

Louisiana

Guard sman

VOLUME 5, NUMBER 5 AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 1992



Louisiana Guardsmen Respond to Another Storm

This newspaper is an Authorized Publication for members of the Louisiana National Guard. Contents of the Louisiana Guardsman are not necessarily the official views of, endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Dept. of Defense, Dept. of the Army, or the Louisiana National Guard.

CARRIER ROUTE PFE-SORT

THIRD CLASS
POSTAGE
PAID
Cedarburg, WI
Permit No. 199



STATE OF LOUISIANA
MILITARY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
JACKSON BARRACKS
NEW ORLEANS 70146-0330

EDWIN W. EDWARDS
GOVERNOR

A.M. STROUD, JR.
MAJOR GENERAL
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

The performance of the Louisiana National Guard units, both Air and Army, has truly been outstanding during the preparation, evacuation, emergency response, security and clean-up efforts associated with Hurricane Andrew.

I know of the personal sacrifice that was required as a result of your State Active Duty. You can take a great deal of pride and self-satisfaction in the services that you provided for the people of the storm area.

I was personally commended for your efforts by President Bush, Secretary of Defense Cheney, Governor Edwards and scores of other elected officials, but most important were the words of praise and thanks from the citizens of the area. You gave them hope, and you demonstrated the willingness of government at every level to respond to their needs.

You proved that the Louisiana Guard can perform its state mission, just as those units mobilized during Desert Shield/Storm two years ago proved that we could perform our Federal mission.

You have my utmost respect and admiration. Please accept my personal thanks for your outstanding accomplishments.

[Signature]
A.M. Stroud, Jr.

"An Equal Opportunity Employer"

ON THE FRONT COVER:
MG Ansel M. Stroud, Jr., and President George Bush, along with members of the Federal Emergency Management Agency visited several sites in southern Louisiana where Guardsmen are working to restore some sense of normalcy to the lives of disaster-stricken residents. For more photos and stories see pages 10 through 12. (Photo by CPT Maria LoVasco Jonkers, 241st PAD)

Louisiana's Destruction



Louisiana Guardsman
The Adjutant General, La. Army
and Air National Guard
Maj. Gen. Ansel M. Stroud, Jr.

Chief of Staff (Army)
Col. Paul D. Alford, Jr.

Deputy Commander (Air)
Col. Harry A. Trosclair

Public Affairs Officer
Capt. Maria Lo Vasco Jonkers

This newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the Louisiana Army and Air National Guard. Contents of the Louisiana Guardsman are not necessarily the official views, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army, or the Louisiana National Guard.

Original articles pertaining to Louisiana National Guard units or individuals that would be of interest to the Guard community may be submitted to La. National Guard, Office of the AG, LANG-PAO (SGT Moon), Jackson Barracks, New Orleans, La. 70146-0330.

241st PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFF

Editor SGT Kristi Moon
Copy Editors 2LT David Barham
SSG Paul Sylvest
Journalists SGT Lucas Landreneau
SGT Kristi Moon
SPC Rebekah Lloyd

**Chief of Staff
Hotline**

1-800-233-6796

**State Family
Assistance Office**

1-800-541-5860



An excavation of the medical supplies that were discovered in one of Camp Villere's bunkers is currently underway. The contents will be distributed to the Jackson Barracks Museum, the 159th Mobile Army Surgical Hospital, and area hospitals. (Photo by SPC Rebekah Lloyd-Smith, 241st)

Employers Treated to MREs in the Field With the 141st FA

By SPC Bernard Chaillot
256th INF BDE/PAO

Employers who support their National Guard soldiers are like a second echelon fighting force, joining the soldiers on the battlefield as heroes in the nation's defense, Brig. Gen. Arthur Abercrombie said.

The assistant adjutant general addressed a New Orleans contingent of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve committee on a recent visit to Fort Polk, La. The group was there to witness field training by units of the 1st Battalion, 141st Field Artillery from New Orleans.

"We want to salute you," Abercrombie said. "You are heroes too, because the Army can't go to war without the Guard and Reserve and those part-time soldiers can't train like they should without your support."

The New Orleans-area employers were treated to an up-close (in artillery terms) view of the targeting capabilities of the 155mm self-propelled howitzers utilized by the batteries of the 1/141.

"We are the Washington Artillery, and we want to show you what we do," said Capt. E. Pat Santos, Jr., S-3 of the 1/141st. "We're going to hit some targets for you today."

The civilian employers watched through binoculars as the 90-lb. projectiles, lobbed from several miles away, sent up billows of dust or streaking smoke from signal rounds.

Group leader John Callendar said the employers were "a little like some wide-eyed kids out there. They really enjoyed it. It's important to let these

employers see what their people are doing out here."

Chuck Marcus, owner of High Tech Communications of Harahan, said his employee, Sgt. George Morrissey, "is a valued employee. The discipline and work ethic he maintains out here translates into the kind of worker I want."

Marcus said when Morrissey was gone six months for Operation Desert Storm, "We held open his job for him. He's a problem-solver. For any employer, a Guardsman is a good investment. They know the meaning of teamwork."

Capt. Walter Austin, battalion chaplain, gave the employers a short course in Meals Ready to Eat (MREs).

Each employer selected a pre-packaged meal from a box and began to open the pouches with some trepidation. They gazed into the brown bags and poked at the contents with a long-handled spoon.

After some good-natured kidding, they enjoyed their meals. Someone asked Battalion Commander Lt. Col. Ivan Jones what his favorite MRE is.

"Are you kidding?" Jones said. "I never touch that stuff unless it's absolutely necessary. The peanut butter's not too bad, though."

Jones thanked the employers for making the trip to Fort Polk. "I think you understand a little more now about what your people do when they're with us. We really put them through the wringer," he said.

"Your support is essential to the success of our mission."

Villere's WWII Bunkers Offer Hidden Treasures

By SPC Rebekah Lloyd-Smith
241st PAD

A solid track of land covered with Louisiana pine hid the freight train that stretched deep into a vastness of thicket to unload bundles of ammunition into enormous concrete shelters.

These shelters were actually bunkers built on an Army post during the 1940's to house ammunition. They were located on what is now Camp Villere in Slidell.

Two decades later the same bunkers were used to store supplies of a different nature. Recently, a variety of medical supplies were rediscovered. Newspapers on site dated them to the early 1960's. The equipment stored included hospital beds and pillows, x-ray equipment, baby beds and incubators, bandages, test tubes, injection needles, surgical lamps, operating instruments, crutches, and various other medical furniture, and supplies. Many of the articles were still in their original packaging when discovered.

The contents of the bunker were initially left in tact due to a question of rightful ownership. It was later

discovered that a portion belonged to the Slidell Hospital, and the remainder to the U.S. government.

The hospital has recovered their stored property, and a project to excavate the remaining contents is currently underway. The equipment is being sorted and viewed for distribution. Capt. Gregg A. Putnam, Chief of the Environmental Branch from the Directorate of Facilities and Engineering is involved in the project. "I'm here to make sure there aren't any hazards and to dispose of the unuseable articles," Putnam said.

Chief Warrant Officer Bernard G. Roach, a volunteer from the Jackson Barracks Museum in New Orleans, reviewed the contents of the bunker to determine if there were any exhibitable artifacts. "We're looking for any interesting artifacts which could be displayed at the museum," he said.

The contents of the bunker will later be examined by the 159th MASH unit of New Orleans. They will retain any supplies that may be useful to their training mission. The remaining supplies will be donated to area hospitals.

American Legion Discovers Desert Storm Ailments

Some military members who served in the Persian Gulf and are experiencing health problems may be reluctant to report their maladies because they believe their careers may be ruined.

That's what American Legion officials have discovered in their ongoing monitoring of the health conditions of Desert Storm veterans.

"Some active duty personnel complain that due to the downsizing efforts of the Department of Defense, they are reluctant to come forward with their medical problems for fear that their military careers would be placed in jeopardy," says Steve A. Robertson, deputy director of the National Legislative Division.

"This fear has been confirmed by those active duty people who have come forth for medical treatment of various symptoms," says Robertson, an Army National Guard member who served with a military police unit in Saudi Arabia during the 1991 war.

Two veterans who contacted the American Legion reported developing chronic arthritis after their return from the Persian Gulf. The men, both of whom served in Kuwait following that country's liberation by the U.S.-led coalition forces, say no cause of their illness has been given by physicians.

A number of ailments have been reported by many of the 500,000 troops who served in the Persian Gulf region. Among the conditions are chronic fatigue, depression, aching joints, hair loss and flu-like symptoms.

Last March, physicians from Walter Reed Army Medical Center, writing in the New England Journal of Medicine, said some infectious diseases unique to the Middle East may show up in veterans years after their return from the gulf.

The American Legion continues to urge Desert Storm veterans who experience medical problems to file a claim with the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Public Law 102-190 requires Department of Defense to establish and maintain a special registry for armed forces members exposed to the fumes of burning oil in the Persian Gulf.

"The American Legion has asked Congress to amend that law and require a collaborative Veteran Administration-Department of Defense registry effort to accommodate long-term health studies among those exhibiting conditions related to their service in the gulf," says Robertson, who has testified before Congress on gulf veterans' concerns.

MASH Works Behind Bars at State Pen

By SSG Paul J. Sylvest
241st PAD

The Louisiana Army National Guard's 159th Mobile Army Surgical Hospital (MASH) at Jackson Barracks, New Orleans, La., recently completed a medical support mission at the Angola State Penitentiary.

Staff Sgt. Charles Ritter, ward master of the MASH, supervised the unit as it supplemented the Angola Health Services Staff.

Ritter said, "The mission at Angola originated with some complaints by prisoners who claimed to be getting inadequate care from the prison's health clinic. The problem was due to a shortage of staff."

"When we started, there was a back log. Some of the patients we were initially seeing had been complaining about various things for a month," he said.

The medical support provided by the MASH at Angola was set up on a rotational type basis. Each weekend on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, approximately 16 troops from the MASH were involved.

"The first weekend was the first weekend of June, and the last one was the first weekend in August," Ritter said.

"Initially there was a lot of trepidation. We had just gotten back from Desert Storm, and we didn't like the idea of getting into any type of activation again," Ritter said.

"The idea of going up to a prison, a lot of people didn't know what to expect," he said. "But once we got there, with very few exceptions, everybody enjoyed it. As a matter of

fact, it got to the point where they wanted to volunteer to go back," Ritter said.

A few individuals of the MASH did their annual training at Angola over five weekends, but the majority of soldiers were on state active duty.

The MASH performed medical screening of the prisoners, x-rays, lab tests and EKGs. They also took care of a lot of minor surgery.

"We saw on an average of about 350 inmates each weekend," Ritter said.

"A lot of injuries, especially foot problems, could be attributed to the fact that these prisoners had no concept of proper hygiene," he said.

Ritter said one gentleman weighed well in excess of 350 pounds. "His ankles were giving out, and we had to do an extensive work up on him to figure out what was causing the problem," Ritter said.

"One instance, there was a fight between inmates where one got stabbed. We had to address that, but it wasn't life threatening," he said.

"A lot things we did were long standing things like cysts," Ritter said. "In reality, if they were out on the street, they probably wouldn't have sought medical help for it, but because the prison system guarantees the help, they seek it," he said.

Ritter is a licensed practical nurse (LPN) at East Jefferson General Hospital in Metairie, La. He is attending the Louisiana State University Nursing School in New Orleans, pursuing registered nursing. In the 159th MASH, Ritter is an LPN and also supervises the two intensive care ward sections.



Cancienne Crowned Catfish Queen

PFC Rochelle Cancienne, 20, a nuclear biological chemical specialist with the 159th Mobile Army Surgical Hospital was recently selected to reign as the 1992 Louisiana Catfish Queen in Des Allemands, La. Cancienne is the daughter of Richard

and Stephanie Cancienne of Luling, La. She is a 1990 graduate of Hahnville High School in Luling and is presently studying broadcast journalism at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, La.



A Chinook (CH-47D) helicopter from Golf Company, 1/49th Aviation, Texas Army National Guard recovers a UH-1H Huey helicopter belonging to the 812th Medical Company (Air Ambulance), Louisiana Army National Guard. The Huey experienced catastrophic engine failure and auto-rotated safely into the marsh near Slidell, La., during a routine training mission. (Photo by SSG Paul J. Sylvest, 241st PAD)

Texas Guard Slings Huey Home After Touchy Landing in Marsh

By SGT Kristi L. Moon
241st PAD

"It could've been anybody out there, at any time." That's what Chief Warrant Officer William G. Girard said in August when the UH-1H Huey helicopter he was flying experienced engine failure.

On a routine training mission August 14, Girard and Chief Warrant Officer David Ross, both of the 1/244th Aviation, were practicing forced landings on their way to Camp Villere in Slidell, when they were forced into an emergency landing.

According to Girard, an instructor pilot with 25 years of flying under his wings, the compressor stalled twice, then the engine quit. Luckily, they were able to land in a marshy area just off the interstate near Slidell, La.

"If we hadn't been practicing forced landings, we might have been over the city of Slidell. And what

then?" Girard said.

In order to get the helicopter back to its home, the New Orleans Lakefront Airport, they called on the Texas National Guard. The next day, Saturday, a Chinook CH-47D arrived from Golf Company, 1/49th Aviation, in Dallas, Tex.

Crews from both Dallas and New Orleans prepared the Huey for transport via Chinook sling loading Sunday morning. They attached a drouge shoot (like a small parachute) to the tail of the helicopter and removed the synchronized elevators on the tail to keep it from spinning and oscillating.

"We suspect some internal damage," Girard said. Because of the successful and safe landing, there was no damage or loss of the airframe. The helicopter's engine will have to go to a depot level maintenance shop to determine the actual cause and extent of the damage.

224th Prepares for External ARTEP

By MAJ L.S. Crapanzano
2224th Med. Det.

The 2224th Medical Detachment (Dental Services) performed an Internal Artep during annual training 1992 at Camp Shelby, Miss. The unit, commanded by Col. Phillip Carruth, mobilized and deployed to its "real world" mobilization station at Camp Shelby.

Training was centered around a 72-hour Internal Artep during which time the unit performed its Mission Essential Tasks. Personnel from the Readiness Group at Fort Sill, Okla., and Redstone Arsenal, Ala., were present to provide training assistance in establishing, relocating and sustaining a dental treatment facility.

Since the formation of the unit five years ago, annual training exercises were held in garrison. Clinical experience has been gained at Fort Sam Houston, Tex., and Fort Polk, La. Dental officers as well as enlisted personnel performed patient care in fixed dental treatment facilities.

While gaining valuable clinical experience for the enlisted dental assistants in garrison, the unit lacked the training in the logistical and tactical problems associated with patient care in a forward area.

The Internal Artep performed during annual training '92 will serve as a guide for training requirements and strategies in preparation for the External Artep at annual training '93.

165th Trans Bn Takes A "Bold Shift" in Training

By SSG Paul J. Sylvest
241st. PAD

The 1086th Transportation Company from Jena, La., was selected as the pilot unit for a new training program called Bold Shift.

Bold Shift is an innovative training concept which aligns the National Guard or reserve component with their active duty counterpart.

"We were told by representatives of the 180th Transportation Battalion and Brig. Gen. Billy K. Solomon, the Corps Support Command commander, that our unit was selected because it had participated in Desert Storm, and that the unit was technically proficient in its wartime mission," said Capt. Mark Matthews, commander of the 1086th.

Members of the 180th Trans. Bn., Fort Hood, Tex., have supplied troops from the 418th Trans. Co. to assist the 1086th in providing qualified instructors and trainers to train as a team in reaching the new Army standards under "Bold Shift."

"The Bold Shift program enables the active duty component to provide an environment for the trainers and the training of leaders, which in turn lets those leaders give the training to the troops," said Matthews.

The 180th Trans. Bn., is the sister battalion to the 165th Trans. Bn., of Camp Beauregard in Pineville, La. The 418th Trans. Co., from Fort Hood was selected as the Bold Shift affiliate unit to the 1086th and has trained with them on drill weekends since January.

Matthews said that during annual training '92, the 418th brought a larger number of troops to guide the 1086th through as many situational training exercises as possible and also to help prepare them for an Operational Readiness Exercise (ORE).

Maj. Larry K. Willis, operations officer of the 165th Trans. Bn., said, "The 418th is strictly here to assist the unit with its training. The ORE personnel from the 5th Army are here to evaluate them to see what level they are at and how well they can perform the mission." "That will help the battalion determine what training they will need in '93 and will also help the 418th at Fort Hood to know what areas they need to key in on," said Willis.

"The program is looking for new ways to prepare units for the battlefield of the future," Willis said. "Not by making small changes, but by making 'bold shifts' to the future, basically, that's where the term Bold Shift comes from," Willis said.

Willis said the best description of Bold Shift is by the acronym R-E-S-U-L-T-S, which translates into Reorganization, Exercises, Soldier Training, Unit Training, Leader Development Training, Training involvement by chain of command and Support.

"The heart of Bold Shift is the Operational Readiness Exercise," Willis said. "It evaluates pre-mobilization readiness and post-mobilization training requirements of reserve component units," he said.

Lt. Col. Robert E. Gillan, commander of the 165th Trans. Bn., said, "I think the Bold Shift program is going to provide additional instruction to our troops to better prepare them for their mobilization mission."

Gillan said Bold Shift pushes training down to its lowest possible level. "On the training lanes, platoons are doing the types of missions that companies normally do," he said. "The result of bold Shift training is that our platoons will be much more effectively trained and able to function more effectively as platoons and squads in a combat environment without necessarily having the direction and leadership of the company."

Staff Sgt. Thomas Lerchenfelt, the NCOIC of Bold Shift from the 418th Trans. Co., said, "Bold Shift builds cohesion among the reserve component and their active duty sister unit. "Every drill weekend, we work with the company commander and the training NCO and they tell us the areas they feel the 1086th has training shortfalls," he said.

Lerchenfelt described the mission training plan (MTP), "For every operation order, there's a set of steps, tasks, conditions and standards, and a checklist. Providing that the checklist is followed, there shouldn't be any problems."

Staff Sgt. Cornelius Terrell served as an observer controller from the 418th. "I think bold Shift is a learning process for the Guard and the active Army," he said.

The battalion S-1 of the 165th Trans. Bn., Capt. Joel Clement said

there are approximately 130 troops from the 1086th involved in the bold Shift program. "The active duty component provides support, training, resources, etc.," Clement said. "The 418th is working directly with the 1086th every drill weekend; they've got a contingency force that checks and learns what they do and what constraints they work under," he said.

Willis explained Bold Shift in a nutshell, "As the Army began to downsize, it wanted to maintain its war fighting edge, and by using lessons learned in Desert Storm, the program's goal is to utilize the potential of reserve component units in the nation's defense strategy."

Bold Shift has many goals - to enhance the training readiness of reserve units, to improve collective and individual training, to focus on strengthening cohesion between the active and reserve components, and to strengthen the total force to enhance training.

After all of the evaluations are conducted on bold Shift, more units are expected to follow the concept in the upcoming training year.

"It's very clear that the reserves will play a more important role than in the past," said Gen Edwin H. Burba, Jr., Forces Command commander. Army Chief of Staff Gen. Gordon R. Sullivan described the performance of reserve soldiers with their active duty counterparts as - a Total Force - one Army - one Fight - one Standard.

C Co, 205th Engrs Perform Facelift to Sill Grenade Range

By 2LT Paul Treadway
Co. C, 205th ENGR BN

Forty-one members of Charlie Company, 205th Engineer Battalion, from Slidell performed their annual training at Fort Sill, Oklahoma last August.

Fort Sill is the home of the U.S. Army Artillery Training Center and plays host to thousands of basic trainees each year. The platoon of Louisiana National Guardsmen was assigned the mission of constructing a major addition to the basic training hand grenade range there.

Thirty-five of the soldiers along with the officer-in-charge (OIC), 2nd Lt. Paul Treadway and the non-commissioned-officer-in-charge (NCOIC), Sgt. 1st Class Willie Brown, flew to Fort Sill on a Louisiana Air National Guard C-130 which departed from Belle Chasse Naval Air Station on August 1. An advance party composed of Sgt. 1st Class Vaughn Watkins and Staff Sgt. Roy Deems, respectively the readiness NCO and

supply sergeant of Charlie Company, drove to Oklahoma in two trucks loaded with construction equipment.

The two groups rendezvoused at Fort Sill on the afternoon of the 1st and began settling into their home for the next 15 days. They were less than pleased with the condemned WWII barracks they were to stay.

Watkins said, "We've stayed in worse but this isn't what we were promised." With some minor plumbing repairs and lots of elbow grease, Team Charlie managed to make their surroundings livable.

Next, Team Charlie turned their attention to the job at hand. The addition that they had been tasked with consisted of three separate structures. They were to construct an 8' X 8' fragment proof observation tower on 45 foot tall poles, a 24' X 40' open air dining pavilion and a 60' X 24' bleacher cover.

Early on the morning of August 2, Team Charlie surveyed and laid out the individual sites.

Through perseverance and dedica-

tion to duty, they achieved 100 percent completion on all three projects. All Fort Sill personnel concerned were extremely pleased with the quality and quantity of work that the Louisiana Guardsmen had accomplished.

At an informal ceremony on August 14, every member of Team

Charlie received a commemorative Fort Sill Coin of Excellence.

Plans for future projects at Fort Sill are already in the works and Team Charlie is looking forward to a return visit next summer with the entire company.



Members of Charlie Company, 205th Engineer Battalion pour a concrete slab, one more step towards a 24' x 40' dining pavilion, at Fort Sill, Okla. (Photo by 2LT Paul Treadway, 205th ENGR BN)

Louisiana National Guard Family Assistance Program

Office of the Adjutant General, LANG - DPA - FS Jackson Barracks
New Orleans, LA 70146-0330



Family News In Brief

**FAMILY NEWS IN FOCUS!!
LOOK FOR FAMILY NEWS
AND UPDATES IN THE
LOUISIANA GUARD
NEWSPAPER !!**

THE STATE OF FAMILY ASSIS-
TANCE OFFICE
LANG-DPA-FS
JACKSON BARRACKS
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70146-0330
1-800-541-5860, (504) 278-6324

For Information, Assistance or to
Submit Suggestions Contact:

Track II Training

Congratulations go out to the following family members for completing Fifth Army's Track II Training for Family Support Group Leaders: Mrs. Mary Billberry, 527th Engr Bn, 225th Engr Grp; Mrs. Iris Johnson, 2226th Trans Co, 773rd Maint Bn, 204th ASG; Mrs. Shirley Kiley, HHC, 3/156th Inf, 256th Inf Bde (M); Mrs. Carrie Morrisette, HSC, 205th Engr Bn, 225th Engr Grp

Track II Training is the second and last phase of a comprehensive

training program for Family Support Group volunteer. The training was held in San Antonio, Texas from August 21 through 23. Our family support group leaders all came back with new ideas to help improve their respective groups and groups in their areas.

You will hear these names again as these support group leaders will be assisting the statewide effort to have Family Support and Assistance plans in all units.

New Military Benefit Provides Reimbursement for Adoption Costs

Congress has directed the Department of Defense to reimburse certain adoption costs to service members. The policy covers adoptions by married couples and single parents. The adopted child must be under the age of 18; and only adoptions completed after December 5, 1991 qualify for the benefit.

Adoptions qualify for reimbursement only if they are arranged by a state or local governmental agency that has responsibility under state or local law for child placement or by a non-profit voluntary adoption agency that is authorized by state or local law to place children for adoption.

A service member or dual military career couple can receive up to \$2,000 in covered expenses for each child adopted. If more than one adoption is finalized, total reimbursements cannot exceed \$5,000 in a single calendar year. The money is fully taxable.

Among the expenses covered are public and private agency fees, placement fees, legal costs, and pregnancy and childbirth expenses of the biological mother. Medical expenses, such as hospital care for the newborns and medical care before adoption, also are included. The policy further permits a child to receive medical care at a military facility before the adoption is final, if the service member applies for "Secretarial designated status" for the child at the military treatment facility.

The Military Departments and the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) are working toward publishing specific guidance for service members. The congressional action was contained in Public Law 102-190, "National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1992"

Program Coordinators Serve Guard Families

The Army National Guard has a full-time family-program coordinator in every state to help improve the quality of life for families and prepare them for mobilization. In Louisiana, the family coordinator is Capt. Robert Fink.

Many units also have a family assistance officer and a network of volunteers. They work with the unit leadership, members, and their families to develop a family program that best meets their needs. For instance, organizing a baby-sitting coop...finding a part-time job for teenagers...locating help for substance abuse...welcoming new Guard families to the unit...and offering a

seminar on filing tax returns.

These are just a few of the things that Guard families have accomplished. The program also helps families prepare for mobilization for training, war, or other emergencies. National Guard Regulation 600-12 is your reference for developing a program at the unit level.

The state family program coordinator is available to answer questions and assist you in developing a unit level family program. The coordinator is located at Jackson Barracks, in New Orleans. The phone number there is (504) 278-6325 or 1-800-541-5860.

Assistance Still Offered to Operation Desert Storm Families

Boys and Girls Clubs throughout Louisiana will provide no cost after school and summer programs to children of our National Guard men and women who participated in Operation Desert Shield/Storm (ODS/S). Boys and Girls Clubs provide programs which address critical issues facing children and youths today - including substance abuse, teen pregnancy, youth employment, and delinquency prevention. Make sure you ODS/S families are aware of this benefit and are taking advantage of it. Find out where the club nearest you is by calling 1-800-854-CLUB.

The American Red Cross Persian Gulf Family Support Project was established to assist the families of all National Guard and Reserve personnel activated for Operation Desert Storm by reimbursing them for expenses for family budget counseling (through licensed professionals), and child care services. Phase II of the project has also begun. The Red Cross now offers assistance for upgrading employment skills to ODS/S veterans and their families.

Help is available to those qualified to purchase employment preparation

courses and to pursue vocational training opportunities such as resume writing, "Dress for Success" workshops, auto repair classes, first aid, and dental technician classes. They will pay employment agency fees, licensing and certification fees and more. Reimbursement for these items may also be available (if someone has already paid those kinds of expenses since the Gulf War.)

Persons who are eligible include those who lack employment or are underemployed due to their activation for ODS. Those who experienced a decrease of their usual individual/family income during activation resulting in a need for full or part-time employment or for skills training are also eligible. Applicants will be asked to demonstrate financial need.

All inquiries are kept strictly confidential. Financial assistance provided through this project is not taxable. Family support and child-care subsidies are still available.

Guard and Reserve members and their spouses may apply for help in any of the above three areas by calling their nearest Red Cross chapter.

Did You Know?	Site of a 1900 hurricane that killed	Number killed? more than 6,000
	more people than any other	
	hurricane in U.S. history? Galveston, Texas	

Family News In Brief

Your Credit Rating: It's All Up To You

If you've ever used credit, there's a file with your name on it at one or more credit bureaus. The next time you apply for a credit card or loan, someone will be checking that file.

If your credit history is good - that is, the file says you pay your bills on time - you'll probably get the charge card or loan you applied for. If your credit history is bad, your application will probably be denied.

Credit bureaus only report your history - they don't rate you as a good or bad risk. That's up to the creditor.

Some people don't find out that their credit history is bad until they're denied credit. If that happens to you, you should check your file at the local credit bureau. Most charge a modest fee for a copy of a credit file, usually \$5 or \$10, but the fee is waived if you've been denied credit.

If you've recently moved, you may not have a file at the local credit bureau. You may have to ask that your file be sent from the credit bureau that served the community where you last lived.

Check information in you file carefully. If your name is common be sure that someone else's file didn't get mixed up with yours. If you do find a

mistake, ask the credit bureau to correct it.

If you're divorced, you may find that your former spouse has affected your credit rating. If he or she was irresponsible, you're entitled to put a brief statement in your file describing the situation. This won't guarantee that you'll get credit when you apply, but it'll let prospective creditors know that you want to reclaim a good credit rating.

Divorced or widowed women often have trouble getting credit in their own names if loans and credit cards were only in their husbands' names. Taking out a small loan or local credit card is a good way for women to establish a credit history for themselves.

Whether it's good or bad, remember that a credit rating isn't permanent. A good credit rating can turn bad if you stop paying bills on time. And a bad credit rating can be changed if you "turn over a new leaf" and start making payments on time for loans and credit card balances. (Based on a report filed by the University of Illinois Cooperative Extension Service.)

Help Your Child With Back To School Basics

As a parent, you can help your kids do better in school. It doesn't take a professional teacher to turn everyday experiences - reading signs, making a shopping list, counting change - into simple lessons that will give kids more confidence and success in the classroom.

A series of publications from the U.S. Department of Education offers dozens of activities to get your kids interested in school: -Help Your Child Become a Good Reader (Item 449X, \$.50) -Help Your child do Better in School (Item 450X, \$.50) -Help Your Child Improve in Test-Taking (Item 451X, \$.50) -Help Your Child Learn Math (Item 452X, \$.50) -Help Your

Child Learn to Write Well (Item 453X, \$.50) -Helping Your Child Learn Geography (Item 454X, \$.50) -Helping Your Child Use the Library (Item 455X, \$.50) -Helping Your Child Learn Science (Item 611X, \$.50) -Or, please send all eight publications (\$3.50)

For projects and advice on helping your children in school, write for one of all of these publications. Send a check or money order payable to the Superintendent of Documents to: Help Your Child, consumer Information Center, Pueblo, Colo., 81009. Be sure to include your selections or annotate "All".

Child Care Tax Credit Overlooked

According to the Internal Revenue Service, one tax deduction often overlooked by members of the Army National Guard and U.S. Army Reserve is child care credit. This applies if you have to pay someone to care for your children so you can drill or go to annual training.

For you married soldiers, your spouse must be working or attending school full time during your drill or annual training period, and your dependent children must be younger than 15 or disable. A disabled spouse

may also qualify for this deduction.

Did you overlook this on you tax return? If you did, it's not too late to get a refund. You may file an amended federal or state income tax return for up to three years after the regular due date of that return. for example, you have until April 15, 1995, to file an amended return for taxes that were due on April 15, 1992.

For more information, contact your local IRS or your unit's legal assistance officer.



Phone Swindlers are Good Liars; That's Their Job

Most telephone sales pitches are made by reputable businesses trying to find new customers for legitimate products and services. Most 900 numbers are operated by legitimate companies.

Unfortunately, swindlers also use these tactics to operate in fraudulent ways. There's been an upsurge in pornographic talk lines, and services luring callers who don't understand the cost.

The Federal Trade Commission has two publication that can help you recognize a phone scam before you become a victim. -Swindlers Are Calling (Item 478X, \$.50)

This publication will show you how to spot a scam when a fraudu-

lent marketer calls. Valuable information and services can be conveniently obtained by using 900 numbers (sometimes confused with toll-free 800 numbers), but you pay for time on a 900 line. So be wary of a company that doesn't disclose the cost of a call right away or makes it hard to determine the total cost. -"900 Numbers" (Item 464X, \$.50)

This publication helps you figure out if a company gives you your moneys worth.

To get copies of these two publications, send your name, address, item numbers and check or money order to R. Woods, consumer Information Center, Pueblo, Colo., 81009.

1992 Commissary Cards

An article published in the August 1992 National Guard Magazine entitled "Commissaries Abandon Use of Guard/Reserve Card for 1992" contains erroneous information. According to the Defense Commissary Agency in a memorandum dated August 12, 1992, all national guardsmen and reservist must have their 1992 Commissary Card and their reserve identification

card to enter the commissary. The commissaries have not abandoned the requirements for the commissary card.

The commissaries have had a liberal policy in effect since the cards were delayed in 1992; however, it has since expired. For the duration of 1992, all soldiers must keep their 1992 commissary Card in their possession.

Drug Use Is Life Abuse

Disney World Resort in Florida is offering military families special super discount savings of 40 percent on 4-day, 4-night vacation packages. The U.S. Army community and Family Support Center (CFSC) and the Disney Magic Kingdom Club have agreed to a three-year deal that includes discounts for lodging, admissions to theme parks and transporta-

tion inside the resort. According to the CFSC, the vacation packages can only be booked through a Scheduled Airline Ticket Office (SATO). If you'd like to take advantage of this savings opportunity or more information, call SATO at 1-800-927-6550.

Army Newspaper Survey for the Louisiana Guardsman

DIRECTIONS: Circle the letter to indicate your response for each question. Unless otherwise directed, circle only one response for each question or sub-item of a question. Once you have completed the survey kindly return the form to LANG-PAO, ATTN: Sgt. Moon, Bldg. 32, Jackson Barracks, New Orleans, LA 70146-0330.

1. Have you read an issue of the Louisiana Guardsman in the past year?

- a. Yes (continue with question 2)
- b. No (go to question 11)

2. How often do you usually read the paper?

- a. All or almost all the time
- b. Most of the time
- c. Some of the time
- d. Once in a while
- e. Never

3. About how many issues of the paper have you read in the last year?

- a. none
- b. 1
- c. 2
- d. 3
- e. 4

4. How soon after you receive the paper do you usually read it?

- a. Same day I receive it
- b. About a day or two after receiving it
- c. About three or more days after receiving
- d. Varies greatly from issue to issue

5. How much of each newspaper do you usually read?

- a. All or almost all of it
- b. Quite a bit
- c. Some
- d. A little
- e. Almost none of it

6. To what extent do you find the newspaper a reliable source of news about what is going on in the Louisiana National Guard?

- a. Very great extent
- b. Great extent
- c. Moderate extent
- d. Slight extent
- e. Not at all

7. How do you feel about the amount of coverage this newspaper gives to the following topics? (Using the 3-letter scale below, select one response for each topic listed.)

- a. Too much coverage (+)
 - b. About right (o)
 - c. Not enough coverage (-)
- (+)(o)(-)

- 7.1 Awards and ceremonies (such as retirements and dedications) A B C
- 7.2 Current affairs in the Guard community A B C
- 7.3 Family programs/services A B C
- 7.4 General features about people and their work, hobbies, etc. A B C
- 7.5 Installation events A B C
- 7.6 Military news A B C
- 7.7 New Military Policy A B C

8. To what extent do you agree with the following descriptions of the content of the newspaper. (Using the scale below, circle one response for each statement.)

- a. Strongly agree
- b. Agree
- c. Neither agree nor disagree
- d. Disagree
- e. Strongly disagree

- 8.1 Easy to read A B C D E
- 8.2 Easy to understand A B C D E
- 8.3 Fair and accurate A B C D E
- 8.4 Interesting A B C D E
- 8.5 Provides useful information A B C D E
- 8.6 Source of new ideas A B C D E
- 8.7 Stimulating A B C D E
- 8.8 Well written A B C D E

9. How do you rate the following aspects of the appearance of the newspaper? (Using the scale below, circle one response for each aspect.)

- a. Excellent
- b. Very Good
- c. Good
- d. Fair
- e. Poor

- 9.1 Art and illustration A B C D E
- 9.2 Charts and graphs A B C D E
- 9.3 Layout and design A B C D E
- 9.4 Photography A B C D E
- 9.5 Quality of Printing A B C D E
- 9.6 Readability of print & type used A B C D E
- 9.7 Overall appearance A B C D E

10. Overall, how would you rate the content and appearance of the Louisiana Guardsman?

- a. Excellent
- b. Very good
- c. Good
- d. Fair
- e. Poor

11. What is your sex?

- a. Female
- b. Male

12. How old are you?

- a. Under 20
 - b. 20-24
 - c. 25-29
 - d. 30-39
 - e. 40-49
 - f. 50 or over
13. What is the highest level of education you have completed?
- a. High school or GED
 - b. Some college, no degree
 - c. Associate degree or vocational license

- d. Bachelor's degree
- e. Graduate and/or professional degree

14. What is your current status?

- a. Member of the Louisiana National Guard
- b. DA Civilian
- c. Family member of Louisiana Guardsman
- d. Other (Specify) _____

15. What branch are you in?

- a. Army Guard
- b. Air Guard

16. What is your pay grade?

16.1 Officer

- a. WO1-WO4
- b. O1-O3
- c. O4-O6
- d. O7-O8

16.2 Enlisted

- a. E1-E4
- b. E5-E6
- c. E7-E9

16.3 Civilian

- a. GS8 or lower
- b. GS9-GS12
- c. GS/GM13-GS/GM15
- d. Other (Specify) _____

17. Please provide any additional comments you may have about the Louisiana Guardsman newspaper.

Thank you for completing this questionnaire.

Fuel For The Force



Save Army Energy

Nearly 1400 Louisiana Guardsmen Clean up After

Guard Assists With Grand Isle's Broken Water Main

By SGT Kristi L. Moon
241st PAD

When Mayor Andy Valence of Grand Isle called on the Louisiana National Guard for assistance, he got action.

Aviation assets from the 1/244th Aviation and the 812th Medical Company (Air Ambulance) flew guard engineer Lt. Col Hank Boese to Grand Isle to assess the damage of the city's main water line. They had nowhere to land except the middle of Louisiana Highway 1.

So while city officials and Boese assessed the damage, Guard aviators directed traffic around their chopper.

The city of Grand Isle had been without for a week. But the city has two one million gallon storage tanks, or so Valence thought. One of the tanks drained as a result of the water line breakage.

When Boese determined that the initial work needed, the dewatering process, had to be done by a civilian

contractor, Valence almost lost hope. But Boese was not about to give up.

Boese contacted one of his counterparts in Houma for assistance. The Guard flew the civilian contractor in to start making a plan. The same night, the contractor had his men on the road and the Guard started its wheels in motion.

Louisiana Guardsmen provided light sets and pumps to help stop the water leak. They hauled three dump trucks of clay to the site to form a barrier along with many other engineer resources.

The mayor plans to have water barged in to the area, but in the meantime, Guardsmen from New Orleans, trucked some 1,600 gallons to help out.

This is just one more testament to the working relationship between the Guard and the community. The Guard joined hands with a civilian contractor to restore an entire city with water. They did it together. That's what the Guard's all about.



Throughout the cleanup efforts of Hurricane Andrew, the aviation assets of the Louisiana Army National Guard, the 1/244th Aviation and the 812th Medical Company (Air Ambulance) have flown countless missions, delivering damage assessors to ruined areas, transporting the governor and guardsmen to assist with relief efforts and even directing traffic when necessary. In the city of Grand Isle, a virtual peninsula where LA Hwy. 1 ends at the Gulf of Mexico, aviators guide traffic around their helicopter parked on the street, while Guard engineers and civilian contractors determine the damage to Grand Isle's main water line. (Photo by SGT Kristi L. Moon, 241st PAD)

Colfax Soldiers Transform Bayou Teche Water Into Drinkable Water

By SGT Kristi L. Moon
241st PAD

Many rural cities throughout the United States utilize wells for their main water supply. Others rely on county and parish waterworks. Both systems require electricity to operate.

It is not different in Louisiana, where Hurricane Andrew recently landed. In St. Mary and Iberia Parishes residents have been without running water for a week now. Thanks to members of Detachment 4, HHC, 256th Infantry Brigade, headquartered in Colfax, La., residents of these parishes now have potable water. Two four-man teams, called "water teams" were activated to set up their Reverse Osmosis Purification Units or (ROWPUs).

Sgt. Patrick Campbell, the only school

trained water purification specialist on the teams said it took both teams about an hour and a half to put the units up and have them running. The other seven members of the teams have on-the-job training and knew exactly what to do.

Campbell, a student studying accounting at Northeastern University said, "As long as we serve a purpose out here, I don't mind falling behind in school." The fall semester began the week Andrew hit.

The first ROWPU site is on Bayou Teche in Terrebonne Parish. The unit pumps water straight out of the bayou and into the processor where cleansers and sanitizers rid the water of its impurities. The purified water is then stored in 3,000 gallon bladders.

The other site, Clearwater, was a little

easier to get going according to Campbell. The water from the bayou carries free-flowing mud and is harder to clean. Clearwater's water came from a lake and most of its sediment was settled.

The Clearwater unit was set up next door to what used to be a carpet business. Spec. Billy Nimmo, from Zwolle, La., said, "The owners asked us to please help watch their business for looters." Nimmo is also a college student studying marketing and nursing at Northwestern State University.

Spec. Rickie Sirmons, also a student at Northwestern State, said that when he left home his mom told him to be careful. Sirmons assured his mom that, "This isn't Miami, Florida, this is Louisiana. People here have seen it all on T.V. and they don't want any part of the riots."



SPC Rickie Sirmons, left, and SGT Gregory Davison, right, of the 256th Infantry Brigade (Mech), Louisiana Army National Guard, are shown working with water purification equipment. The Guard set up two Reserve Osmosis Water Purification Units in the hardest hit areas of southern Louisiana. Water from the bayou is pumped and purified since the bayou water carries mud and is unsettled. (Photo by SGT Kristi L. Moon, 241st PAD)

214th Airmen Transport Goods to Laplace

By SGT Kristi L. Moon
241st PAD

The 214th Engineering Installation Squadron, Louisiana Air National Guard, from Jackson Barracks recently assisted the Orleans Levee Board with distributing much needed food and water to one of the tragedy stricken areas of south Louisiana.

Tech. Sgt. Kennedy Washington and Sgt. Richard Gilyot with members of the Levee Board loaded eight

palettes of bottled water, baby food, bread and canned goods onto an Air Guard truck. All of the items were donations made from local New Orleanians concerned about their neighbors in nearby St. John the Baptist Parish.

Robert G. Harvey, president of the Orleans Levee Board said, "Right now the National Guard is in the midst of our efforts. We (the Levee Board) are dependent on the Guard to tell us where the goods need to go and to get them there."

The Levee Board has set up a drive through drop-off points where donations are unloaded by volunteers and members of the board. Donations as of Friday, August 28, included food and water, clothing, blankets, furniture and pet food. According to Bill Allerton, public relations for the Levee Board, "Inside of one hour of my phone call, the Guard responded positively to our request for transportation."

After Andrew's Aftermath on State Active Duty

239th MPs to Restore Normalcy After Pandemonium Breaks Out in New Iberia

By SGT Kristi L. Moon
241st PAD

When tragedy arises, devastation sets in. And that's what people all over south Louisiana are feeling. In the town of New Iberia, La., the devastation from Hurricane Andrew brought terror and anxiety in addition to a lack of food and money.

So, when the town announced that they would be distributing some additional food stamps to existing food stamp recipients, pandemonium stepped forward. And then a joint police force stepped over it.

Members of the 239th Military Police Company from Baton Rouge, La., along with members of the New Iberia Police Department, Iberia Parish Sheriff's, Jefferson Parish Sheriff's and North Charleston Police Department from South Carolina teamed up to combat a

furios and hungry crowd.

"People have really settled down since we got here," 2nd Lt. Andrew Spinks of the 239th MP Co. said. But the lined crowd seemed to worsen when guardsmen delivered a water supply. No one would get out of line for fear of losing their place. So guardsmen, policemen, sheriffs and mobile medics served water to the dehydrating locals.

First Lt. Phillip Payton, also of the 239th, said that for the most part the crowd has been real receptive to their presence. "Once they realized that we are here to help, we had no problems," Payton said.

Lt. Fred Westmoreland from the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Department said that he and 13 others were asked to help out by their boss, Brig. Gen. (LA) Harry Lee, the sheriff of Jefferson Parish. First they went to Jeanerette, La., and once the city was in control, they moved on to New Iberia. The

Jefferson Parish Sheriff's trucked their 14 motorcycles with them.

Sixteen more volunteer police officers showed up all the way from South Carolina. Pvt. 1st Class Jeff Gaines from the North Charleston Police Department said, "We're just returning the favor from the states who helped us after Hurricane Hugo.

Initially, they came to New Iberia to help the city regain control he said. And according to the local civil defense office, the joint police force has done just that.

"Police Departments and the National Guard work well together because we stand on a common ground," Gaines said.

Members of the 239th Military Police Company, worked with police elements from as far away as Charleston, South Carolina. In New Iberia, La., at a food stamp distribution point the 239th, controlled anxious crowds, served water and kept the peace as an estimated 5,000 residents gathered in lines up to a block long. (Photo by SGT Kristi L. Moon, 241st PAD)



Davion, both of Detachment 4, HHC, 256th Guard, sample their finished product, drinking water Purification Units (ROWPUs) in some of the sites on Bayou Teche, was a challenge to settle. Nevertheless, the two four-man teams worked for an hour and a half. (Photo by SGT Kristi L. Moon,

About 30 members of the 205th and 527th Engineer Battalions (Cbt Hvy), of the Louisiana Army National Guard work picking up debris from the sides of eight bayou roads they cleared the day before. This team of engineers is working at four sites within a 150 mile radius in Houma, La. These four sites make up one engineer project. (Photo by SGT Kristi L. Moon, 241st PAD)



Engineers Finish Job Andrew Started

By SGT Kristi L. Moon 241st PAD

Don't ask for it unless you want it. And when you ask for it, you get it. At least that's the kind of service the 205th and 527th Engineer Battalions of the Louisiana Army National Guard, are providing residents of Houma, La.

The combined effort includes clearing both sides of the four bayous running north/south that lead to the Gulf of Mexico. These engineers hit Houma Saturday morning. They cleared all the bayou roads so that power companies could do their jobs to restore power. Once the roads are cleared, the engineers are going back to pick it all up and take it to a landfill where it is all being burned.

According to 1st Lt. Nathan Vercher of the 527th, there are 25 troops from the 527th and five troops from the 205th working on this one

project. This one project encompasses four different sites, all within a 150 mile radius.

In addition to clearing the roadways of debris, these engineers also removed three bedroom homes from the middle of intersections and streets. "People sat and watched their homes be further demolished by us," Vercher said. There is no way to move a structure that's all ready destroyed without pulling it further apart he added.

According to Vercher, the people are real supportive. "This is the horn blowinest bunch of people I've ever seen in my

life," Vercher said. "They're so glad we're here."

Some of the residents sit in their yards with watchful eyes as guardsmen do their thing. One resident said that he's glad to see the federal government helping them out. Members

of the guard were quick to explain that all of this work is being done by Louisiana Guardsmen, on state active duty. Needless to say, the lifelong resident of Houma was "glad to know the state is being such a big help."

Maj. Gen. A.M. Stroud, Jr., adjutant general of Louisiana visited with these engineers to find out how they're doing. Stroud said that from the 1,400 soldiers on duty, he hasn't heard one word of criticism.

Stroud said all of his troops are doing one hell of a job and he doesn't see the need for any assistance from the active component.

"We don't need them. The bottom line is that it's our (Louisiana's) responsibility. We should do it and we are doing it," Stroud said.

Stroud also praised the dedication of his soldiers, many of whom left their own damaged homes.

Louisiana Guard Feeds Hurricane Victims in Baldwin

By SGT Kristi L. Moon
241st PAD

Any soldier can attest to the army's infamous usual staples of packaged-dried meals or hot and oftentimes bland guesswork meals. But some folks in the smallest of Louisiana's towns and parishes are eating better than they ever have.

The Louisiana Army National Guard has been activated to many areas that are without electricity as a devastating result of Hurricane Andrew. Soldiers of the 256th Engineer Company and Detachment 3, HHC 256 Infantry Brigade set up their Mobile Kitchen Trailers (MKTs) in Baldwin, La. Their site, next door to the Special Providence Baptist Church, attracts thousands of people ranging from the elderly to infants who are in need of substantial meals, as well as the compassion and moral support they're getting from the guardsmen.

L'Oreal Griffin, 4, of Baldwin said she enjoys the good meals the soldiers cook for her and her family. "God's gonna bless 'em, for taking care of us," she said.

The soldiers of the Louisiana

Brigade in Baldwin have been serving 1,000 meals three times a day. They even hosted a barbecue for the Sunday afternoon-church congregation.

According to Chief Warrant Officer Richard Bottrell, division food service operator from Detachment 3, HHC, 256th Inf Bde, "The MKT is designed to feed 375 people at one time. With two, we're feeding 1,000 people, three times a day." Bottrell said supply efforts have been enormous. Local groups have been terrific and the A & P Food Store donated its perishable items. "All we have to do is say the word and the people make it happen," Bottrell said.

Congressman W.J. Billy Tauzin (D), from the 3rd Congressional District in Louisiana visited the brigade site in St. Mary's Parish. Tauzin said, "We appreciate you all being here. I think we've got enough tabasco sauce to keep you in business for a while."

Sgt. First Class Fredrick Lastrapes, food service sergeant for the 256th Engr. Co. assured Tauzin, "We'll do whatever it takes to take care of these folks."

Guardsmen Patrol Storm Ravaged Neighborhoods

By 241st PAD

Hurricane Andrew made its mark in the history books of both the state of Louisiana and the Louisiana National Guard during its brief, but costly life.

Andrew is being blamed for at least 20 deaths in the Bahamas, Florida and Louisiana, as well as property damage that will run into the billions of dollars.

That figure doesn't take into account the devastation of ruined lives and destroyed dreams in communities from Homestead, Flor., to the hamlet of Four Corners, located near Lafayette, La.

Louisiana National Guard troops, many of them members of the 256th Infantry Brigade (Mech), the Louisiana Brigade, found themselves in the job of helping their own communities after the storm passed through the state on Aug. 26.

Jeanerette, La., is one of the hardest hit of the small communities in the Acadiana region of Louisiana that bore the brunt of Andrew's 140-mph winds.

One of the guardsmen patrolling its streets was Sgt. Jabian Sellers.

"We are a show of force so people won't take advantage of others in their time of need,"

Sellers said. "We have about 50 troops operating 25-man, 12-hour shifts only to maintain security."

Sellers and the other members of his team were patrolling the streets of the shattered community wearing their flak-jackets and toting M-16 rifles.

Sellers said troops haven't encountered any problems with looting in Jeanerette, although authorities reported looting attempts in Franklin and Morgan City prior to Guard troops being deployed.

City officials in both Morgan City and Franklin reported that the presence of National Guard forces as well as a beefed up police presence has brought such reports to a halt.

Sellers said he was at the National Guard Armory on Martin Luther King Boulevard in Jeanerette when the storm hit.

Sellers said Jeanerette was hit with ravaging winds for several hours before Andrew's eye passed directly over this community of 7,000.

"For about 45 minutes it was very calm, and you could see the stars - then the winds started up again," Sellers said.

Gov. Edwin Edwards has said that Guard forces will be kept on duty as long as necessary for the state to cope with this disaster.



Louisiana Guardsmen of the 256th Infantry Brigade (Mech), the Louisiana Brigade, are cooking and serving up to 3,000 meals daily in Baldwin, La., just one of the many areas demolished by Andrew. Much of the food being served is donations from individuals and local stores who would rather their perishables go to good use than spoil. Baldwin has been without electricity since Tuesday night. (Photo by SGT Kristi L. Moon, 241st PAD)

Engineers Clean-Up Affected Communities

By SGT Kristi L. Moon
241st PAD

While winds up to 100 mph gusted through southern Louisiana, Louisiana National Guardsmen from Charlie Co., 769th Engineer Battalion from Gonzales, La, were already working.

Sgt. Dwayne Labatut, a student at Southeastern Louisiana University, said, "We worked Tuesday night clearing streets, after we left our own (uncertain) homes."

Labatut and other members from the 769th and 528th Engineer Battalions have been clearing debris from non-passable streets and from people's yards in Patterson, La.

They used scoop loaders to pick up

the downed trees and limbs, and several dump trucks to haul it all to a landfill in Berwick, where guardsmen and parish officials were burning the contents.

According to Capt. Gregg Putnam, commander of Charlie Co., "In all, we've moved over 300 dump truck loads in Morgan City, Berwick and Patterson."

Matilda "Tee" Aloisio, former Patterson Police Juror said the help from these guardsmen is "the most wonderful thing in the world." "No cities have the money to clean up like this," she added.

Labatut said that while Gonzales did receive some damage, "There is more damage here so we should be here."



These engineers from the 769th and 527th Engineer Battalions (Cbt Hvy), 225th Engineer Group, Louisiana Army National Guard work together clearing First Street in Patterson, La., where debris collected after Hurricane Andrew. These engineers worked clearing impassable roads throughout southern Louisiana the night the devastating storm raped the state. (Photo by SGT Kristi

236th Airmen Faced Hurricane to Restore Power to Areas

By SGT Kristi L. Moon
241st PAD

In anticipation of Hurricane Andrew's destruction, the Louisiana Air National Guard's 236th Combat Communications Squadron left Hammond, La., headed for Laplace, last Tuesday, as 100 mph winds whipped their vehicle all over the highway. The 236th delivered generators and other equipment to Laplace, Houma, Thibodaux, Patterson, Burwick, Morgan City, Franklin and Bayou Vista, some within the first few hours of the hurricane, others within the first few days.

In Houma, the 236th provided generators for the Southdown Care Center, a constant care home for infants and elderly who all require life support. According to Master Sgt. Ray Waldo, "They had one generator that was providing their life support, but wasn't strong enough to provide air conditioning. Some of the kids were dehydrating and couldn't even talk," Waldo said.

Thursday, in Thibodaux, La., members of the 236th restored energy to a kidney dialysis center. Master Sgt. Nathan Louque, 236th, said, "If

we had not gotten there that day, they were going to transport all the residents to Amite, La., (north of Thibodaux, where there is power). Instead, all the patients got to stay in their familiar beds, continue their life-saving treatment and be comfortable in the air conditioning.

In Patterson, La., Louque said the city called on the 236th to operate and maintain their sewer levels with generators belonging to the 236th. This is a 24 hour operation because the generators have to be shut down and started up every four to six hours to save power.

Waldo said there are close to 30 236th guardsmen working in Southern Louisiana. "We have a real quick turn around with our missions," he said. "As soon as we complete one, we move on to another."

After Waldo left his home in Loranger, La., his home was struck with a downed tree. He has water damage and roof damage. "We came down here to do a job and we'll fix our own later," he said.

Col. Sam DeGeneres, assistant adjutant general (Air), said the response from his troops has been great. "Their efforts are tremendous," he said.



SPC Tony Meaux, a medic with the 3/156th Infantry, 256th Infantry Brigade, Louisiana Army National Guard, assists local volunteers with directing traffic and ice distribution in Patterson, La. (Photo by SGT Kristi L. Moon, 241st PAD)

239th MPs and 3rd BN, Infantry Soldiers Work Together

By SGT Kristi L. Moon
241st PAD

In every business there exists many sections that perform specialized functions. In the business of the Louisiana National Guard, it is the same way.

The difference is that when necessary, these sections or units work together, performing each others duties, taking up the slack, and oftentimes living, eating and showering together.

In Patterson, La., the 3rd Battalion, 156th Infantry, part of the Louisiana Brigade, and the 239th Military Police Company are doing all of those things with each other, as well as with the Patterson Volunteer Fire and Police Departments.

Patterson Police Chief James Sennette said, "They've (the guardsmen) been wonderful. I don't know

what we would've done without them," he added.

First Lt. Lynn Borel, a college senior from Moss Bluff, La., said the response from the community has been outstanding. "Anything we need or want, we get. The local police officers even deliver food to our soldiers on patrol," he added.

Borel said, "Their sense of dedication to us enhances our capabilities."

About 16 members of the 3/156th Infantry are assisting civilian law enforcement officials with ice and food distribution, traffic control and security. Most of the soldiers from 3rd Battalion are from mortar platoons, cavalry, scout or maintenance sections.

Sgt. Stephen Opry, from Lake Charles, is one of only five medics in the brigade who earned the Expert Field Medical Badge (EFMB).

"Anytime anyone gets hurt, it's

our responsibility to help them out," Opry said of the civilians who hurry to the ice and food distribution points.

First Lt. Robert Matthews, from the 239th MP Co. lives in Tyler, Texas. He is directing his MPs through crowd control, law and order missions, roving and mounted patrols, curfew violations and property security.

According to Matthews, the local police and fire departments gave guardsmen portable radios so that they can all remain in constant contact with one another.

The 239th is headquartered in Baton Rouge, one of the areas that received tremendous damage from Hurricane Andrew. A lot of the soldiers left their own damaged homes to come here and help others, according to Matthews.

Since working in Patterson, Spec.

MSGT Nathan Louque, 236th Combat Communications Squadron, Louisiana Air National Guard, services one of the generators his team is operating that regulates part of the sewer system in Patterson, La. The city of Patterson had been without electricity for a week after Hurricane Andrew came through. (Photo by SGT Kristi L. Moon, 241st PAD)



Guardsmen Feed Refugees, Others Say Thanks With Feasts

By SGT Kristi L. Moon
241st PAD

In the Louisiana cities where Louisiana Guardsmen haven't been tasked to feed the citizens, the citizens are feeding the Guardsmen.

In many communities that are without electricity, Guardsmen have set up their mobile kitchens and are hard at work cooking three hot meals a day for thousands of grieving people.

In the cities with power where Guardsmen are performing various other functions, the communities are taking in our soldiers as if they were their own flesh and blood.

The Baldwin Volunteer Fire Department, in addition to its duties, is housing members of the 239th Military Police Company from Baton Rouge, La. Not only are the firefighters taking care of our soldiers, but their wives are feeding them feasts of deer steaks and barbecued burgers. They've even hosted a fish fry with donations from residents whose fish would've spoiled since they have no

electricity. In fact, most of the food being cooked at the fire station is donations from members of the community.

Baldwin Fire Chief Aubrey Boudreaux said he's very pleased that they've been here. "They've all been very courteous and their presence here let's people know we mean business."

The 239th has been patrolling and controlling looting throughout the parish, other security tasks and crowd control at ice and food distribution points.

Mayor Wayne Breaux of Baldwin said, "I would've hated to do this without the Guard. I don't think it would've been possible - at least not as successful as their efforts have been."

Members of the 239th said they really like it in Baldwin. Some even said that this is the best they've ever had it on assignment. The 239th will probably go on to another location once the power is restored in Baldwin. They kind of dread leaving.

Michael Gordon of the 239th, said, "The residents commend us and offer us food and water while we're on patrol. But, some of them don't like the 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. curfew," Gordon added.

The fire department where these Louisiana soldiers have been housed has done more than give the troops a place to sleep.

Matthews said, "The fire department has been very lenient about long distance phone calls. They allow the troops to call home and check on their families almost daily."

Mayor Gus Lipari of Patterson said, "Our whole town has relaxed since the Guard arrived. Every day it gets a little better," Lipari added. "But we couldn't have done it without the Guard."

Leaving The Military? Follow Timeline For Easier Transition

American Forces Information Service

You've made the decision to leave the military. Whether you're leaving in mid-career or retiring, chances are pretty good you will start another career.

Most people leaving the military find themselves at a disadvantage when they start looking for a job. They have never had to submit resumes, sit through job interviews or decide what type of work they want to do. They haven't thought about where they want to live or worried about a work wardrobe.

DoD transition officials, with the help of several commercial organizations, developed a timetable for job hunting while still in the service. Following the guide won't guarantee a job, said transition officials, but it will improve chances of finding one.

DoD officials urge personnel leaving the military to visit a transition office for help in resume writing, registration on the electronic bulletin board and other support aids. They say attend local job fairs. Local libraries can also provide a wealth of information when moving and changing jobs.

Twelve months before leaving service:

- Talk to transition office personnel.
- Attend a retirement briefing and the installation retirement office if you're retiring.
- Discuss with your family possible options, setting goals for the job and location search.
- Decide where you want to live after leaving the military.
- Decide what types of jobs you qualify for and the income you will need.
- Start subscriptions or check the local library for professional or trade journals.

- Make sure you have or can acquire any necessary license you need for your chosen profession.

- Check your financial status and make plans to have enough money to cover several months of expenses if you don't find a job immediately.

- Begin attending job fairs.
- Research job possibilities, job markets and the economic conditions in the geographic area you want.

Nine months before you leave:

- Decide what type of job you are going to look for.

- Do first drafts of your resume.
- If possible, visit the area you plan to move to after leaving the military; if you can't visit, write to the local chamber of commerce for information.

- For job and real estate information, subscribe to weekend newspapers from the area where you plan to move.

- Continue research.
- Keep in touch with the local transition office.

Six months before leaving:

- Finalize your resume; decide if transition office assistance will help you develop the best resume or if you need to hire a professional resume writer.

- Develop a list of possible employers in the field you are interested in; also, determine any friends you might have in the private sector who may be able to help you.

- Contact an executive recruiter for assistance if you qualify and are looking for a job in this category.

- Begin developing a fall-back plan for job and location in case your first plan falls through.

- Continue research.
- Keep in touch with the local transition office.

Four months before leaving:

- Determine a date to visit the area where you plan to move for possible interviews.

- Have your resume printed and begin a mailing campaign to selected companies; include in your cover letter the date you plan to be in the area.

- Begin putting together a work wardrobe.
- Keep researching.
- Keep in touch with the local transition office.

Three months before leaving:

- Send out resumes and begin making telephone calls to check if they have arrived.

- Start rehearsing, and decide what you will wear for job interviews.

- Begin replying to want ads in newspapers and magazines.

- Visit the state employment agency where you plan to live.


- Check with friends and acquaintances in private industry for job leads.

- Visit several private employment agencies for help.

- After each job interview, evaluate your performance and decide what you did right and what you need to improve.

- Continue research.
- Keep in touch with the local transition office.

One month before leaving:

- Continue all steps from previous months.
- Outprocess. 

NGB Hosts Family Program Conference



Louisiana's delegation displayed its Cajun Character during the conference's "County Fair."

From left to right are: State Family Program Coordinator, CPT Robert Fink; State Retention Sergeant Major, SGM Roger Toney; Louisiana Military Academy Family Support Group Leader, Mrs. Jan Washispack; DPA Plans and Actions Officer, MAJ Paula Nunez; and Retention NCO, MSG Frank Honeycutt. (LAARNG Photo)

This past August, the National Guard Bureau held a Family Program conference in Austin, Tex. The conference was designed to allow leaders in the National Guard Family Program from around the country to get together and share ideas and concerns.

Attendees included the staff from

NGB's Family Program Office and representatives from both Air and Army Guard major commands from around the country.

Toward the end of the conference, all attendees had the opportunity to provide input toward policy matters set to be discussed at the Army Family Action Plan Conference.

PARENTS SHAPE
THE FAMILY



AND AMERICA'S
FUTURE!

769th Engineers Hold Summer Softball Games

769th ENGR BN

The second Annual 769th Engineer Battalion Softball Tournament was held July 12, 1992. The games were hosted by Charlie Company in Gonzales, La. Teams from Companies A, B, C, and HSC participated in the tournament.

In the first game of the day HSC's detachment played a stubborn team from Bravo Co., in a driving rain storm. HSC outlasted Bravo 13-12 through a wet seven innings to advance to the championship game.

Charlie Co. advanced to the championship round with HSC by defeating Alpha Co., in the second game 9-5 on a sloppy playing field.

Bravo Co., from New Roads, La., played Alpha Co., from Baker, La., in the consolation finals. In the end, Bravo won 9-4 to take third place in the tournament.

Charlie beat HSC for the second year in a row in an intense and heated final game 5-2 at the wire. The championship game was highlighted

by excellent defensive plays by both teams considering the rainy conditions. Charlie Co., won by catching a high pop fly from HSC's last batter with bases loaded.

Members of the Champion "Chargin' Charlie" Softball Team were: SFC James Griffin (coach and catcher), SGTs Jeffery King, Christopher Trahan, Dwayne Labatut, Chad Lynch, Craig Hildalag and Pamala Hooper; SPCs Craig LeBourgeois, Eric Templet, Keri Templet, Troy Acosta, Land Louque, Brian Badinger and Randall Bradford; PFCs Chad Villavaso, Trevon Miller, Dax Douet, and Torey Humphrey; and CDT Robert Nance.

The upcoming 769th Engineer Battalion sports competitions will be basketball hosted by HSC in Baton Rouge and a track and field meet hosted by Alpha Co. in Baker. The 769th is commanded by Lt. Col. W. Randy Hilborn. An event is planned for each quarter and will be hosted by one of the company headquarters'.

Engineers and Aviation Team Up to Provide Thrill of a Lifetime

By CPT Gregg A. Putnam
Co. C, 769th ENGR BN

Teens from the Gonzales area got the thrill of a lifetime Saturday July 25, 1992. The teens had a 30 minute ride on two UH-1H helicopters provided by Alpha Company 1/224th Aviation Battalion out of Lakefront Airport in New Orleans.

The boys and girls are members of the Explorer Post sponsored by Charlie Company 769th Engineer Battalion in cooperation with the Boy Scouts of America. The Explorer Post is an ACOE initiative organized two years ago to provide young adults between the ages of 13 and 21 in the Gonzales area with an interest in the military as a career and the opportunity to train and work with members of the LAARNG. Sgt. 1st Class Quinn "Bubba" Richard heads the organization with help from Sgt. Pamela Hooper.

Charlie Co. is located in Gonzales, La., and is part of the 769th Engineer Battalion commanded by Lt. Col. W. Randy Hilborn. The 769th Engineer Battalion recently won the Battalion Level In-State ACOE Competition

partly due to its participation in this type of community events.

The Explorers usually participate with the Company during most drills and have held several other events separately from the unit. So far this summer the post has also had a field training exercise (FTX) and visited the company's construction sites during the middle weekend of their Annual Training period. According to Richard, the post also "holds regular meetings to plan upcoming events".

The aircraft arrived at the Louisiana Regional Airport in Gonzales around 10 a.m. The crew gave the group a safety briefing, aircraft orientation, and introduction to the mission of the 1/244th before the actual flight. For all of the Explorers it was the first time in a military aircraft. After the flight, the explorers and guardsmen were invited back to Charlie Co.'s armory for a fantastic lunch of jambalaya and salad prepared by Hooper's parents.

The pilots and members of the aircrews were CW4 Kim Hogan, CW2 Jim Lee, CW2 Phil Cancienne, CW2 George Gwaltney, SSG Cornell Bush and SGT Gordon Gaille.

Engineers Catch the ACOE Spirit

Gonzales Engineers Host Wrestling Tournament

By Co. C, 769th ENGR BN

Lt. Col. W. Randy Hilborn, commander of the 769th Engineer Battalion, recently allowed a rather unusual request: to have some recreation and boost moral while participating in some of the most strenuous athletic competition imaginable during the first drill after annual training. The 769th Engineer Battalion held their first ever Wrestling Tournament on Saturday July 18, 1992.

The tournament was hosted by Charlie Co., commanded by Capt. Gregg A. Putnam, in the drill hall at the unit armory in Gonzales. Wrestlers from Companies A,B,C, and HSC were invited to participate in three weight classes. The weight classes in the tournament were 165 lbs, 180 lbs, and heavyweight. The tournament was held in conjunction with the Second Annual 769th Softball Tournament.

Coach Ed Kavanaugh, the athletic director and wrestling coach for Holy Cross High School in New Orleans was very supportive of the National Guard for the tournament. He loaned his wrestling mats, time clock, mat casters, and even provided the tape to hold the sections of the mat together. "Coach Kavanaugh was a great help. We could not have done it without him. It really gives you a good feeling to know that people are so willing to support the Guard like this. We really appreciate his assistance," said Putnam, the organizer of the event.

Kavanaugh has been the wrestling coach at Holy Cross for over 12 years. His teams have won several state championships and has prepared many wrestlers for college NCAA competition.

The matches were held on a 2-inch thick square foam mat which was about 30 feet wide. Contrary to popular belief, there are no ropes used in amateur wrestling. Each match consisted of three periods which were one minute long. According to Staff Sgt. Eugene Jobert, "It was the longest three minutes you could imagine, especially when you're in your middle thirties".

Jobert was the Louisiana State

High School Wrestling Champion in 1974 and represented HSC in the tournament. Pvt. Ronald Saurage who recently scored a perfect 300 on his Army Physical Fitness Test said, "Three minutes was a lot tougher than the PT test".

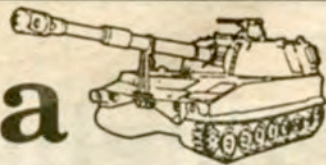
The tournament started out slowly as expected, however, everyone warmed up and it ended as a big success. The biggest problem we had was trying to keep the brackets organized after we started wrestling. The spectators really got into the matches. Four soldiers out of the crowd made challenges and actually got to wrestle. "They had the motivation and determination to do well, but they lacked the experience of the guys who had participated in organized wrestling in high school. Overall the challengers did not do too well, but we all had a good time and that was our goal", said Putnam.

Charlie Company won the overall team championship while placing five wrestlers in the finals. In the 165 lb. class, Pvt. 1st Class Paul Mascagni (Co C) pinned Sgt. Edward Gillis (Det 1, Co C) in 0:28 seconds. Capt. Gregg Putnam (Co C) pinned Spec. Jerry LeBlanc (Co C) in 2:25 for the championship of the 180 lb. class. In the spectator's favorite class, the heavyweight finals, Staff Sgt. Eugene Jobert (HSC) was pitted against a young, strong, and aggressive newcomer Spec. Craig Gentry (Co C). In the end, experience won out as Jobert defeated Gentry by a score of 6-1.

Putnam said "It is nice that ACOE has changed the way of thinking of our leaders and allowed this type of organized sporting events in the Louisiana Army National Guard (LAARNG). A few years ago people laughed when I asked for this". The active duty forces regularly compete in organized athletics. Every Olympics you see members of the armed forces participating in boxing, wrestling, track, and other events. Greg Gibson, a Marine, won several world champions and gold medals in the Olympics while on active duty. Lt. Col. Willie Davenport, a former member of the LAARNG now on active duty in Washington, was a gold medal winning sprinter in the Olympics.

**Never tell people how to do things.
Tell them what to do and they will
surprise you with their ingenuity.
Gen. George S. Patton, Jr.**

Louisiana



Brigade

Howitzer "Bullets" Leave Quite an Impression

By SPC Bernard Chaillot
256th INF BDE/PAO

Dry runs are necessary to get any kinks worked out, but the artillery batteries of the 1st Battalion, 141st Field Artillery from New Orleans enjoy training a lot more when they can send rounds down range, crew members said.

"Shooting bullets - that's what we like to do," said Alpha Battery Gun Crew Chief Sgt. Fred Conley of new Orleans. When your weapon is a 155mm self-propelled howitzer, your "bullets" tend to make quite an impression, he said.

Crews practiced dry runs and began live fire exercises this week during their annual training period at Fort Polk. Evaluators from the 5th Battalion, 1st Field Artillery said their National Guard counterparts were performing up to standards.

The 141st was the first Guard unit in the state to be declared mission capable during Desert Storm, the latest accomplishment in the storied history of the "Washington Artillery," so the unit was determined to do well in its first extended training since then, Conley said.

"We've only got about 30 seconds to get a round down range when we get a fire mission, so all the guys really have to be up to speed," he

Dekerlegand the "Defilade" Man

By 1LT Jefferson K. Moore
Troop Command

The enemy tanks must be stopped. The U.S. tank commander orders his tank battalion to defend its sector.

To improve the defense the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers sends bulldozers to the front line to dig tank "defilades" or what could be described as foxholes for tanks.

Spec. Joel Dekerlegand is a D-7 bulldozer operator with a Louisiana National Guard engineer unit. National Guard combat units throughout the state trained in July at Fort Polk as a part of their annual training.

said. "That's what dry runs accomplish."

Capt. Jeffrey Springman, commander of the 5th Battalion's Alpha Battery, agreed. "All the motions and procedures are the same. Proficiency during the dry run spell proficiency when you get a fire mission."

Conley explained the sequence of crew action when a mission is called in. First, he said, the gunner receives a deflection, or instructions on how many degrees to the left or right the tube should move. Then the assistant gunner gets the quadrant, which tells him how far the big gun's barrel needs to move up or down.

"Once we've got our coordinates locked in, a round is placed on the tray and pushed up into the tube, followed by a charge (packet of gunpowder)," he said. "That's followed by a primer to set the whole thing off, then you close the breech and get the lanyard ready to pull.

A yank on the lanyard and a high explosive round heads toward the target, which could be up to 15 miles away, Conley said.

"Ideally, we have a nine man crew for each gun, but if need be, we can make it happen with five," he said. "But it has to be like five fingers on one hand." He made a fist. "All working together."

Dekerlegand, son of Eddie and Laura Dekerlegand of Leonville, is a member of the 256th Engineer Company from Opelousas, La. The 256th trains to provide engineer support for the Army's 5th Infantry Division.

Dekerlegand, 22, works as a line-man for SLEMCO, when he is not training as a combat engineer.

"It takes a lot of practice, but it's easy once you get the hang of it," Dekerlegand said.

The 256th Engineer Co. is commanded by Capt. Sam Baley. In the event of war, the 256th becomes Delta Company of the 7th Engineer Battalion according to Baley.

Engineer Says "No" to Digging Foxholes and "SEE" to Excavator

By 1LT Jefferson K. Moore
Troop Command

The ground troops need to dig in fast. An enemy attack could come at any moment, and the quicker the soldiers build foxholes the better.

Using hand shovels, however, is a slow and tiring way for soldiers to dig in. Instead the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers sends in a machine to dig for the soldiers called a Small Emplacement Excavator or a SEE.

Spec. Samuel Charles, Jr., is a SEE operator with the 256th Engineer Company in Opelousas, La.

Tank Battalion Earns Praise In Hills of Ft. Polk

By SPC Bernard Chaillot
256th INF BDE/PAO

The tankers of Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 156th Armored Regiment from Coushatta, La., worked on tactical exercises this summer, maneuvering through the forested pine hills and savannas of Fort Polk in their M-1 Abrams main Battle Tanks.

Regular Army evaluators are assisting as the National Guard tank crews qualify on their weapons and otherwise stay trained up to 5th Infantry Division standards.

Capt. Bradley McDonald, commander of Delta Co., 3rd Battalion of the 70th Armor, gave some pointer during one of the many after action reports (AAR).

A pair of lieutenants were asked to get the platoon leaders together for the review.

"We can direct an attack on this doughnut table to get them here," suggested one.

"Give the order!" the other shouted. "On line! Formation! Assault, assault, assault!"

McDonald quickly honed in on the strengths and errors of the exercise.

"Your engagement was just about perfect today - you remembered all of the things we've been working on," he said. "The action contact drills were good, everybody scanned when they came to a stop, picked up targets from behind and maintained their distance. What we want to do now is pick up the pace a little bit."

A battery on one tank had run out of water. McDonald said he realized there wasn't much time for maintenance when all of the companies were using one company's tanks, "but it has to be done. When we were at NTC (National Training Center in Fort Irwin, Calif.) our company commander's hub fell off. The CO's hub just fell off," he said.

"Why? Someone had neglected to check the hub bolt. Maintenance,

National Guard combat units throughout the state trained in July at Fort Polk as part of their annual training. The 256th Engr. Co. trains to provide engineer support for the Army's 5th Infantry Division.

When he is not training as a combat engineer, Charles, 19, is a student majoring in mechanical engineering at Southern University in Baton Rouge.

"We get more training out here. Today, I got to build a zig-zag ditch, a trench for infantry troops. We can't get training like this back home," Charles said.

gentlemen. It's a must," McDonald said.

Platoon leaders and crew members described their actions and perceptions during the tactical exercise.

Specs. Michael Oes and Tommy Baker of Shreveport said they had spotted dismounted infantry and moved to engage them. 2nd Lt. Scott Cunningham of Pineville noted the challenge of positioning among the numerous trees in the training area.

"You have to be careful not to flank yourself in this type of terrain," by limiting turret movement," McDonald said.

"When you find yourself in an engagement and you're on a hill, what's something you can do to increase your survivability?" he asked.

2nd Lt. Ron Stevens of Fairfax, Okla., 2nd platoon leader, correctly answered that the elevation can be used as a defilade, by "moving up to the top, popping one off and backing down."

Cunningham praised his crew after the AAR for being the first tank in the battalion to qualify.

"I just got out of Officer's Basic in May and got my first platoon, with a new loader and a driver just coming off active duty, so we've only been together a short time, but we've got a good rhythm going and everybody knows their job," he said.

"It feels good to prepare well, do it right from the start and be first to qualify," Cunningham said.

He and Stevens said the platoons also were practicing fire commands, spot reports and giving hand and arm signals when observing radio silence.

Members of Cunningham's crew included loader Baker, Sgt. Chuck Ferckel of Natchitoches, gunner and Pfc. Kevin Derbonne of Logansport, driver.

Stevens' crew included driver Oes, Spec. Tony Price of Lake Charles, loader and Sgt. William Bogan of Shreveport, gunner.

NATIONAL

**HISPANIC
HERITAGE**

MONTH/SEPT. 15 — OCT. 15

**Brigade Decon Platoon
"Busts Buns" at Ft. Polk**By SPC Bernard Chaillot
256th INF BDE/PAO

By the fourth day, the members of the decon platoon had almost two good nights of sleep under their belts.

In a circle around the training site, task stations were set up, a knot of soldiers around each one.

2nd Lt. Greg Parker, the new decon platoon leader in Det. 2, Headquarters Co., 256th Infantry Brigade, was taking part in a class on the operation of the 65 gallon-per-minute pump.

"We've been going at it since we got here, and it's starting to pay off," he said. "I wasn't sure how the troops were going to take to the training, but they've been busting their buns."

Squad leader Sgt. Tedd Goldean of Fort Polk's 45th Chemical Co., showed his squad how to operate and troubleshoot the equipment.

"Learn how to tear down these 65 gpm's and put them back together yourself," he said. "It's not strictly first-line maintenance, but it saves a lot of down time."

1st Lt. Mike Andrise, reconnaissance platoon leader for the 45th, said the National Guard troops were performing well.

"We've been rough on these guys out here," he said. "They're only getting a few hours of sleep a night and they're humping all day."

"We know they normally only do this two days a month, while we do it every day, but their knowledge, skills and desire are impressing a lot of

people."

One of those people was Parker. "We let the guys know that the training was going to be long and hard and that a lot was expected of them. They saw they were being cared for and treated on the same footing as regular Army troops and they've been working all day, doing PT at night to get ready for their test next week and learning a lot in a limited amount of time."

Specs. Thomas LeBlanc of Lafayette and Chris Moore of Baton Rouge said the cross training had tripled their knowledge of the equipment they work with.

Spec. Otto Bonin of New Iberia, a member of 2nd Battalion, 156th Infantry said the nuclear, biological, chemical (NBC) training "makes me more flexible as a soldier. I haven't had this before. It's good to know these skills."

A 2nd Battalion soldier with NBC experience, Spec. Jason Fanguy of Houma, said he was getting "a lot more details in this training - it's been almost like going back to basic."

As the NBC sergeant in his company, Detachment 1 of Delta Co., in Franklin, Fanguy said he would be bringing the lessons learned at Fort Polk back to his National Guard unit.

"Their attitudes have been great out here," said Squad Leader Sgt. Rodrick Williams of the 45th. "That's really the bottom line. Even though they have a ways to go, they've made a good start."

**Brigade Engineers Gain
More than Training During AT**By SPC Bernard Chaillot
256th INF BDE/PAO

An enemy armored personnel carrier rolled up to cover at the edge of the area controlled by the 256th Engineer Company and opened fire with a .50 caliber machine gun.

The simulated rounds zipped harmlessly over the heads of the well dug-in engineers, who returned fire and forced the tracked vehicle to retreat.

Fighting positions had been dug by backhoe and shovel in preparation for the attack. Preparation is the key, according to 2nd Lt. Craig Powell of Opelousas, the home of the engineer company.

The platoon leader said the company's bulldozers, Small Equipment Excavator (SEE) backhoes and bridging equipment allow the unit to mold terrain to its best advantage.

"With any advance warning, we can build a road or close one, dig tank ditches, defilades (fighting positions for tanks) and foxholes for the troops," he said.

"We came straight to the field from Opelousas," Powell said. "These guys haven't showered in four days, but nobody's complaining. I'm proud of them."

Spec. Samuel Charles of Opelousas was busy scooping huge chunks of earth with his SEE, digging a fighting position for soldiers in a few short minutes.

Specs. Shawn Williams of Lafayette and Michael Washington of Baton Rouge were sweating proof that the backhoe doesn't do all the work.

"That's just to get the main part done - there's a lot of fortifying and detail work left to do," Williams said.

A broken shovel sat next to the hole that he tossed dirt out of. "I've already worn that one out," he grinned.

Spec. Donald Broussard of Opelousas practiced digging defilades with a crew from Fort Polk's 7th Engineer Battalion, which is evaluating the National Guard company.

Sgt. 1st Class J.C. Beard, a platoon sergeant with the 7th's Alpha Co., said the 256th Infantry Brigade troops "are being tested. They're doing the job while they're exhausted, hot and hungry, finding out just how much they have to depend on one another."

"You can see it in their eyes," Beard said. "They're not only learning a lot about their jobs, they're learning a lot about themselves."



The Louisiana Army National Guard armory in New Iberia, La., was spared nothing during Andrew's tantrum. Delta Company, 2/156th Infantry, 256th Infantry Brigade

(Mech.) performed 24-hour security operations on their non-secureable home. (Photo by SGT Kristi L. Moon, 241st PAD)

People acting together as a group can accomplish things which no individual acting alone could ever hope to bring about.

F.D. Roosevelt



The Louisiana Air National Guard makes history as 42 graduates complete the first rotation of Louisiana's state Airman Leadership School at Camps Beauregard and Ball. (LAANG Photo)

LAANG Conducts First Leadership Course

By SSG Suzanne Chaillot
159 FG/PA

Stonebridge Country Club was the setting for graduation ceremonies for Louisiana's first state conducted Airman Leadership School (ALS).

Forty-two Louisiana Air National Guardsmen spent two weeks in intensive study at Camp Beauregard and Camp Ball located in Central Louisiana.

Their course included topics such as communications, customs and courtesies, military justice and Air Force history.

"I would say the emphasis was put on communications," stated Sr. Airman Daniel G. Monk, 159 Fighter Group Security Flight. "We discussed our way through all the written material."

Long hours and the geographic isolation of the Camps compelled Sgt. Georgia C. Ostheimer, an administration specialist with the 159th Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron to discover more than just academics. "The demand to push myself to the limit developed strengths and capabilities I didn't know I had," she stated.

The students commented on the fact that the classes were broken down into smaller units, allowing for more interaction and open debate.

The airmen also developed a sense of camaraderie amongst themselves. They discovered the natural inclination to bond together in times of challenge.

"These challenging times" was Col.

Samuel G. DeGeneres topic for the graduation ceremonies. DeGeneres, newly appointed assistant adjutant general for Air in the Louisiana National Guard, spoke at graduation of the challenge of education as a continuing process.

"The continuation of personal education strengthens your chances to excel," said DeGeneres. "This process also improves the state of the Guard in its role to produce great leaders."

Maj. Gen. Ansel M. Stroud, Jr., adjutant general of Louisiana also spoke to the class commenting on his pride and admiration for the graduates. "Without the accomplishments and support of the enlisted personnel, I would not have been able to achieve my present position," Stroud said.

DeGeneres and Lt. Romie Galloway, executive support officer for the 159 Fighter Group included: the John L. Levitow Honor Graduate Award to Sr. Airman Adam T. Graham for his outstanding academic ability, leadership, military bearing, and dedication; the Paul Boren Team Spirit Award to Sr. Airman Patrick McDonald; the Military Citizenship Award to Sr. Airman Sean M. Cross for his ability to demonstrate exemplary professional military qualities; the Distinguished Graduate Award to Sr. Airmen Daniel G. Monk, Benward L. Treadway, June N. Autin, and Alan J. Tucker for placing in the top ten percent of the class.

Galloway, program manager, and Course Manager Justin T. Jones were instrumental in organizing and activating this first state held school.

Primary instructors included: SMSGT Ed McShane, MSGTs Ann Stohl and Don Case, TSGTs Gary Johnson, Perry Otilio, SSGTs Gina Vendetti, Shannon Sterling and SGT Donovan Hicks.

Adjunct instructors included: SMSGT Harold Rogers, MSGTs John Heine, Billy White and Zel Rice.

Support Staff included: SMSGT Myra Kinderknecht, MSGT Michael

Muth, SSGT Samantha McLean, and SRA Michael Cole.

Special thanks for outstanding support went to SMSGT Kenneth Barlowe for his visual and photographic coverage.

Galloway expects ALS to generate future outstanding leaders to set the pace for the Louisiana Air National Guard.

159th CAM Squadron Restores F-100 "Hun"

By 159 FG/PA

A restored F-100 Super Saber now guards the entry to Louisiana's 159th Fighter Group area. Placed on its concrete pedestal this year, the "Hun" was restored by members of the 159th Consolidate Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

The airplane was retrieved from a farm somewhere in Virginia and then carried here by helicopter for restoration, according to Sr. Master Sgt. Brian Krail.

Because the tail number is worn off, the history of the aircraft is unknown. But, it did have D.C. Guard insignia. The aircraft appears to be an early A-model, though the 159th FG had F-100 (D) models.

2nd Lt. Peter R. Schneider was the project officer instrumental in getting the equipment and supplies for the restoration according to Laughlin.

Most of the work was done by the sheet metal shop, including making several new panels, after stripping

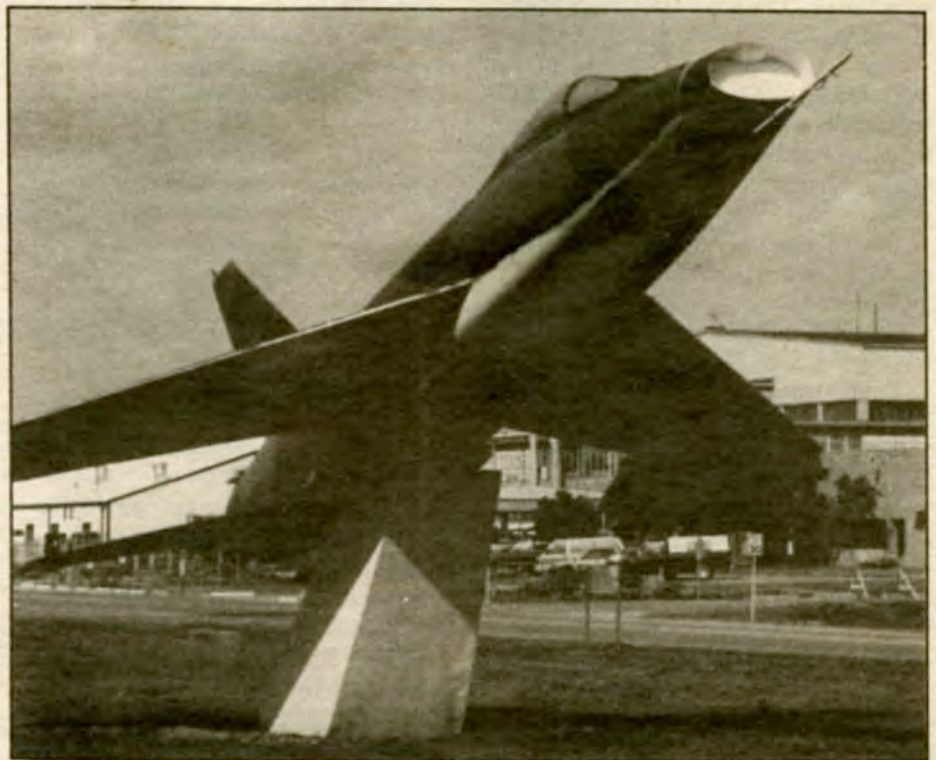
the plane to bare metal. Every steel fastener had rusted and was replaced. "We made fairings to adapt the canopy and replaced the windscreen with a new metal one," Laughlin said. "The restoration is cosmetic on the outside, but extensive."

"All branches of CAM contributed," Krail said. Staff Sgt. Chris Brown and Sr. Airman Mark Bolleter helped with preparations. Tech. Sgt. Richard Firman and Staff Sgt. Roger Fergeron worked on the welding end. Tech. Sgt. Ronald Gaspard, Staff Sgt. Mike Gainer, Sgts. Steven Molero and Eric Theriot, and Sr. Airman Brian Krail, Jr., were the painters.

The new guardian is painted like the 159th's F-100's, in the original color scheme and camouflage pattern.

Sr. Master Sgt. Joe Griffin's name appears as crew chief. The concrete pedestal was designed by the 159th Civil Engineering

Squadron and built by Army Guard engineers.



The 159th Fighter Group's newest guardian, a restored f-100 Super Saber "The Hun".

"I have come to the conclusion that politics is too serious to leave to the politicians."

**-Charles de Gaulle,
French statesman**



Louisiana Air National Guard F-15s soar across the skies headed for the gulf as part of Exercise Sand Eagle. (LAANG Photo)

The Skies are Alive With the Sounds of Freedom

New Orleanians heard the "sounds of freedom" July 24, when the 122nd Fighter Squadron flew to the gulf in a Joint Chief of Staff (JCS) training exercise that simulated the air defense posture used during the first night of the gulf war.

Exercise Sand Eagle was a night exercise commanded by Lt. Col. Tom Donaldson, squadron commander of the 122nd. Donaldson took eight F-15 (A) aircraft from the Naval Air Station at Alvin Calendar Field and four from the training center at Gulfport, Miss., to engage with active duty units during the JCS exercise.

"This is a first time for this unit or any other Air National Guard unit to operate 12 planes at night in an air defense posture," said Donaldson.

This Guard-unique field training exercise was designed to provide training realism and invite stressful situations to enhance reactions to short-notice contingency taskings in the U.S. Southern Command's area of responsibility.

"Our mission was to defend air

space at night," said Donaldson. "We used the same game plan that was utilized in the gulf war." The squadron prepares for actual missions based on lessons learned in the Persian Gulf.

The 122nd defended itself against 50-70 active duty U.S. Air Force and Navy aviators in F-16s, F-18s, EF-111s, F-15(E)s, and even the F-117 Stealth Attack plane.

"They kept coming at us in waves and we were postured to defend the skies," assessed Donaldson. Video taped recordings of the exercise confirmed a kill ration better than 3:1 as the 122nd employed simulated missiles.

"We were rated against active duty fighters and clearly displayed our ability to handle night taskings with twelve planes, if tasked," declared Donaldson.

The 159th Fighter Group's computer automated maintenance squadron provided avionics support and maintenance services during the exercise.

236th CCSQ Leads the Field With the New LCC

By SPC Rebekah Lloyd-Smith
241st PAD

The 236th Combat Communications Squadron is currently setting the standards for other Air Force units with a similar mission.

Their recent acquisition of the Landing Control Central (LCC) radar has put them in first place. The squadron was the first to receive the LCC as well as the first to be evaluated with it. They will soon be the first to test load it onto an aircraft this September.

This ground control radar has since been issued to about eight other Air Force units who look to the 236th for instruction and maintenance requirements. The LCC consists of an operations trailer and a radar trailer. The operations trailer provides a centralized operating area from which to control aircraft movement within a 60-mile radius. It also provides an area from which to control the final approach of landing aircraft.

The radar trailer contains the transmitters, receivers, processors, and antennas. It also contains a Precision Approach Radar indicator which allows the trailer to be used for

autonomous operation.

These two trailers can be separated up to a distance of 100 feet. They may be shipped on standard railroad flatcars or transported by aircraft. They may also be towed together or separately.

One special capability of the new radar is its ability to reach a pilot whose only navigational equipment is a radio. The advanced quality of the LCC has given the squadron members a renewed confidence in their task performance. "The Landing Control Central has been a step into the 20th century," said Staff Sgt. John H. Seal, a Navigational Aide Technician for the squadron. "It has expanded our mission capability," he said.

The radar's high degree of accuracy and sensitivity has also instilled a greater confidence among the Air Traffic Controllers.

"When your product is air traffic control, the better the equipment, the better the service you can provide to your customers," said 2nd Lt. Raymond C. Schindler, the squadron's chief of Air Traffic Control Operations.



MSGT Nathan J. Lougue, air traffic control radar technician for the 236th Combat Communications Squadron, Louisiana Air National Guard, works inside the radar trailer of the Landing Control Central located in Hammond. (Photo by SPC Rebekah Lloyd-Smith, 241st PAD)

You'll Never Forget

if you plan regular savings with U.S. Savings Bonds. No need to take a memory course, or tie a string around your finger. Sign up for the payroll savings plan where you work. Your Savings Bonds will accumulate automatically, every payday, every month, into a memorable fund for the future.



U.S. Air Force Established

Sept. 18, 1947



AFNEWS

Denton Returns to La. to say Good-Bye

By SPC Rebekah Lloyd-Smith
241st PAD

Bidding farewell to over 39 years of service in the Army National Guard was not an easy task for Maj. Gen. Frank M. Denton.

His retirement ceremony, held in August at Camp Beauregard, marked the end of an era during which the experiences and challenges of leadership produced a proud and thankful officer.

"To my fellow National Guardsmen, it has been the greatest honor and privilege of my life to serve with you. You are Americans at their best," he said.

The official farewell commenced with a 13-cannon salute by the 1/141st Field Artillery Salute Battery. Highlights of the event included an F-15 flyover by the 159th Fighter Group of the Louisiana Air National Guard, and the symbolic last review of the troops by Denton.

Denton began his National Guard career in 1951, spending his first five years as an enlisted soldier prior to receiving a direct appointment to second lieutenant in 1956. His first tour as a commissioned officer was in New Orleans with the 141st Field Artillery as a forward observer and reconnaissance and survey officer. He was then assigned as a platoon leader in the 225th Engineer Battalion.

Denton held many positions during his career. Among these were platoon leader, staff officer, special forces detachment commander, operations/intelligence officer, battalion commander, group commander and brigade commander.

He spent the last five years of his National Guard career working out-

side of Louisiana where he served as the Deputy Commander of Reserve Components, Fifth United States Army in Texas, and finally as a special assistant to the Forces Command Commander-in-Chief, in Atlanta, Georgia. In this capacity he served as one of four reserve component generals tasked to define, facilitate and implement Bold Shift, the Army's new training initiative.

Denton was recognized throughout his career, receiving numerous decorations and awards including the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Louisiana Cross of Merit and the Louisiana Commendation Medal.

At the retirement ceremony, Denton was presented with the Distinguished Service Medal by Lt. Gen. Neil T. Jaco, commanding general of 5th Army and the Louisiana Distinguished Service Medal by Maj. Gen. Ansel M. Stroud, Jr., Louisiana's adjutant general.

Stroud also expressed his personal gratitude and admiration. "He will leave many soldiers in the ranks of our units that are better soldiers because of his leadership," Stroud said.

Denton's response to almost 40 years of self dedication was a humble tribute to the soldiers. "While honored by this ceremony, I can only represent the soldiers who really deserve the glory. Better men and women than I, they ask so little yet give so very much, even their lives. As Oliver Wendell Holmes wrote, 'They are the youths whose hearts are touched by fire.' We should never let them down."



COL Frank Catalano, left, and MG Frank Denton, center, symbolically review the troops of the Army National Guard one final time during the ceremony. Denton ended his military career with tours at Fifth Army and FORSCOM (Photo by SPC Rebekah Lloyd-Smith, 241st PAD)



The 141st Field Artillery Salute Battery fired the 13-canon salute honoring MG Frank M. Denton at his retirement ceremony held at Camp Beauregard in August. (Photo by SPC Rebekah Lloyd-Smith, 241st PAD)

HEALTH CORNER

Fats: The Good and the Bad

Even with today's emphasis on weight-watching, most Americans still consume far too much dietary fat. The average American diet is 40 percent fat. The National Foundation for Cancer Research (NFCR) reminds us that fat should make up no more than 30 percent of daily calories, since strong links have been established between fat content in the diet and many serious diseases, including various forms of cancer.

One significant way to reduce fats is to eat fewer fried foods. Other effective measures include trimming all excess fat off meat, removing skin from poultry (this automatically cuts the fat calories in half), and cutting down on creamy salad dressings.

The National Foundation for Cancer Research (NFCR) suggests the following dietary substitutions to help ease the transition from a fatty to a healthy diet:

Choose More Often

Sorbet, ice milk, frozen lowfat yogurt
Chicken or turkey products
Vinegar, lemon juice
Skim or 2% milk
Poached egg
Lowfat yogurt
Fresh or frozen fish
Water-packed tuna
Pretzels, whole wheat crackers
Shrimp, crabmeat, lobster

Choose Less Often

Ice cream
Bologna, hot dogs
Creamy salad dressings
Whole milk
Fried egg
Sour cream
Fish sticks
Tuna packed in oil
Potato chips
Sardines

Dietary fat should not be confused with body fat; nor is it the sole contributor to body fat. Protein and carbohydrates will also cause the body to accumulate fat if too many calories are ingested.

And fat—both body and dietary—is not completely bad. Fat deposits in the body cushion internal organs from injury, act as insulation in extreme temperatures, and supply energy during muscle exertion. Dietary fats function as carriers of the important vitamins A, D, E and K.

Scientists are now learning more about the link between dietary fats and cancer. Research shows that high levels of either saturated or unsaturated fat may increase the risk of cancers of the breast, prostate, endometrium (lining of the uterus) and colon. Fat-related cancers, all common in the U.S., occur infrequently in countries like Japan, where the diet includes little fat of any kind.

The NFCR, a private, non-profit organization based in Bethesda, Maryland, has allocated more than \$70 million toward basic cellular cancer research over the last 15 years. For more information about the healthy diet and cancer, call: 1-800-321-CURE.

