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Guard cleanup s'no problem

Governor calls in Guard to support Western NY Snowstorm recovery

By Capt. Andrea Pitruzzella
Joint Task Force 6 Public Affairs Office

BUFFALO, N.Y. – Following the lake-effect snow storm on October 12, 2006, the streets of Western New York filled with much more than downed tree limbs and power lines. They were also filled with grateful residents, many that spent days without power and their streets and driveways blocked with falling debris.

Following the unexpected early season snowfall, Governor Pataki directed more than 150 members of the New York Army and Air National Guard to the streets in many of the hardest hit communities of Western New York. Their job was to help local municipalities and agencies such as the New York State Department of Transportation clear out debris left by the storm that deposited upwards of two feet of heavy, wet snow that took down many area trees and power lines, leaving approximately 250,000 homes and businesses without power.

The National Guard joint task force included units from the 153rd Troops Command Headquarters and the 107th Air Refueling Wing, both units with Soldiers and Airmen stationed across Western New York. Together, the joint task force executed Operation Empire Response to employ Guardsmen and women in support of recovery efforts throughout Erie County.

“The Connecticut Street Armory houses an Operations Center that took directions from the Erie County Emergency Operations Center,” said 1st Lt. Frank Washburn, Officer in Charge of the Joint Operations Center at the Connecticut Street Armory. “The EOC coordinates with many different agencies to determine the greatest needs in the community and then coordinates with us to disperse our troops to these hardest hit areas.”

What National Guard members found when they arrived were residents very happy to see them. “My wife called me and said that the National Guard was coming down the street and I told her that we were now in good hands,” said Jack Slick, a resident from Williamsville, a village in the Town of Amherst that was one of the hardest hit areas. “All we have to do is identify where

(Snow recovery continues, page twelve)



Staff Sgt. Richard Ciminelli, part of an engineer team from the 204th Engineer and 27th Brigade Special Troops Battalion clears debris near Buffalo following the damaging early snowfall in mid-October. Photo Courtesy 107th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs. Story page 12.

From the leadership

Our pace of activity across the New York National Guard does not diminish with the falling temperatures or falling leaves here in the Northeast. Our Army and Air National Guard units continue to support a nation at war overseas while hometown units keep their guard up to secure the homeland and respond to our local communities. All the while, guidons and flags of historic New York National Guard units are unfurled or cased as reorganizations of our formations continues across the commands.

This fall we will remember the fifth anniversary of the terror attacks on American soil on September 11th, 2001. Every Soldier, Airmen, Sailor or Marine who served in New York's military forces on that terrible day or in the years since share the common sense of purpose in our mission. We must remain vigilant here at home and support our nation's wartime operations overseas to prevent any further attack on our shores.

At the same time, we must commit ourselves to be prepared to respond when our communities call. Our success in Western New York following the October snow emergency in Buffalo is a positive example of how we can achieve more working jointly. The joint efforts of the 152nd Troop Command Headquarters and the 107th Aerial Refueling Wing responded with the right combination of resources, both blue and green, when the City of Buffalo and especially the outlying communities recovered from heavy snows that damaged utilities and trees throughout the area.

Even as Soldiers and Airmen helped communities recover in Buffalo, more than 150 other Citizen Soldiers deployed to support our nation's border security efforts. Team New York, a six-month deployment of forces to support the Arizona National Guard, departed from Camp Smith to assist the Border and Customs Agency in their security operations along our country's Southwest Border.

"Our communities and our country are counting on us to recruit and retain the very best men and women to serve"

Even as we deployed Soldiers to the Southwest Border we welcomed home Soldiers from Southwest Asia. Some thirty Army Guardsmen and women from the 138th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment and the 14th Finance Detachment arrived home from their successful missions to Iraq in late October and early November. As these great Citizen Soldiers return to their families and communities, I want to welcome them back and congratulate them for a job well done.

Lastly, this autumn marks the end of one fiscal year and the beginning of another. From a National Guard standpoint, we take measure in our numbers on October first and prepare our game plan to drive forward into the New Year. 2006 was a very good year for the New York National Guard, achievement more than 90% of our manning goal. But as we move forward through reorganization and refit from operations overseas, we can do much, much better in retaining the men and women who are the bedrock of our team.

We can do better, we must do better and we will do better in 2007. Our communities and our country are counting on us to



Maj. Gen. Joseph J. Taluto

recruit and retain the very best men and women to serve in our National Guard. We see this in the eyes of our neighbors when we respond to disasters, in the praise of our homeland security partners and in the respect of our Active component peers when we deploy alongside our Army and Air Force comrades.

Continue in your individual efforts and in your unit plans to bring in and keep the best Soldiers and Airmen in our units, give them the very best possible training and equipment and continue to remind them all that we a key part of our nation's defense here at home and operations to defeat our enemies overseas.

GUARD NOTES

Army Announces New 'Army Strong' Ad Campaign

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Army News Service) -- The U.S. Army announced Oct. 9 the start of its communication and education efforts to assist the Army family to communicate to the Nation about Soldier's skills, leadership, teamwork, and selfless service prior to the launch of a new Army advertising campaign. Army Secretary Dr. Francis J. Harvey unveiled the Army Strong campaign, at the 2006 Association of the United States Army Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C.

The Army Strong campaign builds on the foundation of the previous recruiting campaigns by highlighting the transformative power of the U.S. Army. Army Strong captures the defining experience of U.S. Army Soldiers.

Army Strong is a strength personified by every U.S. Army Soldier -- Active Duty, Army Reserve, National Guard, Cadet and Retired," said Lt Gen. Robert Van Antwerp Jr., commander US Army Accessions Command. "This campaign will show Americans that there is strong, then there's Army Strong. I am both inspired and confident that the campaign will build on the positive momentum within our recruiting program."

Army Strong was developed to address the interests and motivations of those considering a career in the military. The campaign also speaks to those who understand and support the decision of a family member, friend or employee to serve.

A national advertising campaign for the Army Strong message will launch Nov. 9 and will initially involve television, radio and online spots as well as an updated www.goarmy.com Web site. Print ads are scheduled to begin running in January 2007. The ads will be directed to media that appeals to young adults.

Army Strong is the creation of the McCann Worldgroup, the U.S. Army's marketing communications agency. McCann Worldgroup was retained Dec. 7, 2005, after a competitive review of potential agency partners. To develop the campaign, McCann conducted extensive research among prospective soldiers and their influencers, and interacted directly with hundreds of Soldiers. "This is a campaign informed by research, and inspired by Soldiers," said Eric Keshin, McCann Worldgroup's worldwide Chief Operating Officer and Regional Director-North America.

A preview of the campaign and information is available to all Soldiers and their families at www.us.army.mil.

Air Guard's best flight safety year

ARLINGTON, Va., (National Guard Bureau) - The Air National Guard has completed the best flight safety year in its history, according to Col. Rick Dennee, the Air Guard's director of safety.

The Air Guard's Class A mishaps, which involve more than \$1 million in damages, dropped below the previous record low set in 2002 by nearly one-half last year. Air Guard officials calculated a fiscal year 2006 Class-A mishap rate of .28 per 100,000 flight hours, well below 2002's .49 Class-A mishap rate.

"All Airmen across the Air National Guard did a great job in reducing [Class A] mishaps," Dennee said. "A contributing factor was our leadership, at all levels, sending a message for safer and smarter mission accomplishment. But it is due, mainly, to our Airmen in the field, of all specialties, putting safety first. They deserve the credit and they should be extremely proud of their accomplishment."

The number of flight accidents in 2006 dropped to 18 from 32 in 2005, officials said. Meanwhile, operations remained relatively constant. Although the Air Guard flew slightly less contingency operations in 2006, Dennee explained that aircrews logged the same number of flight hours.

The end result in human terms: No aviation fatalities during the last fiscal year compared to eight in 2005, Dennee said. In material costs: Savings of about \$23 million. The cost for mishaps in 2006 was estimated at \$12 million compared to 2005's mishap costs of \$35 million.

With flight safety on track, Dennee said current and future safety challenges remain in personal safety, including off-duty and off-base safety.

"It's the greatest challenge. There were 23 fatalities last fiscal year in off-duty accidents," he said.

In stressing safety outside the gates, Dennee's office bombards Airmen with safety messages through leadership training, senior leadership events, safety letters including the "101 Critical Days of Summer," and holiday safety messages. The key, Dennee said, is for safety to become second nature among all Airmen.

"At its best, safety is an unconscious thought, interwoven into the daily fabric across our culture," Dennee said. "We always want to do better."

Governor recognizes Guard's 'Ground Zero' Responders

By Master Sgt. Corine Lombardo
42nd Infantry Division Public Affairs

NEW YORK, N.Y. -- A dozen Citizen-Soldiers and Airmen joined police, firefighters, and emergency medical personnel for New York's Salute to First Responders at the World Trade Center site in Manhattan on Sept. 10th.

Hundreds of first responders from 55 New York counties, 38 other states and Canada attended a luncheon hosted by New York State Governor, George E. Pataki. Participants represented the thousands of individuals who responded to the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.

"Today, on the eve of the fifth anniversary of the attacks on America, it is important to welcome first responders from across our great nation back to New York -- to express our utmost admiration and respect, and to say thanks for what you did and for what you continue to do for America," said Governor George E. Pataki.

The select group of Guard personnel represented the thousands of N.Y. Army and Air National Guard members who performed recovery efforts during the immediate response and continued to provide security for months after the attacks.

"This is a fitting tribute to the Citizen-Soldiers and Airmen that worked with unwavering courage in the face of uncertainty and great danger, during the initial response as well as months following the attacks, said Maj. General Joseph J. Taluto, NYS Adjutant General.

Governor Pataki told those assembled group that "you exemplify the very highest ideals of public service -- people with the wisdom to know what is right and the



President George W. Bush and First Lady Laura Bush present a wreath at the World Trade Center Memorial pool at Ground Zero in lower Manhattan on September 11, 2006 as part of the nation's five-year remembrance of the terror attacks of 2001. The two memorial pools sit on the site of the Twin Tower. Watching from the ramp to the site is NY Governor George Pataki, NYC Mayor Michael Bloomberg and former Mayor Rudy Giuliani. DoD Photo.

courage to do what is right. Individuals, who possess and respond to an inherent drive to serve. Regardless of the risk; people who readily place the safety of others before their own."

"To the Citizen Soldiers and Airmen of

our National Guard -- men and women heroically dedicated to answering duty's call, whether it is to support their fellow citizens in the aftermath of a natural disaster, to protect our homeland, or to defend freedom overseas. That is the spirit of unity, courage and compassion that defines the American military," said Pataki.

"It was great to meet members of the NY Police and Fire Departments that were at Ground Zero. It's important to have people recognized for their hard work and dedication, said Sgt. First Class Edgar Ponce, from Staten Island, adding "all of us worked together and put a lot of time and effort to do our part on that day and the days that followed. It was hard emotionally and physically but we accomplished the missions."

Ponce, a maintenance NCO with the Combined Maintenance Shop B arrived at Ground Zero on Sept. 12th to prepare Battery Park for the hundreds of Guard Soldiers reporting for rescue and recovery operations. Once completed, he began assisting the NY Police Department with security around the site.

During his second week, he and his Soldiers were providing security for the temporary morgue. By early October Ponce and his Soldiers were sent to Camp Smith for training and returned to NYC to secure the Manhattan Bridge and Midtown tunnel, where they searched vehicles and cargo being transported across the island.

"This is a fitting tribute to the Citizen-Soldiers and Airmen that worked with unwavering courage in the face of uncertainty and great danger"

Like many of NY's Citizen-Soldiers, Ponce continued his fight in the Global War on Terrorism and deployed to Iraq with the 42nd Infantry Division.

"Let us always observe September 11th as a day to remember the innocent victims, to recall the tragically shortened lives, and to pay homage to the heroes who responded, said Pataki.



New York State Governor George E. Pataki and the N.Y. State Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Joseph J. Taluto meet with representatives of the New York National Guard's first military responders at Ground Zero in Manhattan on September 10, 2006 to commemorate the five-year anniversary of the terrorist attacks at the World Trade Center. The Soldiers and Airmen represented more than 2,000 members of New York State's military forces that responded to rescue, response and recovery operations in New York City in the aftermath of the September 11th terror attacks. Taluto himself commanded the recovery task force of Army, Air, Marine and NY Guard military forces to provide support and assistance to the NYC Emergency Management Office in the weeks following the attack. Photo by Lester Millman.



Sergeant David Roustum Remembered in Special Ceremony

Story and photos by Lt. Col. Paul Fanning
Guard Times Staff

MASTEN AVENUE ARMORY, BUFFALO, N.Y. – A special armory ceremony was held on the steps of the Masten Avenue Armory in Buffalo on September 10 to remember a fallen Soldier who was also known for his dedication, friendship, sense of humor and fitness.

The family of the late Sergeant David Roustum joined with New York Army National Guard members of his former unit, friends and local officials to dedicate the remodeled armory physical fitness room that would bear the name of a Guard Soldier who touched many and inspired all who came to know him.

“This is something he would have really liked,” said Daniel Roustum, David Roustum’s older brother who previously served on active duty with the U.S. Army. “Knowing that other Soldiers assigned here will be using this room to stay in shape and continue to serve means a lot to our family. He loved what he was doing. Your support to us in helping to keep his memory alive, especially in this way, is just great.”

Sergeant David L. Roustum of West Seneca, served as a member of Company B, 1st Battalion 108th Infantry until his death in Iraq on 20 November 2004. In addition to serving as a traditional National Guard member, Sgt. Roustum was also a member of the Guard’s Military Forces Honor Guard, which renders military honors at veterans’ funerals. Before his deployment to Iraq in January 2004, Sgt. Roustum

participated in hundreds of funerals with the Western New York Military Honors Detachment, rendering honors for veterans who had come to the end of their natural life. Sergeant Roustum also participated in the November 2003 funeral of the late Specialist Michael Williams of Buffalo, who was Killed in Action in Iraq as a member of the Guard’s 105th Military Police Company, which is also based at the Masten Avenue Armory.

Sergeant Roustum was a former star high school athlete and became a proud member of the Guard’s infantry force while serving with his unit. He is best remembered for his dedication, team spirit, good nature and overall physical fitness. When not performing training or rendering military honors he was often found exercising in the armory weight lifting room.

In the wake of his death, the Roustum family joined with unit members, armory staff and community volunteers on a project to remodel and improve the armory physical fitness room as a fitting memorial to a young man who dedicated his service to State, Nation and Community and remains a role model for both the military and community at large. The family contributed thousands of dollars to cover expenses and purchase exercise equipment.

This summer, the New York National Guard named a new award for top members of the Guard’s Military Forces Honor Guard, and it is named after Sgt. Roustum. The first

recipient announced in July is Specialist Kevin Bridge from Buffalo, a close comrade of Sgt. Roustum who served with him as a member of the Military Honors Detachment and deployed to Iraq with him in 2004 and participated in the dedication ceremony in September.



How 9/11 changed the National Guard

By Sgt. Michael Dann
National Guard Bureau

ARLINGTON, Va. – At 8:46 on the morning of Sept. 11, 2001, American Airlines Flight 11 flew into the North Tower of the World Trade Center in New York City, the first of the terrible events that defined that terrible day. The terrorist attacks five years ago this month spurred the National Guard into action – protecting government offices, airports and critical infrastructure across the land.

“When the towers collapsed and that airplane hit the Pentagon, it started a no-notice transformation for the National Guard,” said Lt. Gen. H. Steven Blum, chief of the National Guard Bureau. “That transformation continues to this day and will continue for the foreseeable future.” The Guard has seen tremendous growth in its capabilities and missions, both at home and overseas, changing its role from a strategic reserve force to an operational force, he said.

“The Guard at one point had over 50 percent of the ground combat units, infantry and armor, fighting in Iraq,” Blum said. “Today we have over 70,000 Guard members serving or heading overseas in support of the global war on terrorism.”

That role as an operational force and the new mission along the U.S.-Mexico border have thrust the Guard into the public eye, Blum pointed out. The Guard’s response to Hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma last year also made front-page news around the world.

“All 50 states, four territories, any place that had a Guard unit, sent help. Over 50,000 Guard members responded to Katrina with just a phone call,” the Guard Bureau chief said. “That was the largest, most rapid military response to a natural disaster in the history of the world.”

Now, President George W. Bush has called on the Guard to help the U.S. Border Patrol secure the borders in Texas, Arizona, New Mexico and California against illegal immigrants. Meanwhile, the Guard remains engaged in other missions at home and in more than 40 countries around the world. So far, the public has responded positively to the Guard’s new identity, with recruiting numbers running at an all-time high.

“The opinion about the National Guard has moved in a few short years from ‘Are they relevant?’ to being deemed essential to the security of this nation,” Blum said. “We may be at an all-time high in terms of our image. We may, in fact, be the most respected uniformed force in hometown America right now.”

Many new capabilities are being added to the Guard’s inventory to better serve its homeland defense mission.

Each of the 50 states and the four territories now have a joint-force headquarters to give the states better command and control over assets during times of crisis, both inside and outside their borders.

By the end of this year each state will have a civil-support team ready to react at a moment’s notice in case of a natural disaster or terrorist attack. The teams will be able to detect and identify deadly agents, advise authorities about the best course of action, and establish a communications bridge between local, state and federal emergency responders.

“The fact that we haven’t had a shutdown of any commercial part of our nation since 9/11 is huge,” says Blum. “It’s because of the contributions these 21st century men and women of the Guard are making to the defense of our nation.”

Even with all the deployments and changing homeland defense missions, retention has never been better, giving



In this illustration from *Armor Magazine* first published January-February 2002, members of the New York Army National Guard’s 1st Battalion, 101st Cavalry provide support to the response, rescue and recovery mission at ground zero supporting the New York City Office of Emergency Management. The 101st Cavalry was among the first responding battalions of the Guard’s 42nd Infantry Division, 27th Infantry Brigade Combat Team and 53rd Troop Command in the hours following the terrorist attacks at the World Trade Center in lower Manhattan. Soldiers from the 101st Cavalry, based on Staten Island, would continue to serve on State Active Duty at ground zero through the winter of 2002. Courtesy illustration.

the Guard its most combat-experienced forces since the end of World War II.

“The people of the National Guard are the finest young men and women we have ever had in our ranks in our 369-year history,” Blum said.

The Guard today has the youngest force since the end of the draft almost 35 years ago, he added.

It’s also the most experienced force the Guard has ever had. Over half of our Citizen-Soldiers and Airmen are veterans of at least one prolonged combat tour,” Blum pointed out, and many have had second and third tours.

“We may be at an all-time high in terms of our image. We may, in fact, be the most respected uniformed force in hometown America right now.”

When you include the numerous mobilizations for domestic missions like airport security, the G-8 Summit, the Democratic and Republican conventions, and numerous natural disasters of which Katrina is only the most prominent example, many Guard members have had four or five tours, Blum added. That pace was inconceivable before Sept. 11, 2001.

Guard Woman is latest NY Casualty

Guard Times Staff

CAMP ARIFJAN, KUWAIT – The New York National Guard family this fall lost a Soldier with more than 20 years of military service. Sergeant Denise A. Lannaman from Bayside, Queens died as a result of a non-combat incident at Camp Arifjan, her base in Kuwait on October 1st. Her death remains under investigation.

Sergeant Lannaman, age 46, was assigned as a truck driver to the 1569th Transportation Company and was called up in 2004. Her unit served in Iraq through most of 2005. When her unit was returning home last year in the November time frame, she asked to remain in theater for an additional tour of duty and was assigned to the Army’s 63rd Engineer Company.

The funeral was held in Queens later in the month with full military honors.



Troop Command Colors Honored, Retired

Historic Guard Units reorganize as part of Army Guard Transformation in NYC

Story and photo by Maj. Richard Goldenberg
Guard Times Staff

CAMP SMITH TRAINING SITE, CORTLANDT MANOR, N.Y. – Members of the New York Army National Guard's 53rd Troop Command unfurled the colors of the 369th Sustainment Brigade here on Saturday, September 16th marking the transformation of New York City's logistics and support units for more than 1,000 Citizen Soldiers.

Members of the 369th Veterans Association and 107th Regimental Veterans Association were both present to welcome transformation for the two historic New York City units.

"This is a major event for the 369th," said retired Maj. Gen. Nathaniel James, the national president of the 369th veterans association and former Guardsman. "Today brings the 369th back to its roots as a regimental unit."

The activation of the sustainment brigade was the final act in ceremonies that honored combat service support units that returned from deployments for Operation Iraqi Freedom and underwent transformation. Unit commanders and senior NCOs each received campaign streamers to place on their unit guidons, symbolizing the unit's service in Iraq.

These units included the 107th Corps Support Group, the 27th Rear Area Operations Center, the 206th Corps Support Battalion, the 10th Transportation Control Detachment and the 133rd Maintenance Company.

"With so many Iraq veterans in the 369th today we've offered all these Soldiers one-year free memberships in the veterans' association to invite these new Soldiers into our group," said General James.

"Depending on how you choose to look at it, today we experience several of those significant life events for several units; birth, marriage and death," said Lt. Col. Kevin McKiernan, commander of the 107th Corps Support Group, deactivating after 200 years of service in the National Guard.

"We celebrate the birth in today's creation of the 369th Sustainment Brigade, the newest concept in Combat Service Support. In marriage," McKiernan said, "we see the union of four units, the 107th Corps Support Group, the 206th Corps Support Battalion, the 27th Rear Area Operations Center and the 369th Corps Support Battalion into one. "In the end, we will all be one unit."

"Deactivation can be likened to the death of a unit," McKiernan continued. "In a spiritual sense though, the spirit and soul of these units will continue to live on in all the great Soldiers who had the great honor of serving under their colors," he said after casing the colors of the 107th and uncasing the new colors of his new command.

The new organizations in the 369th Sustainment Brigade include the brigade headquarters and 719th Transportation Company based in Harlem, a signal network communications detachment in Peekskill, the 145th Maintenance Company on Staten Island, the 133rd Quartermaster Company in Brooklyn and Long Island and the 1569th Transportation Company in Newburgh.

"Every time we make a force structure change, our Soldiers go through tremendous change as well, both working in their unit and for their individual military schooling," said Brig. Gen. David Sheppard, commander of the 53rd Troop Command. Soldiers of the 369th Sustainment Brigade, I will be there with you as you go through this journey."

The Sustainment Brigade is a multifunctional Combat Service Support (CSS) organization that combines functions that formerly resided in the division support command (DISCOM)



Lt. Col. Kevin McKiernan unfurls the new colors of the 369th Sustainment Brigade during the activation ceremony at the National Guard Camp Smith training site near Peekskill. The reorganization on September 16 marks the return of the N.Y. Guard's historic "Harlem Hellfighters" to brigade strength. The new sustainment brigade will absorb elements of the 107th Corps Support Group, the 27th Rear Area Operations Center, the 206th Corps Support Battalion, the 369th Corps Support Battalion, the 10th Transportation Control Detachment and the 133rd Maintenance Company.

and corps support command (COSCOM).

Its primary mission is to plan, coordinate, synchronize, monitor, and control CSS in an area of operations that support an Army combat division. The sustainment brigade commander will serve as the senior logistics commander in the combat task force.

The brigade is a modular, tailorable organization comprised of both functional and multifunctional subordinate CSS units. It will be configured for, distribute to, and retrograde from maneuver brigade combat teams and other support brigades assigned or attached to a combat task force. The sustainment brigade will be capable (with augmentation) of managing logistics operations in support of joint or multinational operations and forces. With augmentation, it also could provide joint logistics command and control for a joint force commander.

The brigade will also provide command and control over other New York National Guard combat

service support units, including a personnel services battalion, a finance battalion and a signal battalion. The brigade will include more than 1,000 Citizen Soldiers from across New York City, Long Island and the Hudson Valley.

"The real good news for Soldiers is that next month they'll show up to drill and very little will have changed," noted the state's senior enlisted Soldier, Cmd. Sgt. Maj. Robert Van Pelt. "Most of the skills in the new sustainment brigade are found right here on the parade field," he said motioning to the hundreds of brigade Soldiers standing in formation for the ceremony.

"the spirit and soul of these units will continue to live on in all the great Soldiers who had the great honor of serving under their colors"

The activation of the 369th Sustainment Brigade adopts the history and lineage of the New York Army National Guard's 369th Corps Support Battalion and a 93-year history of service for the "Harlem Hellfighters."

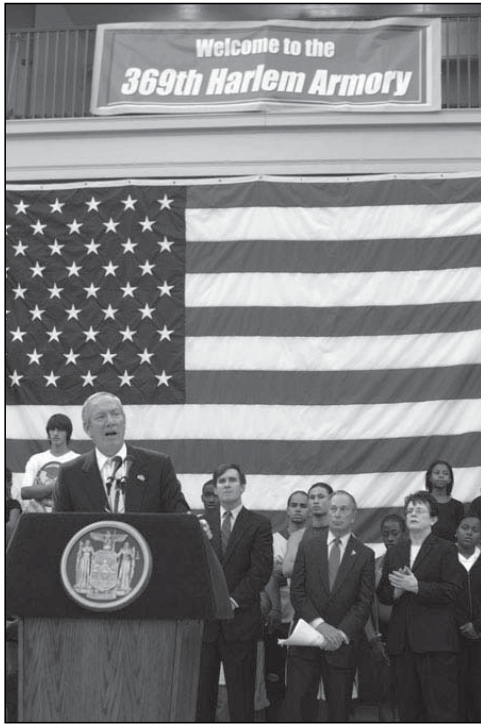
The history of the 369th begins with in 1913 with the 15th Regiment of the New York National Guard. Mobilized for service in 1917 during World War I, the regiment was redesignated the 369th Infantry Regiment as an all-black infantry combat unit and served with distinction in France.

In the year before World War II, the 369th reorganized as a coastal artillery regiment and later served in the war as an anti-aircraft regiment before returning to the National Guard in 1947. The unit mobilized in 1950 during the Korean War but did not deploy into the combat theater.

The 369th underwent various reorganizations as both field artillery and transportation elements before it was mobilized for service during Operation Desert Storm as the 369th Transportation Battalion, serving from December 1990 to July 1991 in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

The 369th transformed to its most current structure as a Corps Support Battalion in 1994 and was mobilized for service for Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2004-05.

"It's a great day to be a Soldier in the 369th Sustainment Brigade," said Sheppard in his remarks to the new formation of troops. "I'll see you on the high ground."



“The future generations of this great City and State will have this state-of-the-art athletic and educational facility, which will provide children with a safe place to learn and grow, right here in the historic heart of Harlem.”



Photo at top: Governor George E. Pataki, Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg and Police Athletic League of New York City Executive Director John J. Ryan join community leaders to announce the opening of the Harlem Armory as a multi-purpose athletic, educational and cultural center for children. Photo by Lester Millman. Above, Mayor Bloomberg meets with martial arts students of the Police Athletic League. Photo by Edward Reed.

Harlem Armory welcomes new multi-purpose youth center

Police Athletic League partners with Guard to benefit NYC community

Guard Times Staff

NEW YORK, N.Y. -- Governor George E. Pataki, New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg and the Police Athletic League of New York City joined community leaders September 6, 2006 to announce the opening of the New York National Guard's Harlem Armory as a multi-purpose athletic, educational and cultural center for children to learn, play and grow.

Located in the heart of the community at 142nd Street and Fifth Avenue, the Harlem Armory was built in 1933 for the 369th Regiment because of its outstanding military valor. Known as the "Harlem Hellfighters," the unit owns a special place in American History in that the 369th Regiment was the first Black Regiment to fight in World War I.

Now, because of an unprecedented partnership among all levels of government and the community, as well as the private and not-for-profit sectors, the Harlem Armory will offer children numerous hands-on, after-school activities such as tennis, yoga, volleyball, basketball, rock climbing, high ropes, martial arts, golf, gymnastics and batting practice. In addition, the center also will provide enrichment programs, such as tutoring, mentoring, computer training, SAT preparation and public speaking. The Harlem Armory is the only active National Guard Armory that has offered this type of use to the community.

"The children of Harlem will greatly benefit from this newly-designed Armory and I'm proud to have been apart of such a great endeavor," Governor Pataki said. "The future generations of this great City and State will have this state-of-the-art athletic and educational facility, which will provide children with a safe place to learn and grow, right here in the historic heart of Harlem."

Congressman Charlie Rangel said, "If we are going to prepare the next generation for all of the challenges of the 21st century, we have to make sure that they have quality education in and out of the classroom. The expansion of the Harlem Armory moves us one more step closer toward the goal of giving all of our children the opportunity to exercise both their bodies and minds. Of making sure that they have all the tools they need to succeed and reach their full potential."

Mayor Michael Bloomberg said, "With the school year beginning this is a perfect time to introduce a new place for our children to go for athletic, educational and cultural after-school activities. The reuse of the Harlem Armory as a community center is an important project that demonstrates what can be achieved when the public, not-for-profit and private sectors collaborate with the community to find innovative ways to create something that will benefit local residents."

New York State Senator David A. Paterson said, "Often the schools in our city have had to dramatically cut back on after-school programs and recreational activities because of fiscal constraints. The Harlem Armory will help to fill that void for so many children by providing a safe and enriching environment to learn and to grow. The investment we make today

will help the leaders of tomorrow."

In addition to programs for children, the renovated Armory will provide surrounding community residents with a new, state-of-the-art venue for large public events including concerts, graduation ceremonies and festivals, as well as job and college fairs.

The Harlem Armory features a 50,000 square-foot drill floor and three tiers of updated stadium seating for almost 3,000 and has been completely renovated to house six modern tennis courts and two multi-purpose courts equipped for basketball, volleyball, or tennis. Additional space will be used for some of the more non-traditional sports such as gymnastics, fencing and golf. In addition to the courts, a rock climbing wall and high ropes course will soon be installed in the Center, which houses three classrooms, a tennis lounge, computer room and office space. The State Division of Military and Naval Affairs are also preparing a pictorial history of the 369th regiment to be prominently displayed on the wall at the Center.

Space for a radio and television station has been planned to overlook the floor of the drill shed, giving youth the training and experience to broadcast and film events taking place at the Armory. A "SmartBoard" will bring cutting edge technology and its opportunities to the Harlem community.

The \$6 million re-construction project was administered by the Police Athletic League of New York City (PAL), which holds the lease from the State Division of Military and Naval Affairs, to operate programs in the drill shed of the Armory.

"Soldiers and Airmen and Women of the New York National Guard have a long tradition of dedicated service to their communities, state, and nation," said New York State Adjutant General, Major General Joseph J. Taluto. "And the Harlem Hell Fighters hold a special place in our history. As long-standing members of their community, it is fitting that this multi-agency project be housed in the Harlem Armory and that it will benefit children and youth, as well as maintain the 369th's presence here for years to come."

Governor Pataki, Mayor Bloomberg and the federal government provided the funding for the renovations through a number of sources including: asset forfeiture from drug trafficking convictions through the HIDTA program, a HUD Community Development Block Grant, a New York City Empowerment Zone Grant, as well as a number of other grants from agencies.

To support future programming at the Armory, a \$250,000 grant has been awarded by Assemblyman Keith Wright. Going forward, the Harlem Armory Advisory Board will be working with a number of private and public partners to continue to raise funds and build community partnerships to better serve the Harlem community through programs and events at the facility.

"I am absolutely thrilled to be one of the sponsors of this historic rehabilitation," said New York State Assemblyman Keith Wright. "This is a special day for the community of Harlem, one that brings together the past and the present (and) exemplifies the continued commitment of the National Guard, the Police Athletic League and the Great State of New York to the village and children of Harlem."

"The Armory holds a special place in my heart as it does for many Harlem residents," Wright continued, "being that my Grandfather was a veteran of the 369th Regiment who served his country proudly in times of war."

Team NY deploys to Arizona for long tour on SW Border

NOGALES, Ariz.-- "New York Soldiers liked Arizona so much the first time around, they have come back for more," best sums up the most recent deployment of New York National Guardsmen to the Southwest border, according to 1st Lt. Sean Gill, Executive Officer for Team New York, the company-sized element deployed for Operation Jump Start.

Operation Jump Start began after President George W. Bush announced his intention this past spring to help the Department of Homeland Security protect the US-Mexican border with Citizen Soldiers from the National Guard. New York was one of the first states to provide forces to Arizona when infantry Soldiers from the 27th Brigade Combat Team's 2nd Battalion, 108th Infantry Regiment diverted from routine annual training at Fort Drum to the dry sunny desert of Arizona.

The most recent deployment of forces reflects New York State Governor George Pataki agreement to provide Arizona with a long-term durational force of up to 150 Soldiers. Deploying in late October 2006, more than 125 volunteer Soldiers from both major commands in the Army National Guard arrived in Arizona. The troops are expected to serve some six months in support of the Customs and Border Protection Agency along the Southwest Border.

"Operation Jump Start has been a tremendous success," said Deputy Chief Kevin Stevens of the Customs and Border Protection Agency. "The National Guard men and women standing shoulder to shoulder with our Customs and Border Patrol agents made a major, positive change for our nation's border security."

"Many Soldiers are (already) two-time supporters of Operation Jump Start in the Grand Canyon State," said Gill of the volunteer Soldiers. He explained that "these Soldiers hail from every major region of the Empire State, from Long Island to Buffalo and almost all points in between."

Housed at Fort Huachuca, Soldiers from Team NY are the extra eyes and ears on the border at EIT (Entry Identification Team) sites in the Nogales area. The US Border Patrol placed these sites at geographically key locations in order to allow unobstructed observation of the US-Mexico border. Owing to recent operations, the Nogales area is one of the most heavily trafficked crossing areas along the more than 2000 miles of border shared with Mexico. By having Soldiers man these sites, it frees up otherwise assigned Border Patrol agents to return to the field.

"If you want to really deter the smuggler in an area along our border, tell them you're coming, show up and then stay," said Stevens. That has been the intended impact of National Guard assets in support of the Homeland Security from the beginning, he commented. "The enforcement presence you (the National Guard) bring to the border has a real and tangible effect."

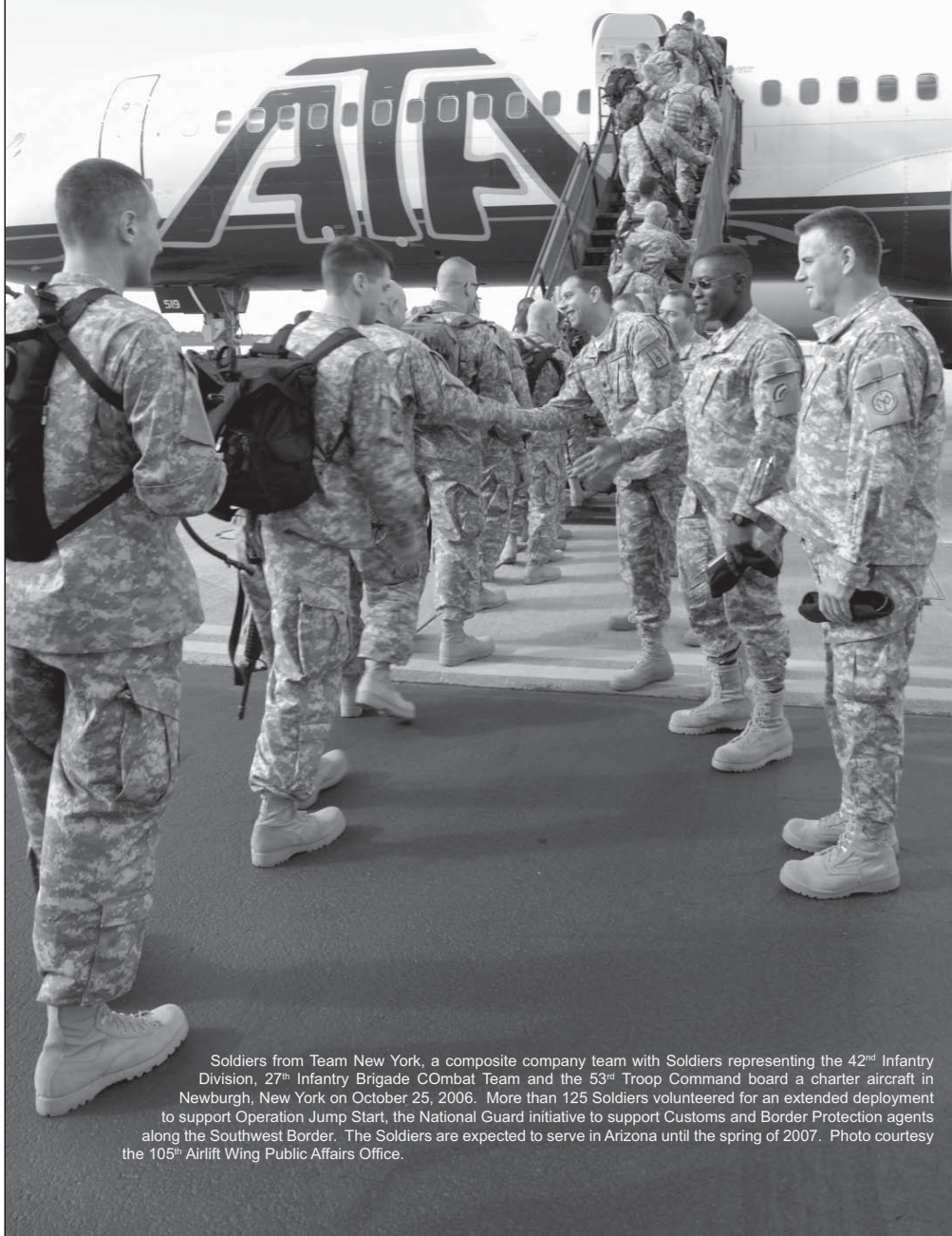
In the past year, approximately 130-140 thousand criminals were arrested among the 1.2 million detentions along the Southwest Border, or about ten percent of the illegal traffic across the border.

"Within the first month of this mission, Border Patrol sources informed us that seizure of narcotics and apprehensions of individuals illegally entering the U.S. increased," Gill reported. "Clearly, our presence is making a difference," he said.

"We've been able to expand our control greater and faster than I've seen in my entire 26 year career," Stevens said. "The National Guard presence is such a significant force multiplier that it has in effect doubled our efforts in the Customs and Border Protection Agency."

NY Soldiers Return to Help Keep Border Secure

By Sgt. Ed Balaban
JFHQ-NY, Tucson Sector Public Affairs



Soldiers from Team New York, a composite company team with Soldiers representing the 42nd Infantry Division, 27th Infantry Brigade COmbat Team and the 53rd Troop Command board a charter aircraft in Newburgh, New York on October 25, 2006. More than 125 Soldiers volunteered for an extended deployment to support Operation Jump Start, the National Guard initiative to support Customs and Border Protection agents along the Southwest Border. The Soldiers are expected to serve in Arizona until the spring of 2007. Photo courtesy the 105th Airlift Wing Public Affairs Office.

Rainbow Division Transformation arrives in Buffalo

Story and photo by Maj. Robert Giordano
42nd Infantry Division Public Affairs

BUFFALO, N.Y. -- In front of almost two hundred supporters' members of the Army National Guard's 3rd Armor Brigade, Engineer Brigade and 152nd Combat Engineer Battalion officially retired their unit colors after decades of service in the military forces of the State of New York. More than 500 Citizen Soldiers who proudly served these elements within the 42nd Infantry Division will now form the basis of new Army National Guard organizations.

“Our units will change, our origins will change, but the loyalty, courage and dedication of our Soldiers remain”

The “casing of the colors” ceremony took place in the historic and beautifully restored Connecticut Street Army in Buffalo, New York. In the impressive main hall both retired and current Soldiers, current and past commanders and command sergeants majors, friends and family dutifully and respectfully transitioned the three units to their new rolls helping to protect our state and nation.

The 152nd Engineer Battalion transformed into the 27th Brigade Special Troops Battalion, an organization that includes a Headquarters Company, an Engineer Company, a Communication Network Company and a Military Intelligence Company. The 3rd Armored Brigade deactivation and reorganization provides the impetus for the formation of a new 42nd Infantry Division Forward Tactical Command Post in Buffalo. The 42nd Engineer Brigade Headquarters converts into the 153rd Headquarters Troop Command and will oversee numerous combat support and combat service support units across Central and Western New York.

Brig. Gen. Paul Genereux, the 42nd Infantry Division Commanding General and former commander of the 3rd Brigade spoke to the assembled Soldiers and honored guests at the day's ceremony. Genereux expressed what was on everyone's mind; “As Soldiers we understand that all things in life change,” he said to the group. “Today is a sad occasion as we bid farewell to these great and historic units. But change is also good.”

“The N.Y. National Guard is modernizing to become more relevant to our national defense,” Genereux continued. “Our

units will change, our origins will change, but the loyalty, courage and dedication of our Soldiers remain. We are Citizen Soldiers standing tall when called by our nation, and for that our nation should be grateful”.

Col. Roy Tario, Commander of the 3rd Armored Brigade, cases the colors of the 42nd Infantry Division combat brigade in a unit reorganization ceremony in Buffalo September 9, 2006. The brigade headquarters will reorganize as a 42nd Division tactical Command Post.



Logistical Conference seeks to improve Guard's gear

Story by Staff Sgt. Peter K. Towse
42nd Infantry Division Public Affairs

FORT DRUM, N.Y. – As the National Guard continues its reset role to provide new equipment and refit items returning from service overseas, more than 150 logisticians from across the New York National Guard participated in this year's synchronization conference at Ft. Drum, NY September 27 and 28 to discuss how staffs can increase their assistance to unit commanders across the force and put the best possible equipment into the hands of Citizen Soldiers.

“We are doing a ‘snapshot’ review of our ability to service unit commanders with a tremendous cross section of people and talent that have joined us today,” said Lt. Col. Philip T. Pugliese, Director of Logistics for the New York Army National Guard. “From the traditional full-time maintenance personnel and Active Guard and Reserve (AGR) representatives, federal technicians and even some retired personnel have returned to offer their assistance.”

A host of items were discussed to include training priorities, the future force structure of the National Guard and providing support for unit mobilizations.

“We are trying to put together a cohesive plan to try to improve ourselves,” Pugliese said. “There will be an effort to get to all the units to take a look at them and do a vitals check of them to see how they are managing their logistics.”

Another topic covered was the future of facilities and armories within New York State. New armories, maintenance facilities and aviation facilities are scheduled for building while others are already close to completion.

“We have a lot of infrastructure that is very old and it is a difficult practice to try and keep facilities up, so we are trying to turn over – just as with new equipment – many of our facilities,” Pugliese said. “We are trying to upgrade to state-of-the-art and these types of facilities are a magnet for

recruitment and retention.”

Since September 11, 2001, 47% of New York's total Army National Guard force has mobilized, deployed and redeployed back home. Because of this, there are serious equipment and recruiting/retention issues across the force. Cross-leveling of unit equipment to support deploying units left many stay-behind organizations with dramatically reduced equipment levels. Units redeploying from Iraq or Afghanistan frequently left major equipment in theater for follow-on forces. With transformation and modularity in full-swing across the state this year, the synchronization meeting was forced to take a hard logistics look at the current state and future of the Guard.

Part of the transformation planning included a summary review of planned new equipment fielding for senior leaders. One new piece of equipment that is planned for fielding with Guard units in New York State is a modified HEMTT (Heavy Expanded Mobility Tactical Truck) which has been redesigned to provide rapid transport of all classes of supply. Also scheduled for fielding is the M707 Knight System. The M707 is a ground-based, precision targeting system capable of providing laser and GPS terminal delivery instructions for precision munitions.

“What we are seeing is a lot of movement of equipment



The M707 Knight is a precision targeting system consisting of a laser designator/rangefinder, thermal imager, digital command and control, blended inertial/GPS navigation and targeting, and a self-defense weapon. The system fielding was part of the N.Y. National Guard logistics synchronization conference held at Fort Drum September 27-28, 2006. DoD image.

across the state and, more significantly, infusing modernization and the new equipment that we are receiving into our units as well,” Pugliese said. “The people at this meeting are the people that are going to help the movement of equipment from one organization to another.”

Maj. Gen. Joseph Taluto, The Adjutant General, was also at the conference to give direction and lay out his vision for the future of the National Guard.

“Due to all our mobilizations, we have lost our focus on strength maintenance and training,” said Taluto. “Transformation has also added to this instability. We need to get back to the basic core of what we do...we have to recruit, we have to work the retention process, we have to start training more effectively and refit the force. We need to maximize our operational capability.”

“The logistics community has a share in trying to reach the vision of The Adjutant General,” Pugliese said. “The leaders at this conference have the Soldier's best interests at heart and will work endlessly and ceaselessly to ensure that the basic and the essential pieces are met to make sure that they can train. Soldiers want to know that the little things are done right...whether that is a unit commander or a supply sergeant.”

Airmen pay tribute to fallen guardsman

By Staff Sgt. Catharine Schmidt
109th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

GERALD B. SOLOMON SARATOGA NATIONAL CEMETERY, SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y. -- Thousands of people in uniform came together Sept. 11th in nearby Saratoga County to pay tribute to Master Sgt. Joseph Longobardo, a member of the 109th Security Forces Squadron here.

Sergeant Longobardo was laid to rest after tragically dying while on duty with the New York State Police. As part of the New York State Police Mobile Response Team, Sergeant Longobardo was participating in the manhunt for fugitive Ralph "Bucky" Phillips, wanted for the recent attempted murder of another New York State trooper. Sergeant Longobardo was shot Aug. 31 and died from his injuries Sept. 3.

About 100 Air National Guardsmen with the 109th Airlift Wing here joined state police and other military members to say goodbye to the man described as dedicated and professional. Among guests there to pay their respects were Gov. George Pataki, Attorney General Eliot

Spitzer, U.S. Rep. John Sweeney and senior leaders here.

Sergeant Longobardo was a New York State Trooper for eight years, earning numerous commendations for his investigations and arrests. He was named Trooper of the Year in 2004. He joined the 109th Airlift Wing in November 1997, and before that was a Marine for more than four years. During his time with the 109th, Sergeant Longobardo supported operations Enduring Freedom and Noble Eagle and also was a member of the U.S. Air Force Security Forces Phoenix Ravens, a unit that responds to critical incidents worldwide.

"He was not reckless, he lived for living," said Maj. Anna Villanueva, 109th Security Forces Squadron Commander. "And even though there will be somber moments during this funeral, if we remember him as the man he was, the friend we knew, it'll be easy to smile."

"He died doing what he loved to do," she said.

Fellow security forces member and Raven, Tech. Sgt. Gary Brown, agreed.

"If he had known what was going to happen to him that day, he still would have gone out there. That's the kind of guy he was," said Sergeant Brown, who was also a pallbearer at the funeral.

Thousands arrived at St. Clement's



Master Sgt. Joseph Longobardo stands in front of a 109th Airlift Wing LC-130 Hercules. He was laid to rest Sept. 11 after tragically dying while on duty with the New York State Police. He was assigned to the 109th Security Forces Squadron at Stratton Air National Guard Base. Courtesy photo.

Roman Catholic Church for the service, while several servicemembers listened from outside while standing at attention

At the Gerald B.H. Solomon Saratoga National Cemetery, even more people came to pay their respects. Groups of uniformed men and women stood in formation for the burial ceremony. Along with a rifle salute, a formation of New York State Police helicopters paid their respect from the sky, followed by a 109th Airlift Wing LC-130 Hercules.

"It was fitting (that) Joe was laid to rest on 9/11 because, apart from being a great father, son and Airman, above all, Joe was a patriot and a great American," said Senior Master Sgt. Michael Kovarovic, who worked with him as a New York State Trooper and fellow guardsman.

Senior leaders said the representation of the Airmen at the funeral was phenomenal.

"What a testimony to Joe," said Chief Master Sgt. Charlie Lucia, 109th Airlift Wing command chief master sergeant. "Everyone looked over and saw a sea of blue."

"The Air National Guard stuck out in the crowd and gave the respect to Sergeant Longobardo and his family he most definitely deserved," said Master Sgt. Scott Hansen, 139th Airlift Squadron first sergeant.



Airmen from the New York Air National Guard's 109th Airlift Wing Honor Guard lift the flag from Master Sgt. Joseph Longobardo's casket during his funeral Sept. 11. Sergeant Longobardo, a guardsman with the 109th Security Forces Squadron, was a New York State Police officer who was killed in the line of duty Sept. 3 while participating in the manhunt for fugitive Ralph "Bucky" Williams. More than 100 Airmen from the 109th Airlift Wing attended his funeral. Photo by Master Sgt. Willie Gizara

The camaraderie between the Airmen and state police also was evident. Along with Sergeant Longobardo, other 109th AW Airmen work as New York State Troopers.

"It was great these guys got to be there in both capacities," Chief Lucia said. "That's just the Guard. Thanks to the state police for being so courteous and receptive to us."

"The aircrew (flying over) was great," Chief Lucia said. "They were out there at the perfect moment and tipped the wing right above the casket. (Sergeant Longobardo's family) was very impressed."

Sergeant Longobardo's fellow security forces Airmen said he would have been surprised about everything going on around the base because of his death, describing him as very humble.

"Humble" was just one of the many words offered by some to describe Sergeant Longobardo, who was also a husband and father. Airmen remembered him as one of the best in his unit. With his uniform always looking sharp, Sergeant Longobardo went above and beyond of what was expected of him.

"He was always the first one to raise his hand to go somewhere," Sergeant Brown said. "Whether it was a deployment tasking or volunteer work. He was also someone you wanted to deploy with."

"Joe had a positive impact on everyone he worked with," said Master Sgt. Kathleen Pritchard, also of the 109th SFS.

"Just having him on your team gave you confidence," said Master Sgt. Kelly Eustis, 109th SFS flight sergeant.

All of his co-workers agreed that Sergeant Longobardo was an Airman who led by example and someone who everyone looked up to.

"(My) being the new, young guy here, he was the one to look up to. He was one of the strongest guys, both physically and mentally," said 2nd Lt. Bradley Mesh. "He was a role model."

People all over the state continue to mourn the loss of Sergeant Longobardo, and 109th Airlift Wing Airmen are no different.

"The 109th Airlift Wing is a close-knit family and the loss of one of our own affects all of us," said Col. Anthony German, 109th AW commander. "A tragedy of this type is felt by each and every member. We wish to express our deepest condolences to the family of Sergeant Longobardo. He will be missed but not forgotten for the valuable contributions he has made to the state and his country." *Editor's Note: New York State troopers caught Ralph "Bucky" Phillips on Sept. 7.*



"The 109th Airlift Wing is a close-knit family and the loss of one of our own affects all of us, (Joe Longobardo) will be missed but not forgotten for the valuable contributions he has made to the state and his country."

109th celebrates historic South Pole landing

National Science Foundation mission turns 50

By Maj. Jody A. Ankabrandt
109th Airlift Wing Public Affairs



THE SOUTH POLE, Antarctica – The New York Air National Guard's 109th Airlift Wing LC-130 Hercules touched down at the South Pole on Oct. 30 to commemorate the first plane landing there 50 years ago.

On Oct. 31, 1956, Lt. Cmdr. Gus Shinn landed a ski-equipped R4D-5 (a Navy version of the DC-3) named "Que Sera Sera" at the South Pole. On that landmark day, with temperatures near minus 60 degrees Fahrenheit, Commander Shinn kept the engines running while Adm. George Dufek stepped out of the plane and became the first person in more than four decades to stand at the Pole.

"Skier 00, assigned to the 109th Airlift Wing in support of Operation Deep Freeze, continued the tradition with the landing of a ski-equipped LC-130, piloted by aircraft commander, Maj. Carlyle Norman to a ground temperature of near minus 50 degrees Fahrenheit," said 109th Wing flight operations officials.

Operation Deep Freeze is unlike any other U.S. military operation and is one of the most demanding peacetime missions due to the extreme adversity of the environment and the remoteness of Antarctica. Antarctica is the coldest, windiest, most inhospitable continent on the globe, and Operation Deep Freeze provides a challenging opportunity to demonstrate the reach and flexibility of airpower, the capabilities of the joint force and the integrated support of active duty, Guard and Reserve servicemembers.

"This commemorative landing signifies much more than just the first aircraft landing at the South Pole," said Col. Anthony German, 109th Wing Commander. "It is a testament that our U.S. military is uniquely equipped to support the National Science Foundation and U.S.

Antarctic Program (USAP) in its mission to explore Antarctica. The 109th Airlift Wing is proud to be a part of this legacy."

Operation Deep Freeze involves active duty and Reserve C-17 support from McChord Air Force Base, Wash., LC-130 support from the New York Air National Guard's 109th Airlift Wing; U.S. Coast Guard icebreakers, and the U.S. Navy Cargo Handling Battalion One to provide critical port services at McMurdo Station.

From 1955 until 1999, the Navy's Antarctic Development Squadron Six (VXE-6) flew various aircraft, including LC-130s, in support of the U.S. Antarctic Program (USAP). In 1998, at the Navy's request, the Air Force and Air National Guard took over command of Department of Defense support to the USAP. VXE-6 continued to augment the Air National Guard with LC-130 flights until it was disestablished in March 1999.

The 109th Airlift Wing is the only unit in the world to have the ski-equipped LC-130 aircraft with responsibility for supporting scientific research in the northern and southern Polar Regions.

Senior Master Sgt. Mark Olena, an LC-130 flight engineer, said all of the planes are equipped with two 21-foot-long, 2,000-pound skis on each side of the fuselage, along with a 1,000-pound ski on the front of the aircraft.

The planes also utilize rocket assisted takeoff with four rocket motors attached to either side of the plane.

"That gives us enough inertia to break the

friction holding the plane to the snow," Olena said in an interview with the Honolulu Star newspaper enroute to New Zealand earlier this fall.

Olena said dealing with Antarctica's climate, where the mercury can dip to minus 58 degrees Fahrenheit, is always the most dangerous part of the missions.

"The difficult part is the environment which has an impact on both people and the aircraft," Olena added.



Members of the 109th Airlift Wing helped the National Science Foundation achieve 50 years of support and research at the South Pole Station this fall. At top, an LC-130 ski-equipped aircraft from the Scotia-based Air National Guard wing lands in Antarctica during the 2005 season. Above, members of the Air Wing's maintenance squadron provide support to the aircraft under some of the world's most challenging environments. File photos courtesy of the 109th Airlift Wing Public Affairs Office.

Winter Cleanup in October

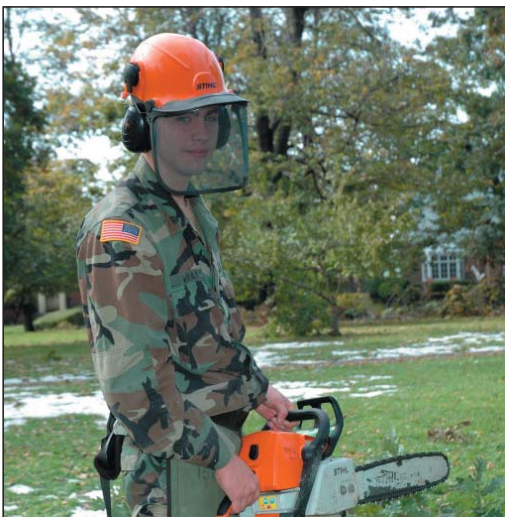


Snow Recovery, from page 1

the needs are and the National Guard troops show up and get the job done, and we appreciate that.”

Others residents made their homes available to the workers to use their facilities, provided hot and cold refreshments and hung signs expressing their heartfelt appreciation. One woman even handed out cups of hot soup to the many workers on a particularly cold and rainy day.

“We received a great response from all of the residents,” said Spc. Randy Joe Green from the 27th Brigade Special Troops Battalion. “They made sure that they took the time



Spc. James Wray, an engineer with the 153rd Troop Command provides debris clearance in Buffalo. At top, Spc. Bruce Kowalski (at left), also with the Engineer team, provides guidance for further debris removal to Pvt. Rapheal Ferrete. Photos courtesy 107th Airlift Wing Public Affairs.

to thank all of us for coming to help them out.”

The National Guard didn’t do it alone, but worked in support of other agencies running heavy equipment and loading up trucks with debris to be hauled out to area dumpsites. “They are definitely doing more than we are expecting them to,” said Mike Tomasi from the Finger Lakes Region of the New York State Department of Transportation. For Tomasi, this was his first experience working alongside the National Guard on an emergency response and he felt that it was a positive one. “All we do is tell them something needs to be done and they do it,” Tomasi said.

The National Guard not only provided personnel for the recovery mission, but many equipment items to be used in the clearing of area roadways. Included in this were light sets, heavy engineer equipment such as dump trucks and front end loaders, and all of the light equipment used for the debris removal such as chain saws and various hand tools.

“All we have to do is identify where the needs are and the National Guard troops show up and get the job done”

“Empire Response has been an excellent opportunity to see the New York National Guard working side by side, both Army and Air, responding to the needs of area citizens,” said Colonel Dale Howard, Commander of the Joint Operations Center. “Each grateful resident makes you realize how important our mission is not just to the military, but to the citizens as well.”



Pvt. Greg Debo delivers a case of 150 meals to St. Johns Towers in Buffalo approximately 1500 meals each day to local shelters and area residents. Photo courtesy 107th Airlift Wing Public Affairs.



Technical Sgt. Gordan “Gordie” Storms of the 107th Air Refueling Wing Civil Engineer team is known to many of the workers in the cleanup area as the “soup lady.” Photo courtesy 107th Airlift Wing Public Affairs.

Meals on Humvee Wheels

By Captain Andrea Pitruzzella
Joint Task Force 6 Public Affairs Office

BUFFALO, N.Y. – In the midst of recovery and cleanup following the lake effect snows in Western New York this October, approximately 15 members of the New York Army National Guard's 105th Military Police assisted the American Red Cross with food deliveries to local shelters. The Citizen Soldiers from the Masten Avenue Armory in Buffalo helped provide health and wellness visits to area shut-ins during their convoy operations to support the thousands of area residents without power or essential services.

On the first day of operations the troops delivered more than 1,000 meals to 15 locations in Western New York. The sites, mostly area shelters, assisted local residents that were part of the approximately 230,000 that lost power after an untimely storm hit Western New York. At the peak of this effort, the Soldiers delivered as many as 1,550 meals a day.

In addition, the Military Police section visited approximately 300 area shut-ins, going door to door checking to make sure that their conditions were safe and there were no issues threatening the safety of residents. Any major findings or concerns were reported to the designated civilian aid agency so that they could be corrected.

"We would pick up the food from the various sites, mostly donated, and then we would drop it off at the designated shelters, or other places as requested by the Red Cross," said Spc. Gina Marrano from the 105th Military Police Company assigned to the detail. "We started out with 18 sites, and as the cleanup progressed, some of the sites were eliminated."

The "above and beyond" attitude of the National Guard's Military Police Soldiers was exhibited in the duties provided to New Yorkers outside the scope of the meal delivery mission. Soldiers also found area residents in dire need of critical supplies and they voluntarily went to the store and purchased these items themselves to give to the families. The Soldiers also diverted from their planned routes in order to assist local residents experiencing difficulties with debris removal on their property or provide roadside assistance to motorists.

The food delivery mission operated for a week following the storm. In that time there were 14 food pickups made and 57 deliveries to local shelters all totaling more than 5,000 meals to needy residents in Western New York. Additionally, the Guardsmen and women provided the regional Red Cross with life-saving routine checks on 300 area residents identified by the American Red Cross as in-need.

One of the logistical sites was the Buffalo Public Schools Commissary. Many of the area school districts closed for the week following the storm in order for streets to be cleared and travel made safe for the children. As a result of this closure, there was excess food supplies originally intended for area school lunch programs that would have been wasted had it not been for the efforts of commissary workers at the commissary.

The school commissary prepared hot meals daily for donation, providing up to 4,000 meals per day which the National Guard members picked up and delivered to area shelters and other agencies in need.

One of these agencies was St. John's Towers in Buffalo, a senior citizen residence which lost power for five days

after the storm. Many of their residents relied on daily meal deliveries or assisted food preparation for their meals. Without power or routine meal delivery, there was no contingency for the residents but the National Guard.

"The National Guard made such a positive impact on us. We deal with 150 residents, and your efforts have saved them from going hungry," said Vanessa Williams, the Senior Service Coordinator for St. John's Towers. "I thank you all so very, very much."



Buffalo, NY as they assist the American Red Cross with the daily food delivery of meals. Photo by Sr. Airman Brandy Bristow.



(L to R) Sgt. Shannon Chatten, Sgt. Michael Andrews, Sgt. Charles Mancuso and Spc. Eric Kightlinger all of the 105th Military Police at the Masten Street Armory in Buffalo, N.Y. bring milk and supplies to area shut-ins during health and wellness checks on the city's East Side. Photo by Sr. Airman Brandy Bristow.



An Engineering Squadron is offered a hot cup of soup from a grateful resident in Buffalo. Photo by Sr. Master Sgt. Raymond Lloyd.



Spc. Paul Duleck from the 153rd Troop Command removes tree limbs from the large amount of downed trees in the City of Buffalo following the early winter snowfall in mid-October, 2006.

Maj. Gen. Van Patten dons NY Guard uniform after 36 years of service

Guard Times Staff

TROY, N.Y. – Retired Maj. Gen. Michael R. Van Patten returned to military service in New York State's Military Forces as commander of the New York Guard in a ceremony held in at the South Lake Avenue Armory in Troy on October 21, 2006.

"General Van Patten's impressive record of service to our State and Nation spanning 36 years make him an excellent choice to serve as Commander of the New York Guard," Governor Pataki said in his announcement of the appointment.

The Adjutant General of the State of New York, Maj. Gen. Joseph J. Taluto, said, "Major General Van Patten's return to service now with the volunteer members of the New York Guard will bring a wealth of experience to meet the many challenges that face our New York Guard force. The members of the New York Guard and our entire military family welcome Mike back into the service of our great State."

Van Patten replaces Maj. Gen. Pierre Lax, a former member of the New York Army National Guard with more than 33 years of service as an enlisted man, NCO and commissioned officer. Lax received his appointment in the NY Guard in 1991 as a Lt. Col. and rose to the rank of Brig. Gen. in 1999. He retired in 2003 and was recalled by Gov. Pataki to serve as commander of the NY Guard in September, 2004.

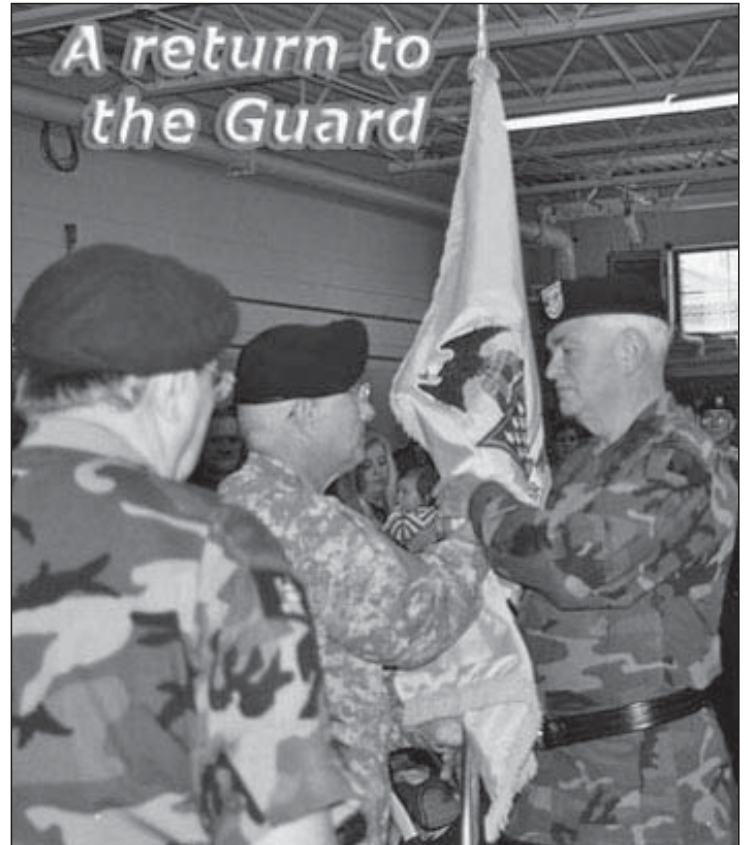
Both Taluto and Van Patten thanked General Lax for his many years of dedicated and outstanding service to the State and Nation. Lax was awarded the New York State Conspicuous Service Medal at the change of command ceremony.

Major General Van Patten enlisted in the New York Army National Guard in

November 1965 and was commissioned an officer in July 1968, rising to the rank of general officer over more than thirty years of service. He served for three years as Commanding General of the New York Army National Guard until his retirement in December of 2001. He also served as Commanding General of the 53rd Troop Command and as Commander of the 42nd Infantry Division Support Command. In 1995 he was selected as Director of the Division of Military and Naval Affairs Initiatives Group and contributed towards the introduction of the Tuition Bill for members of the Guard. Van Patten also served as Joint Task Force Commander for numerous State Emergency Operations.

"I have the greatest respect for the members of the New York Guard," said Maj. Gen. Van Patten in his remarks to the assembled volunteers. "They represent the epitome of selfless service, and I am honored to serve with them. I pledge to the Governor, The Adjutant General, and most importantly to the citizens of our State and Nation, that the New York Guard will be standing tall, fully trained, and ready to respond immediately when called. As Commanding General of both the 53rd Troop Command, and the New York Army National Guard, I always had very positive experiences with the New York Guard. In virtually all State Emergency Operations, including the terrorist attack on 9/11, I could always call on the manpower and expertise of the New York Guard to be there. They performed exceptionally.

"My vision is to make the New York Guard the premier State Defense Force in the Nation," Van Patten continued in his remarks. "My priorities for the New York Guard are



Maj. Gen. Michael R. Van Patten (right), receives the colors of the NY Guard from the NYS Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Joseph J. Taluto during the change of command ceremony in Troy, N.Y. on October 21, 2006. Van Patten returns to military service after a 36 year career with the New York Army National Guard. Photo by Maj. Barry Pinchefskey.

first, to define a realistic mission for the force, second, to establish a permanent source of funding, third to make people in leadership positions aware of the vast capabilities of the force, and fourth to increase the assigned strength by 50% this year, and be up to full strength by the end of next year."

"I am so pleased to once again be an active

member of the military," added Mrs. Judith Van Patten after the ceremony. "After my husband's retirement, I truly missed the comradeship and friendship that only the military can bring. I look forward to being a part on this great military organization and family. I welcome each member of the New York Guard to our family."



Leaving the National Guard? Continue your service in the New York Guard

An all-volunteer New York State Defense Force
A component of New York State's military forces and service provider to New York State communities in times of need

The New York Guard is looking for individuals who are:
willing to serve their community and State;
willing to learn military traditions, or former service personnel/veterans;
willing to learn skills or enhance existing skills;
physically fit in accordance with military standards.

Individuals can expect from The New York Guard:
the satisfaction of serving their neighbors;
camaraderie and shared worthwhile experiences;
military-related education and training.

Thinking of joining? Please visit our website at www.dmn.state.ny.us/nyg
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NY Guard expands Search and Rescue skills

Story and photos by Maj. David Greenwood
10th Brigade, NY Guard

CAMP SMITH TRAINING SITE, CORTLANDT MANOR, N.Y.—Members of the New York Guard gathered at Camp Smith this fall for the NY Guard Search and Rescue School. The training, provided under the direction of Maj. John J. Neeley, commander of the Troy-based 1st Battalion, 2nd Regiment, 10th Brigade and director of the all-volunteer force search and rescue (SAR) school lasted through the week of 15-21 October, 2006. Supported by instructor 2nd Lt. John Passarotti of the 88th Brigade, the school included both Basic and Advanced SAR Courses.

The NY Guard has been training its members in Search and Rescue skills since July of 1994. The course of instruction for the Basic Course is based on standards and guidelines from the National Association of Search and Rescue (NASAR) SAR Tech III and NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Basic Wildland Search standards. First Aid training and CPR were also presented for certification as part of the course.

The mission set for search and rescue operations by members of the New York Guard began in 1998 by retired Lt. Col. Gordon "Duke" Dewey, from the Guard's 10th Brigade in Morrisonville, is credited with founding the Mountain Rescue Training School at Norwich University at Northfield, Vermont.

The Basic SAR Course comprised four fundamental training blocks. Employing ropes and knots prepared

Guard members in the skills needed to secure equipment, ensure safety, evacuate victims, and traverse dangerous terrain more safely. The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation officers instructed Search skills and how to employ them. This block also included basic land navigation. First Aid and medical training included the skills to stabilize a patient and to safeguard team members from common outdoor injuries. Finally, survival and field craft provided an introduction to operating and living in a wilderness environment. Each block included extensive reviews and monitoring of student progress and stations for practical testing. Instructors in

the course administered a comprehensive written examination following the end of the course.

The Advanced Search and Rescue Course includes First Aid and CPR certification were also awarded to graduates of the ASAR program. The New York Guard Advanced SAR Course is designed to develop instructors, team leaders and unit level trainers. The curriculum included the new trainees giving course instruction and mentoring the more junior basic SAR trainees. The advanced course also includes training blocks such as clothing and equipment considerations, night land navigation, day land navigation, field sanitation and Leave No Trace (LNT) principles.

The two primary instructors for both courses, combined with the SAR Coordinator, have more than fifty years of search

and rescue experience. Assistant instructors brought credentials to the course like SAR Tech I and specialty skills. One assistant instructor, Maj. Sarath Babu, is a veteran of the Indian Army and had already performed search and rescue missions in the Himalayas.

SAR Tech III certification tests were taken by trainees producing a 100% success rate in the national certification process. Training goals include morphing the First Aid/CPR component into a Wilderness First Aid and Wilderness First Responder certification. Future plans include SAR Tech II and SAR Tech I certification.

Given the unique mission of the NY Guard, it has always been clear that references and standards for training must be firmly rooted in both military doctrine and civilian certification. Given that, CSTS was the perfect venue for the training. During the training week of 15-21 Oct, CSTS was home to NYG SAR School, National Guard training programs and NYPD Emergency Services Training. In previous SAR Schools and exercises, the NYG has hosted or trained with Active Duty Army, Active Duty Air Force, National Guard, Reserve components, police agencies and Civil Air Patrol.

New York Guard Search and Rescue Team members often train alongside partner government or civilian teams at unit or team



2nd Lt. John Passarotti, from the NY Guard's 88th Brigade, provides rapel instruction during the SAR course.

level. A combined mission of military and civilian skills places the NYG SAR program in a unique position to tackle some of the most difficult problems that arise in search and rescue. During the summer of 2006, NYG SAR was activated to assist with a search of difficult terrain in the heart of the Adirondack Mountains. The search for a missing hiker, who is a nature photographer, was centered in what NYS Forest Rangers referred to as, "...some of the most difficult terrain in the country." During this search, NYG SAR operators distinguished themselves on some of the same terrain where Rogers Rangers are believed to have traveled.

The NY Guard Search and Rescue Program is based on skills drawn from military manuals and experience, civilian publications, certifications and the needs of

a state with the largest wilderness area in a state park outside of Alaska. It is a mission that has been utilized at Fort Drum and in the rugged wilderness of some of the oldest mountains on earth, the Adirondacks. The ability and professionalism of the NYG SAR Team to accomplish its mission is a direct result of the training the members receive. The training program provided to members of a NY Guard Search and Rescue Team member is second only to the requirements at the DEC Forest Ranger Academy.

The New York Guard graduated more than 15 newly qualified Search and Rescue personnel, including distinguished graduates from class 07-01 Staff Sgt. Emil Mejia, 12th Regional Training Institute for the basic course and Capt. Charles Marino, 56th Brigade for the advanced SAR course.



2nd Lt. Garry Viscio demonstrates rappelling techniques as part of the NY Guard's Basic Search and Rescue training as 2nd Lt. John Passarotti, the SAR School Executive Officer watches on. Above, the graduation basic and advanced search and rescue class 07-01 following the training at Camp Smith October 15-21, 2006.

OTT PATRICK D
 PADGETT BUDDY ALAN
 PFEIFFER NATHAN R.
 POYNEER JASON M.
 REYES BILL
 RIGO CHRISTOPHER M.
 RIVERAS MIGUEL ANGEL
 RODRIGUEZGONZALO J. II
 RODRIGUEZ VICTOR J.
 SHANKS THERESA J.
 SIMMONS WAYNE KEITH
 SKADRA CODY STEVEN
 SOUVANNARATH KITTA
 STPIERRE DAVID JOSEPH III
 STURM WILLIAM NOAH
 THOMPSON KELLY V.
 TORNEY VINCENT J.
 TYNER SHANITA LAVECE
 ULLRICH JAMES S.
 WILLETTE ELIJAH P.
 WOOD ROBERT JOSEPH
 WRIGHT DAMION A
 ZAWACKI BENJAMIN T.
 ZEHNER SANDY M
 ZIMMERMAN THOMAS J.
 ZOLLO MICHAEL S.

PRIVATE

ANDERSON GERALD F. JR
 ARTEAGALUA MAYRA C.
 BARBATO JOHN J.
 BEAGLE DEREK M.L
 BEGUM POPI
 BUTLER JEFFREY S JR
 CLEMENTS ADAM B.
 CRONIN SEAN DANIEL
 CRUZ ERICA JEANNETTE
 DANIELS NANCY M
 DIAZ PEDRO J
 FERNANDEZ LUIS M.
 FRANCOIS CLIFORD
 GILBERT SCOTT J.
 HALL MARK LEON
 HAYNES JOSHUA JAMEL
 HERNANDEZ JOSE F.
 HERRING ANTHONY L.
 ISAACSON AARON JACOB
 JOHNSON KIERON E II
 JOHNSTON COURTNEY A.
 JOZWIAK MICHAEL T.
 KARLSTROM ERIK J.
 KING COREY JOSEPH
 LAUREANO OMAR
 LAWYER KARLA KATE
 LI WEI JIAN
 LORING JOHN DAVID
 LOZADA ALEXIS
 LYNESSE MATTHEW RYAN
 MAPP FURNELL
 MILLAN EFRAIN J. II
 MILLER GARY ARMSTRONG
 MOORS MICHAEL PATRICK
 NIVER TAYLOR MARIE
 NOBLES STEVEN C.
 NOEL TODD NICHOLAS
 OSTER ADAM LEV
 PENS VENESSA LEE
 PEREZ FRANKY
 POWELL TRAVIS N. SR
 RAMIREZ KISBEL
 RICHARD YASSER M.
 RIVERA BENNY A
 RIVERA JONATHAN CEDRIC
 ROMANO JULIO ANEUDIS
 SHELBOURN TRICIA JANN
 SHILLINGTON SEAN W
 SINICROPI ANTHONY J III
 SMITH JONATHAN C.
 TERRY CHRISTOPHER S.
 TIPA JONATHAN
 VELAZQUEZ FRANCISCO J.
 WALKER KRISTEN
 WILKINSON VICTOR A.

HHT 2-101 CAV (RSTA)
 827TH ENGR CO(-) HORIZ
 1156TH ENGR CO (-) VERTICAL
 CO A (DISTRO) 427TH BSB
 BATTERY A 1-258TH FA
 DET 1 HHC BSTB 27TH BCT
 CO E 3-142D AVIATION
 CO E (FSC INF) 427TH BSB
 HHC 1-69TH INFANTRY
 DET 3 CO E 3-142D AVIATION
 CO A (DISTRO) 427TH BSB
 CO D 3-142D AVIATION
 249TH MED CO AIR AMB (-)
 CO E (FSC INF) 427TH BSB
 CO A 1-69TH INFANTRY
 CO C (MED) 427TH BSB
 53D HQ DET LIAISON (ARFOR)
 CO A (DISTRO) 427TH BSB
 DET 1 CO B 2-108TH INFANTRY
 CO D 3-142D AVIATION
 CO C 101ST SIGNAL BN
 CO A 1-69TH INFANTRY
 105TH MP CO
 HHC 42ND COMBAT AVN BDE
 HHC (-) 2-108 INFANTRY
 CO B (-) 1-69TH INFANTRY

HHC (-) BSTB 27TH IN BDE (BCT)
 102 MAINT CO
 CO D 1-69TH INFANTRY
 CO C (-) 2-108TH INFANTRY
 1156TH ENGR CO (-) VERTICAL
 CO E (FSC INF) 427TH BSB
 CO E (FSC INF) 427TH BSB
 206TH MP COMPANY
 42D ID UEX
 FSC 204TH ENG. BATTALION
 HHC 369TH SUST BRIGADE
 HHB 1-258TH FIELD ARTILLERY
 HHB 1-258TH FIELD ARTILLERY
 EARLY ENTRY ELMT 369 SUST BDE
 HHD 104TH MP BN
 42D ID UEX
 133RD QUARTERMASTER CO (-)
 DET 1 CO A 2-108TH INFANTRY
 42D ID UEX
 442D MILITARY POLICE CO
 CO D (FSC RSTA) 427TH BSB
 CO CO(SIG)BSTB 27TH IN BCT
 105TH MP CO
 C CO(SIG)BSTB 27TH IN BCT
 CO B 101ST SIGNAL BN
 CO E (FSC INF) 427TH BSB
 HHD 27TH FINANCE BN
 CO B(-) 642D SUPPORT BN
 CO G (FSC FA) 427TH BSB
 HHC (-) 2-108 INFANTRY
 H & S CO 204 ENGR BN
 442D MILITARY POLICE CO
 CO A 1-69TH INFANTRY
 CO D 2-108TH INFANTRY
 DET 1 827TH ENGR CO HORIZ
 DET 1 CO C 1-69TH INFANTRY
 CO A (FSC FA) 427TH BSB
 HHC (-) 2-108 INFANTRY
 105TH MP CO
 CO G (FSC FA) 427TH BSB
 7TH FINANCE DET
 HHC 369TH SUST BRIGADE
 HHC 1-69TH INFANTRY
 DET 1 1156TH ENGR CO
 133RD QUARTERMASTER CO (-)
 133RD QUARTERMASTER CO (-)
 102 MAINT CO
 CO A 2-108TH INFANTRY
 HHT 2-101 CAV (RSTA)
 DET 1 CO A 2-108TH INFANTRY
 DET 1 CO C 2-108TH INFANTRY
 CO C (-) 1-69TH INFANTRY
 CO A 1-69TH INFANTRY
 107TH MP COMPANY
 HHB 1-258TH FIELD ARTILLERY

**NEW YORK AIR GUARD PROMOTIONS
COLONEL**

MCARDLE, WILLIAM E
 ATKINSON, JAMES F III
 LABARGE, TIMOTHY J
 DELUCA, JOSEPH E
 SANDERSON, IAN R

106 MISSION SUPPORT GP
 107 MAINTENANCE GP
 NEW YORK ANG HQ
 NEW YORK ANG HQ
 NORTHEAST AIR DEF SQ

(Air National Guard Promotions continue on page 20)

Guard Troops in the News

Guard Times Staff



NEW YORK CITY -- More members of the New York National Guard have stepped in front of the cameras this fall to talk about their deployment experiences in Iraq.

Sergeant Kelly Kenyon, assigned to the 466th Medical Company out of Glens Falls was one of four women medics who deployed to Iraq with the 2nd Battalion 108th Infantry in 2004. She was interviewed in September for NBC Nightly News about her role as a woman serving in a combat zone and performing many of the same duties as her male comrades.

Lieutenant Tara Dawe from New York City, a member of the 442nd Military Police Company deployed with her unit to Iraq in 2003 to 2004. She was interviewed for CNN Headline News Nancy Grace Show in October for a special tribute program that was broadcast late in October and replayed on Thanksgiving Day.

Specialist Steven Tschiderer (photo above) deployed to Iraq with Troop E, 101st Cavalry in 2004 to 2005 and was made famous for surviving a sniper's bullet that failed to penetrate his body armor and then went on to capture his assailant, even treating the enemy's wounds. The sniper attack was recorded on video tape by the enemy and the captured footage was released to news organization in July 2005. Specialist Tschiderer, now assigned to the 249th Air Ambulance Company in Rochester, was the subject of a CNN story in 2005, appeared in an MTV news program in the spring and was interviewed in New York City in October for a Discovery Channel documentary on body armor. Photo by Staff Sgt. Peter Towse.

NEW YORK ARMY NATIONAL GUARD REENLISTMENTS

102 MAINT CO

SGT ALBRO EDWARD F

105TH MP CO

SGT BELMONTE PATRICK JOSEPH
SGT BILSKI MARTIN JOSEPH
SPC KREIGER CHRISTOPHER MICHAEL
SGT LEAVELL JEFFREY WARREN II
SFC SNYDER SHEARA LEA J
SSG WIELGASZ KENNETH MARK
SSG WRIGHT THANE CLARENCE

107TH MP COMPANY

SPC ANDRES LOUIS PAUL JR
SGT CADY MORGAN PRITCHARD
SPC DOAN JOSHUA DAVID
SGT GATES LAWRENCE RICHARD
SPC GUIDO COREY JAMES
SFC JAWORSKI PAUL HENRY
SSG JOHNSTON TERRI LEE
SGT NESSIA JAMES VINCENT
SPC PATTERSON CHARLES EUGENE
SSG ROCHELEAU HEATHER L
SPC ROMAN GILBERT H
SGT SCHMID EDWARD EUGENE
SGT SCHWARZ CASTILLO JOSE RAUL
PFC VINCENT JAMES SCOTT

1108TH ORDNANCE CO EOD

SPC ZALOGA ERIC ROBERT

1156TH ENGR CO (-) VERTICAL

SFC FORBES MARK EDWARD
SGT SOHAN RICHARD

133RD QUARTERMASTER SP CO (-)

SPC CAMPBELL TYQUINN JADDEUS
SPC JIMENEZ RICHARD
SPC KALVAITIS AIDAS
1SG MACK HENRY BENJAMIN JR

145TH MAINTENANCE CO

SGT CHAPMAN KEITH LAMONT
SPC LEWIS ALVIN MCPHERSON
SPC ROSARIO TINA LOUISE

152ND ENGINEER SUPPORT CO

SPC ADAMS BENNIE DARNELL
SSG MANCUSO SHARI L
SPC STEWART RICHARD MILBORNE II
CPL VASQUEZ JOSE L

1569TH TRANSPORTATION CO

SSG BARROWS ADOLPHUS JAMES
SGT BROWN DEVON LEE
SSG MCBURNIE MERVYN R
SSG PETERKIN ANDRE
SPC ROSE GORDON LEE
SGT WILLIAMS DAMIAN SHERIFFE

204TH ENGINEER DETACHMENT

SGT BEECHER JARED ARTHUR
SGT WEIDNER FREDERICK HAROLD

206TH MILITARY POLICE COMPANY

SGT HARRIS JOSEPH A

222D MILITARY POLICE CO (-)

SGT BREWSTER DANIEL LEE
SSG BRIGGMAN JOHN J
SPC CLARK GARY MICHAEL
SGT COLLALTO ANITA
SGT FLYNN DENNIS JOSEPH JR
SFC HEBELER HOWARD LEROY
PFC HENNING KEITH
1SG JONES HAROLD IV
SPC MURRAY CHRISTOPHER ANTHONY
SSG QUINTANA GUILLERMO
SPC ROY STEVEN ANTHONY
PFC SHAY NICHOLAS JOHN GLEASON
SSG SMITH ALAN R
SPC WHIFFEN JOSEPH W IV

249TH MED CO AIR AMBULANCE (-)

SSG BANNING PETER WAYNE
SPC GINTY REGAN KENT
SSG PIKE GARY CHRISTOPHER
SGT PRATT SHANNON MARIE

272D MP DET BDE LIAISON REAR

SPC BURLEY CHRISTOPHER THOMAS
SPC CASTLE FREDERICK JAMES

27TH INF (BCT)

SGT BOATWRIGHT MARTIN JOHN
SGT RADDER MARK JAMES

2ND CIVIL SUPPORT TEAM (WMD)

SSG LUNNY PAUL THOMAS
SGT ODOM DARREN EUGENE

37TH FINANCE DET

SPC BOST CLAUDIA MARIE
SPC OMEALLY HANIF KWESI

42D ID UEX

SFC CALLENDER ANTHONY ROY
SPC JAMES LENROY ANTHONY
SPC ROBERSON AUGUSTUS III
MSG SCOTT HARRY RICHARD
SSG SECOR LISA M
SFC STAUB TERRY MELVIN
SSG WOOD TIMOTHY CHARLES

42D INFANTRY DIV BAND (-)

SSG FITZGERALD GERALD JAMES JR
SGT ORTEGA JUAN ALBERTO

42D TAC CMD POST TAC 1

SGM PARKER CHRISTOPHER DEWEY
SGT PROL KENNETH JAMES
SGT SALAZAR PAUL EDWARD

42D TAC CMD POST TAC 2

MSG HOWLEY MICHAEL OLIVER
SFC JULES YAO YAO
MSG RAYMOND DONALD VINCENT

442D MILITARY POLICE CO

SPC BARBER CHRISTOPHER
SGT JIMENEZ HUGH HENRY
SGT MARCANO PEDRO EFRAIN
CPL MARTINEZ WILMER
SGT MATOS HECTOR LUIS
SSG MEYER ADAM SCOTT
SGT MILLAN MARIBEL
SPC MONTANEZ PABLO JR
SGT ORTIZ AMICAR OMAR
SGT PESCE NINO HENRY
SSG RIELLO ROBERT
SGT ROBINSON SHEILA PEGGY
SSG TEJADA FRANK
SGT WATKINS MARCUS LEROY
SPC YANUSH JULIYA

466TH MED CO AREA SUPPORT REAR

SSG CHURCHILL THOMAS B
SGT DERMOTT SCOTT DAVID

SGT HOLMES WANDA
PFC INGRAHAM CHARLES ELMER JR
SGT MATCHEN ALYCIA JILL
SPC PANTALEONE PAULINE MARIE
SPC CAMACHO GEORGE
SGT CHAPIN DAVID GEORGE
SSG MEARNS RICHARD MATTHEW JR

4TH FINANCE DET

SGT COMER STEPHEN EDWARD JR
SPC LAN MARK YANG

4TH PERSONNEL SVC DET REAR

SPC EVERS JUSTIN CHARLES
SGT TURNER TODD HENRY

56TH PERSONNEL SER BN

MSG JEFFERS BURGOS REBECCA
642 CS BN HSC REAR

SSG LORD THEODORE KENNETH JR
SPC MORLOCK RONALD LAWRENCE

719 TRANS CO (MDM TRK CGO)

SSG CARTY IVAN EMANUEL
SGT ROSARIOALVARADO SANTOS
SSG SHELTON DIANE C
SFC SPENCE ERIC A
SSG THOMAS HOWARD JR

727TH MP DET LAND O REAR

MSG CORBETT GARY EUGENE
SSG DAVIS SHAWN KEVIN
PFC FOX TODD BERNARD
SSG HAMILTON GOEFFREY RICHARD
SGT WALCZAK THOMAS WILLIAM
SPC WRIGHT TRAVIS DAVID

727TH MP DET LAW AND ORDER

SSG DUTCHER DOUGLAS ALLEN
SFC GARAND GARY MATTHEW

7TH FINANCE DET REAR

SGT LOWE MILLICENT MARIE
SPC PHILIP SERIN
SGT RICHARDSON DEMETRIUS CHRIST
SPC SAGASTIZADO ASCENCIO ISAIAS
SPC TEOLOTITLA JORGE DAVID
SFC TORRES LUISA ROSA

A CO(ENG)BSTB 27TH IN BDE(BCT)

SSG DOLPH JAMES DONALD
B CO(M)BSTB 27TH IN BDE (BCT)
SPC BIELING HERMAN FREDERICK
SGT BREWER MICHAEL JAMES
SPC SCHUSS CHRISTOPHER MICHAEL

BATTERY A 1-258TH FA

SPC GARCIA OSCAR ARMANDO

BATTERY B 1-258TH FA

SSG AMADORBELTRAN JUAN AUGUSTO
SFC BLUMCAMACHO ROMULO DANIEL
CPL BOND FRANK NATHANIEL JR
SPC GUILTY FREDY JOSUE
SPC HILL JOHN WAYNE JR
SGT MATEO EDWIN JUAN JR
SGT MIDDLETON MARVIN K
CPL RODRIGUEZ ISABELO
SPC SANCHEZ ALAN KEVIN
SGT TORRES RAYMOND

C CO(SIG)BSTB 27TH IN BDE(BCT)

SPC KING WILLIAM FRANCIS
SGT PHILLIPS JERRY ALLEN

CO A (DISTRO) 427TH BSB

SGT HOOKER ROBERT DANIEL
CO A 1-69TH INFANTRY
SPC MARRERO VICTOR N
SGT SOSTRE FRANCISCO

CO A 101ST SIGNAL BN

SPC MCPHEE JAMES LYNDON IV
CO A 2-108TH INFANTRY

SSG SPANTON MICHAEL LEE

CO A(-) 42D SPECIAL TROOPS BN

SSG ALBERT CHRISTOPHER EDWARD
SSG BARNES J DANIEL

CO B (-) 1-69TH INFANTRY

SGT CARTER CEDRIC JEROME
SGT DIEUMEGARD ERIC KEESOO
SSG GILDAY SEAN PATRICK

CO B (MAINT) 427TH BSB

SPC DIPPEL GREGORY JUSTIN
CO B 101ST SIGNAL BN

MSG MOODY JOE E

SGT SILVA GEORGE MANUEL
CO B 3-142D AVIATION

SGT TIRADO BRIAN MATTHEW
CO B(-) 642D SUPPORT BN

SGT ARZU PAUL

SPC CARTER STANLEY WEAXSIE
SGT CATENA RICHARD FREDERICK
SGT CLARKE STANTON OLEN



Rochester welcomes aviation restructuring

Guard Times Staff

ROCHESTER, N.Y. -- Soldiers of the 42nd Aviation Brigade cased the colors of the former intermediate maintenance battalion on Sunday, October 29, 2006. The ceremony marked the transformation of aviation maintenance in the New York Army National Guard.

Lost to history were the colors of the 1st Battalion, 142nd Aviation Regiment, the former attack helicopter and then aviation maintenance battalion. Lt. Col. Mark Stryker and acting Cmd. Sgt. Maj. David Bimber cased the colors of the battalion that nearly one year ago returned from a successful deployment to Iraq.

The reorganization of New York's aviation maintenance commands moved the Headquarters Service Company of the 642nd to Rochester and the Distribution Company A in Dunkirk. The former 638th Aviation Maintenance in Ronkonkoma also reflagged as the battalion's Company B. Intermediate maintenance detachments for the battalion are now spread in Rochester, Maryland and South Carolina.

With the majority of the battalion now located in Rochester, the Soldiers of the 642nd Aviation Support Battalion are ideally suited to support more than a dozen aircraft, including the CH-47 Chinooks from the 3rd Battalion, 126th Aviation and the Medical Evacuation (Medevac) UH-1V Huey helicopters of the 249th Air Ambulance Company.

The ceremony also saw the change of command of the new unit from Col. Glenn Marchi to Lt. Col. Mark Stryker.

SSG COREANO JORGE
SSG GLOVER REGGIE
SPC RIVERA JOSEPH
SPC VANDELLI MARK ADLAI
CO C (-) 1-69TH INFANTRY
SFC FISHER JOSEPH VICTOR
CO C (-) 2-108TH INFANTRY
SPC MUNN BENJAMIN TAHAWUS
CO C (MED) 427TH BSB
SGT REICHARD EDWARD JOHN
CO C 101ST SIGNAL BN
SGT BURKETT JOHN PATRICK
SGT HANNIFORD MARCELLA ALBERTHA
SPC LOPEZ OSVALDO
SPC MOYSE YVES JR
SGT SANTANGELO RICHARD
SGT VALENCIA ANDRES FREDERICK
CO C 642D SUPPORT BN
SPC MCALLISTER JEFFREY JOHN
SGT YATES NORMAN CECIL
CO D (FSC RSTA) 427TH BSB
SPC BOBB MARY ALICE
SPC EDWARDS MICHAEL
SFC MASTYKARZ RICHARD GEORGE
SFC SWANSON GLENN STEVEN
CO D 1-69TH INFANTRY
SPC PAGE DELBERT
CO D 2-108TH INFANTRY
SFC ADAMS MANUEL JOSEPH
SPC RIPLEY CAMDEN VAUGHN
SPC WERNER ALONZO VINCENT
CO D 3-142D AVIATION
SSG BENNETT ROBERT HUGHES
SGT HAHN BILLY JOE
SGT PHILLIPS RAYMOND LIONEL III
SSG PUGLIESE ROBERT JOSEPH
SGT ROCQUE ERIC RAYMOND
SGT ROSE EDWARD KEVIN
SGT SWINT KEVIN JAMES
CO E (FSC INF) 427TH BSB
SPC BADILLO ROQUE EMANUEL
SGT DAIN TOBBY JAY
SSG DUNBAR IAN J
SPC WILLIAMS PATRICK MICHAEL
CO E 3-142D AVIATION
SPC SKELTON DONALD KEVIN
CO F (FSC INF) 427TH BSB
SGT GARCIA JOSE ANTONIO
SGT MAHADEO ISRAEL
SSG TAYLOR CELESTE I
SFC VAUGHAN ALFREDO CODELIN
CO G (FSC FA) 427TH BSB
SGT JONES PAUL M
SFC LOPEZ VICTOR MANUEL
SPC RIVERA ALBERTO
PFC VILLAFANE JOSE ANTONIO
DET 1 105 MP CO
MSG CANELLA JOSEPH PAUL
SGT CARDINO MEGAN PATRICIA
SGT MATTINGLY DOUGLAS LEROY
SPC QUINONES PEDRO DAMIAN JR
DET 1 1156TH ENGR CO VERTICAL
SSG ORTEGA PATRICIO
SPC TYSON TERENCE RICHARD
DET 1 222D MILITARY POLICE CO
SPC FLEMING CHRISTOPHER JAMES
DET 1 827TH ENGR CO HORIZ
SPC SEARFOSS JAMES HOWARD
SPC THOMPSON PETER JACOB
DET 1 CO A 2-108TH INFANTRY
SSG MARKLE DANIEL CHRISTIAN
SSG MCCANN JASON AARON
SGT MOHR AARON BRADT
DET 1 CO A 42D STB
SGT ANZALONE TODD ANTHONY
SFC LOUGHRAN DENIS M
DET 1 CO B 1-69TH INFANTRY
CPL CANTLEY MICHAEL DEAN
DET 1 CO C 1-69TH INFANTRY
SPC GARVEY JASON EDWARD
SGT HOTALING ALLEN
DET 1 CO C 2-108TH INFANTRY
SGT BORST JOHN HENRY JR
SGT HUDSPATH BRIAN JUDE
SGT RICCI RANDOLPH CALVIN II
DET 1 HHC 2-108TH INFANTRY
SGT TAYLOR ROBERT MICHAEL
DET 1 HHC 42D STB
SGT DELLES VICTOR LEON
SFC GALAZKA MICHAEL
SPC WEARNE MICHAEL JOHN

DET 1 HHC BSTB 27TH IN BDE BCT
SGT WHITTINGTON ALFONSO D
DET 2 HHC 42D STB
SSG FUNES ROBERTO JOBANY
DET 3 CO E 3-142D AVIATION
SGT WALDRING GLENN CHARLES
EARLY ENTRY ELMT 369 SUST BDE
MSG COLON JOSE A
SGT MASTEN JASON NATHANIEL
SGT WRIGHT JOHN WILLIAM
FSC 204TH ENGINEER BATTALION
SGT CAINE PATRICK
SPC HART KEVIN ROBERT
H & S CO 204 ENGR BN
SPC HOWARD JESSE ANDERSON III
SPC LOEFFLER JEFFREY SCOTT
HBB 1-258TH FIELD ARTILLERY
SPC PHIPPS RUSSELL COLLIN
SSG PINNOCK ORLANDO
PV2 WILKINSON VICTOR ARHNEIM
HHC (-) 2-108 INFANTRY
SGT BURLEIGH CRAIG STEPHEN
SGT DESO NICHOLAS JAMES
SGT GIAMMELLA LOUIS EDWARD
SPC MILLS MICHAEL ALLEN
SPC PERUSSE JOSHUA MICHAEL
SPC PRATT THOMAS FRANK
HHC (-) BSTB 27TH IN BDE (BCT)
SSG DEROUICHE RENEE JEAN
SPC GURBACKI GREGORY JOHN
SGT NOSBISCH LINDA RUTH
CSM PINKOWSKI RANDY A
HHC 1-69TH INFANTRY
SPC CENTENO ALEJANDRO
SPC COLOMBANI ALAN
SPC MONSANTO CHARLIE LOUIS
1SG ORTIZ ELOY
SGT PIERRE CLARENCE KEN
SGT SCHMITT GREGORY THEODORE
SGT THOMAS JEFFREY ALLEN
SGT WILSON GREGORY
HHC 101ST SIGNAL BN
SGT GRISWOLD ROBERT WALTER
SPC LINDSEY JOHANN MALCOLM
HHC 369TH SUSTAINMENT BRIGADE
MSG COLON RAUL
SGT LEWIS OLABISI TAMEKA
SSG MCLAM PAMELA DENISE
SPC POTTER EUGENE JR
SFC RAMADHIN LUTCHMAN B
HHC 427 BSB
SPC GEERER JASON EDWARD
SPC WHITNEY SARAH L
HHC COMBAT AVN BDE 42D IN DIV
SGT CABRERA KRYSTAL LEE
SGT FINNIE BARBARA M
CSM RIVERA RENE
HHC(-) 42D SPECIAL TROOPS BN
SPC BAPTISTE RICHARD DARWIN
SGT BROWN ERIC DAVID
SPC COBB ANDRE ZIGMOND GARTH
SGT COLLIER JOI KRISTINA
SGT PATTERSON MICHAEL WALTER
HHD 104TH MILITARY POLICE BN
SPC BEVINS JOSEPH WILLIAM
PFC BOYLE JAMES GERARD JR
SPC KRUGER MATTHEW RICHARD
CSM LENZ JUSTIN CLARK
SPC MELENDEZ DAVID FRANK
PFC MERCHANT MICHAEL GERVAIS
SSG MORRISSEY CHRISTOPHER JOHN
SPC NIMPHIUS PHILIP MICHAEL
SPC NOSKER JOEL THOMAS
SPC PULCASTRO WILLIAM MICHAEL
PV1 RODRIGUEZ STEVEN
SPC SAINSBURY MARCUS JOEL L
PV2 TAYLOR MICHAEL PYBURN
SPC TOMASINO TONI
SPC WENIG JOHN GILES
HHD 27TH FINANCE BN
SGT CARTER ANN
SPC FERNANDEZ ROBERTO III
SPC PACHECO JOSE ALBERTO
SSG UTSEY JOHN RAYTHOMAS
HHD 501ST ORDNANCE BN EOD
SPC EDMONDS ROBERT J
HHT 2-101 CAV (RSTA)
SPC EDDY JOSEPH ANTHONY
SPC GORCZYCA MATTHEW C
SGT MAIER GLENN RAYMOND
SPC MASON SCOTT MATTHEW

SGT PROULX MATTHEW AUSTIN
SGT ROWH WILLIAM SCOTT
SPC SOLLEY CARL ALEXANDER
HQ 153RD TRP CMD (BDE)
MSG MARTINEZ LUIS M
SPC OSIKA SANDRA LYNN
SFC TOMPKINS BARBARA JEAN
HQS 106TH REGIMENT (RTI)
SSG PUGH LAMONT M
HSC 642D SUPPORT BN
MSG HARTER RONALD M
SSG HUDSON ADA V
SFC MAYBERRY MELVIN
SGT ROSAS VERONICA
SPC SELLARS JASON PAUL
MEDICAL COMMAND
SPC DICKERSON DANIEL BROOKS
NYARNG ELEMENT JOINT FORCE HQ
SGT AHLERS MICHELLE LYNN
SGT BENOIT DAWN LYNN
MSG CALANDRA GINO REMO
SSG FORGET ARTHUR PAUL III
SGM LAMOURET DAVID GEORGE
SFC MAHONEY THOMAS JAMES
MSG NUDING JEFFREY CARLETON
SSG ROBLES DAVID CRISTINO
SSG SHERWOODJOHNSON JOSHUA A
SGT SOLER MARCO ANTONIO
SGT VETTER DAVID ARTHUR

SPC WESTFALL JUSTIN ALAN
RECRUITING AND RETENTION CMD
SPC CUCANAN ROBERT TIMOTHY
SGT BAREY BRENDAN JOSEPH
SGT DIXON LYNN SUZANNE
SSG ELDRD DARYL JOHN
SSG FERNANDEZ NESTOR JOSE
SSG HARRISON DARRYL FLOYD
SGT MENDEZ OSCAR ELEUT JR
SGT PARK CHRISTOPHER FRANCIS
SGT ROBINSON EVMARIE
SSG ROBINSON RONALD CLIFFORD JR
SGT SABATER ERIC BERNARD
SGT SWARTZ LEWIS DONALD
SGT VALDES ANTHONY II
SFC VASQUEZ RUBEN
SIG NTWK SPT DET 369 SUST BDE
SGT SHORT WILLIE DAVID IV
TROOP A 2-101 CAV (RSTA)
SGT CUNNINGHAM ARLYN CLEM JR
SFC FORD DAVID DOUGLAS
SPC HOLCOMB JACK EUGENE
SPC OSORIO ROBERTO JOSE
SPC SMITH DAVID ERWIN
SPC VANHORN SHAWN DAVID
TROOP C 2-101 CAV (RSTA)
SSG BARKER MATTHEW WILLIAM
1SG GARDNER JACK D JR
SPC WEIGEL GREGORY MICHAEL

Guardsmen contribute to ROTC top honors

By Maj. Michael Hoblin
Fordham University



Members of the Fordham University ROTC Ranger Challenge. Cadets Patrick Kerins, Ceasar Nunez and James Hasan are also Soldiers with the N.Y. Army National Guard. Courtesy photo.

FORT INDIANTOWN GAP, Penn.

— Three members of the New York Army National Guard helped lead their Army ROTC cadet team to top honors during the annual Ranger Challenge cadet competition held October 15th, 2006.

Cadets James Hasan from New York University, Patrick Kerins and Ceasar Nunez from Fordham joined seven other cadets in months of training for the competition.

Kerins serves with the 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry and Nunez with the 442nd Military Police Company in the simultaneous membership program while Cadet Hasan recently joined the National Guard through Kerins and the Guard Recruiting Assistance Program.

The team, including several ROTC partner schools, also included Cadets Ian Ahearn from St. Thomas Aquinas and Fordham Cadets Ryan Doherty, John Herger, Danielle

Sealione, Matt McKernon, Matt Savitsky, team alternate Yosjaira Matos of Baruch College and team captain Cadet Jeff Hansen also from Fordham.

The competition tested cadets from each ROTC battalion in the eight areas of physical fitness, land navigation, weapons assembly and disassembly, hand grenade accuracy course, infantry patrolling techniques test, negotiation of a rope bridge across a water obstacle, a ten-obstacle land obstacle course with log-carry, and the grueling ten kilometer (6-mile) team "ruck run" in full gear.

The Ranger Challenge included teams from the U.S. Army's Cadet Command's eastern region, the 2nd "Liberty" Brigade.

The ten member team from Fordham University placed first in their division of seven teams and placed 4th overall out of 20 other teams from the eastern region's brigade.

NEW YORK AIR GUARD PROMOTIONS

LIEUTENANT COLONEL

MORGAN, TIMOTHY F 137 AIRLIFT SQ
 GRANT, STEVEN D 137 AIRLIFT SQ
 HAYDEN, ERIK K 137 AIRLIFT SQ
 NOLAN, JAMES W 102 RESCUE SQ
 DOMMELL, ROBERT M 107 MEDICAL GP
 HOCH, JAMES J 136 AIR REFUELING SQ
 ESPOSITO, THOMAS P 109 OPERATIONS GP
 SURBER, CHARLES A 139 AEROMED EVAC SQ
 THALHEIMER, PETER M 139 AIRLIFT SQ
 THOMAS, JAMES M 152 AIR OPERATIONS GP
 STEVENSON, CHARLES E III 152 AIR OPERATIONS GP
 BACHENBERG, LAURA J 152 AIR OPERATIONS GP
 BROCKWELL, DERRELL R 152 AIR OPERATIONS GP
 STYLES, RUSSELL B 152 AIR OPERATIONS GP
 BAHLATZIS, MICHAEL 174 MEDICAL GP
 EDICK, RUDYARD G 174 MEDICAL GP
 PRIESTER, BRADLEY JANICE 174 MEDICAL GP
 ROBENS, JANET C 174 MEDICAL GP

MAJOR

GALVIN, MICHAEL J 136 AIR REFUELING SQ
 GUGINO, JOSEPH L 136 AIR REFUELING SQ
 GEDDES, PAUL M 138 FIGHTER SQ

CAPTAIN

SPOHN, PHAEDRA N 101 RESCUE SQ
 STENGER, MARLETTE L 106 MAINTENANCE GP
 MARTINEZ, CELESTINO J 106 MISSION SUPPORT FT
 BUONOME, MICHELLE M 109 AIRLIFT WG
 ZELIPH, JASON E 139 AEROMED EVAC SQ
 WHITTEN, SARAH J 152 AIR OPERATIONS GP

1ST LIEUTENANT

STRACK, ERIC M 105 LOGISTICS READINES SQ
 SMITH, ROBERT J 139 AEROMED EVAC SQ
 BENTON, GERALD P JR 174 OPERATIONS SUPPORT FT

2ND LIEUTENANT

NAGLE, RODRIGO E 105 STUDENT FT
 GIACONIA, RYAN T 109 STUDENT FT
 BOWEN, JUSTIN C 109 STUDENT FT

CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT

BOVEE, WAYNE D 174 COMMUNICATIONS FT
 HEPP, KATHLEEN M 174 MISSION SUPPORT FT

SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT

ICART, PETER M 105 CIVIL ENGINEER SQ
 MARCANO, RALPH H 105 SERVICES FT
 BUCKHEIT, MICHAEL C 106 LOGISTICS READINES SQ
 NESTOR, PETER C 109 CIVIL ENGINEER SQ
 SHAFFER, DAVID K 174 LOGISTICS READINES SQ
 MULDOON, PATRICK M 174 MAINTENANCE SQ
 DUBAY, PAUL 174 NORTH EAST AIR DEF SQ

MASTER SERGEANT

COLTON, ELIZABETH A 105 AERIAL PORT SQ
 VANSTRANDER, LEAH B 105 LOGISTICS READINES SQ
 WILLIAMS, RAMONA J 105 MAINTENANCE GP
 CRAPO, RAYMOND F III 105 MAINTENANCE SQ
 PUCKETT, JASON A 105 SERVICES FT
 STEPHAN, DAVID M 107 AIR REFUELING WG
 MCDUGALD, PAUL E 107 MAINTENANCE SQ
 KALOTA, VINCENT J 107 MEDICAL GP
 FORD, CHRISTINE E 109 COMMUNICATIONS FT
 KOVAROVIC, MARSHA S 109 LOGISTICS READINES SQ
 RICHARDS, MICHAEL A 109 MAINTENANCE SQ
 SPIAK, KELLY J 109 MEDICAL GP
 PERRIGO, CHRISTINA I 139 AIRLIFT SQ
 MASCOLO, UGO 139 AIRLIFT SQ
 CLARK, WESLEY S 174 AIRCRAFT MAINT SQ
 ZABLOCKI, CHRISTOPHER 174 AIRCRAFT MAINT SQ
 SELDEN, EUGENE L 174 CIVIL ENGINEER SQ
 CAMPBELL, COLLEEN E 174 LOGISTICS READINES SQ
 POLLOCK, MITCHELL T 174 MISSION SUPPORT FT
 CASTRO, CARLOS R 174 NORTH EAST AIR DEF SQ

TECHNICAL SERGEANT

HARKINS, CHARLES E 105 MAINTENANCE SQ
 GONZALEZ, MARTIN 105 MAINTENANCE SQ
 ARNOUTS, JACK 105 MAINTENANCE SQ
 CRUZ, DAVID 105 MAINTENANCE SQ
 NASCIMENTO, MARCOS R 105 MEDICAL GP
 FLANIGAN, DANNIELLE G 105 MEDICAL GP
 FREDENBURG, PHILIP B II 105 SECURITY FORCES SQ
 STEBBINS, NOAH A 137 AIRLIFT SQ
 BERNET, PETER J 102 RESCUE SQ
 ROGERS, JASON T 106 AIRCRAFT MAINT SQ
 CAVANAGH, BRIAN K 106 CIVIL ENGINEER SQ
 WELSH, WILLIAM J 106 CIVIL ENGINEER SQ
 DOMHAN, JOSEPH C 106 COMMUNICATIONS FT
 MALLOY, TIMOTHY D 106 COMMUNICATIONS FT
 MURRO, PETER J 106 COMMUNICATIONS FT
 BEETSTR, RICHARD P 106 COMMUNICATIONS FT
 SOUDER, CYNTHIA J 106 LOGISTICS READINES SQ
 SAMUELS, ALICIA T 106 RESCUE WG
 EDWARDS, CHARITY S 107 COMMUNICATIONS FT
 TIRONE, STEPHEN S 107 MAINTENANCE SQ
 SCHWAB, JEFFERY A 107 MAINTENANCE SQ
 SORCE, LINDSAY A 107 OPERATIONS GP
 O'DONNELL, MICHAEL J 107 OPERATIONS SUPPORT FT
 SZCZEPANIEC, MATTHEW R 107 SECURITY FORCES SQ
 CLINE, DAVID R 136 AIR REFUELING SQ
 WARNOCKGRAHAM, ADRIAN 109 AIRLIFT WG
 PINGITORE, SANNING M 109 LOGISTICS READINES SQ
 HIGHTOWER, ROGER F 109 LOGISTICS READINES SQ
 MERRILL, MICHAEL A 109 MAINTENANCE SQ
 GRAHAM, REBECCA L 109 MEDICAL GP
 MARTELLE, JEREMY P 109 OPERATIONS SUPPORT FT
 SNYDER, ALLISON J 109 SERVICES FT
 ZENNER, KEVIN J 139 AIRLIFT SQ
 SCHLOSS, RALPH NMI 174 AIRCRAFT MAINT SQ
 PARRITT, GARY L 174 AIRCRAFT MAINT SQ
 CARLEO, DAVID H 174 AIRCRAFT MAINT SQ
 KELSEY, JASON E 174 COMMUNICATIONS FT
 SPIREA, STEFAN 174 MAINTENANCE OPS FT
 DONNELLY, JAMES W 174 MAINTENANCE OPS FT
 ROBBINS, CARL K 174 MAINTENANCE SQ
 WALTERMYER, ANTHONY J 174 MAINTENANCE SQ
 PECK, EDWARD N JR 174 MAINTENANCE SQ
 LYNCH, BRENT R 174 MEDICAL GP
 PAQUIN, JULIEN R 174 MISSION SUPPORT FT
 MCKILLIP, KEVIN W 174 SECURITY FORCES SQ
 COMET, JEFFREY M 174 DET 1 174 FIGHTER WG

STAFF SERGEANT

SWEENEY, JENNIFER C 105 AIRCRAFT MAINT SQ
 RAMOS, JONATHAN M 105 AIRCRAFT MAINT SQ
 MALL, JONATHAN L 105 CIVIL ENGINEER SQ
 FISHER, JOSEPH B 105 CIVIL ENGINEER SQ
 ARNOLD, MONEQUE M 105 LOGISTICS READINES SQ
 MINK BURCH, LIBERTY J 105 MAINTENANCE SQ
 PFAFF, IAN D 105 MAINTENANCE SQ
 COHAN, JOSEPH B 105 MAINTENANCE SQ
 RIOS, JULIO CESAR 137 AIRLIFT SQ
 MEADE, THOMAS J JR 102 RESCUE SQ
 HNETINKA, SCOTT A 106 AIRCRAFT MAINT SQ

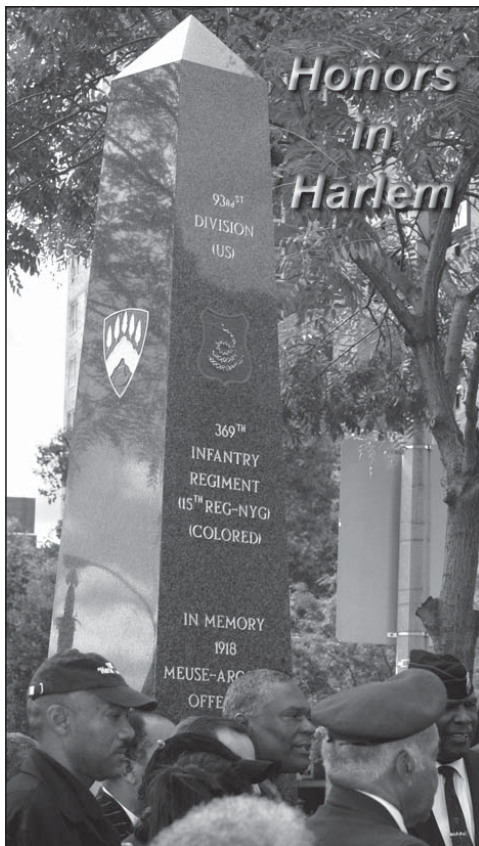
MCCOY, ROBERT N 106 AIRCRAFT MAINT SQ
 CHALUPA, PAUL W 106 COMMUNICATIONS FT
 BANCROFT, ROBERT R 106 LOGISTICS READINES SQ
 WHITE, JENNIFER M 106 SECURITY FORCES SQ
 PETERS, SUSAN L 107 COMMUNICATIONS FT
 STAFFORD, HAROLD N III 107 LOGISTICS READINES SQ
 KIRCHNER, JASON K 107 LOGISTICS READINES SQ
 BASHER, RICHARD J 107 MAINTENANCE SQ
 GUILD, CHRISTOPHER D 107 SERVICES FT
 BYRNS, KEVIN M 109 AIRCRAFT MAINT SQ
 VANARSDALE, AMANDA J 139 AEROMED EVAC SQ
 NEWTON, PATRICK W 139 AIRLIFT SQ
 DOWNS, KIERSTEN H 138 FIGHTER SQ
 JOHNSON, JOSHUA A 174 AIRCRAFT MAINT SQ
 CARSON, CASEY W 174 COMMUNICATIONS FT
 NUNEZ, JOSE L 174 MAINTENANCE SQ
 BLEYLE, RYAN S 174 OPERATIONS SUPPORT FT
 REINHARD, CLIFFORD H 174 SECURITY FORCES SQ
 HILL, MATTHEW J 174 SECURITY FORCES SQ
 KNIFTON, TIMOTHY F 174 STUDENT FT
 SITTERLY, RANDY K 174 STUDENT FT
 HOMER, RENEE A 174 STUDENT FT
 PERRY, MICHAEL A 174 NORTH EAST AIR DEF SQ

AIRMAN FIRST CLASS

PINILLOS, JOHN F 105 STUDENT FT
 URSO, GREGORY 105 STUDENT FT
 HALL, JOHN H II 105 STUDENT FT
 MILLS, JEFFREY G JR 105 STUDENT FT
 CORWIN, JOHN B 105 STUDENT FT
 LLOYD, JOHN F III 105 STUDENT FT
 LATORRE, MERCEDES M 105 STUDENT FT
 FONSECA, FABIANY R 106 LOGISTICS READINES SQ
 CLAY, CHRISTOPHER M 106 STUDENT FT
 MCALEAVEY, CHARLES J 106 STUDENT FT
 SACH, NICHOLAS 106 STUDENT FT
 RUSSITANO, ANTHONY J 106 STUDENT FT
 ATKINSON, JOHN T 107 COMMUNICATIONS FT
 FARON, MARSHALL J 107 STUDENT FT
 BARKER, MATTHEW C 107 STUDENT FT
 HOPKINS, STEPHANIE L 107 STUDENT FT
 SIEGEL, DAVID R 107 STUDENT FT
 PELLETIER, ERICH A 107 STUDENT FT
 HUSSAR, MICHAEL P 107 STUDENT FT
 BROWN, KRISTINA M 107 STUDENT FT
 MITER, JEREMY M 109 STUDENT FT
 STALKER, JUSTIN M 109 STUDENT FT
 TABER, STEVEN J 109 STUDENT FT
 BOYLE, CATLIN D 109 STUDENT FT
 MINER, JESSE A 109 STUDENT FT
 VALENTI, MATTHEW B 109 STUDENT FT
 MUNDAY, LEONARD H IV 109 STUDENT FT
 CANESTRARO, ERIC C 109 STUDENT FT
 CHESTER, SEAN P 109 STUDENT FT
 GUILBEAULT, NICHOLAS B 109 STUDENT FT
 BERG, BRIAN K JR 109 STUDENT FT
 NETZBAND, PHILIP B 174 STUDENT FT
 DALLEY, CLINTON R 174 STUDENT FT
 DOBRANSKY, BRETT A 174 STUDENT FT
 BODDY, WILLIAM T 174 STUDENT FT
 PERKINS, THOMAS R JR 174 STUDENT FT
 SHUTE, ZACHARY S 174 STUDENT FT
 WELLS, RYAN A 174 STUDENT FT

SENIOR AIRMAN

MARTIN, NICOLE M 105 AIRCRAFT MAINT SQ
 DIXSON, STEVEN P 105 CIVIL ENGINEER SQ
 WONG, WINSON Y 105 CIVIL ENGINEER SQ
 PERALTA, JOSE D 105 LOGISTICS READINES SQ
 SCALI, JUAN D 105 MAINTENANCE SQ
 JOBSON, COLBY A 105 MAINTENANCE SQ
 LITTLETON, ABDUL C 105 MAINTENANCE SQ
 MELO, LUIS C 105 SECURITY FORCES SQ
 PERRONE, CHRISTINA 101 RESCUE SQ
 BENZA, STEVEN P JR 102 RESCUE SQ
 SALCE, ALCIDE 102 RESCUE SQ
 SCHWACK, DAVID C 103 RESCUE SQ
 BURNS, TABATHA N 106 MISSION SUPPORT FT
 ILYASOV, IGOR 106 SECURITY FORCES SQ
 KOWALCZYK, SARAH C 107 SERVICES FT
 ROTH, JAMES M 109 AERIAL PORT FT
 LOVELESS, MATTHEW S 109 COMMUNICATIONS FT
 WALKER, NICHOLAS J 109 MAINTENANCE SQ
 DEROSE, JASON T 109 MAINTENANCE SQ
 TRIPP, DANIEL C 109 OPERATIONS SUPPORT FT
 MANCUSO, NICHOLAS W 109 STUDENT FT
 DAMSKY, DEANE H 174 AIRCRAFT MAINT SQ
 BUTTON, SCOTT A 174 AIRCRAFT MAINT SQ
 HANAVAN, JASON P 174 COMMUNICATIONS FT
 OWENS, ADAM A 174 LOGISTICS READINES SQ
 POTTER, KYLE J 174 MAINTENANCE SQ
 LUCAS, TARVORE L 174 MISSION SUPPORT FT
 NILSSON, STEPHEN M 174 SECURITY FORCES SQ



A memorial to New York's "Harlem Hellfighters," the National Guard's 369th Infantry Regiment, is dedicated near the 5th Avenue Armory on September 29. The black obelisk is similar to a regimental monument on display commemorating the MeuseArgonne offensive of 1918 in Sechault in Northern France. The lineage of the "Harlem Hellfighters" is carried forward in the modern-day 369th Sustainment Brigade. Photo by Pfc. Mark Siegelman.

Happy Birthday, National Guard

Guard readies to celebrate 370 years – or 18 generations of lifers

By Tech. Sgt. Mike R. Smith

National Guard Bureau

ARLINGTON, Va. – What is a few years younger than the Mayflower Compact (1620); a lot older than the Declaration of Independence (1776) and U.S. Constitution (1787); predates the U.S. Army, Navy and Marine Corps by 139 years; and is 311 years older than the Air Force?

Answer: The National Guard.

Known originally as the militia, the National Guard turns 370 years young Dec. 13.

It all started in 1636 when the General Court of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, which functioned as the colony's legislature, ordered existing militia companies from the towns surrounding Boston to form into three regiments: North, South and East.

While other English colonies like Virginia and Spanish colonies like Florida and Puerto Rico had individual towns with militia companies before 1636, Massachusetts was the first place in the New World where the population was large

Orion rededicates WWII monuments



Guard Times Staff

SYRACUSE, N.Y. -- Soldiers of the 27th Brigade Combat Team now pass by monuments dedicated to fallen comrades from Orion's battles in World War Two. With the support of the National Guard's 204th Engineer Battalion and the 174th Fighter Wing, the brigade headquarters coordinated the movement of the WWII monuments from Camp Smith to the Thompson Road armory September 21, 2006.

The monuments were constructed in 1964 and are made of travertine marble quarried near Torii Station in Okinawa – ground that the 27th Division fought on during its WWII battle for control of the island. The monuments were originally to be erected in Okinawa near Torii Station, retired Lt. Col. Burleigh Cubert, then a captain and WWII veteran of the 27th Division, shipped the two monuments over 7,500 miles to New York and placed them at Camp Smith in 1971.

Recently, Cubert and the 27th Division Association Board of Directors revisited the siting of the two monuments in order to provide the best possible exposure for today's Citizen Soldiers in the Hunter Brigade. The association selected the 27th Brigade Headquarters in Syracuse as the best site to relocate the monuments.

"Now that the monuments are in Syracuse, more Soldiers of the 27th Infantry Brigade will be able to see them on a more frequent basis and we will be able to care and preserve them for years to come," said Lt. Col. Gary S. Yaple, the 27th Brigade Combat Team Deputy Commander.

enough to justify organizing companies into regiments for command and control. These regiments became a kind of military "family" for members. Although their names have been changed and individual companies have come and gone, the three regiments still exist in the Massachusetts National Guard.

In retrospect, a string of 20-year career enlistments divides the Guard's life span into more than 18 "generations." The differences between generation one and 18 are countless. Yet, even as the National Guard has transformed many times, it remains in line with its first role as the citizens' Army; and, for the last three generations, the citizens' Air Force.

The American colonies adopted the English militia system, which obligated all males to possess arms and participate in the defense of the community. This early militia enforced local laws and battled Britain's enemies in America. Now, a force of more than 450,000 men and women serve voluntarily and can be deployed anywhere in the world.

The continued existence of the colonial militia was ratified by the Founding Fathers in the Constitution. Since then, Congress has enacted several militia and defense acts to strengthen the National Guard. The first of these laws, passed in 1792, governed the militia for the first 111 years of the country's existence.

The Militia Act of 1903 created the modern National Guard and affirmed the National Guard as the nation's primary organized reserve force. The National Defense Act of 1947 established the Air National Guard under the National Guard Bureau.

In 370 years and more than eighteen 20-year enlistments, the weapons and technology have changed drastically, but the Guard's contribution to the nation's defense has remained paramount.

Generation seven rallied to battle the British at Lexington and Concord. Generation 11 faced off, brother against brother,



in the Civil War. Generation 13 "Remembered the Maine" during the Spanish-American War. Generation 15 was on duty when Pearl Harbor was attacked. Generation 18 will never forget and is still responding to 9/11.

In 1636, the militia's primary firearm was the crude matchlock musket which could take 56 steps to load and fire. Nearly one-third of militia Soldiers carried only a long pole, or pike, into combat. Today, the Guard's small-arms arsenal includes M-16 and M-4 rifles, and the Squad Automatic Weapon which fires of 750 rounds per minute.

Our colonial ancestors could not have imagined much of what their descendants can use in combat today – jet fighters, tanks, satellite radios, laser-guided munitions, global positioning systems, rocket artillery, and countless other high-tech devices.

Now, after 360 years, what does the future hold for this always ready and reliable force?

Future National Guard generations will continue to employ all of the modern technology at its disposal at home and abroad. At the core, however, today's National Guard members and yesterday's Minutemen remain the same person: citizens with the conviction that their military service is required to make their communities a safer and better place.



When the National Guard's oldest regiments met for their first drill on the village green in Salem, Massachusetts, they were barely three months old, organized on December 13th, 1636, the date we now celebrate as the National Guard birthday. This National Guard Heritage painting entitled "The First Muster" commemorates the National Guard's origins with the very first Citizen Soldiers. Courtesy image.

Rainbow reunion recalls sacrifice of two generations

Story and photos by Maj. Richard Goldenberg
42nd Infantry Division Public Affairs

TROY, N.Y. – Dozens of World War II veterans and family descendents of the Army's famous 42nd Rainbow Division joined with the unit's most recent combat veterans of the Army National Guard to celebrate the successful redeployment of thousands of Rainbow Division Citizen Soldiers from Iraq one year before.

The energetic and enthusiastic WWII veterans gathered in Troy to visit with members of the 42nd Infantry Division Headquarters Chapter of the Rainbow Division Memorial Foundation, the veteran's association that dates back to the 42nd Division's first combat deployment in World War One. The eastern region chapter meetings brought together WWII veterans and their families to meet and provide a welcome home from one group of Rainbow veterans to another.

"I've really enjoyed spending time with all these great Americans," said Staff Sgt. Timothy O'Brien, one of the Rainbow Division's escorts for the group as they toured the National Guard armory and NYS Military History Museum. "They've got energy and attitude that fits right in with our Soldiers today," he commented. "I can easily see these guys serving in the Rainbow Division."

Touring the NYS Military Museum in Saratoga Springs, members of the Memorial Foundation had opportunities to speak with some of the 42nd Division veterans about their experiences in Iraq.

"This is a great opportunity to open our arms to each other on a personal level," said Ted Simonson, Chairman of the Rainbow Division Memorial Foundation. "It is my hope that this weekend's events will lead to an even greater combined turnout at our 2007 annual reunion in Virginia Beach," Simonson said. "Together, this is our opportunity to really step up and help guarantee that our Rainbow will continue and prosper."

The weekend reunion culminated with a formal dinner in Troy where Dick Tisch, former Foundation Chairman presented a memorial plaque to Brig. Gen. Paul Genereux on behalf of all 42nd Infantry Division Soldiers who have served at home or overseas in the Global War on Terror.

"This memorial plaque lists all of our fallen Rainbow comrades, no matter where they served and no matter under

what command. Here are 42nd Division Soldiers who were killed in both Iraq and Afghanistan, serving either with the Rainbow colors or with another military unit," Tisch said. "It is our hope that you will display the names of these brave men and women at the division headquarters as part of the continuing legacy of the Rainbow Division."

"I am so honored to be representing the thousands of men and women who wear the Rainbow shoulder patch today," said Brig. Gen. Genereux. "And I am even more pleased to see comrades from our other Rainbow states here tonight as well. Today's Rainbow Division, refit and reorganized spans across the historic 26th

Brigade, 27th Brigade, 50th Brigade, 86th Brigade and 42nd Combat Aviation Brigade. All of these units have deployed forces, either with the Rainbow Division as part of Task Force Liberty or alongside other Army or Marine forces. They have served with distinction in Iraq, in Afghanistan, at Guantanamo Bay or right here at home providing support to our homeland defense mission," Genereux said.

Many of the attendees came to the reunion simply to meet modern-day Rainbow Soldiers and see the shoulder patch on a uniform after so many years. "I had a great time, especially meeting the troops at the Troy Armory," said Larry Rosen, a



Dick Tisch from the Rainbow Division Memorial Foundation presents Brig. Gen. Paul Genereux, of the 42nd Infantry Division with a memorial plaque listing the fallen Soldiers who were part of the Rainbow Division in the Global War on Terror. Whether serving under the division and Task Force Liberty in Iraq or with other commands, the Memorial Foundation wanted to honor all the men and women who lost their lives as part of the Rainbow Division.

WWII Rainbow veteran of the division artillery.

Making comparisons between Rainbow Soldiers past and present was inevitable. Soldiers who bore the brunt of one of Europe's harshest winters in January 1945 during the Operation Nordwind German counteroffensive compared soldiering with contemporaries who enduring the brutal heat of summer in Baghdad or along the Tigris River Valley in Iraq. "The equipment may change, the tactics may change and the enemy may change, but some things about being a Soldier are timeless," said Pete Pettus, another WWII infantryman.

Other aspects of the modern Rainbow Division were also new to the veterans of WWII. "It certainly was different to be sitting next to two young lady Rainbows," remarked Rosen.

One important lesson from the Rainbow veterans of the past is the importance of keeping close and in touch. "Troops now are so much more fortunate as far as keeping in contact," said Pettus at the Military History Museum. "I lost contact with most of my best buddies (after the war)." Pettus said he hoped the reunion weekend and the Memorial Foundation will provide today's Rainbow veterans with new opportunities to keep in touch for the rest of their lives.

"This reunion weekend has been a great tribute and celebration not only of the Rainbow Division's success in Iraq, but of all these units and their Soldiers. It is the Soldier who deserves all the credit for the success of our force, and these Citizen Soldiers in the Latest Generation certainly can make these Rainbow veterans of the Greatest Generation proud in their accomplishments," Genereux remarked.

"It is my goal and great hope for the future of the Rainbow that the Troy gathering will be the breakthrough occasion for starting a flow of 42nd Mechanized veterans into our Rainbow Foundation family," Simonson said in remarks to the veterans.



Photo at center, Staff Sgt. Katie McGovern from the 42nd Infantry Division Headquarters adds to the division punchbowl during the veteran's reunion weekend in Troy.

At right, Staff Sgt. Greg Martin and Pete Pettus from the Rainbow Division Memorial Foundation discuss Rainbow operations in Tikrit at the NYS Military History Museum. Both Martin and McGovern deployed to Iraq with the 42nd Division's Task Force Liberty.



Counterdrug supports Guard's youth

By Staff Sgt. Catharine Schmidt
109th AW Public Affairs

LATHAM, N.Y. -- The New York Counterdrug Task Force participated in NYNG's Family Readiness Group (FRG) Symposium for the first time Oct. 21, hoping to play a larger role in the military community by emphasizing their motto: "Drug Free Starts With Me."

This year's symposium was held at the Division of Military and Naval Affairs in Latham on Oct. 21 and 22. Kicking off the event was the Corps of Cadets, a leadership program sponsored by Counterdrug for youth enrolled in school who aim to live a drug-free life and be good role models for the community. This particular group was from Poughkeepsie, and proudly posted the colors. One cadet, his football team's quarterback, even missed his homecoming football game for the event, saying this was "more important" to him.

Every year, family readiness groups throughout New York get together with military families to discuss issues affecting them. This year, military children had an opportunity to participate and learn something, too. Counterdrug provided presentations and activities to bring out self-confidence and team-building, teach stress reduction techniques, and

ultimately show children how to go about making the right choices in their lives.

"The New York Counterdrug program is divided into two main mission categories, Drug Supply Reduction (DSR) and Drug Demand Reduction (DDR). DSR consists of Guardsmen supporting Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) as they take drugs off the street by arrests or eradication," said Lt. Col. Vance Bateman, NY's Counterdrug Coordinator. "But another very important mission in the war on drugs in New York is DDR. Through drug education and awareness, we teach people the dangers of drugs and how it affects their bodies so they don't have a desire to try drugs. If there's no desire for drugs then the drug dealers have nobody to sell the drugs to. So, it's a two-pronged approach.

"With the FRG symposium, instead of just focusing strictly on demand reduction with the civilian population, an important part is to focus on our (Department of Defense) families," he said.

About 30 children attended the event. Once adults left for the Desmond Hotel and Conference Center in Albany



Command Sgt. Maj. George Brett talks to a participant of this year's Family Readiness Group Symposium about the NY Counterdrug program. Brett and other Soldiers and Airmen with Counterdrug interacted with military youth during the program through education, physical activities and presentations

to talk "grown-up talk," the youth participated in the many fun activities Counterdrug had lined up for them.

Counterdrug kicked things off for participants by showing a multimedia presentation that focused on teens in different stress-filled scenarios and how they and their families coped. One particular story focused on a teenage boy whose father was deployed in Iraq, and the choices he was forced to make as a teenager just trying to fit in.

All the children who watched the film learned something very important:

"Making good decisions," said second-grader Brandon Taveras, 7.

That was just one of the many things Counterdrug wanted youth to learn. Activities throughout the two days also gave the children ideas for physical activities.

"Counterdrug's role supporting the symposium is to show kids physical activities that are alternatives to drugs," Colonel Bateman said. "Be it the rock-climbing wall, low-ropes course or skateboarding. Obviously this is a one-time event, but it's about developing an interest in a youth. ... Generally kids without activities for outlets tend to get in more trouble, and we're trying to show that physical activity is a stress reliever in itself. ... There are activities out there that they can substitute for drug use."

"In the past, the focus has been on outside of the military... and one of the things that we wanted to do was reach out to that military community," Colonel Bateman said. "There's a big community in the military and we can't forget that, so I wanted to make sure we are not only supporting our civilian children, but that we are supporting our military children also."



Story and photo by Staff Sgt. Peter Towse
42nd Infantry Division Public Affairs

BUFFALO, N.Y. -- Soldiers of the New York Army National Guard along with Airmen and Marines were honored during the military appreciation pre-game show of the Buffalo Bills game September 24th. The Bills honored those who served in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

A 60' x 30' US flag was unfurled by over 30 troops during the event which was followed by a flyover of two CH-47 Chinook helicopters from the New York National Guard.

Although fans were there to cheer on their favorite teams, it was clear everyone was there cheering the Armed Forces.

"It was great," said Sgt. First Class Jack Porter, a platoon sergeant and the readiness NCO with Charlie Troop 2nd Squadron, 101st Cavalry, out of Buffalo, NY. "It was nice to be part of something where the everyday citizen was able to articulate their thankfulness in cheering for us while we were out there doing our job." Porter was a squad leader with the 2nd Battalion, 108th Infantry later attached to 1st

Battalion, 118th Infantry with the 1st Infantry Division in Tikrit, Iraq in 2004 patrolling the area in and around Tikrit trying to kill or capture area insurgents.

Both fans and players gave their attention to the Soldiers, Airmen and Marines as America's flag was stretched out over the field in honor of those who served.

"Today we were fortunate enough to be part of a ceremony; the unfurling of a large flag down on the field," said Sgt. Peter Bessey a Scout Team Leader also with Charlie Troop 2-101 Cavalry. "It was a great experience. It was great to see all the fans. I am very grateful to have been part of the ceremony and I want to thank the Bills.

Bessey served with Company D, 2nd Battalion, 162nd Infantry from Oregon in Central Baghdad from April 2004 to 2005. "It is important for everyone to remember what all the Soldiers who came before us and the Soldiers who are serving now have done for this country," Bessey said. "Remember your veterans...it is as simple as that."



A military youth takes his try at the rock-climbing wall NY Counterdrug during this year's Family Readiness Group Symposium Oct. 21 and 22. This was the first time Counterdrug had been represented at this symposium.

From ice skates to combat boots

Story and photos Spc. Christopher Connelly
42nd Infantry Division Public Affairs

CAMP SMITH TRAINING SITE, CORTLANDT MANOR, N.Y. -- These skaters came from different parts of the world: Canada, Russia, Slovakia, Sweden and Finland, and now they call Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania home. More recently, they spent a week in N.Y.'s mid-Hudson region learning team building and team leading procedures, common training within the National Guard.

Members of the 106th Regional Training Institute from



Camp Smith hosted the Pittsburgh Penguins of the National Hockey League (NHL) for this year's Leadership Training Course called Vanguard Forge. For the past two years, a professional sports team packs up their bags and leave behind the routine to head to West Point's Military Academy and Camp Smith for training on how to become leaders.

As the bus carrying 25 players rolls into Camp Smith, senior NCO's and officers of the Regional Training Institute or RTI, welcome the Penguins as if they were new recruits entering basic training.

"You have 30 seconds to get off my bus and line up" shouted 1st Sgt. J.B. Spiso from the 106th RTI. As the Penguins

ran off the bus they were engulfed with screaming Soldiers and a blaring siren in the background. Confused and in total disarray they ran around forgetting which line they needed to be in, Soldiers had to help get them into a proper formation.

Once the players were broken down into four squads they received a short welcome to Camp Smith and the 1st Sgt. gave them a few minutes to put on their gear and grab their training weapon, a rubberized M-16 rifle. Within minutes they began to move out double time as a platoon.

"They will be going through physical and mental leadership training and I am expecting them to do well out here," said Spiso.

Challenges presented to the teams included finding and rescuing a downed pilot and crossing a one rope bridge to get him to safety. As night fell, they rappelled down an incline, hauled an oversized wrestling mat for a distance and ended the training using brute strength, sweat and intelligence to devise a means to move a disabled HUMVEE approximately 60 yards up hill.

"As a professional hockey team they know how to work as a team, this training will help to build on their teamwork in a different way" said Spiso.

"I've been coaching for many years and never have I seen any type of team training like this before," said Penguins Head Coach Michel Therrien. Therrien, has 15 years of head coaching experience at various levels of pro hockey including three seasons as head coach of the Montreal Canadiens. A fiery leader who believes in discipline and devotion to detail, Therrien enters his first full season as head coach of the Penguins. He led the Canadians to the Stanley Cup playoffs in 2001-02, making their first postseason appearance in four years.

"All the players became leaders through this training and we are honored and privileged to be here," said Therrien. "I am convinced that after the time spent at West Point and Camp Smith we will become a great family."



Members of the N.Y. Army National Guard provide leadership training to the NHL's Pittsburgh Penguins. At top, 1st Sgt. J.B. Spiso barks instructions to the newly arrived hockey players. Above, a member of the 106th RTI's training cadre gives guidance for the team's next training station. The Guardsmen volunteered their time to administer the leader development course for the NHL team as part of their preseason training.

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