knoxville, Tenn. They have one son, Jeff, age 15.

Since 1979 he has made more than 120 presentations to various civic and fraternal organizations, and has given 8-hour classes to over 80 schools.

Those courses have covered everything from "Life in America Compared to Communism" to "The Functions of the Air National Guard in Country, State and Community."

As a Master Recruiter he has won literally hundreds of recruiting awards and citations, and was named "Top ANG Recruiter" for the state of Ohio for four years in a row, and was named "Top ANG Recruiter" in the nation in 1979.

Some of his other awards include the Ohio Recruiting and Retention Trophy for 1974, 1975 and 1976, and the Ohio Non-Prior Service Enlistment Award six times.

Siebert's military awards include: the Air Force Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, the Ohio State Commendation Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal with 3 clusters, Air Force Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Medal, Presidential Unit Citation, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, Army Unit Award, the Humanitarian Service Medal, and the Small Arms Marksmanship Medal.

The 156th back through the ages

Editor's Note: This is the first in a series of articles on unit histories written in response to a recently published "Peligram" survey. These histories are based on information which has been obtained from the Department of the Army Lineage and Honors and is presented in hopes that by gaining an insight into the significant role units have served through the years, Guard members can gain a better insight into their significant role today.

156th Infantry

The 156th Infantry, also known as the First Louisiana Infantry, was organized May 9 and 17, 1861 as the 2nd and 3rd Louisiana Volunteer Infantry Regiments which were mustered into Confederate Service at New Orleans.

The 2nd Louisiana Volunteer Infantry Regiment was part of the Army of Northern Virginia which surrendered to Grant at Appomattox April 9, 1865, while the 3rd Louisiana Volunteer Infantry Regiment disbanded May 20, 1865 at Shreveport.

Both the 2nd and 3rd Regiments were reconstituted on March 30, 1878, as part of a Special Militia Force which included battalions outside Orleans Parish and by 1890 included some 15 separate companies.

In 1891, the units were reorganized as the 1st and 2nd battalions of Infantry and transferred to the Louisiana State National Guard. On March 17, 1896, the two battalions were consolidated to form the 1st Regiment of Infantry with its headquarters in Baton Rouge.

It was mustered into Federal service during May 8-18, 1898, as the 1st Louisiana Volunteer Infantry and was mustered out of Federal service October 3, the same year, at Jacksonville, Fla.

August 8, 1899, saw another reorganization in which the unit became the 1st Battalion of Infantry, Louisiana State National Guard with

its headquarters at Monroe, a move which saw it expanded and again reorganized and redesignated to be the 1st Regiment of Infantry with the headquarters remaining at Monroe, December 6, 1904.

In 1910, the Louisiana State National Guard was redesignated the Louisiana National Guard.

The Regiment was mustered into Federal service for the Mexican Border at Camp Stafford, Louisiana June 25-29, 1916, only to be mustered out of Federal service September 25 that same year at Camp Stafford.

March 31, 1917, saw it once more mustered into Federal service, this time at Camp Nichols, La., and it was drafted into Federal service August 5 that year at Camp Beauregard.

September 27, 1917, it was redesignated the 156th Infantry and assigned as part of the 39th Division, only to be demobilized January 23, 1919 at Camp Beauregard.

The next reorganization saw it become part of the Louisiana National Guard as seven separate infantry companies from June to August 1921, but August 4, 1922, it was expanded, reorganized and redesignated as the 156th Infantry as part of the 39th Division and with headquarters federally recognized at New Orleans.

July 1923, saw it become part of the 31st Division and in June 1929, the headquarters was changed to Lafayette, only to be changed in 1937 to Shreveport.

The regiment was broken up in 1939 and its elements were reorganized into several different units.

The 156th Infantry, minus the 2nd battalion, was reorganized in southern Louisiana with a new 2nd battalion and the headquarters was moved to Lake Charles in 1940. Meanwhile, the original 2nd battalion was converted, expanded, and redesignated the 204th Coastal Artillery in northern Louisiana with its headquarters in Shreveport.

The 204th Coastal Artillery was inducted into Federal service for World War II on January 6, 1941 but was once more broken up in 1943 into several units including Headquarters Battery for the 204th Antiaircraft Artillery Group. The 1st Battalion became the 769th Antiaircraft Artillery Gun battalion; the 2nd battalion became the 527th Antiaircraft Artillery Automatic Weapons battalion, while the 3rd battalion became the 244th Antiaircraft Artillery Searchlight battalion and branched into its own lineage.

Headquarters battery was inactivated at Ft. Bliss, Tx., in 1945, while the 769th Antiaircraft Gun battalion was converted and redesignated the 2nd Rocket Artillery battalion the same year. It was later inactivated at Camp Stoneman, Cal. in 1946.

The 527th Antiaircraft Automatic Weapons battalion was itself inactivated in 1944 at Camp Livingston, La., however, in 1946 elements of the battalions and Headquarters battery were organized to form the 199th Infantry as part of the 39th Division, with headquarters in Shreveport.

The 156th Infantry and the 199th Infantry were consolidated in July 1959 to form the 156th Infantry Regiment as part of the 39th Division under the Combat Arms Regimental System. That reorganization saw the two elements form the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Battle Groups.

May 1963 saw a reorganization once into the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and now 4th Battalions, still elements of the 39th Division.

In 1967 another reorganization saw them become the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd battalions, elements of the 256th Infantry Brigade, and in March 1977 a subsequent reorganization saw the units become the 2nd and 3rd battalions of the 256th Infantry Brigade.

Campaign credits are given the
(continued on page 12)

The following tables will be used under the new APRT. The first figure shown in each column is the minimum number needed to pass the test, while the second figure is the number needed to score the maximum 100 points in each event.

MEN UNDER 40			
AGE	PUSH-UPS	SIT-UPS	TWO-MILE RUN
17-25	40/68	40/69	17:55/13:05
26-30	38/66	38/67	18:30/13:40
31-35	33/61	36/65	19:10/14:20
36-39	32/60	34/63	19:35/15:05

WOMEN UNDER 40			
AGE	PUSH-UPS	SIT-UPS	TWO-MILE RUN
17-25	16/40	27/61	22:14/17:10
26-30	15/38	25/51	22:29/17:25
31-35	14/34	23/41	24:04/19:00
36-39	13/30	21/31	25:34/20:30

OVER 40 TWO-MILE TEST STANDARDS		
AGE	MEN	WOMEN
40-45	20 minutes	26 minutes
46-50	21 minutes	27 minutes
51-55	22 minutes	28 minutes
56-60	23 minutes	29 minutes

New PT Regulations Started for recruits

In a recent article in the "Army Times" a tough, new, physical training program for men and women soldiers under 40 was outlined.

The new program will go into effect December 1 after being approved by Army Chief of Staff, General Edward C. Meyer.

According to the "Times," qualifying scores for men and women will be slightly different due to their physiological differences.

Soldiers 40 years of age and older will be tested only in the two-mile run, but this testing won't go into effect until May or June of 1981. Army medical personnel are developing a "good safety screen" to weed out people who aren't fit to participate in strenuous exercises. No soldiers

40 and over will make the two-mile run without doctor's permission.

Although the standards for push-ups and sit-ups will be tougher with the new program, the time allowed for completion of the exercise will be lengthened to two minutes rather than the usual one minute time limit. Soldiers must score at least 60 points in each event and have a total score of 180 to pass the new test.

Recruits in basic will have to score 50 points in each exercise, and have a total of 160 points. Officials say this is due to the fact that new recruits cannot be built up to combat physical standards in only eight weeks.

Testing will be conducted twice annually with a four-month interval between tests.

Guard hat One of many

When the weekend drill is over for most Guardsmen, it means going back to their civilian jobs, but to SFC James H. Cockerham, it means going back to five different jobs, ranging from mayor to an ordained minister.

Cockerham, recruiter for Detachment 1 of Company D, 528th Engineer Battalion, has been in the Louisiana Army National Guard since 1972.

Besides being the mayor of Ridgecrest, La., a small town of about 1,200, between Ferriday and Vidalia, Cockerham is also a school bus driver for the Concordia Parish School Board, an insurance agent and the assistant director of a nearby funeral home.

"It may seem a little unusual to have this many jobs," Cockerham said, "but, I enjoy them all."

Cockerham was ordained a minister in the Pentecostal Church in 1976 and has been the mayor of Ridgecrest since 1978.

"For the Detachment in Ferriday, the recruiting is pretty good," he said. "We more or less stay up to full strength for the detachment."

His military service dates back to 1967 when he was drafted into the regular Army, spending two years in the service. He received his basic and advanced training at Fort Sam Houston and then went on to spend one year in Vietnam.

"In 1973 the Guard unit I was with, was called up for the floods around here," the 32-year-old sergeant said. "Our unit was on duty for about 65 days, but the best feeling is knowing that we did something to help the people around here."

His service in the Guard includes serving with the 527th Engineer Battalion, the 2225 Engineer Construction Company and now with the 528th Engineer Battalion.

"Sure, it may sound strange for a guy to have all of these jobs and still be in the Guard," Cockerham added, "but, I wouldn't trade it for anything."

New AG speaks out

In one of his first official interviews since being named Adjutant General, Brigadier General Ansel M. Stroud, Jr., spoke candidly with representatives of the PELIGRAM about his thoughts on the Guard and his goals for its future. Here is that interview.

PELIGRAM: General Stroud, in light of your long association with the Louisiana National Guard, and with your new position, what do you see as your top priorities for the Guard?

STROUD: I believe our first priority must be to support our airmen and soldiers who make up the Louisiana National Guard. And, in that light, I consider the concept of "One Guard" an important aspect of the way we must do business. We must consider ourselves "One Guard", the Louisiana National Guard, and we must change our attitudes from a concept which recognized an Army and an Air National Guard without any correlation between the two entities. There must be one Guard and that is the Louisiana National Guard.

In the same light, I believe we must place our first priorities on recruiting and retention—getting good people into the Guard and keeping them in the Guard. That is my principal goal for the months

Dutch Treats (continued from page 8)

Journeying from the warm climate of Louisiana to the Nordic climates of the Netherlands, members of the 204th soon found cool weather which had not yet caught up with their home state. Temperatures ranged from moderate 70's in the daytime to the 40's at night.

For the 204th the weeks went quickly and successfully, and now only the memories lingered. But for at least some of its members, the memories did not fade. "I'd give almost anything to go back," said Private Postell as she noted, "I'm ready for the next time."

ahead and it will have my fullest support.

At the same time, I believe we must work to improve the image of the Guard, to make people more aware of what we do, who we are, and why we are important to this state and to our nation.

PELIGRAM: What are your other priorities?

STROUD: I believe training must be our next priority. We must ensure that our people are trained in their individual skills and their units are made ready for combat. This must be done to improve our readiness which I believe is the overall goal which we must work to attain. This means placing emphasis on getting our units trained, reacquainting our people with their weapons and equipment and even training at night to become proficient at conducting operations in darkness, and this must apply to all units of the Guard.

The same topic brings up our needs to improve in our mobilization

planning and preparedness. Again, each of these is designed to make us more ready for our wartime missions.

Finally, I believe we must focus on our equipment. I believe we are getting our "fair" share of equipment. But I believe we must emphasize the fact that we need to make better use of the equipment which we have. We must maintain it better, be more accountable for it and safeguard and store it better while we also make more use of it in our training and operations.

PELIGRAM: What do you hope to see as a result of these efforts?

STROUD: I am confident that we will see a better prepared Louisiana National Guard, one in which there is a full partnership between Army and Air elements, one in which the members are pleased and even enthused with their jobs and the training which they receive, and one in which the citizens of this state and the nation can take pride. That is my goal and that is my promise.

156th. . .

(continued from page 10)

156th Infantry for participation in Civil War skirmishes which included Manassas, Sharpsburg, Fredricksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Vicksburg, the Wilderness, Shenandoah, Appomattox and service in Missouri, Virginia, Arkansas, and Mississippi.

World War I saw the elements of the 156th Infantry receive a streamer without inscription, while in World War II the units received campaign streamers from Northern France, Central Europe, and the Asiatic-Pacific Theater. The Headquarters company for the 3rd battalion is additionally entitled to a streamer for service at Normandy during World War II, while Company C, 3rd battalion in Jennings has received in its heritage, streamers from the Champagne-Marne, Aisne-Marne, St. Mihiel, Meuse-Argonne, Lorraine and Champagne 1918 campaigns of World War I.

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