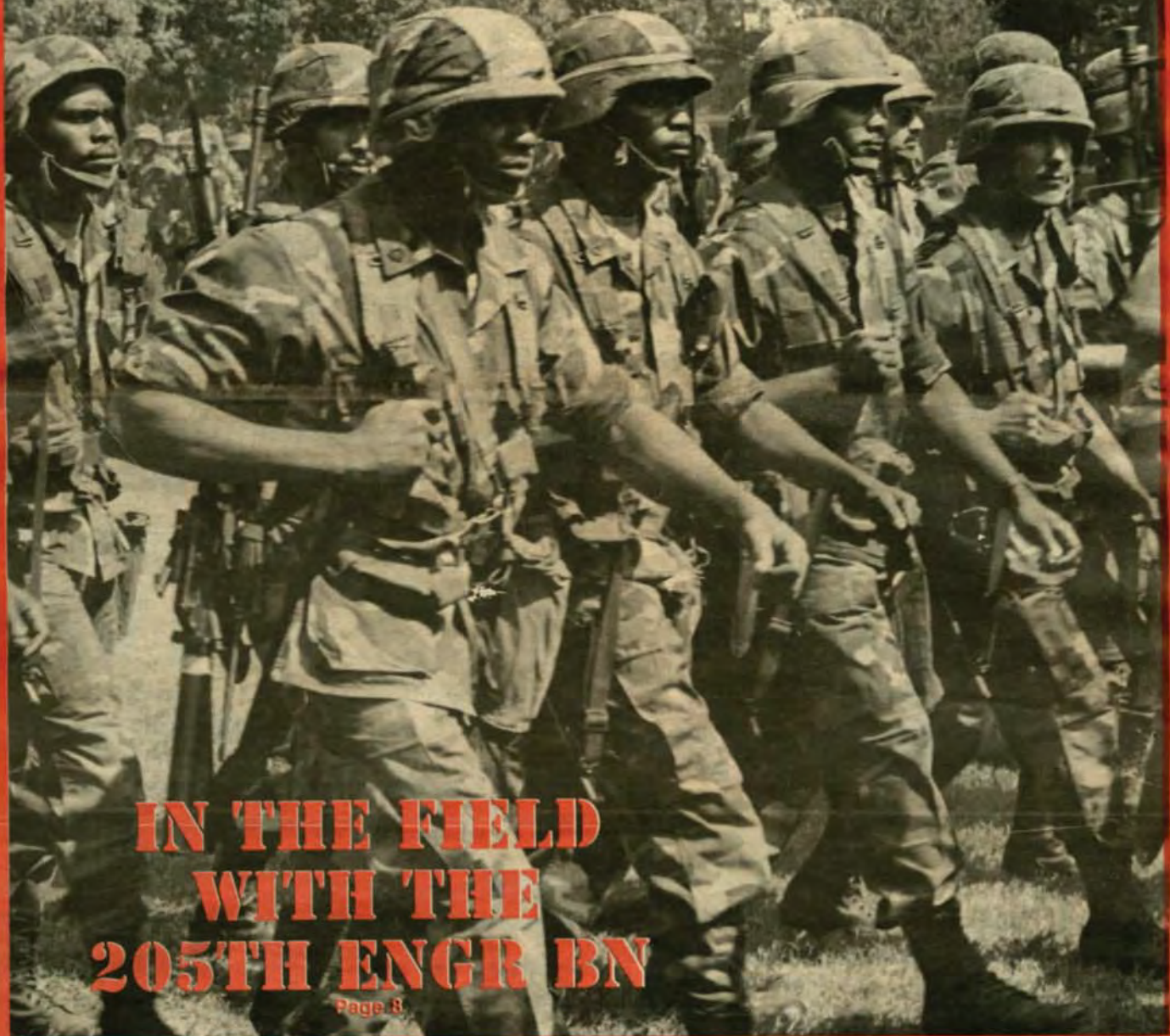


Louisiana Guard

VOLUME 2 NUMBER 12

OCTOBER 1987



**IN THE FIELD
WITH THE
205TH ENGR BN**

Page 8

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Reader contributions to this publication are heartily solicited, as are contributions from all units of the Louisiana National Guard and Louisiana Air National Guard. Articles from individuals may be submitted to the State Public Affairs Officer, Louisiana National Guard, Jackson Barracks, New Orleans, LA 70146. Articles from units should be submitted via the unit Public Affairs Officer or unit public affairs personnel, to the address above.

LETTERS

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CWO Stan Sirgo Retires After 37 Years of Service

By 2Lt Tracie Kiviabo

After 37 years of service as a National Guard Military Technician, Chief Warrant Officer Stan "the marathon man" Sirgo retired this week.

Sirgo's last technician position was LAARNG Safety Manager. As such he was responsible for the safety and occupational health of 1,200 full-time workers and over 11,999 part-time soldiers. Col Ken Corley, Chief of Staff for the Louisiana Army National Guard remarked, "Safety and Sirgo have been synonymous for a long time. Certainly he will be a tough act to follow."

At the retirement ceremony, Sirgo was presented a cash award for continued superior service in the Louisiana National Guard technician program - a plaque and running gear with a sign "Running for Good Government" attached was given to Sirgo by local office personnel who had worked with him over many years. One individual noted, "I'm sure he'll have a wonderful time being retired, but as for us, were sure going to miss him." The general consensus of the retirement attendees was that Stanley Sirgo's retirement was just the end of one job as he went on to something else, not an end in itself.

Past positions with the LAARNG technician program include executive administrative specialist, unit administrator, and mechanic. All in all, a jack of many trades. CWO Sirgo is a graduate of the Administrative Specialist, Personnel Officer, and Senior Warrant Officer's Courses and more than a dozen specialized safety training courses. He has been awarded the Army Commendation Medal, Armed Forces



CWO Stan Sirgo

Reserve Medal, Louisiana Longevity Medal, Louisiana Emergency Service Medal and the Louisiana Commendation Medal.

Married for 35 years to Shirley Peltz Sirgo, Chief Sirgo and his wife have two children Karen Trowbridge and Stanley J. "Jay" Sirgo, Jr. He is also the proud grandfather of four active grandchildren.

Besides being an avid runner and a volunteer worker for many organizations, CWO Sirgo is running for police juror for Ward C, St. Bernard Parish. These activities will more than fill his days of retirement.

199th Support Battalion Reorganization Profile

The 199th Support Battalion, headquartered in Alexandria, is currently under the command of LTC Richard W. Averitt and SGM Stanley R. Rogers. The battalion recently completed a successful rotation through the National Training Center in Fort Irwin, California and is now undergoing a major reorganization. This reorganization will more closely align the units with Active Army counterparts. Under the new reorganization, company level units will be designated as follows:

*Detachment 1, Alexandria, commanded by 1Lt Barrett McClinton and SFC Wayne Barger.

*Detachment 2, commanded by 1Lt Leighman Miller and SFC Ronald Vollum.

*Detachment 3, Fort Polk, commanded by 1LT Patrick McCauley and SFC James Beasie.

*Company C (Medical), St. Martinville, commanded by CPT Lionel Theriot Jr. and ISG Leonard Champagne.

*Company D (PSC), Lafayette, commanded by CPT Stephen Shebs and ISG Donald Everett.

*Company A (Supply), Jonesboro, commanded by CPT Michael Russell and ISG Robert Addington.

*Company B (Maintenance), Winnfield, commanded by CPT Ronnie Stuckey and ISG Stanley Parker.

FRONT COVER

PASSING IN REVIEW - Members of the 141st Field Artillery, better known as the "Washington Artillery", pass in parade formation at Jackson Barracks.

THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S COLUMN


Dear Fellow Guardsmen:

I am glad to report that projected FY 88 funding allocations in the area of logistical supplies and equipment will exceed FY 87 allocations. This is good news considering the recent reductions imposed by Congress pertaining to other Federally supported programs.

Major areas receiving additional funding include Organizational Clothing and Equipment (OCIE) and Miscellaneous Supplies and Services which will increase by \$500,000 and \$100,000 respectively. Also, repair part support shows a dramatic increase of \$2,360,000. This is due in part to the State-of-the-Art equipment such as the Commercial Utility Cargo Vehicle (CUCV), Commercial Engineer Equipment, and the Heavy Expanded Mobility Tactical Truck (HEMTT) received by the Louisiana Army National Guard units during the past several years.

The above mentioned areas represent major portions of the Operations and Maintenance Appropriation for logistical support within this State and are one of the lifelines to our military existence. I mention this to you as a constant reminder that resources available to our organizations are a precious commodity and must be prudently managed in order to accomplish assigned missions. Each individual, whether they be a commander, staff officer, NCO, or individual soldier, has inherent responsibility to ensure proper resource management is understood and practiced.

MG Stroud



M. M. STROUD, JR.
Major General, USAARNG
The Adjutant General



MG A. M. Stroud, Jr.
The Adjutant General

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COMMAND NOTES

ANG Topics from Headquarters Louisiana Air National Guard

By BG James J. Hourin

Louisiana Air National Guard Members have been subject to random drug testing for a year now. Each month approximately three percent of the total strength is monitored. Since positive test results subsequently lead to a recommendation for discharge, accuracy and surety of the samples is vitally important to both the guard members and commanders. The Brooks Air Force Base facility, where Louisiana Guard members drug tests are sent, has improved procedures at its laboratory to ensure test result accuracy.

"The laboratory underwent four separate investigations in 1984. As a result of the findings, security and quality control procedures have been improved," according to Col Robert L. Grohner, Drug Laboratory Commander. "Today," he says, "The laboratory essentially looks like Fort Knox."

Looks on the steel entrance doors are changed each time someone quits or is transferred. Additionally, urine samples are kept in a second secure area to which only the Specimen Control Specialists have access. After work-hours, motion detectors alert security police if anyone enters the area.

The laboratory serves 290 Air Force, Air National Guard, Air Force Reserve and Army units.

Since military members can be court-martialed or discharged for drug usage, Col Grohner said every specimen is handled as a potential court case with each step the sample takes to and from the Forensic Lab recorded on a chain-of-custody document. This document traces every action taken on the sample and identifies all handlers. A lawyer ensures the legal sufficiency of the test results for whatever level of action is taken. Lawyers also assist the lab in maintaining forensically sound testing procedures.

Col Grohner personally interviews each of the 45-50 certified civilian employees and stresses the need for 100 percent accuracy. He doesn't have to look far for powerful motivation for the laboratory workers. "They know that eventually their urine is going to be tested, along with everyone else's in the Air Force. So knowing that they're going to be subject to their own program, they want the accuracy to be as high as absolutely possible."

Employee accuracy is under constant scrutiny. Each week, the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, a reference laboratory for all DOD laboratories, sends 48 samples to field units which submit them to the laboratory disguised as regular samples. "If we call one of their negative samples positive for any reason, either chemistry or administrative error, a single phone call could shut down the laboratory. In 16 years," Grohner said, "that has never happened."



By BG James J. Hourin
Commander, La ANG

After collection at the bases, specimens are capped with tamper resistant seals and numbered. Batches of samples are shipped along with the chain of custody document. A sample is discarded if there is any evidence of tampering or if there is a break in the chain of custody. "The process we use to ship urine samples is essentially identical to what we do with classified mail," said COL Grohner.

Each sample initially undergoes Radioimmunoassay testing. If it screens positive, the second test for confirmation of marijuana or cocaine, known as Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry, is used. Radioimmunoassay testing is similar to the screening used for AIDS because it also employs the use of drug antibodies as a major constituent. The antibodies are added to the sample and antigen radioactivity is measured to determine how much of the drug is present. The less radioactivity you find in the tube, the more positive that drug sample is.

Along with the weekly mixing of the 48 outside samples, the in-house lab imposes other

236th Combat Communications Squadron Passes Inspection

By LTC Rufus L. Warren III

The 236th Combat Communications Squadron in Hammond recently completed their operational readiness inspection (ORI) during their annual training (AT). The 236th CCS deployed its combat communications equipment and its

played included a mobile control tower, mobile radar, and Tactical Air Navigation (TACAN). During the evaluation, several exercises and "attacks" were made to determine the guardsmen's ability to "survive and operate". These included a high wind exercise and a

"...attacks were made to determine the guardsmen's ability to survive and operate..."

air traffic control and landing systems to the Bogalusa airport. Inspected by the Air Force Communications Command (AFCC), the unit was evaluated in the areas of initial response, employment and recovery.

Air traffic control and landing systems de-

mock structural fire, as well as ground, chemical and air attacks.

The annual training and ORI were both successes. The unit passed the test, continuing their long standing tradition of fine performance within the Louisiana National Guard.

quality control measures at each stage of the testing process. Both positive and negative samples are intermingled with the regular specimens. Quality control workers continually watch for errors in analysis or discrepancies in handling.

Some military people view urine specimens and their collection methods as degrading. Col Grohner said, "It's a shame to put 99 percent of our people through that, but it's the only way we know that we're going to get a true result. Blood and other body fluids are not very acceptable substitutes."

Other personnel have indicated a concern about passive inhalation. According to Grohner, people who fear a positive result due to passive inhalation need not worry. "A casual passing through of marijuana smoke even if that person breathed on them for several hours would not turn a false positive."

In a recent passive inhalation test conducted by civilian researchers, eight subjects in a very small room inhaled the marijuana smoke produced by 16 smoking machines. After spending

one hour a day, for six days in the closet-like room, with smoke so intense they required goggles, three subjects barely made it over the current Department of Defense cutoff level.

Col Grohner concluded however, "The drug culture does not remain stagnant. In three or four years from now we'll be testing for drugs that we don't even know can be abused today. We have to keep up with whatever the underground is doing out there. The lab has sufficient research equipment to develop testing for any drug."

To date, two Louisiana Air Guardsmen have been discharged as a result of the Brooks Air Force Base testing analysis, and a number of others are in processing. With all the new updates, both in security and technology, drug testing is, and will continue to be, serious business.



KEEPING IN TOUCH Airman Kimberly Stewart (in truck) and Tech. Sgt. Joseph Martin (right), operate AN/MRC-108 Radio Equipped M151 MUTT in conjunction with 236th CCS operational readiness inspection conducted at Bogalusa Airport. Vehicle is equipped with HF, VHF, UHF, and FM radio equipment.

159th Civil Engr. Squadron Annual Field Training Report

GENERAL: Major Oliver F. Mack, Team OIC, and CMS Joseph Meyers deployed to the Alpena training site as the advance party. The remaining members, under the supervision of CMS Albert Malbrough, arrived at Alpena on 19 July 87. All members received an inbriefing by LTC Weinagan, Base Civil Engineer, and MSG Pete Murphy, Production Controller. Leading NCOs toured the job sites and assigned personnel to work teams.

nance and general support to the tenant flying unit aircraft.

SUPPORT: MSG Murphy and shop supervisors provided excellent support. Tools, material and equipment were readily available.

MORALE: During the training period morale was high. Activities were planned allowing everyone to enjoy those things they wanted. On the middle weekend, almost everyone traveled north to the tourist islands in Lake Huron. Others went south to see an

“...members of the squadron completed job assignments...”

By the end of the deployment, the medical clinic was about two weeks ahead of Michigan ANG training site projected schedules. All sidewalks were constructed and the asphalt road and parking area was completed. Additionally, selected members of the squadron completed job assignments in repaired a large commercial refrigerator and svc a/c units, repair of electrical installed outside wiring; fixture repair and installed lighting for shelter tennis court, deficiencies, arresting gear maintenance.

Air Show. The tour was ended with a squadron party being held the night before departure home. Awards were presented to members of our unit and to the host unit for their support and hospitality.

SPECIAL NOTE: This annual period was scheduled for 15 days but was reduced to 14 in an effort to support NGB's request to limit the number of AFT mandays used. This action was acceptable by the members deploying to the Alpena PFTS.

159th Engineer Squadron Field Training

By CMS Joseph Meyers, Jr.

The 159th Civil Engineer Squadron went north for their annual training, deploying to Alpena, Michigan. Tasked with the initial phase of construction on a new Medical Clinic, and installation of sidewalks, asphalt roadways and parking areas, the unit had a real requirement with practical applications.

The Officer-in-Charge of the operations officer, Maj. Oliver F. Mack, a Baton Rouge Exxon employee during the usual work week. Maj. Mack and CMS Joseph Meyers, the units

Guard training site engineers. All sidewalks were constructed and the asphalt road and parking areas were completed. Additionally, members of the squadron used their special skills to repair a previously “un-repairable” commercial refrigerator unit, service many of the training sites air conditioner units, and complete maintenance to an aircraft arresting gear in support of the tenant units. The specialists in electrical installations and repair were also close at hand as they installed and repaired security lights and fixtures, corrected electrical

“A group of bats were evicted as temporary tenants by air guardsmen...”

operations superintendent, deployed to the Alpena training site as part of the advance party, smoothing the way for the remaining members of the team. Under the supervision of CSM Albert Malbrough, the airfield flight superintendent, the unit's participating personnel deployed.

Upon arrival at the work site, all members received an inbriefing by LTC Weinagan, Base Civil Engineer, and MSG Pete Murphy, Production Controller. Lead NCO's toured the job sites and designated personnel to work teams.

By the end of the deployment, the medical clinic was about two weeks ahead of projected schedules established by the Air National

problems, and provided lighting for the training site's tennis facilities. The most unusual assistance provided was in the area of pest management. A group of bats were evicted as temporary tenants by the air guardsmen.

Morale was high during the training period and off duty activities were planned for the Louisiana air guardsmen. Some traveled to Lake Huron, while others went to an Air Show. At the end of the training, awards were presented to unit members as well as members of the host Air National Guard unit. The Annual Training proved to be training time well spent, helping an Air National Guard neighbor from the north.



HEADS UP! A Mississippi Army National Guard helicopter carries a 236th CCS communication van into position during the unit's operational readiness inspection at the Bogalusa Airport in Bogalusa, LA.

Pina Colada Time

By TSG C. Lescale

The Louisiana Air National Guard is no stranger to being first. Recently the Louisiana Air National Guard embarked on a new phase in its progressive evolution. This time the surge toward being number one included overseas travel, with the deployment of the F-15 Eagle outside of the CONUS as a Guard aircraft. Fittingly the whole deployment was a singularly Guard and Reserve show. Five aircraft, seven officers and twenty-six enlisted men deployed to Puerto Rico. Equipment was flown out by C-130 owned by the 139th TAG of the Missouri ANG located in St. Joseph, Missouri. Personnel transport refueling operations were carried out by KC-10's of the 79th AIR Refueling Squadron of the Air Force Reserve at Barksdale Air Force Base in Shreveport. The flying time to Muniz ANG Base was four hours. During that time, the men of the 159th TFG were allowed to see air refueling operations. Two refuelings took place during the trip down.

The welcome at Muniz was warm and the host, the 156th TFG, was gracious. Pina Coladas were ready for the arrival. Hot crayfish, brought by the Louisiana Air Guardsmen, completed the celebration.

The guardsmen were quartered at Roosevelt Roads Naval Station approximately 50 miles east of Muniz. With the weekend free and time to explore some of Puerto Rico, the guardsmen found the island to be as varied as the individuals participating in operation “Pina Colada.” Casinos, sunny beaches, deep sea diving, and tropical rain forests awaited discovery. It was an unforgettable weekend and all agreed the people of Puerto Rico could not have been nicer or more hospitable.

The purpose of the trip was to support the Puerto Rico Air National Guard. They needed to fly against an advance fighter such as the Eagle in an effort to improve their Dissimilar Air Combat Tactics (DACT) capability. A total of 35 sorties were flown. The cooperation between the Puerto Ricans and the Louisianians was exceptional. The Louisiana guardsmen found that other language, few differences existed.

On the last Friday in San Juan, a party was held in the honor of the historic meeting. Departure from San Juan was under the heaviest rain encountered during the stay, but all agreed, it was one of the best and most rewarding exercises.

Additional Warrant Officers Needed

By Cpt David Stoltz

The Louisiana Army National Guard is presently experiencing a shortage of warrant officers. This shortage is due to recent changes in the regulation governing appointment of warrant officers. Prior to 1985, when there was a need to fill a warrant officer vacancy, commanders would select an NCO with experience in an MOS related to the warrant officer SSI. Overnight the NCO would become a Warrant Officer. In 1985 the Army instituted a program which requires individuals being appointed as warrant officers to complete courses in general and special military education.

In June 1986 the National Guard Bureau published NGR 600-101 which contains a three step process for appointing warrant officers. Individuals are selected for appointment to warrant officer based on experience in a related MOS. Individuals requesting appointment as warrant officer are required to be high school graduates, achieve 110 or higher on t... general

technical (GT) aptitude area of the ASVAB, have understanding and proficiency of the English language and be between 18 and 46 years of age. Units will complete an appointment packet in accordance with NGR-101 and submit it through command channels to LANG-DPA-O. A federal recognition board will convene and determine if the applicant meets all the eligibility criteria except for completion of the Warrant Officer Entry Course (WOEC) and Warrant Officer Technical Course (WOTC). Former commissioned officers and warrant officers with experience in a related MOS are required to attend WOEC or WOTC.

Once the board determines that an individual is qualified for appointment as a WO, WOEC and WOTC must be completed. The WOEC is a general military course which is considered a basic training for warrant officer candidates. Attendees are required to meet rigid physical and mental standards and must develop good leadership abilities. There are two methods for

completing the WOEC. They include a 6 week active component course and a reserve component course designed for National Guard and Army Reserve members. This course requires completion of 140 hours of correspondence and a two week active phase. AGR and military technician personnel will complete the active component WOEC.

The next step in the appointment process requires completion of a Warrant Officer Technical Course (WOTC). This course is specific to the Military Occupational Specialty in which the individual is being appointed. At the present time all WOTC must be completed on active duty. These courses vary in length from 8 to 30 weeks. Three SSI's, Repair Shop Technician (441A), Armament Repair Technician (421A) and Automotive Maintenance Technician (630A) allow for certification by board review.

During the next few months the Officer Procurement Section will be reviewing unit man-

ning rosters and contacting individuals with MOS's related to vacant warrant officer positions to determine their qualifications for appointment. The State presently has a need for qualified individuals in the following areas:

- Automotive maintenance
- Armament repair
- Supply
- Personnel
- Missile maintenance
- Engineer equipment repair
- Food service

Individuals with experience in any of these areas who are interested in seeking appointment as a warrant officer should contact the Officer Procurement Section at (504)278-6386 or 1-800-442-2751. Additional Information concerning appointment can be found in NGR 600-101.

Vast Opportunities Many Challenges in Guard

By CPT David Stoltz

In today's fast paced world, opportunities can be difficult to find. The most common opportunities sought in society today are those which allow for self improvement. Most individuals who enlist in the Louisiana National Guard are seeking just such an opportunity. The Guard offers many benefits which allow for self improvement. These benefits include free college tuition, GI Bill, and other incentives which help individuals continue their education. The Guard allows individuals to express their patriotism through service to their community and country. The tradition of the citizen soldier dates back to the founding of our great nation.

One benefit of Guard membership often overlooked is training. Often this training involves military skills which appear to have little use in the civilian sector, but discipline and responsibility ingrained in the participant are difficult to measure. This discipline and responsibility can carry over to civilian careers and allow for advancement. It is a proven fact that Guard members who seek out leadership responsibilities in the Guard, often do the same in their civilian jobs. Military training is designed to build self confidence and along with this self confidence comes a feeling of dedication and responsibility.

The Louisiana Army National Guard offers qualified members the opportunity to develop their leadership abilities and become disciplined and responsible members of their community by attending the Louisiana Military Academy, Officer Candidate School. The program is designed for Guard members and is administered through the Army Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning. It requires applicants to attend drill for one year at Camp Beauregard in Pineville, Louisiana in lieu of drill with their unit. In addition attendees must complete two annual training periods. The Program of Instruction at the Academy is designed to give candidates a working knowledge of such military related courses as land navigation, weapons, communications, logistics and combined arms. The individuals' leadership ability is developed and expanded during the one-year course as is the candidate's physical conditioning. The course stresses teamwork to develop a well rounded, dedicated and responsible junior officer. Successful completion of the course results in the awarding of a federally

recognized commission as a Reserve 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Army.

The challenge facing the National Guard today is to develop successful leaders to carry the Guard into the 21st century. The Louisiana Military Academy is meeting that challenge. In order to attend the Louisiana Military Academy OCS, applicants must have completed BT and AIT, have a GT score of 110 or higher, meet height and weight requirements of NGR 600-9, achieve a score of 90 or above on the Officer Selection Test and be recommended by their company commander. Thirty college hours are required to apply and 60 to graduate.

If you think you have what it takes to become an officer in the Louisiana Army National Guard, contact the Officer Procurement Section at (504)278-6386 or 1-800-442-2751 or write to LANG-DPA-R, ATTN: CPT Stoltz, Jackson Barracks, New Orleans, LA 70146-0330. Help lead the Guard into the 21st Century.

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CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

By Chaplain Bennett
2223rd Eng Bn

Freedom is our American Battle cry. Freedom, Freedom — We put our life on the line for it. We are willing to die for it. We will pay the taxes, go to meetings, parade the streets and fill the skies with sparkling lights for it. This is the land of the free and the brave. Freedom is our blessing. It may also be a curse. Complete Freedom is no freedom at all.

Once upon a time there was a leaf which longed to be free. The wind blew by with whisper of better, more exotic places to be. The leaf was tired of the same old tree, the same old yard, the same old friends. "I want to be free to look different, give my gifts to the world my own way, go where ever I wish." One cold autumn day the wish came true. A strong blast of wind tore the leaf from the tree

and sailed it down the street. "Hurray, I'm free!" shouted the leaf. "Wherever the wind blows, I go with it." Of course, without the limb and trunk and roots, the leaf quickly died and decayed.

The next time you pass a tree, pluck a leaf, set it free, and take it home. Set it on the dresser and watch what complete freedom brings. It is essential that we remain attached and rooted, joined and cooperating with others. Jesus said, "I am the vine; you are the branches, cut off from me you could do nothing." We must remain a part of Christ's body — his church or we will die. Only in bondage tachment may we be free to live, now externally. Rejoice in our freedoms we may, but freedom defined by service to God and one another is the only kind which last through storms.

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IN THE FIELD WITH THE 205TH ENGR BN

By CW2 Louis L. Joseph

Annual training means different things to different people. To the spouse, it means being alone for two weeks; to the children...missing daddy or mama and to the employer, taking up the slack until he or she returns. However, for military personnel, it means sharpening those skills that are necessary to complete the mission(s).

The 205th Eng Bn trains hard and long to achieve the aforementioned objective. In fact, it is so intense, some have said that it's like compacting four weeks' work into two. Very few, if any, military personnel will argue that point. Likewise, few will argue that it is rewarding, enriching, satisfying and gives one a sense of accomplishment.

The following pictures depicts two weeks in the lives of the 205th Eng Bn. Yes, it is true "one picture is worth a thousand words."



Manning a fighting position



Conducting riot training



Erecting a G.P. tent



Pulling K.P.



Preparing for a briefing



Inspecting a diesel engine



Lighting an immersion heater



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LTC Frederick Takes Command of 2/156 Inf. Bn. (Mech)



LTC Frederick

LTC Carrol J. Frederick came home to Abbeville and the 2nd Battalion, 156th Infantry Bn (Mech) when he took command on September 13th. Abbeville, the 2/156th Infantry Battalion, and LTC Frederick go back a long way. Frederick was born and grew up in Abbeville, married a local girl, Mrs. Brenda Bourque Frederick, and enlisted in the LAARNG at the Abbeville armory.

BG Frank Denton, 256th Infantry Brigade Commander, passed the command from MAJ Sans Broussard to LTC Frederick. Frederick, obviously pleased and proud of the unit said, "It is a good strong battalion; with many young commanders who are eager to learn. It's a battalion with a solid core of NCO's, hard working people. It's a real honor, and lots of work, rewarding work (to be the battalion commander). Getting that many people to function as a team, a good cohesive team is a challenge."

MAJ Sans Broussard, the outgoing battalion commander of the "Steel Lightning" has left a good foundation. A foundation of quality soldiers that, as Frederick indicated, "with proper coaching and teaching can provide a very formidable part of the total force." The battalion has an impressive record. The unit was tried and proven during its National Training Center rotation in 1986. That accomplishment alone will be tough to follow.

Convinced that the 2/156 is the best battalion in the state, Frederick stated he was looking forward to dubbing the battalion, "Acadiana's Best — 1000 Strong." Currently at 118%, the unit is only 14 shy of Frederick's short term goal of 1000 soldiers in the battalion. Said Frederick, "like any unit we have some shortfalls, but we'll correct them. With a little time, this will be an outstanding battalion."

Frederick indicated that his immediate goals with the 2/156 were squad and section proficiency with platoon, company, and team

training in a task force environment as the objective at Fort Polk and Annual Training in July.

Special guests at the change of command ceremony included Ledron Mayard, the Mayor of Delcambre; Mr. Sammy Theriot, State Representative; and BG (Ret.) Courney Dronet, past commander of the 2/156, and the 256th Inf Bde. Family members attending the change of command included Frederick's wife, Mrs. Brenda Bourque Frederick; daughters Carol Ann (Bibbit) Frederick, Christy Frederick, Mrs. Michael Williams, and Mrs. Michael Rayder; Son-in-law, 2LT Michael Williams of the 528th Engr Bn; sister, Mrs. Frank Carlos, and mother-in-law, Mrs. Beulah Broussard.

Frederick, the full-time director of Mobilization at Jackson Barracks is nearing 28 years of LAARNG service. Joining the guard in January, 1960, he enlisted in the same armory that houses the 2/156 battalion headquarters now. At that time, the unit was designated the Combat Support Company, 2nd Battle Group, 39th Division. The ISG when Frederick was sworn in is now his Organization Maintenance Shop (OMS) chief, CWO Edres Abshire. The battalions SGM Irvin Boyer, was the ISG in Company B of Emice when Frederick was given his first company command.

Looking forward to his command and a successful AT, LTC Frederick says he has all the ingredients to make the 2nd battalion something special. Frederick's cited executive officer, MAJ Tommy Lewis and his new S-3 training officer, CPT Jimmy Hagle as key players. Looking to instill in his battalion an appreciation for their unique heritage, their proud history of service accomplishment, and their tenacity to achieve, to Frederick, there is no substitute for his Acadiana's Best, soon to be 1000 strong.

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LA Guardsman Completes DEOMI Courses

BY CW2 Louis L. Joseph

Chief Warrant Officer II Louis L. Joseph of the 205th Engineer Battalion, headquartered in Bogalusa recently completed the Army's Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute. The course was taught at Patrick Air Force Base in Cocoa Beach, Florida. The course took one year to complete and was taught in five phases. Phase I consisted of a two week resident course in the summer of '86. Phase II consisted of a weekend seminar at Patrick Air

Force Base in January of '87. Phase III dealt with 111 hours of correspondence. Phase IV required students to be able to effectively write lesson plans for a conference and seminar and be able to teach one of the two. Phase V consisted of two more weeks of resident courses this past summer and graduation.

Some of the objectives of the course are: Insure that all military personnel are afforded an opportunity to truly be all they can be.

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"As a result of this school, I feel I am better equipped to handle problems of this nature that may arise in a military unit or on my civilian job. It's an interesting and rewarding field and I'd like some day to work as the Equal Opportunity Officer for the state." The school is sanctioned by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. CW2 Joseph serves as personnel technician for the battalion.

Seeing Double in the 206th Engineer Battalion

By CW2 Louis L. Joseph

Nicholas and Michael Ogima of Co A 205th Eng Bn of Hammond cause everyone to think they are seeing double. However, there is no need to have your eyes checked because these soldiers and identical twins with the same rank, MOS, (repair part specialist); and personality.

They are very easily mistaken and everyone is always wary and wondering who is who. The only way one can tell them apart and be sure, is that Mike has a tattoo on his arm! Imagine in making sure of a soldier's identity, one must examine his arm.

The twins not only look alike but have many other traits that are similar in their lives. An example of other similarities are their social security numbers. Nick's last two digits are 13 and Mike's are 31; all other numbers are the same. They both are employed off shore for the same company, on the same platform and have been with the company the same amount of time. The company has solved the problem of identifying them by putting them on different shifts. When Nick is off shore, Mike is on shore. What a relief that is! To make matters worse, they both drive identical vehicles—1984

Ford pickups. The only difference are the license plates. Mike's reads "Twin I" and Nick's reads "Twin II". The reason for this — well Mike was born first.

Therier hobbies are also the same; they both enjoy camping, fishing, traveling and photography. Because they look so much alike, they were always separated in school and assigned different classes to keep the teachers straight. It seems that the only persons who do not have identity crises are the wives, Carrie and Virginia. Carrie is Mike's wife and Virginia is Nick's wife. Nick said he just doesn't understand why people can't tell them apart. He doesn't have a problem with it. He has thought about putting the same tattoo on his arm to add a little fun in their lives.

The twins admit they are each other's best friend, never has a problem they could not solve, are as close now as they were in high school and they do have some views that are different.

There is also one difference in the twins. Nick does not have any children. Mike has twin boys. Their names — you guessed it, Mike and Nick Ogima.



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member's pay can buy in a year. Let's say you are an E-5 with over eight years of service. Your Guard pay would be more than \$2,500 a year (including BAQ during Annual Training). That translates to about \$2,000 after taxes. And with that \$2,000 you could:

- Make a full year of car payments at \$150.00 per month
- Pay for a dinner out at a good restaurant once a week for a year.
- Buy a matching set of new appliances for the kitchen.
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- Pay for home improvements.
- Finance a vacation.

These are, of course, only a few of the ways you can use this extra income. And they represent only the direct financial benefits of being in the Air Guard. They do not include the savings you get from shopping at the BX and commissary; using base recreational facilities free or at a reduced

cost; space available air travel; low-cost group life insurance, or a free retirement plan you get when you reach age 60 with 20 years of creditable services. When you stop to think about it, you have a lot of good reasons to keep Guarding America's skies.

Note: For specific details on your current and projected Air Guard pay, retirement points and other important financial benefits, see your unit or Base Career Advisor.

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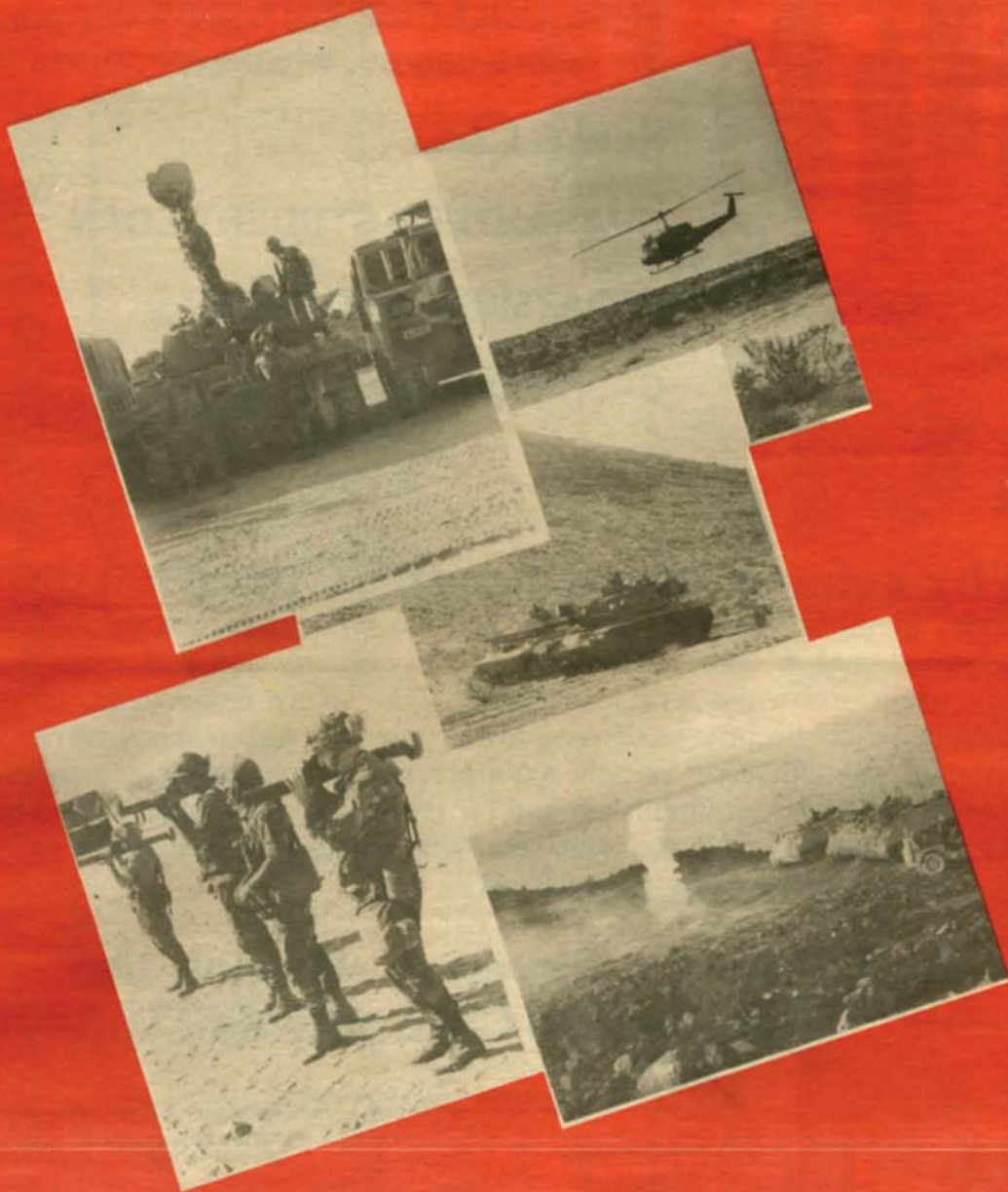
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