

Peligran



*Serving the Louisiana National Guard * November 1982*

Peligram

The wreckage of Pan Am Flight 759 lay broken and twisted in a quiet neighborhood in the city of Kenner following the second worst air disaster in the history of the United States. Less than 24 hours after the disaster, Louisiana National Guardsmen were on the scene helping clear away the wreckage. Turn to page 8 for the story and additional photos.



Editor's Line

As always our staff is striving to bring you the best. This issue we feature the activities of the guard units called to assist the city of Kenner following the crash of Pan Am Flight 759.

An indepth look at the National Guard Retirement System and an easy way to figure your future retirement pay is offered for our readers.

We also give a brief look at Ms. Kelly Hric, this year's recipient of the Louisiana National Guard Enlisted Association Scholarship Award. This is the first year of this new program for the Enlisted Association.

For those of you who have been having a problem getting a copy of the *Peligram* please bear with us. We are currently making arrangements for a new computerized mailing list so we can mail the *Peligram* to every member of the Louisiana National Guard.

The PELIGRAM is a bi-monthly unofficial publication of the 241st Public Affairs Detachment, Louisiana 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.

The Adjutant General
Major General Ansel M. Stroud

Commander, 241st PAD
Major Michael L. Brown

Editor
SSG Kevin Gibson

Assistant Editor
SGT John A. Sullivan

Advisor
OC Steve L. Tingley

News-Grams

News-Grams: National Guard news items of interest compiled by the 241st Public Affairs Detachment. Information contained in News-Grams is not regulatory in nature and is not an official policy statement of the Louisiana National Guard.

Commercial sales of BDUs. . .

During the past few months many state adjutant generals have been approached by commercial manufacturers of the battle dress uniform (BDU) in an effort to sell the uniforms directly to Army Guard units. Anyone can purchase the commercial items for their personal use. However, commercial clothing that looks like the BDU is not authorized for wear during duty status. A spokesman for Maj. Gen. Ansel Stroud, state adjutant general, said that no matter what a commercial vendor says, the only certified BDUs available are issued through the defense personnel support center and military clothing sales stores.

POV parking restrictions. . .

Remember that it is against Department of Defense and Army regulations to park privately owned vehicles in any government motor pool, shop or in any building where government property is being stored. These restrictions apply to National Guard personnel, according to Col. Roy I. Nomey, Chief of Staff.

Wear of undershirts with the BDU. . .

Olive-green or brown undershirts are not required to be worn with the battle dress uniforms by Army Guard members until January 1983. Camouflage T-shirts available in some post exchanges are not authorized for uniform wear.

State safety manager dies. . .

Chief Warrant Officer Four Lowell D. Bradford, a 54-year-old veteran, who served more than 20 years with the Louisiana National Guard, died July 21.

Bradford enlisted as a private in the U.S. Army Air Corps in 1946. After overseas duty in Japan, he was discharged in 1953 as a staff sergeant. He joined the Georgia National Guard in 1955, transferred to the California Guard in January, 1961, and four months later, joined the ranks of the Louisiana Guard, where he remained until his death.

Throughout his career, Bradford held positions of importance including: combat construction foreman, first sergeant, and state test control officer. His last responsibilities were as state safety specialist manager. He was a technician for 26 years.

Among Mr. Bradford's many awards were the World War II Victory Medal, the Japan Occupational Medal, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal with hourglass device, the Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal, Louisiana Longevity Medal with third fleur-de-lis, and the Louisiana Commendation Medal.

Mr. Bradford is survived by his wife Betty, his sons Lowell Jr., Joseph, John, Edward, Robert, and his daughter Lynn.



An Air Guardsman is silhouetted against the sky while doing a pre-flight maintenance check.

Though they were 500 miles away from home, the 159th Tactical Fighter Group from Belle Chasse had the opportunity to host one of the more interesting interservice exercises of the year, "Quick Thrust."

Active and reserve components of the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines participated in the exercise which involved three military bases in the Savannah, Georgia area.

But unlike "Red Flag," "Border Star," and other military games in which everything is planned ahead of time, "Quick Thrust" added an element of surprise. The participants were allowed to formulate their own attack and defense tactics. Spontaneity became necessary as a matter of self-preservation.

As ground forces waged mock battles at Ft. Stewart, ships off the Atlantic coast defended themselves against attacking F-4Cs from the 122nd TAC Fighter Squadron.

The exercise attracted almost every type of aircraft in the military inventory, from the most modern tactical fighters to the versatile C-130s.

Supporting approximately 800 personnel based at Travis Air Field for the exercise were members of the

Testing the ability
of the nation's defense
to respond with a . . .

Quick Thrust

159th's various squadrons. Lt. Col. Frank Musso, 159th Combat Support Squadron, acting as base commander, directed administration.

"In addition to flying attack and defense missions, the 150 people from the Louisiana Air Guard were responsible for billeting, security, transportation, food and medical services," said the colonel.

Maj. Billy Smith, of the 122nd, took charge of the operations area. Overseeing maintenance was the responsibility of Capt. Ralph Clary. The success of the entire exercise is a credit to the management provided by the 159th's personnel.

An exercise controller from 9th Air Force, Shaw Air Force Base, South Carolina, said it was impossible to accurately state how many people took part in the exercise. "Thousands," he said.

On the subject of performance, the controller was more definite. "The Louisiana Air National Guard has demonstrated the highest state of readiness. They are true professionals."





Tactical fighters from the 159th soar through Georgia's southern skies.



Behind Quick Thrust there is administrative work to be done.



**AT '82. . .
From Ft. Polk to
Camp Shelby, the
Louisiana Guard
keeps moving.**





**With AT '82 over,
the planning starts
for AT '83. . .**

Guardsmen respond to air crash

On Friday, July 9, the bustling city of Kenner, La., was stunned as it experienced the second worst air disaster in U.S. history.

Pan American Flight 759 had just taken off from New Orleans International Airport, bound for Las Vegas, when it slammed into the heart of the neighboring community.

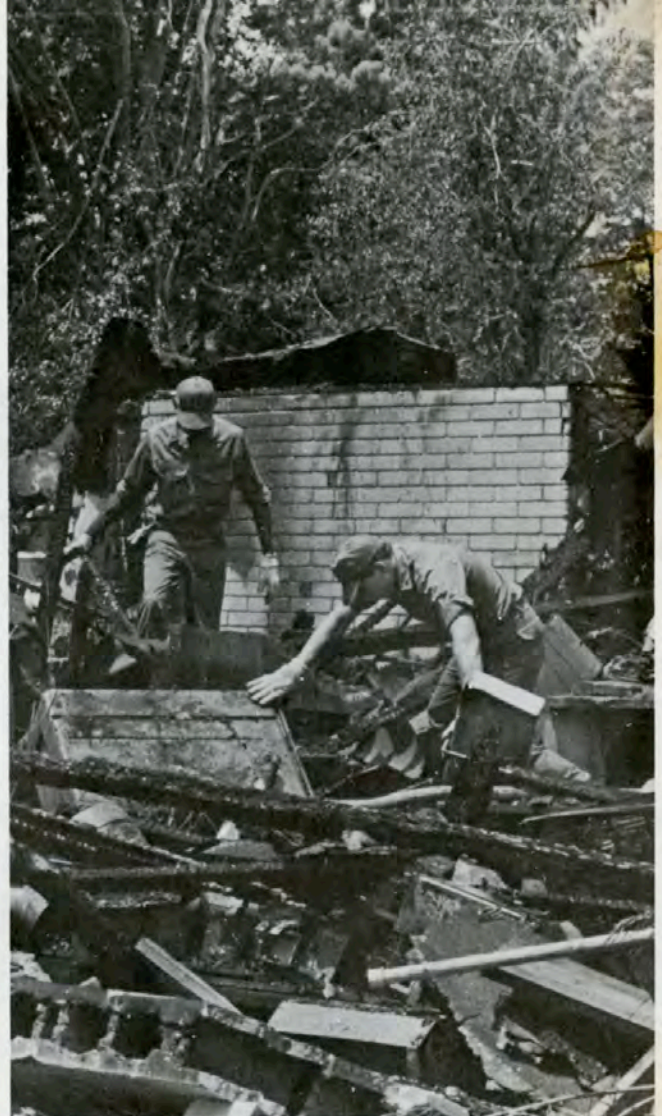
The aircraft went down in a residential area, smashing houses and spreading fire and destruction. All 145 passengers of the ill-fated jet plane and eight residents of the devastated neighborhood were killed. Still others were injured; one would later die raising the death toll to 154. Before the Boeing 727 came to rest in a fiery ball of debris, more than 13 homes were damaged or destroyed.

A shocked community reeled in dismay. Local, state and federal officials began a seemingly spontaneous process of assessing the impact of the tragedy, analyzing needs and coordinating response throughout the night.

Saturday morning, Governor Dave Treen, accompanied by Major General Ansel M. Stroud, was given a tour of the affected area by Kenner Mayor Aaron Broussard. The governor approved the mayor's request for state aid and the adjutant general was given the word.

The Guard responded swiftly. Emergency orders to assemble personnel reached Major Lester Schmidt, commanding officer of the 205th Engineer Battalion, at 1:30 p.m. Three hours later the first Guard trucks were

8 *Peligram*



Guardsmen search through the rubble of one of the houses in Kenner destroyed when Flight 759 crashed shortly after take-off from New Orleans International Airport in early July.

arriving at a temporary headquarters at Kenner City Hall.

The task force consisted of men and equipment from the 205th's Headquarters Company, Bogalusa, Co. A, Hammond, Co. C, Slidell, and Co. D, Covington, according to Schmidt.

That evening, military police from the 199th Support Battalion, Alexandria, had also arrived and were helping secure the crash site for the night.

Federal officials sifted through the wreckage Sunday as Guardsmen and local police searched what remained of the family dwellings. Found valuables were marked, bagged, and turned over to the Kenner Police Department, who supervised the search.

For Kenner Chief of Police Sal Lentini, the help was more than welcome. "If they ever write a manual on what to do in something like this, they should look at what the Guard did and follow their example," Lentini said. "They really came in here prepared to work."

And work they did. Guard crews assisted throughout the cleanup, clearing away the debris and rubble.

"They came in here cool, calm and willing to help," Lentini said. "...we really needed them."





National Guardsmen from the 205th Engineer Battalion help clean up the debris in Kenner with the use of heavy equipment like this 20-ton dump truck and front-end loader. The Guardsmen were just part of a task force sent into Kenner after Gov. Dave Treen declared the city a disaster area.



Louisiana National Guardsmen help patrol in Kenner following the crash of Flight 759 above. The MPs were just part of a Louisiana National Guard task force moved into the area to help. Major General Ansel M. Stroud, right, discusses the Guard's participation in cleaning up the disaster site with Ms. P. Goldman, a member of the National Transportation and Safety Board.

Community Projects Keep Engineers Moving

When you think about the National Guard, your thoughts about the part-time military are not likely to include zoological ponds, high school football fields and Girl Scout camps. But to the men and women of Louisiana's engineer battalions, such things are becoming as familiar as rifles, boots and green uniforms.

Citizen-soldiers throughout the state are assisting communities in a variety of construction projects, according to Lieutenant Colonel Frank Denton, commanding officer of the 225th Engineer Group, headquartered at Camp Beauregard. Among those are the construction of an indoor rifle range and completion of a zoological pond for Grambling University, renovation of two football fields at Natchitoches Central High School and road improvements at Marydale Girl Scout Camp.

Guard units meet once a month to train, practice and refine their skills. Approximately 3,000 Guard members, almost one-third of the state's force serves in engineer units.

"The work the engineers are doing enables them to fulfill training requirements and test operational capabilities under realistic conditions," according to Captain Randy Hillborn, operations officer for the 225th. "If activated, the units would probably be geographically dispersed in a similar fashion," Hillborn added.

In order to increase awareness and demonstrate the organization's total capabilities, the 225th recently held an open house at the Guard training site just outside of Alexandria. On display for the public were 20-ton dump trucks, rock-crushers, front-end loaders, machine guns, rocket launchers and much more. Visitors were provided with a complete overview of the role and resources of National Guard engineer units.

The 225th Group Headquarters receives about 50 requests a year from communities appealing for aid in the creation of everything from drainage ditches to airport runways.

The Guard is only able to support about half of these requests due to other commitments and responsibilities, according to Hillborn.

"Combat heavy" engineer battalions under the command of the 225th include the 528th, Monroe; 527th, Bossier City; 769th, Baton Rouge; and the 205th, Bogalusa.

Members of the 205th assisted in clean-up operations



Engineers man a bulldozer during AT '82.

following the fateful jet plane crash in July. (Photos and story, page 8)

Later that month, companies of the 527th responded to the emergency needs of a small farming community near Abbeyville when an old bridge collapsed. Farmers who needed to use the road to get their rice harvest to market were confronted with a serious problem.

Within a matter of days, the engineers had dismantled a 200-ft. bridge near Clarence, transported the materials across the state, and were busy erecting a 100-ft. replacement for the damaged structure.

Other projects on the 225th's schedule include the construction of a new football field and track for Anacoco High School, the creation of a playground at Montgomery High School, and the 600-ft. extension of a runway at Vivian Airport.

There's more to the part-time military than marching in straight lines. The hard-working men and women of the Louisiana National Guard's engineer battalions are proving to be a vital resource to the community.





Whether it was driving a road-grader or driving nails, members of the engineer battalions were busy with a wide range of community assistance projects.



National Guard Enlisted Assoc. awards first scholarship

The Louisiana National Guard Enlisted Association's First \$1,000 Scholarship Award was presented to 18-year-old Kelly Hric recently. The lucky young lady competed against ten others for the award.

The scholarship is awarded on both merit and need and is open to all Louisiana residents although you must be sponsored by a member of the association.

Kelly felt doubly qualified. Both of her parents are technical sergeants with the Air National Guard at Jackson Barracks. Her father, Tech. Sgt. Stephen Hric, is an administrative supervisor with the 214th Electronics Installations Squadron. He found out about the scholarship through the association.

Kelly submitted the four required letters of recommendation, having obtained one from her high school principal, and others from her employer, St. Bernard Drug Store; her religious education counselor, and a Louisiana Air National Guard recruiter.

She also had to put into her own words why she wanted the scholarship. Kelly expressed her desire to attend college, but said that because of a lack of funds, it would be difficult or even impossible.

The oldest of four children, Kelly was graduated with
12 Peligam



Kelly at work in local drug store.

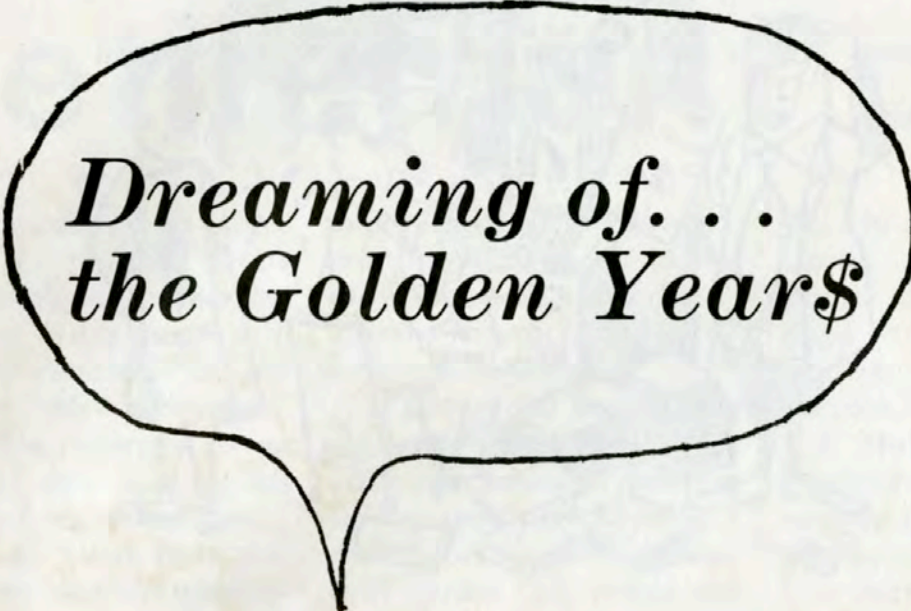
honors this spring from Andrew Jackson High School, Chalmette, with an overall grade point average of 3.5. She was a member of the Beta Club, an honor society, and the Mu Alpha Theta Club, the honor math club.

"I plan to go to the University of New Orleans this fall," she said. "Although I haven't really decided on a major yet, I am very interested in several aspects of the motion picture industry."

"I really love meeting people and I would like to do a lot of traveling," Kelly added.

"My mom called me at work and told me that I had won the scholarship award. It was a very nice surprise, and the pharmacist on duty treated us all to ice cream," Kelly added with a touch of glee.

Story & Photo by: Sp4 S.A. Kirkpatrick ❁



*Dreaming of...
the Golden Year\$*



For the guardsman who plans to stay in the Guard until retirement, the monthly retirement benefits will, in most cases, be greater than the money he received for monthly drills.

The part-time soldier or airman who retires is eligible for the same benefits as is his active duty counterpart. In dollars-and-cents, and in most cases, the reservist's retirement check will double his monthly drill check.

The soldier or airman who fulfills minimum requirements will probably be promoted to E7 before retirement. By using projected financial statistics based on future annual military pay increases of 5½ percent, this retiree will see a \$458 monthly retirement paycheck.

To equal projected national guard retirement pay, the E7 with 20 years behind him in the guard would need \$91,725 in a bank earning 6 percent interest.

The above figures represent projected pay. The E7 who thought about retirement 30 years ago expected to receive \$229.32 when he retired; based on pay scales current in 1952 he earned \$1,283.62 a year. By the way, many of the years since 1952 were lean years for the military when Congress made no increases for the serviceman.

Military pay increases in just the past few years have exceeded 5½ percent. This past October, Congress increased military pay by 9.1 percent.

Keep in mind that pay increases are determined by Congress and that no pay increase can be guaranteed. However, Congress has raised military pay on 12 occasions over the past 10 years, while raising the pay received by retirees 18 times during the same period.

In June of 1948, President Harry Truman approved Title III, Public Law 810 of the 80th Congress, establishing a new principle governing the retirement of reservists. Until

its passage, the only type of retirement benefits available to reservists were those based on physical disability.

Basically, for each day of service completed, one point is awarded. Points can be divided into two categories: those awarded for inactive duty training (IDT) and those awarded for active duty (AD). Active duty points can also be broken down into active duty for training (ADT) and full time training duty (FTTD).

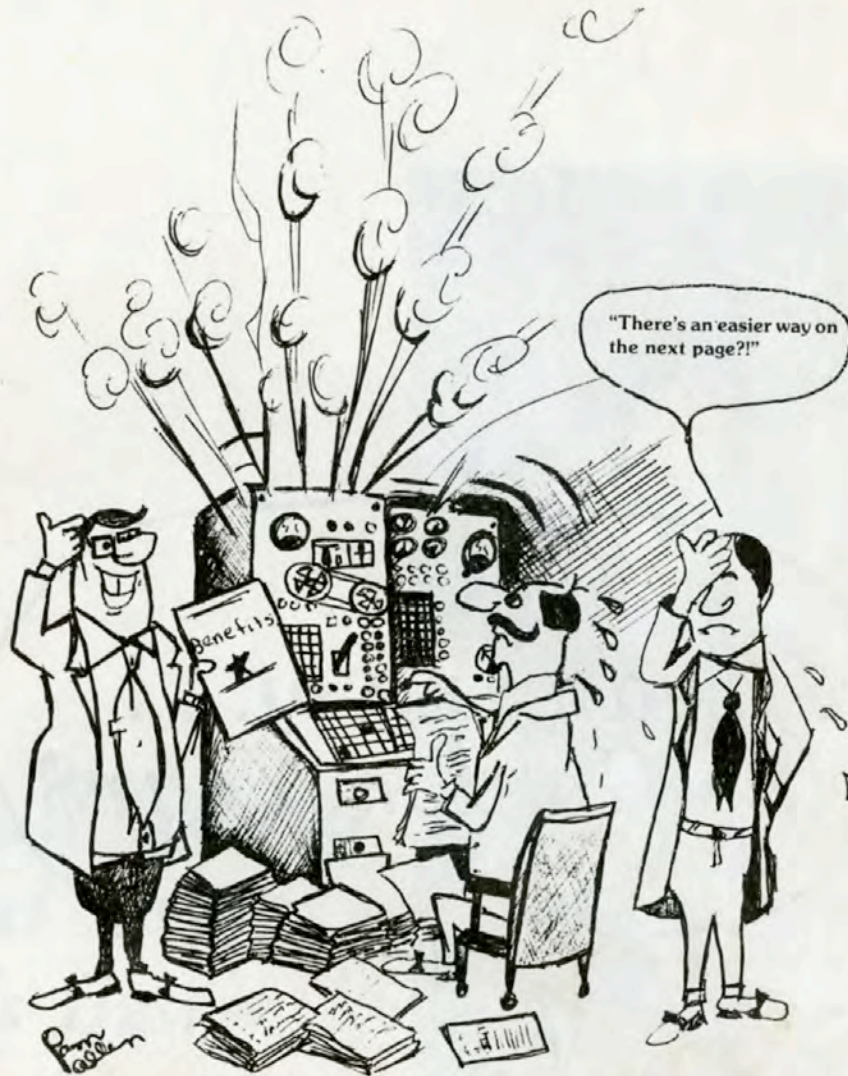
IDT points are earned on the basis of one point for each unit training assembly, this provides four points for each weekend drill. In addition, 15 points are earned annually for members in the Active National Guard. Members may also earn one point for each three hours of extension course work or for each four hour period of attendance at USAR schools. No more than 60 points may be earned during any retirement year for IDT service.

One point is earned for each day of service while in a AD, ADT, or FTTD status. There is no limit to the number of AD, ADT, or FTTD points that you may earn with the exception that you may not earn more than 365 points during any retirement year.

Members of the National Guard and other reserve components need a minimum of 50 points each year to complete a satisfactory retirement year. By completing all training a member earns 75 points: 48 points for weekend drills and 15 points for membership (total maximum of 60 points from this category) and 15 points for attendance at Annual Training.

The points are only one part of a computational system, and are used to figure the amount of money to be paid in retirement benefits. The more points, the more money paid in retirement benefits.

All guardsmen have the opportunity to boost their retirement benefits through accumulation of mandays, special projects requiring active duty and attendance of courses of instruction while in an active duty status.



For every active duty day served, one point is awarded. It should be noted that not all points earned through the completion of correspondence courses can be used in the computation of retirement benefits. However, points earned through completion of such courses can mean the difference between a good year and an unsatisfactory retirement year.

If, for whatever reason, an individual falls below the required 50 points he or she can boost back into satisfactory status by completing a number of courses for which retirement points are awarded.

In recent years reserve components have increased their enlistment of personnel with prior service, who bring with them extensive active duty experience and years of retirement points.

Present law permits a reserve

retiree to elect to provide a Survivor Benefit Program annuity to his or her spouse and children. Should the retired soldier die before his or her 60th birthday, the survivor's annuity would be one-half of the member's potential annuity. Also, the survivor's annuity can be elected to become payable upon date-of-death of the service member even if that retiree should die before age 60.

To qualify for Title III retirement pay, you must be 60-years-old and completed 20 years of qualifying military service. Former regulars must serve their last eight years of qualifying service as a member of a reserve component, and no reserve retiree may receive military retiree pay under any other provision of law.



Story By: Sgt. Wm. Rappold

How to figure your Retirement pay

The guardsman who serves six months active duty during his career for training purposes will probably reach E7 by the time of his retirement. Using this reservist as an example, let's look at his projected retirement pay.

Keep in mind that pay increases are determined by Congress and that no pay increases can be guaranteed.

The soldier who thought about his retirement thirty years ago, using the 1952 pay scale, and reached E7, expected to receive \$229.32 as his retirement check. He earns \$1, 283.62 annually.

Congress has raised military pay 12 times in the past 10 years while raising the pay for retirees 18 times over the same period. So, let's go through determining what the retirement pay will be based on projected annual increases of 5½% over the next 20 years.

1. He gets one point for

every day during the six months he was on active duty for training (187 days × 1 point for each day = 187 active duty points).

2. His guard component awarded him 15 points for each year he was a member of the unit and he gets 1 point for each four-hour drill period (48 points per year). He will apply only 60 of these points toward retirement. "Summer Camp" will add an additional 15 points for successful completion of the 15-day tour. Accumulating no additional points this guardsman will finish his military career with 75 points per year × 20 years = 1,500 inactive duty retirement points.

3. 1,500 inactive duty retirement points + 187 points earned while on active duty for training six months + 1,687.

4. These 1,687 points represent years of equivalent federal service. Retirement is based on the year of

12, 30-day months (360 days). Take the 1,687 points and divide by 360 days = 4.686 equivalent active duty years of service.

5. Multiply the years of equivalent active duty service by .025 (2.5 percent per year), rounding off to four decimal places: 4.686 × .025 = .1171.

6. This four-digit figure represents what part of current monthly pay you will get as your retirement benefit. It will be multiplied by the monthly basic pay rate for rank/years of service. Using projected future pay raises our E7 will draw \$484.00 each month as his retirement paycheck.

Remember that retirement pay will differ from the amount you come to using the 1982 pay scale. The 5½% annual increase we suggest is based on past raises given by Congress.



TAG-Line



Each September we look back at the previous year, our accomplishments, and the tasks that we have completed. With this picture in mind, we look forward to the upcoming year and set new goals to achieve.

In looking back, we have just completed a very successful Annual Training cycle with many improvements. Throughout the past year the Louisiana National Guard has made great strides in improving our recruiting, retention, and training. These strides are reflected in our readiness posture.

A continued effort in these critical areas will insure a productive and well prepared Guard that we all can be proud to be members of.

October 1st marked the beginning of a new year for the Louisiana National Guard and the opportunity for each of us to set goals in our continuing effort to improve our Guard and its readiness. As airmen and soldiers in the Louisiana Guard we have a historic obligation to help and defend the citizens of Louisiana and the United States.

To continue the improvement of our

readiness and to carry out our important military mission I feel that we must meet the following goals during the new year. We must increase our assigned strength and both MOS qualification and Air Force Skill Code qualification by five percent. We need to stress attendance at monthly training assemblies and maintain a minimum of ninety percent attendance.

As individuals, we must look to personal readiness. Our health and fitness are of utmost importance and we should strive to improve them through proper diet and physical activities. We must also look to personal training and continued professionalism.

As I said earlier, this past year has been very successful and rewarding for the Louisiana National Guard. I am very proud of the work we have accomplished together and thank each of you for your efforts.

With continued teamwork and individual achievement I am confident that 1983 can and will be an even better year for all of us.

national

guard

The Guard belongs.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

HQ LA NTL GUARD
LANG-PAO
JACKSON BARRACKS
NEW ORLEANS, LA. 70146

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300

Do Not Forward
Address Correction Requested

POSTAGE AND
FEES PAID
DEPARTMENT OF
THE ARMY
DOD-314



THIRD CLASS
BULK RATE