

# Louisiana Guard

VOLUME 2 NUMBER 2

SEPTEMBER 1986



Louisiana Brigade AT  
See page 6

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### LETTERS

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**Front Cover:**  
**256th INF BDE TRAINS AT FTL POLK** — Soldiers endured two weeks of humid and sweltering Louisiana weather as they trained to engage in mock battle with elements of the 5th Infantry Division. For a complete story see the article by 1LT Eric P. Jensen in this issue. (Photo by SGT Maria L. Jonkers)



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Dear Fellow Guardsmen:

This year marks the 350th Anniversary of the National Guard. On December 13, 1636 the North, South and East Regiments of the Massachusetts Bay Colony were organized as the first permanent militia regiments.

In Louisiana the Washington Artillery reorganized in February 22, 1840 making it at 146 years our oldest unit.

We celebrate this year 350 years of the Citizen-Soldier militia. 350 years of commitment and patriotism that climaxed in the Guard's acceptance as part of the Total Army concept.

Take pride in being a member of this organization. As guardsmen we stand ready to serve our country and fight alongside our active-duty counterparts. We also await orders from our Governor to serve our neighbors and community in times of disaster and distress.

Few are willing to sacrifice their weekends, and in some cases, their vacations, to serve in a part-time community oriented militia. But those that do, commit themselves to excellence in their performance and in their lives.

In the face of state-wide budget cuts, and armory closings the Louisiana National Guard will continue to preserve and grow. Happy Anniversary to the National Guard and to the Citizen-Soldier.

Sincerely,

A.M. Stroud, Jr.  
Major General, LAARNG  
The Adjutant General



MG A. M. Stroud, Jr.

## Uniform changes in October highlighted

Several uniform items for soldiers will reach their wearout dates on Oct. 1, while several others have been extended another year.

All these changes recently were announced by the Army's Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel at the Pentagon.

The following items no longer will be authorized for wear after Sept. 30:

- (1) Olive green 107 Cold Weather Jacket (Field Jacket).
- (2) Olive green 109 undershirt.
- (3) Army green 388 uniforms, skirt, dress, and jacket (mint green)
- (4) Women's Army green pantsuit, jacket.
- (5) Women's Army green 344 uniform, coat.

Note: The slacks to the pantsuit and the skirt to the Army green uniform may be worn as a Class B uniform until Sept. 30, 1987.

The following uniform items have been extended for wear until Sept. 30, 1987:

- (A) Women's olive green 107 cotton poplin shirt and slacks.
- (B) Olive green 107 hot-weather jungle fatigues.
- (C) Men's and women's olive green 507 durable press utility uniform.
- (D) Women's slacks, Army green pantsuit uniform
- (E) Women's skirt, Army green 344 uniform.

NOTE: The slacks and skirt may be worn only as a Class B uniform. They

will no longer be authorized for wear after Sept. 30, 1987.

### POSSESSION DATES

Women must have in their possession on Oct. 1, 1987, the following uniform items:

- (A) Slacks, Army green classic, 2nd pair.
- (B) Skirt, Army green classic, 2nd one.

All soldiers must have their first set of the Hot Weather Battle Dress Uniform by Oct. 1, 1987.

### NEW UNIFORMS INTRODUCED

The following items have been approved for optional purchase by soldiers:

- (A) Physical Training uniform. In Fiscal Year 1988 it will become an organizational issue item.
- (B) New-style combat boot. This boot will be available at the clothing initial point in December 1987. The boots now are stocked by clothing sales stores.

Jungle boots may be worn by all soldiers as an optional boot except when uniformity in appearance is required. Jungle boots will be available at clothing sales stores at a later date.

### BADGES

The parachute rigger blade was adopted as an HQDA-approved special skill badge to be worn as a "Group 5"

badge. Group 5 badges include those that designate diver, driver and mechanic, explosive ordinance, and nuclear reactor operator.

The physical fitness badge is authorized for wear only as a full-color cloth badge. It may be worn only on the T-shirt and sweatshirt. It also may be worn on optional-purchase personal and organizational PT uniforms.

## Softball Set

By SSG Michael Sanchez

The Second Annual Louisiana National Guard Invitational Softball Tournament has been tentatively scheduled for the weekend of 11-12 Oct 1986. This year's contest will be hosted by the 159th Mobile Army Surgical Hospital in New Orleans.

The tournament is open to teams from all Army and Air National Guard units in Louisiana.

For details on team registration, schedules, rules, and billeting during the tournament, POC is SSG Kenneth Gifford, OMS 13-(504) 278-6459, Autovaon 4858459, and 1Lt Paul Arbour, 159th MASH, (504) 278-6493, Autovon 4858493.

All units are encouraged to participate, and to help make this years competition bigger and better than ever.



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CW3 Stanley Sirgo

## SAFETY SEZ

By CW3 Stanley Sirgo

### Seatbelts and the tough-guy image

Why should I wear seatbelts? This seems to be a question that has been inadequately answered. Too few of our Louisiana National Guardsmen take the seatbelts seriously.

So let's talk about John Wayne, Clint Eastwood, or even Rambo. These so-called heroes can really get your attention. But they can't withstand the jolt from a jump or fall from a three story building. The unbelted vehicle passenger has to absorb the entire force of a collision in the hundredth of a second it takes to slam into the windshield at 30 MPH which is the equivalent to the force of a fall from the three story building.

Do you wear an S on your chest? Are you faster than a speeding bullet and can you jump buildings in a single bound? No, I didn't think so. But you, the American tough guy — or gal will think nothing of continuing to forget one of the most important pieces of safety equipment, your seat belt.

Most people who don't buckle up are just people who haven't gotten around to establishing the seatbelt habit. Wear your seatbelt for a week or two, and it'll become automatic. You'll feel incompletely dressed without it, probably because in a vehicle, you are incompletely dressed without it.

"Be smart; be chic; make it click."

#### WHAT IF YOU DON'T DIE?

Buckle up and live.  
Make it click.  
Get it together.  
Make a snap decision.

Myth	Fact
Belts are needed only for long trips and high-speed expressway driving.	Eighty percent of serious and fatal injuries occur in cars traveling less than 40 mph. Seventy-five percent of serious and fatal injuries occur less than 25 miles from home.
Belts trap occupants in their vehicles, especially in cases of fire or submersion.	Less than half of one percent of all injury-producing collisions involve fire or submersion. Belts keep occupants unhurt and alert so they are able to extricate themselves even if fire or submersion occur.
It's better to be thrown clear of the vehicle.	A person is about 25 times more likely to be killed if ejected from the vehicle than if inside and buckled up.
Good drivers don't need seatbelts.	No driver can control another driver. The seatbelt protects against injury after the crash. Seatbelts make good drivers better by helping them avoid fatigue and have more control over the vehicle in emergencies.
Belts cause injuries.	Injuries due to belts have been reported. But most of them involved a crash so severe that the occupants would have been seriously or fatally injured if they had not been wearing seatbelts.

Slogans abound. Everyone hears them; too few heed them. About 80 percent of the population have not been persuaded to use their safety belts. Some of you who are against the idea of wearing safety belts say you have the right to do with your life as you wish, even if it means dying in an automobile accident.

But, what if you don't die? What happens if you become one of this year's 5,000 Americans who will suffer spinal-cord injuries, or one of the 625,000 who will suffer facial lacerations and trauma, or one of the 180,000 who will end up with brain injuries?

Thanks to advanced medical technology and more sophisticated emergency care, many accident victims who would have died only a few years ago will survive. Sort of.

The economic cost of crash injuries amounts to tens of billions of dollars every year. The human cost in terms of suffering is incalculable.

What if you don't die? Can you afford the cost?

Let's suppose you have a passenger — your daughter, friend, sister. On the way home from the shopping center you crash into a tree at 40 mph. Your passenger is killed; you suffer multiple injuries.

Doubtless, you'd be devastated. In addition to your own physical pain, you'd torture yourself with questions such as, "Why didn't I pay more attention?" "Why did I let her go with me?" "You'd agonize over the if-onlys. "If only I had been going slower, maybe she wouldn't have been killed." Or perhaps, "If only she had been wearing her seatbelt."

No one should ever ride in an automobile without being securely buckled in. Seatbelts, if used, can save lives, and they do reduce injury severity.

How can you afford not to wear seatbelts? What if you don't die? Could you live with the consequences?

— adapted from AIDE

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## Louisiana Brigade AT stresses realistic training

Following the tactical air strikes, the familiar "whump, whump, whump" explosions from the 4.2 inch mortars pounded the advancing enemy vehicles with deadly accuracy. What was left of the enemy formation was finished off by a mechanized infantry company dug in on the hillside.

This was just one scenario of many played by Louisiana National Guardsmen of the 256th (Louisiana) Infantry Brigade (Mech) during their 1986 annual training July 19 - August 2.

"The Louisiana Brigade is conducting intensive field exercises in preparation for a 21 day exercise at the National Training Center in 1987," said Brig. Gen. Frank Denton, brigade commander. "As a round-out brigade of the Fifth Infantry Division, we are training to their standards for our war-time mission."

Denton said he observed troops of the Louisiana Brigade under "rigorous conditions of a tough field environment and stressful war conditions" and noted that morale and attitude were outstanding.

"The citizens of Louisiana should be very proud of their citizen-soldiers who are 'Americans at their best,'" Denton said.

In addition to the brigade cell, Guardsmen of First Battalion, 156th Armor, are also slated to attend NTC in 1987.

Commanded by Lt. Col. Robert Jones, the battalion's annual training at Fort Polk has consisted of platoon lane training and live fire exercises. Operating under tactical conditions for the 10-day field exercise was taxing for many, but like Reserve Officers Training Corps Cadet Jerome Cox of Company A, morale remained high.

"I've never been through training of the sort we've had the last three days," Cox said as he prepared his tank for live fire. "I've really experienced, learned and received knowledge of things most people only read about. I'd recommend that all (ROTC) cadets go through this and learn from this type training."

Cox, a resident of Coushatta, is a senior at Northwestern State University and will receive his lieutenant's commission next spring.

While 1/156th Armor tanked across one end of Polk, Third Battalion, 156th Infantry occupied ground on Peason Ridge, 25 miles to the north, conducting live fire exercises and platoon lane training.

During the day phase of live fire, even the newest Guardsmen received "hands on" training with crew served weapons. For many, it was the first time firing the .50 caliber and M-60 machine guns.

Dug in defensive positions overlooking the downrange targets near Eagle Hill as members of Company B, 3/156th Infantry prepared to conduct live fire during the first week of annual training. 3/156th Battalion Commander, Major Ronald Tomas joined Company B Commander 1st Lt. Kerry

Hopper in scanning the range for targets and issuing fire commands.

After the A-10s had finished pounding the targets, the infantry company took over. Defensive positions complete with sandbags and overhead cover ringed the top of the ridge facing the range in the shape of a lazy "L."

Assistant Squad Leader Cpl. Patrick Vercher of Oakdale described the training as "hot and hard," saying most troops only received two to three hours of sleep each night.

"The heat has been a factor on everybody and the stress has been tough," Vercher said. "This is the first live fire exercise and everybody is glad to be doing it."

SSgt. Shannon Fontenot, a squad leader from Oberlin, said the quantity of training time has been from one extreme to the other.

"Sometimes we've had too much lag time but other times, we've had too much training and not enough lag time," Fontenot said. He said the company officers had been "learning on the NCOs, weeding out the good from the bad."

Following a day and night firing phase, the company bivouacked on the range then moved off the following morning as Company C moved in for their phase of live fire.

3/156th Infantry also conducted platoon lane training utilizing the Multiple Integrated System (MILES). Both defense and offense lanes tested the soldiers' reactions to silhouetted targets simulating a combat situation.

Unlike their fellow Guardsmen in the Armor and Infantry branches, members of the 1/141 Washington Field Artillery remained in the field the entire two weeks of annual training. The battalion, commanded by Lt. Col. Urban Martinez, fired 155mm self-propelled howitzers along the 700 series firing points just north of Artillery Road. Firing batteries conducted both day and nighttime fire exercises.

Each of the batteries trained with a relatively new system known as the Digital Message Device.

The forward observer initiates the fire mission by digitally forwarding raw data such as target location and description to the battery's computer system. Firing data is then computed and sent by land line to the gun.

"This is firing with no voice commands issued," said Capt. Steven Pierce, Battery B commander. "In a matter of seconds, the data will be on the gun from the FO."

The 155mm guns fire while stationary, but the batteries have moved to other locations, sometimes as frequently as four times in one day.

As fire commands come down to the guns, gun crew members shout deflection and quadrant coordinates as the projectile is loaded into the gun. The lanyard is attached and pulled, hurling the shell to the target five miles distant. The 155mm can fire up to 27 miles.

Sgt. Elmer Johnston, a gunner from

Continued on Page 15



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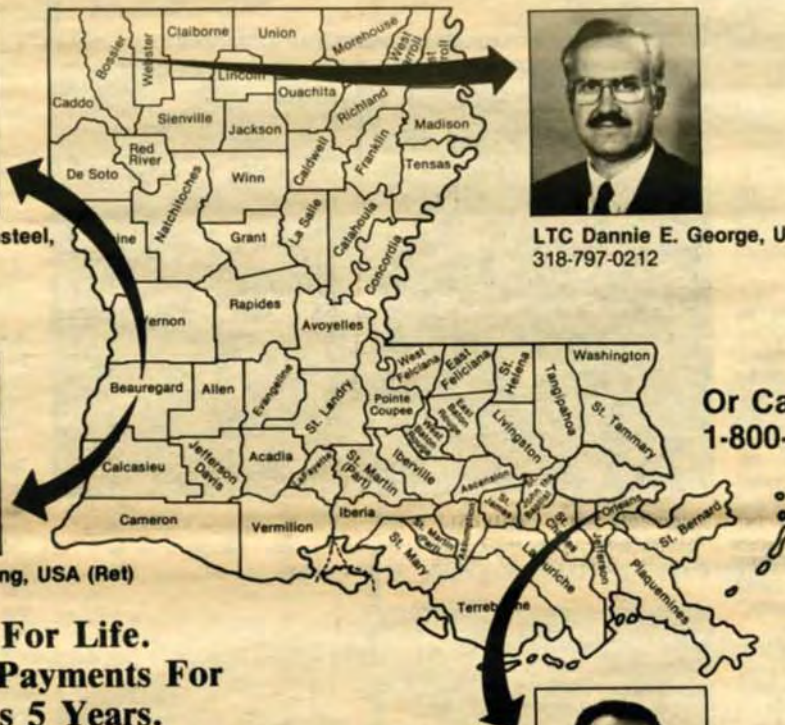
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# Donations and volunteers enrich Museum collection

Several significant things have taken place at the museum during the last few months which we had not gotten around to reporting in this column.

During June and July we received an F-86D Sabre via the world famous Air Force Museum at Wright-Patterson AFB. Not only was it delivered to our door step, but it also arrived completely painted in the Louisiana Air National Guard's colors with markings of the 1950's. In addition, four (4), (count 'em) technicians from Aero Nostalgia, Stockton, California — the outfit which handled everything, including shipment — were provided to assemble the aircraft on this end. It was a long time in coming. I requested it on 9 September 1982, while visiting the USAF Museum.

The F-86D, with its retractable 24 count 69mm (2.75) rocket pod is fast becoming as rare as hens teeth, and I believe we were extremely fortunate in getting this one. There just ain't no more out there to go around.

By the way, the F86 "DOG" as it was affectionally referred to by its drivers had in all-weather capability because of its nose-mounted search radar. It also set a world's speed record of 698.505 MPH on 19 November 1952. The earlier shark nosed F-86A saw a great deal of operational service in the Korean Conflict. While the Soviet built MIG-15 performed better and was superior in a dogfight, it was more than compensated for by the highly skilled American pilots who soon gained superiority of the air. The F86A with its well trained pilots became the "MIG Exterminator" during that period of our history.

Our Louisiana Air National Guard was armed with the "DOG" during the Mid 1950's. It was replaced by the F-102 Delta Dagger.

In July we received one of the finest artifact donations in the history of the museum. A 1/35 scale model collection of guns, armor, and vehicles worthy of exhibit anywhere in the world was given to us by Mr. Richard E. Kirk, who — along with his son — built the 150 items over a 14 year period (1970-1984). The collection has been appraised and is valued at \$40,000.00 (IRS approved!). The detail of each model is extraordinary. This is, by far, the finest collection of scale models I have ever seen — and if you drop by for a look, I am sure you will agree.

Another somewhat unique set of artifacts were placed on loan to us in July. Seven 2' x 3' U.S. Army Air Force maps and charts dated 1943-44; both sides of which were multicolored printed on nylon cloth and are in bristol condition. They were issued to airmen in the event they were shot down in the area over which they were operating. Scales are 1:1,000,000 and 1:2,000,000 and they cover the areas of Southeast and Southwest China, India, Eastern and Western Asia, North Borneo, Philippines, and French Indo China. The following message is printed on each one:

"I am an American airman. My



## HISTORY HERALDRY AND MUSEUMS

By  
F.E. THOMAS  
COL (LA)



Scale model of a World War I British L.G.O.C. B type Motor Bus "Old Bill Bus" Mobile Pigeon Loft. Communications vehicle used in France 1914-1918. Model on display at the museum.



Louisiana Air National Guard's first F-86 D Scramble, 2 July 1958.

plane is destroyed. I cannot speak in your language. I am an enemy of the Japanese. Please give me food and take me to the nearest allied military post. You will be rewarded."

The message is printed in Bengali, Hindustani (Undo), Kachin, Lisu, Burmese, Chinese, and English.

It now appears we will be able to move soon on getting our M-47 "Patton" (90mm) tank. It, along with a second one for Camp Beauregard, is being

held for us at Anniston Army Depot, Alabama, awaiting instructions from us for delivery. We could never get one in here until we had an area and a concrete slab on which to put it. General Stroud has recently OK'd the use of the area behind the museum for exterior artifacts. (The F-86D is presently being exhibited there). Pursuant to this, I recently received word that we will be able to get ready mixed concrete for our slabs and sidewalks free of charge.

Slabs and sidewalks are, of course, the costliest items for the development of an area such as this. We will, however, have to handle the concrete forming and finishing work ourselves.

Our hat is in the ring to get an F-80 Shooting-Star from China Lake. The USAF Museum found one intact in a hanger at NAVWPNCTR. It bears the low serial number of 49-851A! (It's a wonder the Air Museum wouldn't park it on their lawn!) As of this writing, we, along with March, Castle and Edwards AFB's, and the Nebraska and Kansas Air National Guard, all have a shot at getting it. I have also been told that in all probability, we will be the recipient because we were the earliest to ask for one (1982), and because of our exhibit and maintenance policy. I mentioned earlier that the F-86D was becoming rare, — an F-80 makes hens' teeth bountiful. The LAANG was assigned the F-80 Shooting-Star in the late 1940's and early 1950's. It was also the United States' first pure operational jet aircraft.

At the rate we are receiving "quality artifacts" lately, decisions have become much more frequent as to what exhibits need to be retired or discarded to make room for the better and newer ones.

One day, back in early June, Mr. Bernard "Barney" Roach walked in and volunteered his services at the museum. After we got the go ahead from the Adjutant General's Office, it didn't take very long to take him up on his offer! There just aren't many people left around who are able, or willing, to do volunteer work 8 hours a day, 5 days (sometimes more) — a week. He's been at this for better than two months and he's been a great help as a docent, particularly with the ever increasing number of visitors to our museum.

Barney is retired from the Regular Establishment as a Master Sergeant with 23 years of service. Needless to say, he knows the military and has many friends in this area. He also has a son in the 39th MP's who has recently started the OCS Program.

Also, while on the subject of volunteers, Cpt. Johnny Curry and his sweet wife Debbie have done nothing less than outstanding work at the museum. Since early spring, Debbie has planted and maintained all sorts of flowering plants and bushes around the grounds which added plenty of needed color to the drab tanks and guns. For awhile, we looked like a botanical museum. All of this was just great until she tried to grow sweetpeas in the muzzle of our "French 75"! Johnny, (and Debbie), have spent numerous weekends over here showing people around. This really helps with the out of town visitors who are unable to visit during regular operational hours.

Mrs. Pat Anderson also has undertaken some pretty heavy historical research for the museum during the last several months. For all of you Special People, I would like to say **THANK YOU!**



# State Guard plays vital role for National Guard

By SGT Bill Rappold  
241st Pub Aff Det

"The State Guard has a serious responsibility and a viable mission," said the State Guard's Deputy Chief of Staff COL Al Vath, in a recent interview.

"Even though the State Guard is recognized in the highest chain of command, efforts should be made to find some sort of fiscal support for this organization," Vath said. Along with the closing of our Armories and other cutbacks experienced by the National Guard, the once funded State Guard is now without financial support from the people it serves."

Given the task of relieving TAG and his staff of the day-to-day operation of the various armories should the National Guard be mobilized and deployed for National Security today, the State Guard relies on Citizen-Soldiers

to give voluntary support to continue its mission.

The thirty key staff personnel who form the core of The State Guard train monthly to step in when called to duty to fulfill their mission. For many of these members, voluntary duty requires that they travel great distances to be a part of these meetings. All members pay their own personal expenses in this lend-a-hand effort to maintain essential services to the state and its people in these financially troubled times.

Divided into five area commands, each Area Commander is charged with the responsibility to maintain the armories, inventory all state properties and maintain those state properties from date of mobilization and departure until the return of troops from deployment. Area commanders have the added responsibility of maintaining the strength of the State Guard with other Citizen Soldiers when called to duty.

The State Guard has been a viable part of the Military here in Louisiana for over ten years and its efforts have been recognized nationally, with many other States following the lead of Louisiana in establishing State Guard Commands.

BRG GEN Thomas Breslin Commands The State Guard and his state wide efforts oversee five Area Commands.

Lafayette, Monroe, Shreveport, Alexandria and New Orleans area commands are charged with maintaining nearby armories and state properties, and each Area Commander is responsible for recruiting citizen soldiers to support the mission.

All Area Commanders are retired National Guard Officers whose expert abilities make The State Guard so valuable an asset.

## Involuntary transfers for poor drillers

Commanders do have the option of transferring individuals into the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) after nine unexcused absences and to discharge those Army Guardsmen whom they deem unsalvageable, according to Col. Charles E. Rhodes, chief of the Army Directorate personnel division.

Based on AR 135-91, paragraph 4-12 b, the regulation gives the commanders the flexibility of retaining soldiers they believe can be salvaged. In some cases, a commander can reverse a negative participation trend by providing the soldier timely unexcused absence letters and by properly counselling the soldier.

Documentation of notification and counselling are inspected to determine whether the commander is meeting his/her responsibilities in these areas.

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# Guard Engineers on AT: training for readiness

## New Challenge for 205th

By CW2 Louis Joseph  
205th Engr Bn

"Come What Will" is the motto of the 205th Engineer Battalion, Combat Heavy. Annual Training brings on various challenges in different forms, and AT-86 has been no exception. This year, one of the first challenges came in the form of moving tons of heavy equipment approximately 200 miles from Southeast Louisiana to Camp Beauregard, Louisiana. Vehicle sizes ranged from ¼ ton trucks to M920's with 40 ton trailers loaded with construction equipment such as graders and dozers.

In the past, the 205th's tactical training has been for 4 days and 3 nights in the field. They would then return to Camp Beauregard and work on various engineer projects. However, introduced to the 205th this year was a training concept new to this unit, but not to the military in general. This training is called MOUT (Military Operations on Urbanized Terrain). What is MOUT? MOUT is classified as military actions planned and carried out in a city-type environment. In the MOUT environment, the 205th, while performing its engineering mission, sustained MOUT operations for six days after its four day FTX. This required an assault and support force to clear the "Village Beauregard" of Soviet "Spetsnaz" (special forces, airborne, and heliborne) prior to main body's arrival from the FTX. Upon arrival of the main body, key terrain was identified, and troops began to fortify and harden positions using sandbags, concertina wire, and continuous upgrading of positions.

MOUT Training, to say the least, is physically and mentally demanding in that LBE, to include full NBC equipment, and weapons are carried at all times. Soldiers had to remain alert to events pertaining to the MOUT Training in addition to performing their engineer mission.

The Battalion Commander feels that this type of training is highly rewarding and gives his troops a sense of urgency as to the importance of overall readiness. He personally thanked SFC Lawrence R. Burrell of the United States Army Infantry School, Combined Arms Tactics Department for his expertise and guidance in conducting MOUT Training. He also feels that this has been one of the most productive AT's and stated that troop morale was excellent. He also noted that his men remained highly receptive to the concepts of MOUT Training.

The 205th's motto, "Come What Will," was evident in all phases of this year's Annual Training. All challenges were met head on, which is indicative of the flexibility of the 205th Engineer Battalion, Combat Heavy.



Members of the 527th Engr Bn work on a 32-slip boat marina for the Cypress-Black Bayou Recreation and Water Conservation District. (LaARNG Photo)

## 527th builds Cypress-Black Bayou Marina

By Capt. Richard A. Jones

Guardsmen of the 527 Engineer Battalion (Cbt Hvy), headquartered in Bossier City, have constructed a 32-slip boat marina for the Cypress-Black Bayou Recreation and Water Conservation District during annual training. The construction was performed by Company B located in Marksville. The project is located on Cypress Lake in Bossier Parish.

Larry Deen, Executive Secretary for the Cypress Lake Commission, said the project will cost approximately \$38,000.00. Deen further stated that if

the project were contracted out it would cost at least \$150,000.00. Deen praised the work of the 527th. "There is not enough you can say about what they can do!" he said. "Not only does this work with their training objective, but they are performing a community service for community growth."

The project was approved as a Community Assistance Project for annual training. This is a program in which public entities such as state, city, and parish governments can request assistance from the National Guard. The Guard provides equipment, labor and construction expertise and the

public agency provides all other resources.

Projects of this nature are mutually beneficial to the public and to the National Guard. The public receives a needed asset that might be impossible for them to attain otherwise and the Guard receives invaluable and meaningful hands-on training. LtC Walter Weater, Battalion Commander of the 527, stated "This project is similar in nature to missions that the guardsmen could expect in wartime, thus providing an excellent training vehicle for wartime readiness!"



Equipment and manpower donated by the 528th Engr Bn helped to restore water to Georgetown after a series of water systems plague the town. (LaARNG Photo)

## 527th Guardsmen help Georgetown

(Reprinted from *Town Talk*,  
Alexandria-Pineville)

Guardsmen from the 527th Engr Bn spent nearly a week helping the community of Georgetown in the wake of a series of water system problems.

The water problems began when someone turned off a valve supplying water to the system's main tank. The

system's motor later burned up, and a new water pump purchased earlier subsequently malfunctioned. The pump had to be transported to Monroe to be rebuilt, and the community's water system was shut down.

Uncertain how long repairs would take on the pump unit, city officials contacted the 527th Engr Bn at Camp Beauregard for assistance. Major

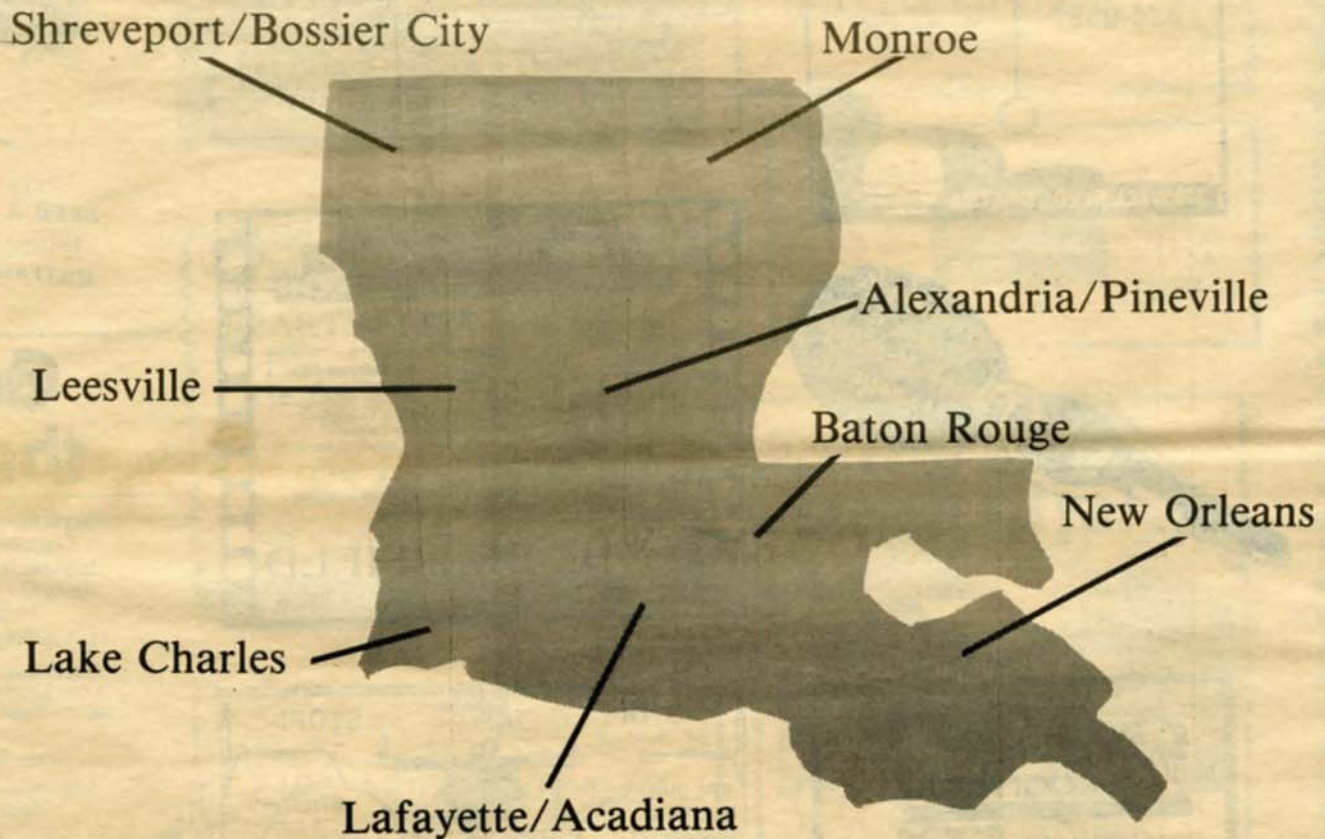
Johnnie Robinson said the unit was en route by the time the system was again in operation, but city officials needed help in improving the water pressure.

The Guardsmen set up a filtration plant and filled the town's ground tank. Health authorities approved the temporary filtering and supply arrangements, enabling residents to begin receiving water.

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2nd Lt. Randall Bryant (left) and Capt. Gary B. Starkey (right) survey the site of Co B, 205th Engr Bn's training area in Springhill, La. (LaARNG Photo)



The "Bulldog" Company of the 528th Engr Bn in Farmerville renovated the Oakdale Museum during Company B's annual training exercise (LaARNG Photo)

## Co B 528th gives facelift to Farmerville Museum

By Maj. Phillip L. Arthur  
528th Engr Bn, UPAR

During period 31 May 1986 thru 14 June 1986, elements of Co B 528th Engr Bn from Farmerville, LA was assigned to conduct renovations to the Oakdale Museum in Oakdale, LA. The 2d General Construction Platoon from Farmerville under the direction of 2LT Todd Mahaffey and SFC Rhodell Montgomery completely re-roofed the building and completed all of the assigned electrical re-wiring.

During the two week exercise, the

personnel assigned to this project performed their duties in conjunction with a tactical field exercise as well as performing the mission in a MOUT (military operations in urban terrain) environment.

The personnel of the "Bulldog" company represented the Louisiana Army National Guard very well.

Major General Stroud visited the project and was taken on a tour of the building from top to bottom. The visit included his personal inspection of the attic as well as a first hand view of the workmanship on top of the roof.

## 205th takes on challenge of airport project for grateful Springhill

By SGT Marion Jones  
CO B, 205th Engr Bn

The Engineer Challenge. A phrase that is not taken for granted in the 205th Engineer Battalion and especially in Bravo Company.

This annual training brought a new meaning to that phrase though, for the men of Bravo Company. Annual Training — 86 has to have been one of the most challenging, demanding and rewarding phases of annual training that can be remembered by members of this unit.

The unit attended annual training from 14-28 Jun. This annual training was an especially valuable experience, in that it painted a picture of the conditions we can expect to be working under, if we are ever called to active duty.

The major portion of the unit performed its FTX at Cp Beauregard, with a portion of the horizontal construction platoon, performing its FTX at the Springhill Airport, in Springhill, LA. During the field exercise, the unit conducted training on quartering party operations, engineer reconnaissance, NBC warfare, crew-serve weapons, field sanitation and hygiene, tactical marches, camouflage and concealment, mine/countermine operations and survivability on the intergrated battlefield.

Following the FTX, the unit immediately deployed to Springhill Airport, less three vertical construction squads and administrative support personnel, who remained at Cp Beauregard. One vertical construction squad deployed to Grambling University in Ruston, LA.

2nd squad, of the 1st general construction platoon, under the command of SFC Jack Whaley, traveled to Grambling University. There they renovated several classrooms on campus. The original scope of work was completed ahead of schedule, with some additional work assigned and completed. All work was accomplished under a tactical MOUT scenario.

Several headwalls were constructed at Cp Beauregard, under the direction of SSG Charles Blevins and 2LT James Planche of Detachment 1 Co B. These construction projects were accomplished with specific emphasis on work site security and defense in a MOUT environment. The squads that remained at Cp Beauregard, did an exceptional job in accomplishing the mission under other than usual conditions.

The airport project at Springhill, LA, was the major project assigned to the unit. The horizontal construction platoon, with assistance from elements of the 1st general construction platoon, headquarters platoon and attached

personnel from Co A and HHC of the 205th Engineer Battalion, undertook a major assignment. The previous unit, could not complete their scope of work due to the onslaught of torrential rains in the region, during their entire training period. This left their scope of work to be accomplished, along with our original scope of work. The challenge was practically insurmountable.

The people of Springhill welcomed us into their beautiful community with open arms. They made our stay there as comfortable as possible and gave us overwhelming technical and morale support, such as the unit has never seen before. Members of the community who worked with us on a daily basis were, Sonny and Betty Moss, of the Springhill Airport Commission, Billy Castleberry of the City Public Works, Mrs. Collins of the Axe Restaurant and Mayor Johnny Herrington.

Unit personnel at Springhill drained the pre-existing flooded area and placed 43 each 72" culverts (342 ft), each weighing approximately 15,000 pounds, moved 48,000 cubic yards of fill dirt and compacted the area. Before leaving the airport, site drainage and dressing of the area were completed, leaving the airport prepared for the next unit to take over. This mission was also accomplished while working in a MOUT environment. Work site security was established at the airport and maintained during the entire phase of the operation.

2LT Randall Bryant and SFC Colan Toney are to be commended for the role they played in the organization and coordination of the essential needs of the unit, such as feeding and sleeping arrangements and also work assignments and priorities. This averted the confusion that can be experienced when elements of a unit are deployed into an area of operations (AO) to complete a vital mission, with very little reaction time. The circumstances of this assignment provided excellent CAPSTONE mission training.

Other attached personnel, who are to be commended for lending their expertise to the unit in the areas of horizontal construction, soil stabilization and medical assistance, are SSG Jay Kennedy, SSG Bill McConnell and SGT Buddy Denham. The staff of the 205th Engineer Battalion also played a vital role in assisting the unit in the areas of logistics and operations.

The Engineer Challenge of today is a dual mission. The first being the ability to survive on the intergrated battlefield and the second, to provide engineer support to keep the total force on the move. This unit and this battalion is willing to accept the challenge as evidenced from this annual training.

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## Why are we here?

Have you ever seriously thought about why you joined the Louisiana Air National Guard, or why you decided to continue beyond your initial enlistment, if you've reenlisted or extended? The typical recruiter or retention NCO might have pointed out the numerous benefits enjoyed by qualified La ANG members, such as:

- Free college tuition at state universities
- Enlistment/reenlistment bonuses
- Education bonus (New GI Bill)
- Student loan repayment program
- Pay for scheduled training
- Travel opportunities
- Training opportunities
- Retirement benefits
- Low cost life insurance
- Base exchange and commissary privileges
- Opportunity to accept responsibility
- Promotion opportunities
- Opportunity to meet new people, develop close friendships and socialize
- Chance to contribute to the welfare of your country and community while enjoying civilian life.

Did you spot your reason for joining? Was it one or more of the above, or something entirely different? Regardless of the reason or reasons which prompted you to become a member of the La ANG, you were able to join because there was an ANG unit in your community. Perhaps, then, we need to go beyond personal considerations in order to adequately answer the question, "Why are we here?"

Our federal and state government spends over 13 million dollars a year on La ANG units and their personnel, facilities, equipment and training. As members of the La ANG we receive all

of the above benefits for which we are eligible. We are paid for our participation, but, do you believe the La ANG was established to serve as a source of extra income for us? Some of us may receive educational assistance in the form of exemptions and/or financial aid, but, was the La ANG established to raise the educational level of the community? Of course not. These and other benefits are offered as incentives for us to join and remain members of the La ANG because the state and federal government must have trained resources to respond to threats to the safety and well-being of the community, state and nation.

La ANG troops answered the call of the Governor and assisted the people of St. Bernard and Orleans Parishes after Hurricane Betsy dealt a crippling blow to these areas. La ANG troops were called into federal service by the President and served with pride and distinction during World War II and the Korean Conflict in defense of our nation.

We may therefore look upon the answer to our question as a two part answer. First, we are here because our state and nation needs us. Second, we are here to serve and to enjoy the benefits accruing to those who answer the call to serve.

There's nothing wrong with taking advantage of and enjoying all the benefits that accompany membership in the La ANG. At the same time, we must be mindful of the reason we are here and be prepared to answer if the call from the Governor or the President ever comes.

Speaking of being prepared, the Management Effectiveness Inspection (MEI) of the 159th Tac Ftr Gp con-

## COMMAND NOTES

### ANG Topics from Headquarters Louisiana Air National Guard



By BG James J. Hourin  
Commander, La ANG

cluded as this article was being written, and I want to take this opportunity to commend all Group personnel for their hard work for it certainly was rewarded. Having an MEI less than six months after converging to the F-15 Eagle presented the 159th a formidable challenge which the men and women of the Group met with determination, enthusiasm and pride. While there are some work areas that need improvement, the vast majority rated satisfactory, excellent, or outstanding. All should realize that the Coonass Militia can be as good as you want it to be if you aim high and set challenging, but realistic goals.

Your image is bright and shiny, never better. All will have to work hard to sustain that image as you prepare for the challenge of next summer's Operational Readiness Inspection (ORI), but, at this particular moment,

I hope you are as proud of yourselves as I am of each and every one of you who contributed to the Group's enviable record during the conversion and MEI. The Coonass Militia and the Eagle — a winning combination!

As I reflect on the excellent MEI rating earned last year by members of the 214th EI Sq, as I share with members of the 159th Tac Ftr Gp feelings of accomplishment stemming from their successful conversion and MEI, and as I view the dedicated professionalism displayed by members of the 236th Cmbt Info Sys Sq preparing for next year's MEI and ORI, I am confident of our ability to perform our missions at any time and any place we are called to go — and that, as a result of the Coonass Militia, we know why we are here.

### LA ANG PROMOTIONS

#### TO COL

James R. Matthews, 159TFG

#### TO SMS

Brian J. Kratt, 159CAMS

#### TO TSG

Arnon Byrd, 159CAMS  
David C. Eichert, 159CAMS  
Shelly Howard, 159CIS  
Eric J. Miller, 159CAMS  
Heidi L. Pinkham, 214EIS

#### TO SSG

Bridgette L. Boutte, 159TFG  
Fred A. Cox, 236CIS  
Hugh L. Davis, Jr., 159WSSP  
Kevin D. Dial, 236CIS  
Justin T. Jones, 159CAMS  
David L. Loubie, 236CIS  
Louis M. McNeal, 159CAMS  
Patricia Odum, 159CES  
Cheryl S. Rotherham, 159RMS  
Deborah F. St. Germain, 159RMS

#### TO SRA

Dean M. Arnett, 214EIS  
Theodore W. Bethea, Jr., 159CAMS  
Mauricio Castro, 159CAMS  
Jorge A. Cortova, 214EIS  
Martin J. Desautels, 236CIS  
Andrew T. Dougherty, 159RMS  
Stephen S. Galley, 159CAMS  
Steven R. Hawkins, Sr., 159RMS  
Kris Henderson, 236CIS  
Gary M. Lester, 236CIS  
Frank E. Plascic, 159CAMS  
Daniel E. Rebstock, 236CIS  
Edward A. Shank, Jr., 159RMS  
Steve C. Sidney, 159CAMS

#### TO AIC

Toni M. Bechel, 159CIS  
William G. Buvens, 236CIS  
Sandy Davis, 159RMS  
Johnny R. Garrett, Jr., 236CIS

Lionel T. Johnson, 159CES  
Thomas E. Likens, 159CAMS  
Devon M. Olan, 159CIS  
Wanda L. Ovide, 159CIS  
Scott T. Sheppard, 159CES  
Warren G. Tremie, 159CAMS  
Terry M. Westbrook, Hqs

#### TO AMN

Daryl C. Homsby, 236CIS  
Edward C. Jones, 159CIS  
Richard E. Jones, Jr., 236CIS  
Doris A. O'Sullivan, 159WSSP

### RETIREMENT

MAJ Barry W. Zander, 21 yrs, 10 mths, 10 days

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MAJ Noel J. Ricord  
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CMS Charles R. Nastasia  
CMS August J. Paretti, III  
SMS Edwin J. McShaine  
MSG Darryl P. O'Meara  
MSG Bernard J. Rabalais  
TSG Stacy M. Schambach  
TSG Glenn D. Jondan

#### The Air Force Achievement Medal

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MAJ Harry A. Troscial  
MAJ Clody F. Vanhoo  
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SMS Michael S. Bannon  
SMS Kenneth R. Martin  
MSG Thomas P. Landa  
MSG Javier E. Lazo  
TSG Kenneth B. McDaniel  
TSG Jesse R. Phillips  
SSG Perry F. Ollilo  
SSG Norris Owens

## 159th ISF has Florida AT

By 1LT Linda Gremillion, 159th ISF

The home of the 1st Special Operations Wing, Hurlburt Field, Florida, was the site of this year's annual training for Louisiana's 159th Information Systems Flight.

After the flight's trip to Hurlburt, Maj. Michael A. Cushman, Commander of the 159th ISF, mustered his troops together July 12, 1986, and laid out the calendar of events for the following two weeks. The advance planning efforts of SMSgt. Robert Moran, Flight Superintendent, and TSG James Brown, Air Force Technical Advisor to the 159th ISF, proved to be the guarantee of a successful annual training.

The hosting 2068 Information Systems Squadron provided the Air Guard members with excellent training opportunities in data automation, communications, maintenance, radio operations, and administration. Because the areas of training were in

different locations on Hurlburt Field, the 159th ISF personnel saw a diversity of active duty life while working side by side with the regular Air Force.

At the end of productive days of training, the flight members managed to find a variety of activities both on base and in the local communities. Hurlburt Field provided facilities for bowling, tennis, horseshoes, ping pong, volleyball, and picnics. Of course, the greatest attraction was the sun beaches and clear water for sunbathing, snorkeling, and sailing.

During this annual training, Brig. Gen. James Hourin, Commander LA ANG, visited the 159th ISF. After briefings by the Flight Supervisors and members of the 2068 ISS, Hourin made a comprehensive tour of the work centers. He also called on the Commander of the 1st Special Operations Wing, Col. Len Butler.

As the two week period neared an end, it became more evident that the Total Force Policy was alive and well.





## Chaplain's Corner

"LET THE WORDS OF MY MOUTH . . .  
BE ACCEPTABLE. . . ." Ps. 19:14

By Chaplain (Capt.) Thomas Kinney  
159th MASH

"Did you know you spoke forty-eight hundred words yesterday?"

The question from my dear friend lifted my eyes from the newspaper to his face, ready to add to the total. I relaxed when I saw there was nothing personal in the question. He had lifted it from the popular Trivial Pursuit game that has a 1,001 innocuous and picayunish bits of information.

But did I? I wondered. Did I really give voice to nearly five thousand words? I turned back to what I was doing. But my thoughts were not there but on the ones spoken to me. This question had hit home. Who has the time, nowadays, to stand by and count the words that one speaks? Who really cares? But there's one who does and it was His WORD that started everything. God cares what we say and how we use His precious gift. Had these words of mine been kind? Had they been loving? Had I comforted someone . . . reassured another . . . or even coaxed a smile? Or had I been too busy with my

own world of thoughts, cares, and responsibilities?

God's Word has a lot to say about ours! "A word spoken in due season, how good is it!" (Proverbs 15:23). "Comfort one another with . . . words" (I Thess. 4:18). "Every idle word that man shall speak they shall give account of . . ." (Mt. 12:36).

There's more! But these references were good for starters. And it was not in "trivial pursuit" that I decided it would be wise to bridle my tongue in the days to come. Those five thousand words I am going to speak today should count for something in God's Kingdom.

In September, kids return to school, young adults go back to college, and we adults, put behind us the vacation summer months to pick up again the routine and challenge of our jobs. Can my speech pattern be changed? Can my words that I shall speak today have purpose and meaning so as to bring comfort and reassurance or some happiness? Yes, I believe they can — not magically but by prayer and willingness to work at it:

LET THE WORDS IN MY  
MOUTH BE ACCEPTABLE, O  
LORD, I PRAY!



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## Brigade AT

Continued from Page 6

New Orleans, said the training he received during annual training "gets us ready for combat in case we get activated."

"I think every young man should serve his country," Johnston added. On staying in the field for two weeks, he said the schedule "has its rough edges, but I enjoyed it overall."

Other brigade elements in the field included HHC, which provided support and battlefield circulation control from the military police platoon, and the 199th Support Battalion.

Commanded by Lt. Col. Richard Averitt, the support battalion provided administrative, medical and maintenance support to the brigade.

Maj. Philip Marler, treatment platoon leader with Company B, said casualties were light during the first week of training. He reported only five out of 27 injuries were a result of heat.

A lot of soldiers are scared of the desert (at NTC) so they drink a lot of water there," Marler said. "But here (at Polk) they encounter the same climate they live in so they think they're immune to heat injuries."

Marler said the medical company usually sees about 100 injuries a day during annual training. "27, that's

nothing," he said of the first few days casualty list. Most injuries were minor and those injured soldiers were quickly returned to duty.

Another unit supporting the brigade is the 256th Engineer Company from Opelousas. The company, minus a platoon that went to NTC in June, conducted complex obstacle construction and breaching training.

2nd Lt. Thomas Herter, company executive officer said the training the company received at AT was "a lot better than the weekend drill training because on the weekend we don't have time to do all this barrier construction and breaching training."

Herter said morale has been high in the 102 man company and added that "for the heat, its been exceptional." On Friday of the first week, 1st and 3rd platoons competed to see which could breach the complex obstacle first.

During the second week of training, the combat units were organized into armor and mechanized infantry task forces for force-on-force exercises with the 5th Infantry Division.

The brigade arrived at Polk minus Second Battalion, 156th Infantry, which held its annual training at Fort Irwin's NTC in June. Annual training concluded August 2.



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# ROTC and the Louisiana National Guard

## SMP active at USL & McNeese

By Audrey F. Louviere

LAANG-ROTC Simultaneous Membership Program (SMP) students at McNeese University in Lake Charles and the University of Southwestern Louisiana (USL) in Lafayette enjoy numerous benefits and engage in several training and enrichment activities during a typical school year.

All ROTC cadets receive both classroom theory and practical field training, as well as participate in extracurricular activities which enhance their leadership skills and techniques.

There are several benefits to those members of the Guard who are enrolled at McNeese or USL and who desire to enter the ROTC Simultaneous Membership Program (SMP). These students receive \$100.00 per month for up to ten months per year for two years as Advanced ROTC cadets in addition to drill pay as an E-5 with the Guard. They receive academic credit and elective hours for ROTC courses and have the status of an officer candidate in a unit.

The SMPs have a responsibility to plan and execute several projects during the year in coordination with cadre advisors. Some of the major projects include the annual Louisiana FTX held at Fort Polk each spring, which provides pre-Advanced Camp training for MS III cadets from colleges throughout the state; participation in the Louisiana Air Show in the fall as a fund-raiser for Cadet Corps extracurricular and enrichment activities; the Rifle Team's annual Turkey Shoot, a fund-raiser for the team's competition travels;



Basic cadets in MS 202 — Leadership and Management class — have an opportunity to put into action skills learned in classroom at the Leadership Reaction Course (LRC) at Camp Beauregard.

the annual Military Ball held in the spring; and the annual Honors Day ceremony honoring deserving cadets near the end of the school year.

Several other weekend FTXs are also conducted each semester during which MS III and MS IV cadets assist in training Basic Course cadets in survival, mountaineering, map reading, and water training techniques.

Both Basic and Advanced Course cadets participate in a wide variety of community and university activities during the year, to include providing Color Guard details for all home football games at McNeese and various conventions, Mardi Gras balls, and other events. This past year, Advanced Course cadets manned the McNeese ROTC's 75mm pack howitzer cannon at the sea wall of the Lake Charles Civic Center in defending the city against the on-slaught of Jean LaFitte and his band of pirates as they invaded the City of Lake Charles at the opening of the Contraband Days Festival.

There are many clubs and organizations in which cadets may participate, both in the Basic and Advanced Courses. Among them are the Rifle Team, Orienteering Club, and Ranger Club. During the spring semester, several McNeese, USL, and Lamar University ROTC Extension

Center (Beaumont, Tex.) cadets and cadre members traveled to Fort Bliss, Tex., for an installation orientation visit and to compete for the Germans Sports Medal. Among those competing were three LAANG-ROTC SMP cadets — Linden Percegeay III, a USL student assigned to Co. B, 199th Support; Russell J. Spencer, a USL student assigned to HHC (-); 256th Infantry Brigade; and 2LT Roger Perez, a McNeese student assigned to Co. E, 3d Bn, 156th Infantry (M).

For several years McNeese and USL have had an informal agreement that enabled students at USL who are in the Guard and Reserve to enroll under an SMP contract in Army ROTC Advanced Course classes at McNeese and attend classes at the USAR Center in Lafayette. This past spring an agreement was reached between the Army and USL formalizing this arrangement, and it is expected this will have a very positive impact on the LAANG-ROTC SMP program.

The ultimate goal for SMP participants is, of course, to receive an Army commission as a second lieutenant at the end of the two years as an ROTC Advanced Course cadet. The majority of these officers remain with their Guard units to serve out their military obligation.

Four such officers were gained by the Guard this spring from the McNeese-USL program. Commissioned on May 10th were 2LTs Kary A. Landry in Infantry, who is assigned to HHC, 3d Bn, 156th Infantry (M), Lake Charles; Roger Perez in Infantry, who is assigned to Co. E, 3d Bn, 156th Infantry, DeQuincy; Rennie E. Benoit in Infantry, also assigned to HHC, 3d Bn; and Gabriel S. Walker in AG branch, assigned to Co. A 199th Spt, 256th Inf Bde, Lafayette.

Guard members who are currently enrolled as full-time students either at McNeese or USL, who have at least sophomore status with a grade-point average of 2.0 or better, who can meet physical and medical standards, who pass an officer selection battery, and have completed BCT are eligible for the LAANG-ROTC SMP option. Those who desire more information on this option should contact MAJ Jerome Cady at McNeese, (318) 437-5393 as early as possible this summer to qualify for the fall semester.

Our address is:  
USA Third ROTC Region, SR Program  
McNeese State University  
Lake Charles, La. 70609



**EMERGENCY MEDICAL EXERCISE:** Nursing students and Raner ROTC cadets at McNeese conduct a simulated emergency medical exercise in cooperation with the Army Reserve's 872nd Medical Evacuation Co. of New Iberia. Here student nurses administer first aid to an ROTC cadet on a gurney as it is rolled to awaiting ambulances. The cadets and others were make believe casualties of a helicopter crash at the Lake Charles Municipal Airport. An Army MEDEVAC helicopter airlifted the simulated injured to McNeese where nurses stabilized their condition before sending them to area hospitals.



LTC Volker Boehler, CO, German Air Force Air Defense School and Major Jim Nelson observe preparations for 100-meter dash in German Sports Medal competition. Those on line are CPT Gary Gentry; 2/LT Carlos Trevino; Cadets Linden Bercegeay and Russell Spencer (NG-ROTC SMPs), Darryl Slaven; Gerald Thompson (NG-ROTC SMP); Kip Rollins; CPT Rainer Bamberger, German AF Air Defense School scorer; and Cadet Boi-Lan Van Chau.

## SMP at Southern offers headstart

By MAJ James W. Ball, Jr.  
Assistant Professor of Military Science

Under the Simultaneous Membership Program at Southern University and A&M College, National Guard and U.S. Army Reserve soldiers (NG/USAR) may enroll in the Army Reserve or National Guard and compete, if so desired, for active duty. While enrolled in the Army ROTC you will be paid \$100.00 per month and will be issued all textbooks and uniforms required.

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### Educational Benefits

Members of the Louisiana National Guard are eligible for both the Louisiana College Tuition Exemption Program AND the new G.I. Bill. The Tuition Exemption program allows Guardsmen to attend any Louisiana state college, university, or Vo-Tech school tuition-free. The new G.I. Bill provides monthly CASH educational benefits from the Veterans Administration. If someone you know is thinking about college, the Louisiana National Guard can provide him with an unbeatable opportunity to attend the college of his choice in Louisiana.

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My name is \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_  
Unit \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ AGE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

PRIOR SERVICE   
NON-PRIOR SERVICE

Now more than ever.....



## America needs her part-time Heroes

From the revolutionary War to the War in Viet Nam, in national crises and national disasters, the National Guard has always been ready when America called.

Today is no different. The Guard still needs the kind of people who know peace and freedom don't come cheap. Who are willing to stand up and be counted when the chips are down.

People like you, and your fellow Guardsmen.

The Guard offers some great benefits for a part-time job: a monthly check, the NEW G.I. Bill, free college tuition, PX

privileges, low-cost insurance, and retirement benefits. All for two days a month, and two weeks a year. But while membership in the Guard is part-time, it takes a full time patriot to be a Guardsman.

So stay Guard — and encourage other good soldiers to do the same. Because "hero" doesn't have to be just a word. It can be the face you see when you look in the mirror.



National Guard

Keep them in. Remind them why they joined.