

Record Toys for Tots Donations, Page 4



Medal of Honor Hero Comes Home, Page 11



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2000 National Guard Pay Chart
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Guard TIMES

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Governor Proposes New Guard Support Initiatives Improved Pay and Earlier Access to Tuition Benefits Featured

By Lt. Col. Paul Fanning
Guard Times Staff

ALBANY – Members of New York State's military forces may soon benefit from higher State Active Duty pay and new recruits may get quicker access to the Tuition Incentive Program under proposals announced by the State Commander-in-Chief.

Governor George E. Pataki recently announced two proposals to improve the pay of enlisted National Guard members performing State Active Duty and to make it possible for new enlistees to participate in the state's Tuition Incentive Program for college attendance before completing basic and advanced individual training. The pay proposal addresses financial short falls experienced by enlisted soldiers during state emergencies. The Tuition Incentive Program Enhancement is intended to help attract even more eligible recruits to the National Guard from the population of college-bound young people, who are unwilling to delay attending college until required military training is completed. Both proposals require the approval of the state legislature.

Investment equals Readiness equals Response

The landmark Tuition Incentive Program was unanimously passed by the state legislature in the spring of 1996 and signed into law by Governor Pataki the following July 31st. The bill provided 100 percent free tuition at all public colleges and universities and tuition support at NY's private schools up to the public school rate. The benefit launched the state from "worst to first" in strength maintenance and in the process helped dramatically change the composition of the force, which is now characterized by significantly increased numbers of younger personnel. In addition, the overall numbers of applicants in the top recruiting category rose, and student-soldiers taking advantage of the tuition benefits were achieving higher academic grades than both the state and national average. The Guard reported significantly improved readiness overall.

These achievements came just in time for a record level of state activations for state emergencies in 1998, in which NY led the nation in troop performance of state active duty days — more than 60,000. Residents of the

STATE ACTIVE DUTY ENLISTED PAY SCALE	
NY Pays (per day)	
E-1	= \$68
E-2	= \$72
E-3	= \$74
E-4	= \$76
E-5	= \$90
E-6	= \$98

Pay based on a 12 hour duty day

Proposed SAD rate (\$8.33 p/h) **\$100/DAY**



The North Country Ice Storm in January 1998 saw thousands of Guard troops assisting local communities. The Governor's proposal would raise enlisted soldier pay to a minimum of \$100 per day while on state active duty.

January of 1998 Ice Storm-ravaged North Country praised the Guard for its response. Likewise, residents of the Saratoga County's communities of Stillwater and Mechanicville also rained praise on "their" Guard following a destructive Memorial Day tornado. Finally, the people of Syracuse saw the Guard in action in their streets when a wind-storm struck on Labor Day, forcing an early close to the State Fair. They were similarly pleased and proud of their citizen soldiers.

It was for just this purpose that the Governor had "invested" in the Guard in the form of a robust educational-support program. The Governor sees the National Guard as essential emergency response and "force-for-good" resource that can and does have a direct impact on the wellbeing and safety of the state's residents. The Governor made the investment to improve the readiness of the force so that a capable Guard is in place and responsive to the state's needs. In short, Investment equals Readiness equals Response.

Higher State Active Duty Pay

Under the Governor's proposal, enlisted members of the state's military forces called to State Active Duty will see their pay rates rise. Grades E-1 to E-5 will be paid a minimum of \$100 a day for each day on SAD. Current rates are matched to the federal pay schedule, currently ranging from \$69 to \$98 a day for the same grades. During state emergencies, troops routinely work 12-hour shifts at a minimum, usually under arduous conditions. In addition, *See Governor's Support Initiatives on Page 3*

Helicopter accident on Long Island kills two, injures two others. Guard family mourns following NY's first fatal aviation mishap.

Story on Pages 6 and 7

Guard Notes

AUSA Restructures Dues for Members

WASHINGTON, DC—Based on recommendations received from Association of the United States Army (AUSA) chapter leaders, noncommissioned officers and members, AUSA approved a dues restructuring effective immediately.

Announced at the Association's 45th Annual Meeting, General Gordon R. Sullivan, USA, Retired, current AUSA President, said the restructuring reduces the membership dues for privates through sergeants first class.

"The Council of Trustees, listening to the recommendations from the field, felt that a reduction in dues would make membership in the association more appealing to enlisted soldiers and would make it easier for our members to recruit new members and retain those already on the membership roles," Sullivan said.

Under the new changes, dues for soldiers in pay grades E1-E4 are reduced from \$25 to \$20 and for grades E5-E7 \$28 to \$25 with a \$68 three-year rate. These rates include receiving the Army Magazine monthly.

AUSA continues its junior membership for grades E1-E4 at \$12 a year and now allows ROTC cadets and OCS candidates to select this reduced dues option that does not include the magazine.

Association officials said the new dues, with a membership application are found on the AUSA Web Page at www.ausa.org where soldiers can join or renew membership online.

Department of Defense Expands Privileges for Commissary Patrons

FORT LEE, VA—Commissary shoppers may soon experience improvements in their visits to Department of Defense military installations.

Identification checks at cash registers, credit card purchases, and a chance for authorized customers to shop with friends and relatives are all improvements proposed by the Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA) shopping policies.

The new policies, recommended by the DoD Commissary Operating Board, standardized authorized patron identification procedures and allows visitors accompanied access by authorized patrons to enter the commissary stores. Visitors will not be allowed to purchase commissary goods.

"The new visitors policy allows access to the benefit for patrons who otherwise might be inhibited from using what is rightly theirs," said DeCA Chief Executive Officer John F. McGowan.

For example, many shoppers have asked DeCA if they could bring in relatives visiting from out of town, rather than making them wait in the car.

A survey taken this year by the Department of Defense show that families save an average of 27 percent when they buy groceries at the commissary instead of a civilian grocery store. The survey compared prices of 500 items at 28 different commissary stores to prices of the same items in local civilian supermarkets. The comparison and 27 percent savings takes into account local sales tax and the five percent commissary surcharge.

Many commissaries, like the one at Fort Drum, already perform ID checks at the cash registers and have installed credit card checkout access.

New York Active Guard / Reserve and Federal Technician Openings Available On-line

ALBANY—Individuals looking for full-time opportunities to serve the Division of Military and Naval Affairs (DMNA) throughout New York State can now find available jobs on-line.

Active Guard and Reserve (AGR) positions for the Air and Army National Guard as well as Department of Defense Federal Technician jobs in the State of New York can be found at the DMNA website at www.dmna.state.ny.us under the icon for full-time jobs. Application instructions are also available for job positions on the website as well.

Previously, interested individuals relied on paper announcements or job listings. The electronic listing now provides a more current and accessible format for job-seekers. The federal human resources office in Latham updates the website listing of opportunities weekly as vacancies become available.

For more information regarding job searches within DMNA, individuals may also contact the federal human resources office in Latham. For Federal Technician positions contact Sgt. First Class Jeanette Thompson at (518) 786-4683. Army AGR job opportunity assistance is Master Sgt. Sheile Felock at (518) 786-4833 and Air Guard AGR positions point of contact is Staff Sgt. Heather Jesmain at (518) 786-4722.

TAG Talk

Beyond the Hype: Guard Values Transcend the Ages

As we begin the New Millennium, New Century, and New Year, I'll try not to burden you with another one of the many leadership columns on the immense challenges we face as military people in these momentous times.

During the post-January 1, 2000 hours, though, the natural tendency is to telescope ahead and speculate how the National Guard is going to look 10, 50, 100 years from now, and what we have to do to position ourselves for success in an era of unbounded uncertainty and change.

The time worn values of *sacrifice, duty, and resolve* turn out to still be very important

Instead, I'll do the unexpected, glancing backwards, *auld lang syne*, focusing on a few time worn values and truths that those who have gone before us wisely held to be very important: *sacrifice, duty, resolve*. I do it because in this flick-of-a-mouse-age of global and technological transformation, we should remember the word of the old sage, many years ago, who counseled not to let change also replace time tested values merely for the sake of being fashionable.

Sacrifice, duty and resolve are three themes threaded throughout this issue of *Guard Times*. Our pages speak to:

—*Sacrifice* of the highest order, evidenced by two of our fallen Rainbow Division comrades, Chief Warrant Officer 2 William J. Zimmerman and Staff Sergeant Edward Roberts, Army National Guard helicopter aviators who perished Nov. 23 while on an instrument training flight out of Long Island-MacArthur Airport. Two crew companions aboard the ill-fated sortie, Captain Dean Turco and Sgt. William Sturges, were critically injured and are undergoing medical recovery. What happened on Long Island two days before Thanksgiving is something that each of us wearing the uniform and performing field duty live with on a mission to mission basis.

No words, flowers, or even prayers will ever bring things back to the way they were before we lost these decorated service members. There is one thing, though, that no one can ever take away. It is that these men, at that moment of greatest travail, were flying in the honorable service of their state and nation, dedicated to performing their duty in the defense of America and freedom, in all our worthy traditions.



Maj. Gen. John H. Fenimore, V
The Adjutant General

—Or the heroic *sacrifice*, of those who make up our proud heritage. Those such as Sergeant Thomas A. Baker, a 27th Infantry Division soldier whose story is told on Page 11. Sgt. Baker, killed in ferocious fighting on Saipan during World War II, was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor. After more than a half century the remains of this New York National Guard member were brought home last Veterans Day for final rest at the Saratoga National Cemetery.

—The devotion to *duty* of all those military personnel who were away from home performing service over the past holiday season for the Year 2000 (Y2K) contingency, or for that matter by all our families and loved ones through the year left alone and isolated when duty calls. For it is they who must bear the hardship of the absence of their citizen-soldier or airman or woman. More often than not, that individual is the family's chief breadwinner.

—The *resolve* of all the troops described in this issue of *Guard Times*, including the soldiers of the Army Guard's 105th Military Police Company, on federal active callup with the NATO Peacekeeping Mission for Bosnia. Read about their involvement in an "Adopt a School" program. It reports unit members visiting the Zivinice Elementary School near Tuzla helping children with English language instruction.

—Or, the *resolve* of the intrepid air crews of the Air Guard's 105th Airlift Wing, who flew two humanitarian relief missions over the Christmas holidays providing needed water purification equipment, pharmaceuticals, medical supplies and dry foodstuffs to some of the 150,000 made homeless in Venezuela by devastating tropical rains.

Let us take heed. In the wake of the great "dawn" of a New Age let me end by revisiting the words of legendary football coach, Vince Lombardi: "Never forget the sacred fundamentals. More often than not, they are the reason you are what you are, where you are."

News Line:**Cohen Defers Decision to Cut
Army Guard and Reserve****Office of the Secretary of Defense
The Pentagon**

WASHINGTON, DC — Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen announced in late December his decision to defer implementation of the remaining reductions of 25,000 personnel in Reserve Component end strength called for in the congressionally-directed 1997 Quadrennial Defense Review (QDR).

The 1997 QDR recommended cuts of up to 45,000 personnel in the Army's Reserve components. Reductions of 17,000 in the Army National Guard and 3,000 in the Army Reserve have already been completed.

Three factors shaped the decision to defer additional cuts. First, the Army is currently conducting a redesign of Army National Guard divisions and is moving to implement a vision of how the Army will work and fight in the next century. Any cuts to Reserve component end strength at this time could hinder these initiatives.

Second, the increased use of the National Guard and Reserve components in recent years has provided a compelling reason to defer further cuts. Today, the Department of Defense cannot sustain operations anywhere in the world without calling on the National Guard and Reserve.

Third, the Department of Defense will begin the process of conducting another QDR, in January 2001, which will provide another opportunity to analyze existing circumstances and future requirements.

The QDR is conducted every four years to review Department of Defense needs for all military forces to address future threats.

Editors note: The Army National Guard presently has 360,000 assigned personnel nationwide, and the Army Reserve has 200,000. There are 475,000 personnel on active duty with the US Army.

Governor's Support Initiatives*Continued from Page 1*

the troops often have to take leave without pay from their civilian jobs in order to serve. This often results in troops losing money during their time of service, while also exposing themselves to the inherent dangers of the emergency situation. The Governor's proposal helps protect the troops from bearing additional financial burdens as a result of their activation.

Early Access to Tuition Incentive Program

At present, recruits must complete Basic and Advanced Individual Training before they are eligible for tuition benefits. This sometimes means they are often left waiting for available military school seats and, while waiting, are attending classes without support or not at all. Recruiters report losing numerous would-be recruits because the applicants are unwilling to delay college attendance.

Senior officials at the national level have determined that the Army must take innovative steps to expand recruiting markets to reach untapped groups outside the traditional recruiting pool.

Guard leaders in New York are focused on an "Inverted Funnel" approach towards college-bound young people. They want to remove New York's mandatory training barrier to tuition assistance under the State Tuition Benefits Program and effectively turn the funnel upside down. This would allow for an increased number of interested and eligible young people to join, instead of losing those applicants when they elect not to be forced down the funnel's narrow neck by a decision to delay attending college.

The Governor's proposal would make it possible for applicants to attend college with tuition support upon enlistment. The student-soldiers must still complete their full enlistment obligation or be required to reimburse the state in-full for benefits received. This initiative is expected to re-open the recruiting market for a whole new group of applicants and continue the trend of attracting college-bound young men and women.

Both proposals from the Governor require the approval of the legislature to add these provisions to existing military law.

**Governor Sends Video Greetings to
Guard Troops in Bosnia****Guard Times Staff**

TUZLA, BOSNIA -- Deployed members of the 105th Military Police Company received a special holiday greeting from their New York State Commander in Chief, Governor George E. Pataki.

As the winter season arrived in Bosnia and military visits became more difficult, the Governor's special videotaped message from New York arrived in mid-December to Captain Michael Fowler, commander of the 105th Military Police Company based in Buffalo and Rochester. The Governor's message was shown on numerous occasions for the soldiers working a variety of shifts in different locations in Bosnia.

The text of the Governor's message to the troops read as follows:

"On behalf of all the people of New York State, I'd like to extend warmest seasons greetings and best wishes to all of the men and women of New York's 105th Military Police Company on duty in Bosnia.

We understand that the holiday season is a very difficult time to be away from your families and friends. But just as your hearts and thoughts are undoubtedly with your loved ones this holiday season, please know that back home our thoughts and prayers are with you.

The fact that your fellow Americans and New Yorkers may enjoy this holiday season in security and comfort is testament to your brave service on their behalf.

Please know that your sacrifices and the sacrifices of your families are not overlooked back here at home — your mission as international peacekeepers is essential to both the ideals of your nation and to the long-term prospects for peace in Europe.

Back in May of 1996, we lit a candle at the State Capitol as a reminder of the brave New Yorkers serving in Bosnia. Today that candle remains burning in your honor.

Here in New York we have a National Guard force that is sec-



ond to none. Whether it is coming to the aid of your fellow New Yorkers in time of state emergency, using your skills and expertise to support local commu-

nities, or representing our state so honorably in your federal military responsibilities, you have the admiration, thanks and respect of all New Yorkers.

When our federal command authorities need the best-trained, highest quality military police company to support critical missions in Bosnia, the New York National Guard is there.

You represent the heart and soul of New York, serving us and our nation, helping to bring peace to the rest of the world.

This season, the promise of peace on Earth is something that we are mindful of and wish for. May you and your families take comfort in knowing that your sacrifices this holiday season have brought the world closer to realizing this promise.

Thank you for serving your state and nation with such professionalism, commitment and honor.

Happy holidays to all. God Bless, and keep safe."

Marines Reach 'Toys for Tots' Record Thanks to Guard

By Lt. Col. Paul Fanning
Guard Times Staff

ALBANY – The New York National Guard helped boost the Marine Corps Reserve “Toys for Tots” to record donations in December, just in the “Saint Nick” of time.

In little more than a week, the NY National Guard gathered thousands of donations from within its own ranks and helped energize the public to help the Marine Corps Reserve go from a possible shortage of toys, to setting an all-time record 45,000 donations. As a result, the Marines filled every toy donation request on file, and had enough to support last minute requests and some emergency donation requirements.

6000 Toys Short

In early December, with just over two weeks remaining in their scheduled collection period, leaders at the Albany-based Navy and Marine Corps Reserve Center determined that their toy donations were coming up short this season. There was a real possibility that needy children in their service area could go without a toy at Christmas. The popular Marine Corps Reserve “Toys for Tots Program” began in 1957, and over the years community-based charities have come to depend on the Marines for donated toys for families in need. Company F, 2nd Battalion 25th Marines collected more than 30,000 toys last year for various charities from south of Albany all the way north to the Canadian Border, east to the Vermont border and west to Gloversville. This year, the unit had requests for 5,000 additional toys over last year’s numbers, and when Capt. Matt Reid looked over the donations they had collected on December 6, he felt that they were already 1,000 toys behind. With a full-time staff of just nine personnel plus some volunteers dedicated to the effort, he knew he needed help. There were more than 100 donation boxes at shopping centers, post offices and other locations throughout the greater Capital District to be checked. They were seldom full.

Reid appealed for increased public donations through various news organizations, with the first reports airing that evening. The next day, Brig. Gen. Bill Martin, Deputy Adjutant General of NY, called to tell him that Governor George Pataki wanted his National Guard to help.

“When Gen. Martin told me that the Guard was being energized, I was hopeful. But, eight days later when the Guard delivered more than 5,000 toys to us, I became a believer,” said Reid.

Guard Brings the Communities

The Guard joined forces with the Marines on December 8, and on December 16 more than 5,700 toys collected from armories and air bases from Camp Smith to Plattsburgh (Morrisonville), were delivered to the Marine’s reserve center. Additional Guard donations the following weekend brought the total to over 6,500. The donations came from members of the Army and Air National Guard, Naval Militia and New York Guard. The New York Guard gathered more than 1700 toys alone.

The fete was accomplished despite the fact that Guard began its toy-gathering work during the second week of December, after most units had completed its December drill weekend. Armory staffs and unit personnel made special efforts to reach



Soldiers help unload filled donation boxes of toys at Capital Region Marine Corps Reserve Centers. The 1999 National Guard assistance to the Marine Corps charity generated a record number of toy donations from armories and communities from Albany to Plattsburgh. Photo below, Brig. Gen. William Martin, the Deputy Adjutant General, stands over the stacks of sorted toys destined for local charities). Photos by Lt. Col. Paul Fanning.



the membership with the plea for donations. Guard members and families had to adjust their own holiday plans in order to return to their armories with donations in time.

“I’m proud that in a very brief time the National Guard and the state’s military forces have come to the aid of the Marine Corps Reserve to make the holidays brighter for many deserving children,” said Governor George E. Pataki, the state Commander-in-Chief.

But, it wasn’t just the toys gathered from National Guard troops and their family members, or the many public donations gathered at over a dozen different armories and air bases alone which

ultimately led to the record. It was the thousands of public donations resulting from the additional publicity when news that the Guard had joined the effort became known.

News organizations statewide ran the story that the Governor had ordered his Guard to action to help the Marines. Newspapers, radio and TV news stories repeated Capt. Reid’s plea for donations and urged the public to bring donations to drop boxes in shopping malls or at local armories.

When it was over on December 20, the Marines had taken in more than 45,000 toys – 10,000 more than was originally needed, with the feared 6,000-toy shortfall totally overcome. It was a 16,000-toy donation shift from shortage to record. The extra toys were donated to still more charities looking for toys for needy families from other communities, and others were given to the employees of a large company after the business abruptly closed during Christmas week before employees got their last pay check.

“I’m proud that in a very brief time the National Guard and the state’s military forces have come to the aid of the Marine Corps Reserve to make the holidays brighter for many deserving children”

“We couldn’t have done this without your help,” Reid told hundreds of National Guard personnel and state employees at the Division of Military and Naval Affairs in Latham on December 22, during a brief pre-holiday agency award ceremony and employee gathering. “This is the record. We have never gathered so many toys, or served so many charities before this. We are extremely grateful to Governor Pataki and to all of you. All of the charities and families who come to depend upon us are grateful as well,” he added, as he presented a “Toys for Tots” award citation to the Guard from the National Toys for Tots committee to The Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Jack Fenimore.

“This was just a wonderful thing for us to be able to do and we are grateful to the Marine Corps Reserve for giving us the chance to help out such a worthy and important program,” said Gen. Fenimore. “We will be delighted to have another opportunity to help next year, only we would like to get started a bit earlier,” he added.

108th Infantry 'Delivers' on Thanksgiving

By Capt. Richard Goldenberg
Guard Times Staff

SAVANNAH – Cooks from the New York Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 108th Infantry Regiment Headquarters Company performed additional training this holiday season, but the food preparation was a far cry from the Army's tray rations or Meals, Ready to Eat (MREs).

In cooperation with the central New York community in Savannah, near Cayuga Lake, the Army National Guard came to the rescue of a town preparing Thanksgiving meals for needy families. With more than a dozen large turkeys to bake and accompaniments to prepare, the town turned to the National Guard's 108th Infantry.

"With the help of the National Guard this year we expanded to six neighboring townships, covering almost half of the county"

Working with the community firehall and five church organizations, Staff Sgt. Archie Clum, a nineteen year veteran of the Army and National Guard, helped prepare the turkey and trimmings at the company armory and transport the logistics package or "logpack" to the Thanksgiving Day dinner. Working alongside Staff Sgt. Clum were Specialists Nolan Moore and Specialist John Birtwell.

"We don't get a chance to do this kind of cooking as much," said Staff Sgt. Clum as he looked over more than 250 pounds of potatoes and 200 pounds of squash. "Training preparations for the unit in the field, especially with the JRTC (Joint Readiness Training Center) rotation ahead, has meant a lot of MREs and T-Rats (tray rations) for the soldiers."

"Even at our annual training at Fort Drum this summer, we're lucky to prepare one hot meal a day," Clum noted.

The unit field kitchen often can feed 300 soldiers at one time, so Sgt. Clum had few problems in turning out more than 260 Thanksgiving meals to the Savannah community. The sixteen turkeys were prepared at the armory kitchen, where Sergeant Clum and the headquarters cooks could better supervise the Thanksgiving Day meal preparation.

"It's great to get our soldiers involved in helping fellow New Yorkers"

The opportunity to take on such a big food preparation project provided not only great training for the headquarters section, but a real impact on the community.

"It was just a great response of people to the event," said John Van Dyen, from the New Life Christian Center, "This was the first year on such a grand scale. For the past three years, we supported just the Savannah Township, but with the help of the National Guard this year we expanded to six neighboring townships, covering almost half of the county."

"It's great to get our soldiers involved in helping fellow New Yorkers," Clum said. "To get ourselves some creative training environments also better prepares us for the challenges of the JRTC."

Guard Joins NY City Food Drive

By Dave Goldiner
Courtesy of the New York Daily News

NEW YORK CITY – Governor George E. Pataki called out the State National Guard to join the Daily News Readers Care holiday food drive this holiday season, adding nine armories as collection points to the city-wide program.

"In the giving spirit of the holiday season, we are extremely proud to join the Daily News and the City of New York in this highly successful and worthwhile project," Pataki said.

"The Guard continues to make a difference"

Guard members helped collect donations of canned and nonperishable food at the armories in all five boroughs.

The mountains of cans and boxes were then delivered to City Harvest, a nonprofit group that distributes food to soup kitchens and food pantries serving needy New Yorkers.

The goal for the 16th annual food drive is 50,000 pounds of food, which would surpass last year's take of 40,000 pounds.



Rainbow soldiers Corporal Rawle Munro and Staff Sgt. Pedro Sanchez help load a City Harvest truck outside 69th Infantry Regiment Headquarters. Photo by Scott Sandman.

National Guard armories in the Bronx, Staten Island, Brooklyn, Jamaica, Queens, and Manhattan drew the support of the 42nd Infantry's Rainbow Division, with units from the 101 Cavalry, 69th Infantry, 369th Forward Support Battalion and others lending assistance to the drive.

The directive to assist the city-wide effort is just another aspect of the National Guard's community support program to place the National Guard in the forefront of civic military support.

"The Guard continues to make a difference," Pataki said.

Troy Tankers Help Clothe Kids this Season

By Capt. Patrick Chaisson
Company B, 1st Battalion, 101st Cavalry

TROY – Members of Company B, 1st Battalion, 101st Cavalry and their families helped some of their less-fortunate neighbors when they collected more than 250 children's coats for a local charity this holiday season.

Specialist James Pounds helped organize the clothing drive, which benefited an organization called "Coats for Kids." The donated winter clothing filled two large boxes, which unit personnel then delivered to charity officials.

The 42nd Infantry Division armor company welcomed donations at the armory site, right alongside the company Toys for Tots collection box. In a few short weeks the Rainbow soldiers and their families had both charity boxes filled.

"For more than a year, the National Guard has sought to help out our local communities through the GuardHELP initiative," said Capt. Patrick Chaisson, the company com-

mander. "These types of charity drives only strengthen our ties to our neighbors and show that the Guard can get things done for fellow New Yorkers," he said.

"The charity was going to be short this year," reported Readiness NCO Staff Sgt. Robert Foster afterwards. "When we showed up with 250 coats they couldn't believe it." Foster said The donated clothes went directly to needy families in NY's Capital District.

Obituary: Former Assistant Rainbow Division Commander Maj. Gen. Harry A. Moldaw

Guard Times Staff

LATHAM – Major General (ret.) Harry A. Moldaw, former assistant division commander in the 42nd Infantry (Rainbow) Division, passed away December 14th, 1999.

General Moldaw had more than 38 years of military service, spanning the years 1948 through 1986. He rose from an enlistment into the New York Army National Guard's Artillery Corps in 1948 and saw successive promotions through the enlisted ranks. In 1952 he received a Warrant Officer appointment with the 187th Field Artillery Corps and the 2nd Artillery Corps until receiving a commission as a second lieutenant in 1954.

Major General Moldaw's officer assignments throughout the 1960s and 1970s focused on the 42nd Infantry Division Artillery and included responsibilities as Division Personnel Officer and Division Chief of Staff. In 1981 he was reassigned as the Rainbow Assistant Division Commander and deployed with the Division Headquarters in one of the few overseas Annual Training Exercises to Camp Zama, Japan in February 1982.

General Moldaw retired from the National Guard on June 30, 1986 and was promoted to Major General in the State Reserve in July, 1986.

Helicopter Crash Claims Two Injured, Two Killed

Accident is First Aviation Training Fatality in New York State History

By Capt. Richard Goldenberg
Headquarters, 42nd Infantry Division

RONKONKOMA – The first fatalities in New York Army Aviation claimed two Rainbow Division Army National Guard soldiers in a helicopter crash just days before Thanksgiving.

Shortly before 8:30 p.m., on Tuesday November 23rd, a UH-1H "Huey" helicopter from the 42nd Infantry "Rainbow" Division's Alpha Company, 2nd Battalion, 126th Aviation Regiment in Ronkonkoma crashed during a routine instrument training flight.

New York State Governor George E. Pataki directed flags flown at half mast across the state to honor the fallen Guard members.

"The entire State of New York mourns the loss of these brave members of the National Guard family," Governor Pataki said. "Our prayers are with these fallen heroes and their families, and are also with the two Guardsmen still fighting for their lives. We are deeply and profoundly saddened by this tragedy."

Killed in the line of duty were two Guardsmen with a combined 46 years of military service between them. Chief Warrant Officer William Zimmerman was a former commissioned officer and commander of the 126th Aviation. He was currently serving the Army National Guard as Instructor Pilot for the company. Staff Sgt., Edward Roberts was a traditional Guardsman serving as a helicopter crew chief. Both men were combat aviation veterans.

"The entire State of New York mourns the loss of these brave members of the National Guard family"

Injured in the crash were Capt. Dean Turco, a recent arrival to New York from the California Army National Guard and Sgt. William Sturges, a helicopter mechanic and full-time federal employee of the National Guard at the Long-Island-MacArthur Airport Flight Facility #1. Both men were in

critical condition at University Hospital and Medical Center at Stonybrook.

The cause of the crash is currently under investigation by the Army Accident Investigation Team and Safety Center from Fort Rucker, Alabama. The inquiry will also involve representatives from the Federal Aviation Administration and the National Transportation Safety Board.

"We are doing everything possible to assist the Army Safety Center in the investigation of this tragedy," the Governor said.

The accident is the first Class "A" mishap in fifteen years. A Class A mishap is defined by the Army as involving complete loss of an aircraft or fatality. The NY Army National Guard has been flying accident free since 1995.

While the National Weather Service reported poor visibility and fog the night of the accident, the crew was conducting instrument flight training. Instrument flight involves little or no outside visual cues beyond final approach to an airfield.

Veteran Aviators Zimmerman, Roberts Remembered

Guard Times Staff

CW2 William J. Zimmerman

Chief Warrant Officer Two (CW2) William J. Zimmerman, 56, of Northport, New York, a member of the New York Army National Guard's Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 142nd Aviation, was a Purple Heart recipient and a decorated combat pilot veteran of the Vietnam War. He was employed as a Federal Technician Flight Instructor at the Army National Guard's Army Aviation Long Island facility at the Islip-MacArthur Airport, New York.

Chief Warrant Officer Zimmerman was a UH-1 helicopter pilot who began his association with the military when he joined the Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) in 1961. After commissioning as a 2nd Lieutenant, in 1965, he joined the U.S. Army and served on combat assignment in the Vietnam War, during which he was awarded the Purple Heart, the Bronze Star Medal and the

Vietnam Service Medal. He earned numerous other federal and state decorations during his lengthy service with the U.S. Army and the National Guard. After release



Colonel Robert Zimmerman

from active duty in 1972, CW2 Zimmerman joined the New York Army National Guard where he served in a variety of key duty assignments with the 42nd Infantry "Rainbow" Division.

He rose to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the Army National Guard, and in 1993, upon reaching retirement age in the commissioned officer corps, was appointed to the rank of Warrant Officer. He is promoted

posthumously to the state rank of Brevet Colonel.

Staff Sgt. Edward Roberts

Staff Sergeant Edward Roberts, 40, of Mineola, a member of the New York Army National Guard's Company A, 2nd Battalion, 126th Aviation, was a veteran of the Persian Gulf War, Operation Desert Storm, 1990-91, and the holder of two Air Medals.

A traditional Guardsman, or "citizen-soldier", he was an employee of the New York City Metropolitan Transit Authority.

He was a helicopter crew chief who began his association with the U.S. Military in 1987 when he enlisted in the U.S. Army. He joined the New York Army National Guard's Troop C, 101st Cavalry in 1991, following active U.S. Army service in the Persian Gulf as an aeroscout observer. He served in a succession of National Guard aviation units before joining his last assignment, the 126th Aviation, Flight Facility No. 1, Long Island-MacArthur Airport, Islip, in 1996.

He earned numerous federal and state service medals including the Southwest Asia Service Medal with two

Bronze Service Stars, the Kuwait Liberation Medal issued by the government of Kuwait; the Kuwait Liberation Medal issued by the government of Saudi Arabia and the National Defense Service Medal. He also held the New York State Long and Faithful Service Medal. He is promoted posthumously to the state rank of brevet Sergeant Major.



Sgt. Major Edward Roberts

Guard Family Grieves for Lost Aviators

By Capt. Richard Goldenberg
HQ, 42nd Infantry Division

RONKONKOMA—On November 30, the families of two Rainbow Division soldiers were joined by the New York National Guard in a final farewell to Colonel William Zimmerman and Sergeant Major Edward Roberts. Both Guardsmen were promoted posthumously following a fatal helicopter crash less than a week before.

In ceremonies in Northport and Mineola, the homes of Colonel Zimmerman and Sgt. Major Roberts, families and National Guard members were joined by Governor George Pataki in paying honors to the fallen heroes.

"The people of this state and this nation want to walk with you," the Governor said to the grieving families. "Our debt to them and their families can never be repaid. Today, there is an emptiness in all our hearts."

Top leaders of the entire New York National Guard were present, including Maj. Gen. John H. Fenimore, V, the Adjutant General, Brig. Gen. William Martin, the Deputy Adjutant General, Brig. Gen. Michael Van Patten, Commanding General of the NYARNG and Brig. Gen. George Garrett, the 42nd Infantry Division Commander.

Speaking at the Northport ceremony, Colonel Frank Ombres, commander of New York's Regional Training Institute, said, "Bill modeled honor, integrity, and moral courage. We strive to live up to his expectation."



Photo at Left: Colonel Robert Zimmerman is carried from the St. Phili Neri Roman Catholic Church by an Honor Guard of the New York National Guard. His wife Kathy and two year old daughter Katy follow the recession past Governor George Pataki and the senior leadership of the New York National Guard. Colonel Zimmerman was buried at the Calverton National Cemetery. Photo by Lt. Col. Paul Fanning.

Photo Below: Capt. Matthew Bjeolobik presents the U.S. flag to Mrs. Brigid Roberts at a graveside ceremony for Sgt. Major Edward Roberts at Calverton National Cemetery. Both men received a ceremonial flyover by UH-1H Huey aircraft as a tribute to their service and professionalism. Photo by Capt. Richard Goldenberg.

"Their sacrifice weighs equally heavy on the altar of freedom. We are eternally grateful for their service and sacrifice."

Paying tribute to Zimmerman inside the St. Phili Neri Roman Catholic Church in Northport was Jack O'Shea, a close personal friend for more than thirty years. O'Shea referred to Zimmerman's deep devotion to his family and his service.

"Thank you Governor, and thank you Army National Guard. He'd be overwhelmed by your presence here today," said O'Shea.

"Bill wouldn't think he deserved it. We know better."

Both men were long-time veterans of aviation service. "My friend Bill and his friends were doing what they loved to do. They were flying," Mr. O'Shea said.

Zimmerman, 56, was a decorated pilot serving the Army in Vietnam and the Army National Guard since 1972. Roberts was a Gulf War veteran with more than 10 years experience as a helicopter crewchief and aeroscout observer.

"My friend Bill and his friends were doing what they loved to do. They were flying."

"Brave men and women...risk their lives not just during times of war but in times of peace," Governor Pataki said during his remarks at Sgt. Major Roberts' funeral at the Corpus Christi Roman Catholic Church in Mineola. "Their sacrifice



weighs equally heavy on the altar of freedom. We are eternally grateful for their service and sacrifice."

"It is up to us who remain to carry their legacy on"

Both men also leave behind young families. Zimmerman's wife Kathy held their two-year old daughter Katy during the recession from the Northport church. Roberts leaves three children—Sara, four; William, 21 months, and Patrick, just two months old. The weight of their loss was felt by all in attendance.

"It is sad beyond the ability of words to convey that children so young have to grow up without the parental guidance of their father," Pataki said.

Both men were laid to rest with full military honors at Calverton National Cemetery on eastern Long Island. The 2nd Battalion, 126th Aviation Regiment, the soldier's parent unit with its headquarters in Connecticut, provided a UH-1H "Huey" flyover during the ceremonies as a tribute to the Guardsmen.

"It is up to us who remain to carry their legacy on," said Governor Pataki.



Sgt. Major Edward Roberts is led from the recession outside the Corpus Christi Roman Catholic Church in Mineola by an Aviation Brigade honor guard and his company First Sergeant. Photo by Lieut. Col. Paul Fanning.

Deployed MPs 'Adopt' Bosnian Students

Guard Times Staff

TUZLA, BOSNIA — Deployed members of the New York Army National Guard are doing their best to help youth at risk overseas, while performing their federal security mission.

Last August, the 105th Military Police Company from Buffalo and Rochester was activated for the NATO peacekeeping mission to Bosnia. The troops have been on station there since September. Their duties are to guard key areas around the American bases, protect vehicle convoys and people as they traverse the Bosnian countryside.

The unit recently implemented an "Adopt a School" Program, which has unit members visiting schools to help with English language studies and help provide additional support. The program is very similar to Drug Demand Reduction youth programs run by the National Guard and civilian law-enforcement agencies in the soldiers' home communities. Many members of the unit are also civilian police officers in Buffalo and Rochester. There are also several troops from the New York City area who also deployed with the 105th, including veteran New York City police officers with experience in inner city schools.

The 105th is currently supporting Tuzla's Vocational High School, reputedly the toughest in town. Many there students

have earned disruptive reputations, and conditions are difficult for other students trying to learn. The Bosnian teenagers would generally be regarded in this country as being "at risk." The impact of the war and the ongoing peacekeeping and rebuilding efforts only complicate the situation for these young people. Hard times are indeed hard for them.

"As a cop in New York City, I'm always reaching out to kids," said Spec. Tara Dawe from Brooklyn. She has gained a new perspective on keeping world peace from her "beat" in Bosnia. "It's great being over here, and not to be just a military presence. But, to be able to personally interact with all the children. I know that our coming to the school has had a great impact on these students. They don't just see us as military anymore. They see us as friends, someone they can talk to when they see us on the streets," she said.

"It's amazing," said Sgt. 1st Class Ron Funderburk, a cop from Buffalo. "He learned most of his English from rap music," he said, referring to his new Bosnian friend, a self styled rapper who calls himself MC Black. Funderburk said he works with similar kids back in Buffalo. His approach to Bosnian teens is the same one he uses back on the beat at home, and he appreci-



Capt. Michael Fowler, commander of the 105th Military Police Company is embraced by students of the Zivinice Elementary School in Tuzla. Photo courtesy of the 105th MP Co.

ates the chance to help out. "I am really motivated to do these kinds of things, than just to be doing patrols all the time. The young people see us driving through their towns all the time, and sometimes they don't get the right impression. When we get the chance to meet in person, the lines of friendship open," he said.

The purpose of the soldiers' original mission is not lost on the teens, however. Enis Menic, age 16, has a pretty good idea of what his situation would be like if the US military wasn't on duty. "If they don't come here, I don't know...maybe there would be war still," he said.

"Their will to survive and to keep going on under these circumstances is amazing," said Sgt. Sherry Mancuso from Buffalo.

The student she was helping lost his father in the fighting. "It makes us appreciate what we have," she added.

Unit members report that except for the language, teens are the same all over the world. Bosnian teens act and behave much in the same way as high school students from Buffalo, Rochester and New York City. "All the boys are interested in girls. All the girls are interested in boys," said 1st Lt. Sean O'Donnell from New York City. "I think adolescents the world over share the same interests and qualities. These teens are not much different from kids back home," he said.

The interaction between the troops and the students is proving to be a positive experience for both. The students seem to enjoy and appear to be learning a great deal from the American visitors. The soldiers are coming to appreciate all the more, just how important the mission to Bosnia is, and that they can have an impact on the future by helping these children, the innocent victims of war.

Editors Note: This article was compiled from a video news story produced by Sgt. 1st Class Jack Martin from the 109th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, CA ARNG on duty with the NATO Peacekeeping Mission in Bosnia. The story was provided to civilian news organizations in Buffalo and New York City.

Troops and Families Reach out to the Children of Tuzla

By Capt. Mike Fowler
105th Military Police Company

EAGLEBASE, TUZLA, BOSNIA — Being a National Guard member deployed for nine months to the Balkans can be a very sobering and depressing experience. The 105th Military Police Company has found a way to turn the experience around into something a good deal more positive.

The 105th, based in Buffalo and Rochester, and augmented with soldiers from Utica, New York City and Massachusetts, deployed to Bosnia-Herzegovina last summer and will be serving here until early spring. In an effort to increase troop morale while delivering more service, the soldiers have been reaching out to help the children of the devastated country.

Recently the company adopted the Zivinice Elementary School near the city of Tuzla. The project began when 1st Lt. Sean O'Donnell looked into the school's needs, and began requesting and organizing donations to support the 440 children in grades 1-8. What originally started as a pat on the head or a high five to a passing child by soldiers on patrol, turned into delivering coloring books on land mine awareness and warm clothes for the winter. With the help of the soldiers' families at home, we have been able to provide much more. We raised money to replace broken windows in the school. We purchased school books, light bulbs and basic supplies (things we all normally take for granted). We spend one on one time with Bosnian students, to calm their fears and show our friendship. The contributions from home have been so significant, that

excess clothing and toys have been delivered to local orphanages and refugee camps.

The project has benefited more than the Bosnian children. It has helped the soldiers and their families as well. As Guard members, a large part of our mission is to assist our local communities in times of need. Though we are 5000 miles from our families, we can work together, and thus offer our families an active role in the peacekeeping mission. The parents are helping their children to realize why it is necessary for mom or dad to be away from home for so long, by sharing with them the plight of Bosnian children, and giving them a chance to help, too. When the soldiers finally return home, it will be with the knowledge that the whole family worked together to accomplish this mission of peace.

The experience here reminds Lieutenant O'Donnell of police work at home. "Our local police try to establish positive relationships with children by reaching out to them in schools, so why not try the same over here."

"Through the donations of school supplies from home, we are showing these children that all of America is concerned for their future and willing to work towards a lasting peace. We just have to be patient, it won't come overnight," he said.

The Bosnians realize that the soldiers are also enduring hardships and personal sacrifices in order to provide a better way of life for the families of Bosnia. The soldiers

can see their own children through the eyes of the Bosnians. Sgt. Shari Mancuso put it best when she said, "It is the least I can do to reach out and touch a child or spend some time with them. I will do no less for them than what I would hope someone would do for my children, if the tables were turned."

In addition to meeting a challenging and demanding mission load, the MP's have found it rewarding and fulfilling to be able to reach out and touch the lives of the children. All too often the vision of armored humvees, crew served weapons and soldiers patrolling the streets of their towns reminds the children of their suffering and personal losses from the war. Opportunities to interact with them and create a personal bond offer them hope for the future and supports progress towards lasting peace. Though the soldiers and children communicate with the help of translators, a smile or a hug can be understood by everyone, and when they are returned in kind, the troops get a sense of "mission accomplishment."

The goal of the Multi-National Forces assigned to the area is to help rebuild the infrastructure, enforce the Dayton Peace Accord and to foster a climate of international cooperation. What better way is there to build peace and cooperation than starting with the children? Our goal is to leave these children with memories of American soldiers as diplomats, and hope, years from now, when they look back on this difficult time, they remember that they were not alone.

Air Force of the Future

Active, Guard, Reserve go 'Light and Lean' into the New Millenium

By Staff Sgt. Trish Heikkila
105th Airlift Wing

STEWART AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE, NEWBURGH—It's official. The Air National Guard is converting to a "light and lean" expeditionary force of the future.

Beginning March 1, about one hundred 105th Airlift Wing members will enter into the "Expeditionary Air Force" for the first time.

As part of AEF 5, 105th members will support operations in areas throughout Europe and Southwest Asia, not necessarily based on their unit type code (UTC), also known as a mobility position, but also on their Air Force Specialty Codes (AFSCs).

"It's a new way of doing business for the Guard and Reserves, and for this Wing," said Lt. Col. Kenneth F. Busam, chief of the 105th Plans office. "It's a good thing for us to be asked to do the job we've been training to do for so many years. But we do have to be aware of some of the changes that this concept will bring to the 105th."

The Expeditionary Air Force is the vision for organizing, training and equipping Air Force active duty, Guard and Reserve personnel and equipment. EAF is adaptive for better management of the force, and to determine when that force is stressed and where relief should be focused.

With fewer bases around the world, less personnel, but with a busier than ever operations tempo, EAF is a means for stability. The intent is to lessen the impact of the



The transition to the Expeditionary Air Force means more individual Air Force Specialty Codes deployments. Master Sgt. Greg Doxsey, 105th Air Wing Supply War Readiness NCOIC prepares individual equipment for an upcoming deployment. Photo by Master Sgt. Bill Galeano.

operational tempo on the active duty force and spread the workload evenly.

Maj. Gen. Donald G. Cook, director of the Expeditionary Aerospace Force implementation, said that with the changing of world events, so the force must change too.

"We need to adapt to the new and uncertain global security environment. We need to provide relevant aerospace forces when they are needed. Integration of the total force, including the Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve, into the aerospace expeditionary forces, promises to make us lighter, leaner and more lethal to meet the challenges of the 21st century," Cook wrote.

While EAF is the overall concept, the AEFs are predetermined sets of forces—including aircraft, equipment and personnel—from which tailored force packages will be deployed in support of theater commanders. Each AEF will operate a cross-section of Air Force weapon systems and will include 10-15,000 personnel. Ten AEFs, made

up of a combination of active duty, Guard and Reserve forces, have been created. The 105th is part of AEF 5.

"All odd numbered AEFs are supporting operations in the southwest Asia theater," said Busam. "This includes areas such as Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. All even numbered AEFs are supporting Operation Northern Watch (Turkey) and Operation Joint Forge (Europe)."

During a 15-month "lifecycle," two AEFs are up and running, one supporting the Southwest Asia theater, and the other supporting Northern Watch.

Each AEF rotates through this life cycle lasting 15 months. "The first 10 months of the lifecycle consists of routine mission operations and training," said Busam. "The following two months are for specialized training for deployment into one of the two theaters. Following that, the active duty forces deploy for 90 days. At the end of which, they come home and the lifecycle begins again."

For the Guard, the first 10 months are essentially the same—routine mission ops and training. Then comes a two-month period dedicated to preparing to deploy to a specific location. This is when commanders put "faces to the places." But, unlike the active duty, Guard members deploy for 17 to 19 days instead of the full 90. These individuals will put in 15 days in-theater. The extra days are needed for travel.

Busam explained that while entire active duty UTCs or units may deploy for AEF, in the Guard, it will rarely be an entire unit.

"The commitment of the Air National Guard is that Guard units will be tasked every 15

months, but that *individuals* will be asked to participate every 30 months. Individuals are *volunteering* to support these deployments," Busam stressed.

The 15-month lifecycle allows commanders to focus on mission and training for home station day-to-day operations, knowing when they're going to have to deploy.

Deploying personnel from the 105th include members of the Civil Engineering Squadron, Medical Squadron, Services Flight, Logistics and Wing staff. These are members who are called "Expeditionary Combat Support" personnel or "ECS."

The commander of the 105th Logistics Squadron, Lt. Col. Dennis Kugler, said that 29 of his members have volunteered for AEF.

"Some of those who were asked—like the supply, vehicle maintenance and vehicle operations—were not in UTCs at the time. Now, they're all in deployable UTCs. AEF is an opportunity for us to help our active duty folks with the high OPSTEMPO they have.

"The challenge for me as a commander is meeting the needs of our traditional Guard members in that with AEF, you are deployed a full 15 days in-theater, and the extra travel days can bring it up to 19 days. I'm working with members on case-by-case basis to be as flexible as possible so as not to hinder they're employment without hindering our mission." Kugler said units will have to have a balance between supporting AEF and the mission at Stewart. For example, due to manpower shortages, augmentees will fill in when his Fuels personnel deploy.

Senior Master Sgt. Dave Bertino, 105th Occupational Safety manager and one of the Wing members deploying, said, "I'm not surprised that my office has been asked to deploy because I had seen other Safety offices going and I figured sooner or later we would."

"We're setting them up for their chemical and weapons training," said Staff Sgt. Karen Dawson, a Supply management specialist for Logistics Squadron. "Since it's new and some of our people have just been placed into UTCs and are deploying for AEF, there's a little more pressure to get everybody ready within the time restraints that we have."

In the clinic, 105th Medical Squadron personnel are screening records of those scheduled to deploy, said 2nd Lt. Kimberly Cardona, Clinic superintendent. "We're screening the DNA listings, vaccinations, and getting medical intel together for the different theaters in order to give people the info they'll need medically. Usually with mobility, you have hundreds of people processing the line and going to one place, but with AEF we have a smaller group of people going to different places and needing different shots and information based on the theater they'll be operating out of. This is preparing us though, this is the way of the future," she said.

"EAF is the future of the force," said Busam. "It's one step closer to the 'total force' concept."

105th Exports Disaster Relief

By Scott Sandman
Guard Times Staff

STEWART AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE, NEWBURGH—Governor George E. Pataki joined Dr. Pedro Conde, Consul General of the Republic of Venezuela and Adjutant General Major Gen. John Fenimore to oversee a 105th Air Wing C-5A relief mission destined for Caracas, Venezuela. The "Galaxy" cargo flight delivered 100 tons of food and non-prescription medicines for flood victims in the South American nation.

The mission, directed by Governor Pataki at the request of Cardinal John O'Connor of the Archdiocese of New York, is the result of a joint Army and Air National Guard effort and AmeriCares, the nation's largest privately funded disaster relief agency.

"Once again the NY National Guard is there when people in a neighboring nation need emergency assistance," Governor Pataki said. "When Cardinal O'Connor brought to our attention that tons of food and supplies were sitting in New York with no way to reach the people who need them, we activated the Guard and made an aircraft available."

The mission followed the previous delivery of two water purification systems. Dr. Conde



Governor George Pataki gets a mission briefing from base commander Brig. Gen. Thomas Maquire. Photo by Scott Sandman.

said, "I would like to thank Governor Pataki, the men and women of the New York National Guard, AmeriCares, and the City of New York for their kindness and support. This great gesture will help thousands of people as they work to rebuild from the unprecedented devastation brought by recent floods."

"Sixteen volunteers from the NY Air National Guard left on this mission just before Christmas and didn't get back until a week later," said Brig. Gen. Archie Berberian, NYANG Chief of Staff. "This demonstrates the selfless dedication of our personnel and the sacrifices made by our troops and their families," he said.

27th Division Medal of Honor Winner, Seven Lives for the Emperor

By Lt. Col. R. H. von Hasseln, NYG
Director of Military History

SAIPAN, MARIANNA ISLANDS, JULY, 1944 -- They were going out but they wouldn't be coming back.

The general knew this: for three hard weeks his soldiers had fought ferociously using trick of tactics and terrain to inflict maximum casualties on the enemy. But now there were less than 5,000 left of the original 30,000, crowded into a little more than three square miles at the end of the island, with little ammunition and no hope of reinforcement, resupply, or assistance from the navy. It was time to *smash the jewel* - to break the last of his superb troops against the enemy. Every man would arm himself with whatever was at hand, his purpose to kill at least seven of the enemy before he was killed, and no wounded would be left behind alive. Satisfied he had done all he could, Lieutenant General Saito, Imperial Japanese Army, retreated into his cave on Saipan and killed himself, the first death in the largest *gyokusai* (banzai) attack of the Pacific war.

When the attack came in the early morning hours of July 7, 1944, it was irresistible, falling mainly against the 1st and 2nd Battalions of the 105th Infantry, New York National Guard, holding the Tanapag Plain. One of the few officers to survive likened it to a cattle stampede. Machine gun barrels glowed cherry red in the darkness and drooped. Crew served weapons had to be repositioned because the piles of bodies obscured the field of fire. Exhorting his men, battalion commander Lt. Col. William O'Brien was everywhere, but so were the Japanese - front, rear, and both flanks. Everywhere, every member of the battal-

ions fought desperate battles to regroup into small perimeters to ride out the cresting human tidal wave. Many didn't get far. Lt. Col. O'Brien was last seen in a flash of samurai swords atop a jeep firing a .50 caliber machine gun yelling to his men "Don't give them a damned inch." Sgt. Thomas Baker, badly wounded, realized his comrades were endangering their lives trying to evacuate him and demanded that they leave him propped up against a tree with one cigarette, a full clip of .45 ammunition, and one round for the pistol chamber.

Desperate Measures

The *gyokusai* eventually broke against the 3rd Battalion holding high ground to the east, and the determined impromptu defense of the regimental headquarters in the south. There, Capt. John C. Baker (later Chief of Staff to the Governor -- today called The Adjutant General) scraped up clerks, cooks, typists, and even the regimental dentist in a desperate last ditch effort that stemmed the tide.

Division and Corps rushed reinforcements to the area, but it took some time to work through the eddying Japanese resistance. One isolated outpost of the 105th had been pushed literally into the sea, fighting from a coral reef. It had to be evacuated by landing craft. The two battalions most heavily engaged and regimental headquarters had sustained over nine hundred casualties and over 4,000 dead Japanese were counted in their area (the units were later awarded the Presidential Unit Citation for this action). Two days later the island was secured, and

construction soon commenced on the airfields from which B-29's would pound Japan into submission.

Sweeping north to the end of the island, GI's found the body of Sgt. Baker, still propped up against a tree, a burnt out cigarette in one hand and a cold, empty .45 in the other. Around him were eight dead Japanese soldiers.

The Emperor had received his seven lives, but not the ones General Saito had intended.



The 27th Infantry Division's battle for Saipan in 1945. Photos from top: A group of soldiers gather to admire a Japanese flag now a trophy of Sgt. Hilton Mitchell of Oneonta (shown pointing to inscription). Middle photo: Division tanks and tank destroyers fire upon Japanese infested vaves on the ridges of Mt. Tapotchau. An anti-tank gun in the foreground protects the unit flank. Bottom left: At the front, Lieut. Colonel O'Brien and his company commanders plan the attack on Nafutan Ridge. O'Brien would go on to receive the Medal of Honor as well for his heroics during Saipan. Bottom Left: A division gun battery crew, consisting mainly of soldiers from the Syracuse area. Photos courtesy of the State Military History Archives.

After 50 Years, Finally Comes Home

Fallen Hero Put to Rest in his Home State

By Lt. Col. Paul Fanning
Guard Times Staff

SARATOGA NATIONAL CEMETERY, STILLWATER—The body of a World War II hero from New York's 27th Infantry Division was returned to his home state in November and buried on Veterans' Day by special arrangement in the new Saratoga National Cemetery located in the town of Stillwater, Saratoga County.

Sergeant Thomas Baker, posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his actions during the Battle of Saipan in 1944, came back to his native New York this fall for the first time in nearly 60 years. His body had been interned in Hawaii's Punch Bowl National Cemetery since the end of the war. A concerted effort by the Rensselaer County officials, the county's Veterans Association and surviving family members succeeded in bringing Sergeant Baker home. He is the second Medal of Honor recipient buried in the Saratoga cemetery since it was opened last July.

Hundreds of veterans, family and friends turned out despite bitter temperatures and a sharp wind to participate in a moving memorial service with full military honors provided by the New York National Guard. Civilian news organizations provided complete coverage.

Modern day members of Baker's unit, the 105th Infantry, rendered military honors, including an honor guard, colors and a firing party. Taps was played by New York Guard volunteers. The 105th members wear the same "Orion" Division shoulder patch that Baker wore as a member of Company A, from Troy.

Guest speakers included Congressmen John Sweeney (R), Clifton Park and Michael McNulty (D), Green Island,



numerous local officials and Baker's descendants. Though briefly married, Baker had no children of his own. His nephew Matt spoke on behalf of the family. In a voice frequently overcome with emotion, he expressed gratitude to the veterans, government officials and to the Guard for the assistance and support in bringing his uncle home. It was impossible for the Baker family to visit the grave in Hawaii. Now his family and fellow New Yorkers can visit his grave and reflect on his service and sacrifice on behalf of his nation.

But, the most moving address came from Joseph Meighan, a friend and former fellow National Guardsman. Meighan joined the Guard with Baker in the 1930s, was activated in

Members of the Rensselaer County Veterans Association and the National Guard's 1st Battalion 105th Infantry pay tribute to Sgt. Thomas Baker at his reinternment ceremony at the Saratoga National Cemetery. Sgt. Baker, from Troy, was mortally wounded in the 27th Infantry Division's battle for Saipan in 1944 and was buried in a national cemetery in Hawaii until this year. Photo below: The 105th Infantry Honor Guard carries the colors at the Medal of Honor recipient's ceremony. Sgt. Baker's was a member of the 105th Infantry Regiment. Photos by Lt. Col. Paul Fanning.

1940 with him and other members of the 105th Infantry for World War II, and fought alongside him at Saipan. It was he who placed the wounded Baker against a tree and gave him the pistol Baker used during his final moments, Meighan told the assembly. Meighan was probably the last

American to see Baker alive that fateful day in 1944. Meighan read Baker's Medal of Honor citation out loud to the crowd, and spoke about how hot it was on Saipan and how horrible the fighting was.

Meighan's emotional eye witness testimony engrossed all present. He had been waiting 55 years for this chance to speak about his friend and comrade, to tell about his friend's courage and dedication, to let the world know how great and special a man Thomas Baker was. Now was the time, at long last.

"Sgt. Thomas Baker," declared Meighan, "you are present and accounted for."

Medal of Honor Citation

Baker, Thomas, A. Sergeant, U.S. Army,
Company A, 105th Infantry, 27th Infantry Division

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty at Saipan, Mariana Islands, 19 June to 7 July 1944.

When his entire company was held up by fire from automatic weapons and small arms fire from strongly fortified enemy positions that commanded the view of the company, Sergeant (then Private) Baker voluntarily took a bazooka and dashed alone to within 100 yards of the enemy. Through heavy rifle and machinegun fire that was directed at him by the enemy, he knocked out the strongpoint, enabling his company to assault the ridge.

Some days later while his company advanced across an open field flanked with obstructions and places of concealment for the enemy, Sgt. Baker again voluntarily took up a position in the rear to protect the company against surprise attack and came upon two heavily fortified enemy pockets manned by 2 officers and 10 enlisted men which had been bypassed. Without regard for such superior numbers, he unhesitatingly attacked and killed all of them. Five hundred yards farther, he discovered six men of the enemy who had concealed themselves behind our lines and destroyed all of them.

On 7 July, 1944, the perimeter of which Sgt. Baker was a part was attacked from three sides by 3,000 to 5,000 Japanese. During the early stages of this

attack, Sgt. Baker was seriously wounded but he insisted on remaining in the line and fired at the enemy at ranges sometimes as close as five yards until his ammunition ran out.

Without ammunition and with his own weapon battered to uselessness from hand-to-hand combat, he was carried about 50 yards to the rear by a comrade, who was then himself wounded. At this point Sgt. Baker refused to be moved any farther stating that he preferred to be left to die rather than risk the lives of any more of his friends.

A short time later, at his request, he was laced in a sitting position against a small tree. Another comrade, withdrawing, offered assistance. Sgt. Baker refused, insisting that he be left alone and be given a soldier's pistol with its remaining eight rounds of ammunition.

When last seen alive, Sgt. Baker was propped against a tree, pistol in hand, calmly facing the foe. Later, Sgt. Baker's body was found in the same position, gun empty, with eight Japanese lying dead before him.

His deeds were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Army.



'Toys for Tots' No Obstacle to Marine Combat Training

Reservists Take On Live fire Exercise at Drum

Guard Times Staff

FORT DRUM – Nearly 100 members of an Albany-based Marine Corps Reserve unit took just enough time out from their seasonal "Toys for Tots" campaign to concentrate on their war time mission in December by completing an aggressive live fire exercise at Fort Drum.

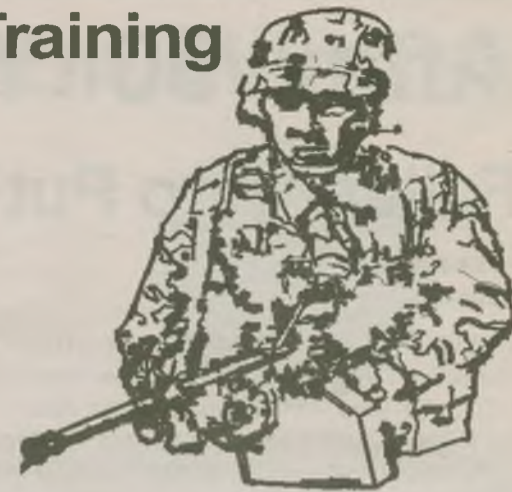
Reservists from Company F, 2nd Battalion 25th Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division from the Albany Navy and Marine Corps Reserve Training Center, performed drill December 10-11 at Range 23 at Fort Drum. The Infantry Company Live-fire Movement to Contact Exercise included the entire unit moving as a company over 2.5-kilometer range engaging targets of opportunity. The marines used M16 rifles, M249 Squad Assault Weapons, M240G machineguns, Squad Medium Assault Weapon 83mm "bunker buster" rockets and C4 satchel charges to overcome enemy troops, vehicles and defensive positions and breach obstacles over the course of the range. Electronic pop-up targets were tripped as the marines progressed along the course. The "Leather necks" had close air support form a section of Marine Corps UH-1N gun ships from Marine Air Group 49 out of Willow Grove, PA. Once the "enemy" was

spotted, the Company Commander deployed his forces to overcome the situation he was presented with. Everything was live fire.

"It was a very exciting and productive training day," said Capt. Matthew Ried, Instructor & Inspector training officer for the unit. The Malone, NY-native is an active duty officer who oversees the training of the unit. "It required much coordination, pre-training, rehearsals and leadership to accomplish successfully," he added.

The company's leadership is made up of traditional part-time Marine Reservists, many of whom are also members of the New York Naval Militia. These include the company commander Major Glenn Sadowski of Bronxville, the company executive officer Captain James Hall of Saratoga, and platoon commanders Staff Sgt. John Monte of Albany, Capt. Jim Schutta of Mamaroneck, and Capt. Richard Pierone of Schenectady.

The weather conditions didn't make the exercise easy. Training at Fort Drum in December is similar to training in the arctic. The marines faced 15-degree temperatures and whipping winds. "Anytime we can conduct a live fire exercise is good though," said Ried. "It proved to be a successful training day and big morale booster."



Ried explained that there are many benefits to conducting live fire exercises of this type, no matter the weather conditions. Some of these include the increased confidence the marines gained in handling and firing weapons in a tactical environment, with other marines all around, and other weapons going off nearby. The experience also enhances command and control skills for all levels in the unit and its sections. It also helps prepare leaders and unit personnel for the proper integration of Close Air Support. Finally, it conditions everyone for dealing with harsh weather and broken terrain while simultaneously confronting unexpected situations with the enemy

Naval Militia names Josephthal Award Winners

The New York Naval Militia has named its winners of the Annual Josephthal Awards for the top reserve unit and best Sailor and Marine. The awards acknowledge readiness and training excellence by members of Navy and Marine Corps Reserve.

Militiaman of Year - Marine

Staff Sgt. Christopher Hale, Company F, 2nd Battalion 25th Marine Regiment, Albany.

From the left, Rear Admir. Robert A. Rosen, Commander, NY naval Militia, Capt. Matthew Reid, Instructor & Inspector Albany Navy and Marine Corps Reserve Center, Staff Sgt. Hale and Maj. Gen. John H. Fenimore, V, The Adjutant General.



Construction Battalion (CB) Unit of the Year

Detachment 1133 Albany, 133 Construction Battalion, US Naval Reserve.

EOCS Michael Clark, Officer in charge of Detachment 1133 and Maj. Gen. John H. Fenimore, The Adjutant General.



Militiaman of the Year - Navy

Lieut. Junior Grade Laura Zaranek, naval Militia Coordinator, Navy and marine Corps Reserve Center - Buffalo.

Rear Admiral Robert A. Rosen, Commander NY Naval Militia, Lt. Zaranek, Maj. Gen. John H. Fenimore, V, The Adjutant General.



Guard Times photos.

Naval Militia and Coast Guard Expand Partnership

By Petty Officer Robert K. Lanier
U.S. Coast Guard Reserve

NEW YORK CITY – Celebrating two years of joint service efforts, the Commandant of the Coast Guard and the Commanding Officer of the New York Naval Militia expanded the interagency cooperation to allow for dual service and recruiting.

For more than two years, the two agencies have implemented a memorandum of understanding that outlines the cooperation and joint effort to improve maritime operations in New York State.

The Coast Guard is the nation's premier maritime, protecting the waterways of New York since 1790. Today, the Coast Guard conducts environmental protections services, boating safety and vessel inspections for New York State.

The New York Naval Militia has a recognized dual federal and state mission. First, the service responds to military needs of the federal government as individual or unit requirements dictate. Second, the Naval Militia responds to the call of the Governor in the event of natural disaster, domestic disorder, or other civil action.

Under the provision, the Naval Militia is designated the State's Military Representative to the Port Security and Readiness Committee and the U.S. Coast Guard. It allows the Naval Militia to augment Maritime, Port and Waterways activities and other missions



as assigned by the Secretary of the Navy or as requested by the Commandant of the Coast Guard.

The expansion added this year to the current agreement, approved by State Governor George E. Pataki, is the opportunity for Coast Guard Reservists to join the NY Naval Militia. This now makes information and recruiting for the Naval Militia available to eligible Coast Guard reservists. In return, the NY Naval Militia will actively support recruiting and retention for the Coast Guard Reserve in the state.

Coast Guard Reservists who join the NY Naval Militia do so on a not-to-interfere basis with their assigned duties and responsibilities to the Coast Guard Reserve. In the case of conflict, the federal duties and responsibilities of the U.S. Coast Guard Reserves take precedence.

Accepted reservists who voluntarily join the Naval Militia receive all benefits permitted to members. These include, but are not limited to, educational benefits and access to state armories and other state facilities for training.

ChalleNGe Graduates 'Lucky' Class 13

Former Jets great Emerson Boozer Addresses Corps

Lt. Col. Paul Fanning
Guard Times Staff

PEEKSKILL — The popular New York National Guard "ChalleNGe Youth Opportunity Program," aimed at reconnecting high school dropouts with the education system graduated its 13th class in December at the Paramount Theater in downtown Peekskill.

The class of 81 corps members from across New York, completed the intense five month-long residential program at Camp Smith. This class increased the total number of ChalleNGe Program graduates to 927 since its launch in 1993.

Distinguished speakers included The Adjutant General of New York, Maj. Gen. Jack Fenimore and former National Football League stand-out Emerson Boozer from the 1968-1969 Super Bowl Champion New York Jets.

Boozer, who lives and works on Long Island, was a member of the New York Army National Guard in the 1960s. Camp Smith is where he actually joined the Guard. He congratulated the graduates on their success and told them that completing the program and earning their General Equivalency Degree diploma was probably the most important phase of their life.

Boozer also mentioned the role of discipline in their future and felt that the graduates' exposure to the military through their ChalleNGe experience was extremely valuable. "I know of no other place, not even in the world of athletics, where discipline is the epitome of what you must learn to do," he said, referring to military service. "For those of you who go on to higher education," added Boozer, "it will take that same kind of mental discipline to withstand the rigors of academic and campus life."

General Fenimore also congratulated the class on their success, but directed most of his comments towards parents and other family members. "You can be justifiably proud of your sons and daughters and other relatives up on this stage," he said. "This is not an easy program to complete." According to the general, New York State randomly administers the difficult GED exam to graduating high school seniors across the state. Only half of those tested ever pass. "Even if they (ChalleNGe Corps Members) scored the minimum passing score on the GED, that puts them in the top half of this year's graduating class of students," he said.

Fenimore added that the responsibility, team building and leadership skills ChalleNGe graduates take away from the program help pave the way to a rewarding and successful future. "The drive, determination, self-respect and discipline ChalleNGe graduates bring with them help clear the obstacles they will incur on their way," he said.

The 81 corps members completed the 22-week residency phase of ChalleNGe, which includes a rigorous regimen of classroom instruction, team-building, leadership, physical fitness and



Top photo, Emerson Boozer from the NFL Super Bowl Champion New York Jets was the key note speaker. Boozer spoke about the challenges he faced in life, the importance of education and the role of discipline in one's life, as an essential ingredient to achievement. Above, corps members Glen Bell, Bachana Bekauri and Ronald Beard cheer for fellow classmates during awards presentations. More than 900 young people in 13 have graduated from ChalleNGe since it began in 1993. Photos by Lt. Col. Paul Fanning.

military drill and ceremonies. Corpsmembers also participated in community service projects and several Class 13 members were recognized by the Department of Veterans Affairs for volunteer work at a local VA Medical Center.

"ChalleNGe graduates leave our program highly motivated for their future"

Most graduates had already qualified to receive their GED. Twenty corps members in the class earned GEDs on their first attempt early in the program. It was the largest number since the program began.

"ChalleNGe is a great program if you want to take that second chance and get back on the right track," said Corps Member Erica Arvelo during her address to the class. Other speakers echoed her sentiments. Navy Hospital Corpsman Corbett Smith, a ChalleNGe graduate from Class 11, took personal leave to return for the Class 13 graduation. Upon completing ChalleNGe a year ago, Corbett joined the Navy. He spoke about his training success, his recent marriage and the first home that he and his wife have purchased together. He wanted Class 13 graduates to know that ChalleNGe really worked for him. "Success is not just about wealth," he said. "It is the ability to later look back on life and have no regrets from this day forward."

"ChalleNGe graduates leave our program highly motivated for their future," said Fenimore about the Class 13 graduates. "They are returning now to their families to continue their education, enter the workforce or join the armed forces. They are leaving here focused on becoming productive."

Upon graduation, corps members begin a 12-month mentoring phase with a volunteer in their hometown. They also receive a cash stipend aimed at fostering their continued academic or vocational education.

Coalition Selects NY for CounterDrug 'Circle of Excellence'

Guard Times Staff

LATHAM — The Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA) have selected the New York National Guard's CounterDrug Program for a "Circle of Excellence Award".

The presentation was made December 2, by CADCA's Chairman and CEO, Major General (Ret) Arthur Dean, at the organization's 10th Anniversary Leadership Forum in the Washington, D.C. area.

New York's CounterDrug program was cited for outstanding support during 1999 to the Kmart "Kids Race Against Drugs" series, an event which mixes go-cart racing with drug resis-

tance education efforts. NY National Guard CounterDrug personnel and the Guard's Corps of Cadets program supported more than a dozen races around the state.

The Corps of Cadets program serves young people, aged 12 to 17 with safe, structured after-school, weekend and summer programs which include training to help them resist peer pressure toward substance abuse, activities to enhance self-discipline and self-respect, and community service programs.

More than 650 young people are members of the 19 Corps of Cadets units based at National Guard armories and airbases around New York.

In addition to drug education promotions, Cadets conduct annual summer camp training at Fort Drum, New York.

The Kmart "Kids Race against Drugs" supports drug demand resistance education by providing go-carts, portable tracks, personnel and promotion for a series of "races" at locales like shopping centers. Local families are encouraged to bring their children to participate in the racing and to hear about the benefits of resisting substance abuse. The program requires 15 to 20 volunteers at each site. Kmart organized "Kids Race against Drugs" events at 20 sites in New York last summer and fall.

One Less 'Bright Star' in the

Orion Constellation

27th Brigade's Longest Serving Command Sergeant Major Steps Down

By Lt. Col. Paul Fanning
Guard Times Staff

SYRACUSE -- After more than nine years as the 27th Brigade's senior Non Commissioned Officer, Command Sergeant Major William J. Tracy is stepping aside to make room for a new bright star in the Orion Brigade leadership constellation.

Command Sergeant Major Tracy, a career traditional Guardsman, was appointed to the top NCO position in September 1990. In the fall of 1999, Tracy accepted a transfer to state headquarters to make room for another NCO at brigade headquarters in Syracuse. Command Sergeant Major Dick Fearnside was recommended by Tracy as his successor, and was appointed following Tracy's transfer.

Career Infantry NCO

Tracy joined the 105th Infantry Battalion in Gloversville in 1967, and except for short periods as a mechanic in maintenance company and operations NCO at state headquarters, served the bulk of his 30-year career in infantry field assignments. The North Country resident who hails from Speculator in the Adirondack Mountain region, once was part owner of a car dealership, worked at a radio station and worked as a federal technician at the United States Property and Fiscal Office. Since April of 1998, Tracy has been part of the state's Counterdrug Program work force at the Stratton Air National Guard Base in Scotia.

In 1969, Tracy completed Phases I and II of the state's Officer Candidate School, but suffered a knee injury during the final phase. He chose not to pursue an officer's career after his injuries were healed, even though he was eligible. Instead he concentrated on being a NCO, and quickly rose through the ranks at Gloversville, eventually rising from private to platoon sergeant there. In 1984 he became first sergeant of the 105th's Combat Support Company in Amsterdam. The next year, the 27th Brigade was designated "Roundout Brigade" to the Army's 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum.

"...we have some of the best NCOs in the Army, including active duty, in this brigade"

Early in his tenure at brigade headquarters, Tracy helped the 27th move from roundout to "Enhanced Bri-



Command Sergeant Major William J. Tracy, a 30-year career traditional National Guard member has served predominately in infantry assignments, including nine years as the 27th Infantry Brigade's Command Sergeant Major. Photos by Lt. Col. Paul Fanning.

gade" status. He is proud of "his" 27th, and is grateful to have been able to stay nine years as command sergeant major. He has seen it progress along with the rest of the New York Army National Guard.

He sees the brigade as young, tough and hard charging, dedicated and militarily qualified. "Based on comments from my counterparts with the 10th Mountain Division, we have some of the best NCOs in the Army, including active duty, in this brigade," said Tracy. "The brigade has always gone forward, never backward."

According to Tracy, an effective NCO always puts his soldiers first, stresses discipline, and ensures subordinate personnel are qualified, and works to get the best possible two-way communication within his organization. "A command sergeant major is primarily responsible for individual training, weapons qualification and physical fitness," said Tracy. "He or she also sets the standard for the enlisted force. We also have to be candid advisors to our commanders. We have to identify shortfalls and offer possible solutions when we do," he added.

Being a brigade command sergeant major involves oversight of battalion sergeant majors and those NCOs oversee company first sergeants as well as operational and administrative processes effecting the force. To Tracy, that frequently meant performing as a troubleshooter, firefighter or confidential advisor. Tracy often visited battalions to talk to soldiers and to "take samples" of the climate to get the feel of the unit. "You can't really get a feel for a unit without talking to the troops," said Tracy. "Commanders will tell you things, but the soldiers... They will tell you what they want to tell you."

JRTC Ramp Up

The 27th Brigade is presently engaged in its ramp-up training for a demanding rotation in 2001 at the Army's Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk. That includes an important rehearsal at Fort Drum next August. Tracy feels that the JRTC rotation will be a positive experience for the 27th overall, but is also keeping the preparatory "hype" in perspective.

"The JRTC rotation is a great opportunity for us to strut our stuff and to compete with an active duty opposing force at a premier Army center. It will be really great for our troops to experience the kind of realism available today at our combat simulation training areas," said Tracy. "But as important as the experience is, the day after it is all over is also very important. Win, lose or draw, our troops still want to stay in the 27th and the Guard. Most enhanced brigades going through the JRTC experience strength hemorrhaging when it's over. Our present commander, Col. Bob Schnurr, has included soldier care actions in his plans. He is planning now for the post JRTC retention effort, because he loves every one of them and knows they are needed long after this tour is done," said Tracy. "All said and done, this is just another Annual Training tour. If that sounds deflating, it shouldn't. We should keep perspective."

Tracy credits the brigade's improved readiness level to a vigorous training program. He feels that the 27th's officers and NCOs must stay focused on developing plans that combine federal readiness and state missions requirements into integrated plans that keep soldiers serving and balance military life with soldiers needs in their personal lives. "We need to make sure that we are properly challenging or troops, not wasting their time," he said.

"I will always remember and miss the fellowship between the brigade troops," said Tracy. "From time to time, troops will come up to me on the street having

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 RONNIE L. RIDNER HHS(-)1-156FA

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HALL, CHARLES H. III, COL HHD STARC (-)
 KINLEY, THOMAS D., MG HHC 42 IN DIV
 ROBERTS, EDWARD, SSG CO A 1-142 AVN
 (POSTHUMOUS)
 WOROBAY, MICHAEL, MSG HHD STARC (-)
 ZIMMERMAN, WILLIAM, CW2 CO A 1-142 AVN
 (POSTHUMOUS)

NYS MILITARY COMMENDATION MEDAL

ALLEN, CHRISTOPHER, SPC COD 1-108 IN
 COVEY, ASAD., SSG HHD STARC (-)
 DANIEL, ROBERT G., SPC COD 1-108 IN
 GREGROW, SHANE, PFC COD 1-108 IN
 MCCONNELL, CALEB, SPC COD 1-108 IN
 MERRILL, JOSEPH, SPC COD 1-108 IN
 MOREY, JOHNS., SFC CO C (-) 2-108 IN
 SEYMOUR, ERIC D., SPC COD 1-108 IN
 WEISE, MAUREEN, SSG 53 TC (DET 1 STARC)

NEW YORK AIR NATIONAL GUARD AWARDS

LEGION OF MERIT

COL DAVID R. ROBINSON JR. 152 ACG

NY AIR GUARD
 HHD STARC (-)
 HHD STARC (-)
 53 TC (DET 1 STARC)
 53 TC (DET 1 STARC)
 CO A 642 SPT BN
 2ND MSD (RAID)
 53 TC (DET 1 STARC)
 NY AIR GUARD
 2 MSD (RAID)
 HHD STARC (-)
 53 TC (DET 1 STARC)
 2ND MSD (RAID)
 53 TC (DET 1 STARC)
 CO A 642 SPT BN
 53 TC (DET 1 STARC)
 NY AIR GUARD
 HHD STARC (-)
 COB 1-69 IN
 2ND MSD (RAID)
 53 TC (DET 1 STARC)
 HQ AVN BDE, 42 ID

AIR FORCE MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

LTC GEORGE STACKMAN 174 FW
 CMS JAMES R. DIBLASIO 109 AW
 SMS JAMES S. ACORS 109 AW
 SMS DEAN R. ARMSTRONG 109 AW
 MSG GARY HOOVER 174 FW
 MSG THOMAS CUFF 174 FW
 MSG DOUGLAS SKINNER 174 FW
 MSG RICHARD WILBUR 174 FW

AIR FORCE COMMENDATION MEDAL

MAJ RICHARD D. SHEARER 109 AW
 SSG DAVID J. GUEST 109 AW
 TSG BRIAN J. BIK 109 AW
 TSG DOUGLASE. MILLER 109 AW
 TSG STEPHEN W. OUGHTON 109 AW
 SSG DONNA J. ROPER 109 AW
 SRA WILLIAM D. HANRAHAN JR. 109 AW
 MSG JACK JORDAN 174 FW
 TSG DEBORAH DAVIS 174 FW
 SSG FLOYD BAKER 174 FW
 SSG JOHN MORGAN 174 FW
 MAJ PHILIP MORGAN 174 FW

AIR FORCE ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

TSG JEFFREY L. WILLIAMS 109 AW
 TSG RICARDO MONTALVO 109 AW
 TSG MICHAEL LUKAK 174 FW
 MSG KEVIN SCANLIN 174 FW
 MSG DANIEL LESKINEN 174 FW

NEW YORK NAVAL MILITIA AWARDS

NAVY ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

WILSON, JOSEPH LCDR, NCSO ATLANTIC 104
 HARTFORD, ROBERT RM1 LCU 205 BUFFALO
 MASSARO, JAMES DT1 PTSMTH 701 BUF
 HOPKINS, KAREN HM2 PTSMTH 701 BUF
 STULL, EDWARD MA2 EARL ROCHESTER
 JULIAN, JACK EO3 DET 1621 ROCHESTER

NAVAL RESERVE MERITORIOUS SVC MEDAL

CUBIT, JOHN CMCS DET 1621 ROCHESTER
 BEST, CYNTHIA HMC PTSMTH 801 ROCH
 NIVER, THOMAS HMC PTSMTH 801 ROCH
 ACKLEY, DONALDEA1 DET 1621 ROCHESTER
 BIER, CHRISTOPHER CM1 DET 1621 ROCHESTER
 HARTMAN, HERBERT MM1 EARL ROCHESTER
 PAULY, GREGORY TM1 EARL ROCHESTER
 PRATT, J. HM1 PTSMTH 801 ROCH
 KRAMER, RICKEY RM1 EARL ROCHESTER
 SCHLAGGEL, MARK MR1 EARL ROCHESTER
 SWIFT, HARRY BM1 EARL ROCHESTER
 WILLARD, ROBERT HM1 8TH TNK ROCHESTER
 BARNARD, R. BM2 EARL ROCHESTER
 HOFFMAN, BRENT HM2 PTSMTH 801 ROCH
 JACKSON, YAUNKEET2 EARL ROCHESTER
 LAWRENCE, JOSEPH HM2 8TH TNK ROCHESTER
 LOZIER, LOUIS BU2 DET 1621 ROCHESTER
 GRZYBOWSKIM M2 EARL ROCHESTER
 STRONG, TERESA YN3 EARL ROCHESTER

ARMED FORCES RESERVE MEDAL

KITTLE, DAVID SM2 EARL ROCHESTER
 LOZIER, LOUIS BU2 DET 1621 ROCHESTER
 ONDERDONK, LAURENS HM2 EARL ROCHESTER

MILITARY OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER SERVICE MEDAL

WOLFF, SCOTT TM1 SEARL ROCHESTER

NYS AID TO CIVIL AUTHORITY

BELL, BRIAN JOC SHQN-27 LATHAM

NYS MEDAL FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE

CASSIDY, LARRY, WO1 HQ REGI
 CAHN, DAVID LTC COL MTUNY-17 NYC

Annual Citizen Soldier of the Year Awarded

Guard Times Staff

LATHAM -- The Adjutant General has named Store Keeper Chief Adrienne Daniels of the New York Naval Militia as the winner of the 1999 Colonel Gouverneur Morris Citizen Soldier Award.

The state honor is given annually to a member of New York's organized militia who best distinguishes themselves through outstanding service to community and the force.

Chief Daniels is the first Naval Militia member to receive the Award in its history. She received the award in recognition of her exemplary volunteerism in numerous community activities including service at the Stratton VA Medical Center, the Marine Corps Toys for Tots Program, the Medal of Honor Society, the Fisher House Foundation, and numerous other veteran's programs throughout the Capital Area. In addition, Chief Daniels is the Executive Officer for the Naval Sea Cadets Program.



Rear Admiral Robert A. Rosen, Commander of the NY Naval Militia, Store Keeper Chief Adrienne Daniels, Maj. Gen. John H. Fenimore, V, The Adjutant General. Guard Times photo.

RESERVE PAY FOR 4 DRILLS

EFFECTIVE 1 JANUARY 2000

YEARS OF SERVICE

PAY GRADE	<2	2	3	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26
COMMISSIONED OFFICERS															
O-10	1095.32	1133.84	1133.84	1133.84	1133.84	1177.36	1177.36	1242.60	1242.60	1331.52	1331.52	1420.68	1420.68	1420.68	1509.12
O-9	970.78	996.20	1017.40	1017.40	1017.40	1043.28	1043.28	1086.68	1086.68	1177.36	1177.36	1242.60	1242.60	1242.60	1331.52
O-8	879.24	905.64	927.08	927.08	927.08	996.20	996.20	1043.28	1043.28	1086.68	1133.84	1177.36	1206.40	1206.40	1206.40
O-7	730.60	780.24	780.24	780.24	815.28	815.28	862.52	862.52	905.64	996.20	1064.72	1064.72	1064.72	1064.72	1064.72
O-6	541.48	594.88	633.92	633.92	633.92	633.92	633.92	633.92	655.48	759.08	787.84	815.28	862.52	891.64	935.40
O-5	433.12	508.52	543.72	543.72	543.72	560.04	590.28	629.84	677.00	715.76	737.48	763.20	763.20	763.20	763.20
O-4	365.04	444.52	474.16	474.16	482.96	504.24	538.72	569.00	594.88	621.00	638.12	638.12	638.12	638.12	638.12
O-3	339.20	379.24	406.48	448.64	470.12	486.96	513.36	538.72	551.88	551.88	551.88	551.88	551.88	551.88	551.88
O-2	295.84	323.08	386.12	401.20	409.48	409.48	409.48	409.48	409.48	409.48	409.48	409.48	409.48	409.48	409.48
O-1	256.84	267.32	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08
COMMISSIONED OFFICERS WITH OVER 4 YEARS ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE AS AN ENLISTED MEMBER OR WARRANT OFFICER															
O-3E	0.00	0.00	0.00	448.64	470.12	486.96	513.36	538.72	560.04	560.04	560.04	560.04	560.04	560.04	560.04
O-2E	0.00	0.00	0.00	401.20	409.48	422.48	444.52	461.52	474.16	474.16	474.16	474.16	474.16	474.16	474.16
O-1E	0.00	0.00	0.00	323.08	345.12	357.84	370.84	383.88	401.20	401.20	401.20	401.20	401.20	401.20	401.20
WARRANT OFFICERS															
W-6	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	589.84	612.16	629.88	656.44
W-4	345.60	370.84	370.84	379.24	396.56	414.00	431.40	461.52	482.96	499.92	513.36	529.88	547.60	564.88	590.28
W-3	314.12	340.72	340.72	345.12	349.16	374.72	396.56	409.48	422.48	435.12	448.64	466.12	482.96	482.96	499.92
W-2	275.12	297.68	297.68	306.32	323.08	340.72	353.68	366.64	379.24	392.60	405.48	418.24	435.12	435.12	435.12
W-1	229.20	262.80	262.80	284.76	297.68	310.40	323.08	336.36	349.16	362.16	374.72	388.12	388.12	388.12	388.12
ENLISTED MEMBERS															
E-9	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	402.04	411.12	420.36	430.08	439.76	448.20	471.72	490.08	517.68
E-8	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	337.12	346.88	355.96	365.20	374.88	383.40	382.84	415.92	434.40	462.28
E-7	235.44	254.16	263.48	272.76	282.08	291.04	300.36	309.76	323.72	332.92	342.16	348.60	369.92	388.32	415.92
E-6	202.52	220.76	229.92	239.68	248.72	257.68	267.12	280.88	289.72	299.04	303.60	303.60	303.60	303.60	303.60
E-5	177.68	193.40	202.80	211.84	225.56	234.80	244.00	253.08	257.68	257.68	257.68	257.68	257.68	257.68	257.68
E-4	165.72	175.04	185.36	189.84	207.56	207.56	207.56	207.56	207.56	207.56	207.56	207.56	207.56	207.56	207.56
E-3	158.20	164.76	171.28	178.12	178.12	178.12	178.12	178.12	178.12	178.12	178.12	178.12	178.12	178.12	178.12
E-2	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32
E-1 Y4	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08
E-1 A4	124.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

RESERVE PAY FOR 4 DRILLS

EFFECTIVE 1 JULY 2000

YEARS OF SERVICE

PAY GRADE	<2	2	3	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26
COMMISSIONED OFFICERS															
O-10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1420.68	1427.68	1457.36	1509.12
O-9	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1242.60	1260.48	1266.36	1331.52
O-8	879.24	908.04	927.08	932.44	958.24	996.20	1005.44	1043.28	1054.16	1086.68	1133.84	1177.36	1206.40	1206.40	1206.40
O-7	730.60	780.24	780.24	785.92	815.28	837.60	863.44	889.20	915.08	996.20	1064.72	1064.72	1064.72	1064.72	1070.08
O-6	541.48	594.88	633.92	633.92	636.32	663.56	687.20	667.20	689.24	772.16	811.48	850.84	873.20	895.88	939.88
O-5	433.12	508.52	543.72	550.36	572.24	572.24	589.44	621.24	662.92	704.80	724.80	744.48	766.92	766.92	766.92
O-4	365.04	444.52	474.16	480.80	506.32	530.72	567.00	595.20	634.80	634.80	641.16	641.16	641.16	641.16	641.16
O-3	339.20	384.56	415.04	448.64	470.12	493.68	513.36	538.72	551.88	551.88	551.88	551.88	551.88	551.88	551.88
O-2	295.84	336.96	388.12	401.20	409.48	409.48	409.48	409.48	409.48	409.48	409.48	409.48	409.48	409.48	409.48
O-1	256.84	267.32	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08
COMMISSIONED OFFICERS WITH OVER 4 YEARS ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE AS AN ENLISTED MEMBER OR WARRANT OFFICER															
O-3E	0.00	0.00	0.00	448.64	470.12	493.68	513.36	538.72	560.04	572.24	588.92	588.92	588.92	588.92	588.92
O-2E	0.00	0.00	0.00	401.20	409.48	422.48	444.52	461.52	474.16	474.16	474.16	474.16	474.16	474.16	474.16
O-1E	0.00	0.00	0.00	323.08	345.12	357.84	370.84	383.88	401.20	401.20	401.20	401.20	401.20	401.20	401.20
WARRANT OFFICERS															
W-6	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	596.68	617.16	637.72	656.32
W-4	345.60	371.80	382.46	393.00	411.12	428.96	447.04	464.68	482.96	500.48	516.40	535.92	554.08	571.96	590.28
W-3	314.12	340.72	340.72	345.12	359.24	375.32	396.56	409.48	423.60	439.76	455.80	471.88	487.92	504.00	520.12
W-2	275.12	297.68	297.68	307.44	323.08	340.72	353.68	366.64	379.24	393.20	407.52	421.84	438.12	450.44	450.44
W-1	229.20	262.80	262.80	284.76	297.68	311.04	324.44	337.76	351.20	364.64	378.00	388.12	388.12	388.12	388.12
ENLISTED MEMBERS															
E-9	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	402.04	411.12	422.84	436.20	449.76	463.12	481.24	499.20	522.12
E-8	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	337.12	346.88	355.96	366.86	378.68	391.00	403.48	421.48	439.40	464.48
E-7	235.44	257.64	266.80	276.40	286.36	296.12	305.88	315.64	325.24	335.20	345.08	354.72	371.68	390.16	417.92
E-6	202.52	223.76	233.68	243.24	253.24	263.08	272.96	282.48	292.20	299.28	304.44	304.44	304.76	304.76	304.76
E-5	177.68	199.20	208.80	218.72	228.60	238.60	248.20	258.16	258.16	258.16	258.16	258.16	258.16	258.16	258.16
E-4	165.72	183.06	192.86	202.66	212.52	212.52	212.52	212.52	212.52	212.52	212.52	212.52	212.52	212.52	212.52
E-3	158.20	168.06	177.88	178.12	178.12	178.12	178.12	178.12	178.12	178.12	178.12	178.12	178.12	178.12	178.12
E-2	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32
E-1 Y4	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08
E-1 A4	124.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

NOTE--BASIC PAY FOR O7-O10 IS LIMITED TO \$1446.68; LEVEL III OF THE EXECUTIVE SCHEDULE
 NOTE--BASIC PAY FOR O6 AND BELOW IS LIMITED TO \$1272.24; LEVEL V OF THE EXECUTIVE SCHEDULE

New York Launches New Warrant Officer Program

Guard Times Staff

LATHAM—The New York Army National Guard instituted a new management position this year to process and oversee Warrant Officer procurement and career development.

Traditionally, Warrant Officer personnel administration fell under the umbrella of officer management. Only one individual processed warrant officer actions but never had total responsibility for career guidance and oversight.

The new positions selected Chief Warrant Officer Charles Amoroso. For the first time, the overall management of warrant officers is now the responsibility of a warrant officer, working under the guidance of the Military Personnel Office in Latham.

Mr. Amoroso has more than 27 years of technician and Active Guard and Reserve (AGR) experience in logistics, training, and personnel management fields. His assign-



ments include fifteen years as the state Personnel Service Branch Chief. He also served as the first national Personnel Service Branch Committee Chairman. He brings an extraordinary amount of experience to the dedicated role of warrant officer procurement and career management.

"We need to remove the mystery around how soldiers may apply for warrant Officer Candidate School (WOCS)," noted Colonel Paul Duttge, the New York Army National Guard Chief of Staff. "All members of the New York Army National Guard must be aware of what and where these officer vacancies exist to take advantage of

these excellent career opportunities," he said.

"Our first steps taken to achieve our goal was to provide informational products to enhance a commander and soldier's need for information about the warrant officer program," echoed Chief Warrant Officer Amoroso. "Mem-

bers of the Guard need to be aware of the career field opportunities and how to apply."

One of the first products to look for in the field include a warrant officer vacancy listing, produced monthly for distribution down to Battalion level. These vacancies will indicate all Military Occupational Specialties (MOS) career fields available and the location in the state.

For soldiers seeking to apply, the state will distribute a Warrant Officer Procurement Guide that provides an easy overview of the process for commanders and soldiers. A Warrant Officer Candidate Preparatory Course is also under development to provide videotaped extracts from WOCS course materials to and prepare potential candidates.

The goal of the entire Warrant Officer Program is to inform and actively assist all members of the NY Army National Guard pursuing a Warrant Officer career field," said Mr. Amoroso. "With opportunities in aviation, artillery, intelligence, maintenance, supply, and healthcare, there are Warrant Officer skills required in every part of the state."

Chief Warrant Officer Amoroso and the program in Latham can be reached at DSN 489-4936 or (518) 786-4936.

Commentary:

Is a Mission for Army Guard Combat Forces Forthcoming?

By Staff Sgt. Thomas O'Buckley
HQ, 1st Battalion, 101st Cavalry

Army National Guard units throughout the State have had their ranks increase as a result of the tuition waiver bill. They have had numerous activations for deployment for support of active forces and/or community support missions here within the State. In floods, hurricanes, ice storms and blizzards, the National Guard has been there to help our fellow citizens to the best of our abilities.

Community outreach programs such as GuardHELP and ChalleNGe are paying benefits back that are incalculable. Truly, we have a lot to be proud of.

Reorganization continues in support of the active components need for combat support and combat service support units. So far, this has been more of a realignment for those NY

units as they have not changed from their traditional roles. We also have our political and senior military leadership to thank for coming to bat for us when we are threatened with force reductions.

Where are we going is a much more difficult question to ask. The new Chief of Staff of the Army, General Shinseki is hoping to move the Army to a lighter, more mobile force with less logistical load; more teeth and less tail. He also asks if the Army can move to an all wheeled force and reduce the weight of our armored vehicles some 50 to 70 percent. This might be the long range plan for the Army, but the need for heavy follow on forces is, in the foreseeable future, very much evident. This heavy capability can and should be assigned to the Guard. The Guard has been the traditional federal reserve. Furthermore, the heavy forces usually cost a lot more than light. Here again, the Guard is ideal for such a force because our budget

is approximately 10 percent of the Army total budget yet represents 50 percent of the combat power Army-wide. We have consistently shown, we can do more with less for sometime now. Giving the Guard the heavy mission would also provide the time necessary for activation, train-up and deployment that would be required, while the fast sealift ships are concurrently dropping off there first and maybe second loads of sustainment supplies to our first echelon fighters.

What resourcing will be required? I couldn't tell you exactly, as I am not a staff guy, but being on the pointy end of the sword for sometime now, some things are clear. Many initiatives have taken place to finally create The Army, as General Shinseki proclaimed the end of One Army; the green ID card for all, rotation of AC personnel into Guard units and Guard personnel to AC units. However, much more must be done. Let's break it down to basics - shooting, moving and communicating.

Shooting. The National Guard, especially in New York, has demonstrated that we can shoot with the best of them. The entire 3rd Brigade of the 42nd ID instituted the new standards in tank gunnery, while some regular units won't even attempt it.

Moving. We must have a pure fleet Army. Our heavy forces consist mostly of M1s, while the entire Active Component is M1A1. Parts commonality in addition to ammunition commonality would greatly enhance our deployability and interaction with the Active component. Our mechanized infantry are still in the venerable M113, while our Active brothers are preparing for the 3rd generation of the Bradley fighting vehicle.

Communicating. SINCGARs radios are not even in the plans for the 42nd ID for FY00, except for maybe the band. Even our present secure commo gear is not being trained with. Our troops need to be equipped and trained to operate the current SINCGARs radios. We must be equipped and trained to fight on the digital battlefield.

The Guard has been looking for a more defined combat role for the combat arms within our ranks. Here is one staring us in the face. Our leaders must seize the opportunity and get us this mission.

New RTI Commander: 'Train for the Future, Train for Excellence'

By Capt. Albert Golebiowski
HQ's 106th Regional Training Institute

CAMP SMITH — It was a picture perfect setting, a beautiful autumn day with the leaves turning color and another change ready to take place. The changing of command for the New York Regional Training Institute took place on the 31st of October 1999 on the parade field in Cortlandt Manor, New York.

Colonel Pasquale Alesia, the 106th's commander for the last six years, originally took command of the Empire State Military Academy (ESMA). The academy converted in 1996 to the New York Regional Training Institute (NY-RTI). Brig. General Michael VanPatten, the New York Army National Guard Commander attended the autumn ceremony as the reviewing officer. General VanPatten addressed the audi-

ence and instilled to the soldiers of the 106th leadership, integrity, and a dedication to service as future officers and non-commissioned officers. "Future officers and Non-Commissioned officer need to be proactive instead of re-active," he said.

Colonel Frank Ombres, the new commander for NY-RTI emphasized to his soldiers "to look to train for our future, and to train for excellence". He also stressed soldiers to "move into the future by being flexible; our intent is to train all students in developing a professional leadership role in the NY Army National Guard".

The ceremony was attended by various other commanders and soldiers with a reception that later took place at the Dining Facility.

Officers Complete Army War College

Guard Times Staff

CARLYSLE BARRACKS, PA—Three New York Army National Guard officers completed the Army's prestigious War College at Carlisle Barracks, PA last summer. Completion of this training is a prerequisite for future promotion to general. The officers are Colonels Ed Klein and Dave Wilkinson and Lt. Col. Stephen Seiter. They are all traditional (part time) National Guard officers.

Col. Klein, former commander of the 101st Cavalry, is the state guardHELP program coordinator. Col. Wilkinson is Central NY Region guardHELP Program coordinator with previous command and staff assignments with the 42nd Infantry Division and 27th Infantry Brigade. Lt. Col. Seiter is the guardHELP program coordinator for Headquarters 53rd Troop Command and former commander of the 369th Transportation Battalion.



NY Team Places 10th in Sniper Match

Guard Times Staff

CAMP ROBINSON, ARK—A two-soldier sniper team from the New York Army National Guard placed 10th out of 32 teams in recent competition at the National Guard's Marksmanship Training Center at Camp Robinson, Arkansas.

Specialist Charles Crouchman and Private Jamie Harrington, Headquarters Company 1st Battalion 105th Infantry from Schenectady, competed in the grueling week-long National Sniper Match in October, which included National Guard sniper teams from around the country.

The competition was divided into two phases and included day and night events, land navigation, matches with stationary and moving targets at varying distances and "cold bore" engagements. The second phase was a 24-hour field training exercise, in which competitors were flown by helicopter to the starting position in the field. The exercise included stalking, target detection and range estimation and both day and night land navigation. The final event was a grueling 6-mile road march carrying 60-pound ruck sacks, which only seven teams finished. The NY team came in first in this event, out distancing the second place team by a half of a mile.

Soldier Sets Sniper School Record

Guard Times Staff

FORT BENNING, GA—A member of the New York Army National Guard's 105th Infantry Battalion holds the new "Stress Fire Course" record score at Fort Benning, GA.

Specialist Charles Crouchman, Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion 105th Infantry from Schenectady shattered a 12 year record by scoring 13 hits out of 24 shots during competition on the Stress Fire Course while training at the Sniper School in the Army's "Home of Infantry" training center. The previous record was seven hits.

Crouchman went on to win the school's "Top Gun" Award with a total competition score of 570 out of 600 possible. Crouchman has been target shooting for eight years, and for the last five has been a member of the New York National Guard rifle team.

Soldiers Credited in Iceland Rescue

Guard Times Staff

KEFLAVIK, ICELAND—Some members of Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion 105th Infantry from Schenectady are being credited with saving the life of a visiting American tourist last summer in Iceland.

Sergeant 1st Class John Therrien, Staff Sgt. Anthony McClean, Sgt. Ricardo Grimball and Pfc. Edgar Medina were part of the 27th Brigade contingent performing Annual Training in Iceland for Operation Northern Viking last June. With tactical operations completed, troops were given some time off before the return trip to NY. A favorite recreational site near the Keflavik base was a natural hot spring that is frequented by tourists from around the world. The "Blue Lagoon's" waters are heated by Iceland's volcanic activity. Clouds of steam hang over the water, often concealing bathers from one another and the lifeguards on station.

Late last June, the four members of the 105th rushed to the aid of a man in distress in the lagoon's deep end. He was having an epileptic seizure while bathing. The man from Pennsylvania was large, and it took all four to bring him from the deep end of the lagoon, into shallow water and then to shore. The soldiers then administered first aid to clear his airway and restore his breathing. The troops then covered him to protect him from the cold and treated him for shock. The grateful man's family soon arrived to administer his medications. He was quickly revived.

The soldiers learned from lifeguards that drowning accidents are common at the lagoon, happening almost monthly. Victims stay too long in the hot water, are rendered unconscious and then drown. Because of the steam, lifeguards are not always able to see bathers in trouble until it's too late. According to the lifeguards, if the soldiers hadn't acted, the man would have drowned.

USP&FO Retires

Guard Times Staff

LATHAM—The United States Property and Fiscal Officer at state headquarters has retired. Colonel Charles H. Hall, III left the Division of Military and Naval Affairs in December, ending a 26-year military career.

Hall has been serving as the USP&FO in NY since April 1998, as the senior officer responsible for federal property and funds in the possession of the NY National Guard. Col. Russell Catalano has been appointed his acting successor at state headquarters.

Hall graduated from the US Military Academy at West Point in 1973. He finished first in his class at Army Ranger School as its Distinguished Honor Graduate. He completed airborne



Colonel Charles Hall, III

school, field artillery basic and advanced officers' courses, Command and General Staff College and the Army Inspector General Course.

Hall has served as the Army Guard Director of Personnel, Assistant Chief of Staff, Recruiting and Retention Manager, Deputy Inspector General and commanded the 1st Battalion 156th Field Artillery. His military awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, and the NY State Conspicuous Service Medal and Legion of Merit.

Hall was ordained a Deacon in the Roman Catholic Church several years ago, and plans to devote his time to service in his home parish and as a chaplain at the Capital District Psychiatric Center in Albany.

Officer Selected for NGB Tour

By Capt. Richard Goldenberg

Guard Times Staff

LATHAM—Following the recent return of New York Guardsmen serving with National Guard Bureau this fall, another New Yorker has been chosen for service for an Active Guard Reserve (AGR) tour in Washington, D.C.

Colonel Deborah Wheeling, from central New York, will serve in the position of Chief of Clinical Services for the National Guard Bureau (NGB). A 25 year National Guard veteran, she will act as liaison for NGB with the Office of the Surgeon General to determine future medical policy and administer current healthcare administration and readiness.

In addition, Colonel Wheeling will review individual cases by the Army Board for Correction of Military Records for Army National Guard soldiers and determine medical qualifications for members seeking commissions, Officer Candidate, Warrant Officer, and other active component schools.

"Colonel Wheeling's appointment to an AGR tour with National Guard Bureau is another shining example of New Yorkers making good on their profession of service," noted Deputy Adjutant General William Martin. "She brings to Washington D.C. knowledge and experience of New York's achievements in disaster response, community assistance, and deployment readiness. This is a win-win scenario for both NGB and the New York National Guard," he said. Colonel Wheeling was selected for the Title X tour after a nation-wide six month search of qualified officers.

Colonel Wheeling is a certified Oncology Clinical Nurse Specialist. She holds a Masters of Science Degree in Nursing from Duke University.

Her most recent assignment was Deputy State Surgeon General for the New York National Guard and Deputy Commander of the STARC Medical Detachment, Latham New York. She served in those roles as a traditional Guardsman, practicing in the civilian sector as an Oncology Clinical Nurse Specialist and as an Oncology Nursing Educator and Consultant.



Colonel Deborah Wheeling

Communities Deliver for MPs

Local Merchants, Families, and Armories send Support Overseas

By Capt. Richard Goldenberg
Guard Times Staff

ROCHESTER—One of the most difficult times during a unit deployment is the holidays. With the help of the 105 MP's local communities in central and western New York, the unit Family Support Group (FSG) gave the soldiers in Bosnia a slice of life from home.

The 105th Military Police Company deployed to Bosnia this summer in support of the stabilization force, or SFOR, to enforce the Dayton Peace Accord. The soldiers have been working with the Army's 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry).

The 170 members of the company, primarily from the Buffalo and Rochester, New York areas, recently received letters and care packages from the homefront. Robin Pariso, the Family Support Group Coordinator for the members based in central New York, says the support from the community has been astonishing.

Just before the Thanksgiving holiday, the Rochester area media helped support a drive to send care packages to the deployed soldiers. In all, the local community and businesses shipped nine parcels, some weighing as much as 30 pounds to the Guardsmen in Bosnia.

"The company is divided between three camps in Bosnia, so we wanted to make sure that everyone would receive something from home," Mrs. Pariso said.

The school districts in central New York also came forward with their ideas for support. More than fifty

letters and cards from elementary, middle and high school students have been forwarded to Eagle Base or Camp McGovern in Bosnia, where the soldiers devour the letters from home.

"My husband (Sgt. Patrick J. Pariso, Jr.) had duty as the Sergeant of the Guard at Camp Eagle and put out an entire box of letters one evening," Mrs. Pariso describes, "and by morning they were all gone."

"The people of New York have done more than we could imagine for the deployed soldiers"

Local families pitched in to make three oversized holiday cards for the soldiers in Bosnia, as well as put together a videotape of holiday greetings to send overseas. "We didn't have the capability to send direct video links, so we came up with the next best thing, video tapes that they can play over and over," said Robin.

A shining example of the partnership in support of the deployed MP company came from the hometown of Fourth Platoon's Specialist Allen Koronowicz, Jr., where his father, Allen senior, a member of the local American Veterans (AMVETS) post in Buffalo, thought to enlist the aid of a local pizzeria to send a taste of Buffalo, NY to Bosnia-Herzegovina.

"They were clamoring for pizza and wings," Koronowicz said. The Buf-

falo eatery La Nova Pizzeria agreed to donate the food and three in some t-shirts for the deployed soldiers.

"A lot of people from the Guard unit have never been deployed before," he said, "So this is going to be a tough Christmas. That's why I'm trying to do my darndest to try and brighten it."

Local armories sponsored community drives for the families as well. Area residents donated a variety of Thanksgiving foods to help out families experiencing the pinch of traditional guardsman on extended duty. The Rochester armories even hosted a Thanksgiving dinner for family members and saw dozens turn out.

"I've sort of had experience with this while Bob was on Active Duty," said Robin Pariso, "We managed to make it through Somalia in 93, Haiti in 94, Guantanamo Bay in 95 and Bosnia in 96, so this deployment with the Guard is unexpected, coming just eleven months after Patrick joined the unit, but not too overwhelming."

In the coming weeks and months, Mrs. Pariso hopes to initiate an adopt-a-platoon program for the company. It is an effective way to link employers and businesses directly to the Guardsmen.

Private companies and other organizations can sponsor, or 'adopt' the soldiers of the 105th and correspond with them and support them in any creative way they can. This often comes in the form of reading materials, sundries, and letters. The relationship with the unit remains in place for future deployments, annual training, and GuardHELP initiatives.

"The people of New York have done more than we could imagine for the deployed soldiers," Robin remarked. "From local business to schools to organizations like the Red Cross, everyone has come together to stand behind the 105th. The guys over in Bosnia are proud of what their families and friends back home are doing for them."

Outgoing Rainbow Commander Honored



Rainbow Division Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Van Pelt presents the NY State Colors emblazened with the Division Patch to Maj. Gen. Thomas Kinley at his farewell. Photo by Capt. Richard Goldenberg.

About Guard Times

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Articles, photos and letters are welcome. Please provide article submissions on a computer disk with a hard print out and a name and telephone number for a point of contact. We prefer stories saved in Microsoft Word or ASCII text. Submission deadlines are January 15, March 15, May 15, July 15, September 15, and November 15. Send to:

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Guard Times Address Changes

Changed your address recently?

Is the Guard Times still coming to an old address?

If so, it may be time to check with your unit administrator. Chances are, the old address is still listed at the unit.

Computerized shipping labels are produced for Guard Times at state headquarters from the electronic data base. This information is updated through periodic submissions from the field. The unit, SIDPERS, the Personnel Services Branch and military pay all need to have a document supplied by the soldier to change the home address.

Before writing us at the Guard Times about your address change, start with your unit. It takes about two months before the change hits the system, but, guess what! The Guard Times comes out every two months. So if you have verified the unit has the correct information and the Guard Times still came to the old address, be patient. The next issue should come to the new address.

Reminder. It is the soldier's responsibility to submit address changes in a prompt manner.

Complimentary or Back Issues

Complimentary or back issues of the Militia Times or Guard Times are available. Contact us at the address above.