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Bringing it South

AIR NATIONAL GUARD

Army and Air Guard
join Historical Disaster
Relief Efforts



Soldiers wait at the Albany International Airport Sept. 5 to load a Humvee on a 105th Airlift Wing C-5 Galaxy destined for Hurricane Katrina relief operations. The flight was part of the New York National Guard's joint forces disaster relief efforts in Louisiana and Mississippi this fall. Photo by Staff Sgt. Mike R. Smith.

GUARD NOTES

New York Military Kids Website is Up

The Youth Program website, www.proudnymilitarykids.org, is now up and running, Shelly Aiken, Youth Program coordinator, said. "We are still looking for ideas to make this web site better," Aiken said. "The web site is a work in progress and whatever ideas readers have let us know and we will be glad to add them to the site."

The New York National Guard Youth Program is additionally looking to form a youth council. The council would come together to speak on behalf of the youth and the entire National Guard Youth Program. Aiken said their mission is to have teen/peer educators who are here to help and incorporate youth into all National Guard activities. The council will be comprised of 10 members of equal status regardless of military or nonmilitary affiliation. The council is a non-governing board and will conduct business by discussion and consensus.

Contact Shelly Aiken, NYNG Youth Program at 914-788-7405 or email Shelly.m.aiken@ny.ngb.army.mil.

Wellness Support Program Announced

The Department of Defense announced today the recent implementation of a post deployment health reassessment program that reaches out to servicemembers three to six months after returning from deployment.

The new commanders' program complements health assessments currently being conducted for servicemembers before, and immediately upon return, from deployment.

"Our number one priority is the health and wellness of our servicemembers," Dr. William Winkenwerder, Jr., assistant secretary of defense for health affairs, said.

Winkenwerder's department realizes deployments, especially to combat operations, may result in health or adjustment difficulties for some servicemembers. Many of these conditions and concerns take several months to become apparent following a servicemember's return home.

"As part of DoD's comprehensive medical readiness efforts, this new program helps ensure servicemembers are attuned to their health and have access to the health care and community-based services they need to serve strong and live long healthy lives," Winkenwerder said.

The new assessment program will provide additional health education to servicemembers on deployment-related health problems and treatment resources.

"Commanders will use this tool to offer servicemembers and their families any additional support they may need," Ellen P. Embrey, deputy assistant secretary of defense for force health protection and readiness, said.

For more information about post deployment health reassessment visit <https://fhpp.osd.mil/pdhrainfo>.

EANYNG Urges 'zero DWIs' this Holiday

The Enlisted Association of the New York National Guard reminds all Soldiers, Airmen, Militia and New York Guard members to find a ride, don't drink and drive, this Holiday season and throughout the New Year. Look out for friends, family and fellow Guard members. Volunteer to be the designated driver. Remember, don't ever drink and drive or ride with anyone else that has been drinking alcohol. Every injury and death caused by a drunken driver is totally preventable. It's all about your enlisted core values!

Happy Holidays from the EANYNG.

Language Courses Available

The Army recently announced a \$4.2 million dollar contract with a language technologies company to provide foreign-language training, at no cost to active Army National Guard, Reservists and Department of the Army civilian personnel worldwide through Army e-Learning: www.dls.army.mil.

The contracted company will provide the Army 26 state-of-the-art language courses through Army e-Learning, including Arabic, Chinese, Danish, Dutch, French, Farsi, German, Greek, Hebrew, Hindi, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Pashto, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Swahili, Swedish, Thai, Turkish, Vietnamese and Welsh. These web-based training courses teach reading, writing, speaking and listening with immersion and completely without translation.

The Adjutant General retires

New York State, Nation honor General Maguire in retirement ceremony

By Lt. Col. Robert E. Bullock
NYANG Public Affairs Officer

STEWART AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE, Newburgh — More than 1,000 members of the New York military forces, adjutants general from neighboring states, distinguished guests, and family and friends gathered here, Nov. 5, to bid farewell to retired Adjutant General of the State of New York Maj. Gen. Thomas P. Maguire, Jr., as he brought to a close a distinguished military career.

During the ceremony, General Maguire was lauded for his extraordinary achievement during one of the most challenging periods for the state military forces during the past 100 years. Throughout his tenure, New York's forces, both Air and Army, served on the front lines in conflicts in the Balkans and Southwest Asia.

In a citation read during the presentation of the general's Distinguished Service Medal and New York State Conspicuous Service Medal, two of the nation and state's highest decorations, special emphasis was placed on the general's leadership following the attack on New York's World Trade Center. Over the course of the several months immediately following 9/11, it was noted, more than 3,000 New York military forces were deployed in and around New York City to provide critical security, command and control, and other support functions.

The military retirement ceremony was presided over by Chief of the National Guard Bureau Lt. Gen. H Steven Blum and featured the participation of New York State Director of State Operations William Howard, representing Governor George E. Pataki. The Storm King Brass Quintet from the nearby U.S. Military Academy at West Point provided music.

In his remarks, General Maguire thanked his wife Debbie and his family who had been by his side throughout his time in service. He also placed special emphasis on the sacrifices being made in Afghanistan and Iraq by members of the New York Army National Guard. During his tenure as adjutant general, as much as twenty-five percent of the New York Army National Guard's approximately 10,000 members have been deployed at one time.

"Major General Tom Maguire has been



Lt. Gen. Steven Blum, Chief of the National Guard Bureau, left, presents Maj. Gen. Thomas P. Maguire, Jr., an award during his retirement ceremony. Photo by Michael O'Halloran, 105AW Multi Media.

a vital member of our team and one of the most capable leaders New York's military forces have ever had," Governor Pataki said. "Throughout his distinguished military career, General Maguire has served his State and nation with great honor and dedication. He skillfully led New York State's organized militia following the devastating attacks on September 11th and has worked tirelessly to help save New York's military installations from the base closing recommendations contained in the 2005 Base Closure and Realignment Commission report."

"It is both an honor and a privilege to recognize Maj. Gen. Maguire today," Lt. Gen. Blum said. "During his tenure as Adjutant General, the New York National Guard has excelled in their service to both state and nation. Whether it was responding on 9/11, deploying highly trained troops to Iraq and Afghanistan, or myriad support to civil authorities, the New York National Guard has been 'always ready, always there'. And Tom Maguire led these Citizen Soldiers and Airmen with courage and selfless service."

"As Adjutant General, he provided strategic and visionary leadership for the largest and most sustained period of National Guard activations in decades for operations within New York State, the United States, and overseas," Governor Pataki said. "On behalf of all New Yorkers, I thank him for his exemplary leadership and unyielding commitment to the residents of our State."

General Maguire served as the Adjutant General for the State of New York from Aug. 9, 2001 to Oct. 31, 2005. □

New Commander for Air Guard Headquarters

Maj. Gen. Robert A. Knauff Leads the New York Air National Guard

By Kent Kisselbrack
Public Affairs Director

JOINT FORCES HEADQUARTERS, Latham — On behalf of Governor George E. Pataki, Army Brig. Gen. F David Sheppard, Acting Adjutant General of the State of New York, announced that Maj. Gen. Robert A. Knauff assumed command of the New York Air National Guard, Nov. 1.

Major General Knauff's appointment follows the recent retirement of Maj. Gen. Thomas P. Maguire, Jr., who held the position for five years and officially ended 36 years of military service on October 31.

Knauff was additionally promoted to the rank of Major General before a gathering of Airmen, Soldiers, family and friends in a November ceremony here. Prior to this assignment, Knauff served as the Chief of

Staff and the Vice Commander of the NYANG.

"Major General Knauff has brought a wealth of experience and knowhow to New York State's Air National Guard," Brig. Gen. Sheppard said. "We are confident that his selection to this important assignment will continue to benefit the Air Force, the New York National Guard and the people of New York."

As commander of the NYANG, Maj. Gen. Knauff directs the activities of the Headquarters New York Air National Guard and is the primary advisor to the Adjutant General on all Air Guard matters.

"New York State has been my home for nearly 10 years and I couldn't be more proud of the men and women in the New York National Guard," Knauff said. "From deployments in support of the Global War on Terror to helping provide needed humanitarian assistance when natural disasters strike around our nation and the globe, New York's National Guard stands ready and able to meet every challenge head-on."



Recently retired Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Thomas P. Maguire, Jr., left, congratulates Maj. Gen. Robert P. Knauff on his promotion to Major General and appointment as Commander, New York Air National Guard. Photo by Staff Sgt. Mike R. Smith.

Major General Knauff, a command pilot, is combat qualified in the F-16 Fighting Falcon, F-15 Eagle, F-106 Delta Dart, and the OV-10 Bronco with more than 3,900 flying hours. His military career began in 1975 when he graduated from the United States Air Force Academy with a Bachelor of Science degree in Aeronautical Engineering. Throughout his more than 30 years as an officer in the Air

Force, Maj. Gen. Knauff has served as an aircraft commander, an instructor pilot, a forward air controller and a staff officer. Prior to becoming the NYANG Chief of Staff in 2003, he served as the wing commander of the 174th Fighter Wing, Syracuse, from March 1996 - May 2003.

Born and raised in Pasadena, Calif., Maj. Gen. Knauff now resides in Manlius with his wife Kathy. □

Enlisted Association of the National Guard recruits Guard members for tomorrow

By Jeannine M. Mannarino
Enlisted Association

LATHAM — The Enlisted Association of the New York National Guard will be kicking off a major recruiting drive January 2006. January 1 through March 31 any enlisted association member E-7 and below, will have an opportunity to win a trip to the 35th Annual Enlisted Associations National Conference August 20-23 in Salt Lake City, Utah.

The Grand Prize winner will be recognized at the National Conference for their outstanding contribution to the New York Enlisted Association before their enlisted peers. The second runner up will receive an Apple Ipod Nano 2GB, and the third prize will be a Thumb Drive and Enlisted Association T-shirt.

The Association is challenging all Guard members to compete for this prestigious grand prize not only because, the winner will have a great time at the National Conference the campaign will ultimately benefit all our Soldiers and Airmen. The Enlisted Association works for Guard members, their families and the retired members for greater benefits, readiness issues and changes for a better stronger Guard. All competitors will be able to track their progress by going to www.eanyng.org which is the Association's



newly revised and updated website. The ground rules and applications for the competition will be posted on the website as well. If you need assistance Tech. Sgt. Ann Miller, (518) 786-4850 membership committee chairwoman will be happy to help you in the application process.

Since 9/11 New York's members of the Enlisted Association have depleted due to inconsistencies and multiple 18-month deployments among our forces. The leaders of the executive board were among the forces that were called out. Although the Association's membership is growing steadily, since June, membership has increased by 68 new members, the Executive board is at 100 percent, and Committee chairs and Zone representatives have increased by 30 percent. Power is in the numbers when it comes to lobbying in Washington, DC and at our local officials level. Last April, the Enlisted Association of the New York National Guard had 589 members that were current. The availability of New York's enlisted members is greater than 14,000 not including National Guard retirees.

This past month the Enlisted Associations Web Site

Committee redesigned the website and will continuously update the web site for legislative news alerts and current efforts of the Association. All members of the National Guard can access the web site. The Web Site Committee is working on a member's only link, which will have chat rooms, where members will be able to log on and ask questions that a representative from the Association will respond to.

The board is ready, willing, and prepared to make our move to increase membership by asking all enlisted members to step up to make the Enlisted Association of the New York National Guard one of the strongest in the Nation.

The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States was formally organized in 1972 with the goal of increasing the voice of enlisted personnel in the National Guard. Beginning with twenty-three states, EANGUS now represents all 54 states and territories, totaling more than 70,000 members. Headquartered in Alexandria, Va., just outside Washington, EANGUS maintains a full-time staff to represent our interests in the Pentagon and on Capital Hill. EANGUS is a nonprofit association.

EANGUS speaks with your U.S. Representatives in the House and Senate on a daily basis. Our agenda focuses on you — members of the Army and Air National Guard. However, we can't do it all alone. EANGUS needs you to contact your respective Congressmen and Senators to voice your opinions and concerns on issues that affect your National Guard careers and benefits. This legislative section of our website www.eangus.org offers you an insight into topics that we are currently pursuing, and it alerts you to actions you can take to help us while we help you in these efforts. □

FIGHTING 69TH

From Ground Zero to the Sunni Triangle and Home

Task Force Wolfhound returns from Operation Iraqi Freedom

By Lt. Col. Paul Fanning
Guard Times Staff

LEXINGTON AVENUE ARMORY, Manhattan— After nearly 18 months of federal active duty, including an intense full year in a combat zone, New York's famed "Fighting 69th Infantry" has come home.



Sgt. Efrain M. Diaz displays the 1st Battalion 69th Infantry Headquarters' guidon outside the Lexington Avenue Armory Sept. 12 upon his return from Iraq.

Hundreds of Soldiers returned to home armories and communities across the state during September, thus ending an odyssey of duty that began on 9/11 in the wake of the worst attack on America in history.

Battalion Commander Lt. Col. Geoff Slack ordered that his Soldiers fully complete out-processing from active duty at Ft. Dix, N.J., and be released to their families as soon as possible. There would be no formal ceremonies to add delays. They were to be released as soon as they were ready. So they went home aboard charter busses or were picked up by anxious families who drove down to recover their Soldier in person.

Federally activated for Operation Iraqi Freedom III on May 17, 2004, the 1st

Battalion 69th Infantry had not been deployed to combat since World War II and is the second New York National Guard infantry organization ordered to federal active duty for overseas service.

At the time of its call up, the Fighting 69th was assigned to the N.Y.-based Third Brigade of the 42nd Infantry Division (Mechanized) and was organized as a mechanized infantry unit. Following its activation and arrival at Ft. Hood, Texas, the battalion underwent reorganization, training and conversion in order to deploy as a reinforced motorized infantry battalion with the Louisiana National Guard's 256th Separate Infantry Brigade. Eventually, Soldiers from 17 different armories — more than 700 hundred Soldiers total (including two units of the 101st Cavalry Regiment) from across the state and nearly 60 troops from up to 14 other states were organized into what was dubbed "Task Force Wolfhound" for deployment in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Ground Zero Duty

On 9/11, New York's Fighting 69th was among the original units to respond to the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center. Unit members began streaming to the armory as the towers burned. Many members, who were also New York City police, fire and emergency personnel, were already responding to the attacks. 1st Lt. Gerard Baptiste, a fireman assigned to Ladder 9 became the Fighting 69th's first casualty in the opening moment of the Global War on Terror when Tower 1 came down as he and other firemen were attempting to evacuate employees from the building.

The 69th moved to what became known as Ground Zero and immediately joined the throngs of police, fire and other rescue personnel in attempting to remove debris by hand and search for possible survivors.

The next day, on order, the 69th and other units of the New York Army National Guard established a security perimeter around the entire World Trade Center site and then cleared the pile of all personnel. The Chief of New York City's fire department had ordered that the pile be cleared so that specialized search and rescue teams could enter the area and in the interest of safety, gain



Spc. Steven J. Byerwalters is greeted by his family at Joint Forces Headquarters, Latham Sept. 14 upon his return from Iraq with the 69th Infantry. Photos by Staff Sgt. Mike R. Smith.

control of the site. Members of the 69th continued to perform security and recovery support for two weeks on State Active Duty.

In the wake of the towers' collapse, New York City officials designated the armory at Lexington Avenue and 25th Street as a reception center for the families of the missing for the first two weeks following the attacks. Families decorated the armory with photos, posters, letters, and mementos of the missing. Grieving family members searching for missing relatives regularly approached Fighting 69th Soldiers on security detail for assistance.

Operation Noble Eagle Duty — Homeland Defense

At the conclusion of two weeks of State Active Duty in New York City, the Fighting 69th was called to Federal Active Duty to provide security at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. The 69th was assigned perimeter security at West Point and provided 24-hour coverage for the entire campus for six months. At the conclusion of this assignment, responsibility for the mission was transferred to the 1st Battalion 258th Field Artillery, but many members of the 69th volunteered to extend their service for an additional six month tour.



The Fighting 69th's Lexington Avenue Armory was the closest armory to Ground Zero, and its Soldiers were among those in the famous "bucket brigade" clearing rubble on 9/11. Photo by Sgt. Peter Touse.



The Fighting 69th was based at Camp Liberty near Baghdad in one of the most dangerous areas inside the Sunni Triangle.



Fighting 69th Soldiers patrol an Iraq neighborhood during Operation Iraqi Freedom III. Photo by Spc. Jason Garcia.

The leadership of the 69th took command of a task force of New York Army National Guard personnel providing ongoing security support to New York City civil authorities by providing troops at bus and train stations and New York City crossing points into Manhattan. Following many months of service, responsibility for this mission was transferred to the New York National Guard's 27th Separate Infantry Brigade.

Activation for Operation Iraqi Freedom

On order, the Fighting 69th was mobilized and organized with additional units in May 2004 and immediately began pre-mobilization training at Ft. Hood, Texas.

Headquarters and Headquarters



A 69th Infantry Soldier uses a metal detector to check an Iraqi for weapons.

Company – Lexington Avenue Armory, Manhattan

Company A – Lexington Avenue Armory, Manhattan

Company B – Bayshore Armory, Long Island

Company D, 1st Battalion 101st Cavalry, Newburgh

Troop E, 101st Cavalry, Geneva

The combined task force strength was approximately 700 troops and included Soldiers from across the state – Long Island, New York City, the Hudson Valley, the Capital District, from Buffalo and Jamestown.

Service in Iraq

The Fighting 69th deployed to Iraq in October 2004 with the 256th Infantry Brigade and together they initially came under the command of the U.S. Army's 1st Cavalry Division. The Headquarters of the 3rd Infantry Division later replaced the 1st Cavalry Division headquarters in command of Task Force Baghdad. The Fighting 69th was based at Camp Liberty near Baghdad in one of the most dangerous areas inside the Sunni Triangle. Fighting 69th Soldiers performed a variety of missions together with attached elements of the Louisiana National Guard's 256th Brigade. These included area security, patrols, raids and offensive operations. In addition, Task Force Wolfhound troops captured numerous weapons caches, helped train new Iraqi National Guard members, provided medical, logistical and civil support to Iraqi villages, schools, mosques and families, and worked closely with Iraqi police and military officials as they were being prepared to take on increased responsibilities for the defense and security of their homeland.

Losses

Eleven members of the battalion plus eight Louisiana National Guard Soldiers gave the ultimate sacrifice to the nation while serving together in Task Force Wolfhound. Numerous members of the battalion have been awarded the Purple Heart Medal for combat wounds.

Following are those members of the Fighting 69th who were lost:

Nov. 29, 2004

Sgt. Christian P. Engeldrum – Bronx

1st Battalion, 69th Infantry Regiment

Spc. Wilfredo F. Urbina – Baldwin

1st Battalion, 69th Infantry Regiment

Dec. 1, 2004

SGT David M. Fisher – Green Island

1st Battalion, 101st Cavalry Regiment

Dec. 3, 2004

Staff Sgt. Henry E. Irizarry – Bronx

1st Battalion, 69th Infantry Regiment

Jan. 6, 2005

Sgt. Kenneth G. VonRonn –

Bloomington

1st Battalion, 69th Infantry Regiment

Jan. 16, 2005

Spc. Alain Kamolvathin – South Ozone Park

1st Battalion, 69th Infantry Regiment

Jan. 17, 2005

Pfc. Francis C. Obaji – Queens Village

1st Battalion, 69th Infantry Regiment

March 2, 2005

Spc. Azhar Ali – Flushing

1st Battalion, 69th Infantry Regiment

Spc. Wai P. Lwin – Queens

1st Battalion, 69th Infantry Regiment

Aug. 8, 2005

Spc. Anthony N. Kalladeen –

Purchase

1st Battalion, 69th Infantry Regiment

Pfc. Hernando Rios – Queens

1st Battalion, 69th Infantry Regiment □



1st Battalion 69th Infantry Soldiers have returned home after nearly 18 months of federal active duty, including a full year in a combat zone. Photo by Spc. Jason Garcia.

Air Ambulance Company holds Freedom Salute

Lt. Col. Paul Fanning
Guard Times Staff

ARMY AVIATION FLIGHT FACILITY #2, Rochester – Nearly 90 members of the 249th Air Ambulance Company, NYARNG were honored in mid October during a Freedom Salute Ceremony at the unit's home base facility in Rochester.

Family members and local and state officials turned out to recognize the Soldiers' nearly 18 months federal service for Operation Noble Eagle.

The 249th operates UH-1V Iroquois (Huey) helicopters designed to conduct air

medical evacuations. The unit was formed in September 2002 following the inactivation of New York's attack helicopter battalion and is comprised mostly of Western N.Y.-based aviators and support staff. The unit was called up in November 2003 to provide emergency medical evacuation support at U.S. bases where active duty, National Guard and Army Reserve units were conducting training prior to forward deployment. During their tour of duty, which ended in May 2005, the Soldiers flew more than 4,100 flight hours through more than 2,700 sorties and executed 175 life saving rescues.



A Soldier with the 249th Air Ambulance reviews his awards with a family member.

In addition, more than 30 members of the unit were called for duty as part of Hurricane Katrina relief efforts in September and deployed to Mississippi for nearly two weeks.

The commanding general of the New York Army National Guard, Brig. Gen. Mike Swezey praised unit members for their warrior ethos and for exemplifying

the modern "Citizen Soldier".

"We are here to say thank you," Swezey said, noting that many of the 249th's pilots are also civilian medical evacuation pilots and fly missions for local hospitals when not serving with the Guard. "You have a very dangerous mission," the general added.

Also honored during the ceremony were members of the unit's family readiness group for the support rendered to the troops and military families.

The Freedom Salute campaign is one of the largest Army National Guard recognition programs ever established by the National Guard Bureau. The program recognizes Soldiers who were ordered to federal active duty for Operations Noble Eagle (homeland defense) Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan) and Iraqi Freedom. During the ceremony Soldiers received an encased American Flag, commemorative coins, a certificate of appreciation and other items. The program includes lapel insignia for the Soldier to present to his or her loved one for their support and there is a special footlocker kit and board game for young children of deployed unit members. □



Soldiers hold their Freedom Salute awards, which include an encased American Flag, a lapel insignia, a commemorative coin and a certificate of appreciation. Photos by Lt. Col. Paul Fanning.

Soldier tragically Killed in motor vehicle accident

By Maj. Kathy Sweeney
Guard Times Staff

LATHAM — Staff Sgt. Stanley B. Dake, Jr., 26, was killed Sept. 3 as a result of injuries sustained in a motor vehicle collision while on his way to report for duty, here, in support of the New York Army National Guard's Hurricane Katrina relief efforts.

The accident occurred on Middle Line Road in the town of Milton when another car veered into his lane.

Dake was assigned to Charlie-company of the 142nd Combat Support Aviation Battalion, Flight Facility #3. His fellow NYARNG Soldiers responding to Hurricane Katrina renamed their task force "Task Force Dake" in his memory.

Dake was specifically assigned to maintain the Fire Hawk helicopter, which is a modified UH-60 Black Hawk with firefighting capabilities. Dake had to undergo special training to be part of this elite helicopter team. There are only four Fire Hawks in the United States.

For the relief mission, Dake was tasked with configuring the Fire Hawk back to a UH-60 Black Hawk, which requires extensive mechanical adjustments. His duties encompassed evaluating and remedying helicopter

maintenance issues while preparing for their relief mission.

Starting his military career before graduating from Saratoga Springs High School in 1998, Dake joined the New York Army National Guard in March of 1997. After basic training and Army technical school, he developed into an experienced UH-60 Black Hawk mechanic while assigned to the Flight Facility's Echo-company. He was promoted to Sergeant in 2002. During that year Dake deployed to Eagle Base, Bosnia where he spent seven months as a helicopter mechanic for Task Force Talon. He was one of three mechanics assigned to the Aviation Unit Maintenance Company there. His maintenance team kept Task Force Talon's eight UH-60 Black Hawks flying more than 2,700 hours during their mission.

Dake was then assigned as a facility Maintenance Section Sergeant. During his tenure, he was responsible for sustaining a high readiness rate on facility helicopters. Dake finally earned Technical Inspector in the facility's Quality Control Section.

"Sergeant Dake could always be counted on to give 110 percent for any mission without ever being asked," 1st Sgt. Chris Imbarrato said. "He took time to mentor and help new mechanics." Imbarrato went on to say that Dake's selflessness included his family. He worked nights at a local retail chain to ensure his younger brother, presently in college, had funds for tuition, books and groceries.

"The tragic loss of this exceptional Soldier and compassionate man has left an immense void that will never be filled," Imbarrato said.

Dake was buried at Saratoga National Cemetery with full military honors. His medals include the Army Service



Staff Sgt. Stanley B. Dake, Jr. File photo.

Ribbon, Army Achievement Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Aircrew Member Badge, NATO Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal and the New York Long and Faithful Service Medal.

Dake is survived by his parents Stanley and Catherine, by his stepmother, Brenda, by his brother, Robert and by his two sisters Charlene and Lana. □

138th MPAD Marches on with historic first Deployments

By Guard Times Staff

FORT DIX, NJ—More than 5,000 members of the New York Army National Guard have been called to federal active duty for Operation Iraqi Freedom since February 2003. Many of these Soldiers have also experienced State Active Duty at Ground Zero following the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center on 9/11. Among the latest units called up is the Latham-based 138th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment—a specialized unit with the mission of documenting and reporting military operations in the combat zone and facilitating civilian media coverage.

The 138th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment left its Latham home Sept. 12 for Fort Dix, N.J. with 15 members for an intense period of post-mobilization training before being deployed over seas. The 138th is earmarked to augment the Army's 101st Airborne Division in Iraq as part of Task Force "Band of Brothers." The Headquarters of the 101st took over command in Tikrit, Iraq from New York's Headquarters 42nd Infantry Division Nov. 1.

"Members of the 138th deployed to New York city on 9/11 and shot photos and video footage of New York's Fighting 69th Infantry and other units at Ground Zero that has since been used by various network and local news organizations and have even found their way into History Channel

documentaries," Sgt. 1st Class Steven Petibone, 138th broadcast section supervisor, said.

Within a few days after arriving at Fort Dix, the 138th was assigned two additional broadcast journalists from the Ohio and Washington National Guard to help bring the unit to its "battle" posture. A week later, the 138th moved into the field to Fort Dix's Forward Operating Base Tiger, which is designed to simulate the surroundings the detachment's Soldiers will operate in once they arrive in Iraq.

The 138th underwent three weeks of structured tactical field training, including weapons qualification. This included familiarizing with the M-249 Squad Automatic Weapon, or "SAW", which is not a weapon indigenous to an Army public affairs unit.

"Qualifying on the SAW was quite the experience," Pfc. Christopher Campbell, photojournalist, said. "It has a high rate of fire."

Other mandatory training included convoy operations, military operations in urban terrain and reacting to improvised explosive devices.

After completing their field training, the detachment produced a training video for Fort Dix, which will guide other units undergoing similar combat training in the future.

"We were thrilled to get a chance to make



Spc. Timothy Tamburello, a photojournalist with the 138th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, Latham, conducts an on-camera interview at Fort Dix with Air Force Tech. Sgt. Adam Stump, a public affairs and journalism instructor with the Defense Information School, Fort Meade, Md. Photo by the 138th MPAD.

that production," Petibone said. "We recently received all new digital-video camera gear for the deployment, and this production gave us a chance to train on and test the new gear."

Sergeant First Class David Benamati said that the detachment's photojournalists also gained from the experience in that they generated still digital images that were additionally used in the video.

The detachment's last stage of training was mission specific: A mobile training team from the Defense Information School, Fort

Meade, Md. held refresher training here on journalism, public affairs and layout and design for field newspapers and establishing and maintaining a web site.

"Getting back to and stressing the basics was the most valuable part for me," Sgt. Dennis Gravelle, photojournalist, said. "Once we complete DINFOS' Journalist Course and returned to part-time training with our unit, over time ... it's easy to lose the edge we developed. This training taught us how to get that back." □

Rainbow message to President: 'Good to Go'

By Maj. Richard Goldenburg
42nd Infantry Division Public Affairs

TIKRIT, Iraq — Soldiers from Task Force Liberty spoke with President George W. Bush Oct. 13 to express their confidence in the preparations for the referendum vote in North Central Iraq.

The Soldiers, from across all the division's headquarters and brigade combat teams, provided the President with their perspectives on the progress of Iraqi Security Forces and security efforts to safeguard the referendum vote on October 15th.

"I want to thank the members of the 42nd Infantry Division and Task Force Liberty for serving our country with such distinction and honor," the President told the Soldiers in Tikrit. "I want you to know that the mission you are on is vital to achieving peace and to protecting America."

All but two Soldiers represented members of Task Force Liberty's Military Transition Teams, those forward elements of the division partnered with Iraqi army battalions and brigades in North Central Iraq.

Representing the 42nd Infantry Division was Capt. Brent Kennedy, the moderator for the teleconference based on his experience as an operations officer for the division staff, and Master Sgt. Corine Lombardo, Scotia, the division public affairs operations chief.

Capt. David Williams and Sgt. David Smith-Barry represented the Soldiers of



Sgt. Teresa Coble, center, operates a video camera during a live teleconference between Task Force Liberty Soldiers and the President of the United States, via satellite link, about upcoming Iraqi elections. The video feed was broadcast on the Pentagon Channel. Photo by Staff Sgt. Matthew Acosta.

the 1st Brigade Combat Team. Joining them in a partnership with the Iraqi army's 4th Division were Capt. Stephen Pratt and Sgt. Dustin Giesbrecht of the 116th Brigade Combat Team.

Capt. David Smith and Sgt. 1st Class Jerry Munoz from the 3rd Brigade Combat Team and 1st Lt. Gregg Murphy and Sgt. Ronald Long of the 278th Regimental Combat Team represented the partners of the Iraqi army's 5th Division.

In addition, Sgt. Maj. Akheel Shaker Nassir, an operations senior trainer from the 5th Iraqi Division joined the group to speak with the President.

The Soldiers gathered one day prior

from across Diyala, Salah Ad Din and Kirkuk Provinces to setup a video teleconference from the division main command post on Forward Operating Base Danger in Tikrit.

"I would have packed better," said Sgt. 1st Class Jerry Munoz of the 3rd Brigade Combat Team. "I had something like ten minutes to pack a combat pack and jump on a helo."

The Soldiers knew the topic of referendum preparations and Iraqi army progress would be foremost on the President's agenda and each was asked to provide their own personal assessment based on their own experiences over

some 10-11 months of service in North Central Iraq.

"This was such a great opportunity," said 1st Lt. Gregg Murphy from the 278th Regimental Combat Team following the President's remarks. "I didn't know the full reason for coming together until I arrived in Tikrit. But when I found out we'd be speaking to the President, I wanted to be sure he heard a real assessment from what I've seen firsthand."

The Soldiers returned to their units Oct. 14 in time to support the referendum vote the following day alongside their Iraqi army partners. □

Rainbow readies for troops' return, unveils new road sign

By 2nd Lt. Amy Fires
Guard Times Staff

TROY—Pulling the cover off two shining new road signs here, New York Army National Guard Soldiers and the Rensselaer County Legislature renamed Glenmore Road, where the 42nd Infantry Division's Headquarters and Headquarters Company Armory is located, as "Rainbow Way" at an Oct. 14 dedication ceremony.

Attendees gathered around a covered street sign and unveiled the street's new name to a round applause.

The road will maintain its official "Glenmore Road" name, but the new road signs will remain,

and those at the ceremony took an opportunity to honor and anticipate the long-awaited return of the division's Soldiers serving in Iraq by inviting guest speakers from various dignitaries and the division's rear detachment.

Many family readiness group supporters have held fund-raisers, meetings and welcome home events anticipating the Soldiers' and families' reunions. The FRG for the 4th Personnel Services Detachment, Latham, whose Soldiers are attached to the division's 29th PSD in Buffalo, raised funds for families traveling to homecomings, which will cover their hotel and bus costs. Many FRG members said they were scrambling to make homecoming

preparations sooner than anticipated.

[Our challenge became] "getting the division's families to attend our reunion briefings," Ellen Burke, an FRG Coordinator attending the unveiling, said. "And several families are planning to have welcome home parties for their Soldiers."

Burke said she plans to give her son "the biggest hug ever imagined." "I'll leave him be for a few days, but then [he's] mine," Burke said.

"We're going to thank God and our guardian angels for watching over us and bringing him home safely. We will have a lot to be thankful for this Thanksgiving," Burke said. □



Brig. Gen. Michael Swezey, Commander of the New York Army National Guard, unveils a road sign with 42nd ID supporters. Photo by Staff Sgt. Mike R. Smith.

Maintenance Soldiers keep wheels rolling in OIF

By Spc. Spencer Case
207th MPAD

TALLIL, Iraq – For the Soldiers of the New York Army National Guard’s 145th Maintenance Company, success in Iraq has required both perspiration and inspiration.

Since January, the Bronx-based unit of about 200 Soldiers has played an integral part of coalition efforts at six key installations throughout southern Iraq.

Their tasks include routine and emergency vehicle maintenance, armoring vehicles for U.S., Iraqi and other coalition troops and teaching vehicle familiarization classes to non-U.S. troops.

“Anytime a vehicle is down, it affects the mission,” Capt. Robert Zizolfo, the commander of the 145th, said. “Operating in a field environment is quite a challenge, but my Soldiers, they’re very resourceful, they’re very creative.”

In order to adapt to the new challenges, 145th Soldiers have to make the best use of what’s available. One way to do this is practicing controlled exchange, said Staff Sgt. Paul Bieron, the NCOIC of the maintenance team at Camp Echo. If three vehicles are not mission capable, the mechanics are often able to salvage two of the vehicles by using parts from a third, so the unit has two of three vehicles until parts to fix the third arrive.

The 145th maintenance team in Camp Charlie, a Polish-controlled installation near the Iraqi city of Al Hillah, found a way to get the equipment they needed quicker and save tax dollars as a bonus. Often when mechanics replaced tires, the rim assembly is still in good shape. Instead of ordering whole assemblies, as most units do, the 145th Soldiers ordered the tires alone and used a little elbow grease to put the tires on existing rims.

Since the entire assembly costs \$850 and the tire alone costs only \$300, each individually ordered tire saves the Army about \$550. Over the course of the deployment, the savings add up to hundreds of thousands of dollars, Zizolfo said.

The hard work of the 145th has paid off directly in saving the lives of Iraqi soldiers of the 2nd Motorized Transportation Regiment. To date, the 145th provided armor for at least 70 percent of the 2nd MTR’s fleet, while a local Iraqi contractor provided the remainder of the armor, wrote Maj. David Motes, a U.S. advisor to the 2nd MTR in an email.

“As a force protection measure, armoring the 2nd MTR’s vehicles has already saved the lives of Soldiers on four different occasions when the MTR’s vehicles were ambushed by enemy forces [both IED and small arms fire],” Motes said. He added, “providing armored protection for the Iraqi soldiers is a key element in building up their confidence. In addition, this helps pave the way for securing the departure of U.S. forces from Iraq.”

The 145th’s performance is further exemplified by the success of their team at Camp Charlie, where a team of less than 10 individuals provides support to coalition troops from nine countries. More than half of their



Spc. Jason Slate, mechanic, 145th Maintenance Co., greases the wheels of a humvee at Camp Charlie. Photo by Spc. Spencer Case.

Coalition vehicles were deadlined, not mission capable, when the team arrived in June. Since then, the team gave classes on emergency recovery, preventative maintenance and driver’s training for humvees.

Sgt. Josue Carrasquillo, the Camp Charlie maintenance support team leader, said the classes have had a noticeable impact on the way other Coalition members treat their vehicles.

“They put more care into their equipment,” Carrasquillo said.

Combat Support Center Scania, a small installation that most often serves as a stop for combat logistics patrols moving from Kuwait to Baghdad, is another post that demands hard work. It’s not uncommon for the maintenance team to be working at 4:00 a.m.

“Every major convoy that comes through here, we take care of,” said Spc. Eddie Figueron, a mechanic for the 145th.

As usual, the 145th troops at Scania have been on top of their game. In July, a combat logistics patrol came in with six gun trucks that could not get up to speed and going about 35 miles an hour. The vehicles rolled in at 9:30 a.m. The mechanics discovered there was something wrong with the transmission wiring and had the vehicles

“We’ve been able to save a lot of money in repair parts, but also time, which ... in a combat zone ... is more important than money.”

—**Capt. Robert Zizolfo**
Commander, 145th Maintenance Company

ready to go again by midnight.

“They were excellent,” said Sgt. 1st Class Angel Huertas, an advisor to the Iraqi 2nd Motorized Transportation Company, who brings vehicles to the 145th in Scania when they require maintenance. “Every time we have a vehicle that breaks down, we bring it here.” Zizolfo credits the success of the unit to the skill of his Soldiers.

“One of the competencies of a National Guard unit is that some of our Soldiers have been mechanics for 10 or 15 years,” Zizolfo said. “We’ve been able to save a lot of money in repair parts, but also time, which ... in a combat zone ... is more important than money.” □

Labor Department Launches Veterans' Employment Program

Courtesy of the American Forces Press Service
Department of Labor news release

WASHINGTON—About 300,000 wallet-sized cards and key fobs with critical employment and job-training information will be distributed to military personnel and veterans over the next six months, the U. S. Department of Labor announced Nov. 10 at its annual pre-Veterans Day salute.

The department also unveiled the Recovery and Employment Assistance Lifelines Advisor. This new online tool provides valuable information and resources to help returning wounded and injured veterans successfully transition into civilian employment, Labor Department officials said.

"The 'Key To Career Success' cards and REALifelines online advisor are part of our outreach

efforts to help veterans and returning soldiers access good job opportunities and develop new career pathways," Labor Secretary Elaine L. Chao said. "We want to do everything we can to welcome them home and facilitate their reintegration into civilian life."

The Key to Career Success card will be attached to a brochure for demobilizing and transitioning servicemembers as they go through the joint DOL, Department of Veterans Affairs, and Department of Defense Transition Assistance Program. For veterans who have already made the transition, additional information and professional staff guidance will be available at the nearly 3,500 One-Stop Career Centers nationwide.

The card will help veterans access local One-Stop Career Center services connecting them to employers seeking men and women

with the unique skill sets and experience characterized by military service. It will also highlight veterans' special status so that, upon arrival at One-Stop Career Centers, they will receive priority service as required under the Jobs for Veterans Act.

The back of the Key to Career Success card and key fob features a toll-free phone number, (877) US2-JOBS (TTY: 877-889-5627), and Web link, www.servicelocator.org, to help veterans speak with a service representative or locate the nearest One-Stop Career Center and download a map and driving directions.

A key feature of the REALifelines Advisor is that it offers one-on-one assistance through the department's state directors for DOL's Veterans' Employment and Training Service. These directors help the veteran find meaningful employment through the One-Stop Career Centers.

The REALifelines Advisor is one of a series of online tools called "elaws" providing information about major federal employment laws and issues. □

Operation Iraqi Freedom rotations announced

By Donna Miles
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld announced Nov. 7 the next major units to deploy to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He emphasized that rotation planning remains flexible and will be based on conditions on the ground, not political pressures or artificial timetables.

The announcement affects about 92,000 servicemembers — more than 65,000 from the active component and 26,000 from the Guard and Reserve — who will begin their scheduled rotation in mid-2006, according to Army Lt. Col. Barry Venable, a Defense Department spokesman.

Major units to deploy include: Division Headquarters and 3rd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii; 13th Corps Support Command, Fort Hood, Texas; 1st Brigade, 34th

Infantry Division, Minnesota Army National Guard; 2nd Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, Schweinfurt, Germany; 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, Fort Lewis, Wash.; 3rd Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, N. C.; and 2nd Brigade, 10th Mountain Division, Fort Drum.

Individual services will announce smaller, supporting units to deploy for the upcoming rotation, officials announced.

In other deployment news, the 1st Infantry Division's 1st Brigade, based at Fort Riley, Kan., will not deploy before Dec. 31, officials said. Brigade soldiers had planned to deploy in early December.

Force rotations ensure that the combatant commander has the forces needed to support Operation Iraqi Freedom while DoD continues to meet its worldwide commitments, Venable said. At the same time, rotation planning helps ensure a degree of predictability for troops, their families, their

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Joint Forces' 'Brainstorm' earns DoD award

By Maj. Nahaku McFadden
National Guard Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — Far from the bright lights of Times Square and Broadway an even brighter light shines inside the Empire State and resides within the New York National Guard's ground breaking "Brainstorm" program. This same bright light that reaches 9,000 third and fourth graders with critical antidrug information also garnered its Counterdrug Task Force recognition as the best Drug Demand Reduction program in the National Guard.

The Annual Secretary of Defense Community Drug Awareness Awards ceremony Oct. 24 at the Pentagon kicked-off "Red Ribbon Week," an annual week-long national awards celebration that focuses on keeping kids off drugs.

Thomas W. O'Connell, assistant secretary of defense for special operations and low-intensity conflict and the event's host, said Red Robin Week was created 15 years ago to promote excellence in the Department of Defense's antidrug organizations and to encourage volunteer efforts by servicemembers.

"These awards recognize best demand-reduction program in each service, including the National Guard and the defense agencies," O'Connell said.

New York's "Brainstorm" program received the top award for its unique way of

reaching out to children: the brainstorm program shows school children what drugs do to their brain and highlights the fact that just one use of drugs can cause addiction.

Tech. Sgt. Marlene C. Frankovic, an administrator with the program for nine years, accepted the DoD award on behalf of all 30 fellow Task Force members.

"I can't describe the feeling," she said of the award. "[We] enjoy making a difference with the kids."

Frankovic said the four-part program warns kids of the dangers and effects of alcohol and marijuana on the brain. Each time they meet with the students, they receive new practical exercises and watch a video.

"The unique aspect of this program is that we see the same third and fourth graders on four different occasions," Frankovic added. "This allows us to establish relationships. After a few times, if the children see us on the streets, they come up to us and say 'Hello.'"

Each program is broken down into one-hour blocks of instruction: Your Brain: What's going on in there?; Communication Breakdown; The Good, the Bad and the Ugly; and Brain Drain.

A question and answer session follows each program, allowing the students to apply what they have learned to their own personal experiences.

"This program is very effective. We are seeing kids who have participated in the



New York Counter Drug Task Force representatives receive their program award in Washington, left to right, Col. Anthony Risica, Lt. Col. Vance Bateman, Tech. Sgt. Marlene Frankovic, Mr. Enrique Camarena Jr, Staff Sgt. Candace Lundin, Staff Sgt. Craig Burleigh, Staff Sgt. Katherine Quinones, Sgt. Steven Watt. Photo courtesy of the NYNG Counter Drug Task Force.

program that wake up their parents and peers to the dangers of drugs," Frankovic stated. "If you know the dangers of drugs, you won't do them."

Red Ribbon Week serves as a tribute to the life of Drug Enforcement Administration Special Agent Enrique S. "Kiki" Camarena, who was kidnapped, tortured and murdered by drug traffickers in Mexico in 1985.

Citizens in Camarena's hometown of Calexico, Calif., began wearing red ribbons

to remember him and honor his sacrifice. The antidrug message spread quickly and is now the most far-reaching and well-known drug prevention event. Now the red ribbon symbolizes a continued commitment to reducing the demand for illegal drugs through prevention and education programs.

Frankovic insists that New York's CD task force is committed to spreading the antidrug message and keeping Kiki Camarena's spirit alive. □

105th Infantry says 'Good-bye' then 'Hello' to 501st Ordnance

By 2nd Lt. Amy Fires
Guard Times Staff

SCHENECTADY – The end of summer marked the beginning of transformation here.

The 105th Infantry was one of a few New York Army National Guard units that are transferring their colors to become a new type of unit under the Army's force structure change. Many units across the state will perform these inactivations. They will case their colors and will activate new units throughout the coming months.

The 105th is transforming into the 501st Explosive Ordnance Battalion, and it's carrying over and retraining nearly 60 Soldiers.

The 501st Explosive Ordnance Battalion is the newest EOD unit in the National Guard. This Battalion will control four EOD Companies, which will be located in Michigan, West Virginia and Massachusetts. Each EOD Company is a small and highly proficient unit of approximately 25 people. Most of its missions are performed in teams of two or three.

The Soldiers of the 501st carry on a proud military history that reaches as far back as the French and Indian Wars. The 105th Infantry Regiment was officially organized April 27, 1898, as the 2nd New

York Infantry. Elements of the regiment can be traced back to the French and Indian Wars, the Revolutionary War at Gettysburg and the Civil War at Antietam. The regiment's nickname as the "Appleknockers", comes from the Civil War era; the Soldiers would march off to war with muskets on their shoulders and, with the muskets being long, they would knock apples off of the trees as they marched, hence the term.

In October 2003 the 105th was mobilized and deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom II. Its Soldiers augmented the 2nd Battalion, 108th Infantry.

"[It is thought that] when infantrymen deploy and return as combat vets, they have reached the pinnacle of their [military] careers, and now many are looking to experience new challenges," 1st Lt. Doug Baker, Logistics Officer, said.

World War II veteran Soldiers from the July 7, 1944, battle of Saipan were present for the 105th's deactivation as well as a ceremony posthumously awarding the Congressional Medal of Honor to three WWII Soldiers.

"Were proud to be recognized for our hard work, to know we were a part of this nation's history, but [we] are looking forward to future challenges," Baker added.

Now, Soldiers who have the combat infantryman's badge will attend Army

school to obtain the explosive ordnance disposal badge. One of the difficulties they must now face is after deploying for a year they will leave their families, again, to earn their EOD qualification.

This retraining speaks to the caliber of the Soldiers in the newly formed 501st Explosive Ordnance Battalion, Baker said. "The Soldiers will do well and will continue to make the sacrifices they need to step up," Baker explained.

Phase One of EOD training provides knowledge in basic electronics, explosives safety, firing devices, hazardous waste and munitions identification, which is held at Redstone Arsenal, Ala., for 10 weeks. Next, the second and final phase of EOD training is located at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., which lasts for six months. There, the Soldiers will learn the core fundamentals: demolition study, tools and methods, biological and chemical, ground and air ordnance, improvised explosive devices and nuclear ordnance. All EOD Soldiers must be physically fit and must go through rigorous eligibility standards.

"Soldiers can get up to \$15,000 if they enlist in the 501st EOD Battalion," Sgt. First Class Maurice Catel said. "It is a very mentally and physically challenging but very rewarding job field with high job satisfaction," Catel said. He said he believes that EOD provides for a strong



501st Explosive Ordnance Battalion Soldiers receive their new colors during the unit's activation ceremony. Photo by Staff Sgt. Kevin E. Greagan.

marketable skill and allows for a strong career path. We will be on the cutting edge of Homeland Security which is what EOD offers with missions in Croatia, Bosnia and the Middle East, Catel said.

For more information on the Explosive Ordnance Battalion, contact your local recruiter, or visit <http://501st-eod.com>. □

Army's ongoing transformation was decades in the making

By Capt. Steve Alvarez
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – Although the Army only began its transformation in 2002, the process has been ongoing and decades in the making, the military deputy to the assistant secretary of the Army for acquisition, logistics and technology said here Nov. 29.

Lt. Gen. Joseph L. Yakovac said that when he entered the service in the early 1970s, the soldier was a "cheap instrument of war" outfitted at roughly \$2,000 per soldier. "It was a very simplistic Army," he said.

Yakovac was the keynote military speaker at the opening ceremony for the Interservice/Industry Training, Simulation and Education Conference.

The general offered anecdotes from his time as a young officer. He

recalled that during field exercises, opposing-force vehicles would be marked with numbers. Friendly forces would engage the opposing forces by telling an exercise referee that they could see a particular vehicle, they would offer the vehicle number, and a grid location, and then explain how they would attack the vehicle. Yakovac also recalled using pneumatic mortar rounds, instead of the usual explosive type, to train his soldiers in front of the barracks.

"The revolution in training in the '80s and '90s... makes us the best Army on the face of the planet," Yakovac said. He added that the transformation of U. S. forces would not be a destination, but a continual evolution.

Part of the training revolution of past decades, Yakovac said, includes the application of lessons learned to forces still in theater.

Deployed soldiers currently train between operations and missions, and they train as scenarios change in theater. They adapt to the missions much faster these days, he noted.

An example of this, Yakovac said, is a convoy trainer, a mobile device used by more than 100,000 soldiers deploying to Iraq and Afghanistan. In essence, it replicates what a soldier has seen on the battlefield and brings it to the training field.

But the systems, Yakovac said, are also critical in maintaining skills that tend to erode during deployments. Ultimately, the soldier retains and hones his core skills, but also is able to operate in the unique environment of his mission.

"Training has gone (from) an instrument used at home station to a fully integrated capability," Yakovac said. Some platoon leaders now in Iraq are being debriefed by a computer application that asks leaders about their operations when they return to their bases, Yakovac said. The information and data are then submitted into a network shared with other forces for training. □

Centers offer Veterans Distinct Assistance

By Samantha L. Quigley
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – Combat veterans dealing with readjustment issues as they return home have a place to turn, thanks to a Department of Veterans Affairs initiative.

The Vet Center Program provides returning veterans with someone to talk to who can relate to their experiences.

Former Army Cpl. Rafiq Raza of Orlando, Fla., is one of about 100 "global war on terror outreach technicians" working for the Vet Center program. Like his colleagues, he is a combat veteran, which gives him an edge in his job, he said.

A table detailing eligibility can be found on the Vet Center's Web site, www.va.gov/rcs. Vet Center with outreach programs are in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Exact locations and contact information are on the Vet Center

Web site or by calling the Veterans Affairs Department directly at toll-free (800) 827-1000.

Raza said his two tours in Afghanistan as an intelligence analyst with the 10th Mountain Division make him credible. "It's one thing to send a stranger in front of a group of troops who have come back from Iraq or Afghanistan and let them know about services available," he said. "It's really different when you actually have someone who's been there and put the boots on."

The technicians are charged with finding returning combat veterans in their communities and letting them know they have someplace to go if they need help readjusting to life after the war.

"I... let them know that there's help out there for them if they need it. There's a place within the community that they can go that's kind of outside the official walls of

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Bringing it South

Army and Air Guard join historical disaster relief efforts

Aviators confront Hurricane's wrath

By Maj. Kathy D. Sweeney
Guard Times Staff

CAMP SHELBY, Miss. — At the end of their mission they accounted for 160 different landing zones. Each zone varied in size, shape, amount of debris, degree-of-slope and hardness of landing surface, which made their aircrew coordination essential. Their helicopters were landing at road intersections, yards, hospitals, parking lots and interstates.

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Charles Rodda, New York Army National Guard safety officer, said that adapting to an ever-changing mission was a major challenge for aircrews during their recent Hurricane Katrina Deployment.

In total, NYARNG aircrews spent 10 days flying relief missions and transported nearly 300,000 pounds of food, water and ice, 75,000 pounds of baby formula and more than 400 passengers.

The call for help came in early September and after Hurricane Katrina had delivered a devastating blow to the Gulf Coast and its residents.

Sixteen Army helicopters were called into action. The aviation task force was dubbed "Task Force Duke" after Staff Sgt. Stanley B. Duke, a full time technician aircraft mechanic who was killed in a motor vehicle accident Sept. 3 while on his way to support relief efforts at the Latham flight facility. The helicopters in TFD consisted of six UH-1V Medevac Hueys and two CH-47 Chinooks from Rochester, four UH-60 Black Hawks from Albany and four UH-60 Black Hawks from Islip. Aircrews included pilots, crew chiefs, mechanics and flight medics. Two additional crewmembers were added to each helicopter to load and unload passengers, equipment and supplies.

"I'm extremely proud of our NYARNG Aviation soldier's ability to alert, mobilize and safely deploy over 1000 miles 65 hours after notification and then commence flight operations upon arrival," said Col. Michael Bobeck, State Army Aviation Officer and Task Force Duke commander.

Assisting in the deployment was the 105th Airlift Wing and their C-5A Galaxy. The aircraft carried maintenance equipment, fuel trucks and support personnel enabling the task force to be self-sufficient during the operation.

All of their helicopters were originally slotted to base at Gulfport, Miss., but the air base ran out of space, so they operated from Camp Shelby's Hagler Army Air Field, 60 miles North of Mississippi's coastline; the UH-1V Hueys were staged at Gulfport, though, to cover medical evacuations in southern Mississippi and in eastern Louisiana. Rescue and resupply units were staged there, too, facilitating the advancement of relief assets into the disaster areas.

"The devastation was widespread encompassing the entire coast of Mississippi, in some cases more than 60 miles inland," Rodda said.

Aviation missions, Rodda said, were generated from a variety of sources, and many agencies were involved.

"It was a joint effort by all the agencies," Rodda said.

Mississippi Army National Guard Soldiers shared their knowledge of the geographic area, its infrastructure and its residents' limitations. They were, Rodda said, paramount in providing a better understanding of the disaster area.

Residents' assistance needs varied and included medications, medical evacuations, food, potable water and ice.

"Seeing the overall devastation, first hand, provided a sense of urgency," Capt. Kevin Ferreira, Alpha-company Commander, said. "After we interacted with those in need, we were overwhelmed with a sense of accomplishment."

Before aid-distribution centers were established, Ferreira said, the helicopters would approach landing zones, and residents would pour into the area looking for aid, which made the helicopters temporary distribution centers.

Members of the Army Corps of Engineers and Mississippi's State Surgeon Office

were flown to assess infrastructure damage and its potential impact to human health and health services. Reports of debris blocking roadways, downed power lines or signs of distress were relayed to their Command Post and implemented into the following days' missions.

"The crews were ecstatic to be a part of such an operation," Chief Warrant Officer 4 Bruce Hoffman, Acting Bravo-company Commander, said. "Their enthusiasm to assist these victims proved instrumental to our success," he said. "People were so thankful for the most basic necessities. One gentleman stated he'd 'never throw away his leftover ice in his [fast-food] cup again'."

"This mission truly demonstrated the capabilities of Army Guard Aviation to support critical home land security and support missions whether in New York or across the nation," Bobeck said. □



New York Army National Guard Soldiers load an Army CH-47 Chinook helicopter in Mississippi during their Task Force Duke deployment. Photo courtesy of Task Force Duke.



One of two Army CH-47 Chinooks from Det. 1, B-Co. 3/126 GSAB, Rochester is loaded with relief supplies during Task Force Duke in Gulfport, Miss. Photo courtesy of Task Force Duke.



N.Y. deploys high tech Communications Team

By 2nd Lt. Amy Fires
Guard Times Staff

LATHAM — Weeks after Hurricane Katrina, Guard members of the 101st Signal Battalion and the Directorate of Information Management, here, deployed to New Orleans Sept. 27 with high-speed Army communications equipment called “ISISCS”, or, Interim Satellite Communications Incident Site Communications Set.

Their mission — to bring functional communication systems to the disaster area — kept them at Bellchase, La., just outside of New Orleans, until Oct. 25.

The team and equipment were loaded aboard two 109th Airlift Wing C-130 Hercules and airlifted from the Stratton Air National Guard Base, Scotia. The nearly seven-hour flight brought the operators and their equipment directly to the Bellchase flightline.

“It’s hot there,” Guadalupe said, “[And] unlike the wet conditions New York [was] seeing at the time.”

“It was an exceptional mission and I am

honored to have worked with such an excellent team,” Lt. Col. Dana Whaley, ISISCS officer, said.

Their Army equipment was designed for such missions. Enclosed in unmarked, gloss-white utility trailers, and pulled by similar looking trucks, the ISISCS rolling stock and its operators provide high-tech communication systems where none exist.

ISISCS’ mobile set of communications hardware and support equipment provide on-site communications capabilities for enhanced command and control and shared situational awareness among first responders including State and Federal authorities. When deployed, the ISISCS system has three primary functions: Its “interoperability” capability connects diverse voice communications networks and devices used by response agencies; “reach-back” mission provides support to state and federal National Guard networks and organizations with managing incident responsibilities; “command post integration” mission helps incorporate an on-scene command-post

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Above, Soldiers of NYARNG’s 101st Signal Battalion and the Directorate of Information Management drive towards relief helicopters at Bellchase, La. Photo courtesy of the 101st Signal Battalion.

Right, a C-5 Galaxy lifts off from Albany International Airport, Latham, N.Y., on its way to transport supplies and equipment to Mississippi. Photo by Staff Sgt. Mike R. Smith.



Staff Sgt. Lance Mitchell, a UH-60 Black Hawk crew chief, walks across the Latham Aviation Flight Facility # 3 hanger to a group of helicopters departing for hurricane Katrina relief missions. Photo by Staff Sgt. Mike R. Smith.



Soldiers and Airman unload bags of ice from a New York Army National Guard Black Hawk helicopter during hurricane Katrina relief operations in Mississippi. Photo courtesy of Task Force Duke.

105th Airlift Wing delivers aid

By Staff Sgt. John Gassler

105th Airlift Wing Public Affairs Office

STEWART AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE, Newburgh — From tornadoes and tsunamis to ice storms and hurricanes the 105th Airlift Wing has a 20-year proven track record of answering their call to duty. In light of Hurricane Katrina and the massive damage left behind, the men and women of the 105AW once again played a vital role in providing support, this time to the Gulf Coast region.

“Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama need to be reconstructed. There is certainly no clear sign how long that process might take. However, New York State and the Hudson Valley can say with confidence the 105th Airlift Wing is doing everything it can to help. In order to bounce back from Katrina, teamwork is needed on a national

scale. We are doing our part,” Brig. Gen. Dana B. Demand, 105th Airlift Wing Commander, said.

As of October, the 105th Airlift Wing has flown 57 sorties with its C-5 Galaxy aircraft, transported roughly 750 passengers and delivered more than 2.5 million pounds of cargo to the Gulf Coast region. Some of the items already sent included 40,000 lbs water purification systems, military vehicles and desperately needed rescue equipment.

“Our mission is to provide support, be it transporting firefighters or delivering food

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109th Airlift Wing keeps disaster relief moving

By Staff Sgt. Mike R. Smith
Guard Times Staff

STRATTON AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE, Scotia, N.Y. — Early September brought unscheduled airlift missions for the 109th Airlift Wing nearly one month before the 2005 Antarctic flying season as hurricane Katrina crippled the nation's Gulf Coast region.

Governor George E. Pataki mobilized the New York National Guard within hours of the disaster, and up to seven C-130 Hercules aircraft and aircrew along with 35 Airmen from Security Forces, Chaplains, Aerial Port and the Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron were operating under his mobilization. These Airmen fended through a storm of joint relief operations in New Orleans, Mississippi and Texas safely, and with team action.

On Sept. 9, two 139th Air Squadron aircrews airlifted Connecticut Air National Guard security forces personnel and their gear from Bradley Air National Guard Base, Conn., to Louisiana's Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Air Base, a 20 minute drive from the flooded areas of downtown New Orleans.

The airlift was part of the 139AS' ongoing Katrina relief support in which they transported more than 520,000 pounds of cargo, flew over 90 sorties and carried 480 personnel to storm damaged areas.

Two C-130 Hercules aircrews worked with the CANG's Airmen to load air cargo at Bradley International Airport and made a quick turnaround for NAS JRB New Orleans. The air base's operations tempo

left no doubts on the community's need for support and the U.S. military's overwhelming response. A jambalaya of fixed and rotary winged aircraft, vehicles and personnel, operating inside and outside of the station, dwarfed 139AS aircrews and aircraft, there.

"You should see [the operations] at night," Tech. Sgt. Ronald Jemmott, aircraft mechanic, said. Jemmott said that operating safely in such crowded airspace requires skill and teamwork. "In relief missions, you can't be on the ground long there is no space or maintenance support," Jemmott said.

Tech Sgt. Michael Cousineau, loadmaster, said that 139AS aircrews are trained and experienced in all kinds of missions, including State relief missions; as a loadmaster, Cousineau, along with Senior Airman Patrick Bornt, managed the air cargo and passengers on aircraft # 488.

"We [transport air cargo and passengers] year round and work from a flying calendar," Cousineau said. "It's nice to go and perform [this] mission and help out."

The day's airlift was not without its challenges: a minor maintenance problem put Jemmott and flight engineer, Senior Master Sgt. Mark O'Lena, to work evaluating and replacing an engine ignition relay on aircraft # 488 at the NAS JRB flightline, but they arrived home that night with little delay.

He [Jemmott] was the hero today, Cousineau said referring to Jemmott's mechanical ability and effort to get the aircraft repaired and the aircrew home.

The Airmen had completed the round trip relief mission, spanning more than 3000 miles, in nearly twelve hours. □



An Airman with the 139th Airlift Squadron grabs a bag from a security forces Airman at Bradley Air National Guard Base, Conn., during hurricane Katrina airlift operations.

Air Guard Security Forces line up for storm victims

By Staff Sgt. Mike R. Smith
Guard Times Staff

STRATTON AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE, Scotia — Just after Hurricane Katrina lined up in the Atlantic Ocean to pulverize the Gulf Coast with its wind, rain and tidal flooding, New York's Security Forces Airmen made their own lineup for New Orleans Sept. 3 to protect and serve the rescue and relief operations.

Master Sgt. Timothy Kane, Master Sgt. Harry Johnson, Master Sgt. Christopher Short, Tech. Sgt. Patrick Hart, Staff Sgt. Thomas Feeley and Staff Sgt. Damon George, from the 109th Airlift Wing's Security Forces Squadron, returned from those operations Sept. 20. Over the course of nearly three weeks, they teamed up with convoys transporting supplies throughout the city, they flew on CH-47 Chinook missions with Bravo Company of the 159th Aviation Regiment's 5th Battalion, Virginia Army National Guard, and they

maintained the New York National Guard's team player reputation by working with fellow SFS professionals from New York's 174th Fighter Wing Security Forces Squadron and other security units, whatever the mission.

"On a lot of our missions we were a [joint] team of two Army Military Policemen and two Air Force Security Policemen," said Master Sgt. Harry Johnson. "So, we got to see how [the Army National Guard] worked, and it was a learning process for both."

Johnson said that their mission developed along with operations at Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Air Base New Orleans and its Bellchase, La., hurricane relief operations.

"We were [initially] assigned as Bellchase security with Soldiers from the 32nd Military Police Company, [Wisconsin Army National Guard]," Johnson said.



Air National Guard security forces fly aboard a 109th Airlift Wing C-130 Hercules enroute to New Orleans and the hurricane Katrina relief operations there. Photos by Staff Sgt. Mike R. Smith.



Above, Lt. Col. Dana Whaley observes the ISISCS team as they setup mobile communications equipment at Bellchase, La.

Right, an ISISCS team member connects communication wires during relief operations. Photos courtesy of the 101st Signal Battalion.

ISISCS, from page 13

communications into a single power.

"Other States' National Guard units have these [systems] too," Staff Sgt. Walter Pahucki, ISISCS Guard member, said.

Pahucki explained that some states boast two systems, which consist of a tent, generator, trailer and the communications equipment needed to provide satellite links for secure transmissions, print, copy, faxing capabilities and more.

The ISISCS system allows users voice and data communications and access to telephone systems through radios, defense messaging systems and video conferencing. Following natural disasters like Katrina, this access can be critical because it allows emergency managers such as a State's Governor, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Department of Defense, State Guard units and other relief agencies, communications with each other.

At Bellchase, the ISISCS team provided radio communications for security forces operating inside and outside of the Joint Forces' Air Reserve Station, Staff Sgt. Enrique Guadalupe, ISISCS team member said. The ISISCS team additionally provided a computer network for the local operations center, and its operators set up a morale welfare and recreation area that allowed Soldiers and civilians telephone and internet access. Furthermore, the ISISCS system assisted in the area's Single Channel Ground and Airborne Radio System, securing its capability between distances.

"The world of [the Army] signal [corps] is changing, and we all have to stay sharp on new technologies," Pahucki said.

"People today want more than just 'field phones.'" □



"In order to bounce back from Katrina, teamwork is needed on a national scale. We are doing our part."

—Brig. Gen. Dana B. Demand
105th Airlift Wing Commander

105AW, from page 13

and water," Demand said. "Several 105th Medical Group and 213th Engineering Installation Squadron personnel are currently in Louisiana and they're doing an excellent job. We will stay and we will fly missions until directed otherwise," he said.

What exactly is a hurricane? According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency website at www.fema.gov a hurricane is "...a tropical storm with winds that have reached a constant speed of 74 m.p.h. or greater." The Saffir/Simpson Hurricane Scale, used to define hurricane classes, is broken down into five sections. Hurricane Katrina started as a category five with winds over 155 m.p.h., but it hit landfall as a high-end category four.

Tech. Sgt. Michael O'Halloran from the 105th Multimedia Department deployed to Gulfport, Miss. Sept. 5 to capture video and footage of the destruction for the

National Guard Bureau. What he witnessed, he said, was "inconceivable."

"Entire communities were washed away. Debris was strewn miles inland. Boats were swept by wind and floodwater onto roads nowhere near the coastline. I couldn't imagine the same thing happening in New York. The level of devastation was unbelievable. It was like a wrecking ball pummeled the entire coast of Mississippi and spared nothing in its path," O'Halloran said.

Despite the chaos he witnessed from the air, O'Halloran said relief operations in the area seemed to be running smoothly. "Gulfport reminded me of an old Vietnam-era movie, whereby helicopters and pallets of cargo cluttered the air field and the traffic and commotion never stopped. I was happy to see Guardsmen participating in recovery operations. It made me feel proud to wear the uniform," he said.

Before Katrina, the last major hurricane to impact the southern U.S. was a Hurricane Andrew in August 1992. According to FEMA that hurricane caused approximately \$27 billion in damages to Florida and Louisiana. It further claimed the lives of 58 people.

"America has a long road to recovery and it's going to take time before citizens can return to their homes and back to a normal life. In the wake of hurricane Katrina and the turmoil the storm caused, all I can say is we are glad to be a part of the healing process," Demand said. □



Collecting clothing for the displaced, volunteers at the Jamaica Armory, Queens, organize thousands of pounds of clothing donations for victims of hurricane Katrina in September. The drive blossomed into an installation-wide fund-raiser with a growing group of volunteers, and the group raised nearly \$5,000. Photo by Sfc. Victor Lopez.

COLONEL SHERIDAN DAVID PATRICK	NY ARNG ELEMENT JFHQ	FOX TIMOTHY JOSEPH GARCIA RAY ANDREW GARRIGA JOSE ALBERTO GONZALEZ CARLOS HALL WILLIAM SPENCER HERNANDEZ OLIVERIO JR JOSEPH HERARD LOMBARD ANDREW EARL MALIN BENJAMIN URRIAH MANNY BRIAN GARDNER MARRERO LUIS JR MASON STERLING LEE JR MATOS HECTOR LUIS MEDINADOMINGUEZ JOANNA MORALES PEDRO NAPIERALA JASON JOHN ORSINI AARON PAUL PADMORE COSNELL PASTOR MARTIN MERCADO PAZMINO ORTEGA MAURICIO PENREE MICHAEL II PROL KENNETH JAMES ROLDAN CARLOS R SALVADORE FRANCIS JOHN SIPOS MICHELLE YVETTE SPINK RYAN TIMOTHY TADROS JOSEPH TUCKER JOHN JAMES JR VASQUEZ HERRICK WALKER SCOTT EDWARD WALLACE ANTOINETTE WILLIAMS DAMIAN WILLIAMS SHELAAN WRIGHT JOHN WILLIAM	CO B(-) 642D SUPPORT BN HHC 427 BSB 145TH MAINTENANCE CO BATTERY B 1-258TH FA 107TH MP CO (-) 145 OD CO MAINT FWD CO B(-) 642D SUPPORT BN CO B(-) 2-108TH INFANTRY 1156TH ENGR CO PO NY ARNG ELEMENT JFHQ 719 TRANS CO HHC 427 BSB 442D MILITARY POLICE CO 145 OD CO MAINT FWD 719 TRANS CO REC AND RET CMD 107TH MP CO (-) 133RD QM SUPPLY CO HHD 369TH CORPS SPT BN 1569 TC CO MED TRK FWD REC AND RET CMD HHC 42 IN DIV(-) CO A 2-108TH INFANTRY C CO(SIG)BSTB 27TH IN BDE 719 TRANS CO DET 1 CO B 2-108TH INF HHC 1-101ST CAVALRY CO A 2-108TH INFANTRY REC AND RET CMD NY ARNG ELEMENT JFHQ HHC 42 IN DIV(-) 1569 TC CO MED TRK FWD HHD ENGINEER BDE 42 ID DET 1 HHC 107TH SUP GP	COLON ERIK JOEL DANDRIDGE KAHIL DEJESUS FELIX DEKRAKER BRIDGETTE DELATORRES CARLOS DENNIS BRIAN ALLEN II DIPPEL GREGORY JUSTIN DMEZA TONIA MICHELE DOTSON RASHEEN DUBOIS JOSEPH ROBERT FRIOT NICHOLAS BRANDON GEIB KENNETH ROBERT GIRARD AMY ROSE GOMEZZULUAGA ALEX GRAAP JOSHUA RONALD GUZMAN HOOVERNEY HART KEVIN ROBERT HATLEE SHANE JEFFREY JAYNER ROBERT EARL JUDKINS ADAM L JUDKINS BRANDON PETER KEENEY MICHELLE LORAINÉ KHAMURZOV RUSLAN M LANE BRENDAN JAMES LEICHLITER THOMAS II LLAUGER LORRAINE LOPEZ JUAN ANTONIO LUNA GALO OSWALDO MARIN MICHAEL MATUS JOHN ANTHONY MCGEEVER AMANDA MARIE MCGURN JAMES JUDE MORALES JEAN CARLOS MORRISON ROBERT III OSORIO CHRISTINE ALICIA PESE NINO HENRY PHILLIPS LUIS ALBERTO JR REYNOLDS DANIEL JAMES RIVERA MALDONADO RODRIGUEZ ANDREW RODRIGUEZ EDWARD RODRIGUEZ JEAN PAUL ROSADO ROBERT ANTHONY ROSIE PETER OWEN ROSSETTI DOUGLAS JOHN SANDERS FRANK LIONEL II TEZENO ELIJAH KARRIEM	DET 1 133RD MAINT CO 145 OD CO MAINT DS REAR CO E 1-69TH INFANTRY (M) 105TH MP CO CO D 1-101ST CAVALRY HHC (-) 2-108 INFANTRY CO B (MAINT) 427TH BSB DET 1 HHC 107TH SUP GP DET 1 133RD MAINT CO 1156TH ENGR CO PO DET 1 CO B 2-108TH INF HHC 42 IN DIV(-) NY ARNG ELEMENT JFHQ 145 OD CO MAINT FWD 105TH MP CO 1569 TC CO MED TRK FWD HHD 369TH WATER SUP BN 42 IN CTR REAR H & S CO 204 ENGR BN C CO(SIG)BSTB 27TH IN BDE CO B (MAINT) 427TH BSB H & S CO 204 ENGR BN 69 IN BN 01 CO B REAR CO E 1-69TH INFANTRY (M) HHC 1-101ST CAVALRY 133RD QM SUPPLY CO 1569 TC CO MED TRK FWD 145 OD CO MAINT DS REAR CO C (-) 204TH ENGR BN CO E 1-69TH INFANTRY (M) 204TH ENGINEER DET DET 4 42D MP CO 145 OD CO MAINT DS REAR 1569 TC CO MED TRK FWD 145TH MAINTENANCE CO 442D MILITARY POLICE CO 719 TRANS CO HHC 427 BSB CO A 1-69TH INFANTRY (M) 69 IN BN 01 HHC REAR CO E 1-69TH INFANTRY (M) CO B 101ST SIGNAL BN 206 CS HHD CSB FWD CO E 1-69TH INFANTRY (M) HHC 1-101ST CAVALRY CO A (DISTRO) 427TH BSB 102 MAINT CO
LIEUTENANT COLONEL OBOYLE SPENCER JR	HHD ENGINEER BDE 42 ID				
MAJOR GIORDANO ROBERT A HARDY ERIC BRIAN	42 HHC HVY DIV FWD 642 MI BN HHC FWD				
CAPTAIN ARIAS DAVID STEVEN FRANCO JOSEPH EDWARD GLEESON COREY JAMES HORN CHARLES HOWARD PADLEY HENRY ROBERT ROMANO ROBERT FRANCIS MERCADO MILTON F JR	442D MILITARY POLICE CO NY ARNG ELEMENT JFHQ 42 INFANTRY DIVISION DET HHC 107TH SUPPORT GP 27TH INF (BCT) 27TH INF (BCT) CO A 3-142D AVIATION				
SERGEANT MAJOR KANIA FRANK JOHN JR	DET 1 HHC 107TH SUP GP				
FIRST SERGEANT LANDY JOSEPH A	HHD 501ST ORD BN EOD				
MASTER SERGEANT ABBATOY JAMES M EVANS DAVID JENO HOYER RICHARD JAMES SMILINICH SCOTT WEAVER JAMES M JR	REC AND RET CMD HHD 369TH WATER SUP BN REC AND RET CMD 222D MP CO (-) NY ARNG ELEMENT JFHQ				
SERGEANT FIRST CLASS BRENNAN RONALD BURLEY CHRISTOPHER FERNANDEZ CIRILO GLOVER ROBERT JR HALEY TROY JULIAN LEWIS SCOTT ALLAN PERRY EDWARD BURKLEY PESSO ANN PATRICIA ROBERTS TERENCE RUSSELL JOHN WHITNEY SYLVAN OSCAR ANTHONY THOMAS JAMES E VELAZQUEZ NICASIO ZEMANICK JAMES ALBERT	27TH INF (BCT) HHC 642D MI BATTALION 133RD QM SUPPLY CO CO A 101ST SIGNAL BN CO E 1-69TH INFANTRY (M) HQS 106TH REGIMENT (RTI) 7TH FINANCE DET HHC 107TH SUPPORT GP HHT 2-101 CAV (RSTA) 27TH SUPPLY AND SER BN HHC 42 IN DIV(-) DET 1 107TH MP CO HHC 42 IN DIV(-) H & S CO 204 ENGR BN				
STAFF SERGEANT ALLISON TIMOTHY MICHAEL BENWARE MICHAEL ALAN CLOUSTON TIMOTHY CRON JACK PETER DOUGHERTY KEVIN JOHN DRAKE CHRISTOPHER ESTES MATTHEW CLINTON GALLAGHER WILLIAM GARCIA SONIA DELOURDES GLOVER DENNIS M GOLDSTEIN RICHARD GREEN MELISSA SUE N TERRILEE LAN R DREW ROBERT	CO A (DISTRO) 427TH BSB CO B (MAINT) 427TH BSB H & S CO 204 ENGR BN 108 IN BN 01 ANTIARMOR 42 HHC HVY DIV FWD 2 HHC 42 IN DIV(-) 1156TH ENGR CO PO 2ND BN 106TH REG (RTB) 719 TRANS CO 14TH FINANCE DET HHC 42 IN DIV(-) 1156TH ENGR CO PO 107TH MP CO (-) 442D MILITARY POLICE CO CO C (-) 1-108TH INF 206 CS HHD CSB FWD 102 MAINT CO 719 TRANS CO CO E (FSC INF) 427TH BSB 1156TH ENGR CO PO H & S CO 204 ENGR BN 145TH MAINTENANCE CO REC AND RET CMD CO C (-) 204TH ENGR BN HHC 42 IN DIV(-) CO B (-) 2-108TH INFANTRY 1156TH ENGR CO PO 1156TH ENGR CO PO				
	145TH MAINTENANCE CO HQS 106TH REGIMENT (RTI) 719 TRANS CO CO C (-) 1-69TH INF (M) HHC (-) BSTB 27TH IN BDE CO B 1-69TH INFANTRY (M) CO A (DISTRO) 427TH BSB	SPECIALIST ACHILLE HAERNANDEZ ALFALLA JED ALEC ALLBRIGHT ANDREW ARNDT COREY LEE MARC AUSTIN KENDALL DELROY AVOLA DEBORAH ANN BATSON KEVIN LAMONT BRADLEY ELIZABETH BRESSETT JASON SCOTT BRODERICK JERMAINE O BRUSH BOBBY LEE	145 OD CO MAINT FWD 442D MILITARY POLICE CO DET 1 CO B 3-126TH AVI 101 AR BN 01 CO D REAR CO E 1-69TH INFANTRY (M) 102 MAINT CO DET 1 CO A 204 ENGR BN CO C (-) (MED) 427TH BSB DET 1 CO B 2-108TH INF HHC 42 IN DIV(-) 1156TH ENGR CO PO		



Commissioner's honor: Robert Pouch, left, Executive Director, Board of Commissioners of Pilots and Naval Militia member presents a lithograph of the Pilot Boat N.Y. and the USS New York to Acting Adjutant General, Brig. Gen. F David Sheppard and an accompanying citation from the Commissioners in the Adjutant General's reception area Sept. 7. The items honor New York National Guard members for their service to State and Nation. Photo by Staff Sgt. Mike R. Smith.

ULYSSE VLADIMIR
VANVOLKENBURG MARK
VELAZQUEZ VICTORIA G
WALSH JAMES LEE
WILEY JAMIE
WILLIAMS BAMBIJO
WILLIAMS MATTHEW JOHN
WILLIAMSON COURTNEY
WILLIAMSON MICHAEL
WITKOWSKI WALTER
ZHENG LISONG

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS

ADAMS PATRICK MICHAEL
ARCURI CATHERINE
ARZUAGA LARRY
AYENI KEHINDE ADEWOLE O
BAEZ EFRAIM JR
BAUTISTA ERICK PAUL
BEY KADRI JR
BOWER PATRICK FRANCIS
BRINDOU YO VAN
CAMACHO GEORGE
CANCEL CHRISTOPHER
CARROR EDIL SEDA III
CASTRO JOSE MANUEL
CLEMMENT JONATHAN RULX
COFFIE JOSHUA EDWARD
COLE SHANNON RACHEL
DELGATTO JACK PAUL
DERUSHIA NATHAN ALLEN
DOUGHERTY MARK RYAN
DUFKIN ANDREW J
FISHER DARRYL DEAN
GARVEY ALESHA FAY
GENTILE MICHAEL JR
GRITMAN THOMAS JR
HERNANDEZ TEDDY
HINES STANLEY
INGRAHAM CHARLES JR
IZQUIERDO BARCO A
KERSWILL JESSICA ANN
KIEVIT MARK MAXWELL
LABUDA MARC DESMOND
LUGOSTEVE

145 OD CO MAINT DS REAR
TROOP B 2-101 CAV (RSTA)
HHC (-) BSB 27TH INF BDE
DET 1 CO B 2-108TH INF
102 MAINT CO
CO A (DISTRO) 427TH BSB
187TH ENGINEER CO
HHC 427 BSB
HHC 642D MI BATTALION
69 IN BN 01 CO A REAR
CO C 3-142D AVIATION

MASCIA CHRISTOPHER
MAYNARD CHAD ISSAC
MCRAE KATIELYN
MECCARIELLO KEVIN
MEDINA RICHARD VIRGILIO
MELO LUIS CARLOS
MINERO STEVEN JOSEPH
MITCHELL THOMAS DAVID
MITROTASIOS CHRIS NMN
NAYLOR CHARLES JR
OBRIEN CHRISTOPHER
PAINO MATTHEW BRIAN
PIERRE PETERSON RICOT
PLOOF TYLER WILLIAM
POTOCKI JOSEPH CHARLES III
RAMOS ERIC JOHN
RICHARDS NORDIA
RIDER DAVID JUSTYN
RILEY DONNELL CHESTER
ROCHA FELIX THEODORE III
ROE TIMOTHY JAMES
ROSENDORN MATTHEW
ROWLAND SEAN WALTER
RUIZ JOSEPH BENNY
SCELIA MICHAEL PAUL
SPINNER LEE THOMAS
STEINBERG ADAM
STRATHEARN SEAN ALAN
TAVAREZ JASON ALEXANDER
VARGAS JUAN LUIS
VAZQUEZ BERALDO
WHITE MATTHEW ALLAN
WOLFE GAVIN JAMES

PRIVATE 2

ALBEKER BARRY SCOTT
AULICINO MATTHEW MARK
BARBOUR JAMES ALLEN
BIVINS ADAM TERRY
BORGES RAYMOND
BUTLER DANIELLE BRIE
CLARK DIANE MIOSHA
COLON ANNE MARIE
CONKLIN KENNETH
CUMMINGS KASEY

CO A 1-69TH INFANTRY (M)
CO B 204 ENGR BN
642 CS BN HSC REAR
HHD 104TH MP BN
466TH MED CO AREA SUP
HHD 104TH MP BN
HHC 1-101ST CAVALRY
CO D 2-108TH INFANTRY
69 IN BN 01 HHC REAR
CO C (-) 2-108TH INFANTRY
4TH PERSONNEL SVC DET
NY ARNG ELEMENT JFHQ
133RD QM SUPPLY CO
466TH MED CO AREA SUP
CO D 2-108TH INFANTRY
CO E 1-69TH INFANTRY (M)
145 OD CO MAINT FWD
MEDICAL COMMAND
442D MILITARY POLICE CO
HHC 427 BSB
CO A (DISTRO) 427TH BSB
69 IN BN 01 HHC REAR
133RD MAINTENANCE CO
CO E 1-69TH INFANTRY (M)
CO D 1-101ST CAVALRY
NY ARNG ELE JFHQ FWD 14
69 IN BN 01 HHC REAR
CO A 2-108TH INFANTRY
HHC 101ST SIGNAL BN
442D MILITARY POLICE CO
442D MILITARY POLICE CO
CO D 2-108TH INFANTRY
442D MILITARY POLICE CO

HHC 1-101ST CAVALRY
CO C (-) 638 SPT BN
HHD 501ST ORD BN EOD
442D MILITARY POLICE CO
101 AR BN 01 CO D REAR
42 HHC HVY DIV REAR
CO B 101ST SIGNAL BN
CO C (-) 638 SPT BN
50 CS BN CO B DET 1 R
CO A 2-108TH INFANTRY

DOMINI KEITH PATRICK
DOWIS AMMON CLAYTON
FIELD DANIELLE CHERI
FLOYD COLIE LEON
FREDA JOHN VINCENT
GONSALVES CHRISTINE E
GOTAY BARRY MARTIN
GURLEY ROBERT JACOB
HENDEL JEFFREY
HIGGINS MATTHEW CLARK
HOMMEL ROBERT LLOYD
HUSSAIN SAAD
JACKSON MAURICE GRANT
JOSLYN MATHEW
KENNEDY KANASH
LESPINASSE ANTHONY
MANGANIELLO IAN
MARTH CHRISTOPHER JR
MILANO TIMOTHY JAMES
MOORE DOUGLAS R
MULLEY THOMAS MICHAEL
NEPTON EDWARD JOSEPH
NOLAN KEITH MICHAEL
NORTON DOUGLAS PHILIP
PERKINS RICHARD
PIERSON DEANNA MARIE
POLLACK DAVID JUNIOR
QUARTIER RYAN DAVID
RAMOS KENNETH
RANKIN JOSHUA STEPHEN
RICHARDS MARIE MARION
SANCHEZ JULIO
SANTANA WILSON JR
SCIAMMETTA FRANK
SHAVALIER BRIAN JAMES
SIMMONS WAYNE KEITH
SLATER JOSHUA GEORGE
SMITH AARON ANTHONY
SMITH ADAM CHRISTOPHER
STICKLE JOSHUA REID
TAVAREZ AMIN JOSE
TORRES MARCO A
ULLRICH JAMES STEWART
YOHE STEVEN CLIFFORD

DET 1 CO C 204TH EN BN
CO C 3-142D AVIATION
29 AG HHD PSC REAR
133RD QM SUPPLY CO
CO C (-) 638 SPT BN
DET 2 CO B 638 SPT BN
CO E 1-69TH INFANTRY (M)
206TH MP COMPANY
105TH MP CO
CO B (MAINT) 427TH BSB
69 IN BN 01 HHC REAR
MEDICAL COMMAND
1156TH ENGR CO PO
466TH MED CO AREA SUP
DET 1 HHC BSB 27TH INF
DET 1 CO B 2-108TH INF
CO A 101ST SIGNAL BN
TROOP C 2-101 CAV (RSTA)
101 AR BN 01 CO D REAR
CO G (FSC FA) 427TH BSB
DET 1 CO B 2-108TH INF
107TH MP CO (-)
69 IN BN 01 DET 1 HHC R
CO C (-) 2-108TH INFANTRY
BATTERY B 1-258TH FA
HHC (-) 3-142D AVIATION
69 IN BN 01 CO A REAR
222D MP CO (-)
69 IN BN 01 CO A REAR
HHT 2-101 CAV (RSTA)
1569TH TRANS CO
69 IN BN 01 CO A REAR
DET 1 107TH MP CO
CO E 1-69TH INFANTRY (M)
TROOP B 2-101 CAV (RSTA)
CO E (FSC INF) 427TH BSB
CO A (DISTRO) 427TH BSB
222D MP CO (-)
222D MP CO (-)
642 MI BN HHC REAR
69 IN BN 01 CO A REAR
CO E 1-69TH INFANTRY (M)
DET 1 CO B 2-108TH INF
187TH ENGINEER CO

Army Reenlistments

101 AR BN 01 CO D REAR

SSG DAVIES THOMAS FRANCIS

102 MAINT CO

SGT BEIRMAN CHARLES ERNEST
SGT MERRY ROBERT ALAN

105TH MP CO

SGT BILSKI MARTIN JOSEPH
MSG CONROY WILLIAM T
SPC DRAIN ROBERT BLAINE JR
MSG GRINSELL CHRISTOPHER G
SGT WENDEL JOSEPH DONALD
SGT YEHL MICHAEL ARTHUR

107TH MILITARY POLICE CO (-)

SGT MCKINNEY JAMES ARTHUR

1156TH ENGR CO PORT OPENING

SPC BARCIA PHILIP MICHAEL
SPC GRABOWSKI ROBERT ANTHONY
SPC RUSSELL WILLIAM ANTHONY
SPC TROMBLEY JARED IAN

CO
LEON

DUMP TRUCK
AMEKO ADRIAN

AVIATION

EDDIN JR

TRICK

N

JOSEPH

DCARL

206 CS HHD CSB FWD

SGT COLON ORLANDO JR
SSG LOMBARD DENNIS SCOTT
SPC RIVERA MARTINEZ HECTOR D

206TH MILITARY POLICE COMPANY

SSG SMITH DEAN

222D MILITARY POLICE CO (-)

SSG BENNETT BRIAN JOHN
SPC FLORA PHILLIP JAMES
1SG RIVERA ERNESTOE

249TH MED CO AIR AMBULANCE (-)

SPC CAVANAGH DESMOND JOSEPH
SGT DUCLOS JOANN GINNA
SSG FELLOWS HAL EDWARD
SGT JANES BRETT ALLEN

258 FA BN 1 BTRY C 155 SP

SPC LOUIS PATRICK

27TH INF (BCT)

SFC BRENNAN RONALD CHARLES

29 AG HHD PSC REAR

SPC CHERNOGOREC JUSTIN LEE
SGT RAINEY JOHNATHAN MICHAEL
SPC WRIGHT RACHEL LYNN

29TH PERSONNEL SERVICE DET

SPC BUCCILLI CORINNA ANN

2ND CIVIL SUPPORT TEAM (WMD)

SGT CAUTELA SALVATORE JOSEPH

37TH FINANCE DET

SGT RIOS FELIX
SPC VILLACRES ZOMORA ALFONSO MAR

42 HHC HVY DIV FWD

SGM HIGGITT PAUL JEROME JR
SSG SECOR LISA M

42D INFANTRY DIV BAND (-)

SSG ALEXANDER RICHARD ARTHUR
SGT CIRA OLO VINCENT
SSG GILLERAN KIMBERLY LEHUA
SGT ORTEGA JUAN ALBERTO

442D MILITARY POLICE CO

SGT AHAMAD KIRON ANTHONY
SSG MENDEZ ALFREDO
SGT ROSS PETER BRUCE
SGT VILLAR SANTO
SPC WATKINS MARCUS LEROY

466TH MEDICAL CO AREA SUPPORT

SPC COLLINS JOHN MICHAEL
SSG DAWKINS EARL ANTHONY
SPC KENYON KELLY MARIE

642 CS BN HSC FWD

SGT ARROYO SANTIAGO RITO
SSG GARCIA DAVIS FRANCIS

642 CS BN HSC FWD 3

SPC BROWN ROYCE JENNIFER
SGT CRUZ PEDRO JULIO

642 CS BN HSC REAR

SFC VANBUSKIRK MICHAEL LYNN

642 MI BN HHC FWD 3

MSG SCOTT HARRY RICHARD

69 IN BN 01 CO B REAR

SPC ROMERO EDGAR ADOLFO

69 IN BN 01 DET 1 HHC REAR

SPC BEACH KEEGAN JACOB

69 IN BN 01 HHC REAR

SGT CAMPANA CESAR A
SGT MACY WILLIAM CRAIG

719 TRANS CO (MDM TRK CGO)

SSG PAULINO TOMAS F
SPC RAMOS LUIS ANGEL
SSG RAMOS TONY

727TH MP DET LAW AND ORDER

SPC HERNANDEZ JAMES GREGORY
SPC SANTOSKY DEANA MARIE
SPC SIRETT EDISON AUSBERTO
SGT TOMPKINS DANIEL SCOTT

7TH FINANCE DET

SFC PERRY EDWARD BURKLEY

BATTERY A 1-258TH FA

SSG DIGESO MICHELE
PFC FISHER DARRYL DEAN

BATTERY B 1-258TH FA

SPC ALMONTE JOSE IGNACIO
SGT CANCEL WILLIAM
SGT FOULKES GEORGE L
SGT JOHNSON ERIC RONALD
SGT RODRIGUEZ CARLOS B

Rotations, from page 10

communities and, in the case of Guard and Reserve forces, their civilian employers, he said.

The upcoming rotation continues the Army's 12 months "boots-on-the-ground" policy goal for the more than 79,000 Soldiers affected and will not increase the mobilization period for the reserve forces, Venable said.

More than 5,000 Marines to be affected will maintain their seven-month deployment cycle, he said.

The ultimate goal is for these forces, as part of Multinational Force Iraq, to help maintain the security environment until Iraq's security forces are capable of assuming full

responsibility, Venable explained. Good progress is being made in that effort, he said, noting that more than 210,000 Iraqi security forces are now trained and equipped.

One Iraqi army division, four brigades and 23 battalions currently have the operational lead in their areas, Venable said. Another division, nine brigades and about 50 battalions are expected to be ready to assume lead responsibility by January.

As they increase in numbers and capability, Iraq's security forces are demonstrating solid professional performance, Venable said. He cited their solid contribution to recent combat operations in Tal Afar and the western Euphrates River Valley and during the Oct. 15 constitutional referendum. □

Centers, from page 10

the Department of Veterans [Affairs] and the clinical side of the VA," Raza said.

He called the center "a safe, friendly environment located within the community."

"It's a good place to be," Raza explained, "and your counselor knows exactly what you're going through, because most of your counselors are combat vets."

Those hesitant to talk about readjustment issues – emotional trauma or family problems, for example – for fear of jeopardizing training or promotion opportunities shouldn't worry, he said. The Vet centers don't share records with anyone. So what is said stays between the veteran and the counselor, Raza emphasized.

Originally established in 1979 to assist

Vietnam veterans, the centers are user-friendly, said Charlie Flora, associated director of the Vet Center program's readjustment counseling service.

"They are integrated into the community," he said. "We have no waiting lists to see people, (and) we provide community outreach, education, case management, referral services and professional counseling."

The centers also provide psychotherapy for war trauma and social, family and economic readjustment problems, Flora said. But outreach is key to veterans discovering any of these services.

While most veterans that Raza has talked to tend to be from reserve components, he said, the program is available to all combat veterans, including active duty, for life.

Security, from page 13

Johnson and his colleagues performed security duties there and escorted ground convoys of medical personnel, distinguished visitors, and equipment and supplies entering the city.

"We initially thought [Bellchase] would be a setup point for evacuees," Master Sgt. Timothy Kane said. But the evacuees did not show, and the Airmen concentrated on the staging area where joint forces gathered relief supplies including MREs and drinking water for transport.

A high point in the State humanitarian mission came when they were asked to provide CH-47 Chinook air security on flights transporting search and rescue teams. Johnson explained that they secured the 159th's landing sites and assisted with whatever its aircrews needed. Then they were asked to help out when the Bravo Company flyers picked up evacuees at the New Orleans Convention Center and transported them to the international airport.

"The aircraft commander saw how useful we were helping the evacuees, so he requested us to fly along on [additional] missions," Johnson said.

Johnson and Kane described the people who had ridden out the storm and were

helped into the helicopter's confined cabin for a rescue from the city: "Some were praying, some were crying, some stared straight ahead," Kane said. One little girl, Johnson said, said "thank you" to them.

"I'll won't forget that," Johnson said. "They had lost everything, but they were the friendliest people ... they wanted to shake our hands and thank us for being there."

"The medevacs were very rewarding, we saw we were accomplishing something there," Kane said.

Back at Bellchase, Kane said the aircraft were delivering cargo to the airfield, one after another. "The helicopters were everywhere," Kane said. "The aircrews, the pilots and loadmasters, were working very hard."

To integrate operational risk management, the Airmen said they were briefed on the proper rules of engagement before every operation, including how to handle situations that might arise during the course of the mission. They kept hydrated in the oppressive heat, which, Kane said, dissipated with an occasional, but welcomed, breeze.

"One of our main challenges was that everyone was armed, including civilians," Johnson said. "I can't say I blame them, they were trying to protect themselves and


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"If a vet needs somebody to talk to, then that's what we're here for," Raza said. "You can tell if someone has something that they need to talk about just by looking in their eyes. Those people, we kind of try to

encourage them to seek some kind of, any kind of, help."

To date, the readjustment counseling service has seen about 45,000 global war on terror veterans and their families, Flora said. □

their families."

At night, the New Yorkers gathered at their berthing in an aircraft hanger and shared the day's experiences. Johnson and Kane said New York's 139th Air Squadron provided cots for them sleep on along with any gear and equipment they needed or requested.

"We appreciated the 109AW's support,

and the 139th went above and beyond to get us what we needed," Kane said. "The helicopter unit was good to us as well."

We couldn't have done it without Capt. Anna Villanueva's [109AW Security Forces Commander] and the Wings' help, Johnson said. For their own efforts, Security Forces Airmen may have passed that help in ways we will never know. □

G-RAP some \$\$\$

with the Guard Recruiting Assistance Program

New York Army National Guard Soldiers can earn up to \$2,000 for every person they refer to a Recruiter who enlists into the New York Army National Guard.

Upon enlistment the Recruiter Assistants will receive an initial \$1,000 payment. The subsequent \$1,000 payment will occur upon completion of AIT for non-prior service recruits or after the Soldier completes a prerequisite number of drills for prior service Soldiers. Any M-day, New York Army Guardsmen can choose to participate in this program by becoming a part-time Recruiter Assistant. Active Guard Reserve, Federal Technicians or those on ADSW orders are currently not eligible.

For more details and to register,
visit www.guardrecruitingassistant.com

LIEUTENANT COLONEL

ALDEN, JOHN M JR	109AW
ARCATE, JOSEPHE	105AW
BARZAC, VALENTINE G	174FW
BEDORE, KURT M	109AW
BRETON, PAUL A	109AW
CAREY, BARTHOLOMEW JR	106RW
DECKER, DOUGLAS A	174FW
DEWEY, WADE F	174FW
ELVIN, PERRY K	105AW
KENNY, EDWARD P	105AW
KILGORE, ROBERT G	107ARW
KOBIERSKI, TADEUSZE	109AW
LASELLA, PATRICK F	105AW
OFARRELL, THOMAS K	105AW
STUART, MARIANNE J	174FW
TOWNSEND, FRANCIS L	106RW

MAJOR

BARROWS, JONATHAN S	109AW
KOCH, ERIC J	107ARW
TRACY, KEVIN P	174FW

CAPTAIN

ARMS, MICHAEL P	109AW
BAKER, STEVEN B	105AW
BARRIOS, DONNA M	105AW
HALL, KELLY M	174FW
PAUL, WESLEY J	174FW

1ST LIEUTENANT

BAKER, CHRISTOPHER J	106RW
HUGGINS, MICHAEL M	106RW
SALA, MATTHEW J	109AW
SWEENEY, JEFFREY M	105AW
TAYLOR, JASON B	174FW
ZIELINSKI, DAVID L	109AW

2ND LIEUTENANT

ABBOTT, RYAN M	174FW
CHAN, MICHAEL	107ARW
CORNER, JEREMY M	107ARW
MARCHEGIANI, DANIELE	109AW
ROARK, MICHAEL E JR	174FW
SHEEHAN, PATRICE L	109AW
THOMAS, WILLIAM G	107ARW

CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT

ADICKES, PETER K E	106RW
CLARK, ALLEN L	107ARW
JEFFERS, EDWARD L III	107ARW

SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT

BUCHWALD, STEVEN J	107ARW
DEYO, DAVID N	174FW
DITRO, JOHN F	174FW
GRAHAM, MARK D	174FW
MORRELL, DONALD R JR	109AW
PROIETTI, DEODATO A	109AW
SOMMERLAD, SUSAN D	105AW

MASTER SERGEANT

BABCOCK, JAMES G JR	105AW
	107ARW
	105AW
	105AW
	105AW
	109AW
	109AW
	105AW
	106RW
	107ARW
	109AW
	109AW
	174FW
	174FW
	109AW
	106RW
	105AW
	105AW
	105AW
	174FW
	105AW
	106RW
	106RW
	106RW
	106RW
	109AW

FLANDERS, GLEN P	174FW
GALANE, GEORGE	106RW
GIVENS, WILLIAM J III	105AW
GRIFFIN, TIMOTHY D	107ARW
HANLEY, KIM S	105AW
HAYGOOD, DEANNA L	105AW
HUEGEL, GLEN L	174FW
HUNT, VICTORIA	106RW
KEARNEY, PATRICK T	106RW
KIRBY, JACQUELINE M	105AW
LECLAIR, DAVID E	174FW
LEE, JAMES Y	106RW
LEWIS, JOSEPH D	107ARW
MICARI, BRIAN S	106RW
MILLER, YOLANDA D	105AW
PAPASSO, MICHAEL F	109AW
QUINN, JOHN P	105AW
SKONBERG, JASON E	105AW
SPADAVECCHIA, JOSEPH A	106RW
SPIES, THEODORE F	105AW
VALLSDELOSREYES, FRANK V	109AW
VARELA, SEAN P	106RW
WALKER, SCOTT D	174FW
WALSH, JAMES F	105AW
WHALEN, MATTHEW P	174FW

STAFF SERGEANT

ACOSTA, VICTORIANO	106RW
BALDASSARI, ANASTASIA MARYA	105AW
BALDWIN, SARAH	105AW
BASKIEWICZ, KRZYSZTOF J	105AW
BASS, CARROLL L	109AW
BLACK, STEPHEN J	109AW

BRUCCULERI, JAMES A	106RW
BUCCI, LYNNETTE M	109AW
CINCOTTA, JOHN A	106RW
DASCOMB, MARK J	107ARW
DELVECCHIO, CHRISTOPHER A	109AW
DIXON, WILLIAM A	107ARW
FLEMING, JAMES R	174FW
GLINSKI, PAUL B	107ARW
GONSOWSKI, JOSEPH R	107ARW
GRAZIANO, CHRISTOPHER A	174FW
GU, WEI	105AW
HAMBSCH, JEFFREY C	106RW
HASSELL, ERROL F JR	105AW
HULLSIEK, JONATHAN C	174FW
JACOBS, JEFFREY D	105AW
KAMBIC, NATHAN F	174FW
KREFT, MICHAEL JB	174FW
LARUE, STEVEN C	174FW
LEWIS, BENJAMIN W	174FW
LEWIS, TOMMY LEE JR	174FW
LOFARO, CHRISTOPHER P	105AW
LOFTUS, SHAWN M	105AW
LOUGEE, RANDY A	174FW
PIERCE, MATTHEW D	109AW
RAGUSO, CHRISTOPHER J	106RW
REICH, THOMAS G	105AW
ROGERS, KATHLEEN	109AW
ROUGEUX, PATRICK M	105AW
SANDERS, BRUCE L	106RW
SCHWEIZER, REBECCA L	174FW
SFERRAZZA, SALVATORE JR	106RW
TERRY, DAWN M	174FW
TIBBETTS, MICHAEL A	105AW



In remembrance of 9/11, an American Flag waves over Ground Zero on the fourth anniversary of the World Trade Center Attacks in Manhattan. Photo by Lester Milman.

WARNER, SHANE W	109AW
WRIGHT, DANIEL L	174FW
SENIOR AIRMAN	
BARTLEY, JASON C	105AW
BRANNIGAN, JOHN A JR	109AW
CERUTTI, BENJAMIN R	105AW
COSTANDI, JOSEPH N	109AW
CURLEY, ANTHONY K	107ARW
FRANK, ANDREW P	105AW
GARRISON, ALISA A	105AW
GOMES, GREGORY FRANCIS	105AW
GRAFER, KEVIN J	105AW
HARRIES, FRED H	105AW
KEEGAN, TRAVIS A	174FW
LAVIN, SHAWN A	109AW
MADISON, ROBERT J	109AW
MCGRATH, JOLIM	174FW
MCMULLEN, GREGORY M	109AW
MENZIES, JOSHUA D	109AW
PACENZA, MICHAEL E JR	105AW
REAGAN III, EARL E	105AW
RYDER, LUKE B	109AW
SORRENTINO, ROBERT	106RW

SWANSON, LISA D	105AW
TORRES, CHRISTOPHERE	105AW
WOLF, RYAN A	109AW
AIRMAN FIRST CLASS	
ALVAREZ, MICHELLE V	109AW
BADOLATO, MICHAEL J	107ARW
BIVIANO, BRIANA	174FW
BOATMAN, STEPHEN C JR	174FW
BUCKMAN, TERRENCE W	174FW
BUSSE, NICOLE M	106RW
CALKINS, RUTH A	174FW
ELLINGER, ERIC L	174FW
FERRY, JORDAN E	107ARW
GILLETTE, BRIAN F	174FW
JANES, CRAIG W	105AW
JANUSZKA, TRACEY A	174FW
KEOHANE, ZACHARY T	174FW
KOWALCZYK, SARAH C	107ARW
LEE, MICHAEL R	109AW
MANG, RYAN A	107ARW
MARKEL, NATHANE	107ARW
MERRILL, ANDREW P	174FW
MEYER, TYLER L	174FW

MITER, JUSTINT	109AW
MORSE, JOSHUA D	174FW
NEWTON, ANNA J	109AW
OAKEY, JOSHUA D	109AW
OLIVER, EMILY K	174FW
PASSAGE, JOSHUA K	174FW
RECKNER, JENNIFER L	109AW
RUBINO, JOHN A III	107ARW
SILVA, PHILLIP M	105AW
STRAUB, JOSEPH D	174FW
TOTH, RYAN R	105AW
WALLACE, MICHAEL R	109AW
WATT, BRIAN S	109AW
WIGDORSKI, BRIAN M	107ARW
AIRMAN	
MATHEWSON, BRADLEY A	174FW
SALCE, ALCIDE	106RW
AIRMAN BASIC	
BAYLOR, JOHN A	107ARW
GINAVAN, CHARLES P	107ARW
HERNANDEZ, LYDIA E II	107ARW
THUMAN, BRYAN M	107ARW

106th Training Regiment offers 2006 courses

JOINT FORCES HEADQUARTERS, Latham --The following is a list of courses that 106th Regiment, here, is offering for fiscal year 2006. All of the courses are listed on at www.dnma.state.ny.us/armg/starc.html. If you are interested in one of the following courses and meet the prerequisites to enroll, speak with your supervisor and training noncommissioned officer at your unit, and request to be enrolled. If you have specific questions in regards to any of the courses please contact: Master Sgt. Tracey Krom, 914-788-7333; or 1st Lt. Lona Edgecombe, 914-788-7342; or Lt. Col. Brian DeReamer, 914-788-7429.

Officer Candidate School- FY 07 Traditional Program
 School Code: 1006
 Course Number: OCS
 Class # 001
 Phase 0
 Location: Camp Smith
 Dates: IDT Apr. 29 – 30, 2006; June 3 – 4, 2006
 Phase 1
 Location: Camp Rell, Conn.
 Dates: ADT July 15 – 29, 2006
 Phase 2

Smith
 g. 2006 – May 2007 – All MUTA five
 enning, Ga. – Annual Training
 > 2007
 cer Candidate School
 4
 OCS
 McClelland, Ala. – Active Duty Training
 ov. 19 – 20 and Dec. 10 – 11 2005 at Camp
 14, 2006 – Mar. 11, 2006
 McClelland, Ala. – Active Duty Training
 or. 29 – 30 and Jun. 3 – 4, at Camp Smith
 e 10, 2006 – Aug. 5 2006

Basic Non-Commissioned Officer Course: *Common Core*
 School Code: 1006
 Course Number: 600-BNCOC
 Class # 002
 Location: Camp Smith
 Dates: ADT May 7 – 21, 2006

Basic Military Police Reclassification
 School Code: A191
 Course Number: 191-31B10(R)
 Class # 001
 Location: Camp Smith
 Dates: ADT Mar. 29 – Apr. 9, 2006

Cavalry Scout (HMMWV) Reclassification
 School Code: 1006
 Course Number: 171-19D10
 Class # 001 – 19D
 Phase 1
 Location: Camp Smith
 Dates: ADT Mar. 31 – Apr. 9, 2006
 Class # 002-19D
 Phase 1
 Location: Fort Drum
 Dates: ADT Aug. 6 – 16, 2006
 Phase 2
 Location: Fort Drum
 Dates: ADT Aug. 16 – 30, 2006

Armor Crewman (M1/M1A1) Reclassification
 School Code: 1006
 Course Number: 171-19K10
 Class # 001 – 19K

Apr. 9, 2006
 16, 2006
 30, 2006
 Training
 TAITC
 19, 2006, Apr. 21 – 23, 2006

Location: Camp Smith
 Dates: IDT June 2 – 4, 2006, June 9 – 11, 2006

Small Group Instruction Training
 School Code: 1006
 Course Number: 131-F13
 Class # 002
 Location: Camp Smith
 Dates: ADT Mar. 6 – 10, 2006

TAC Officer Qualification Course
 School Code: 1006
 Course Number: 964-TQC
 Class # 001
 Location: Camp Smith
 Dates: ADT Apr. 19 – 23, 2006

Company Level Pre-Command Course
 School Code: 1006
 Course Number: 964-CLPCC
 Class # 001
 Location: Queensbury Hotel, Glens Falls
 Dates: IDT Apr. 21 – 23, 2006, May 19 – 21, 2006

Combat Lifesaver Course
 School Code: 1006
 Course Number: CLC-06
 Class # 002
 Location: Camp Smith
 Dates: IDT Mar. 17 – 19, 2006, Apr. 21 – 23, 2006

Combat Lifesaver Course Recertification
 NOTE: Recertification soldiers are only required to attend the last day of the Combat Lifesaver Course.
 Year: FY06
 School Code: 1006
 Course Number: 964-CLC (S)
 Class# 002
 Location: Camp Smith
 Dates: IDT Apr. 23, 2006

TATS Health Care Specialist, EMT Basic – TRANS
 First step in 91W transition
 Code: 1006
 Number: 081-91W (EMT-B) (T)
 Connecticut Street, Buffalo
 . 13 – Feb. 3, 2006
 ren Street, Glens Falls
 . 02 – 23, 2006



Rendering Honors

New York's Military Forces Honor those who Served

By Maj. Kathy M. Sweeney
Guard Times Staff

LATHAM — The role of New York's Military Forces Honor Guard is rapidly expanding to meet growing demands, says Donald Roy, a retired Army Master Sergeant who took over as MFHG's Program Director in 2003.

During Roy's tenure the honor guard program has undergone a total reorganization with sweeping changes. From two "Detail" offices servicing all of New York the program has expanded to six offices statewide, including their main office, here. Additionally, the MFHG is now outfitted with state-of-the-art computer systems and cell phones, it has its own fleet of 19 government vehicles — with three more on order, and their budget has more than doubled in the past year with their projected budget nearly \$2.5 million.

Why such an increase in equipment, manning and funding? Because, says Roy, our nation's veterans are aging. On average, the United States is losing 1,500 veterans per day, and the National Guard Bureau has predicted a steady rise in that figure until a projected peak in 2008.

Every veteran with an Honorable Discharge is entitled to military funeral honors at no cost to their family. These honors include the playing of taps and a flag folding/presentation to next of kin. Full military honors, which include the addition of military pallbearers, a firing party and a color-guard detail, are provided to Medal of Honor veterans and to veterans who died on Active Duty.

Since its establishment by Governor

George E. Pataki in 1999, the MFHG has grown to provide Military Funeral Honors for more than 500 veterans each month. Last year's total was 6,006 details. This means that on any given day, there were at least 50 Soldiers on duty, but that number can go as high as 80 Soldiers on duty with thirty-seven funerals in one day as the most details performed to date.

The schedule is always full, says Roy who admitted that, currently, there are not enough trained Honor Guard Soldiers to perform full military honors and provide honors for regular veterans. But the Acting Adjutant General, Brig. Gen. F David Sheppard, recently approved an additional full-time detail, consisting of 30 Soldiers, to keep up with increasing demands. For this new detail each Honor Guard Soldier is issued a dress blue uniform and the equipment needed to perform full military honors. All Honor Guard details are equipped with ceremonial bugles for TAPS.

For more information on New York's Military Forces Honor Guard or to join a detail, email Mr. Donald Roy: donald.roy@ny.ngb.army.mil, or call (518) 786-4906. □

Why Join, Volunteer for the Military Forces Honor Guard?

Beyond having the satisfaction of honoring those who came before us and the gratitude of family members, you'll have the opportunity to earn retirement points and drill pay. Retirees are also eligible to be team members.

Each month, more than 500 deceased veterans receive honors. This is one way of saying "thank you" for their service to our nation.

If you have what it takes and want the privilege, you too may be able to be a member of the New York Honor Guard. If you are a Soldier or Airman who takes pride in the military and your appearance, are willing to learn how to perform these ceremonies and have a Class A uniform—dress uniforms are provided — and can be available on weekends and some weekdays, call Don Roy, Director, Military Forces Honor Guard Program at 518-786-4906 or email Donald.Roy@ny.ngb.army.mil.



A New York Military Forces Honor Guard detail. Photos by Sgt. Dennis Gravell.

Who to Call for Veterans' Honors?

The Military Forces Honor Guard provides New York State Veterans with appropriate honors at burial. They also instruct veteran service organizations, who assist the military in performing burial ceremonies. Documentation for all veterans' records of service is required, which includes a Report of Separation form DD-214 for Active Duty and Reserve veterans and form NGB-22 for National Guard veterans. For all funeral honors, please call one of the following offices:

Army & National Guard Veterans: Albany (518) 274-4711; Buffalo (716) 888-5693; New York City (718) 329-3926 x10; Rochester (585) 783-5356; Syracuse (315) 438-3015. **Air Force Veterans:** (518) 344-2586. **Marine Corps Veterans:** (866) 826-3628. **Navy Veterans:** (860) 694-3475. **Coast Guard Veterans:** (617) 223-3485.

What are the words to 'Taps'?

There are no official lyrics to TAPS. There are several variations of the lyrics in use today. The below are some them:

Version 1: "Fading light dims the sight, And a star gems the sky, gleaming bright. From afar drawing nigh — Falls the night."

Version 2: "Day is done, gone the sun, From the lake, from the hills, from the sky. All is well, safely rest, God is nigh."

Version 3: "Then good night, peaceful night, Till the light of the dawn shineth bright, God is near, do not fear - Friend, good night."



A New York Honor Guard Soldier plays taps during military funeral honors.

Every veteran with an Honorable Discharge is entitled to military funeral honors at no cost to their family. These honors include the playing of taps and a flag folding and presentation to next of kin.



Sgt. 1st Class Nicholas Lynch presents a folded American flag to the family member of a deceased Army veteran.

Why 12 Folds for the American Flag?

The first fold of our flag is a symbol of life.

The second fold is a symbol of our belief in the eternal life.

The third fold is made in honor and remembrance of the veteran departing our ranks.

The fourth fold represents our weaker nature, for as American citizens trusting in God, it is to Him we turn in times of peace as well as in times of war for His divine guidance.

The fifth fold is a tribute to our country.

The sixth fold is for where our hearts lie. It is with our heart that we pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

The seventh fold is a tribute to our Armed Forces, for it is through the Armed Forces that we protect our country and our flag against all her enemies.

The eighth fold is a tribute to the one who entered in to the valley of the shadow of death, that we might see the light of day, and to honor mother, for whom it flies on Mother's Day.

The ninth fold is a tribute to womanhood; for it has been through their faith, love, loyalty and devotion that the character of the men and women who have made this country great have been molded.

The tenth fold is a tribute to father, for he, too, has given his sons and daughters for the defense of our country since they were first born.

The eleventh fold, in the eyes of a Hebrew citizen, represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon, and glorifies, in their eyes, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

The twelfth fold, in the eyes of a Christian citizen, represents an emblem of eternity and glorifies, in their eyes, God the Father, the Son, and Holy Ghost.

When the flag is completely folded, the stars are uppermost, reminding us of our national motto: "In God we Trust".

Soldiers, Firefighters memorialized

By 2nd Lt. Amy McCracken
Guard Times Staff

EMPIRE STATE PLAZA, Albany—Sergeant Christian Engeldrum will be remembered for serving his country both as a New York City fireman and as a Soldier in the New York Army National Guard. He was at Ground Zero with his fellow firemen of Ladder 61 when tragedy struck on 9/11. In fact, he can be seen holding a ladder in a photograph that became a symbol of the unwavering American spirit there; it was the photo of firemen hanging the American Flag above the rubble.

Specialist Wilfredo Urbina also served his nation as both a fireman, and as a Soldier in the NYARNG. Urbina, a fireman for the Baldwin Fire Department, was truly excited to be serving in the war as an infantryman, his fellow Soldiers said.

Tragically, it was while serving their country in Iraq as Soldiers of A-Company, 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry Regiment, when they were killed in action on Nov. 29, 2004.

Engeldrum and Urbina were two out of 10 firefighters honored Oct. 10 during the Eighth Annual Fallen Firefighters Memorial Ceremony in Albany. The ceremony, which occurs during New York's Fire Prevention Week, recognizes the courage and sacrifices of those lost in the line of duty and of all members of the fire service, "who perform heroic acts every day," Governor George E. Pataki said.

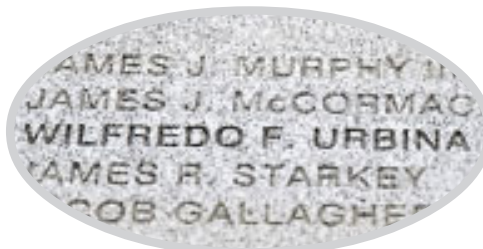
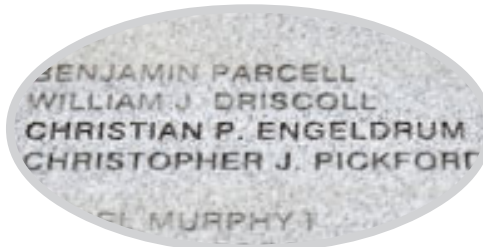
Their names were added to the New York State Fallen Firefighters' Memorial wall, here, now inscribed with 2,293 names dating back to 1811.

Governor Pataki dedicated the memorial in 1998. Its 54-foot by 15-foot gray granite wall stands on the northeast side of the Empire State Plaza. In front of the wall stands a 10-foot high dark bronze sculpture of two firefighters rescuing an injured colleague.

This year's official ceremony opened with the posting of the Colors by the Albany County Fire Department Honor Guard and the New York City Fire Department Emerald Society Pipe and Drum. FDNY Firefighter Andrew T. Wittman, III, sang the National Anthem. Following a

prayer and tributes by Governor Pataki and other dignitaries, the names of the fallen firefighters were read, and bells were rung in their memory. Governor Pataki and representatives of major fire organizations then placed wreaths at the base of the memorial as the "Firefighters' Creed" — a song written to specifically honor the memorialized — was sung. After a moment of silence and a benediction, members of the West Albany Fire Department performed "Taps". A fly-over by the New York State Police Aviation Unit followed, and the ceremony concluded with the retiring of the colors and the singing of "America the Beautiful".

As firefighters and as citizen soldiers in the New York National Guard, Sergeant Engeldrum and Sergeant Urbina embodied the spirit that makes our nation great, Governor Pataki said. □



Governor George E. Pataki, State Firefighters, Soldiers and others honor fallen firefighters at the Eighth Annual Fallen Firefighters Memorial Ceremony, Empire State Plaza, Albany. Photo courtesy of the Governor's Office.

About Guard Times

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Kent Kisselbrack, Director of Public Affairs
Lt. Col. Paul A. Fanning, NYARNG, Editor
Staff Sgt. Mike R. Smith, NYANG, Assistant Editor

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 February 15, April 15, June 15, August 15, October 15 and December 15. Send submissions 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 *Guard Times* are available. Contact us at the address above.