

Louisiana

# Guard sman

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## Louisiana is ACOE



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CPT. Michael J. Borrel

## Borrel Selected for MacArthur Award

Reprinted in part from On Guard  
By CPT Phil Blahut

One of Louisiana's own was selected for the prestigious General Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award.

Capt. Michael J. Borrel, commander of Company B, 199th Support Battalion was selected as one of five Army Guard captains for the award. The award is presented annually to a lieutenant or captain who demonstrates the MacArthur ideals of "Duty, Honor, and Country."

The stories of the five recipients range from serving in Desert Storm to developing a winning unit training program.

Although Borrel's Louisiana Army National Guard unit did not fight in the desert sands during Operation Desert Storm, a 5th U.S. Army evaluation labeled them "fully capable to accomplish their wartime mission" had the Gulf War lasted longer.

An open communications policy and teamwork style leadership were the successful ingredients used by Borrel while his unit was deployed to Fort Hood, Texas. While there, Borrel's soldiers successfully provided direct support maintenance for the 256th Brigade in the areas of automotive repair, communications, electronic repair, track vehicle, artillery, small arms TOW missile

repair and provided parts supply during warfare training.

"Training and maintenance at Fort Hood were a challenge for my unit. What made our mission a success was the programs we implemented back in 1990," said Borrel. "Before we were mobilized, my troops were familiar with sharing ideas, talking problems out and doing a lot of work during drill weekends."

Achievement is nothing new to Borrel's unit. Prior to the Desert Storm activation, the unit was awarded the Superior Unit Award and the Fifth Army Award for Maintenance Excellence, twice and in 1990, the Chief of Staff of the Army for Maintenance Excellence Award.

"We were fortunate to have a lot of citizen-soldiers with technical backgrounds. Many young soldiers were able to gain experience from the activation period which will help their civilian careers, the National Guard and the U.S. Army," said Borrel.

"My NCO's established a lot of trust in the younger soldiers. They did a superior job under a lot of stress. They were proud to do the mission with no outside assistance from other units."

"We were ready to go to war if needed. We were trained and qualified to do our mission," concluded the MacArthur Award winner.

ON THE FRONT COVER: (Top) MG Ansel M. Stroud, Jr., and CW4 Allan Couvillion accepted Louisiana's first place distinctive ACOE trophy and flag at a May 21 ceremony in the Pentagon Center Gardens in Washington, D.C. Representatives from each major command in the state accompanied MG Stroud to Washington for the acceptance events. (Photo by SGT Kristi L. Moon, 241st PAD)  
(Bottom) Louisiana troops turned up in New Orleans from all over the state representing their units to the 1992 ACOE Evaluation Team in February. (Photo by SSG Carl Waelde, 209th PSC)

## Environmental Study Released

An environmental assessment for expansion of two small-arms ranges into eight separate small-arms ranges at Camp Beauregard near Pineville will be available for public review beginning Tuesday.

The ranges will be able to handle small-arms fire only. That includes M-16 rifles, .45 caliber pistols, M2 and M60 machine guns, and M203/LAW launchers. The latter can use only non-explosive rounds.

The document, prepared by the National Guard Bureau and the Louisiana National Guard, will be available for review at post headquarters, Building 409, F Street,

the main Rapides Parish Library, 411 Washington St., Alexandria; and the Ward 10 Library, 809 Tioga High School Rd., Tioga.

A limited number of copies are available through the mail. Anyone interested should contact LANG-Public Affairs Office, ATTN: Sgt. Kristi Moon, Building 32, Jackson Barracks, New Orleans, LA 70146. Her telephone number is 504-278-6281.

If environmental impacts for the expansion are found to be significant, an environmental impact statement will have to be prepared before instruction can begin.

## New Memorial To Honor Women Soldiers

Armed Forces Day May 16, 1992

The Women in Military Service Memorial Foundation (WIMSA) is sponsoring a national campaign to register women veterans, as well as women serving on active duty, in the National Guard and Reserves.

WIMSA was authorized by Congress in 1986 to build a memorial in Washington, D.C. dedicated to the women who have served the United States military throughout history, from the American Revolution to Operation Desert Storm and beyond.

A unique feature of the Memorial will be the Register, a computerized data base containing a photo, military history and memorable

experiences of the almost 2 million women who have served.

The search is underway for these women (or their descendants) who can tell the stories which will finally document women's role in the military. WIMSA is asking all women veterans and present day service women to register for the Memorial in order to capture the missing pieces of history of women's contributions to our national defense.

For more information about the memorial, write:

Women in Military Service Memorial Foundation Dept. 560 Washington, D.C. 20042-0560

Or call: 1-800-4-SALUTE

Louisiana Guardsman  
The Adjutant General, La. Army  
and Air National Guard  
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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.

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## Asian Pacific American Heritage Month



Effectiveness  
Empowerment  
Enhancement

## May Dedicated to Asian Pacific American Heritage

In 1991, Congress' Joint Resolution 173 designated May 1991 and 1992 as Asian/Pacific American Heritage months.

May was chosen to highlight the culture, heritage and contributions of Asian- and Pacific-Americans because significant events pertaining to their struggles in their adopted country occurred during the month.

May 7, 1992, marks the 149th anniversary of the arrival of the first Japanese immigrants to America in 1843.

May 8, 1992 is the 123rd anniversary of the driving of the "golden spike", which symbolized the completion of the nation's first transcontinental railroad. The "golden spike" joined the two ends of the railroad in 1869. Many of the laborers were Chinese immigrants.

May 4, 1979, was the beginning of the first Asian/Pacific-American Heritage Week observance in the United States.

More than 6 million Americans trace their ancestry to Asian and Pacific Islands. This year's theme is "Asian/Pacific-Americans -Effectiveness-Empowerment-Enhancement."

"We selected this theme trying to describe how Asians and Pacific Islanders are effective, and through their effectiveness, they become more recognized and gain more influence. That's empowerment. Through all of our efforts, society as a whole will be enriched," said Ruth Sing Wong, executive director of the Asian/Pacific-American Heritage Council for the Washington, D.C., area.

The annual observance began as an informal week-long celebration in May 1979. "During the Reagan administration, I was a volunteer inside the White House, and we were able to get the first official recognition by the president in a signing ceremony in 1987," said

Wong. Congress and President George Bush extended the observance to a month in 1991.

"The world marvels at the wealth of ancient art and philosophy, the fine craftsmanship and the colorful literature and folklore that have sprung from Asia and the Pacific Islands," Bush said in his proclamation. "Whether they trace their roots to places like Cambodia, Viet Nam, Korea, the Philippines and the Marshall Islands or cherish their identities as natives of Hawaii and Guam, all Asian and Pacific-Americans can take pride in the celebration of their heritage."

Bush said Asian- and Pacific-Americans have worked hard to reap the rewards of freedom and opportunity. "Many have arrived in the United States after long and arduous journeys, escaping tyranny and oppression with little more than the cloths on their backs," the president continued. "Yet, believing in America's promise of liberty and justice for all and imbued with a strong sense of self-discipline, sacrifice, courage and honor, they have steadily advanced, earning the respect and admiration of their fellow citizens."

Bush said political and economic ties between the United States and countries in Asia and the Pacific are fortified by strong bonds of kinship and culture. "All Americans are enriched by those ties, and thus will proudly unite in observing Asian/Pacific-American Heritage Month."

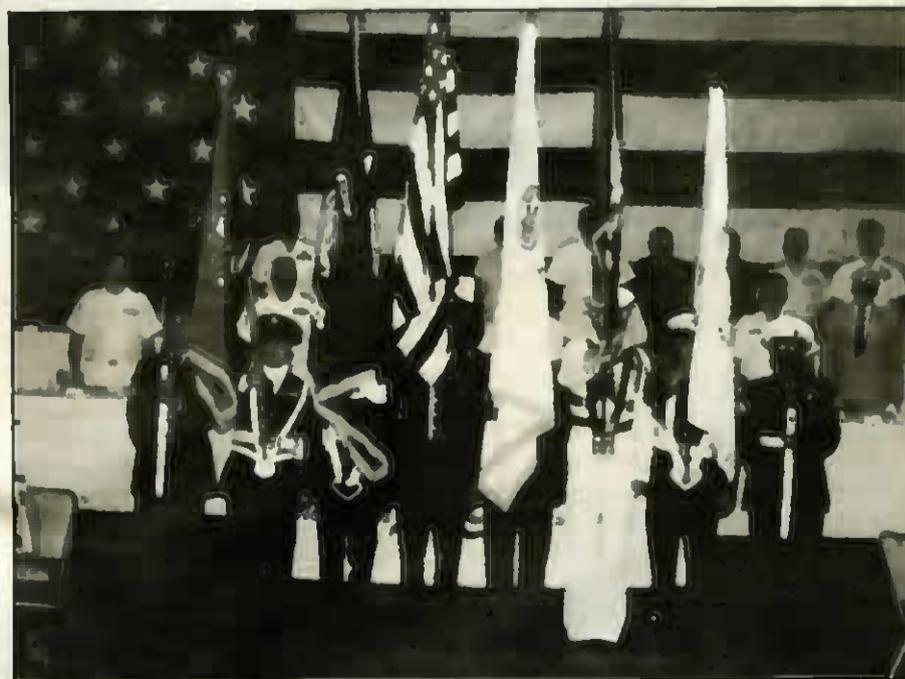
When California Rep. Norman Y. Mineta introduced the house resolution, he said, "America has been called the melting pot of the world. Rather than the melting pot, this nation is like a tapestry with yarns of different fabrics and colors, interwoven to bring strength to our country."



## Women's History Celebrated

The Federal Women's Program was a success because of you. On March 26, 1992, the first Federal Women's Program luncheon was held at Jackson Barracks. The program's theme "A Patchwork of Many Lives" emphasized the background of women from all societies. A poster displayed over forty courageous women who contributed to our nation's history. These women in many ways are the same as you and me, Mrs. Sybil Morial, (pictured) the

guest speaker, acknowledged. She inspired all women to celebrate their potential and to build strength with strategies through education. Honorees from the National Guard included: MAJ Paula Nunez, 1LT Mary Alice Salcido, 2LT Dianne Mandeville, CW2 Kin Ansardi, SGM Darlene Trahan, SMS Brenda Lomax, TSGT Judie McIntyre, and TSGT Stacy Schambach. (Photo by SGT Kirk A. Johnson, LANG-PAO)



A 1992 Armed Forces Day Luncheon was held at the Sheraton Hotel in New Orleans May 28. Admiral Paul Miller, commander-in-chief of the U.S. Atlantic Fleet was the guest speaker. (Photo by SGT Kristi L. Moon, 241st PAD)

## Easter Comes To Life

By SFC Edwin W. Guidroz  
209th PSC

The lobby of Children's Hospital in New Orleans became a playground April 17; a playground of Easter festivities for children at the hospital and Louisiana National Guardsmen alike.

Members of Troop Command, the 209th Personnel Service Company, their families and friends joined together to sponsor an Easter Egg Hunt for the patients and visitors of the hospital.

Guardsmen collected stuffed animals, coloring books, crayons, toys and plastic eggs to insure their hunt was a success.

The children were greeted by the Easter Bunny, better known as Lt.

Col. Charles Watts, executive officer of Troop Command. Chairs, sofas, tables and plants made excellent hiding places for Easter Eggs.

Following the Easter Egg Hunt, each child took a picture with the Easter Bunny and received a hand-made Easter Card frame.

The Easter Bunny and his helpers also visited patients who were unable to participate in the hunt. The next Troop Command/209th endeavor is the annual Children's Hospital Telethon in May, a fund raiser for the hospital. Members of the Easter Guardsmen agree there is no better feeling in the world than lending a helping hand to those in need, especially children.



Members of Troop Command and the 209th Personnel Services Company made Easter happen for some very special children. Children's Hospital of New Orleans welcomed the guardsmen and look forward to their next civic project. (209th PSC Photo)



LTC Charles Watts (r) and SGT Marc Allen along with students from Vic Pitre Elementary School add to the thousands of pounds of food donated during the recent Starvation Awareness Week. (Photo and Story by SGT Kristi L. Moon, 241st PAD)

## Guard Units Help Feed Hungry

Members of the Louisiana National Guard recently aided in the success of Starvation Awareness Week, throughout New Orleans and Jefferson Parish. This year's school food drive efforts brought a total of 118,572 pounds of food to Second Harvesters Food Bank Emergency Food Box Program.

At a press conference in May, the Second Harvesters recognized key contributors to this year's successful campaign. Lt. Col. Charles Watts and Sgt. Marc Allen represented the Troop Command units who participated.

The Louisiana National Guard,

Troop Command, provided assistance in delivering bags and boxes to the area schools and with pick up and delivery of collected food. Fourteen National Guardsmen with the use of five military trucks made this year's Starvation Awareness Week School Food Drive a success. Members of Det 3 HQ STARC, the 209th PSC, the 812 Med Co (AA), 159th MASH, the 241st PAD and 1-244th AV all assisted with the event for the second year in a row.

The collected food will provide a two month supply of nourishing meals for the 29 agencies in the Emergency Food Box Program.

## Get Your Stories In Guardsman Print

The Louisiana Guardsman staff welcomes story and photograph submissions from individuals as well as units and other organizations.

We thrive on stories from "the field". Please tell us about your training experience, community projects and drug demand reduction endeavors. We accept all stories and photos and print as much as we can.

To aid unit public affairs representatives (UPARs) and other contributors, the 241st Public Affairs Detachment provides the following tips on how to write according to the Associated Press Style Guide and make the most of your stories.

1- Give credit to the author. Include a by-line: Rank and Name (ex.) By SGT Kin L. Rank Unit 3333d PAD

2- Give credit to the photographer. Include a cutline:

The 555th Armor Battalion, from Bunting, La., participates in fund raising events to benefit a local orphanage. (Photo by SGT Kin L. Rank, 3333d PAD)

Photographs can also stand alone. This means that there is no accompanying story. Rather, the few facts are provided as a story cutline and may include quotes, as well as identifying key personnel in the picture.

3- In cutlines and bylines use three letter all capitals rank abbreviations. Examples: PVT, SPC, SGT, 2LT, CPT

4- In the text of the story use full rank - Pvt., Sgt., Staff Sgt., Sgt.

First Class, Sgt. Maj., Second Lt., Capt., Col.

5- Write in the active voice. This can be confusing so if you remember to show as much action in each thought as possible, you'll do fine.

6- Compliment stories with quotes. But don't use question and answer transcripts.

7- Double space and type submissions.

8- Deadlines are the first of every other month - 1 May, 1 July, 1 September, 1 November and 1 Dec 92.

9- Provide a proposed headline or title for your story. Headlines should show action, too.

10- In second reference to a person,

only use last name.

(Example: Pvt. John Doe won the race. Doe's time was 3:45.)

11- Type stories in upper and lower case letters. Using all caps is confusing since the military uses so many acronyms.

12- Put the most important facts in the first and second paragraphs.

13- The shorter the story the better. The shorter the paragraph the better. The shorter the sentence the better.

These are suggestions for those who contribute to the Louisiana Guardsman. Don't throw imagination to the wind, but the closer to a real newspaper story your story sounds, the better the chance it has at being published.

# 204th ASG Units Work Year Round

## 204th Conveys Anti-Drug Message

Soldiers of the 204th Area Support Group took the initiative for this year's drug demand reduction program recently.

When Capt. Donna A. Lajoie, commander of HHC, 204th ASG requested assistance, she was met with motivation by soldiers who cared to go the extra distance.

Four soldiers of the 204th, Pvt. Anthony Henry, Spec. Brian Forjet, Spec. Kirk Landreneau and Spec. Steven Barter devoted their time, energy and efforts to help area school children win the war on drugs.

Holy Cross School held a "Wellness Week" the third week of April. On April 13 and 14, the 204th soldiers manned a display booth

equipped with films, audiovisuals, bumper stickers, bookmarkers and pamphlets for the school's fifth through eighth grade students. The soldiers also went to the classrooms and did presentations on the dangers of drugs. Then, the students participate in an open question and answer discussion. The program was such a success that the 204th hopes to expand their presentation to other elementary, junior and high schools.

"There is the basic message to these kids that to be successful you have to be drug free. The Army doesn't do drugs and these soldiers went beyond the call of duty to show them that," Lajoie said.

## 204th Soldiers Learn From Children

By SPC Deana Gilardi  
204th ASG/PIO

Some very special children at the Soboloff Center recently reminded soldiers of the 204th Area Support Group that not all battles are fought on the battlefield.

Touro Infirmary provides services for 300 children with cerebral palsy. The Soboloff Center at Touro addresses the needs of 15 preschool children with the disease.

Part of the 204th's Army Communities of Excellence program is to support the center. On March 18, members of the 204th brought children ages two through eight to the Audubon Zoo for the day. With wheelchairs and leg braces, the children set out to see the animals and picnic with our guardsmen.

When the United Cerebral Palsy

Foundation of New Orleans lost its sponsor last December, the 204th went to its aid. Now, the 204th holds raffles, t-shirt sales and hat sales to raise money for the children. Not only does the unit fund field trips, but it also provides funds for special educational equipment the children need, such as power pads for computer learning.

The center, however, still needs a full-time sponsor. With military budget cuts, the 204th can only help so much. "We donate our time even when we can't donate enough funds," Capt. Donna A. Lajoie said. Some members of the unit visit the center once a month and plan field trips quarterly. Staff Sgt. Denise Walters said, "Their energy and strength are very motivating. They are so willing to look out for each other. We, as soldiers, can learn a lot from them."

## 3673d Maintenance Co. Earns Excellence Award

The Department of the Army Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics has named a Louisiana National Guard Unit among the runners up for the Army Chief of Staff's Award for Maintenance Excellence (AAME).

The 3673d Maintenance Company (Forward/Direct Support) was named runner up in the National Guard TOEMTOE Units Heavy Category.

These awards are presented by the Department of the Army to recognize exceptional accomplishments in Unit Maintenance. Competition for the award includes submission of a packet spelling out the Unit's accomplishments in the areas of readiness, Maintenance

Management, Cost Savings, innovative programs and Maintenance Training. The Units also received on-site evaluations by four two-man teams from the U.S. Army Ordinance Center & Schools (USAOC&S) Directorate of Evaluation and Standardization, the executive agent for the program.

There were 36 semi-finalists evaluated by USAOC&S this year. The program, which started in 1982, "focuses on the unit level maintenance operations of the company, battery and troop size units in the active Army, U.S. Army Reserves and U.S. Army National Guard," according to Jerry Macon, project officer for USAOC&S.

I  
WANT  
YOU



*Our Greatest  
Battle is the  
War on Drugs.  
Let's Win BIG!*

**DRUG  
FREE**

## Soldiers Train On Coast Guard Turf

BY SPC Dane Kerne  
204th ASG/PIO

One of the keys to allied success in Desert Storm was the ability of the forces sent there to adapt to the substantially different environment in Southwest Asia. However, one of the reasons they were able to do so was because they based their method of operation on a few, set, time-proven practices that will work regardless of the surroundings. This allowed the 204th Area Support Group to execute a successful Field Training Exercise in a bit of uncharted territory commonly known as the Coast Guard Communications Station in the New Orleans suburb of Algiers.

"We have proven that we can operate in a tactical environment in the past. I just felt it was time to get back to the basics," said Capt. Donna Lajoie, commander of HHC, 204th Area Support Group. The soldiers did just that, centering the entire exercise around common task training (CTT). Although many of the tasks reviewed were some familiar old standards, a few were somewhat less common. For instance, many soldiers were fascinated and challenged by the task of identifying enemy aircraft. Another task that will recall fond memories of Primary Leadership Development Course was a mini-Land Navigation Course. The driving proficiency of many of the units' drivers was updated when they took part in a night driving exercise

held on a dirt road - the Mississippi River levee.

The exercise was smoothly executed, mostly because of feedback received by Lajoie from the soldiers during the many After Action Reviews (AAR). "The company got a lot out of the reviews because the soldiers' feedback helped us to learn a few things," said Lajoie. The last AAR of the exercise was attended by Col. William Thomas, 204th's Group Commander. After watching the proceedings, Thomas said that he was pleased with the unit's effort. Thomas said that, since this was the first time he had ever observed the unit in action in the field, he wasn't sure of what to expect. The initiative shown by the NCOs in getting things done, the effectiveness of training away from our usual training site (Camp Villere), and mostly the cohesiveness of the soldiers as a group was very impressive," said Lajoie.

Some of the aspects of the training received by the soldiers of the 204th in this exercise may one day be glossed over as just "basic stuff" in comparison to other, more complex tasks they will encounter in the future. Well, just ask some of the veterans of Desert Storm you encounter in the future one day while on duty and ask them just how important some "basic" things like NBC was (and is) to them. If you do, you may get the same sound advise the 204th got: just get "back to the basics".

# Candidates Countdown To Commission

By 1LT Jordan T. Jones  
LAMA

Annual Training for many guardsmen means two weeks of sleep deprivation, a relentless battle fighting bugs, and a grand opportunity to be on the same aromatic level with nature.

To senior officer candidates nearing graduation from the Louisiana Military Academy Officer Candidate program, it has a slightly different connotation. Their Phase III annual training means a commitment to demonstrate what they have learned up to that point in their training, and a final opportunity to show their potential as future officers in the Louisiana Army National Guard.

Phase III is the culmination of the candidates' training, highlighted by a trip to Texas. It is there that they work side-by-side with Texas and New Mexico senior candidates showing their skills. They perform practically all the functions required of infantrymen. They conduct raids, ambushes, go on patrols, carry out offensive maneuvers and set up defenses. The candidates learn to perform these activities in squad to company-size elements, which give them a better understanding of the role each plays.

The candidates are placed in various leadership positions to obtain the genuine feeling of responsibility all officers encounter. They also learn the role of the enlisted ranks by being platoon sergeants, M-60 gunners, or privates on a defensive perimeter—actually digging armpit deep fighting positions. They experience stress, frustration, anger and pain as a minimum. At Best, they understand these feelings and learn how to use them for constructive purposes. But, learning is the key. "What does not kill me makes me stronger," Nietzsche.

Our job is to train, advise an counsel (TAC) candidates. We are the TAC Officers. We place them in situations which bring out the aforementioned emotions to determine their physical and psychological

boundaries. When we find a weakness, we explore it, then show the candidates how to overcome it. The bottom line is that we turn candidates into leaders.

The most difficult aspect of being a TAC officer is knowing when and when not to apply varying levels of stress to the senior candidates when they are seniors. Though we are dealing with a variety of personalities, we follow standards directly related to their level of training in the program. By then they are ready to begin being treated as officers and that is when the difficulty comes in.

Sometimes the desire to help out too much arises, similar to an older brother attempting to assist a younger one in need. But a TAC must always strive to maintain his bearing and remember his role with the academy. Sure, we advise and counsel but we cannot allow ourselves to become emotionally involved. We understand what they are going through because we have been there.

The majority of the TAC Officers are graduates from the Army Reserve Component Officer Candidate Program. We know what goes through a candidate's mind on arrival in Texas. They think about what they have learned, the experiences they have had, and how good it feels to be a few weeks away from a commission. This trip to Texas will not be much different from any other Phase III annual Training, except there will be different faces in different places and different forces serving as aggressors.

For the seniors, it is almost over with only a few days of administrative work to accomplish, a dining-in, then the "Big" day. For the TAC officers, it is a brief reflection on the past year's training, and an hour and a half to watch the faces of those we trained cross the stage with pride. We send the newly commissioned off with words of wisdom; such as, "For example, is not proof," Yiddish proverb. The new lieutenants celebrate the moment, and TAC officers go back to work because there is another OCS class to train.

## Officers Trade-In Warrants

1LT Susan Keller  
AMEDD Recruiting

In February, 1992 three hundred Physician's Assistants traded in their warrant officer rank for commissioned officer rank insignia. Physician's Assistants Army-wide are presently being converted to commissioned officers under this new provision. The reserve component has a 10 year transition period in which Physician's Assistants are able to remain warrant officers before converting to commissioned officers. This allowance

was made due to the difference in educational requirements, professional credentials, and the preference of the Physician's Assistant to remain a warrant officer. Physician Assistants that meet all qualifications are being commissioned in the Army Medical Specialist Corp, Area of Concentration 65D, and in the rank of second to first lieutenant.

Prerequisite requirements for consideration of commissioned officer status within the Army Medical Specialist Corps are graduation from an American Medical Association

approved Physician Assistants training program, BS or BA degree in any area of study, and current certification by the National Commission Certification of Physician's Assistants. The 10 year transition period will enable warrant officers to meet all prerequisite requirements or remain in their warrant officer rank for the remainder of their military career.

In the Louisiana Army National Guard we have successfully converted one Physician's Assistant to the commissioned officer ranks. Second Lieutenant Eddie Thomas, assigned to

Headquarters 3/156th Infantry, was appointed as a commissioned officer on March 13, 1992. The new commissioning process will effect more than just the already trained Physician Assistants. Direct Commission Physician's Assistants and Army training participants will also experience changes in processing, training, and rank structure. The regulation pertaining to this subject has not been distributed yet, however information is being disseminated by word of mouth from the National Guard Bureau.

## 5<sup>th</sup> AG's Shooting Match Held

SGT Thomas W. Moulton  
241st PAD

With worldwide Army drawdown rapidly becoming a reality, soldiers must be the best they can be, in all facets of their training. Recently, soldiers from the major commands (MACOMs) around the state went to Fort Polk to show just how proficient they are with combat rifle and pistol shooting.

The occasion was the 5th Adjutant General's Combat Rifle and Pistol Competition. Although the weather wasn't particularly pleasant, the cold, wet and windy March day did not stop the four teams from competing.

Each team was comprised of six soldiers, a team captain, coach and four team members with a maximum rank of captain for officers and master sergeant for enlisted. They fired the M16A1 or A2, which ever is assigned to their respective units. It was also required that they wear kevlar helmets and full load bearing equipment.

The day began with a safety briefing by 1st Lt. Paul Addison, Range OIC and Sgt. First Class Dan Saxon, the Range NCO of HQ STARC. The team members then began the actual competition with a two mile run carrying everything that would be carried on the range.

This should be completed in under 25 minutes. Sgt. Gary Root, of the 156th Infantry, upheld the team concept to the fullest extent, completing the course in squad formation. The last runner crossed the line in 19 minutes and five seconds.

The course of fire consisted of 10 rounds, sustained fire from the standing position in two minutes at 100 meters. Then 10 rounds of rapid fire in the sitting position at 200 meters in 50 seconds, followed by 10 rounds of rapid fire at 300 meters assuming the prone position in 60 seconds. In each of these events, a shooter could score a maximum of 150 points, 50 for each event.

The event which really tests shooter skill is shooting 400 meters out with 20 rounds of slow fire delivered on target in 22 minutes from the prone position. This event is most taxing on the shooters because the target is dropped and scored after

each round is fired. This event garners a possible 100 points.

With the competition complete, Lt. Col. Bob Williams, Deputy Director of Security and Training and Col. Edmund J. Giering awarded first place to the 2228th Engineers, 2nd place to the 204th Area Support Group, 3rd place to the 415th Military Intelligence Battalion and 4th place to 2/156th Infantry, representing the 256th Infantry Brigade.

There was better weather on the following day and the competition continued. After the usual safety briefings, the pistol competitors began their match with a two mile run and then the firing portion. All targets were engaged from 25 meters. Table II, called the "Duel", tests the shooters ability to rapidly engage a target and place accurate sustained fire from the standing position. Table III is the military rapid fire from the standing position.

The 205th Engineers scored 1122 points of a possible 1200 points for first place. The 2/156th Armor was second with 1103, the 3671st Heavy Equipment Maintenance scored 1079 for third place and the 159th MASH finished in fourth. Capt. Joe Nobles of the 1/156th Armor was top shot with 289 out of a possible 300 points.

According to Williams, the participants in the Adjutant General's competition are the best from around the state.

"Each command is limited to the number of teams that can participate," said Williams, "and that team represents the winner of the Major Commands (MACOMs) competition. This competition is not the end of all these events. The Winston P. Wilson Combat Rifle, Pistol and Machine Gun Match is held annually at Camp Robinson, Arkansas, as well as other levels of Army competition."

Primarily, it's a competitive event," Williams said, "but it does cover the aspects of readiness, meaning each soldier should be proficient with his individual weapon. It not only brings out the competitive spirit of the individual in marksmanship, it also increases unit involvement and enhances the proficiency of the soldiers with their assigned weapons."

# 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 !!

For Information, Assistance or to  
Submit Suggestions Contact:

#### THE STATE FAMILY ASSISTANCE OFFICE

LANG-DPA-FS  
JACKSON BARRACKS  
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70146-0330  
1-800-541-5860, (504) 278-6324,  
FAX (504) 278-6290

#### ROLE OF THE FAMILY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM?

The role of the Family Assistance Program is to serve as the commander's primary source for programs which enhance readiness of service members and their families and contribute to overall morale and welfare. To establish pre- and post-mobilization family assistance support requirements, responsibilities, resources and procedures to support the overall mission of the Louisiana National Guard.

#### GOALS OF THE FAMILY PROGRAM

1. Establish a level of awareness among leaders, service members, and family members that encourage service member retention and improves readiness.
2. Emphasize the importance of the family and support family member participation in unit activities.
3. Educate families about the existence and nature of benefits and entitlements both in their current status and upon mobilization (ex. Family Member ID Cards, Commissary Privileges, Morale, Welfare and Recreation Benefits).
4. Link service members and families with available and appropriate resources.

#### WHY A FAMILY PROGRAM?

Everyone Involved Benefits:

- a. For the Family: A unit Family Program (FP) develops a family

support network through which families mutually support each other. Communications networks are established between the unit and family members improving family awareness of the organizations of the military unit, its missions, and activities. A successful Family Program can develop a more positive attitude in family members toward themselves, the unit and the court.

- b. For the Soldier: It is the assurance that family members will have support in their absence. Knowing their families are provided for creates stability in service member performance in the unit, and enhances training and psychological readiness to fight.

- c. For the Command: A unit Family Program affords increased levels of group confidence, commitment, and predictability among service members. There is a potential for higher levels of training. A successful Family Program can help the unit prevent a significant portion of annoying problems within families that are likely to impact adversely on service member performance or reduce unit strength levels through attrition. The commander's time and resources can be conserved, and detractors from its mission minimized, through Family Program Assistance.

- d. For the National Guard: A successful unit Family Program will make family members feel that they are truly a part of the National Guard Family. A successful Family Program combined with a training program that challenges the service member makes an unbeatable combination that will assure success in the all-important mission of retaining quality service members.

#### Who are the Family Program Members

There are two types of Family Program members:

- a. Volunteers. Family Program volunteers are representatives or committee members responsible for a variety of Family Program projects and activities. Volunteers may be Guard members, spouses, children, parents, grandparents, brothers,

sisters, retirees, — any member of the family who is interested supporting the unit.

- b. Program Participants. These are the recipients of the Family Program services. They may attend classes, seminars, or social events sponsored by the volunteers.

#### How To Begin?

There is no single way to start a family program in individual units. The program success depends on the volunteers and the approval and support of the commander.

#### What Are Some Family Activities?

Activities can be as varied as the numbers of members in the unit. However, they should match the group. When planning activities consideration should be given to the average age, backgrounds, and interests in the group. An activity that was a success in one unit may not be successful in another.

#### Activities To Consider:

Family Member Sponsorship, Command Letters Telephone Trees, Family Member Briefings, Youth Activities, Employer Support, Volunteer Recognition, Adopt a School, Adopt a Highway, Stress Management Classes, Home and Auto Repair Classes, Family Finances, Parenting/Communication Skills, and Sports Activities.

#### Planning Successful Unit Family Support Group Meetings:

- \* Announce the meeting far enough in advance to ensure that families can place it properly in their already busy schedule. \*

- \* Send the invitation directly to the family members. \*

- \* Provide child care during the meeting and make sure that you inform the families of the care in their letter of invitation. \*

- \* Conduct the meeting in a clean and friendly environment. \*

- \* Let families know that they are welcome. \*

- \* Unless absolutely impossible, the Commander and the Unit Family Assistance Officer should be in attendance to show command support. \*

- \* Refreshments are a big plus. \*

- \* In addition to the family support meeting, provide information or a speaker that can discuss issues that will help improve the attendees quality of life. \*

#### For More Information:

The following references on family member involvement and activities can be requested from either the local unit or The State Family Assistance Office:

- a. Establishing a National Guard Family Assistance Program (National Guard Regulation 600-12, Air National Guard Regulation 211-1).

- b. A Guide To Establishing Family Support Groups (Department of The Army Pamphlet 608-74).

- c. Family Support Groups Reserve Component Handbook - A Companion To Department of The Army Pamphlet 608-47.

#### FOUNDATIONS OF THE FAMILY PROGRAM

#### FAMILY MEMBERS

#### FAMILY SUPPORT GROUPS VOLUNTEERS

#### FAMILY PROGRAM COORDINATOR

#### MILITARY STAFF PERSONNEL

#### COMMANDERS/SUPERVISORS

#### THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

# Family News In Brief

## ARE YOU DEERS PRE-ENROLLED?

The Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) tells the Army who is eligible for benefits and entitlements (Post Exchange, Commissary, Medical, Army Emergency Relief, etc.) in the event that a soldier is called to active duty for 30 days or more.

Eligible family members applies to spouses, children, step children living in the soldier's household, wards and dependent parents. To get his/her eligible family members DEERS Pre-Enrolled the soldier must present to the unit documents that provide proof of dependency (marriage license, birth certification, divorce decree, adoption papers, court documentation showing that the child is a ward). To find out if you are DEERS Pre-Enrolled ask the soldier, the soldier's National Guard Unit, or the State Family Program Office at 1-800-541-5860.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Anyone having Post Exchange/1Base Exchange (PX/BX) privileges may purchase merchandise from the Exchange Mail Order Catalog? This catalog is a multi-service operation that supports the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, and Coast Guard (both active and reserve). The catalog has a selection of merchandise from around the world, and may be reviewed at all exchanges. The Exchange Mail Order Catalog Center assures eligibility for exchange shopping privileges by accessing the DEERS data base. Catalog merchandise may be ordered at the customer service desk of any Army or Air Force Exchange, or by calling toll free at 1-800-527-2345, or by telefax at 1-800-446-0163. The hearing impaired may call 1-800-423-2011.

## CAMPUS NEWS!!

### CAMPUS NOW COVERS LEAD-LEVEL SCREENING FOR INFANTS

CAMPUS has expanded its well-baby care benefit to include one blood lead-level screening for infants up to the age of two. This new benefit, authorized by Public Law 102-190, became effective December 5, 1991, for care received on and after that date.

Claims for lead-level screening should be submitted to the CAMPUS Claims processor for the state in which the care is provided. For additional information contact your local Health Benefits Advisor or the office of CAMPUS Benefit Services

Branch, Aurora, CO 80045-6900, telephone (303) 361-3907.

## FREE INFORMATION ON AUTO INSURANCE AND FINANCING EDUCATION

The Consumer Information Center has developed two booklets that will help you lower your auto insurance as well as finance education costs. For a free copy, send your name and address to Consumer Information Center, Department 5503X (for the insurance pamphlet) or Department 578W (for financing education), Pueblo, CO 81009.

## "DO'S AND DON'TS" OF JOB INTERVIEWS

Today, for many different reasons, members of our families are out looking for jobs. A very necessary part of job hunting is the interview with prospective employers. Like with everything else there are some ways that are better than others in approaching a job interview. We hope that the following tips will help you in your job search endeavors:

- \* Be well groomed, in appropriate attire (no gum chewing, no smoking).
- \* Be prepared to answer many questions about yourself.
- \* Make sure the prospective employer can reach you to set up an interview.
- \* Be specific about the kind of work you want to do and what you are good at.
- \* Don't forget any body language. Pay attention to posture, eye contact, and a firm handshake.
- \* Don't forget to tell the prospective employer what you can contribute to the company or organization.
- \* Information to take with you: (Social Security Number, Driver's License, Resume — although not all positions require a resume, you should be able to furnish the interviewer with information about your education and previous employment).
- \* Don't sell yourself short. Avoid underestimating your worth.
- \* Don't forget to follow-up on your interview. Write a short thank you note.

## EXAMPLES OF QUESTIONS YOU CAN ASK DURING THE JOB INTERVIEW

The job interview process is a two way street. Not only is the prospective employer evaluating you, but you are also making decisions about him/her. It is very appropriate that you ask questions during the interview. Preparing a list of questions before the interview to

take with you might be helpful.

## THESE QUESTIONS MIGHT INCLUDE:

- What are the job duties?
- Is there a chance for overtime?
- What are the opportunities for future advancement?
- Are there any union requirements?
- What are the hours of employment?
- What fringe benefits are provided by the company?
- May I have a tour of the work site?
- Why is the position open?
- Is there a chance for overtime?

## FAMILY CARE PLANS

### WHAT IS A FAMILY CARE PLAN

It is a plan for the care of family members during a service member's absence. A Family Care Plan is:

**REQUIRED:** For all service

members who have dependents and who are either single or part of a dual-service couple (both have military affiliation). This applies to both Active and Reserve Forces. A Family Care Plan can be helpful for other service members with dependents. This working plan provides guidance for people in your absence. For example, it helps guardians and others with decisions about care for your dependent family members, financial and legal matters and medical needs. Family Care Plans are an essential part of military readiness. Deployment or mobilization could occur at any time. A Family Care Plan ensures that your wishes are carried out on essential issues. Soldiers who desire more information on Family Care Plans may contact either their individual units or the State Family Assistance Office.

## 527<sup>th</sup> Engineers FSG Adopts Operation Excellence

By Mary Billberry,  
Battalion Coordinator

The saying goes, "Time flies when you are having fun or busy." At the 527th ENGR Battalion and its outlying units, we are doing both.

Under the command of Colonel Claude W. Patterson and Major Ronnie Stuckey our Battalion Families are participating in endeavors in keeping with the theme of ACOE, "Leading & Caring."

The name Operation Excellence has been chosen for the 527th's family programs, with the following goals for 1992.

1. Encourage participation of family members in activities which support the unit.
2. Develop a Family Support Network through which families mutually support each other.
3. Identify the need of supporting communities activities and become involved with the community.
4. Maintain a Family Support Group (FSG) bulletin board at each unit with current information.
5. Publish a FSG Newsletter.
6. Improve family awareness of the units organization, mission, and activities through volunteer services.
7. Educate the family on benefits and entitlements available to the Guard Family.
8. To prepare family members in the event of mobilization.
9. Recommend programs to the Commander that will improve the Quality of Life for the soldier and his/her family.
10. To work closely with State Family Assistance Office at Jackson

Barracks, to ensure the following of proper guidelines and procedures of a FSG.

During Operation Desert Shield/Storm when it became necessary to mobilize and deploy the soldiers of the 527th Engineer Battalion, our Family Support Groups were in place and ready to meet the needs of our family members. We are all encouraged by the many reports received on the dedication of our soldiers, families, and our communities to overcome personal hardships for the benefit of our country. It is for this reason that a FSG is strongly urged and actively supported in each unit of the 527th. We hope to ensure our soldiers and their families of continued information and support they need during periods of separation, weekend drills, annual training, deployments, and/or mobilization.

Under the direction of LT Dianne Mandeville, State Family Assistance Coordinator, Mr. Samuel B. Cata and I attended Track I Training in San Antonio, Texas on 21-23 February, 1992 hosted by Firth Army.

During 4-5 April drill, Mr. Cato and I visited each unit in the Battalion to meet with the Unit Commanders and Family Support Group Leaders. It was a pleasant visit for us and everyone who attended. Each unit was eager to continue their efforts in keeping the standards high in their groups and to implement programs to benefit their families. Fun and a spirit of fellowship was the main topic of discussion. **Cont'd on p.13**



Members of HQ STARC assisted VFW Post 10666 of Arabi, La., with their St. Patrick's Day Parade. The unit members volunteered to lead the parade through the streets of Arabi with a color guard. After the parade, Grand Marshall Frank Davis of WWL TV4 thanked the guardsmen for a job well done. Pictured from left to right are: SGT Cheryl Arcement, SGM Ernie Guerra, SFC Toby Mullins, SFC Lawrence Hatch and SGT Peggy Thibodeaux.

## Public Servants Recognized

By Jim Garamone  
American Forces Information Service

Government workers often feel like Rodney Dangerfield: They don't get any respect.

Public Service Recognition Week, May 4 to 10 this year, informs Americans about the talents and contributions of federal, state and local government workers. The week is sponsored by the Public Employees Roundtable, a coalition of 30 professional associations.

"We want to make people aware of the neat things government does," said Gretchen Hakola, roundtable spokesperson. "The only time most Americans become aware of the government is when there are mistakes. A smoothly running program just doesn't get much press."

The week is designed to counteract this and showcase the contributions made by government workers at all levels. The week started in 1985 in four cities. This year, planners forecast more than 1,000 celebrations encompassing all states and territories. Some will be held at DoD facilities overseas.

"Each celebration has a distinctly local flavor," Hakola said. "In New Orleans, they're having a riverfest. In California, a golf tournament. There will be baseball games in North Dakota and a breakfast bash in Washington state."

In addition, many cities are sponsoring interagency festivals. Hakola said this gives employees themselves the chance to see what

other agencies are doing. "Many employees find these a good way to meet people in other agencies and find new ways of approaching similar problems," she said.

In Washington, D.C., a three-day blitz is scheduled. "The National Mall will be taken over for three days to highlight the contributions of government workers," Hakola said. "We'll have everything from tanks and helicopters to weather balloons and how money is made. The Beagle Brigade from the Department of Agriculture will demonstrate how they search for pests and foods.

"The idea is to remind Americans that the government — no matter what level — is people and that government is accessible," she said. "That's the idea the theme of the week tries to get across. 'Make America Work for You' has been our theme since we started. We hope people will realize that government isn't some lofty idea, but their neighbors."

The week will also highlight educational efforts. The council distributed teachers kits and is looking at what public service will look like in the 21st century. "We're also working on a computer game that will show people what their stake in government is," she said.

But the week is not just for education and information for those outside government. It is also to give public service employees a pat on the back. "Many professional organizations are concerned about the morale of public service employees," Hakola said. "This is one way of giving people a pat on the back for a job well done."

## DPA Displays Culture

BY SSG Arthur J. Johnson  
209th PSC

Louisiana, New Orleans in particular, has been called a melting pot of cultures. Its unique combination of cultures is what gives the state its special flavor and world famous charm. Because of this, and the need to get everyone in tune with the many cultures of the people they work and live with, the Director of Personnel and Administration (DPA) has appointed a Culture Awareness Board.

The board, under the supervision of Second Lt. Dianne Mandeville, has designated the bulletin board at the main entrance of DPA (Bldg 36) as

the Cultural Awareness board. Each month a different cultural/ethnic group will be highlighted.

During the month of February, in keeping with the traditional theme of Black History, the bulletin board depicted famous black Americans. The display consisted of pictures of Historians such as Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., the first black Lieutenant General; P.B.S. Pinchback, the first black Louisiana governor; James Weldon Johnson, author of the black national anthem "Lift Every Voice and Sing"; and others.

The month of March honored Women's History month with a similar pictorial dedication.



## DPA Adopts School

BY CW2 Gerard A. Abair  
DPA

As part of the Louisiana National Guard Army Communities of Excellence program, members of the Directorate of Personnel and Administration Adopt-A-Flag-Pole Committee adopted Arabi Elementary School's flag pole. The class of Ms. Lorie Kennedy was assigned to assist the committee.

A flag and a plaque were dedicated in honor of the men and women of Louisiana's military who served and died for this great country. In addition, a flower bed was planted in memory of those who died during Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm to remind us of those great soldiers; who will be dearly missed, but never forgotten.

An Easter Egg Hunt was sponsored by the committee at Arabi Elementary, and the students enjoyed themselves thoroughly. Although the ACOE inspections and formalities are over here at Jackson Barracks, the group will continue to visit Arabi Elementary school.

The committee would like to give special thanks to Col. Lester Schmidt for his assistance and support.

ACOE can be a challenge, but the gratitude they received from visiting the school more than compensates for all the time and effort put into the "Adopt a Flag Pole" Program.

Involved: Committee Members CW2 Gerard A. Abair, Staff Sgt. Denise Ryan, Staff Sgt. Charles Hardges, Sgt. Cheryl Arcement, Spec. Jerry Gillette, Mrs. Dana Williams and Principal James Connors.



# Third Time's Charm For Lo



It is community projects like this one, wrapping Christmas presents for patients at Children's Hospital, by members of Troop Command and the 209th Personnel Services Company, being echoed throughout the state down to the detachment level, that have gotten Louisiana into the top three spots of the ACOE competition for three years in a row. (Photo by SGT Kristi L. Moon, 241st PAD)



This scene was repeated all over Louisiana in February as the Department of the Army and National Guard Bureau ACOE Evaluation Team visited our facilities, shops, offices and communities to see first hand all the tireless work put into the Louisiana effort to become #1 in the nation. (Photo by SSG Carl Waelde, 209th PSC)



ACOE supporters from all over the Louisiana Army and Air National Guard showed up at Jackson Barracks for a Mardi Gras-style welcome for the ACOE Evaluation Team. A parade complete with throws and street-filled spectators, three days of southern hospitality and unlimited cajun cuisine combined, put the finishing touches on our 1992 ACOE entry. (Photo by SSG Carl Waelde, 209th PSC)

For the past three years Louisiana has won the top three of the Army Competition. In 1990 we won third place. And in 1991 we won first place.



In the

The photographs here tell the story of the dedicated road to providing the best of any national



Leading that ACOE welcome parade was the 209th PSC. It has always upheld the reputation of being the best anywhere would be complete without a soldier. (Photo by SSG Carl Waelde, 209th PSC)

# Louisiana's ACOE Master Plan

...a has participated and placed in  
...nities of Excellence Program. In  
...1991 we won second place.  
...92 we are

# 1

## Nation.

...the story of the long, hard,  
...absolute best customer service  
...award in the nation.



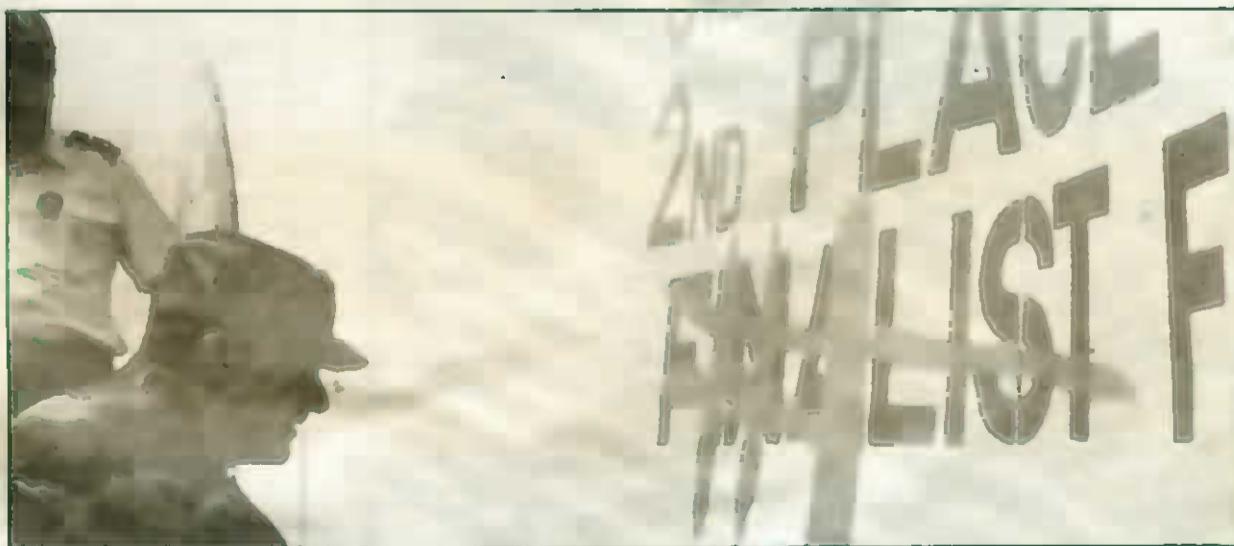
At the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. May 21, GEN Gordon R. Sullivan congratulated all the participants in this year's competition but encouraged everyone not to wait too long before planning and implementing next year's campaign. Fort Sill, Oklahoma won first place for the active component. (Photo by SGT Kristi L. Moon, 241st PAD)



To celebrate our first place winnings, HQ STARC held a picnic in New Orleans complete with grilled burgers, volleyball, cabbage roll, horseshoes, three-legged races, wheel barrow races, and water balloon tosses. Other facilities throughout the state also held ACOE celebration picnics and events. (Photo by SSG Carl Waelde, 209th PSC)



World renowned Olympia Brass Band. Louisiana  
...at what we do. So no Mardi Gras style festivity  
...line march. (Photo by SSG Carl Waelde, 209th



On April 1, MG Ansel M. Stroud, Jr., received notification that Louisiana was selected as the first place winner in the 1992 ACOE competition. You can bet there was no April Fools there. Immediately, COL John Landry (kneeling), and MG Stroud updated our status on the ACOE mural at Jackson Barracks. (Photo by SGT Lucas J. Landreaneau, 241st PAD)

# Lafayette Joins Guard for Weapons Qualification

By SPC Bernard Chaillot  
256th Inf Bde PAO

In these times of economic constraint, the Army National Guard joins many organizations in looking for ways to get the most bang out of each buck.

For unit weapons qualifications in February and March, the Guard found an ally in the Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Department, which agreed to let soldiers use the department's Training Academy shooting range. The support of Sheriff Don Breaux and his staff saved the state thousands of dollars, since the Guardsmen would have had to travel to Camp Beauregard near Alexandria or to Fort Polk for the mandatory weapons training.

1st Lt. Harold Molbert, a Breaux Bridge native, said the use of the range not far from the headquarters of the 256th Infantry Brigade resulted in higher qualification scores as well, since soldiers were relaxed and ready to concentrate on the task instead of trying to get the kinks out from a long bus ride.

"We support the community all year round, so it is very gratifying when we get community support like this in return," Molbert said.

Molbert, the officer in charge of range firing during one session in March, praised the efficiency and cleanliness of the academy range. "This is obviously a class operation. The soldiers are all impressed by the professionalism here," he said.

Jim Staton, in-service training coordinator for the facility, said the sheriff's department "was happy to help out. A number of different

groups request to use the range from time to time, and it's one of the services we provide as a public outreach function."

The facility was provided for the use of the Guard free of charge, the range manager said. "Sheriff Breaux won't allow any charges, except for my K (compensatory) time," Staton grinned. "And that compensation is picked up by the department."

Staton, who has managed the range since 1986, said it's a pleasure to work with the military, "since the troops are always squared away and don't have to be drilled about safety. They're well-trained and know how to handle weapons properly."

The range, in a corner of rural Lafayette Parish, a few miles northwest of Breaux Bridge, is at the end of a long, winding road, with a high, soldier berm, or levee between the target area and nearby Interstate 10; several hundred yards away through a thick wooded area.

"If anyone shoots over the berm, you're off the range," Molbert boomed through the range sound system. "That's a disqualification, and if you bolo (fail to qualify) twice, we start processing discharge papers."

No one shot over the top of the 20-foot levee. In fact, the majority of the zeroing (sighting) rounds found their way into the 3-centimeter circles (about the size of a half dollar) on the target silhouettes.

Staton, who shot No. 1 in the latest Dixie Nationals with his Smith & Wesson 38 special, whistled softly. "That's some mighty good marksmanship," he said.



At the recent graduation ceremony of Primary Leadership Development Class 5-92 from the Region VI Non-Commissioned Officer Academy at Ball, Louisiana, BG John D'Araujo, Jr., Deputy Director of the Army National Guard, presented the academy with its official accreditation certificate. Accepting the certificate are from left to right: CSM H.B. Cook, State Command Sgt. Maj.; CSM John R. Morrow, Region VI NCO Academy Command Sgt. Maj.; MG Ansel M. Stroud, Adjutant General; and D'raujo. Seventy-eight active duty and reserve soldiers graduated from the month long class. (Photo by SGT Kristi L. Moon, 241st PAD)

# Chaplain Cites Storm Lessons

By SPC Bernard Chaillot  
256th Inf Bde PAO

Brigade Chaplain Col. Andre Broussard, looking back on the lessons of Desert Storm a year later said recently the Chaplain's Corps came to a new awareness of its mission that continues to pay dividends today.

"We learned the areas we were proficient in and also the areas we needed to work on, such as preparing for mobilization," Broussard said. "The important thing now is sustenance training to stay fresh on the lessons we learned during Desert Storm."

The Catholic priest, who pastors at Our Lady of Sacred Heart in Church Point, oversees the activities of five other chaplains in the 256th Infantry Brigade, one for each battalion.

In addition, he has a battalion-sized force to minister to, including the headquarters company and its detachments, the 256th Engineers in Opelousas and the Cavalry of Troop E in Natchitoches.

Usually, a brigade supervisory chaplain would not have a battalion of his own to manage, but I enjoy the interaction with the troops and being out in the field with the soldiers," Broussard said.

The brigade chaplain is a familiar sight in training areas, often seeming to be in two or more places at once as he criss-crosses his HumVee through the backwoods of Fort Polk, conducting religious services and offering counsel to those in need.

"In the Chaplain's corps, we need to do our counseling jobs at the same time as we perform all the functions of other soldiers," he said. "The intensity of wartime training was a valuable experience for many reasons, offering us views into our own souls as we dealt with soldiers who were undergoing some of the toughest training of their lives."

With just six chaplains responsible for helping maintain the spiritual well-being of nearly 5,000 brigade soldiers, the mission is a never-ending challenge that taxes each chaplain and forces each to call on his own deepest spiritual reserves, Broussard said.

"That's why you can't just show up at the recruiter's office and say you want to be a chaplain," he said. "It requires four years of college and graduation from an accredited seminary recognized by the Army as an accepted denomination."

Broussard said chaplain candidates also must be endorsed by denomination officials and undergo all of the courses other officers must master. Additional courses are customized to the duties of a chaplain, he added.

A 23-year veteran of the Army National Guard, Broussard has been brigade chaplain for 18 of those of years.

He was pinned as a full-bird colonel in 1990 during the fellowship portion of Mass one day at brigade headquarters in Lafayette. Brigade Commander Brig. Gen. Gary Whipple stood and pinned the eagle on the holy vestments of a very surprised Broussard.





PV2 David Smith of Co. C, 769th Engineer Battalion headquartered in Gonzales takes a break during annual training to have his boots shined. The unit deployed to Honduras in May with a mission of refurbishing a medical clinic. (Photo by SGT James Dewhurst, 769th ENGR BN)

# Co. C 769<sup>th</sup> Engineers Touch Native Lives

Reprinted in part from the Morning Advocate

The days were sunny and hot, the nights were cool and the natives were friendly.

It wasn't a typical tropical vacation, but some of the 53 members of CO. C, 769th Engineer Battalion headquartered in Gonzales said they will never forget their two-week stay in Honduras.

The unit, on a mission to refurbish a medical clinic, returned May 23 to a police escort and parade through Gonzales.

The festive homecoming was a

four-year military transport plane ride and a world away from Siguatepeque, Honduras, a remote mountain town about an hour's drive from the U.S. air base in Sato Cano in the Central American country.

This was the first trip abroad for about two-thirds of the unit. "I was astounded. The whole different culture and atmosphere and poverty ... It's just a very underdeveloped country," said Sgt. James Dewhurst.

"The people — the way they live — it makes you appreciate everything you have over here," said Sgt. Chad Lynch.

Cont'd on p.14

# Season Requires Safety

May is American Bicycle Month, which makes it a good time to brush up on bike safety. Each year, nearly 900 bicyclists are killed in collisions with motor vehicles, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Another 300 bicyclists are killed in accidents in parks, bike paths and driveways. In addition to the fatalities, more than a million bicycle injuries are treated annually.

About a third of the cyclists killed in motor vehicle crashes are between the ages of 5 and 15. The fatality rate for this age group is more than two and a half times greater than the fatality rate for older cyclists.

Parents as well as kids often think of bicycles as toys, but they are not. Bikes are a form of transportation and are subject to the same rules of the road as any other vehicle. For this reason, knowledge and skill in operating a bike are critical to the bicyclist's safety. Some bicyclists, particularly young ones, are not familiar with either the rules or the hazards of the road. There is, however, plenty of protection available. Helmets are a must.

Three out of four bicycle deaths are due to head injury. Studies have shown that using bicycle helmets can reduce head injuries by up to 85 percent. Parents must insist that children wear helmets at all times while riding. Parents should also wear helmets.

A bicycle helmet should fit snugly but comfortably atop the head. Parents should not purchase a helmet as something a child will "grow into". Helmets are available with different thicknesses of internal padding to help in proper fit. The helmet must have a chin strap and buckles that will stay securely fastened.

There are two nationally recognized safety standards for bicycle helmets sold in the United States: the Snell Memorial Foundation requirements or the American National Safety Institute (ANSI) requirements. Helmets meeting

those requirements will be so labeled. Clothing provides extra protection.

In addition to a helmet, riders should wear the proper clothing. Clothing should be of light color and marked with reflective material for riding at night. Vests, jackets, tape, wrist bands and other items that make the rider visible to motorists are widely available.

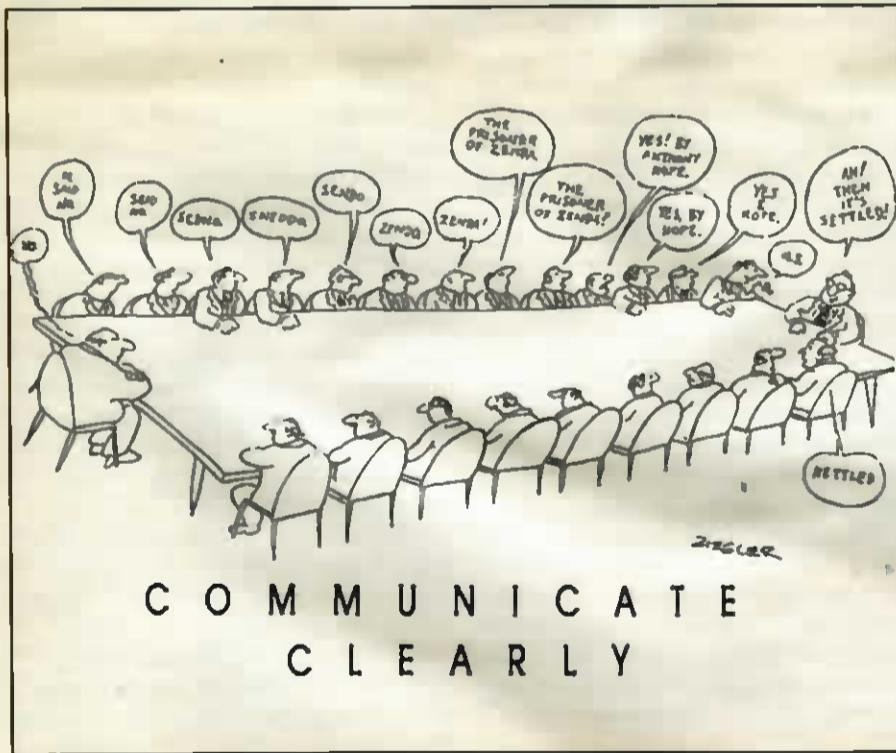
Clothing should be close fitting to avoid getting caught in the moving parts of the bicycle. Headphones should never be worn, as they hinder the rider's ability to hear traffic. Bike must fit the rider.

Make sure that the bike is the correct size for the person, is safely maintained, and has reflectors. Consumer Product Safety Commission regulations require reflectors on the front and rear of the bicycle, on the pedals, and on the wheels. Front and rear lights on the bicycle improve nighttime visibility for the cyclist and increase the recognizability of the bicycle for other road users. Lights may be required by law in some places. Rules of the road are for everyone.

When riding in the road, cyclists must obey traffic laws that apply to motor vehicle operators (for example, driving with traffic). Children must be taught these rules of the road.

Young children should not ride at night, and children under age nine should not ride in the road as they do not have the skills to identify and avoid dangerous traffic situations. Bicyclists should ride single file and signal their intentions to other road users, including pedestrians. Children should be taught to look left-right-left when entering the road or crossing an intersection.

Many bicycle deaths and injuries can be prevented through proper education and training. Parents and teachers play a major role in educating children in proper behavior and techniques. Motorists can and should be alert to bicyclists, especially in school zones and residential areas.



## 527th FSG Cont'd from p.8

To date we have participated in the following activities for 1992:

1. Reception following the Changed of Command Ceremony.
2. Assisted in the ACOE Inspection.
3. Adopt-A-Road Project (The 527th Engineer Battalion adopted the interchange at LA33 and Interstate 20. Look for the sign saying Louisiana National Guard, 527th ENGR BN has adopted this section of the Highway).
4. Adopted the Ruston Christina Community Action Program.

5. Co A at Camp Beauregard assisted with the 1992 High School Rodeo in Alexandria.

6. Co C at West Monroe sponsored a Coed Volleyball game after drill in April. Connie Crowell and Rhonda Kyser are FSG Coordinators for this unit.

A Commander's Prayer Breakfast is scheduled for July 25, 1992. Plans are being discussed for a Military Ball in September.

Good and positive things are taking place in the 527th. Come visit us anytime as we strive together to achieve our goals toward being an "ARMY COMMUNITY OF EXCELLENCE."

The 236th Combat Communications Squadron provided air traffic control for the Hammond Air Show in May. Participants in the show included the U.S. Army Golden Knights Parachute Team, several civilian balloonists, and members of local military and civilian aviation forces. The 159th Mobile Army Surgical Hospital (MASH) set up their hospital for display and provided medical support for the event.  
(Photo by SGT Kristi L. Moon, 241st PAD)



For the 3rd year running, the 1-244th Aviation Battalion won the State Chief of Staff Supply Excellence Award for Battalion Level. This year, the battalion was among the top 3 in the nation for this prestigious supply award. The award was presented to Maj. Tom Mix, the

battalion executive officer, by Col. Fred Palmer, (left) Commander of Troop Command. Mix said that this award represents the hard work put forth by all unit supply sergeants and the S-4 section. (Photo by CPT Mitchell T. Seaborn, 1-244th AV)

**769th ENGRS**

Cont'd from p.13

Most of the residents of Siguatepeque were Spanish-speaking native Americans, apparently descendants of the ancient Mayans, Lynch said, noting the Batman and college T-shirts some of the sported.

"It's fairly large towns, from what we could tell," said Staff Sgt. Dirk Erickson. "It was probably the size of downtown Gonzales."

Erickson said the clinic had running water every day for only three hours and no hot water.

The electricity was sporadic, at best, he said.

Many of the residents lived in traditional mud brick homes with beehive-shaped mud ovens outside, although some residents had homes made out of cinder blocks.

The houses were small, most only 5 feet high. That was high enough for the short-statured residents, Lynch said. The large homes of the upper class were located near the peasant huts. "It did remind me of the plantation (in Louisiana)," Lynch said.

Water wells and outhouses may have been remnants of a Peace Corps project and an irrigation system was a Japanese-sponsored project, said Lynch and Dewhurst.

Agriculture accounts for 55 percent of the countries gross national product, Honduran President Rafael Callejas said during a speech earlier this year at Louisiana State University, during which he argued against trade barriers on bananas and shrimp that hurt his country's economy.

"Most of the farming is very permitted — slash and burned," Dewhurst said.

The beauty of the mountain region could not mask the filth of

the town.

Spc. Lane Louque said he could smell the burning trash every day.

Medical waste, including used hypodermic needles, littered the ground near the clinic where the barefoot children played, said Lynch.

"Basically, we walked into a mess," said Spc. Kim McGinnis.

The clinic, staffed by seven nurses and one doctor, served up to 150 people daily, and up to 400 people a day when they offer free inoculations, Dewhurst said.

Despite the overwhelming problem besetting the country, the guard members said the Hondurans they met were friendly and industrious.

Dewhurst said the nurses conducted classes to update themselves on medical procedures.

"I found the people in Honduras were a lot better off (economically) than in Panama," said Sgt. 1st class Quinn Richardson.

Richard, a carpenter went to Panama in 1985 to build a road through a remote mountain pass. He brought four boxes of his own tools for the Honduran project.

The soldiers shared their MRE's (meals ready to eat) with the residents and paid youngsters to shine their boots.

They also brought toys donated by the Wal-Mart Discount Cities here and dental equipment donated by a New Orleans dentist.

Charlie Company is planning another overseas development tour next year in another central American country, Guatemala.

"Everybody learned a visible lesson down here," McGinnis said.

"My kids can't put me on a guilty trip about not buying them this and that anymore," Dewhurst said.

**Fuel For The Force.**



**Save Army Energy.**

## Officer Education Changes

By MAJ Dave Stoltz  
Officer Procurement

Louisiana was recently advised that the FY 92/93 National Defense Authorization Act has made changes in the educational requirements for commissioned officers in the Guard. Changes which will take effect immediately pertain to attendance at the State Officer Candidate School. These changes require that officer candidates who will graduate from OCS during FY 93 have 70 college hours instead of the 60 hours now required. This number will increase ten hours per year through FY 95 to a total of 90 hours. The act also changes the entry level college hour requirement by adding ten hours each year to a total of 60 hours after FY 95.

Additionally, the act requires that ALL officers have a baccalaureate degree prior to promotion to any grade above first lieutenant after 1 October 1995. The intent of the act is to bring ARNG officers in line with present active duty requirements.

These changes to educational requirements will have a major impact on the Guard if preparation for their implementation is not started now. Officers who met the present 60 hour requirement by obtaining hours through such colleges as Liberty and Cumberland will find that the credit received cannot be used to pursue a degree at a mainstream university. This means that pursuing a baccalaureate degree may take more time than expected.

With the downsizing of the force, it is expected that civilian educational requirements will continue to increase. College requirements may be implemented for warrant and senior enlisted ranks. Officers in the Guard today who do not have a baccalaureate degree and plan to stay on the Guard beyond FY 95 need to make plans to begin to pursue a degree NOW. The state educational office at Jackson Barracks has programs available to assist in this pursuit. Call them at (504)278-6355 or 1-800-899-6355

## Television Becomes A Learning Tool

In today's uncertain military environment, a quality education is going to be a valuable, if not vital asset: the key to advancements through the ranks or success outside the service.

Now, the military community has a way for military men and women to make sure the demands of home or duty do not stand in the way of earning a college degree.

Four credit courses and degree programs from major American universities are now being delivered by cable television and direct satellite broadcast to 19 million American homes by Mind Extension University (ME/U): The Education Network, a pioneer in distance education.

As a result of the affiliation with DANTEs, the Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support, service members are eligible for tuition assistance, as set by their services, for college level courses completed via the ME/U network. ME/U and its affiliated institutions are part of the DANTEs Independent Study Program. To enroll, service members should visit their education center.

"No matter where you are, we make your home or office a classroom," said Glenn R. Jones, CEO of Jones Intercable, Inc., one of the largest cable television operators in the U.S. and founder of ME/U, one of the fastest growing basic cable channels in the country. "Our goal is to make quality education equally available to everyone, regardless of

where they live or other situation in life."

ME/U offers undergraduate and graduate degree instruction from a coalition of 20 colleges and universities. Students participate in lectures, complete the same course work as their on-campus counterparts and communicate with instructors by mail, telephone, fax or computer. Courses can be taken to fulfill degree requirements or to meet other academic or personal goals.

For example, at Malmstrom AFB in Great Falls, Montana, an average of six service members are enrolled in MBA classes each semester. "Thanks to ME/U, I'm working on an MBA degree from Colorado State University even though I'm stationed in the middle of Montana," said Air Force Lieutenant Steve Manley. "And no matter where I go next, ME/U and my course work will follow me. It's a portable education system."

Students can earn a Bachelor's Degree in Management from the University of Maryland University College or a Master of Business Administration from Colorado State University's American Assembly Collegiate Schools of Business-accredited College of Business. ME/U also enables educators and trainers to earn a Master of Arts degree in Education and Human Development with an emphasis on education technology from the George Washington University.

Available through cable television

in nearly 6,500 U.S. communities and by satellite to virtually all of North America, ME/U offers courses on videotape.

"We've erased the barriers to lifelong learning," said Jones. "If job or family keeps you from spending time on campus, we have a solution:

we bring the campus to you."

Additional information about the educational opportunities available through ME/U is obtained by calling 1-800-777-6463. Information about tuition assistance is available through local military education services offices.

## DANTES Delivers Classes

By Evelyn D. Harris  
American Forces Information  
Service

Service members can get a college degree without setting foot in a classroom.

Helping them do that is DANTEs, the Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support, a program for members who can't take advantage of the usual extension education programs offered by most installations. The members may be stationed in remote locations or be shift workers. Or they may be transferred midway toward a degree and find the college near their new assignment has different requirements.

To meet educational needs of these and other service members, DANTEs offers access to a variety of tests and self-study programs that are "non-traditional" in the sense they don't rely on classroom settings. Members can earn college credits for self-study and knowledge gained on the job by passing subject standardized tests or others such as College Level Examination Program tests, said the activity's director, Barry L. Cobb.

In 1989, more than 300,000 service members earned 569,000 hours of college credits through these programs. Most DANTEs-sponsored tests are free to service members. Although there has been discussion of extended program services to families, only active duty and reserve component members are now eligible.

"Credits gained through DANTEs are from civilian sources - accredited colleges or based on recommendations from an appropriate, recognized civilian agency. They are generally accepted by colleges and universities as fully valid credit for degree completion. Colleges award credits, not DANTEs," said Cobb.

The Military Evaluation Program offers service members the chance to get academic credit for their military service. The American Council on Education evaluates military occupations and service schools and recommends college credits be given accordingly. Colleges and universities belonging to the Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges awarded some 390,000 credit hours through this program in 1989. The Guide to the Evaluation of Educational Experiences in the Armed Forces outlines how to get credit through this program. The guide has just been updated, and the latest addition should be available at education centers.

Another program, the Independent Study Support system offers more than 6,000 correspondence courses

from accredited colleges and universities. Also, tests from some 30 civilian agencies for professional certification in vocation, professional and technical fields are available to military people through DANTEs and base education offices.

"Technologically delivered" education is the newest trend, said Cobb. For example, DANTEs and Mind Extension University (ME/U): The Education Network, which is a group of 20 colleges and universities, now has an agreement to offer service members the chance to take courses delivered through cable or satellite television. In Louisiana, ME/U affiliate cable systems are located in these areas: Covington, Denham Springs, Eunice, Gonzales, Lake Charles, New Orleans, Shreveport and Slidell. Students can tape the courses on their VCRs and watch them when convenient. Students formerly enroll for the courses and communicate with their professors by toll-free telephone, mail, or voice mail. Students take course examinations in the base education office test center. The college or university in which the student is enrolled awards credits. The colleges and universities include: California State University, Long Beach; Colorado State University; Emporia State University; George Washington University; Governors State University; Kansas State University; New Jersey Institute of Technology; Oklahoma State University; Pennsylvania State University; State University of New York (SUNY)/Empire State College; University of Arizona; University of California, Santa Barbara; University of California Extension-Berkeley; University of Maryland University College; University of New Orleans; University of Oklahoma; University of South Carolina; Utah State University; Washington State University and Western Michigan University.

"Our programs are cost-effective," Cobb said. "Post-secondary credit obtained through non-classroom programs costs the services an average of \$5 to \$8 a credit hour. Traditional classroom education costs the services \$50 to \$60 a credit in tuition assistance funds. Furthermore, non-traditional education can save the service member travel time and money for books."

Non-traditional opportunities are not limited to the college level. One of DANTEs' older programs help service members obtain their high-school equivalences from their home states.

For more details, visit the installation education center.

# Talley Touches Army Taste Buds

By SPC Mike Ritter  
241st PAD

Julia Child has probably never eaten the eternal Army breakfast staple of creamed beef over eggs. But soon, the famous British television chef (or at least her palate) will have something in common with the soldiers of A Co. of the 769th Engineers in Baker, Louisiana.

Every month the soldiers of the 769th are treated to the cooking of Staff Sgt. Charles Talley who is just a few hours away from becoming a bonafide chef. Talley, 26, has entered his Sweet Potato Oceola in the "Sweet Tastes of La." dessert contest which is being judged by Child, who is the president of the American Food and Wine Association.

The army kitchen evokes images of mountains of potatoes to be peeled and KP Duty, but for Talley military service was a natural step to

achieving a lifelong dream of becoming a chef.

As the oldest of six children, Talley began cooking when he was 8 years old; whipping up grits, bacon and eggs for his family. He soon mastered red beans and rice, and has been cooking ever since.

Three and a half years ago Talley joined the National Guard to get an education and learn how to cook.

He is currently completing the Chefs Apprentice Program at Delgado Community College, works as a chef at Mercy Hospital in New Orleans, and runs his own catering company in Slidell. As part of his training, Talley has worked with John Folse, the world famous chef of Lafitte's Landing who has prepared meals for Pope John Paul and President Ronald Reagan.

Talley's army training has played a significant role in his climb to become a chef. Army leadership

courses earned Talley a total of 18 hours credit in his course at Delgado and also gave him an advantage over other students in the course. For the opportunity to cook Talley is grateful and his expertise make it worthwhile for his fellow guardsmen.

When opportunity permits, Talley will cook Cajun-fried turkey or shrimp etouffe—not things normally found in just any mess hall.

"I feel like I'm not doing my job if I don't cater to the troops," Talley says.

The troops in the 769th have also been treated to jambalaya, gumbo and fried fish. Talley takes special orders for people who are on diets, too.

It's that kind of extra attention that landed Talley one of the five finalist spots in the dessert competition and will also get him through an interview with a panel of six culinary experts; that will be his

final step to becoming a chef in December.

Talley's Country Style Sweet Potato Pie

2 cups (mashed) sweet potatoes  
4 ozs melted butter  
3 eggs  
1.5 cups sugar  
2 ozs flour  
4 ozs evaporated milk  
.25 tsp. cinnamon (ground)  
.25 tsp. nutmeg (ground)  
.75 tsp. vanilla extract  
1 9-inch unbaked pie shell

1. Boil sweet potatoes until soft and allow to cool.
2. While potatoes are cooling allow oven to preheat to 325 degrees.
3. In a large mixing bowl combine sweet potatoes, eggs, butter and flour.
4. Mash until well blended.
5. Add milk, vanilla, cinnamon and nutmeg.
6. Place batter into pie shell and bake 40-45 minutes.



Members of 2nd Vertical Platoon, Company C, 769th Engr Bn install new rafters on the main building at VFW Post 3693 in Gonzales. (769th Photo)

## Do You Know

When did the Spanish-American War begin?

**April 24, 1898**

What U.S. battleship sank in Havana Harbor before the Spanish-American War began?

**USS Maine**  
(Jan. 25, 1898)

How many Medals of Honor were awarded for action during the Spanish-American War?

**109**

How many U.S. military participated in the Spanish-American War?

**306,760**

What rank did Theodore Roosevelt hold during the Spanish-American War?

**Lieutenant colonel**

## 769<sup>th</sup> Repairs VFW Post

Company C, 769th Engineer Battalion commanded by Capt. Gregg A. Putnam completed work on another community assistance project during April drill. The project gave much needed construction support to the Gonzales Chapter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3693. "Chargin Charlie" completed the project in two phases. Both phases had horizontal and vertical work requirements.

The engineers cleared underbrush and select trees from five acres, excavated fill material from a burrow pit to create a pond, constructed a levee, formed a picnic area, constructed a storage shed and relocated some electrical wiring. Second Lt. Dameon Gray, Sgt First Class Quinn Richard, and Staff Sgt. Eric Erickson assigned to the Horizontal Platoon provided the command and control for phase I.

Phase II consisted of more vertical work. It included renovating an existing concession stand, installing a hot water closet, minor interior renovations, placing new rafters over a

flat roof and installing new tin on the leaking roof. Second Lt. Ralph Goodman and Second Lt. Leonard Newton were the platoon leaders for second platoon during the project.

Erickson said, "We could not have completed the project without the support of Sgt. Richy Sauce, Sgt. David Pearley, and Staff Sgt. Terry Morales who came in on their time between drills to finish the excavation of the pond."

According to Putnam, Chargin Charlie has two new community action projects beginning in August. Company C will construct a softball field complex for the City of Gonzales Recreation Department and renovate a concession stand with a new 29 space concrete parking lot the Ascension Parish Recreation Committee and the Ascension High School Girls Fast Pitch Softball Team. All of this will be accomplished in addition to normal drill requirements. According to First Sgt. Carroll Smallwood and Staff Sgt. Gonzales, the unit usually gets a few surprise missions for almost every drill.

## 769<sup>th</sup> Holds Annual Tournament

Some high spirited Louisiana engineers recently improved their team concept playing volleyball.

The 769th Engineer Battalion commanded by Lt. Col. Randy Hilborn held its first annual 769th Volleyball Tournament in New Roads. The event supported the 769th ongoing efforts to be a front runner and excel in the Army Communities of Excellence Program.

Company B in New Roads commanded by Capt. Luke Hall

hosted the tournament. Teams from Companies B, C and HSC participated in the best two out of three elimination matches. Staff Sgt. Eric Erickson and Sgt. Bert Berthelot coached the Champion Chargin' Charlie Volleyball Team to victory. Members of the Company C team include: Sgt. Jeffery King, Pvt. Carl Griffin, Spec. Craig LeBourgeois, Sgt. Wayne Yates, Spec. Keri Templet, Pvt. First Class Leroy Davis, and Sgt. Adrian Bourgeois.

## ESGR Launches New Ad

By Madro Bandaries  
ESGR PAO

In time for the summer annual training period for many of our Guardsmen and Reservists, Louisiana ESGR is kicking off its 1992 ad campaign. Titled "Be a Hero, Give Your Employees the Freedom to Protect Ours", Public Service Announcements are being delivered to every television and radio station in Louisiana. In addition, print media are being provided with ads.

Last year's mobilization of National Guardsmen and Reservists from communities across the nation for Operations Desert Shield/Storm had significant impact to employers and family members. Medical services, law enforcement, airlines, and many other service industries were particularly hard hit. In fact, over 248,000 men and women left their jobs and families to support the war effort.

As we begin to downsize the military forces, reserve components become exponentially more

important. With smaller active and reserve forces, future emergencies may require increased dependence on the reserve forces. Louisiana ESGR will continue to work even harder with Louisiana employers because as the visible threats for conflict diminish, it may become harder for employers to appreciate the need to give their Guard/Reserve employees time off for training.

In the next several months many of the 1.6 million Guardsmen and Reservists will be required to perform their annual training. ESGR will challenge employers to continue their business operations in spite of their Guard/Reserve employees being away from the workplace. Besides employer contact, ESGR depends on its ad campaign to get the message across. Public awareness of the missions of the Guard and Reserve and the importance of their relationship with their employer, can lead to a dialogue that allows our citizen soldiers to better serve their country and in so doing, become better employees.



### Last Year, 106,000 People Received An Award For Missing Work.

The members of the National Guard and Reserve make up 44 percent of our defense forces, and 106,000 of them served overseas during the Gulf War. So, when your employees need time off to train, be a hero. Give your employees the freedom to protect ours.



## Engineers Support Life

Members of Company B, 527th Engineer Battalion in Marksville, recently provided life support to one of America's most precious endangered species.

In March, Sgt. First Class Stephen W. Decuir and Staff Sgt. Dale W. Lonidier of the 527th Engineer Battalion along with John Stanton and Tom Pride of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service transported fourteen eaglets, via military vans, from the Audubon Zoo in New Orleans to the Lake Ophelia National Wildlife Refuge in central Louisiana. After being captured just south of Houma, La, the eaglets were taken to the zoo for observation and care until they were old enough to feed themselves.

The move is part of a re-establishment project designed to enhance survivability of the eaglets. "The relocation program, under the close supervision and guidance of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, is an effort to re-establish the bald eagles in areas where there are no eagles, or very limited numbers of them," said Charles Dupuy, chairman of the Avoyelles Soil and Water Conservation District which is one of the sponsors of the project.

"About two years ago, Sookie Roy, a banker from Marksville, came up with the idea that we try to relocate, or establish some eagle in our part of the state. The idea eventually developed into this relocation project. Other states like Tennessee have re-established eagles successfully, so we thought we'd give it a try."

"Our eaglets were transferred to a 'hacking' tower on the Lake Ophelia National Wildlife Refuge," said Ken Merritt, refuge manager. "The tower is about 25 feet tall with a platform about 12 by 40 feet in size on top of it. The Ophelia tower's platform has three chambers approximately eight feet tall and 10 feet long."

"I hope we're successful in this project," said Dupuy. "The bald eagle is truly one of America's magnificent birds. This is just one of the many different projects that soil and water conservation districts throughout the state are involved in. I'm proud of this project and very grateful that so many people worked so well together in trying to re-establish this majestic bird in our area," he added.



SFC Stephen Decuir, 527th Engr Bn; assists John Stanton, U.S. Fish and Wild Life Service with preparing eaglets for transportation from Audubon Zoo to Lake Ophelia. (Photo by SGT Kristi L. Moon, 241st PAD)



Construction of the new Headquarters State Area Command (HQ STARC) Armory began in October of 1991 and is scheduled for completion in April 1993. The new 77,200 sq. ft. building will house over 500 employees from HQ STARC, Det. 3, Det. 4, and all New Orleans based state level directorates, according to the Directorate of Facilities Engineering. (LANG-PAO Photo)

## Saudis Honor Americans

American Forces Information Service

Military members who directly participated in Operation Desert Storm may qualify for a Kuwait Liberation Medal from the Saudi Arabian government.

Established by the Saudi Arabian king, the medal is for military men and women who were in the war zone between Jan. 17, 1991, and Feb. 28, 1991. To be eligible, an individual must have served at least one day with a unit in-ground or shore operations or aboard a naval vessel directly supporting operations, or flown as a crewmember during at least one aerial mission. An individual who was on temporary duty in the war zone must have served at least 30 days consecutively during this period.

Designated by executive order, the Persian Gulf war zone consists of Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. Also considered part of the war zone are the Persian Gulf, Red Sea, Gulfs of Oman and Aden and a portion of the Arabian Sea.

The medal is suspended from a green ribbon with red, white and black stripes representing the Saudi Arabian and Kuwaiti flags. The emblem of Saudi Arabia, a palm tree with crossed sabers, is superimposed on a sunburst. According to DoD officials, the sunburst represents the light of freedom shining over Kuwait. A map of the Arabian peninsula is on a globe inside the sun.

The services will determine in the near future specific eligibility requirements and implementing instructions for the Kuwait Liberation Medal.

Former service members who qualify for the medal should check with the unit they served with for details, said DoD officials. 

## Boot Camp Aids Guardsmen at Police Academy

BY SSG Paul J. Sylvest  
241st PAD

Three members of the Counter-Drug Program were chosen from a field of over 500 applicants to be cadets in the State Police Training Academy.

The three guardsmen, Staff Sgt. Kevin Allen, 205th Engr. Bn., Sgt. Kenneth Martin, HQ STARC, and Staff Sgt. Jeffrey White, 1087th Trans. Co., are part of a forty-member cadet class which began March 9, 1992.

Following the 16-week course, the cadets will be commissioned as

Louisiana State Troopers.

Maj. Bobby Achord, Louisiana State Police Region I commander said, "Having three members chosen for the academy speaks well of the caliber of people in the Counter-Drug Program."

"Thirty to forty percent of the cadets at the academy never had military training and were shocked by the 'boot camp' atmosphere, but the CDP guys fell right in," Achord said.

The entire CDP crew extends their congratulations and wish these three men the best of luck at the academy.

## Guardsman Doubles as DEA Liaison

By SSG Paul J. Sylvest  
241st PAD

Maj. Larry Deblieux executive officer of the 769th Engineer Battalion (combatively) in Baton Rouge, was recently assigned as the National Guard liaison officer for the New Orleans field division office of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). The New Orleans field division office is the headquarters for DEA operations in Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi, and Alabama.

His role as National Guard liaison officer is to provide direct assistance to the DEA in its execution of the national drug strategy.

His position also encompasses the duties of the principal military advisor to the Field Division Special Agent in Charge. In this capacity, Deblieux will fill a critical need for National Guard expertise in planning and coordinating National Guard and other Department of Defense military support to counterdrug activities in the New Orleans field division.

Monitoring the effectiveness of the National Guard and Department of Defense countercharge support, Maj. Deblieux will collect and disseminate lessons learned to DEA Headquarters, field personnel and to the National Guard Bureau.

As liaison officer, DeBlieux will serve as single point of contact for National Guard matters within the New Orleans field division of the DEA.

DeBlieux was ordered to active duty on March 16, 1992. His tour of

duty is for three years. A graduate of Northwestern State University, DeBlieux earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics and was commissioned through the ROTC program. He joined the Louisiana National Guard in December 1973. His entire National Guard career has been with the 225 Engineer Group. He commanded at the platoon and company levels in the 527 Engineer Battalion. He has served in staff assignments at the 225 Group Headquarters and at the battalion level in the 527th and 769th.

DeBlieux is transitioning from a twenty year civilian career in the banking industry to this active duty assignment. He was Vice-President and Market Manager in First Commerce Corporation's Alexandria affiliate bank, Rapides Bank and Trust Company.

DeBlieux is a native of Natchitoches, La. He has held leadership positions with Attakapas Council, Boy Scouts of America, Kiwanis Club of Alexandria, Central Louisiana Chamber of Commerce, United Way of Central Louisiana and the School Boards of Holy Savior, Menard Central High School and Our Lady of Prompt Succor Elementary.

He and his wife, Becky have three children, Richard, Jennifer, and Denise.

With the success the Counter-Drug Program has had supporting law enforcement agencies, National Guard involvement with the DEA is sure to have a very positive impact on that agency's counterdrug efforts.

## Drug Program Proves Successful in St. Bernard

Members of the Louisiana National Guard Counter Drug Program recently assisted law enforcement agencies with one of the largest cocaine seizures ever in St. Bernard Parish.

1,000 kilograms of cocaine were seized and 12 defendants arrested as a result of a year-long investigation by the U.S. Customs Service and the Federal Bureau of Investigations.

United States Attorney Harry Rosenberg praised the cooperative efforts among federal and local law enforcement agents: "The arrest and indictment today is the culmination of thousands of hours of hard work by Customs and FBI agents, together with assistants provided by members of the Louisiana National Guard and the St. Bernard Sheriff's Office. This teamwork, which prevented the

distribution of massive quantities of cocaine in our community and other cities throughout this country, is exemplary."

The cocaine seized was imported to the United States inside of timbers which appeared to be railroad ties. The timbers had been hollowed out to transport the cocaine and then were painted with creosote in an effort to make them appear to be normal railroad ties.

In addition to the cocaine, the government's investigation has resulted in the seizure of numerous vehicles and other property belonging to these defendants.

Rosenberg said, "Members of the well-known Cali cartel based in Columbia were responsible for the cocaine importation into the United States."





Recently the 159th Civil Engineering Squadron completed an humanitarian project while deployed to Howard AFB, Panama. Twenty-six volunteers helped build a church/school for the Choco Indians, in a jungle off the Chargres River. Pictured here are: front row left to right: SSG Christine Gaines, Missionary Fina Fahy, SSG Keith Zarders, MAJ Mike Hatcher, SSG Ike Hunter, MSG Richard Kuhn, TSGT Sharon Moore. Second Row: TSGT Xavier Elvir, MSG Charles Toney, TSGT Roy Hawkins, TSGT Robert Burris, SMS Edward Barranco, SRA Ned Scioneaux, SRA Both Cusimano, AMN Kevin Gardebled, SRA Janet Morgan, SRA Kimberly Blake, SRA Phillip Latapie. Last Row: SRA Kevin Basset, MSG Tom Jennings, SRA Brian Schexmaydre, SSG Derek Duvic, SRA Orlando Novoroal, TSGT Clarence Brocks, AIC Stephen Verrett. Not pictured : MSG Anthony Taylor.

## 159<sup>th</sup> CES Deploys to Panama

BY SRA Beth A. Cusimano  
159th TFG/CES

During March of this year, the Louisiana Air National Guard's 159th Civil Engineering and Services Squadron deployed to Howard AFB, Panama. The 42 member team worked on projects for the Volant Oak unit, a C-130 Rotation unit that supports American Agencies.

The 159th was the fifth Prime Beef team in a series of 10 teams that rotated to Howard AFB to conduct renovations on the Volant Oak site. This project offered many hours of training to the Civil Engineering members. They received training inside and outside of their career fields.

The project consisted of tiling latrines and showers, wood work, carpentry, sheet rocking, air conditioning, electrical and plumbing work.

"This has got to be the best work

I've seen from any of the visiting unit's," complemented Brig. Gen. Richard McCartney, Commander of Volant Oak. "They were very organized and took the ball and ran with it. I would be proud to serve with these individuals in a wartime or peacetime situation."

26 of the 42 Civil Engineering members volunteered to participate in a Humanitarian project on their day off. They ventured into an Indian village located deep in the jungle to help build the foundation of a church/school.

The deployment proved successful under the direction of Maj. Mike Hatcher, Officer in Charge and Base Civil Engineer, and Edward Barranco, Charge and Facility Manager. Both are full-time personnel with the 159th Engineering Squadron at the Naval Air Station. This was the Civil Engineering's fourth deployment for the year.

## Military Reunion News

### AAC/USAF

#### 17TH BOMB GROUP/17TH BOMB WING

Reunion Date: Sep 30-Oct 4, 1992

Reunion Site: Sacramento, CA (Red Lion's Sacramento Inn)  
POC: W. D. BAIRD  
8776 E Northwest Hwy  
Dallas, TX 75231  
(214)348-9124

WWII, Korea, annual reunion

### 493RD BMB GRP MEMORIAL ASSN 8TH AIR FORCE

Reunion Date: Oct 6-11, 1992

Reunion Site: Louisville, KY

(Galt House Hotel)

POC: JOHN F. CONWAY

58 College Ave

Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

(914)454-8074

WWII, annual reunion

## 122<sup>nd</sup> Supports BAMA Brigade

BY AIC Kelly L. Hutson  
122nd Weather Flight

The Louisiana Air National Guard's 122nd Weather Flight in Belle Chase is not your ordinary Air Force Weather Flight. The 122nd carries an additional task of supporting the 31st Armored Brigade stationed in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. In support of this mission, the 122nd participates in two required bivouacs each year in addition to their annual training.

At the flight's April drill, members began preparation for their June annual training at Camp Shelby, Mississippi. The flight will spend two weeks conducting field exercises with the 31st Armored Brigade while supplying the brigade with their weather information. "In a wartime situation, the 31st would depend on us to aid them with their

maneuvers," said Capt. James D. Miller, Officer In Charge.

In order to train proficiently, the flight practices such tasks as chemical warfare procedures; fox hole preparation and procedures; mine and booby trap detection; and first aid and buddy care. The 122nd also participates in the selection of temporary field sites at Camp Shelby. "After setting up, we camouflage our working and living quarters in compliance with Army regulations," said Tech. Sgt. Ray Molaison, the flight's station chief. In addition to all of this, the flight will perform their specialized forte - observing and forecasting the weather.

"For such a small flight, 13 members, we carry quite a bit of responsibility," said Tech. Sgt. Charles Patterson, the flight's management assistant.



## 62<sup>nd</sup> NGALA Conference Held in Lafayette



Fifth U.S. Army Commander LTG Neil T. Jaco said at the 62nd National Guard Association of Louisiana Conference in Lafayette, that "about ten years ago I realized that there are three issues that apply to the total force: 1. Leader development at all levels, 2. MOS qualification because you can't be professional if you're not qualified. 3. Training to standards with the best standardized training system in the world." Jaco also gave his "formula for a successful life in the military: train, maintain, be disciplined and have fun." The hard part is to put them all together and do it, he said. (Photo by SGT Kristi L. Moon, 241st PAD)



During the 62nd National Guard Association of Louisiana Conference MG Ansel M. Stroud, Jr., recognized two members of the 156th Army Band for their dedication and service with one of the finest Army Bands in the nation. CW4 Ernest Peterson, band master, was promoted to that rank by MG Stroud and Mrs. Peterson (l). 1SG Charles Young was recognized for his dedication. Young, who is retired, volunteered to play with the band for this conference. (Photo by SGT Kristi L. Moon, 241st PAD)



In April, Mrs. Linda Ross and Maj. Gen. Ansel M. Stroud, Jr., changed this man's shoulder boards from a bird to a star. He is Brig. Gen. Kenneth L. Ross, commander of the Louisiana Air National Guard.

Ross, a native of Orange, Texas, graduated from Hammond High School, and Louisiana State

University, and is a senior law partner in the firm of Seale, Macaluso and Ross. He is also vice-president of Ross & Wallace Paper Company, a Louisiana manufacturing company.

Ross and his family reside in Hammond. (Photo by SGT Kristi L. Moon, 241st PAD)

## Guardsmen Attend Male Responsibility Training

by SSG Paul J. Sylvest  
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During the second weekend of May, Camp Beauregard in Pineville, LA, became a temporary site for some vital training, but it wasn't military.

You would normally expect to find National Guardsmen sharpening up on their military skills. Instead, this training offered a change of pace for about twenty guardsmen.

The Southwest Regional Center for Drug-Free Schools and Communities sponsored a two-day seminar titled Male Responsibility/Male Mentorship Training of Trainers.

The purpose of the seminar is to train adult males who can go back to their communities to instruct other adult males on how to be role models. The deterioration of able-bodied youth in society has caused the initiation of several new groups and organizations which are looking for

ways to deal with troubled youth and the issue of substance abuse.

National Guardsmen attended the training to increase the volunteer involvement on the community level.

Placing a high priority on the Guard supporting drug prevention efforts, Maj. Gen. Ansel M. Stroud, Jr., Adjutant General, Louisiana National Guard, said, "The war against drugs must be won in the hearts and minds of the men and women of America. There will be a serpent which devours the peace dividend if something isn't done about drugs."

Maj. Willie Davenport, a five-time Olympian and community relations officer for the National Guard Bureau, said, "In September of 1989, President Bush designated the National Guard as the leader in drug demand reduction. There are 3200 units in the U.S. and a half million troops.