



# Louisiana Guardsman

VOLUME 2 NUMBER 3 MAY JUNE 1990

159th MASH Tests  
New Dep Med  
Equipment

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# Louisiana Wins Third in Nationwide Program

By 1LT Maria L. Jonkers  
State PAO

Louisiana won third prize in the 1990 Chief of Staff, Army National Guard Communities of Excellence Awards Program.

The \$100,000 prize will be spent towards improving state service facilities and upgrading customer service.

First place of \$250,000 was awarded to North Carolina, and the second place of \$150,000 award went to Pennsylvania.

The award is given annually for excellence in providing support to soldiers, families, civilian employees and community.

Louisiana and four other states were selected from twenty-two nominees nationwide. The states were judged on implementation of the Army Communities of Excellence Program, facility excellence, customer service and use of the award.

This National Guard program is based on a principle that those military communities should support people by combining excellent services with excellent facilities.

## Louisiana Achieves 100 percent on Management Analysis Profile

By 1LT Maria L. Jonkers

The Louisiana National Guard achieved 100% on all measured indicators in the Management Analysis Profile.

The MAP is a National Guard Bureau Management Tool that measures each state's performance against an established objective in several areas.

Louisiana met or exceeded the standards in all the areas below:

### Sure Pay

Objective - greater than 40%

Louisiana - 51.2%

### Strength Status

Objective - greater than 96.4%

Louisiana - 127.4%

### Non-ETS Loss

Objective - less than 1.1%

Louisiana - 0.9%

### Late OERs

Objective - less than 10%

Louisiana - 1.1%

### Aviation Strength

Objective - greater than 90%

Louisiana - 109%

### Check to Unit

Objective - less than .5% Louisiana - 0

### AGR End Strength

Objective - greater than 98%

Louisiana - 102.3%

### Incompatible Assignment

Objective - less than 5%

Louisiana - 0.5%

### Reporter Surveyors (Initial)

Objective - less than 45%

Louisiana - 26%

### Reporter Surveyors (Processed)

Objective - less than 150%

Louisiana - 146%

### Aviation Accidents

Objective - 0 Louisiana - 0

### Ground Accidents

Objective - 0 Louisiana - 0

### Training Ammunition Authorization

Objective - 95-101% Louisiana - 99%

### Weapons Loss

Objective - 0 Louisiana - 0

# Chief of Staff Hotline 1-800-223-6786

### Louisiana Guardsman

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

### Chief of Staff

Col. James K. Corley

### Public Affairs Officer

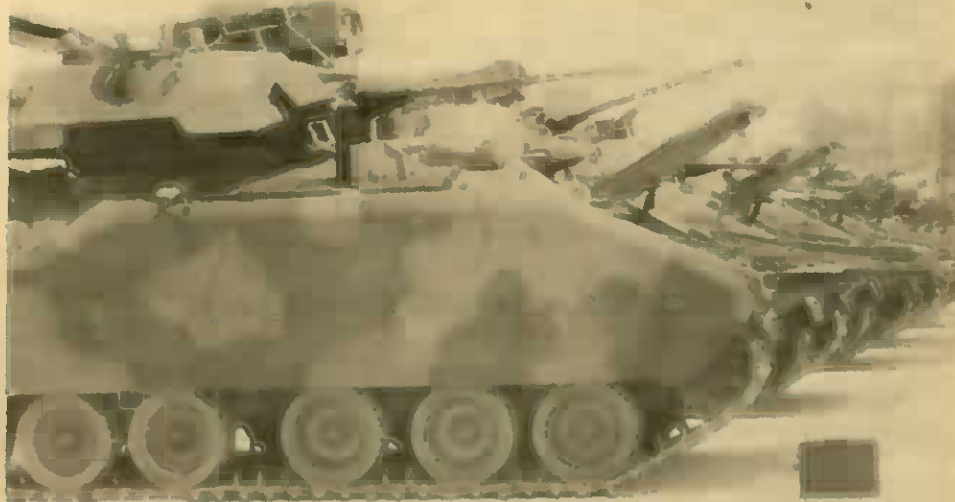
1LT Maria L. Jonkers

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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 (1LT Jonkers), Jackson Barracks, New Orleans, La. 70146-0330.



Work continues on the museum annex at Jackson Barracks. Technicians and inmates poured the slab for the new structure in mid-May. At the time this paper went to press, work had begun on the vertical construction of the structural steel beam support system. Company B of the 528th Engineer Battalion will start framing the building on June 9th for their annual training project. Two other engineer companies will follow for six continuous weeks of construction on the annex. (Photo by State PAO)



Fuel for the Force. Save Army Energy.

### Front Cover:

Little bearers unload ambulances that have just arrived from a battalion aid station. In the foreground, triage is performed on a "victim."

Story on pgs. 8-9 (Photo by 1LT Maria L. Jonkers, State PAO)

# Grand Opening at the New NGB NCO Academy

Opening ceremonies were held on the 28th of April at the National Guard Noncommissioned Officer Education Center in Ball.

About 400 people attended the ceremony and toured the 38-acre campus that once served as the Louisiana Training Institute- Ball, a juvenile home for girls.

"Less than a year ago this facility belonged to the State Department of Corrections. This shows what can be done when government agencies act together. The local government, state and federal governments all worked together," Stroud said.

MG Stroud also commended the staff of the education center for the time they spent renovating the buildings on campus.

The Guard spent around \$373,000 contracting to renovate the buildings, but much of the other work was done by the Guard.

"They contributed 1,250 manhours of work, after hours on Saturday, and Sunday to get this facility where it is today," he said.

The campus has 29 buildings and a full-time staff of 65, most of whom are Louisiana National Guardsmen.

There are 11 modern classrooms, two 80-bed dormitories for men and one 32-bed dormitory for women.

Extensive renovation took place on the dining facility which can handle up to 200 soldiers at one time.

England Air Force Base will operate a post exchange for the visiting soldier-students.

The old gymnasium has been completely refurbished, and there is a weight room.

A half-mile track is being laid out. There is a renovated swimming pool, and the tennis court will be upgraded.

Students from throughout the 50 states and four territories will come to attend courses which last from two weeks to eight weeks. The courses range from supply to battalion staff to primary leadership.

French and German linguistic courses will also be taught at the center. These courses will be twelve week courses lasting from May to August. Already 35 students are attending the course. The course is sponsored by the 415th Military Intelligence Battalion in Baton Rouge.

New projects to be done this summer will include construction of a metal building to be used for weapons training. A parking lot for students will be built on the rear of the property just behind the metal building.

"There is plenty room for future expansion," said Stroud.

## SGT Michael Lee chosen Fifth Army AGR NCO



SGT Michael A. Lee, Company B, 528th Engineer Battalion has been selected as the AGR NCO of the year for the Fifth US Army. Fifth Army is comprised of the states of Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Nebraska, Kansas, Arkansas, Missouri, and New Mexico. The selection took place at San Antonio on May 5th. Lee will represent 5th Army at the national level competing for FORSCOM AGR NCO of the Year. (Photo by SSG Adrian M. Lamkin, 241st PAD)



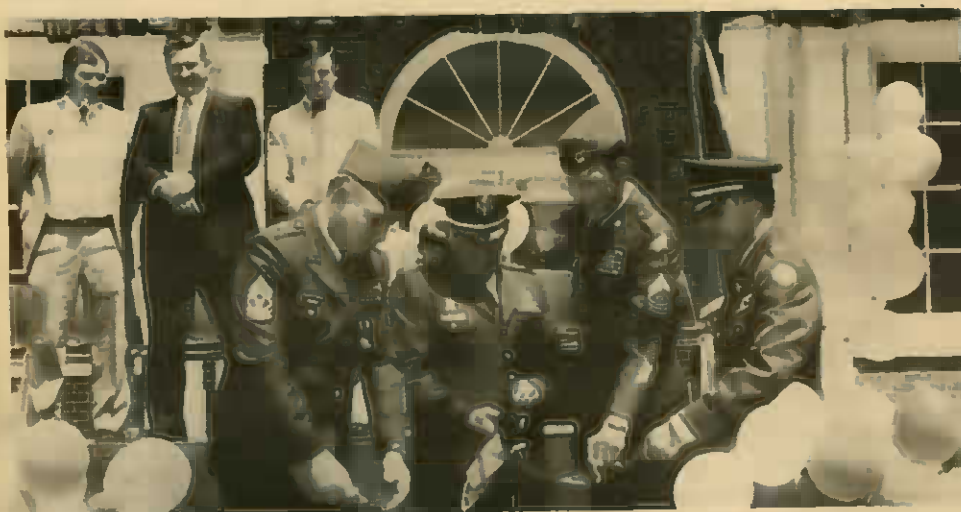
## Golf Tournament to Benefit New Museum

The Washington Artillery will hold its 6th Annual Golf Invitational Tournament at City Park North Golf Course, N.O. on 30 June 1990 at 9:00 A.M. Fees must be postmarked by 18 June 1990. The tournament is open to all National Guard members (Army & Air Guard) both active, retired and spouses. Fees of \$25.00 will include;

green fees, cart, food, drinks and prizes. Proceeds will be donated to the Jackson Barracks Museum. Come join the fun and excitement and help support the Jackson Barracks Museum expansion! For further information, POC is 1LT Paul D. Vorenkamp or SFC William Schmidt at (504) 278-6387 or 278-6389.



LCSM John Morrow, center, received the Meritorious Service Medal from MG Ansel M. Stroud during the grand opening ceremonies. Morrow serves as the commandant of the NGB NCO Academy. Left: MAJ Hunt Downer and son. (Photo by Adrian Lamkin, 241st PAD)



Foreground: CSM John Morrow, MG Ansel M. Stroud, CSM Harold B. Cook and MAJ Hunt Downer cut the ribbon commemorating the opening of the NGB Region VI NCO Academy at Ball, Louisiana. Background, left to right: Mayor of Ball, Honorable Roy Hebron; Mayor of Pineville, Honorable Fred Baden; Mayor of Alexandria, Honorable Ned Randolph. (Photo by SSG Adrian Lamkin, 241st PAD)



The 141st (Washington Field Artillery) of the Louisiana Army National Guard participated in the opening of the Louisiana Legislative Session in April in Baton Rouge. Shown here on the old state capitol steps, the guardsmen were used as part of the opening ceremonies in an attempt to bring attention to fund-raising efforts underway to restore the old state capitol to its former splendor. Once renovation is complete, the old capitol will serve as a museum. The 141st honor guard and color guard participated. Several artillerymen and recruiters, dressed in historical period costumes, flanked the speaker's podium with the senate chambers. F-15 jets of the Air National Guard's 159th Tactical Fighter Group roared overhead during the playing of the national anthem. (1LT Maria Jonkers, State PAO)

# Co C, 527th Engrs Take M-60 Championship

By PFC Trey Troegel  
UPAR, Company C, 527th Engr Bn

When 225th Engineer Group commander COL Edmond Giering asked SPC Turner who was going to win the M-60 competition held at Fort Polk in March, Turner replied, "Minden will, sir."

And they did.

Company C of the 527th Engineer Battalion beat the Air National Guard, champions of five previous competitions.

The three man team from the Minden unit took first place in February in the Group competition upsetting the 769th, 205th, 528th Engr Battalions and the 225th Headquarters Company. From there they moved on to compete against the Air National Guard and 256th Infantry Brigade teams to win first place in state.

The team consisted of gunner and team captain SPC Chris Turner of Haughton, assistant gunner SPC Robbie Gatti of Bossier City, and PFC Mark Camp of Minden. SPC Ernest Hawkins and PV2 John Grigsby both

of Minden were alternates.

According to Turner, sacrificing weekends to practice was probably the main reason behind the victory. A month prior to the first competition, the team would report to the Minden unit at 5:00 a.m. on Saturdays and travel to Ft. Polk to train. Many times they did not return until 11:00 p.m. At Ft. Polk they attended classes on barrel changing drills, maintenance, and zeroing the weapons.

Turner also hinted that SPC Gatti may have had something to do with the victory by "psyching" the other team out. Before the competition started, the team had zeroed their weapon to different range targets and had the adjustments taped to the side of the weapon. SPC Gatti walked over to where the Air National Guard team was and asked them where their sheet of zeroed adjustments was.

Turner said, "It was kind of funny. Even though they had won the past five times, they were a little confused because we had one and they had never used one."

The team will compete nationally against regular Army teams in the



Kneeling left to right: SPC Robert Gatti, PV2 John Grigsby, SPC Ernest Hawkins. Prone Position left to right: SPC Chris Turner, PFC Mark Camp (Photo by PFC Trey Troegel, UPAR, Co C, 527th Engr Bn)

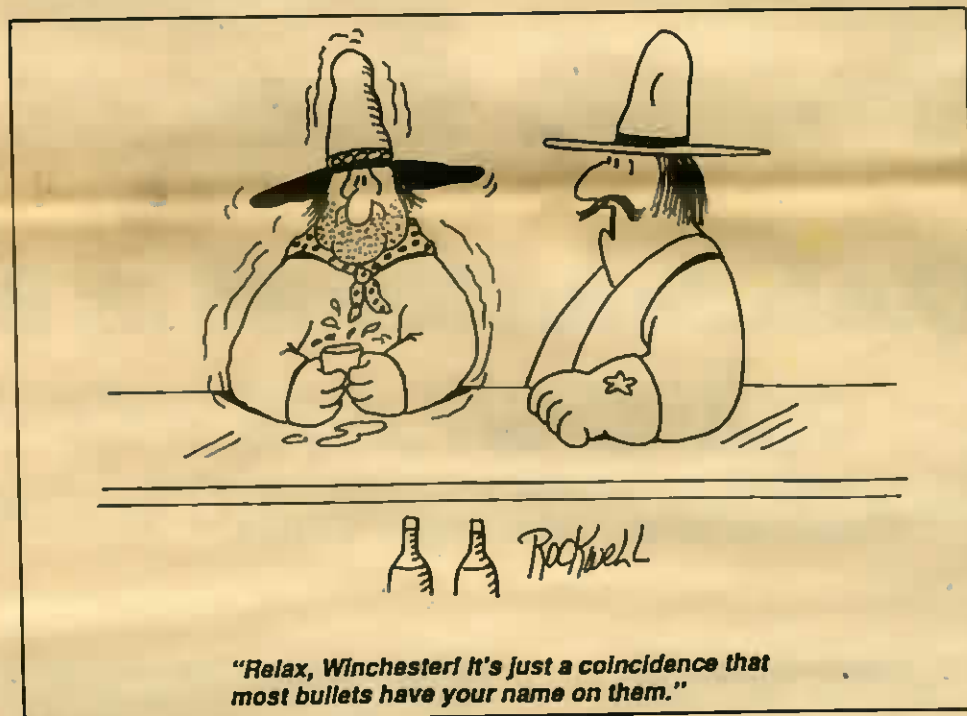
## 3671st Maint Company Trains in Germany

By CPT Eugene Barattini  
CASG S-1

The 3671st Maintenance Company recently completed annual training in the Republic of Germany. The GS Maintenance company under the command of CPT Bobbie Black was recognized as the best reserve component unit to perform maintenance at the equipment maintenance center-Europe. The 3671st Maintenance Company was included as one unit out of nine others scheduled for rotations. According to the unit training NCO, "The unit out-produced any other general maintenance company to date." SFC Jerry Yeager also stated that the unit

set the standards for other active or reserve units to follow.

The mission of the 3671st Maintenance Company was to provide theater level GS support to equipment staged in the US inventory in the Federal Republic of Germany. The three week annual training period provided the unit with realistic modern active Army equipment to train on. Each member of the unit was provided the opportunity to work on equipment directly related to their MOS. SPC James Wood's comments best summarized the most successful mission of 3671st Maint Co when he stated "it was the best training I have ever received in my military career."



## 3673d Maint Co Trains in MOS Overseas

By 204 ASG Public Affairs Staff

The 3673d Maintenance Company, under the command of CPT Cesar Ochoa-Casanova deployed 21 soldiers as round out to the 3671st Maint Company during the overseas training opportunity at the Army's Equipment Maintenance Center -Europe located in Kaiserslautern, Federal Republic of Germany.

For the members of the 3673d Maint Co, the opportunity to provide realistic direct support to a sister general support maintenance company, while fixing the newest equipment in the US Army inventory was an outstanding experience.

According to the battalion maintenance operations officer MAJ William Kegereis, the 3673d Maint Co Round Out Team represented some of the best MOS qualified officer, warrants and enlisted personnel in the battalion.

Because of their assigned DS level, members of the 3673d rarely are afforded the opportunity to work on hightech or large end items at the semi-deport level.

Said PFC Robert Froeba, "the training I received overseas was the best in my military experience, and I know that in future years to come the skills will help me to perform my job."

# Colfax Community Proud of Det 4, HSC, 256th

By SPC Bernard Chaillot  
256th Inf Bde Public Affairs Office

"Detachment 4 is looking good... Ought to be in Hollywood," rang the cadence through the streets of Colfax as Det 4, HHC 256th Inf Bde (M) ran as a unit during the April drill.

Since CPT Eric Jensen took over as company commander in January, PT and Drill & Ceremony have become part of monthly training at the transportation detachment.

"I reinstituted PT and Drill & Ceremony to build moral and increase our visibility in the community" said Jensen. "And The troops seem to enjoy it."

As the citizen-soldiers ran through the historic community on the banks of the Red River north of Alexandria, they drew waves and a few friendly horn honks from some of the towns early risers.

Many of those who greeted the Guardsmen were headed to the Dixie Pharmacy for a nickel cup of coffee.

The troops ran by, past the Dixie and over the inlaid blue and white tiles in the sidewalk next to where the old Brinker Hotel used to be.

Inside the Dixie, owner Sammy Reitzell stood in front of the 200 year old back bar, behind the counter with a foot rest on it where the old time soda fountain still operates.

"The Guard is as much a part of the community here as the fire department, the barber shop, and the Dixie," said Reitzell.

"We know they are always ready to help out any way they can. In December when Pollock's water system broke down they hauled many a load of fresh water to the folks there," he said.

Besides the water section, Det. 4 has a truck platoon and a maintenance section.

The truck platoon is composed of a light truck squad, a medium truck squad and an HET (Heavy Equipment) squad that is capable of transporting tanks and other large equipment.

Det. 4 is authorized 2 officers and 72 enlisted personnel. Strength stands at 67 enlisted troops and Jensen. It is his first command after serving as Public Affairs Officer of HHC in Lafayette and as S-1/NBC officer in the 3rd Bn in Lake Charles.

"I'm still getting settled in right now, but I think we've got the unit headed in a good direction. I've got a great bunch of NCO's and enlisted people here," said Jensen.

The 1st SGT, Ted Mitchell from Simmesport, is a guard at Angola in civilian life.

"The troops here behave a little bit better than my inmates on the work farm," joked Mitchell "they don't try to escape near as often."

For the year to date, the retention rate at Det 4 is 100%, said Jensen.

Retention NCO SPC Anna Ryder Lofton gives the credit to her predecessor, SGT Steve Carnahan. "I just took over. SGT Carnahan had the system all in place for me," she said.

"We keep our loss percentage down by working closely with the soldier if he or she has any problems with the military or with their civilian life as it applies to military duty," she said.

Husband SPC Dwayne Lofton is a truck driver for the unit. "Activity has picked up a bit since CPT Jensen took over," he said. "You hear a little griping about the PT and the D&C now and then, but for the most part the troops really enjoy it," said Lofton.

"It keeps their military bearing up," said Jensen. "The junior NCO's get the opportunity to develop some command posture during D&C, and it keeps everyone sharp, since this is an area that usually gets rusty fast after basic training."

Running and drilling in full view of the community solidifies the strong ties between the Guard and Colfax, added Jensen.

SFC Ronald Vollm explained that when many small armories around the state had to close because of a budget crunch, the Grant Parish Police Jury and the Town of Colfax stepped in to keep their facility open.

"They donated this 6 acres of land

we're located on and pay all of our utilities each month," said Vollm.

Vollm said the unit used to drill at an old schoolhouse, but Det 4's spotless new facility will turn 4 years old in August.

Back at the Dixie, Reitzell showed off the 12 foot long, six foot high mirror on the elaborately carved wooden back bar, with a white glove light on either end next to the columns that ran down to the inch and half thick marble countertop. Along the curved top of the bar was a string of teardrop bulbs lighting up the stained glass inserts.

"This thing has a Wells Fargo shipping tag on the back. It was built in Europe, then I understand part of it came by wagon and part on a riverboat up the Red River when Colfax was a river stop called Calhons Landing," said Reitzell.

"We carbonate our own water, add our own syrup, and make things like nectars and floats fresh. You can't get stuff like this anymore," he said.

The goose neck spigots and white porcelain-knobbed flavoring dispensary gleamed. A cherry nectar is fifty-cents, ice cream two bits a scoop.

"The National Guard, just like this place has always been, is getting to be a fixture of the community," he said. "People just expect to see it, to be there when needed," said Reitzell. "and it is."

## Quebedeaux Named As Brigade Command Sgt Maj

"I couldn't have made it without the backing of my fellow NCOs, the command... and my family. I plan to give it 200%."

By SPC Bernard Chaillot  
Det-2 HHC 256th BDE PIO

Command Sergeant Major John H. Quebedeaux, formerly Staff Sergeant Major of HHC 256th Infantry Brigade has been named Command Sergeant Major of the Brigade.

As of April 1, Quebedeaux took the responsibility for the individual training, health and welfare of thousands of citizens-soldiers from Shreveport to New Orleans as the senior enlisted man in the brigade.

"In my former position, I coordinated the operations of the TOC (Tactical Operations Center), whereas now I'm taking charge of the individual training of the soldiers, leading them and caring for them," said Quebedeaux.

"My goals are to reestablish pride within the NCO corps by ensuring people are properly educated, making sure NCOs are fully involved in the individual training of soldiers, and encouraging NCOs to take a pro-active role in their units," said Quebedeaux.

"We need to establish an improved working relationship between NCOs and officers. But my utmost goal is to

train in preparation of mobilization for combat. That is always uppermost," he added.

The new Bde CSM was accepted for the U.S. Sergeants Major Academy in September 1986, began receiving his two year correspondence study in April 1987, and completed the demanding course of studies in just 15 months.

He graduated July 22, 1988, after two weeks of residence studies at Ft. Bliss, Texas.

Among Quebedeaux's decorations are the Combat Infantry Badge, Air Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Vietnam Service Medal and the Bronze Star.

Quebedeaux is affiliated with the LAARNG Enlisted Association, the NCOA and the American Legion.

"It is a great honor to be selected as Command Sgt. Major of the brigade," said Quebedeaux.

I couldn't have made it without the backing of my fellow NCOs, the command for having the confidence in me to do the job, and my family," said Quebedeaux. "I plan to give it 200%."



CSM John H. Quebedeaux, New Command Sergeant Major of the 256th Inf Bde (Photo by SFC Kirk Barrilleaux)

No man is a leader until his appointment is ratified in the minds and hearts of his men.

—Anonymous

# Saxon Sets His Sights on Excellence

By SPC Michael A. Ritter  
241st PAD Staff

SSG Daniel Saxon has his sights set on excellence. Saxon, the Guard's rifle non-commissioned officer has been selected to the team because of his status as a master rifleman.

The rank of master indicates someone who consistently shoots 94-97 percent of his targets.

Saxon competed with the Fifth Army Team in the All Army Rifle Championships held early in May at Fort Benning, Ga. Saxon placed 26th out of 76 participants in the High Power Rifle Category (novice). The Fifth Army Team he competed with placed fourth out of seventeen.

Marksmanship is more than just a hobby for Saxon. This year he will probably spend 25 days on active duty at rifle and pistol shooting matches. In 1988 he spent 31 days on active duty, and he says his goal is to make the All-National Guard team.

Being a part of that elite group is certainly not out of reach for Saxon. In 1981 Saxon placed 5th nationally at the All-Army championships, and last year he placed 19th out of 314 shooters in the National Guard Championship. He also won a gold medal in leg-match competition at the national open matches, placing him with the nation's top shooters.

Saxon became interested in competition 15 years ago when he picked up an M-16 for the first time at the quali-

fying range at Camp Villere in Slidell.

Saxon said that he had previously shot only an M-1, and that he surprised himself when he shot better than anyone on the range using an unfamiliar M-16.

"I figured that I must be a pretty good shooter if I could just pick up that weapon for the first time and shoot that well," Saxon said.

Saxon soon joined the Guard's rifle team, and began out-shooting his teammates. But it has taken more than talent.

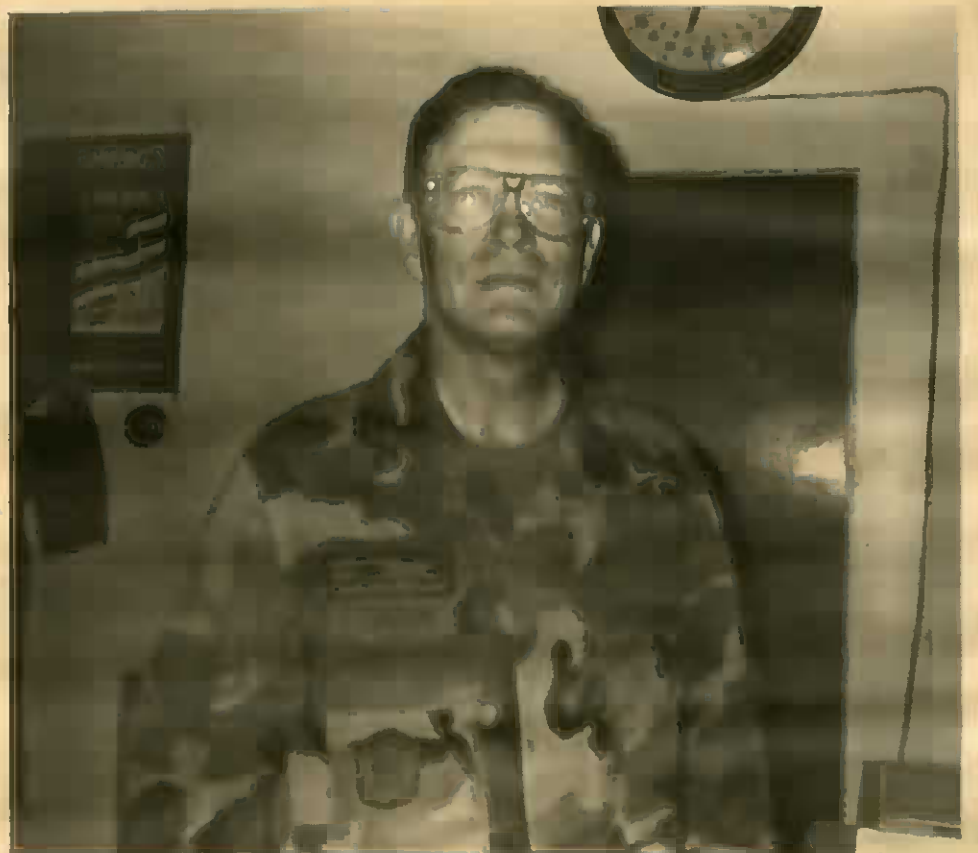
"There's no secret to shooting well, you just have to work hard and keep practicing hard," Saxon said.

Saxon practices weekly at a range near his home in Shreveport and also at a rifle range in northeast Texas. He estimates he shoots 8,000 rounds a year, 120,000 since he started competing in 1975.

But Saxon also says that at his level the psychological aspect of shooting plays a larger role than most people realize. Saxon spends a lot of time doing dry-fire exercises, in which he pictures himself shooting well.

"When you're at this level everyone has good equipment, and everyone shoots about the same, so your mindset and positive mental attitude is very important," Saxon said.

Saxon's love for shooting has extended beyond the Guard, and he has made efforts to give something back to a sport that has given him so much pleasure. As the Guard's representative to the Louisiana Shooting Association,



SSG Daniel Saxon, one of the Governor's Twenty (Photo by SPC Michael A. Ritter, 241st PAD Staff)

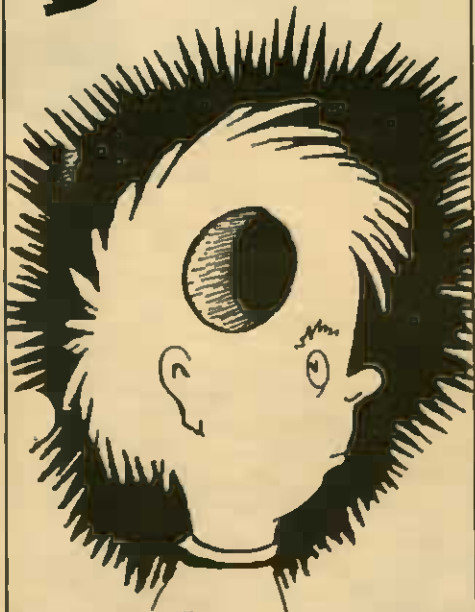
Saxon often oversees and scores junior tournaments around state.

Saxon said that the junior shooting program in the state is a recruiting tool and that he hopes to get more youngsters involved in marksmanship. Saxon also says that being involved

with the program on a state level and his success in competition gives him credibility as an instructor in the Guard.

"I like to see the younger kids get involved and then grow up and become instructors themselves," he said.

## DOPE!



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You need it  
like you need  
a hole in the  
head.

## Bringol Graduates from Cumberland Through Directed Correspondence Studies



LTC Donald Bringol, State Safety Officer, right, receives his baccalaureate degree from Cumberland University in Texas. Bringol pursued his degree through correspondence studies while in the Louisiana Army National Guard. (LAARNG Photo)

By CPT William Ratcliffe  
Education Services Officer

LTC Donald Bringol, State Safety Officer for the LAARNG, recently received a baccalaureate degree in Business Administration from Cumberland University. He traveled to Lebanon, Tenn to participate in the commencement ceremony in May. LTC Bringol graduated with a 3.45 GPA.

Bringol began his degree pursuit over 4 years ago. He started by submitting his military experience portfolio to Cumberland's staff for evaluation. From this evaluation, he was awarded 74 credit hours for his military experience. He completed his remaining degree requirements through directed corresponding studies with Cumberland University.

The directed studies courses were instrumental in enabling him to complete his degree requirements while continuing a career that often included extended travel periods. The credits awarded through his military evaluation allowed him to begin at the Junior level of his degree pursuit.

# 159th MASH Tests the New Deployable

Story and Photos by  
1st LT Maria L. Jonkers

About 400 military personnel from throughout Louisiana conducted OPERATION GOLDEN CADUCEUS, a medical exercise at Camp Villere in Slidell, LA.

The weekend exercise tested the 159th Mobile Army Surgical Hospital's (MASH) new deployable medical system. DEPMED is the New Orleans MASH's new moveable 60-bed hospital complex.

This system has been with the 159th since August. It remains at Camp Villere, inside a razor wire enclosed compound.

"We didn't have anything like this in Vietnam," said MAJ Tom Hancock, Executive Officer of the 159th MASH. "It takes six hours to break down and lock up (for transport), and the same amount of time to set up. This is the 90's version of MASH."

The scenario included a war being fought in Germany, calling for simulations of mass casualties.

Cadets of Slidell area Junior ROTC programs volunteered to spend the weekend as wounded. Some were dead, some dying and some only slightly injured. The moulage, skin make up that simulates wounds, was applied by members of the Louisiana State Surgeon's office.

Victims arrived by helicopters of the 812th Medical Detachment. Some of the wounded went through small battalion aid stations such as those run by the 141st Field Artillery, the 199th Forward Support Battalion and the 3rd Battalion, 156th Infantry.

Litter bearers carried "victims" on stretchers and set them in holding areas to await further treatment. These had already been treated in the emergency medical tent, their first stop after transport from the field.

Those who needed immediate care were taken directly to the 24 square foot climate controlled portable surgical suite, the OR (Operating Room).

DEPMEDs is third generation MASH and the pride of the 159th MASH. A cluster of tents and freight containers house an emergency room, laboratory blood bank, x-ray clinic, treatment areas and other specialty clinics. The tents and containers can be shifted, removed or added to expand or decrease hospital space in wartime or at the scene of natural disasters.

"We're the second National Guard unit in the country to get this equipment," said MAJ Michael Jennings, 159th MASH commander, and a doctor at Ochsner Foundation Hospital in Jefferson.

The Employer Support of the Guard/Reserve Committee held a boss lift in conjunction with the exercise. Over 60 employers, media and medical personnel statewide come to see the National Guard medical corp in action.

"This is incredible," said a physician from the Shreveport area. He was impressed with the air conditioned operating room. "This is nothing like you'd expect. Nothing like the MASH on tv."

## Participants In Operation Golden Caduceus

- 159th Mobile Army Surgical Hospital
- 812th Medical Detachment
- Company C, 199th Forward Support Battalion
- Battalion Aid Station, 141st Field Artillery
- Battalion Aid Station, 3rd Battalion, 156th Infantry
- 39th Military Police Company
- Troop Command
- 4010th US Army Field Hospital, US Army Reserve
- Junior ROTC Cadets, Pearl River, Slidell, Covington
- State Surgeon's Office



Junior ROTC Cadets from the Camp Villere, Slidell area volunteered to spend the weekend as wounded.



Casualties await further treatment in the emergency medical tent. This was their first stop after transport from the field.



The Louisiana State Surgeon's office applied moulage to the Jr. ROTC volunteers to enhance the realism of the Exercise.



Operating Room (OR) technicians of the 159th MASH simulate surgery on a wounded soldier during OPERATION GOLDEN CADUCEUS. This 24-foot climate controlled environment is the latest in deployable medical systems for the military.

# Medical Systems at Camp Villere in April



This DEPMEDs (Deployable Medical System) is the 159th MASH's new movable 60-bed hospital complex. It remains at Camp Villere, inside a razor wire enclosed compound.

"We didn't have anything like this in Vietnam."

"This is the 90's Version of MASH."

"This is incredible. This is like nothing you'd expect."

## Wellmeyer Acts As The Chemical NCO

By MAJ Tom Rigsby  
256th Inf Bde PAO

Tactical, as well as technical training took place during the DEPMED exercise in Slidell.

The medics were subjected to ambushes and chemical attacks which kept them in MOPP 3 most of Saturday morning.

SSG Henry P. Wellmeyer, battalion chemical NCO for the Washington Artillery atted as the exercise chemical NCO during the exercise.

As the artillery's Chemical NCO Wellmeyer has had ample opportunity to sharpen his skills, and his expertise was put to the test during the play.

His responsibilities included receiving, plotting and disseminating chemical messages, interpreting and forecasting downwind warnings, and



SSG Henry P. Wellmeyer disseminates a chemical message during the DEPMED exercise held at Camp Villere in April. (Photo by SFC Kirk J. Barrilleaux, 256th Inf Bde PIO)

anticipating and preparing for chemical attacks based on intelligence garnered.

He also advised the operations personnel on chemical play with reference as to what type of avoidance and pro-

tection necessary for the safety of the troops.

Wellmeyer has served with the 141st FA for nine years and is a graduate of the NBC Defense School, and the Basic and Advanced NBC Schools.



# When WWII Came To Town

By Melanie Torbett

Fifty years ago, there was a virtual tidal wave of military men, machinery and maneuvers that dramatically changed the Central Louisiana landscape, changed the economy and changed lives. The wave brought thousands of soldiers to Cenla for training beginning in the early months of 1940.

Today, the ripple effects of that World War II-inspired tidal wave are still visible, still important to Central Louisiana. A look around the perimeters of Alexandria-Pineville shows a marked military presence spawned largely during the 1940s.

Camp Beauregard, through its origins date from 1905, gained tremendously in size and stature during the war. England Air Force Base, Fort Polk, Esler Regional Airport, and the Pollock Airport - all have distinct roots in World War II. Though now abandoned, Camps Claiborne and Livingston were two other World War II-era training facilities constructed near Alexandria-Pineville.

Memories of that 1940-42 war mobilization period will be refreshed later this year during a 50th anniversary commemorative weekend being

planned by the Louisiana National Guard. The event is expected to include an Oct. 19-21 reunion of veterans who were stationed at or trained in local camps.

The number of those soldiers who passed through Central Louisiana 50 years ago was awesome, considering that Alexandria's population then was about 27,000. Natives can still remember crowds of soldiers arriving at the Alexandria train depot, long lines at the movie theatre and military parades down Fourth Street in downtown Alexandria.

The influx began when U.S. military authorities selected the Central Louisiana area as the site for army training maneuvers. The 1940 army maneuvers began in Louisiana during May and eventually involved more than 70,000 troops who trained in Rapides, Natchitoches, Sabine and Vernon parishes. The towns, highways, and woods in the maneuvers area filled with soldiers marching, driving tanks and "capturing" towns and strategic points throughout the four parishes.

In August 1940, 70,000 additional regular army and National Guard troops returned to Cenla parishes for training. Also in August, the Army announced plans to convert Camp Beauregard into the largest Army training camp in the South.

When it became apparent that

Beauregard could not house all the incoming soldiers the Army began construction of two additional camps in Cenla. Camp Livingston was begun in September of 1940 near Tioga, and completed in March 1941. Camp Claiborne was constructed during the same period near Forest Hill.

In April 1941, the Third Armored Division was activated at Camp Beauregard; two months later it was transferred to Camp Polk, under construction at Leesville. During World War II, more than eight million men trained at the camp, according to one published report. Leesville went from a sleepy little town of about 3,000 to a crowded boom town in a matter of weeks.

There were 10 major units at Camps Beauregard, Livingston and Claiborne during World War II. Serving as a hub and reception center for incoming inductees, Camp Beauregard was of particular importance as the headquarters for the V (Fifth) Corps, which was to become part of the Third U.S. Army.

What was called the largest peacetime maneuvers up to that time in United States Army history took place in mid-Louisiana parishes in the summer and fall of 1941. There were 500,000 military troops participating in the so-called Louisiana Maneuvers, with headquarters at Camp Beauregard.

That massive 1941 training operation in Louisiana brought many renowned military men into Central Louisiana, including LTG George S. Patton Jr., GEN Dwight D. Eisenhower, GEN Omar Bradley and LTG Walter Krueger.

Esler Regional Airport owes its location and existence to Camp Beauregard, which had its runway located at the site. In addition, a small emergency airstrip was located just north of Alexandria off the Boyce highway. That airfield was expanded by 1943 to serve as a training base for B-17 combat crews. The Alexandria Air Base was deactivated as a military field after the war and the City of Alexandria resumed ownership; it was used for commercial and civil aircraft. In 1950 the U.S. Air Force announced plans to locate a Tactical Air Command Base there. This was the beginning of England Air Force Base.

Considering the role Central Louisiana played in World War II, it is little wonder that the military presence here is almost taken for granted now. Few natives may still remember the military personnel and activities that were a part of the Alexandria-Pineville area 50 years ago. But for the thousands of soldiers who passed through on their way to combat, it was an important place and time. (Reprinted with permission from CENLA magazine Mar/April 1990)

## Camp Beauregard:

## Strong Presence in Central Louisiana

By Melanie Torbett

Named for a losing Civil War general, Camp Beauregard has been an economic winner for Central Louisiana since its beginnings. Its presence in World War II spawned Camps Livingston and Claiborne, Esler Field, the Pollock Airport, England Air Force Base, and Fort Polk. Today, in an era of state cutbacks, it has stepped in to take over the Hot Wells resort and the Louisiana Training Institute as National Guard facilities.

Today it is the training site not only for Guardsmen but also for federal marshals, state police, and university ROTC units. In addition, it houses a work training facility for the Louisiana Department of Corrections and a National Guard Bureau Academy which brings in participants from throughout the country.

There are 500 full-time federal and state employees and 1,936 part-time employees with a \$20.5 million payroll. Last year Camp Beauregard trained 19,000 soldiers. Training occurs at Beauregard's 750-acre main post and 12,000 acres at the old Camp Livingston property primarily on weekends during nine months of the year and all summer long.

LTC William R. Hilborn, facility manager, and COL Richard Brown, post commander, relate the story of how Camp Beauregard fit into CENLA's history yesterday and today.

To trace Camp Beauregard's roots, one must go to 1905, to the establishment of Camp Stafford, a Louisiana National Guard Training facility located two miles west, where the Veterans' Administration Hospital now sits on U.S. Hwy 71.

The Louisiana Seminary of Learning was there first, however, having been established at that site in 1858. The

Seminary had a bumpy history during the Civil War, and its first president, William T. Sherman, left to gain fame as a general in the Union Army. The Seminary was razed in 1869, and moved to Baton Rouge, where it evolved into LSU.

Camp Stafford, which operated between 1905-1917, was named for MG D.T. Stafford, adjutant general of the Louisiana National Guard. It became the central training site for the Guard and began the "military business" in central Louisiana.

As early as May 1912, a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' survey team led by LTC George Zinn mapped out a 15-square-mile area that extended eastward from Camp Stafford to what is now Alexandria Esler Airport. When the U.S. went to war in April 1917, this "Zinn Map" formed the basis for the site selection of a new military training camp to be named as Camp Beauregard. The post was chosen as one of 16 new National Guard sites and was named after Confederate hero, MG Pierre G.T. Beauregard.

To acquire the land, the City of Alexandria intervened for the federal government, leasing the properties from private landowners and then subleasing to the government. "The city played a very prominent role in procuring this land that became Camp Beauregard," said Brown.

COL Brown noted that their historical research has turned up a persistent theme at Beauregard - community support and cooperation for the military post. "Seldom in American history can you see such excellent cooperation between a community and the military as that shown in the establishment of Camp Beauregard," he said.

In World War I, Beauregard was the site of massive federal construction-

more than \$5.3 million - which prepared it to house as many as 29,000 troops, although 24,000 was the peak number that actually came. Beauregard was the hub for major training maneuvers which prepared troops for service in Europe. After the war, the camp was deactivated in February 1919 and reverted to the state as a training site for the Louisiana National Guard.

During the 1920s and 30s, Camp Beauregard was used by a variety of military and civilian organizations, in addition to the National Guard. Many of the buildings still standing at Beauregard were constructed by the WPA during President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal era.

The post was reactivated in August 1940 and gained an expanded artillery range and an airfield in 1941. That airfield was eventually to become Esler Regional Airport, so named in 1950 in memory of LT Wilmer Esler who died when his army observation plane crashed nearby in 1941.

Beauregard was at the center of local military training during World War II, serving as headquarters for the famous Louisiana Maneuvers, as well as the Army's V Corps and was the originating point for the Third Armored Division that went off to fame during the war. Beauregard also was home for the 107th Air Corps Observation Squadron and the 109th Air Corps Observation Squadron.

During World War II, German, Italian and Japanese prisoners of war were interned in Central Louisiana military camps, including Livingston, Polk and Claiborne. The majority of POWs worked as field hands in CENLA cotton, corn and cane fields. German prisoners were also used to help reinforce and repair the Red River levee during the back water flooding of 1945.

After the war, Camp Beauregard reverted to state control and use was limited to weekend and annual training, a home base for several Guard units, and home for three state maintenance activities.

The 1970s was a decade of renewal for Camp Beauregard, when major renovations and new construction transformed it from decay into a comprehensive training site for the Louisiana National Guard. Today, Beauregard is home for 11 National Guard troop units and 12 state headquarters activities.

The two Army Aviation helicopter detachments now at Camp Beauregard might be moved to a permanent, expanded National Guard aviation facility proposed for Esler Regional Airport. Approval of that plan hinges upon Congressional review and funding of new aviation facilities nationwide, a process expected to be completed by 1992-93.

The camp site also houses the State Department of Corrections Work Training Facility North, the U.S. Marshal Service and a National Guard Bureau academy.

Camp Beauregard utilizes 12,000 acres of U.S. Forest Service and Guard property off La. 3130 for such training exercises as demolition, land mine warfare, engineering projects and weapons firing.

Two additional properties the Guard has acquired for training are the old Hot Wells resort, abandoned by the state in 1986, and the former site of the Louisiana Training Institute in Ball. Hot Wells is now used for urban terrain training and the LTI site is used as the National Guard Bureau NCO academy. (Reprinted with permission from CENLA Magazine Mar/Apr 1990)

## LOUISIANA NATIONAL GUARD ENLISTED ASSOCIATION

2112 Jean Lafitte Pkwy.  
Chalmette, Louisiana 70043

**HELP US HELP YOU!**—By joining the Louisiana National Guard Enlisted Association you become a member of the team that is fighting to save our current military benefits.

**YOUR MEMBERSHIP FEE**—Provides you with enrollment into the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS), enrollment into the Louisiana National Guard Enlisted Association (LANGEA), and the quarterly publication "The New Patriot" mailed to your home address and a free \$1000.00 Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance Policy as part of EANGUS membership.

**BUDGET CUTS**—have been mandated by both the state and national legislative bodies. The benefits military personnel have grown accustomed to are under close scrutiny. Some incentives the association fought to keep in effect since 1986 were college tuition exemption (state) and the G.I. Bill (national). EANGUS AND LANGEA WERE INSTRUMENTAL IN RETAINING THESE TWO BENEFITS.

**TO SAVE OUR BENEFITS**—we must bind together to project a strong unity. On any political issue there is strength in numbers therefore, your membership is important, **IT WILL SHOW THAT YOU CARE!!**

**QUESTIONS**—concerning this association can be directed to your AREA DIRECTOR.

## BENEFITS WORTH FIGHTING FOR

- ✓ EXTENSION OF COMMISSARY TO RETIRED GUARD AND RESERVE MEMBERS NOT YET AGE 60
- ✓ INCREASE SGLI
- ✓ EXPANSION OF THE NEW G.I. BILL
- ✓ SURVIVOR BENEFIT PLAN
- ✓ SURVIVOR HEALTH CARE AND BENEFITS
- ✓ OTHER BENEFITS: BOTH EANGUS & LANGEA OFFER TO MEMBERS AND DEPENDENTS A SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

**LOUISIANA NATIONAL GUARD ENLISTED ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Name/Rank: \_\_\_\_\_ SSN: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Home: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Dues Paid: ☐ \$8/1 Yr. ☐ \$16/2 Yrs. ☐ \$24/3 Yrs.

I understand that this amount enrolls me in the ENLISTED ASSOCIATION OF THE NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES (EANGUS) and the LANGEA for the period indicated. I will receive "THE NEW PATRIOT" quarterly mailed to my home and a membership card.

## LANGEA TEMPORARY MEMBERSHIP CARD

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

# Retired Officer's Association Protects Benefits for All

Alexandria, Va — The Retired Officers Association (TROA), an independent, non-profit service organization, was formed in 1929 by a small group of retired officers who believed that officers and warrant officers, as well as their families and survivors would benefit greatly by joining together in an association — one that would counsel and render assistance to all officers in matters related to their retired status.

Through the years as the membership and staff grew, the Association broadened its objectives to work on behalf of the entire uniformed services community — officers and enlisted, active duty and retired, to the point that today, it is an authoritative and respected voice for military personnel matters, especially in the area of entitlements and benefits.

Today, with a membership of 365,000, TROA is the largest military officers association in the nation.

TROA plays an important role in helping to shape legislation affecting career military personnel on active duty and in retirement. Four Association registered lobbyists are continuously working on Capitol Hill to obtain fair and equitable treatment for military personnel and to protect their en-

titlements and benefits.

TROA legislative goals in 1990 are to:

- protect the cost of living adjustment (COLA) so that the purchasing power of retired pay is not further eroded
- defend the military retirement system against the current threat, so that future military retirees will not be adversely impacted

- improve the quality and availability of health care for all military, active and retired, their families and survivors

- support the reprogramming action proposal by the services to protect military personnel from cuts in 1990

- insure that force reduction measures are reasonable and include proper consideration of active duty personnel and their families

- revise the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) by providing a survivor an annuity up to 55 per cent of retired pay for life without offset

- prevent the operations of commissaries from being turned over to private contractors

- win appeal of existing laws that discriminate against post-retirement employment opportunities

In addition to representing uniformed personnel on Capitol Hill, TROA

provides these programs for its members:

**Employment Service** - TROA's Officer Placement Service (TOPS) offers computerized job referral, counseling, resume writing assistance and other services that help ease the difficult transition from military life to the civilian work force.

**Retirement Counseling** - Experienced staff members will help solve problems with VA benefits, Social Security, CAMPUS, and other retirement issues.

**Eligibility for Insurance Programs** - Guaranteed-issue CAMPUS and Medicare supplements and many other insurance programs designed around specific individual/family needs.

**TROA's Members-Only Magazine** - The Retired Officer, a 76-page monthly magazine, offers interesting and diverse features on Congress, the uniformed services, retiree entitlements and benefits and local activities.

**Educational Assistance** - Dependent children of officers and enlisted, active duty and retired, are eligible to apply for interest-free loans and may qualify for TROA grants to help pay for college.

**Survivor Assistance** - TROA advises families of deceased members on submitting claims for federal survivor

benefits and commercial insurance.

**Chapter Activities** - Over 400 autonomous TROA state Councils and local chapters chartered in the United States and abroad are available for local participation in community and military-related projects and events as well as chapter social functions.

**Legal Discounts** - Over 200 lawyers in 39 states cut their fees 25% for TROA members.

**Credit Cards** - Individuals may qualify for up to \$15,000 on TROA's own Gold MasterCard and companion Gold VISA card, for one low annual fee.

**Travel Service** - National travel agency offers TROA members exclusive services and discounts.

**Membership** in TROA is open to all men and women who are — or ever have been — commissioned or warrant officers in any component of the seven uniformed services: Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Public Health Service and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

If you would like more information about TROA or are interested in becoming a member, call toll free 1-800-245-TROA or write TROA (Code 04B), 201 N. Washington St., Alexandria, VA 22314-2529.



Left to right: Charles Stiegler, Woody Wells, Gene Lala, Frank Cucinello, Tom Stuart (State PAO Photo)

**Retired officers of the Louisiana Army and Air National Guard met for a reunion at Jackson Barracks in May. The officers meet once a year for a briefing and a dinner in the officer's club afterward.**



COL Murry Landry (Ret) Former Director of Plans, Security and Operations poses with LTC Thomas Rodrigue of HQ STARC, right. (State PAO Photo)



Left to right: Chaplain Robert Hildebrandt, Emile J. St. Pierre, David Lemaire, Tom Breslin (State PAO Photo)

## CPT Hartman Saves An F-15

By CPT Brian P. Charboneau  
159th Tac Ftr Gp PAO

CPT Patrick J. Hartman of the 122nd Tactical Fighter Squadron received the prestigious Air Medal in April, for having saved his F-15 Eagle in November over Gulfport, Mississippi. MG Ansel M. Stroud presented the Air Medal at the U.S. Naval Air Station New Orleans, the home of the 122nd TFS.

"The Air Medal is a decoration given in wartime," commented COL James Thibodeaux, Commander of the 159th Tactical Fighter Group, parent organization of the 122nd. COL Kenneth Ross, Commander of the Louisiana Air National Guard, and LTC Sam Donaldson, Commander of the 122nd TFS, proudly watched the Adjutant General present the Air Medal to Hartman. Kathy G. Hartman, the recipient's wife, was also present.

Hartman was flying a training mission, part of "Sentry Mudbug", when a mechanical malfunction ignited a fire in one of the Eagle's twin engines. Immediately and accurately assessing the emergency, Hartman stopped fuel flow to the engine and extinguished the in-flight fire. He landed his severely damaged fighter at the Air National Guard Permanent Field Training Site in Gulfport. His quick and professional actions, and his superior piloting skills, prevented the total loss of the multimillion dollar aircraft. The damaged Eagle has since been salvaged.

Mrs. Hartman was in the Operations area of the Gulfport site when the in-flight emergency occurred. "I know he is a fine pilot, but those were still scary minutes," said Mrs. Hartman after the ceremony. CPT Hartman flies for Northwest Airlines in his civilian career.

Sentry Mudbug was a major multi service air combat exercise hosted by the 159th TFG.



SGT DAVID P. JOHNSON

## The Yearbook. It's Coming

## Farewell SMSGT Jimmie B. Baker

By SGT Sharon Dixon  
241st PAD Staff

The core of the recruiting and retention staff gathered to celebrate the retirement of state program manager, SMSGT Jimmie B. Baker, during April at the Louisiana Air National Guard Headquarters at Jackson Barracks.

Baker, accompanied by his mother, Zelia Baker, ate cake and swapped highlights of 16 years of service with coworkers. "This is my third retirement party in a week," said Baker. "It really makes me feel good to know people care."

Baker said during his tenure since 1974, he's seen a lot of good things happen to the Louisiana Air National

Guard. "When I first got into recruiting back in 1979, there were very few minorities, and we ranked low in recruiting enlisted and officers, in officer on-the-job training and in mobility and retention. We were last," he said.

### "I ran a tough Program here..."

"Right now, we're number one in retention in the nation, there are opportunities for minorities in officer programs, officer on-the-job training is higher, and we're leading the nation in officer recruiting."

Baker spent eight years in the Air Force, worked five years as officer

manager of the recruiting and retention program, and over five years as state program manager. His office walls boast the many certificates and awards he's collected during the years. Among them, a 1982 Top Recruiter in the Nation, 1980 to 1984 Top Recruiter Awards for the state, the Bronze Star and the Louisiana Legion of Merit Award.

"I ran a tough program here. Our recruiters are the epitome of the best in the Air National Guard," said Baker. "We stopped looking for quantity and started looking for quality. We're the number one recruiting outfit in the nation and we have been since 1985. The people here have made the state the way it is today."

Baker has two reasons for giving it all up. "Well after 24 years, five months and 15 days, I mean it's time for me to move on. At my age, it's time to start a new career. This became very stagnated and wasn't a challenge anymore," said Baker. "Now's the time to make my move."

Baker plans to "move on" to Saudi Arabia for the next three years. He accepted a position with a major corporation as an Inventory Management Supervisor. He'll work with a staff performing property accounting and inventory management there.

MSG Heidi L. Pinkham, replaced Baker as the state recruiting and retention program manager. "He's one of the sharpest men in the Air Force," she said.

# Community Involvement Comes Natural...

## CoA, 527th Engineers Donate Blood and Work With the Special Olympics

By SGT Charles M. Curry

During drill in April, members of Co A, 527th Engineer Battalion, Ruston, participated in a blood drive sponsored by the Louisiana Blood Center.

The Blood Center van parked on the armory parking lot and soldiers were asked to give blood throughout the day. A total of 25 units of blood was donated.

The Blood Mobile stops at Ruston every three months on drill to collect blood. Blood is used to supply hospitals in emergencies and surgeries requiring transfusions.

Soldiers were educated as to the precautions used by Blood Center personnel to prevent spreading of diseases during donations.

By SGT Charles M. Curry

In mid-April, several members of Co A, 527th Engr Bn and the Ruston National Guard Ladies Auxiliary assisted Louisiana Tech's Circle K in presenting the Special Olympics for North Central Louisiana. The Special Olympics was created by the Joseph P. Kennedy Foundation, authorized and accredited by Special Olympics, INC for the benefit of mentally retarded citizens.

National Guard members SFC Billberry, SGT Curry, SPC Trammell, PV2 Karnes, and SPC Dufour provided support to the Olympics by setting up tents for refreshments and water. Members of the Ladies Auxiliary supported by serving the noon meal to children, coaches, and volunteers. Food donations were made by local Ruston businesses and fast-food chains.

Mentally retarded and handicapped children from the Parishes of Lincoln,



SPC Donald P. Dufour, far left, signals the start of one of the many races held during the North Central Louisiana Special Olympics held at Louisiana Tech University.

Jackson, Union, Claiborne, and Bienville schools participated in the events. First, second, and third place ribbons were awarded in each event. The high

level of competition and achievement brought meaning to the Special Olympics oath, "Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt."



## Company C, 527th Engineers Work With the Boy Scouts

Members of Company C, 527th Engr Bn in Minden and Homer worked with the Boy Scouts on Operation "Good Turn" for Goodwill Industries, in mid-March.

The Boy Scouts picked up the Goodwill bags and brought them to designated pickup points, where Guardsmen transported the items to the Goodwill Industries Center in Shreveport.

These "Good Turn" drive materials help provide work and training for more than 140 handicapped clients located in the Shreveport/Bossier Areas.

The participating National Guardsmen were SGT Leon Harris, SPC Michael Henderson, SPC Roger Jones, and PFC Bryan Smith.

Guardsmen and Boy Scouts work together to collect and deliver donated goods to the Goodwill Industries center in Shreveport. (Company C, 527th Engr Bn Photo)



Members of the 773d Maintenance Battalion New Orleans, participated in a community action project by renovating a recreation park in St. Bernard parish. Soldiers mended fences, relocated baseball dug-outs, welded and raised roofs over stands, and repaired the batting cage. Park and parish officials were overjoyed and the soldiers from the 773d Maintenance Battalion and from the 363d Maintenance Company were very proud to have been selected to participate in this project.

# to the Louisiana National Guard

## Guard Donates \$4,000 from Race to Children's Hospital

By 1LT Maria L. Jonkers  
State PAO

The Louisiana National Guard presented Children's Hospital with a check for \$4,000, proceeds from its annual 5K road race held every December to benefit the hospital in New Orleans.

This latest pledge is part of an ongoing pledge to Children's Hospital. Money previously donated by Guardsmen helped build a parent's lounge on the fourth floor of the hospital complex.

Last year over 800 runners participated in the race sponsored by the Chalmette Medical Center's Cardiac Rehabilitation Unit. The Cardiac Unit encourages its patients to participate in the 1/2 mile fun-run which precedes the 5K.

"National Guard families from throughout the state use Children's Hospital," said Mrs. Betty Lauricella, Vice President of the Board of Trustees for Children's Hospital. "What you do for us every year is wonderful."



LTC Reece Gay, Director, (right) and CW4 Michael Fisher, Statistician, present Mrs. Betty Lauricella, Vice President of the Board of Trustees for Children's Hospital with a check for \$4,000. These are proceeds from the Louisiana National Guard's Annual 5K road race held every December to benefit Children's Hospital. (Photo by 1LT Maria L. Jonkers, State PAO)



The Belle Promenade Shopping Center on the Westbank of New Orleans commemorated Armed Forces Day by inviting all area military services to set up displays and equipment in the shopping mall in May. The 159th Tactical Fighter Group, the 209th Personnel Services Company, and the 1st of the 244th Aviation Battalion set up computers, videos, equip-

ment and literature to represent the Louisiana Army and Air National Guard. Other branches represented were the Army Corp of Engineers, the Army Nurse Corps, the Marine Corps, the Coast Guard, the Naval Reserve, the Air Force Reserve, and the Civil Air Patrol. (Photos by 1LT Maria L. Jonkers, State PAO)



## 141st Washington Artillery Transports Food for Food Bank

By CPT Pat Santos  
HQ Btry, 141st FA

When the 141st Washington Field Artillery received a letter from Mr. Sonny Carter, resource development coordinator of the Second Harvest Food Bank asking for assistance it was only natural that the battalion volunteer its service. Starting in May 1989 the Washington Artillery has been working on a community relations project that helps the Second Harvest Food Bank as well as other local food banks in the community by donating canned goods to replenish their often depleted stocks.

Food collected from Washington Artillery soldiers and from the Washington Artillery Veterans Association which totals over 300 cases have been donated to help fight hunger in the community.

This time, however, Second Harvest wasn't asking only for canned goods from the battalion, but for manpower

and transportation resources to help collect food that was being donated by local schools. SFC Terrence Donelon took charge of the project and with volunteer assistance from SSG Edward Daigle and SSG Myron Lee collected approximately 60 cases of food from Arabi Park Middle and Elementary, St. Claude Heights, Lacoste Elementary, and Trist Middle Schools in St. Bernard Parish.

Once all the food had been collected it was transported to the Second Harvest Food Bank where it will eventually be distributed to the needy. SFC Donelon stated that he hopes the battalion can continue to support this important project that benefits so many people.

"The National Guard does a lot more for the community than help areas recover from natural disasters or rescue families from flooded areas. The National Guard is an integral part of the community, and we want to do what we can to help," said SFC Donelon.



Members of Troop Command participated in transporting food from Orleans Parish Public School to the Second Harvest Foodbank. Over 3500 pounds were collected from ten schools. Left to right: SSG Roderic Sanchez, Troop Command; PFC James R. Cole, HHC, 1/244th Aviation Battalion; SSG David M. Martin, HHC, 1/244th Aviation Battalion. Participated, but not pictured, SPC James W. Snyder, Jr., 209th Personnel Service Company. This effort was part of Troop Command's Community Volunteer Activities. (Photo by Sonny Carter, Second Harvest Food Bank)

# NGALA Holds Annual Convention in Monroe

By 1LT Maria L. Jonkers  
State PAO

The City of Monroe served as the site of the 60th Annual Conference of the National Guard Association of Louisiana. The conference, hosted by the 528th Engineer Battalion, was held the third weekend in April.

The Friday night social event held in the enclosed Holidome of the Holiday Inn had as its theme, "beach party." Colorful Hawaiian shirts, shorts pants and leis dominated the scene.

But by Saturday morning the Monroe Civic Center was awash in the muted greens of Class B uniforms. Following a commander's breakfast held in MG Ansel M. Stroud's honor, COL Walter Weaver, NGALA President called the session to order.

The meeting opened with a powerful rendition of the Lee Greenwood Anthem, "God Bless the USA" sung by SGT Parker of Oak Grove's Company C, 528th Engineer Battalion.

When the Mayor of Monroe, Mr. Bob Powell, took to the stage to address the group he was visibly moved.

"I want to express my appreciation and gratitude to the National Guard," Powell said, "The local unit (528th Engr Bn) had done so much for us during the flooding that the President himself came down to see what was being done."

Mr. Edward L. "Ned" Diefenthal, committee Chairman for the Louisiana Employer Support for the Guard/Reserve (ESGR) also addressed the nearly 475 officers present.

"Our (ESGR) committee has gone from the bottom in effectiveness to nearly the top," he said. "We are doing boss lifts at the rate of one per month. You folks have done such a fine job that we don't have enough space to accommodate all the employers, politicians and media that want to come out and see you perform. I am very proud of you," he said.

The Honorable J. Bennett Johnston Jr., U.S. Senator spoke to the group about the changes that have taken place around the world.

"Just two years ago we were squaring off with Warsaw Pact nations. My,

how things have changed," he said. "Now cuts in troop strength are being discussed by both sides, and the Warsaw Pact is no more. But, there is still an existing threat. Just what it is? And what should our strategy be to deal with it? The impact on Louisiana will be dramatic, substantial and direct."

Johnston spoke of the cuts in troop strength and how it will have an effect nationally as well as locally.

"In my view it is not prudent to use parity in cuts," he said, referring to the strategy to cut one reserve soldier for every active duty soldier. "We should in fact, increase our reserve strength," he continued. "It is a fact that we get more bang to the buck in our reserves."

The Adjutant General for the Florida National Guard, MG Robert F. Ensslin, Jr. briefly addressed the group. He praised the Louisiana National Guard for how far it had come under the leadership of MG Stroud.

Stroud gave a 'state of the Guard' address to the officers. He spoke of the many activities that the Army and Air Guard units statewide are involved in. He gave an update on the fund-raising efforts for the museum expansion.

"Fund raising is going well, and there are still plenty of t-shirts available," he said. He mentioned that the pilings had been driven for the foundation of the museum annex. "I am proud of the fact that our museum will be built by our engineers. This is fine training for our young soldiers. It will be a National Guard product."

The dedication ceremony is scheduled for December 7, 1991. The museum will be dedicated exclusively to the remembrance of World War II — its veterans, their deeds, and their sacrifices.

He announced that the Louisiana National Guard had been awarded third prize of \$100,000 in the Army Communities of Excellence Program.

And he spoke of the many changes in Eastern Europe and around the world.

"To many folks this past year Gorbachev had become the most important man in the world. He was seen as a messiah that could do no wrong. But the satellite nations are now crumbling. There is talk of reducing troop strength. But you can bet the East German military is improving. The warning time has increased, yes, but the threat is still there," he said.

"Do not believe that this is the time for our countries' capability to defend itself to go away," he concluded.

The general also informed the officers of the World War II Commemoration that will be held on October 20 at Camp Beauregard.

"The 1940 maneuvers was a successful mobilization attributable to the men who served in the National Guard, and their willingness to overcome obstacles with little guidance," he said. "In 1941 there were 500,000 soldiers called up at a cost of \$21 million dollars. That was a lot of money in 1941, but the world was completely shocked by Hitler and his domination of Europe. On 20 October 1940, the 5th US Corp was activated at Cp Beauregard. These maneuvers will be memorialized by a monument, and a marker for each armory that was involved in the call-up."

Several resolutions were introduced and approved during the session. And a new Association Committee was elected. (See Sidebar)

The military ball was held in the Monroe Civic Center Saturday night. Several awards were handed out, among them awards for outstanding unit commanders.

CPT Jerry Crooks received the award for Outstanding Unit Commander for the Louisiana Army National Guard for the period while he commanded Company B of the 527th Engineer Battalion.

MAJ Glen P. Huth received the Outstanding Unit Commander for the Louisiana Air National Guard award. Huth commands the 159th Weapons System Security Flight.

Company B of the 527th Engr Bn received the Eisenhower Trophy for Outstanding Unit.



A group of partyers make merry during the Friday night social at the National Guard Association Officer's convention held in Monroe in April. (Photo by MAJ Tom Rigsby, 256th Inf Bde PAO)



MG Ansel Stroud (center) poses with his major commanders during the military ball. Left to right: COL Fred Palmer, Commander, Troop Command; COL Marion Simpson, Commander, 204th Area Support Group; TAG; BG Gary Whipple, Commander, 256th Infantry Brigade; COL Ed Giering, Commander, 225th Engineer Group. (Photo by 1LT Maria L. Jonkers, State PAO)

## New Officers National Guard Association, La.

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