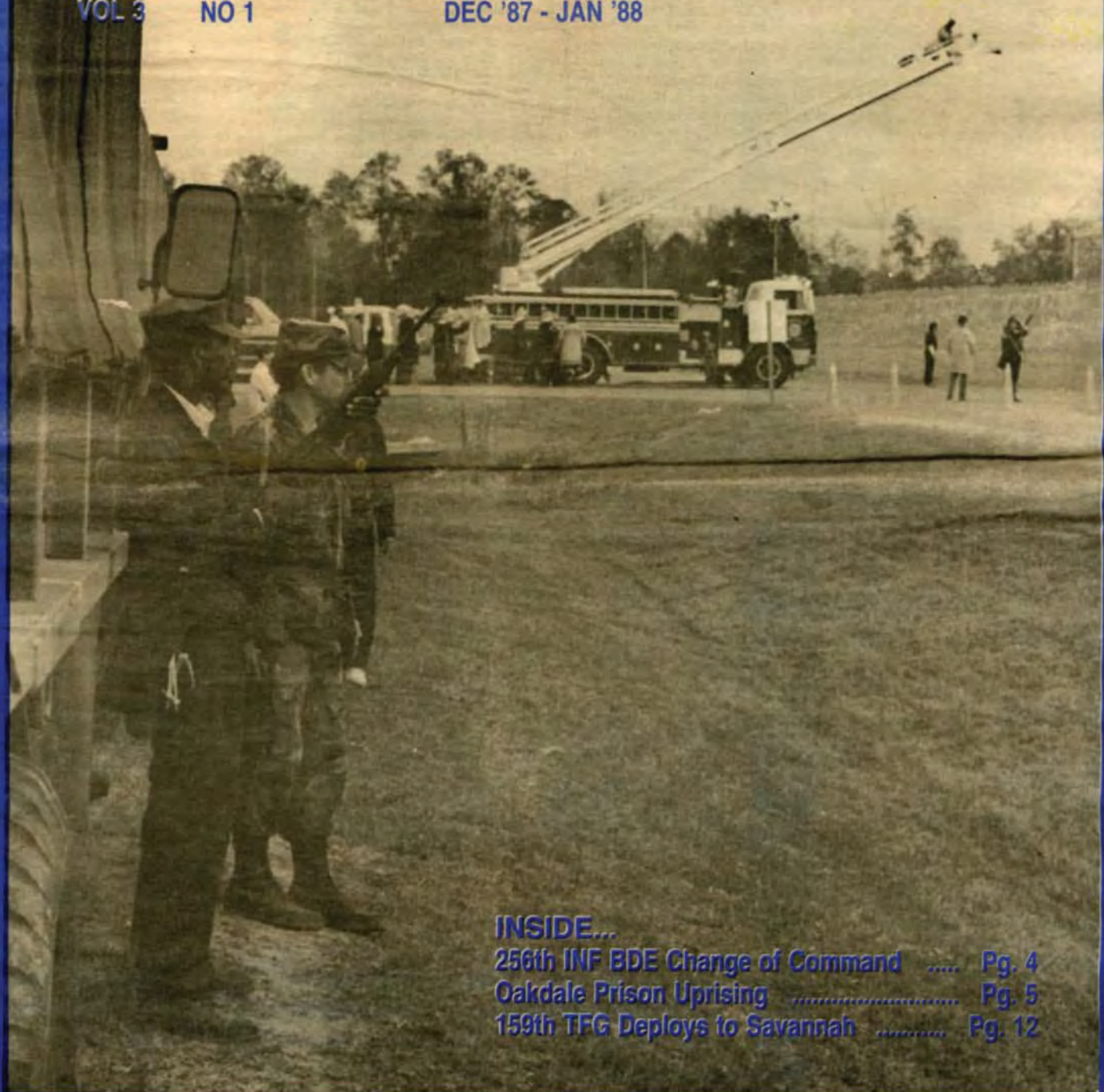


Louisiana Guard

VOL 3

NO 1

DEC '87 - JAN '88



INSIDE...

256th INF BDE Change of Command Pg. 4

Oakdale Prison Uprising Pg. 5

159th TFG Deploys to Savannah Pg. 12

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Louisiana Guard

VOL 3 NO 1

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Front Cover Photo by SGT Tonya Hite, 159th MASH.

Educational Bytes

By CPT William C. Ratcliff

Some educational points of interest are the topic of this issue's report.

Tuition Assistance for all warrant officers and AGR Officers has still not been legislatively corrected nor has it been reinstated for M-Day officers seeking help with graduate programs. Hopes to have it attached to popular legislative packages in order to get it through Congress were not realized. The effort continues, but it will probably be well into the spring before significant changes can be expected again.

Although many improvements have been made in the LAARNG Montgomery GI Bill Program, some problems still exist. The computer program that the Veterans Administration uses in determining eligibility for benefits makes a chronological determination on high school completion or its equivalency and IADT (Initial Active Duty Training). The result is benefits termination of those whose high school diploma or its equivalent arrives at SIDPERS after the individual's DD Form 214 arrives at SIDPERS. The individual's DD Form 214 is automatically sent to SIDPERS by the training installation upon IADT completion. This means that units cannot hesitate in obtaining high school diplomas from those individuals and forwarding them to SIDPERS. This is par-

ticularly the case with enlistees participating in One Station Unit Training or Through Ticket Training immediately after completing their high school senior year.

Another problem exists with interstate and interservice transfer soldier that were already receiving Montgomery GI Bill benefits in their previous units. LAARNG gaining units will need to identify these individuals to LANG-DPA-MD as they receive them in order to prevent an interruption of benefits. This is necessary since the DOD and SIDPERS systems have no mechanism for detecting and correcting this training status change for GI Bill eligibility automatically.

A workshop is tentatively being scheduled for 28 February at Camp Beauregard to help prepare military evaluations for college credit. While this workshop is designed to help officers meet their civilian educational requirements, all LAARNG personnel interested are invited to attend. Another workshop will be scheduled at a later date for those in the New Orleans areas. Look for the flyer that gives details on these workshops during February's drill at your unit.

Microeconomics and Introduction to Computer are the Cumberland courses being offered in January at Jackson Barracks. Those interested in either or both classes should call 504-278-6355 for details.

USL Graduates 3 Lieutenants

By Audrey F. Louviere

Three University of Southwestern Louisiana students were commissioned as United States Army officers in late Dec. in a ceremony held at USL.

Receiving the gold bars of second lieutenant were Michael Todd Hulin, Jacques Ernest LeBlanc, and Russell John Spencer. All three were cross-enrolled in the Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) at McNeese State University and were Louisiana Army National Guard ROTC Simultaneous Membership Program participants.

Hulin, a senior criminal justice major, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Hulin, Sr. of Abbeville. Commissioned as an Infantry officer under the Early Commissioning Program (ECP), he will serve with Co D (Det 1), 2d Bn, 156th Inf (Mech), New Iberia. Lt. Hulin is scheduled to graduate in May 1989.

LeBlanc, who received the baccalaureate degree in industrial technology at USL's fall commencement and was designated a distinguished

military graduate, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. L.G. LeBlanc of Lake Charles. He is married to the former Glenda Albert of St. Martinville, La. He was branched Engineer and is assigned to the 256th Engr Co in Opelousas.

Spencer, a senior industrial technology major, was also commissioned under the ECP. He will serve as an Infantry officer with HQs, 2d Bn, 156th Inf (Mech), Abbeville. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Spencer of New Orleans. He will graduate in August 1988.

Administering the oath of office was LTC John Gerron, professor and head of military science at McNeese, with LTC Frank A. Catalano, Deputy Commander, 256th Inf Bde (Mech) at Lafayette, conferring the La. Army National Guard oath of office. Catalano was also the key speaker for the event.

Chaplain (MAJ) Alvin Francis Dixon, 2d Bn Chaplain, gave the invocation and benediction. Father Dixon is pastor of St. Edward's Catholic Church in New Iberia.

The ceremony concluded with family members of the commissionees pinning the gold bars on the new lieutenants.

Batter Up!

So you say you can play a mean softball. How about an underhand slow-pitch? Well here's an opportunity to show your form and your style, or your bluff.

Co C of the 199th Fwd Spt Bn's softball team is sponsoring a softball tournament on 16 and 17 April 1988 in St. Martinville. The entry fee is \$65.00 per team, and is open to all National Guard members, active and retired. The tournament will be played by USSSA rules, and food and refreshments will be served. Anyone traveling from or out of town may want to check with the POCs below for room reservations. There will be accommodations made with a centrally located hotel for team and military reservations.

Any questions call:

OC Lee L. Dugas III, Work (318) 394-3494,
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or SSG Charles M. Lalanne, Work (318) 394-3493, Home (318) 237-1092.

So you say you can play a mean softball?



THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S COLUMN

Dear Fellow Guardsmen:

We have come a long way during the last fiscal year. With the team spirit and effort exerted by all our National Guardsmen, we have truly taken the pathway to excellence. We have had many distinctive achievements during the past year. The 286th Infantry Brigade participated in a commendable National Training Center rotation. The 226th Engineer Group assisted in many community projects and participated in rapid runway repair in the United Kingdom. We had one of the safest years on record. We have more soldiers in the Louisiana Army National Guard than any time in our history. We now boast a strength of 11,338. Our average AFQT for new recruits is 87, nearly twice the score required. We have enlisted and retained quality people. Our high extension rate speaks well of those who have committed themselves to continued service. It is with this commitment, this unswerving devotion to duty that we will continue to achieve. I believe that our continued perseverance and discipline in pursuing high standards will mandate the success of the 1988 LAARNG goals, and mark those achievements as the keystone of our success.

"DISCIPLINE—KEYSTONE TO SUCCESS"

- I. Insure safety awareness to reduce surface accident rates.
- II. Attain a rating of C1 in personnel readiness on USR.
- III. Maintain a 72% extension rate.
- V. Fully implement the LAARNG family program.
- VI. Have no unit with 1-R rating of "I" or regress from highest previous at rating of "I" or "A's."
- VII. Attain a minimum of 94% IDT attendance.
- VIII. Reduce utility consumption in all areas.
- IX. Maintain 82% objectives met on CPP.
- X. Reduce equipment loss by 25%.
- XI. Conduct a complete and accurate review each month.
- XII. Maintain 90% ERC "A" items mission capable.
- XIII. Maintain appearance and condition of armories and facilities.
- XIV. Conduct 100% of mobilization exercises scheduled in LA CIR 135-1.

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256th INF BDE Change of Command

By PV1 Bernard Chaillot
256th Brigade PIO

The Louisiana National Guard's 256th Infantry Brigade received a new commander in ceremonies conducted at St. Thomas More High School field in Lafayette recently.

COL Gary Whipple took command of the brigade from BG Frank Denton in a change-of-command ceremony attended by MG Ansel M. Stroud, Louisiana National Guard adjutant general.

In relinquishing command of the brigade which he held for over three years, Denton praised the unit's soldiers.

"I've watched the brigade mature and grow in self-confidence," Denton said. "I've watched it accept new and difficult assignments and take them in stride whether it is fielding new equipment, reorganizing or training for combat. Those great warriors have never failed. They have proven their professionalism and reliability as citizen-soldiers in an all-volunteer Army."

Denton left the brigade with a quote from Robert E. Lee: "Do your duty in all things. You can do no more and should never want to do less."

The former brigade commander takes a major general's position with Fifth Army Headquarters.

Whipple, who served previously as deputy brigade commander, began his military career in 1958 when he enlisted as private in Co. C, First Battalion, 156th Infantry at the age of 17. In 1961, he was commissioned a second lieutenant at the Infantry School Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, CA.

The new brigade commander has held numerous command and staff assignments including command of Second Battalion, 156th Infantry, executive officer of the 256th Infantry Brigade, and director of intelligence and security, headquarters, Louisiana Army National Guard.

Whipple's military education includes Infantry OCS, Infantry Officer Basic Course, Infantry Officer Advanced Course, Combat Intelligence Staff Officer Course, Installation Intelligence Officer Course, Command and General Staff College, National Security Management Course and the U.S. Army War College.

His decorations, awards and honors include the Meritorious Service Medal with second oak leaf cluster, Army Commendation Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal, Louisiana Cross of Merit, Louisiana Commendation Medal with fleur de lis, Louisiana Emergency Service Medal with nine fleur de lis, and the Louisiana Longevity Medal.

Whipple holds professional and civic membership in NGAUS, NGALA, where he served as president, Louisiana Association for Counseling and Development, Louisiana Association for Counselor Education and Supervision, Phi Delta Kappa, Kappa Delta Pi, Chi Sigma Iota, Terrebonne Mental Health Clinic Board of Directors and Lions Club past president.

He holds the bachelor's, master's and doctor's degrees and is a professor of Psychology at Nicholls State University in Thibodaux.



BG Frank M. Denton



COL Gary Whipple



Photos by 256th Bde PIO Det

Changing of the Guard

Prison Uprising: Thanksgiving in Oakdale

By MAJ David O. Miller
241st PAD Cmdr

For the many Louisiana National Guard men and women the memory of Thanksgiving 1987 will not consist of "turkey with all the trimmings", along with visits by family and friends. Instead, they will remember being cold, wet and right in the middle of an environment filled with tension, fear and uncertainty. These Guardsmen were on state active duty during the hostage crisis at the Federal Detention Center in Oakdale, La.

The crisis unfolded on Nov. 21st, one day after the U.S. State Department announced that an agreement had been reached with Cuba to return 2,500 refugees from the 1980 Muriel boatlift. The nearly 1,000 Cuban detainees housed at the new 17 million dollar facility in Oakdale overpowered guards, took 28 hostages, and set fires that eventually destroyed 11 buildings. The next eight days were an exercise in patience and precarious negotiations for local, state and federal officials. The siege ended peacefully on the Sunday afternoon of Nov. 29 when all hostages were released and the detainees surrendered to the Bureau of Prisons officials.

During the week long crisis as many as 340 Louisiana National Guard members were on duty providing various support to the Bureau of Prisons. Among them were over 100 members of the 159th MASH who stood by just outside the Detention Facility fence, ready to provide "whatever emergency medical support may be needed."

According to LTC Sidney Montz, hospital commander, the MASH was activated the afternoon of Nov. 23. "By 0700 the next day the unit had traveled from its Jackson Barracks headquarters in New Orleans, set up operations next to the Detention Facility, and were ready to perform the mission," Montz said.

"The speed and efficiency with which the unit mobilized itself and became mission ready was commendable," he added.

It was the first actual activation of the unit since becoming a MASH unit in 1983.

MAJ Carolyn Johnson, OIC of the EMT Section said she had just returned from shopping for Thanksgiving dinner when she got the activation call.

"I suppose my groceries are still in the middle of the kitchen floor," she said. Asked about the quick reaction time, Johnson explained, "when you first get the call, it kind of takes you back, but once you realize that it's for real, everything falls into place. The training we've experienced in the past made it easy to do this job for real."

MAJ Suzanne Riche, acting chief nurse, also commented on the move-out from Jackson Barracks.

"Everyone was really up to par which enabled us to get here in minimum time without a hitch."

Riche explained that besides the primary mission of providing emergency medical treatment, the unit provided an organized sick call and performed "hip pocket training" whenever possible to make the most of available time. Johnson added that as unfortunate as this situation was, "it was one of the greatest training experiences we've ever had."

"We know how to 'stop the bleeding', but this experience gives us a real insight on how to perform our mission," she explained.

Members of at least 17 different Louisiana National Guard units were involved in the Oakdale operation. Units provided personnel and equipment for such support as ground transportation, helicopter air ambulance, command and control, water supply, communications, engineering, and security.

The 3rd Battalion, 156th Infantry (Mechanized) commanded by MAJ Ron Tomas provided almost 200 guardmembers during the week long ordeal. The next largest contingency of people and equipment on the scene was the state's Army Aviation Support Facility, commanded by COL Paul Alford. According to Alford the aviation assets were available to perform possible emergency medical evacuation missions.

The aviation units which comprise AASF actually logged 67 flying hours in support of basic transportation and surveillance type missions.

MG Ansel M. Stroud, Jr., the Adjutant General, praised the commanders and men and women of units involved for their performance.

"We set it up right, from the beginning. Our commanders made the right decisions, and the soldiers did their jobs well," he said.

"It was a good operation, and we received full cooperation from every individual and agency involved, which contributed to the overall success of the mission," he concluded.

UNITS ON STATE ACTIVE DUTY DURING OAKDALE CRISIS

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3RD BN, 156TH INF	DET 1, CO D, 528TH ENGR BN
159TH MASH	CO B, 527TH ENGR BN
244TH AVIATION BN	3671ST MAINT CO
CO B, 199TH FWD SPT BN	HHD, 141ST FIELD ARTILLERY
812TH MED DET (AIR AMBULANCE)	2228 ENGR CO
DET 1, 256TH INF BDE (MECH)	773RD MAINT BN
DET 1, 225TH ENGR GP	241ST PUB AFF DET



Firefighters, local law enforcement officials, FBI and Bureau of Prisons' Officials also were on the scene during the crisis. (Photo by SGT Tonya Hite, 159th MASH).



Members of the 159th MASH spent Thanksgiving '87 in Oakdale during the Cuban prisoner uprising. Many were called away while preparing for Thanksgiving dinner. (Photo by SGT Tonya Hite, 159th MASH).

COMMAND NOTES

ANG Topics from
Headquarters
Louisiana Air
National Guard



By BG James J. Hourin
Commander, La ANG

Knowledge & Leadership

According to AFP 35-49, Air Force Leadership, "leadership is the art of influencing and directing people to accomplish the mission." This is a simply stated concept, yet one which is exceedingly difficult to put into practice.

In the Air Force many of us are placed into positions of leadership with the authority to order subordinates to do something. Occupying a position of leadership does not automatically make a person an effective leader. Job knowledge is one important principle which can be essential to earning the respect and confidence of your subordinates.

Knowledge creates power in the sense that subordinates will follow a person who demonstrates the competence and know-how to "accomplish the mission." This knowledge in-

volves not just details of the specific job but the intangibles of being a leader as well.

Subordinates respect someone with the ability to handle successfully the task at hand while taking care of their people. This success will build the confidence and trust followers feel for their leader which will, in turn, increase the spirit and cohesion of the group.

Gaining job knowledge is an on-going process. You learn to work smarter, not necessarily harder, always looking for ways or methods to improve your unit's effectiveness. This process can encourage success and is essential to the Air Force concept of leadership - accomplish the mission and take care of your people.

236th attends COMBAT CHALLENGE '87

By MAJ M. A. Cushman
Chief, Operations Branch 236th CCS
At the sound of the gun, contestants were off and running at Combat Challenge '87 at Tinker AFB, Oklahoma, 24-27 September

1987. And the Louisiana Air National Guard was there!

Two maintenance technicians from the 236th Combat Communications Squadron in Hammond, Louisiana attended as observers because

the 236th will participate in next year's competition - the third annual.

Sponsored by the Tactical Communications Division of the Air Force Communications Command at Langley AFB, Virginia, Combat Challenge is a competition designed to enhance the combat capabilities of active Air Force and Air National Guard combat communications units and Tactical Air Control System units, as part of the service's Total Force.

The survivability and reliability of the command, control and communications network are critical parts of America's deterrent posture and the Air Force's warfighting capabilities.

Tactical communicators, because of their ability to mobilize quickly, perform a crucial role in providing those services which enable the Air Force's best combat communicators traveled from around the world to demonstrate their knowledge, skills and proficiency.

Nine units participated in the four day competition, including seven combat communica-

tions units and two tactical air control system units competing in ten events.

Each of the nine teams is comprised of 30 members who participate in events such as Wideband/Record Communications, Traffic Control and Landing Systems or Airspace Control, High Frequency Single Side Band, Pallet Build Up, MRT-2 Antenna Erection, Camouflage, Tent Erection, Marksmanship, Unit Appearance and the Mile-and-a-Half-Run.

Combat Communications Squadrons, like the 236th in Hammond, provide satellite communications, mobile/tactical navigational aids, telephone and teletype services, longhaul communications, weather services and air traffic control services for tactical air bases.

SSG James M. Boudreaux and TSG George W. Barker participated as observers during the competition in anticipation of the 236th being invited to next year's event. SMS George A. Malnar, also of the 236th, participated in the proceedings as a judge.

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159th Civil 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 of the unit, MAJ Oliver F. Mack, a Baton Rouge Exxon employee during the usual work week. MAJ Mack and CMS Joseph Meyers, the units 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 briefing 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 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 refrigeration 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 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.



SSgt Norris (left) and SSgt Jackson make repairs to the Recreation Center Facility at the ANG Training Site, Alpena, MI.



Several members of the 159th CES participate in excavation and construction for the Medical and Dental Facility at the ANG Training Site, Alpena, MI.

236th CCS Supports Hammond Community

By SRA Dawn L. Rodocker

The 236th Combat Communications Squadron provides air traffic control support to Hammond Airport. Utilizing the squadron's mobile air traffic control tower, the Air Guard has been providing air and ground control instructions to Hammond pilots for several years; however, in the near future, Ground Controlled Approach (GCA) service will be added. A concrete pad is being prepared on the airport to accept the unit's mobile radar which will provide valuable training for the Air Guard members as well as radar service to the local area. All air traffic control support is provided during the UTA weekends, but plans are being made to expand this service and training also.

Air traffic controllers of the 236th have Air Force and FAA certifications for the safe control of air traffic; they receive further proficiency training in the Hammond facilities. This proficiency training is vital to the mission of the La. Air National Guard — that of being trained and ready should a national emergency warrant the call-up of the Guard.

The air traffic controllers of the 236th are Citizen-soldiers who volunteer their time to remain trained and proficient in their skills. Working at the Hammond Airport are the following guardsmen: MAJ Harry McCarter, a full-time military technician assigned to the 236th; MSG Danal Johnson, a shift supervisor for the telephone company; MSG Robert Manton, a foreman at a grocery market warehouse in Hammond; TSG Jackie Jackson, an employee of the Baton Rouge U.S. Postal Service; SGT Steve Reed, a college student at LSU,

Baton Rouge majoring in general business; SRA William Buvens, a full-time air traffic controller for the FAA at Ryan Airport in Baton Rouge; SRA Raymond Schindler, college student at SLU in Hammond and a part-time warehouse employee; and AIC Jeffrey

Lavigne, also a student at SLU.

These hard-working, hard-training guardsmen are proud of their service to Hammond Airport, and the La. Air National Guard. [editor's note: If you're proud of your unit, and some of the folks in it, let's hear from you.]



AN/TSW-7 Mobile Control Tower of the 236th Combat Communications Squadron operating at the Hammond Airport. Air traffic controllers of the 236th maintain their proficiency by controlling local airport traffic. (236th CCS Photo)

Versatility is the key to success

By SSG Ron E. Black

SSGT Elaine Comeaux, 159th Tac Ftr Gp is indeed a versatile and dedicated shooter. This shooter began her marksmanship career in 1978 with the M-16 rifle. She went to Cp. Robinson for five years with La.'s Combat Team developing quite an acceptable level of expertise, enough to be the first female Combat Rifle Team Captain for the National Guard.

1984 was a bad year for La., but not for Comeaux. La. couldn't muster an M-16 Combat Team, but they did have an opening on the M-60 Team. She tried out and made it. She holds the distinction of being the first woman M-60 machine gunner to go to the All Army matches. La. took second place that year, not

bad considering they were handicapped with a malfunctioning weapon.

1986 found a heavy load on her shoulders. She entered the National Rifle Matches hefting an M-14. "It really beat me around. I had bruises all over my arm and shoulder, but I enjoyed it." She had never fired an M-14 before, so there was quite an adjustment to be made from an M-16.

La. had no rifle or M-60 team for 1987, but there was a National Match Pistol team slot available, so here she is again this time firing the hand gun. Handling a .45 is no small feat. Comeaux stands barely 5 feet tall, weighs less than 100 pounds, and has a very petite bone structure. The .45 recoil was a lot of punishment for her arm and wrist. Did she give up?

No. "I'm going to exercise my arm and wrist to build my strength. I will master it."

Comeaux stated they were going to revamp their entire shooting program when the team returned to La. "We are going to combine our Army and Air Guard efforts, and cross train every competitor on every weapon. We will practice more and be prepared. In 1988 we will have a team for every competition."

Where will SSGT Comeaux be? "I'll be back next year shooting National Match with the .45. I'll shoot until I master it. I like the challenge and the comradeship of the shooters I meet here. I am respected as a woman, but I am expected to carry my share of the load."

Some of us could learn a lesson from her.

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New M16: Heavier, Longer and Better

(AFIS) — Superior technology allows the United States to offset the humbly superior Soviets. The Department of Defense and the military services have capitalized on that advantage to field faster aircraft, more potent tanks and deadlier ships.

But superior technology doesn't apply only to large weapon systems. Using the knowledge and experience gained during the Vietnam conflict, military planners recognized that the M-16A1 service rifle was a good weapon, not a great weapon. Servicemen complained frequently that the weapon's range, accuracy and durability were lacking. In addition, the ammunition used in the M-16 would not penetrate light metals.

A joint-service committee studied the problem in 1981 and decided the M-16's shortcomings could be corrected with a few minor modifications instead of building a completely new weapon.

"This was a much faster and more economical approach," said Marine Corps LTC George B. Davis, infantry weapons officer at HQ, Marine Corps, in Washington, D.C. "And it meant we could get a better weapon to the field more quickly."

Before the end of fiscal 1989, the entire supply of M-16A1 rifles in the Marine Corps will have been replaced with the A2 version. The Army has just begun purchasing the new weapon. The Navy is scheduled to follow suit, and the Air Force is undecided.

Davis said the cosmetic changes to the new version are hardly noticeable, but the increased performance is remarkable.

Marine Corps MAJ Doyle Hensley, assistant OIC of the Marksmanship training Unit in Quantico, Va. agrees: "The A2 version of the M-16 has been well received, particularly in respect to the windsage and elevation controls. These are probably the most significant improvements."

The windsage and elevation controls are used to refine a shooter's aim. There is a certain amount of "kick" that occurs when shooting, and corrections can compensate for it. Wind can also deflect a bullet's path; windsage controls compensate for that deflection.

The M-16A2's sighting system uses a rear sight with dual knobs (0-300, 300-800 meters) that can be adjusted for both windsage and elevation. The elevation knob is graduated from

300 meters to 800 meters so range adjustments can be made directly in meters.

The new weapon is slightly heavier and a scant five-eighths of an inch longer than its predecessor. The extra weight is in the barrel of the rifle, which allows the M-16A2 to have rifling twist of one turn in seven inches to accommodate the entire range of 5.56mm ammunition, including standard NATO rounds. The one turn in seven inches means that the bullet is spinning faster than it did in the A1 version, resulting in greater accuracy.

Since the M-16A2 can use all 5.56mm ammunition, the problem of bullet penetration no longer exists. Davis said the NATO SS109 and the U.S. 855 and 856 5.56mm ammunition carry a piece of steel about the size of a straight pin.

"When the bullet hits, the steel penetrator allows the bullet to penetrate the target more effectively," Davis explained.

The full automatic control has been replaced with an automatic burst control on the M-16A2.

With the new version, if the trigger is held to the rear, the rifle fires only three rounds. To shoot an additional burst, the trigger has to be released and pulled to the rear again. "This was a Marine Corps recommendation," said Davis. "We figured anything more than three rounds at a time was wasted."

Another major feature of the new weapon is the combination muzzle compensator/flash suppressor. "One of the big problems with the M-16A1, as with any weapon, is the tendency for the muzzle to rise when it is fired," said Davis. "The flash suppressor on the new version is solid on the bottom so that the gas generated by firing the weapon is dissipated to the top and sides. This prevents downward pressure, which causes muzzle rise."

Flash suppressors are used to hide the flash of the weapon so the shooter's position is not identified.

The forward hand guard has also been redesigned. "It's no longer distinctly left and right with a triangular look," said Hensley. "On the

A2, the top and bottom are identical, giving it a round look."

The plastics on the new model are stronger. "Some of the strengthening of plastics were not as successful as we had hoped," said Davis. "However, those problems have now been taken care of."

Davis said the M-16A1's reputation for jamming frequently is undeserved. "Realistically, much of the jamming problem with the A1 was solved with a heavier buffer. The A1 and A2 have performed very well in regards to jammin."

"Any automatic weapon can malfunction," he said, "just like a typewriter or any other machine can malfunction."

Davis said the greatest single problem with automatic weapons is the ammunition magazine. "Users rely on the magazine to reload the rifle," he said. "And even under ideal situations, it is difficult for the user to distinguish between a jamming problem and a magazine problem."



Lance Cpl. Mark Miller



COL Edmund J. Giering III, Commander, 225th Engr Gp, presented the Meritorious Service Medal to LTC Fred A. Palmer, and MAJ Larry H. Deblieux in Oct in Baton Rouge, La. Palmer received the MSM for exceptionally meritorious service while serving as commander of the 769th Engr Bn in Baton Rouge. Palmer was reassigned as S-3, Troop Command in October. Deblieux was awarded for meritorious service while assigned as the Engineer Equipment Maintenance Officer for the 225th Engr Gp. Deblieux was reassigned as Executive Officer, 769th Engr Bn, in October.



NGALA

UPFRONT

By Roger A. Bacon, Sr.
President, NGALA



COL Roger Bacon

Fiscal year 1987—it was a very good year. It will go down as perhaps the most demanding and resource intensive training year in our history. From a staff development and unit training perspective, I have to believe that the results were well worth the effort. We're better equipped to handle the requirements of mobilization and deployment and our units are certainly better trained.

To recap a few of the many highlights of 1987, we will begin with the 256th INF BDE rotation to the NTC. Despite the delay unit 18 September 1986 in making the decision to send the brigade, the trainup had already begun and support requirements already had been identified.

This allowed for a quick turn-around with NGB to get additional funding.

Concurrent with the unit trainup were the many days spent in developing leaders, making recon, preparing plans for the POMs, rail load and air loading. Equipment was brought to the highest possible readiness condition and had to be moved around the state to support training and for maintenance.

The rail load operations were a joint BDE/STARC responsibility and went extremely well despite the lack of early notification on car sizes, etc. A total of 839 pieces of equipment were loaded by our units at five sites. POMs were tracked and shortfalls managed in order

to meet the Adjutant General's policy to have every soldier POR qualified, to include a panorex on file. This resulted in the deployment of 2,017 of our soldier and 1,814 AC soldiers.

The training opportunities provided by the NTC rotation are unmatched. The terrain and OPFOR provided the opportunity for fighting the deep battle, integration of engineer elements, air defense, and logistical sustainment. Coupled with live fire training, close evaluation, in-depth after action reviews and real-world maintenance problems, the NTC is as close to war as you can get without the loss of life.

A quick-fix mission was assigned at a relatively late date to the 773rd MAINT BN and its Companies. The mission was to plan for processing convoys, decubing and inspecting vehicles, performing required maintenance, housing, transportation, feeding, and assisting in loading four ships in support of III Corps participation in REFORGER. The mission, a first of its kind, was frustrating due to the lack of information needed for planning and constantly changing concepts. Everyone involved did a superb job, remaining flexible and adapting, as required. The results were commendable.

The 225th and its units received its share of training opportunities also, working numerous on and off-post missions during the year, both during AT and IDT. This was supplemented

by three 16-man rotations to the UK to prepare a 1,000 bed hospital and sending 120 troops to Weathersfield, UK to participate in rapid runway repair training.

The Military Academy had a busy year also. It graduated 33 candidates from Class 27 and began Class 28 with 64 candidates.

There were 1009 soldiers who completed the NCOES Courses offered by the NGR Regional Academy. In addition, there were 8 who completed the 1SG Course, 33 54E Course graduates and 58 NBC Team personnel were trained. We were plagued again with "no shows" and with fewer than desired applicants.

The FY 87 ODT plan was demanding also. There were 18 cell rotations, involving 307 soldiers, for a total of 2,535 MANDAYS in the UK, Germany and Central America.

We failed to achieve our goal of no regression in 1-R evaluations from AT 86 and also in achieving 94% IDT Attendance our attendance, as of 31 August was 92%. The solution to the problem of low attendance lies in good communications, stimulating training and strict control over absences. This includes reducing AWOLS and scheduling individuals who qualify for ET, as such, rather than "SICK" or "LEAVE".

During 1987 we activated the 2222nd Med Clearing Company, the 2224th Dental Det and elements of the 244th AVN Bn. The 813th Med Det and DET 1, 199th SPT Bn were deactivated.

Documentation for Officer education required

By CPT William C. Ratcliff

The educational requirements for regular commissioned officers become effective on 1 October 1989. This requirement as stated in AR 600-100 Documentation for Officers Education Requirements calls for commissioned officers to acquire 60 semester hours or its equivalent. This means that an individual must have either 60 semester hours, 90 quarter hours, or an Associate Degree. Each of these must be documented with an official transcript in the DPA-Officer branch file.

College transcripts can be obtained by writing or visiting the school registrar's office.

Transcripts are usually less than \$5 each and are free in many cases. Once the transcript fee is paid, request the transcript be sent to:

LA Army National Guard
ATTN: LANG-DPA-O
Bldg #36, Jackson Barracks
New Orleans, LA 70146-0330

Once the transcript arrives at DPA-O, the SIDPERS data base is updated and the transcript is filed in the individual's DPA-O record. College transcripts are the only acceptable means of meeting this requirement.

Some officers however, choose to have their military and civilian work and school experiences evaluated for college credit. Institutions that offer this service require that the individual submit a "portfolio" that documents the individual's experiences by which the evaluation can be made. These institutions charge fees for this service. Most institutions require that the individual submit this fee with the portfolio. However, some schools will make an initial evaluation for an individual and return the evaluation sheet that describes what credits can be awarded based on the portfolio. This evaluation, though it may appear so in many respects, is not a transcript. Transcripts for this service are not provided by these institutions until official transcripts from previously attended institutions are received, requirements (courses that must be taken from the granting institution) are completed, credit hour conversion fees are paid, transcript request fees received, or any combination of the aforementioned are completed.

Officers that are or plan to have evaluation services performed to help meet their education requirements are urged to begin immediately. Preparing the portfolio can sometimes be a lengthy process when recommendations are solicited from past employers or several transcripts from different institutions must be requested. Additionally, the evaluating institution decides which and how many credits will be awarded. Evaluations received now that award less than 60 semester hours allows time to complete the remainder needed before 1 October 1987.

Whatever the case, the process of education is not accomplished overnight. Evaluations, resident night courses, and correspondence courses all demand time and money. One of the best lessons of education is learning how to prepare adequately for requirements.

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The "Hound Dogs"

By Airman Debra A. Hebert

They are nicknamed the "Hound Dogs" and their duty is to prepare the group to survive a disaster. Their responsibilities lie in teaching others how to survive in both wartime chemical, nuclear and biological attack, and for peacetime contingencies.

Not only does this require dedication and knowledge from the "Dogs", but it also requires time spent with the members of the unit to educate them on these very important matters.

SGT George T. Foster states, "Although we're in peacetime, we need to be in a frame of mind to cope with whatever problem arises. The base population needs to take the Disaster Preparedness program more seriously because the training will decide whether you live or die if thrust into a wartime situation."

Each month members of the DP team, including SGT Foster, give an informative briefing on DP that is designed to make the participants capable of surviving a chemical attack.

This briefing is a much needed requirement for the members of the military because of the increased interest that the Soviet Union has taken in chemical warfare.

During the briefing, members are taught

proper wear of the chemical warfare suit which make up for 10% of the protection during an attack.

Also, they are briefed on atropine, M-8 paper, M-9 tape, the M258 kit and of the importance of using the "buddy system". All of these safety methods go hand in hand and are very simple to use if you just pay attention and follow directions.

SGT Thomas Longo, also known as "Wild Dog", states that, "No matter how good you are at your job, you need the knowledge of survival under a chemical environment."

People are beginning to take Disaster Preparedness more seriously...and that's good because according to the members of the 159th DP team, the possibility of the use of chemicals is real. The Soviets have made it known that it does exist.

SGT Ricky J. Ashley states, "Many people think that this will never happen, but it very well could. Training must be taken seriously so that it would become second nature in the event of a real situation".

They are here to tell and show us how to survive a chemical attack among other disasters and we would be the one to benefit by listening.



The 39th MP Co, New Orleans, provided security and crowd control during the Doll and Toy Giveaway in the Superdome in December. Here, an MP gathers up wandering children to take them to a central "Lost Children" point. (Photo by 2LT Maria L. Jonkers, State PAO).

205th Engr Bn Clears Site for Washington Parish Landfill

By CW2 Louis L. Joseph

The 205th Engineer Battalion headquartered in Bogalusa will begin clearing the site of the new Washington Parish Landfill next Monday. Washington Parish Police Jury President Billy Wayne Rester said that he had received word yesterday that final approval for assistance to the jury had been given by the Guard. The work authorized includes 180 man-hours, with 100 man-hours to be completed immediately.

Rester, who has been working on getting Guard assistance for several weeks, said that

he would sign the papers this morning today with MAJ John Douglas of the 205th National Guard Engr Bn, which has units in Bogalusa and Franklinton. The work will involve all major clearing at the landfill and part of the dirt work for the pit itself, he said.

The jury is financially strapped, he said, and the assistance from the Guard is more than welcome. He explained that the jury will furnish the fuel involved in the job but that the remainder of the expenses on the project will be provided through the Guard.

Rester added that he hopes to have the landfill engineer, Leon Barnett, on the site when the work begins.

Safety Sez Chaplain's Corner

By LTC Earl P. Santos

Safety is number one on the Adjutant Generals Fiscal Year 88 Goals. Safety is important and it is time for everyone to consciously think SAFETY! Safety is also my number one goal as the new State Safety Officer.

Most everyone knew me as the Officer's Personnel Manager at DPA. What I did there was important. But now I have a job that is more important. I have a job that can make a difference to every soldier and every soldier's family. I have a responsibility to everyone of you, to protect you, to keep you safe, to prevent foolish unsafe acts that can potentially injure or kill. But I need your help.

Two of this year's safety slogans indicate the basis of the safety program. "Protect your fate in 88" and "Safety is a Responsibility Up and Down the Chain." You and I must work together to protect your fate, to eliminate carelessness and human error. Commanders and supervisors at all levels must provide the common emphasis to make safety work.

The safety office is ready and willing to assist with all safety requirements. It is time for safety. Safety only works for everyone when everyone is aware and conscious of safety.

By COL Jesse R. Campbell

A NEW BEGINNING

A new year is here. Many of us will take a deep breath and say "Thank Goodness 1987 is over!" We will look back and see the trials experienced and how we handled them. We need also to review the good things that happened and "count our blessings", for along with the bad there is the good. As human beings, our nature is to remember the bad, forget the good, and dwell on the past.

We need to look for the good in all our experience. Our Lord said "All things work together for good for those who love the Lord and are called according to his purpose." Again it is our tendency to see only the bad and not the good. To find good, or to see good, doesn't happen by itself. We must work at it, expect it, look for it.

The year 1988 is a new beginning. An opportunity to put into play all we have learned and experienced the past year. Do as the song says, "Accentuate the positive - Negate the negative" and you will have a great year.

"All things work together for good for those that love the Lord. . ."

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159th TFG in Savannah: "It was tough,

By SSG Elaine T. Comeaux

It was obvious everyone had been through four days of demanding and unusual exercise. It was equally evident everyone was glad it was over!

Members of the 159th TFG were tasked for the first time since the F-15 conversion, to mobilize and deploy to Savannah, GA from 15-23 Oct 87, to simulate a wartime scenario against invading forces.

Over 800 military personnel, 63 tons of cargo and support equipment were airlifted in nineteen C-130 sorties beginning at 0400 hours Saturday, 17 Oct 87. In addition, 47 personnel and 107 tons of cargo were pre-deployed on Thursday, 15 Oct 87. All the participants were

ready for the unexpected upon arrival at their Checkered Flag Training Base. Dressed in chemical warfare defense gear, personnel were routed to their pre-designated areas.

The purpose of the Operational Readiness Inspection (ORI) was to evaluate response, combat employment, mission support, ability to survive and other operational capabilities of the group. An overall score of "satisfactory" was awarded to the 159th TFG and 122th TFS. This score was the result of very hard work and a concerted group effort from all involved. The resultant attitude implies "We have just begun".

LTC Dorhm Crawford has this to say about the flying part of the ORI, "It was tough, but

the boys came through, as we knew they would". The flying squadron received an excellent rating on their flying. We were tasked to fly about 60 missions a day, when the most we had ever flown were about 48 missions a day.

Scoring of all activities was done by the Inspector General Team (IG), HQ Ninth Air Force who monitored and evaluated all aspects of our wartime capabilities. There were 103 activities tasked over a variety of sections including Operations, Civil Engineering, Field Maintenance, Motor Pool and POL to name just a few.

Many tangible and intangible qualities were brought to the forefront, testing resourcefulness to accomplish the mission. Gun reliability, munitions activities, mission monitoring, combat sortie effectiveness, mission execution, planning and preparation and mishaps are only a few of the categories IG graded. Other general categories were generation, mobility, deployment and ability to survive and operate (ATSO). Although the final score was Satisfactory, there were 22 categories scored Excellent by the IG Team. A few of these are as follows:

- 1) Aircraft Recovery
- 2) Squadron Operations
- 3) Weapons Service
- 4) Weapons Employment
- 5) Wing Operations Center (WOC)

LTC J. Hunt, a Deputy Commander of the battle staff for the 159th TFG, offered some personal opinions. "Mainly, we were deeply involved in a wartime scenario that took every effort from all of the people in the quantity that were present." When asked what demands were expected of each individual, he supplied astonishing facts, "In the past, we were able to come to an ORI with 500 people and perform all the duties that were necessary to complete the mission. This time we had almost twice that amount but still not enough personnel to perform all the duties tasked." LTC Hunt added further that even the dining hall was operated 22-hours daily, something never before done. Truly an indication of how much activity there

was at all times.

The training received was very realistic in terms of wartime combat conditions. Many functions were performed by each of the participants that were impossible to prepare for. Civil Engineering performed damage assessment and repairs to runways, always providing the unit with minimum operating strip (MOS) for aircraft during war games. Disaster Preparedness constantly monitored the environment for any suspected chemicals and advised the Commander of what MOPP level members should be dressed in. Vehicles were decontaminated by Motor Pool personnel. Members of the IG Team were so impressed at Motor Pool's use of the LDS, which works kind of like a car wash to decontaminate vehicles, that they asked SGT Gilbert Ramos to write a report on their method. When we asked Ramos' opinion on this operation he said he felt like we were "the flagship leading the way for the Air Guard." The people who decontaminated vehicles worked under very extreme conditions. They had to wear extra rain gear over the CW gear which made it even hotter and more cumbersome to work. Ramos said, "I was pretty impressed. The 'Can Do' attitude made up for our lack of experience." We greatly benefitted from SGT Ramos's prior service and his work with the LDS's.

The irony of all ironies occurred after all the wartime activities were completed. Tired and sore, everyone was ready for home cooking. But at the last minute the aircraft scheduled for the return home had been cancelled and redeployed to another emergency mission. The problem now was to locate last minute transportation home. War is hell and those certain individuals who were tested to the limit during the scenario would now have to be tested even further. But with a concerted effort, some of the staff, working until 0300 hrs, finally made sure everyone had a way home. Replacement aircraft were able to fly all but about 60 people home. The remainder were able to return home on chartered buses.



Command Post personnel - MAJ Thomas Donaldson Jr., LTC Michael G. Sember, LTC Kenneth C. Demerest, CPT William R. Guarino, MSG James C. Tate F-15)



F-15 Ready For Night Duty



Com/Nav personnel SSG Paul N. Sartele doing radar warning system

but the boys came through"



Savannah-Getting Ready for the War

Mainly we were deeply involved in a wartime scenario that took every effort..."



g and AIC Marc
ks

(Deploying to Savannah, GA on C-130 during mobility exercise).

Louisiana Captures Top Honors in Governors Match

Guardsmen and juniors from Det 3, HQ STARC (Trp Cmd), won the lion's share of titles in the 1987 Governor's Trophy Match. The La. shooters captured the National Team title, top Junior Individual and tied for top National Guard Individual.

SGM Michel C. Brondum, Jr. led his team in scoring to claim the national team title with a total of 380 points out of a possible 400. He also tied with MSG John W. Kearbey, Missouri ARNG, for top individual National Guard honors: Sixteen year old Shannon R. Lowery, a member of the La. Team, captured top Junior honors with a score of 378, topping the nearest competitor by five points. Making up the La. Team, in addition to Brondum and Lowery were: SFC Daniel Saxon (374) and Junior, Michael D. Peterson (346).

The winning La. score was 1,478. They were followed in order by: Second place-HHC 1092d, WV ARNG with 1,488; Third Place-118 AES, TN ANG with 1,440; Fourth Place-HQ Spt Bn, MO ARNG with 1,423; Fifth Place-842nd Engr Co, SD ARNG with 1,396; (tie) Sixth Place-138 S&S Bn, MS ARNG with 1,390 and 3664th, WV ARNG with 1,390; Eighth Place-3664th WV ARNG with 1,371; Ninth Place-665th Maint Co, SD ARNG with 1,362; and Tenth Place-HQ STARC (-), LA ARNG with 1,344.

National Guard Individual results: Winners-SGM Brondum, LA ARNG-380; MSG Kear-

bey, MO ARNG-380; Third-SSG Dave Mutzieger, SD ARNG-376; Fourth-SFC Daniel Saxon, LA ARNG-374; Fifth-SGM Ernest J. Guerra, LA ARNG-373; Sixth-PSG Charles W. Owen, TN ARNG-372; Seventh-SGT Darrell Barry, SD ARNG-369; Eighth-SSG James D. Dick II, TN ARNG-367; Ninth-SP4 William C. Morgan, MS ARNG-366; and Tenth-MSGT John D. Hoffman, TN ANG-363.

National Individual Juniors: Winner-Shannon R. Lowery, LA-378; Second-Hanna Brantner, WV-373; Third-Dale H. Nichols, TN-363 and Richard W. Owen, TN-363; Fifth-Brian Vance, WV-362; Sixth-Jason P. Whiteley, MO-357; Seventh-Dave Frederick, WV-353; Eighth-Jon D. Hoffman, TN-352; Ninth-Lorrie Bryant, SD-346; and Tenth-Clint Spurgeon, MO-344.

The Governor's Trophy Match is a smallbore rifle tournament that teams National Guard members with junior shooters. It is designed to provide additional marksmanship training for unit members and to introduce community youth to the National Guard. A GTM team consists of four individuals: two members of the NG and two juniors. Guard personnel must be assigned to the same unit. Junior shooters must not reach the age of 19 during the calendar year the state championship is fired. Phase I of the GTM usually begins in early fall, but firing must be completed by 1 Mar of the following year.



1987 Governor's Trophy Match Champions from left to right: Michael D. Peterson, SGM Michel C. Brondum, Jr., Shannon R. Lowery and SFC Daniel Saxon. (LAARNG Photo)

Give A Darn

Staff Report

Do you have pride in your unit? Has your unit accomplished something new; something bigger or better than the other guy? Does someone you know deserve a little recognition for a job that was done just right - or had that little touch of finesse that meant the difference in a grand success rather than just the accomplishment of the mission? If the answer to any of these questions is yes, then why not show a little appreciation or pride by submitting an article for publication in the Louisiana Guard Newspaper?

So you don't write well. Perfection is not the issue. This is one time that you really can get an "A" for effort. Just follow the simple, step by step directions below and get into the program. Best of all, practice does make perfect. The more articles you write, the better the writer you become. Don't let your unit fall by the wayside. Put your unit or soldiers out

in front. Let your pride show! Submit information and articles for the Louisiana Guard.

Write information that covers the following areas:

WHO: Who is the individual or unit that is involved. Be specific and spell names correctly. Include rank and first and last names. When using units include the entire unit designation, like Co. A, 527th Engr Bn. Show your enthusiasm. Tell about the person or unit, for example: CPT John Doe, an full-time employee for ??? He is engaged to Susie Q. He graduated from ??? H.S. A young guardsmen would probably like information regarding college attendance or H.S. graduation included. An older guardsmen would probably appreciate information regarding family, career, civic organizations, years of service to the military/LAARNG, awards received, school (military

and civilian) attended.

WHAT: What did they do? What is the purpose of what was done? What goals or objectives were set? What did the commander or supervisor say about it? Did someone else have some comments about what was done or about the person that did it?

WHY: Why did they do it? Why was it important or unusual?

WHEN: When did it happen or when did they do it? (In some cases it may be when will it happen if your write something beforehand.)

WHERE: Where did it happen? If it was more than one place, say so.

OTHER INFORMATION: Add something on the paper who the writer is, where the writer can be telephoned or located for additional information if needed. Indicate if telephone numbers are for work or home and

if appropriate, when you would most likely be available to answer a few questions. It may be that a few extra questions can turn your "A" for effort articles into a masterpiece printed nationally in the National Guard magazine or in your local newspaper.

Additional information on how to write news articles, public affairs, community relations, and command information, and Unit Public Affairs Representatives (UPAR's) is available from the State Public Affairs Office upon request. Please address all information and requests to LANG-PAO, Jackson Barracks, New Orleans, LA 70146-0330. Show your pride. Get with the program...The public affairs program.

Honor Graduates

SGT Jason L. Lott of the NGB NCO Academy, Det 2 HQ STARC, recently graduated as a Distinguished Honor Graduate 76Y BNCOC Class at Ft. Lee, Virginia, in Oct. Lott also graduated in the top of his class from the 76Y AIT Course at Ft. Jackson, South Carolina. SGT Lott feels that his education at both schools will equip him to effectively pursue his new appointment as an instructor at the NGB NCOA AC/BNCOC. This course will be offered at Cp. Beauregard in Jan. 88. Lott said that the schools will enable him to effectively discharge the responsibilities of a Unit Supply Sergeant or related duties in the event of mobilization.

SGT Lott's other military schooling include: 91B AIT, Combat Medic, Ft. Sam, Houston, TX, AC/PLDC, Ft. Polk, Louisiana, and RC/PNQC, Cp Shelby, Mississippi. He has also earned 1.5 years toward a BA in nursing while serving as an NGB NCOA staff medic for RC/ANCOC, AC/PLDC and AC/ANCOC. SGT

Lott's observations of his achievements include the realization that the National Guard is continuing the emphasis upon education that began almost a decade ago. We are finally achieving parity with our active components, as four of the six honor graduates at AC/BNCOC, were National Guardsmen, Lott said.



SGT Jason L. Lott

Corporal James G. Smith of Company A, 528th Engineer Battalion recently earned the distinction of Honor Graduate for the NBC Officer/NCO Defense Course at Ft. Polk, LA. Corporal Smith attended class 87-12, 17-27 August 1987.

Corporal Smith completed this demanding course with an academic average of 94.7%. In view of the content of the NBC Course such an accomplishment is particularly noteworthy. Only very determined and highly motivated soldiers graduate from the course with honors.

SSG Merlin J. Guibeau

SSG Merlin J. Guibeau, Platoon Sergeant Co E, 2nd E, 2nd Bn, 156th Inf(M) located in Ville Platte recently graduated with honors from the NGB Advanced Course at Camp Robinson.

Guibeau finished the course with an 89% academic average and was also the recipient of the Leadership Award.

He has served in the LA National Guard since December of 1980 and in June 1986 received the Army Commendation Medal for Meritorious Service during 2nd Bn, 156th Inf's rotation through the National Training Center.



CPL James G. Smith

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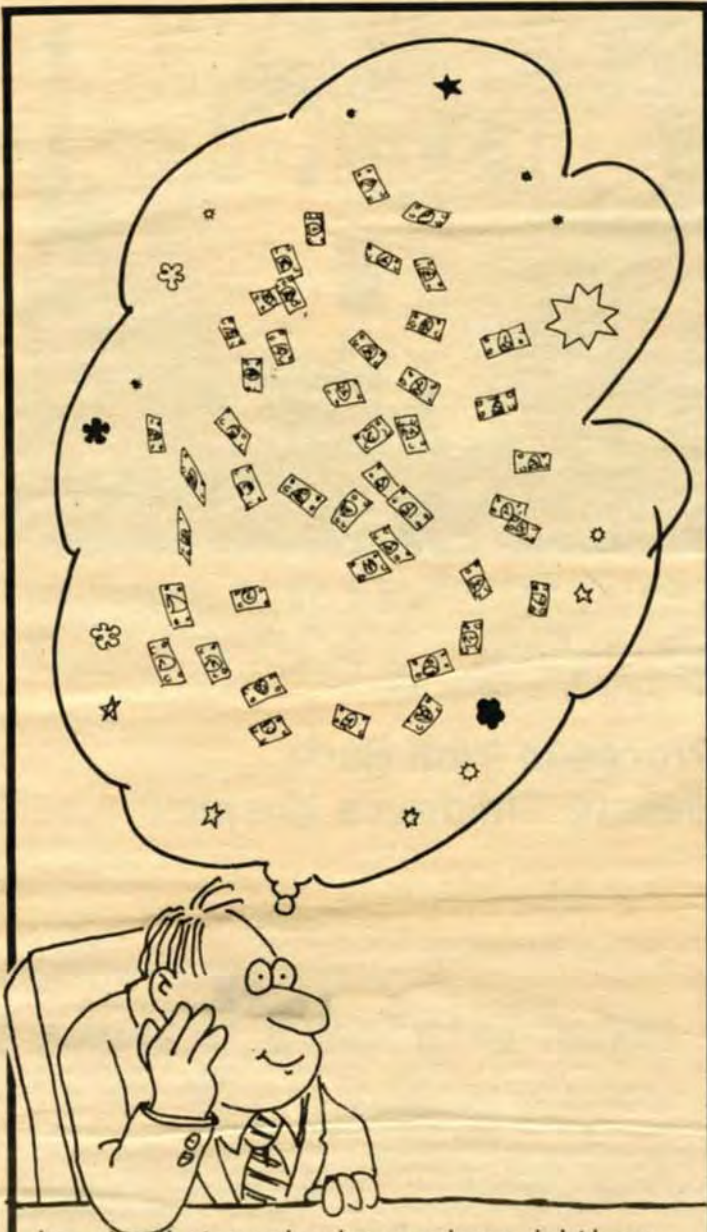
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7th Annual NG 5K Road Race Closes Out 1987

By SP4 Sharon Dixon
241st Pub Aff Det

Some runners stretched and performed warm-up exercises. Others panted and sweated, while many stood by smiling and cheering on their family and friends during the 7th Annual Louisiana National Guard Road Race at Jackson Barracks in December.

It was a bright and slightly windy Sunday morning as a total of 787 runners participated in the half mile fun run/walk and 5K (3.1 miles) road race. It was considered one of the biggest races to date ever held in St. Bernard Parish, according to LTC Reece Gay, road race director for the past two years. "The number of people that turned out for this race far exceeded our expectations," he said.

The race began on St. Claude St. in front of Jackson Barracks and proceeded to historical Chalmette Battlefield and back. Military personnel and civilians ran in groups and side by side, calling cadence and waving as they passed among the many photographers, detoured drivers, and people taping with video cameras.

Following the fun run/walk and 5K road race, the runners were offered cold drinks and

jambalaya. Winners received numerous trophies, and several promotional awards were randomly awarded also.

According to SGM Joseph Centani, shop chief of OMS 13, in his 31 years of military service, "These road races are one of the best things to happen in the Louisiana National Guard. Although I'm not a runner, it's a chance to have just plain fun among different units," he said.

These road races are sponsored in support of the ongoing objective of the Army Physical Fitness Program to enhance readiness by developing sustaining qualities in all soldiers. Some of these qualities include: stamina, quick reaction time, coordination, flexibility and speed. These road races also foster self-discipline and a health enhancing lifestyle.

The 1987 Louisiana National Guard Road Race commemorated the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution, with special royal blue T-shirts given to race participants. The road race was sponsored by the Louisiana National Guard, civic organizations and local businesses. All proceeds from the race were donated to the Children's Hospital. (See sidebar)



LTC Reece Gay, 5K Race Director, presents Mrs. Betty Lauricella, member of the Board of Trustees for Children's Hospital, with a check for \$6,000 as part of an ongoing commitment to the hospital. The funds were proceeds raised from the 1986 and 1987 National Guard 5K Road Race held in Chalmette, La. From left to right: MG Ansel M. Stroud, Jr., the Adjutant General; Mrs. Betty Lauricella; LTC Reece Gay; and Senator "Hank" Lauricella, spouse. (LAARNG Photo)

Proceeds from Race Benefit Children's Hospital

By 2LT Maria L. Jonkers
State PAO

Since 1986, when the National Guard donated the final payment of \$19,000 on a \$30,000 pledge made by MG Stroud on behalf of the La. National Guard in 1983, the guard men and women have remained committed to the Children's Hospital.

The 1987 5K road race held in Chalmette in December was the third race to benefit Children's Hospital. The \$4,000 raised from this year's race, coupled with \$2,000 raised last year made for a well received Christmas donation by Mrs. Betty Lauricella, a member of the Board of Trustees for Children's Hospital.

Approximately 800 individuals participated in this year's race; that number was up 200 over last year. The major sponsor for the race was the Cardiac Fitness Center in Chalmette which also sponsored last year's event. The Center, which offers a 12 week cardiac rehabilitation program encouraged its patients to participate in the 1/2 mile fun run.

The Guard's involvement with CH began in 1972 when the Air Guard put on an airshow to raise money. Since then, money raised by the Guard has helped build a Parents Lounge at CH. Says Mr. Brian Landry, Assistant Administrator and Director of Marketing, "Parents who need to take a break and relax use this lounge to unwind." A plaque acknowledging gratitude to the La. National Guard for their help graces a wall in the wing where the Parents Lounge is located.

"The money donated to the hospital from the road races goes into a general fund that helps pay medical expenses for families who otherwise could not afford medical care. Last year we served families in 54 of the 64 parishes, and we also served families in eight other states and three foreign countries," he said.

"It's a beautiful relationship," remarked Mrs. Lauricella. "The National Guard supports us, and Children's Hospital has cared for many Guard families."



Joe Pardo breaks the tape to become the overall winner the second year in a row. (Photo by SSG John A. Sullivan, 241st PAD)

And the winners are...

1/2 Mile Fun Run OVERALL WINNER MALE Don Matherne 2:16 FEMALE Daniell Purfey 2:40	FEMALE Amanda Turnage 4:06 Christi Cado 5:01 Kait Allemen 5:49	FEMALE Christine Davidson 3:49 Dawn Zengaring 5:23	40 - 49 Frank Rosato Jr. 21:53 Lee Simpson 23:31 Geary Molony 24:31	5K Open Male OVERALL WINNER Joe Pardo 15:20 13 and Under Brian Oddo 25:19 Clint Miller 27:48 Paul Tranchina 28:48	40 - 49 Shady Schadwell 17:56 Billy Savaant 18:04 Lionel Miller 18:22	19 - 29 Annette Roy 23:00 Kellee Heffner 23:01 Charlene Brannan 24:05
6 AND UNDER MALE Jeffery Walters 4:17 Jason Zengaring 4:20 Landon Tucker 5:10	9 - 10 MALE Clint Miller 2:53 Taylor Martin 3:00 Steve Haemann 3:06	5K PLATOON COMPETITION 214th Engrg Inst Squad 24:50 141st FA Officer Platoon 26:52 141st FA Enlisted Platoon 28:13 159th MASH 29:15	50 and Over Jay Sancho 24:01 Stan Sirgo 26:23 Johnny F. Williams 27:25	14 - 18 Chris Anderson 15:25 John Broussard 16:27 Rocky Silva 17:44	50 and Over Eddie LeRouge 19:53 Lindo Sullivan 21:14 Paul J. Hebert 21:17	30 - 39 Lu Jeffrey 21:53 Mist Wilson 22:43 Chris Holeman 22:49
FEMALE Amanda Rhodes 3:50 Mindi Melson 5:02 Shawn Blair 5:10	FEMALE Valerie Minerva 3:16 Kiara Martin 3:26 Sonja Hric 5:00	5K National Guard Male 17 - 29 Marc A. Sartele 18:53 Paul Bergeron 19:49 Charles Clark 20:21	5K National Guard Female 17 - 29 Mary Pal 25:20 Ranier Woods 25:40 Antoinette Wright 29:26	19 - 29 Philip Bar 16:33 Kean Dalton 17:15 Todd Stephan 17:47	5K Open Female OVERALL WINNER Julia Floron 18:24 17 and Under Danielle Purfey 22:28 Chayana Walters 30:20 Mindi Melson (6 yrs) 47:56	40 - 49 Bev Callaway 21:38 Linda Mason 23:28 Kathy Gagnon 24:33
7 - 8 MALE Tallon Ballard 3:27 Nathan Honeycutt 3:58 Jason Folse 4:00	11 - 12 MALE Mike Hanemann 2:50 Paul Tranchina 3:13 Nick Gagliano 3:23	30 - 39 Walter Ballant 16:36 Merlin Ohmer 19:30 Norman Martin 19:39	30 - 39 Debbie Hebert 23:35 Marietta Johnson 25:37 Lucinda Dundy 27:29	30 - 39 Desmond O'Conner 15:3 Junius Nixon 15:32 Patrick Byrnes 15:50	14 - 18 Melane Shadwell 22:02 Jennifer Givya 22:25 Armanda Meche 25:30	50 and Over Gerry Ramagos 34:09 Dorothy Trouclair 38:18 Hope Vignes 38:20
			40 - 49 Linda Sims 29:57 Thelma Dixon 35:00 C. Wainwright 37:19			Senior Participant: Lesier Argaux, 87 yrs

Leadership Conference Held in Alexandria

By Maj. David O. Miller

The third annual Louisiana National Guard Leadership Conference was held 23-25 October in Alexandria and attended by over 250 Commanders, sergeant majors, and first sergeants. The 1988 theme "Discipline Keystone to Success", was introduced by MG Ansel M. Stroud, Jr., Adjutant General. GEN Stroud opened the conference by explaining how discipline plays an essential role in the success of individuals, the unit, and the Guard as a whole. GEN Stroud emphasized that, "to be successful, today's soldier needs more than dedication and commitment." "Discipline in the areas of appearance, physical fitness, weight control, training, and military and civilian education are key to insuring success," he added.

The purpose of the conference, according to Colonel James K. Corley, Chief of Staff, was to brief the leaders of the Louisiana Guard on where we've been, where we are, and where we want to go. COL. Corley congratulated the group saying that the post year was probably one of the best in the history of the Louisiana National Guard. "We were very successful this past year, meeting almost all of our 1987 goals," COL. Corley said. He then listed goals for 1988 and emphasized that, "without discipline, we will not be successful as individuals or as soldiers in meeting these goals."

Lieutenant Colonel Earl Santos, State Safety Officer outlined the 1988, safety program and advised the group to get involved in safety.

"Each commander must be a safety officer and must integrate safety with operational activity the moment a mission is conceived," Santos said.

Brigade General Charles Lindsey, Deputy STARC Commander, reissued new guidelines for officer and NCO education requirements. He explained that there are two significant changes among the new guidelines. Under these guidelines, only Captains will be assigned as company commanders, and officers must have company level command experience in order to be qualified for promotion to the rank of major.

Other topics discussed during the conference included inspection programs, supply management and property accountability, maintenance activities, training, enlisted and officer rating systems, and health issues.

Evening activities included a formal dinner and ball for attendees and their guests. Guest speaker for the event was MG (?) Suiter?, (?), Gen Santos' message keyed on the United State Constitution and reminded his audience that with all the rights and privileges afforded in that two year old document, comes a responsibility that each person must also bear.

Music was provided by the 156th LANG Band under the direction of (CW) Pexesen.

A spouser program was also conducted during the conference. The program highlighted major family assistance programs and emphasized the importance of spousal support for the success of the military.

Northeast Louisiana University R.O.T.C.

It's worth a second look!

By Cadet Captain Letetia F. Hughes

It's an honor to be a cadet at Northeast Louisiana University (NLU) where there still lives a tradition that is upheld by each cadet in the program. Although they are at the bottom of the ladder climbing towards the Gold Bar, the students enrolled in the military science classes 101 and 205 are the backbone of the tradition at NLU. They later become the advanced course cadets in military science 301 and 401 then progress to be officers. Along with classes, every student attends a military science lab each semester; this lab develops the leadership potential for the cadets to learn more so they can advance forward in the program.

It pays to enroll in the ROTC program. The Army ROTC offers financial assistance in the form of two through four year scholarships. Additionally, the Army National Guard (ARNG) and the Army Reserve (USAR) have available the Simultaneous Membership Program (SMP) which allows the cadet to serve in that component and the ROTC program. With the National Guard tuition exemption, GI Bill benefits, and ROTC subsistence allowance, ROTC cadets have fewer financial worries than most other students.

Extracurricular activities also play an important role of everyone in ROTC's Tomahawk Battalion. There are such organizations such as the Scabbard and Blade honorary military fraternity, the Color Guard, the NLU orienteering team, and the Bayou Raiders. The Scabbard and Blade members serve as ushers at home football games and conduct the "Dining-In", a formal dinner to train future officers in the social graces and traditions of army officers. The Color Guard performs at all home football games as well and march in most local parades.

The Bayou Raiders, the Ranger unit at NLU, is the most popular activity among the cadets as it helps to develop leadership skills and esprit de corps with several field exercises each year.

There are several other functions that help to develop a cadet's character and values needed in the military. These include the cadet chain-of-command, military ball, and the awards ceremony. The cadet chain-of-command encompasses all the leadership labs with instruction of tactics and staff operations with the cadets planning all of the activities. The military ball and dining-in give the cadets a taste of the social life, military style, while the awards ceremony gives recognition to deserving cadets for a job well done.

After graduation from NLU, cadets may serve in every branch of the Army, including Infantry, Armor, and Artillery as well as Finance, Medical Service, and the Military Police. Many others have fulfilled their military obligation and entered the civilian job market after obtaining valuable on-the-job leadership experience. Still others, depending on their qualifications and the needs of the Army, have completed the obligation as members of the Army National Guard or the Army Reserve.

Keeping in mind the excellent tradition at NLU and the opportunity to earn a degree with financial assistance, ROTC at NLU is worth a second or third look!

To determine whether you qualify to become a member of the long-standing tradition at NLU, write to:

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527TH ENGR BN SETS THE PACE!

527th

By **ILT Brian R. Lombardino**
527th Engr Bn

Be all you can be! The 527th Engineer Battalion from Bossier City, LA. did just that this Annual Training period, in June. According to LTC Bennett C. Landreneau, the Battalion Commander, the purpose of this AT period was to simulate the combat mission of the unit with emphasis placed on engineer projects. Management by the staff was constantly exercised through out the AT period. Bn HQs, HHC, and C companies were stationed at Camp Beauregard, B and D companies were located in Northern Louisiana. The Bn was spread out over a 150 mile area.

The line units were well supported with everything they needed to accomplish their mission. This was accomplished by the excellent staff coordination provided by the Bn Executive Officer, Major A.M. Stroud, III.

Logistical support was outstanding. CPT Charles Arrambide, the S-4, and SFC Larry Council said, "If they need it, we get it and in a hurry!"

Companies A and C were evaluated by the 5th Army, while accomplishing specific ARTEP Tasks assigned to them. In an Engineer ARTEP, Companies are stretched to the maximum. Not only did A and C companies do their Tasks well, they also performed Community Assistant projects, and provided security for their bivouac sites.

According to A Co commander CPT Dennis Heard, "It was very hot, but that did not hinder

our performances. We accomplished a wide range of ARTEP Tasks and projects. The ARTEP Tasks included PIT operations, Direct Support operations, Haul Missions, Equipment Operations, and Tactical bivouac, and Convoy Operations." The projects consisted of Pot hole repair, a lighting project on Camp Beauregard and maintenance support of the line companies involved in other projects.

CPT Joe Price, C Company commander, saw shore line improvements become a reality at Saline Lake. The company built mobile home covers and a 20 X 30 concrete slab. ARTEP tasks included were tactical bivouac, convoy operations, equipment operations, concrete masonry, carpentry, and construction tasks.

Both CPT Heard and CPT Price, were very pleased when their companies received all T's on the IR.

For two weeks, B and D company lived in the field and worked on Community Assistance Project (CAPS). B company under the command of CPT Mike Borrell, completed all assigned tasks. While located in Northern Louisiana at Garland Scout Ranch more than 120 miles away from the Battalion, B Company did an amazing job of excavating a lake bed to make it suitable for cub scouts to fish from the bank. Other projects at Garland were the construction of a latrine and pews for the Chapel. At the LSU Medical Center in Shreveport a two phase project consisting of two parking lots was started. B company easily completed their scope of work.

Company D located at Bodcau more than 150 miles North of the Battalion HQs did Community Assistance Projects at Cypress Lake and Springhill, LA. At Cypress Lake a pavilion was constructed and a multiphase project at the Springhill Airport was brought to 147% complete by the excellent supervision of ILT David Aycock and SFC Ronnie Savage. The runway could not have reached its stage of completion if it had not been for the amazing diligence of maintenance personal keeping the equipment working. The commander of D company, CPT Ron Stuckey, was very pleased when his company received all T's on their IR.

Though the troops were working in the blistering heat, the morale of the engineers was high. One NCO said the only complaints he heard was that when the equipment went down,

they couldn't work!

The communities were very appreciative of the work done by the 527th Engr Bn. The board of directors at the Garland Scout Ranch gave a banquet for Company B. Overall, the work of the 527th Engineer Battalion was a complete success.

The following soldiers were commended for outstanding performances during at '87: LTC Landreneau, MAJ Stroud, MAJ Hudnall, CPT Arambide, PT Oliver, ILT Lombardino, ILT Laird, MSG Vercher, CPT Stuckey, ILT Aycock, SFC Lee, SSG Reppond, CPT Borrell, ILT Page, ISG Comeaux, and SSG Salter.

The 527th Engr Bn believes and lives the slogan "BE ALL YOU CAN BE."

Company B braves the heat and builds fire dept. building

By **CPT Michael J. Borrell**
Co B, 527th Engr Bn

Company B of the 527th Engineer Battalion, in a joint effort with the Brouillette Volunteer Fire Department, started construction of the Brouillette Community Volunteer Fire Department during the scheduled drill in July 1987.

The Brouillette Fire Department personnel had previously framed up the metal structure and erected one side of the building before the National Guard personnel arrived for their scope of employment.

This unit furnished one squad of men out of the first and second vertical construction platoons for the project. This squad consisted of carpenters, electricians and construction supervisors. Their mission was to insulate and emplace the metal siding and roof on the structure.

Although the temperature exceeded 95 degrees, Company B still managed to complete on side and emplace the metal siding and roof on the structure. Although the temperature exceeded 95 degrees, Company B still managed to complete on side and emplace one half of the roof.

Overall, the project was a success with the Brouillette Fire Department gaining a sixty percent built building and this unit gaining the experience and training which was attained through the construction of this building.

Company B of the 527th Engineer Battalion is ready and willing to proudly serve the Avoyelles Parish Communities in any way possible providing the proposed project is feasible and there is no chance of private or personal gain.

Many thanks to the 527th ENGR BN for sending these articles to LOUISIANA GUARD.

UNIT COMMANDERS:

*Your unit NOT in this issue?
Where are YOUR articles? What's your unit UPAR doing to tell your story?*

LTC Charles Hammons

527th ENGR BN has new Warrant Officer Entry Course Graduate

SSG Billy L. Horacek of Co D 527th Engr Bn Cbt Hv, Ruston, Louisiana recently attended the Warrant Officer Entry Course conducted at Fort McCoy, Wisconsin.

The program of instruction for the course consists of leadership subjects, introduction to the Officer Corps, impromptu speaking, ethics, communications skills, effective writing, The Threat, NBC Warfare, map reading, land navigation, WOPMS, Airland battle, and physical training.

The course is designed to prepare Warrant Officer Candidates to assume the duties of a Warrant Officer. It is the second Phase of the three phase Warrant Officer Training Program. Phase I is the completion of 135 hours of correspondence courses, Phase II is the RC Warrant Officer Entry Course at Ft. McCoy, and Phase III is technical branch certification which leads to appointment.

A typical day begins at 0430 hours with wake up and ends with lights out at 2200 hours. The time in between is filled with physical

training, meals, instructional periods, study hall, TAC Officer Time, and counseling. This regime should sound very familiar to former Officer Candidates, as the program is designed after the OCS courses conducted by the Army.

When asked what was the hardest part of the course, SSG Horacek replied, "Without a doubt, the Introduction to High Stress Environment. It's a two hour course, that puts you through a circuit drill PT routine, but you never get to rest. The TAC's add to the intensity by screaming at you the whole course. It's a bear. I hope that I never have to do that again!" When asked what the best part of the course was SSG Horacek replied, "Graduation Day 27 September 1987!"

SSG Horacek is currently assigned as the Food Service Sergeant for Co D 527th Engr Bn Cbt Hv. Upon his completion of Phase III the technical school certification, he will be assigned to HHC 225th Engr Gp as the food Service Technician.

Co D 527th ENGR CHANGE OF COMMAND

Change of command ceremonies for Co D 527th Engr Bn Cbt Hv were held on 18 October 1987. CPT Ronnie D. Stuckey handed command of the Company over to CPT Duane E. Crnkovic at ceremonies conducted at the Ruston, Louisiana armory. MAJ Ansel M. Stroud III, the executive officer of the 527th Engr Bn Cbt Hv presided over the ceremonies.

CPT Ronnie D. Stuckey is leaving Co D in order to take a major's position with the 199th Support Battalion. CPT Stuckey is a native of Houghton, Louisiana. He served as Co D's commander from 1984. During his tour of duty,

Co D 527th Engr Bn participated in Operation Blazing trails. During the past two AT periods, Co D has achieved all T's on their FORSCOM I-R. CPT Stuckey is succeeded as the Co D commander by CPT Duane E. Crnkovic. CPT Crnkovic has served in various capacities within the 527th Engr Bn in positions ranging from platoon leader to Engr Equip Maint Officer. He also has served a three year tour as the Senior Tactical Officer at the Louisiana Military Academy. CPT Crnkovic is a graduate of the state OCS program. He resides in Shreveport, Louisiana.

Co B 527th ENGR CHANGE OF COMMAND

Change of command ceremonies for Co B 527th Engr Bn Cbt Hv were held on 18 October 1987. CPT Michael J. Borrell handed command of the Company over to ILT Jerry S. Crooks at ceremonies conducted at the unit armory in Markville, Louisiana.

CPT Borrell served as the Company B commander from 1 October 1984. Under CPT Borrell's command the unit was successful at achieving all trained scores on the unit

FORSCOM IR.

ILT Crooks a native of Alexandria, Louisiana is a graduate of LSU-A. He received his commission through the ROTC program. He has served as platoon leader in Co B 527th Engr Bn Cbt Hv and as the unit's executive officer.

LTC Bennett C. Landreneau presided over the change of command ceremonies for Co B 527th Engr Bn Cbt Hv.

66 Years of Unit Heritage: Co B, 205th ENGR BN

By Cadet Rawlin Carter, UPAR
Co B, 205th Eng Bn

For the past 66 years the Army National Guard has been a part of Franklinton, Louisiana's rich heritage. Through community work service projects, emergency for a rewarding challenge to those people involved the Army National Guard has benefited the community immensely. In addition, the National Guard in Franklinton Louisiana as well as foreign countries.

Today there are two interpretations held concerning the Army National Guard soldier. The idealistic "Weekend Warrior" appeals to many, while the efficient soldier in a military environment satisfies others. The second image is the one maintained by today's Army National Guardsman. He makes up part of a force that



provides for 50% of the total forces in the U.S. Army. The guardsman is equipped and ready to meet whatever challenge may arise.

Established in 1921 by CPT Murphy Sylvest, Co B of the 205th Eng Bn property now known as the "Mile Branch Settlement" at the

Washington Parish Fairgrounds. The unit was known as Troop C, a horse-cavalry outfit, which consisted of a horse stable and a administration building. The unit remained status quo until 1926 upon which it was redesignated as Troop G of the 108th Cavalry Regiment. One year later Troop G became Troop F. Later in 1930 a new armory was constructed by the WPA (Work Project Administration), and it remained there until the present facility was built in 1975. The armory was located at what is now the Creative Arts building of the Washington Parish Fairgrounds. The commanders following CPT Sylvest from 1921-1940 were as follows: CPT Ernest Breland, LT Porter Holden, LT Virgil Underwood, and CPT Esco Simmons.

Later in 1940, the unit was converted into the 105th Coast Artillery as Battery "D". In 1941 the unit was activated under the command of CPT T.A. Pedneau. The unit joined the



Battalion at Camp Hulen, Texas, for training simultaneously with the attack of Pearl Harbor. On 10 July 1942 members of Battery "D" were shipped to Scotland then to England to train for amphibious and anti-aircraft warfare.

Members of Battery "D" contributed to victories by the Allies in Operation TORCH under LTG Dwight D. Eisenhower in North Africa, Operation HUSKY under LTG Dwight D. Eisenhower in Sicily, Operation AV-ALANCHE in Italy, and many other smaller campaigns in the Mediterranean theatre. The unit was release from wartime duty on 15 September 1945.

On April 11, 1947, following WWII, Battery "D" of Franklinton was re-established as a part of the 105th Antiaircraft Battalion. The unit worked in conjunction with the 39th Infantry Division. Franklinton's unit, Battery "D", became Battery "B" while the Headquarters Battery was located in Bogalusa.

During the period of 1947-1959 the unit was required to attend two weeks of Annual Training in addition to one Monday night per week. As an Antiaircraft unit most of the annual training was conducted at Fort Bliss, Texas. While here, the men trained for anti-aircraft warfare. In 1957, after the whirlwinds of Hurricane Audrey had calmed, Battery "B" of Franklinton furnished equipment for the clean-up of disaster areas.

The Battalion Commanders of the 105th from 1947-1959 were: LTC Tom Hall (1947-1949), LTC Charlie P. Verger (1949-1955), and LTC Joseph C. Knight (1955-1959). Unit commanders for Battery "B" of Franklinton were: CPT Durwood (Buch) Seal (1947-1949), CPT Cecil C. Ellzey (1957-1958), and CPT Jewell Blair (1958-1969).

Battery "B" was converted as Troop A of the 139th Armor on July 1, 1959 with headquarters of the 139th in Bogalusa. As an Armor unit, Troop A of Franklinton possessed such equipment as the M1-tank, and APC's (Armored Personnel Carriers). At this time, either Ft. Polk, LA or Ft. Chaffee, ARK were the annual training bases for the unit. LTC Joseph Knight commanded of Troop A in Franklinton.

The time frame of (1958-1969) was a demanding but prosperous period for Troop A. Hurrincan Betsy made her debut in 1965. Upon her arrival, the unit was activated to assist in Plaquemines Parish for 7 days. Also in 1965, Troop A of Franklinton was named the Outstanding Armor Unit in the 39th Infantry Division. CPT Blair, now COL Blair (Ret) of Rapides parish, was awarded the Adjutant General's Outstanding Unit Commanders Award. This was and is YOUR NATIONAL GUARD.



On May 1, 1963, with CPT Blair still at the helm, the unit converted to the 139th Armored Cavalry remaining as Troop A. The Battalion Commander of the 139th was LTC Cecil C. Ellzy who served from (1964-1969). Troop A remained "status quo" conducting annual training at Ft. Chaffee and Ft. Polk until 1967 upon which the 139th Armored Cavalry dissolved into the 205th Engineer Battalion.

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Family Assistance Program

By 2LT Tracie Kiviabo

The "guard" family has been acknowledged in the past few years as the soldiers support system, but until recently family assistance had never been implemented as a comprehensive program. SGT Diane Mandeville, the State Family Program Coordinator, is the first full-time family support advocate.

The purpose of the Family Assistance Program is to ensure family assistance programs are implemented in each unit. As Mandeville reports, "We have a very real obligation to the family. We have an obligation to inform the family members of what is going on with their guardsmen, provide referral for services available, provide family orientations to the LAARNG, and facilitate the issue of identification cards. We are working to create a network of support systems and have set up spouse's auxiliaries (family auxiliaries) in some units already."

The family assistance program in Louisiana is based on National Guard Regulation 600-12. The publication details the program components. The family assistance office and the State Family Program Coordinator can be contacted at the Directorate of Personnel Administration. The program, under the direct supervision of COL Lynn Bergon, is the first of its kind within the state.

Says Mandeville about her job, "It's a real challenge. No one has ever done this before. It was really exciting to set up an active program with the 199th Support Battalion in Colfax and in Lafayette. The support groups there elected officers and got off to an excellent start."

Mandeville, with a Master's degree in counseling psychology from Southern Mississippi, is a family person herself. With a 10 year old daughter, D'Andrea, she has an appreciation of the uncertainty of the guard family as seen through her daughters' eye. One astute observation her daughter made was the incongruence that currently surrounds a female guardmember. With a female guardmember, it is the husband, not a wife, that needs assistance. Mandeville noted that this is indeed becoming more predominant as more and more females are joining the military. She reported that one indication of change is the "Spouse's Briefing". This briefing and luncheon is scheduled for family members attending either the Leadership Conference or the Enlisted Conference.

On November 13th, a workshop on Family Assistance is scheduled for selected personnel. If the Louisiana National Guard was mobilized, eight armories would be set up throughout the state as Family Assistance Centers. This workshop, developed by LTC Ronald Fuselier, is

to provide training to individuals who would be responsible for providing referrals and follow-up information to families.

Fuselier, also responsible for the family assistance portion of NGR 10-2, has coordinated for support with Fort Polk and provided the foundation for the family assistance program as it is today.

"A great deal of family assistance, although important in peace-time, becomes even more vital in the event of family assistance now is education. Mobilization will cause a lot of upheaval in peoples lives. If families understand more about what is happening, who they can call for information and help, the less frightening the situation will be. Hopefully we will never have to mobilize, but if we will be dealing with an informed people and that is a definite advantage."

In order to implement the program in other states, volunteers were used. Here in Louisiana, the first, and thus far, only family assistance volunteer is Mrs. Brenda Frederick. Mandeville noted, "More volunteers are needed.

They can assist in providing services to families throughout the state." She reported, "Volunteers in other states have assisted in the issue of I.D. cards, developing support systems, and spouse's auxiliaries."

December has been designated family day activity month. According to Mandeville, "this is a perfect opportunity for units to have family orientations."

With a new program, SGT Mandeville credited much of her current success to Mr. Lowell Bradford and Master SGT Luke Landreneaux of SIDPERS. "They really made my life easier. They taught me how to use the computer to assist the program and helped so much with running the I.D. card section." Mandeville added, "LTC Santos was also helpful with my transition into DPA (Directorate of Personnel Administration). He gave me a lot of good guidance."

Said Mandeville, "I really like my job. I like working with people. It's an obligation we have to the families and it's important."

Tuition Exemption Letters Due

Reference LAARNG Reg 621-1LANG
Reg 35-3-1

By CPT William C. Ratcliff
CPT, AG LAARNG Education Services Officer

Units that have members who plan to attend Louisiana State University at Baton Rouge during the spring semester of 1988 should begin processing tuition exemption letters now.

Units are reminded of the following points in processing tuition exemption letters:

- a. Units members must not be on academic

probation with LSU in order to receive tuition exemption (Grade Point Average of 2.0 or greater).

b. Entitlement is for five academic years or until a baccalaureate degree is obtained, whichever occurs first.

The following schedule must be used in order to prevent delay in registering Guardsmen at LSU - Baton Rouge. SEMESTER REGISTRATION DATES LAST DATE FOR

SPRING '88 1/13/88-1/15/88 1/11/88
SUMMER '88 6/07/88-6/08/88 6/03/88
FALL '88 8/17/88-8/19/88 8/15/88

935th Engr Bn Activated

2223rd Engineer Battalion
By SP4 Rhonda W. Borruano

A new unit as the 935th Engr Bn Det (Utilities) will be assigned to 2223rd Engr Bn December. Building 1120 at Camp Beauregard will house this detachment.

As the 935th Engr Det is activated, the current Det 1, 239th MP Co at Camp Beauregard will return to Baton Rouge to its parent unit, the 239th MP Co (-), as a consolidation action.

The new unit's mission is "to provide facilities engineering at fixed installations with between 2500 and 4000 individuals. Personnel are provided to perform organizational maintenance on organic equipment."

Fifty-six positions are assigned to the 935th. "First we will try to use the human resources we already have," said MAJ George Jackson, the operations officer of the 2223rd Engr Bn. "With that as the base," he continued, "we will build through recruits and transfers."

Of the approximate 45 soldiers in Det 1, 15 have decided to remain as MPs or transfer to

other units in the state. During the month of November, MAJ Jackson and MAJ Wayne J. Albert (BN XO), MSC Tom Sawyer (BN operation NCO), and various personnel of the battalion's S-1 will conduct interviews with the 30-odd undecided soldiers.

The challenge at hand is skill qualification. "We want to match these people to a skill qualification that is compatible with their civilian expertise," explained Jackson. The immediate goal is to staff positions with the right people.

The new unit will require MOS specialties in construction supervisors (51H40, 51H30), environmental health specialist 91S20, 91S10), interior and exterior electricians (52G20, 52G10, 51R10), capentry-masonry specialists (51B20, 51B10), metal worker (44B10), plumber/pipefitters (51K20, 51K10), and technical drafting specialists (81B10). These are "working ants" that the battalion needs to facilitate in accomplishing the total mission of the 2223rd Engr Bn.

New Hot Weather BDU

By SP4 S. Dixon

Louisiana National Guardmembers will sport a more uniform appearance in the hot weather camouflaged battle dress uniform

(BDU). Effective 30 September 1987 it replaced the wear of the hot weather jungle fatigues (non-camouflage) and solid olive drab utility OG 107 (female) and durable press utility OG 105 (male) uniform which are now obsolete.

These uniforms are no longer authorized according to paragraphs 6-1 and 31-1, AR 670-1. National Guardmembers must have three utility uniforms which can be a combination of temperate camouflage or OG 107/507 hot weather durable press utility uniforms.

Student Loan Repayment Program

By SFC Diane M. Adams
Incentive Coordinator

The Student Loan Repayment Program (SLRP) is available to any soldier regardless of the number of years prior service.

To be eligible for the SLRP, the non-prior service soldier must enlist for at least six years and have at least a 50% AFQT score, and the soldier's that extend his/her enlistment must extend for three or six years.

The soldier must acquire the Federal Guaranteed Student Loan by going through a loaning institution or the financial aid office at the college. The National Guard does not guarantee the soldier will acquire the loan. The National Guard will only guarantee repayment at \$500.00 or 15%, whichever is greater, per year on each loan, until the loan is paid off.

Whenever the soldier has acquired the Student Loan, and he/she enlisted or extended for the SLRP, it is recommended a copy of the promissory note (which can be acquired at the loaning institution) be given to the unit, so the unit can suspend for payment.

The Student Loans are repaid on the anniversary date of enlistment or extension. For example, if you enlisted on 10 Jan 86, the anniversary date would be 10 Jan of each year.

236th Welcomes New Officer

By MAJ Michael A. Cushman
236th CMBTCS

Graduation day! At last! The sentiments of all graduates on the day they leave their studies behind and pursue their new endeavors.

Such it was on Thursday, 5 Nov 1987, for 2LT Richard P. Torregano as he graduated from Academy of Military Science at McGhee Tyson AFB. In attendance for the occasion was 1LT Karl Mapes, LOGISTICS Officer of the 236th Combat Communications Squadron, Hammond, LA.

The graduation ceremonies began the evening before with a gala banquet featuring MG Harris of the Arkansas Air National Guard as guest speaker, who addressed the role of the 2LT in today's Air Guard.

After a reveille ceremony the next morning, a special film presentation portrayed the mission of the Air Nation Guard. A mid-morning parade honored the graduating students.

After luncheon with the graduates, guests were taken on a thorough tour of the Academy's facilities. Actual commissioning of the graduates was held in the afternoon.

2LT Torregano was a distinguished member of the Commandant's special "white glove" Squadron. He also served as guideon for the Honor Flight which captured the honors for six straight weeks.

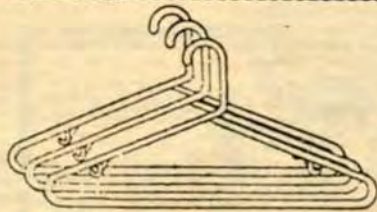
Congratulations to 2LT Richard Torregano on his commissioning, and welcome to the 236th!

2223rd Engr Bn

By SP4 Rhonda W. Borruano
2223rd Engr Bn

In the month of September, soldiers of the 2223rd Engr Bn cleaned weapons, scrubbed protective masks, swept tents, checked vehicles, and updated records to prepare for the unit's annual COMET inspection.

Team work participation increased last year's overall rating of 87 percent to this year's 98 percent. Within the battalion, all subordinate units rated 100 percent in three specific areas; tactical vehicles, fire control, and engineer-quarter master-chemicals. Individually, all the subordinate units, including the 39th MP Co, 239th MP Co (-), Det 1 239th MP Co, 2228th (DT) Engr Co, and 2223rd HDD rated in the 90 percentile. The 2228th (DT) Engr Co scored an excellent rating of 100 percent.



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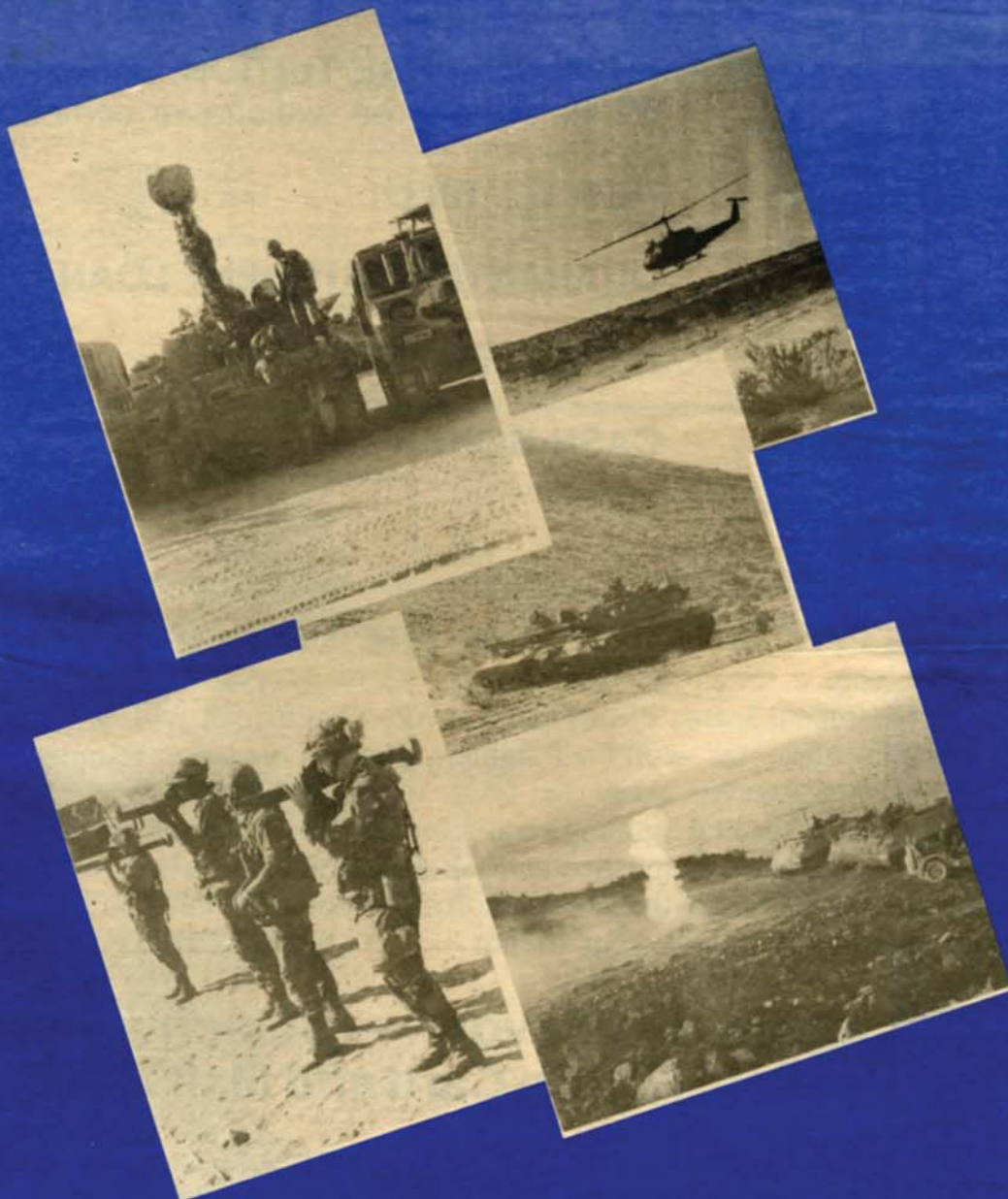
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