

# GEORGIA GUARDSMAN



★ ★ STATE NATIONAL GUARD AND STATE DEFENSE FORCE OF GEORGIA ★ ★

November 2010

**Douglas Engineers**  
apply battle skills to  
homeland defense

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**Guard aviation brings in Lakota**  
to replace old workhorse

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**Georgia Guard looks to NCOs**  
to build warrant officer ranks



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# GEORGIA NATIONAL GUARD GUARDSMAN

★★ SERVING THE NATIONAL GUARD AND STATE DEFENSE FORCE OF GEORGIA ★★

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# Homeland response unit tests new decon equipment

Story and photos by Sgt. 1st Class Roy Henry  
124th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment  
Georgia Army National Guard

**CAMP BLANDING, Fla., Nov. 7, 2010** – Georgia’s Joint Task Force 781 and CBRNE Enhanced Response Force Package tested two new pieces of equipment that could become the new standard for the National Guard in the future.

“We’re going to encourage the highest levels of the National Guard Bureau in Washington to seriously consider these products and make them part of the CERFP inventory,” said Sgt. 1st Class Shannon Richardson, a senior nuclear, biological and chemical (NBC) specialist with the 781st.

The Kennesaw-based JTF conducted testing during a scheduled three-day exercise at the Florida National Guard’s Urban Defense and Disaster Response Training Site. Its decontamination, medical and search and extraction personnel put the new gear through intense use to determine how well it meets their needs.

“I can’t stress enough how important the support to civil authority mission is to the JTF as a whole,” Richardson said. “If there’s equipment out there that’s going to help us accomplish that mission more effectively, and better mitigate the dangers to our Soldiers and Airmen, then we’re more than interested in having that technology in the hands of our people.”

JTF Soldiers and Airmen currently wear a bulky Kappler Z300 hazardous material suit that requires three people to help put on. It gets so hot, the wearer can only operate in the field for a limited amount of time before he has to come back, remove at least the upper part of the suit, and cool off.

The suit tears easily – especially in cold weather – and it has to have special chemical resistant tape put around the end of the sleeves and pants legs to make them seamless with the protective mask, gloves and overshoes, Richardson says.

“The old ‘legacy’ suit served us well, but there’s something out there now that would better serve our needs,” he said. “That’s what we believe we’ve found in

this new protective garment.”

Blauer Manufacture’s XRT Ensemble is constructed from special fabric that is lightweight and highly breathable, and it provides the wearer with better comfort during extended operations, Richard explains. Its one-piece design, with integrated glove and booties system, eliminates the need for chemical tape and allows personnel to get into the suit and on their way to a contaminated and dangerous environment quickly, he added.

“At \$400 a piece – right in line with the cost of the old suit – it saves us, the Guard and Georgia taxpayers a lot of money while, at the same time, providing those who wear it with better protection, longer time out on the scene, and less problems with body heat,” Richard said. “It’s a win even for the folks we’re helping because we can spend even more time focusing on them and their needs.”

There are other units like the 781st around the country, he said, that are testing the XRT Ensemble, and once NGB is satisfied with the results, the suit should be in the field by Fiscal Year 2012. The old legacy suits will go to the Combined Supply Center in Bluegrass, Ky., where the JTF gets its equipment, for disposal or resale to the public.

Staff Sgt. Bruce Sutherland has been with the 781st for nearly five years, and says he is excited about getting the new suit.

“I can’t tell you how many times I’ve put on the old suit and wished we had something better,” said Sutherland, a chemical specialist with Kennesaw’s 138 Chemical Company – an element of the Joint Task Force. “This new suit is going to make our job much, much easier, and increase the time we have on scene. Those two things, alone, make it worth fielding in my mind.”

Also put to the test by task force personnel was a new dry decontamination “mitt” to replace the Army M295 Individual Decontamination Kit the JTF uses now.

The M295 contains four individual “wipe-down” mitts with adsorbant resin contained within a non-woven polyester material and a polyethylene film backing. Resin from the mitt is allowed to flow freely through the non-woven polyester pad material. Decontamination is accomplished by adsorption of contamination by the non-woven pad and the resin, Richardson says. The M295 mitt is used to decontaminate the skin, clothing and footwear,

and personal equipment.

Decontamination is also done with water. But, during cold weather, those being washed down could possibly suffer hypothermia, says Richardson. The old mitt and the wash down, however, cannot be used together. This new mitt, touted by the manufacture (First Line Technology) as ‘the next generation of activated carbon dry decon,’ is a reusable product with a polyester outer shell and activated charcoal inner shell.

“It can be used alone or in conjunction with a special reactive skin decon lotion, which is great during cold weather,” Richardson said. “Another great point is that it can be used along with the water wash down during warmer weather. Overall, this new mitt, whether you use it alone or with water, will neutralize 80 to 90 percent of the decontaminate we come across.”

Private 1st Class Jasmine Solomon, another chemical specialist with the 138th, says she thinks this new mitt, or anything like it, will add great advantage to the JTF’s support to civil authority mission.

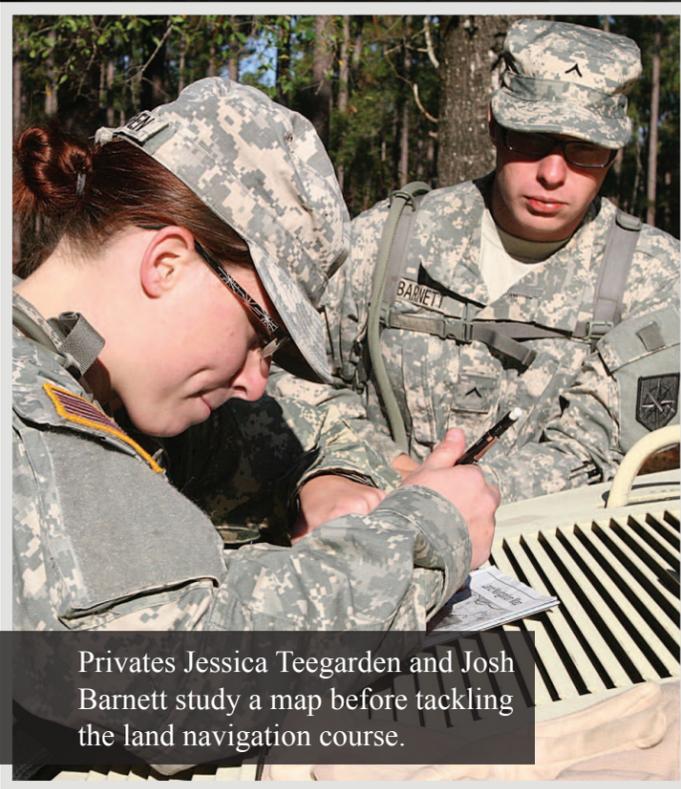
“The Guard has made it our business to provide a quick, well-coordinated response to the call for help in times of disaster,” Solomon said. “We continually seek ways of improving our response and ability to provide the right kind of assistance at the right time.”



Combat engineer Sgt. John Horst, with Douglas’ 848th Engineer Company, climbs a rubble pile wearing a new style decontamination suit being tested for fielding by Kennesaw’s Joint Task Force.

# Guard MPs

## test endurance, combat abilities



Privates Jessica Teegarden and Josh Barnett study a map before tackling the land navigation course.

By Spc. Adam Dean and Spc. Denise Durbin-Carlton  
124th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment  
Georgia Army National Guard

**GEORGIA GARRISON TRAINING CENTER, HINESVILLE, GA., Nov. 6, 2010** – Members of the 179th Military Police Company left the confines of their Savannah armory and spent this month’s drill testing their ability to move, navigate and shoot when “the heat is on.”

“It’s a test of the mind and of their physical ability,” said 1st Lt. Theodore Dunham, the 179th’s commander. “The goal is for them to see that, even after long, strenuous activity, they are still able to be effective in combat.”

The MPs broke down into teams of three and spent the first of their two-day drill competing against one another to see who was the best at land navigation and who could complete a 7.2-mile road march in record time. This was followed by a written examination of the teams’ knowledge of Soldier Skill levels one to

three. They finished the training by trying to outshoot one another with the M9 9mm semiautomatic pistol.

Himself a planner and a participant in the competition, Dunham said he always participates in the same training as his Soldiers.

“I’m proud of what we do here, and it’s important to me to be a part of it,” he said. “When our people see me doing what they do – as a Soldier and as a military policeman – they know the training is right, that it’s necessary and that I take it seriously.”

Staff Sgt. Phillip Keeter, who oversees the unit’s readiness and training, says that the kind of training conducted this weekend helps build esprit de corps among Soldiers.

“It is invaluable as a team-building exercise because it strengthens self confidence and reliance on others to accomplish a mission,” said Keeter.

Classroom instruction has its place in helping Guardsmen stay mission ready, whether that mission is here at home or in a combat zone, Keeter says.

“But the opportunity to get out into the field, stimulates minds and gets Soldiers thinking on their feet. Getting out and putting those classroom lessons to use in a field environment isn’t just good for morale, it also allows Soldiers to put what they’ve learned into practical use,” he said. “Unlike being in a classroom, what you can do outside is only limited by the amount of space available – insofar as you’re doing it right and safely.”

Keeter added that, when the competition ended the following day, each team would receive a certificate for completing the training. The reward for the best team overall would remain under wraps until the next Sunday.

Private 1st Class Francesca Everett, one of the 179th’s MPs, says the ultimate reward for her, her comrades and the unit is the confidence gained through the training.

“It’s important that we take every opportunity to get hands-on training, whether it’s on weapons skills, navigating our way to an objective, or testing our physical and mental reaction to stress,” Everett said. “For many of us, it’s not something we do every day, so training such as this gives us the edge we need.”

# A NEW GENERATION OF VETERANS



Commentary by Maj.  
Gen. William T. Nesbitt

We celebrate Veterans Day on the anniversary of the armistice that ended World War I, the armistice that began on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. The timing of this holiday is deliberate relative to history, but it also seems fitting that

this day comes deep in the autumn season - when the colors around us are muted and the days seem to invite contemplation.

Well, as the holiday’s title suggests, we’re reflecting on the service and sacrifice of our Veterans. But the group of people we honor on this day each year – our veterans – represent a community of service members who are as varied and distinct as the conflicts in which they served. The vets of Iraq and Afghanistan have had a very different experience than those who fought in Vietnam, Korea, Germany or Japan. Indeed, as Secretary Gates recently noted, “No major war in our history has been fought with a smaller percentage of this country’s citizens in uniform full-time – roughly 2.4 million active and reserve service members out of a country of over 300 million, less than 1 percent.”

For the other 99 percent of Americans, the imagination plays a trick. Most folks think of veterans as old and wise, something like the Founding Fathers, sagely and gray-haired. When thinking of veterans, I imagine many still envision a Soldier from World War II, from an era often referred to as the “greatest generation.”

But the sad reality of our time is, we are losing our World War II veterans at a rate of 798 per day, an average of 16 every day in Georgia alone. And, though our hearts ache to say it, the torch of what it means to be a veteran has passed to a new generation.

Certainly, our great nation has seen many conflicts since the Second World War. But with most of our Korean or Vietnam War veterans in either senior or retired positions, the American people are now looking ahead to today’s generation of Soldiers to see what tomorrow will bring.

And now, as was the case 375 years ago, service members across the nation are stepping forward to lead and protect our liberties and freedoms. In Georgia alone, there are 770,000 veterans. And, unlike the generation which preceded it, many of today’s Soldiers have seen combat. In fact, half of those currently serving in the National Guard today are combat veterans. As the Army’s chief of staff recently pointed out to a group of defense leaders, this operations tempo has resulted in a fundamentally different force than that of the 80’s or 90’s and, as a result, we have a technically –

if not fundamentally – different batch of veterans amongst us.

Certainly, our efforts to combat terrorism have come at a high price. Since 9/11, there have been nearly 4,500 troops killed in Iraq and over 1,300 killed in Afghanistan. Over 36,000 troops have been wounded in action in both theaters.

These sacrifices raise an important question – are today’s Soldiers really so very different from the warriors of Vietnam, Korea, either of the World Wars or even the Revolutionary War?

I don’t think so - not where it matters.

While the technology of warfare has become far more complex and sophisticated since even the Persian Gulf War, our most basic military asset has remained rock steady throughout our nation’s existence. And that is the character, daring, and resourcefulness of those who do the fighting for the freedoms all Americans enjoy.

The tactics and weapons have adjusted over time, and we’ve certainly adapted to the lessons of history – but the call to serve has a universal ring that has always resonated with men and women of a certain ilk in this country. The call to protect liberty, defend freedom, and crush tyranny sounded the same to me, as it did to my father, as it did to any Soldier serving in Afghanistan or Iraq today.

This day, Veterans Day, is for celebrating those Americans – across all time and all wars – who have answered that call. And while the faces, uniforms and roles of the Soldiers who answer that call today are more diverse and multifaceted than ever before, it’s been my experience that the same grit and can-do attitudes of the officers who trained me when I was a young officer preparing to go to Vietnam are personified in today’s young faces as well. The call to serve transcends all man-made boundaries and, it would seem, time and space as well.

The weapons, tactics and even enemies may look different – but the call to serve and protect still rings proud and true. On this holiday, we honor those – past and present – who’ve answered that call, without whom America would not have defeated the Nazis, Imperial Japan, fascism, totalitarianism, or communism. We honor those, therefore, who have helped to ensure peace and freedom in our time.

So, on this day – a day for celebrating and honoring our veterans, especially those who gave the last full measure of devotion – let us pray that our efforts to achieve lasting peace gain strength. And through whatever coincidence or accident of timing, let’s each of us keep the memory and importance of this day in the forefront of our minds and our hearts.

And may our veterans know – as former Vice President Dick Cheney once poignantly put it – “that they follow a long and unbroken line of brave Americans who came to the defense of freedom. The veterans who once followed that line now inspire the new generation of freedom’s defenders. For that, we honor all veterans today.”

# Four Georgia Guardsmen recognized for outstanding effort in Afghanistan



Story and picture by Capt. Will Cox  
Public Affairs Office  
Georgia Department of Defense

**SANDY SPRINGS, GA., NOVEMBER 11, 2010** – Colonel Andy Hall of the 648th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade presented deployment medals to four Citizen-Soldiers from the Georgia Army National Guard in front of a cheering crowd at Morgan Falls Park on Thursday. The four Citizen-Soldiers represent two different units that recently returned from Afghanistan.

“First let me thank you for your continued support of the military. We could not do what we do without it,” said Hall. “Secondly let me thank the Veterans that went before us and set such a great example for us to follow. Your heroism and the systems that you put in place make the United States military the most effective and powerful military the world has ever seen.”

Turning to the four Guardsmen to be recognized that day, Hall said, “These Soldiers represent the one percent of Americans who proudly stand up to serve our country today. I am proud of you and proud to command a Brigade with patriots like you in its ranks.”

Sergeant 1st Class William Bell received the Meritorious Service Medal for his outstanding actions as the Company Operations NCO, and 1st Lt. Najeeb

Muhaimin received the Bronze Star for his heroic actions as a platoon leader while conducting over 140 route clearance missions. Both of these soldiers served with the 810th Engineer Company, whose mission it was to provide assured mobility with three route clearance platoons in their assigned battle space. The 810th Engineer Company conducted over 390 route clearance missions and cleared over 30,000 miles of road, enabling commanders there to safely and freely move their supplies and troops throughout the battlefield.

Chief Warrant Officer Jeff Adamson, who flew over 340 combat hours, received an Air Medal for his superb performance as a pilot; and Capt. Louis Williams, who flew over 300 combat hours, received the Bronze Star and an Air Medal for his exemplary service as the Company Commander. Both of these Soldiers served with the 1-169th General Support Aviation Battalion, whose mission it was to provide aerial cargo and passenger movement throughout their assigned battle space with eight CH-47 Chinook helicopters.

The 1-169th General Support Aviation Battalion flew 2,400 Combat flight hours while executing 620 aerial movements and deliberate operations. This allowed them to transport 25,000 Soldiers and 3,000 tons of equipment to surrounding Forward Operating Bases and Control Outposts in elevations of over 10,000 ft.

# COMMUNITY LEADERS TAKE CLOSER LOOK AT PROGRAM HELPING GEORGIA YOUTH

Story and photos by Sgt. 1st Class Roy Henry  
Public Affairs Office  
Georgia Department of Defense

**YOUTH CHALLENGE ACADEMY, HINESVILLE, GA., OCT. 6, 2010** – Representatives of Georgia’s political, educational, business and religious communities, law enforcement, and legal systems toured the campus here at the Guard Garrison Training Center. They came but for the opportunity to better understand – or refresh their understanding – of what it is the Youth Challenge program does for those at-risk youth, ages 16 to 18, who are accepted into its ranks.

Most of the more than 50 representatives who walked the grounds, visited classrooms and talked with residents and staff were doing so for the first time, but a few were on a return visit.

“Our cadets aren’t from any particular race or class,” said Bob Hughes, the campus director. “They represent all nationalities and all economic backgrounds, and their reasons for being identified as ‘at-risk’ are as many as there are cadets on this campus [about 200 in every class that goes through the six-week program], or the one at Fort Gordon in Augusta.”

What they all have in common is they do not seem to fit into the mold of the public school system, and have left school without a diploma or plan for their lives, says Hughes.

“One of the things they all have in common is that they want to change their lives for the better, to become better than they are as young adults. And it’s our job to help them – in our own particular way – reach that goal,” Hughes added.

Most cadets take advantage of the paramilitary lifestyle YCA offers to learn self-confidence, discipline, responsibility and the importance of teamwork. Others, according to Col. (Ret.) Frank Williams who oversees Georgia’s YCA program, do not.

“There are those who walk away, but for every one cadet who doesn’t finish, there are many more who leave here with a better understanding of who they are, where they are going in life, and

the important role they play in society,” said Williams.

Out of the 33 YCA programs nationwide, Georgia will graduate 10,000 cadets this year alone, Williams says, with a success rate comparable to almost any YCA program in the nation. Of the cadets who measure up, 53 percent will go into the work force, 23 percent go on to college or vocational school and 20 percent enter military service.

Throughout the day, the visiting representatives, like Rep. Barbara Massey-Reece (Dist. 11-Menlo) interacted with the cadets in classrooms, the barracks and out on the campus’ confidence course. Reece is one who has made this trip before.

“The 25 percent matching funding our state puts toward the 75 percent in federal funds for Youth Challenge is overwhelmingly money well spent,” Massey-Reece said. “Anyone who cannot see that this is a program that works isn’t paying attention. The benefits of this program – to the cadets, to their families, and to our state overall – should tell anyone that the cost of such a program greatly is better than the cost of having any one of these young people in prison.”

Cobb County businessman Wes Anderson made his first trip to a YCA campus. As an employer, he said, programs such as this provide the state’s business community with prospective employees who understand the benefits of responsibility, accountability and the importance of initiative and good ethics within the workforce.

“By helping these young adults become productive members of our communities we help ourselves become better people, at least in my mind,” Anderson said. “If YCA helps us do that, even for one cadet, then we have accomplished a great deal.”

Watching as the group of representatives boarded their buses for the ride back to the C-130 that would fly them back to Atlanta’s Clay National Guard Center, Hughes said, “They leave to become good ambassadors for Youth Challenge. They go back to their organizations and their communities and do two things: Present a more accurate picture of what YCA is or is not, and help the program with recruitment. Through the help of community supporters, like the people boarding those buses, we can help these youngsters.”





## HUMOR USED TO SHOW GUARDSMEN THAT SEXUAL ASSAULT IS NO LAUGHING MATTER

Story and Photos by: Master Sgt. Robert Parsons  
Georgia Air National Guard.

**CAMP BLANDING, Fla., Nov. 7, 2010** – The 116th Air Control Wing hosted Catharsis Productions Sex Signals at the base theater in an attempt to tackle the subject of sexual assault in a novel and noteworthy way.

The 116th ACW Chief of Staff and Air National Guard Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC), Lt. Col. Michael Rumsey, wanted to bring a different type of Sexual Assault training to the base that would go well beyond the normal, uninspiring, PowerPoint presentation.

The Sex Signals presentation differs from traditional sexual assault prevention programs in that it incorporates improvisational comedy, education and audience interaction to provide a provocative look at dating, sex and the core issue of consent. The 90-minute two-person play begins by taking an irreverent yet funny look at the awkwardness of dating as the actors represent each gender’s perspective. No punches were pulled as the straight forward presentation enabled the audience to clearly understand what rape is.

It has been said that laughter is the best medicine. In the Sex Signals play, laughter was just what the doctor ordered to shed light on a serious subject that, as the presentation made clear, is no laughing matter.

The actors shared with the audience the four main avenues available on base for victims of Sexual Assault: Base Chaplains, SARC, Victim Advocate, and healthcare providers. One of the key points brought out during the play was that the majority of rape cases are “non-stranger” rape. Throughout the play, the audience was encouraged to be a part of the solution to

stop the sexual violence.

The Air Guardsmen’s responses were overwhelmingly positive with most people pleasantly surprised at how entertaining and informative the presentation was. Captain Evette Stinson-Lawson, with the 16th ACCS, described the performance as “fantastic” and said she “wanted to see it again.” She was impressed with how open, honest, and realistic the presentation was.

Captain Jordon Knaub, with the 330th CTS, commented on the balance of humor and information and felt the performers did a great job of illustrating, with great clarity, what was or was not rape.

Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Gonzalez, with the Army’s 138th Military Intelligence Company, posited that people would be more apt to intervene and stop sexual assault after having seen the program. And Staff Sgt. Gonzalez indicated that he enjoyed the audience participation and the questions that came out of the interaction.

The two-person team of Kyle Terry and Sharyon Culberson, both natives of Chicago, were a huge hit during the three-day event. Kyle has been a presenter with Catharsis Productions/Sex Signals for seven years and Sharyon has been with them for three. Not only did they bring years of acting experience to the stage, they have both been trained in rape crisis (to deal with survivors of rape) and the military’s 40-hour Victims Advocate program.

Both actors agreed that what started out as a job became more when they began to see they were helping people. Kyle indicated that people frequently will come up to them after the show with questions and seek help for themselves or someone they know who has been a victim of Sexual Assault. This has allowed the actors to funnel the disclosures through the proper channels and get them the help they need.



## INFANTRY LEADS THE WAY ON REVAMPED UPAR TRAINING

Story and photo by Sgt. Gary Hone  
124th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment  
Georgia Army National Guard

**NEWMAN, Ga., Nov. 7, 2010** – Several Soldiers with Company B, 2nd Battalion, 121st Infantry, 48th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, were the first to receive training in military public affairs through the Georgia National Guard’s redesigned Unit Public Affairs Representative (UPAR) program.

“The purpose of the program is to provide at least one UPAR at the unit level to assist and advise their commander on interacting with the media during state emergencies and in times of war,” said Capt. Will Cox, the program director for the Georgia Army National Guard.

Under the new UPAR program, each unit designates one or more Soldiers, with the rank of specialist or higher, to be trained in three phases. Master Sgt. John Kinnaman, the operations NCO for the Georgia Department of Defense’s Public Affairs Office, and the UPAR program instructor, explained how the three phases work.

“The first phase is designed to teach Soldiers the basics in photography, writing cutlines for those photos, and how to prepare and submit hometown news releases about their fellow Guardsmen and unit,” Kinnaman said.

Private 1st Class Brad Scurry, one of the seven designated from the 2-121 to do the UPAR training, says he found the hometown news release portion quite informative.

“We have a very good relationship with our community, but we [Company B] hail from different areas across the state. The hometown news release allows us to reach those other communities,” he said. “This helps the unit as a whole, and the

more communities we reach, the more we help the individual Soldier,” Scurry added.

The second phase of training focuses on more advanced photography techniques, and delves into setting up an interview with civilian media and prepping the commander – or other designee – for an interview, Kinnaman says.

The final phase calls for Soldiers to set up for a media briefing, prepare a spokesperson for that brief, and then conduct the brief with civilian media.

Kinnaman added that, “Giving them a hands-on practical is the best way to end the training. It makes them put what they’ve learned to work, and learn where they need to improve.”

Specialist Ralpheale Adams – another Company B infantryman, and one of the first in the state to complete the first phase – said the training is a valuable tool in the warfight.

“It’s very effective,” Adams said. “These are things we need to know so that, when media contact the unit about something, we have the ability to address their request properly.”

Kinnaman says he expects it will take about 12 months to fully train Soldiers at the unit and major command level to be UPARs.

“We want them to be comfortable with what they learn, and not overwhelmed by the training,” Kinnaman said. “That’s why we’re giving them time between the three phases to let it all sink in, and to practice what they learn after each phase.”

Company B recently returned from a yearlong deployment to Afghanistan where they trained Afghanistan military and local law enforcement. Specialist James Morgan, one of the unit’s newly trained UPARs, says he wished he would have had the training before deploying.

“I would’ve been better prepared to answer questions and more capable of integrating a reporter into my platoon.” He added, “The training was very informative, easy to understand, and actually a lot of fun. It’s something that the Army needs more of.”

# GUARD AVIATION BRINGS IN REPLACEMENT FOR OLD WORKHORSE

*Story and photos by Sgt. 1st Class Roy Henry  
Public Affairs Office  
Georgia Department of Defense*

**DOBBINS AIR RESERVE BASE, MARIETTA, GA., Nov. 16, 2010** – Folks near Marietta will soon start noticing a different kind of helicopter circling their skyline, as the Georgia Army National Guard’s Company C, 2nd Battalion, 151st Aviation, has acquired three UH-72A Lakota helicopters to replace an aging fleet of OH-58C Kiowa aircraft.

“It’s 21st century technology replacing that of the 1960s,” said Chief Warrant Officer 4 Bobby Dennis, a unit standardization instructor pilot. Dennis also flies missions for the Georgia Counterdrug Task Force, and leads the task force aviation section. “Georgia has had the Kiowa since the 1990s, and it’s a great aircraft, but the Lakota gives us more regarding mission capability and overall readiness.”

Unit aviators and flight crew members have been putting the Lakotas through their paces since Nov. 2 of this year, when the new aircraft arrived here at the Guard’s Aviation Flight Facility No. 2 from Gulfport. For more than a month, crews have busied themselves getting to know the “ins and outs” of this military version of American Eurocopter’s EC-145. Since the Lakotas arrived, Dennis and other pilots have spent more than 30 hours in the

air with them, the minimum time Eurocopter says the aircraft must fly each month.

“Don’t know why, but that’s the requirement,” said Sgt. Matthew Parker, a Lakota aircrewman and one of the lead mechanics for the new helicopter. “What I can say is that, on the maintenance side, this helicopter challenges us to know more about its operating systems as well as its twin engines and airframe than did the OH-58.”

There are other several differences between the Lakota and the Kiowa, Dennis says. One is that it carries up to eight people compared to the Kiowa’s limit of three. The Kiowa is only an observation platform, where the Lakota has hoist and cargo capability, and can carry an estimated 3,000 lbs., giving the UH-72A the ability to do what a UH-60 Black Hawk or CH-47 Chinook could in helping forestry personnel deal with wild fires. The Lakota cannot do everything a Black Hawk or Chinook does, Dennis said, but it lets the Guard call on the UH-72A for a wide variety of tasks.

“Another difference is that the Kiowa could only be flown in good weather,” Dennis said. “The only thing that’ll keep the Lakota grounded is moderately heavy to severe weather. Additionally, the Lakota is faster at 130 knots than the Kiowa is at 90 knots, it has greater range and more fuel capacity.”

Dennis says Georgia expects to pick up a fourth Lakota sometime next year. As for the Kiowas, two of the four will fly for another 18 months. They will then join the other two at the Army’s depot maintenance facility in Gulfport, Miss.

It is an Army aviation tradition to use Native American terms, and the names of tribes and chiefs, for its helicopters. Besides the Kiowa, there is the Apache, the Black Hawk, the Chinook and the Iroquois – more commonly known as the Huey since the days of Vietnam. For the UH-72A, the name Lakota was selected for their legacy as stalwart defenders of their homeland and for the nature of the helicopter’s intended domestic missions.

“We’re going to give this new bird the opportunity to live up to that legacy,” Dennis said. “It’s going to help the Georgia National Guard be an even greater asset to civil authority and the civilian population whenever and where ever they need us.”

Crews from Company C, 2nd Battalion, 151st Aviation, are seen putting two of the Georgia Army Guard’s three new UH-72A Lakota helicopters through their paces above Marietta’s Dobbins Air Reserve Base.



# Georgia Guard looks to NCOs to build Warrant Officer ranks

Story and photos by Pfc. Ashley Fontenot  
Public Affairs Office  
Georgia Department of Defense

**FORT GILLEM, FOREST PARK, GA., Nov. 04, 2010** – Last month, the Georgia Guardsman told you about the retirement of the Georgia Army Guard’s most senior warrant officer after 40 years of service. This month, in stark contrast, we feature two Guardsmen who have just started their warrant officer careers in the technical field of military intelligence.

Warrant Officer 1 Sandra Smith and Warrant Officer 1 Piotr Karp made the transition from staff sgt. to warrant officer to help push well-qualified non-commissioned officers within the battalion to fill much-needed warrant officer slots.

“When we looked at the numbers a few months ago, we had 10 warrant officer slots but only one was filled. In a technical field, those are bad numbers,” Lt. Col. Raquel Durden, 221st Military Intelligence Battalion commander, explained.

Durden enlisted the help of Chief Warrant Officer 3 Steven Puckett, the battalion’s only warrant officer at the time, to identify other potential warrant officer candidates.

“We identified candidates through a screening and interview process. It was important for us to fix our own problem by recruiting NCOs from within,” Puckett said. “We sought out Soldiers that showed desire for greater levels of responsibility and leadership, while at the same time possessing high levels of technical and tactical experience.”

Durden added, “Chief Puckett models what I want in a warrant officer. He’s an organizational thinker, full of solutions to any problem that comes up. With his help, we now have a warrant officer candidate for each of our positions. We’re 10-for-10 in the battalion now, and that’s a much better configuration.”

Other National Guard units may follow this model as they seek to fill their own warrant officer positions.

“We [the Army National Guard] are at 78.6 percent full when it comes to chief warrant officers, but we are still looking for about

2,000 more,” said Chief Warrant Officer 5 Gary R. Nisker at the 2010 Association of the U.S. Army annual meeting.

“As of today we have 45.7 percent – or about 3,600 – retirement-eligible warrant officers that could move on,” Nisker said. “They have not done that yet, but if we don’t start recruiting our own Soldiers, we could be hurting for a while. If we can build off of their experience and not let them walk away, then it becomes a win-win.”

In Georgia, making it through the command’s intense screening process was just the beginning for Smith and Karp. Even though both Soldiers already sat in technical jobs as intelligence NCOs, they needed more training to prepare them for the jump to warrant officer. The next step was to complete the rigorous warrant officer candidate school at Fort Rucker in Alabama.

“It was challenging and tough; some Soldiers would say it was like basic training on steroids,” Karp recalled. “The most important thing was learning how to work together. The sooner we started practicing teamwork, the better off we were.”

After graduation from warrant officer candidate school, Karp and Smith were joined by family and friends for an official promotion ceremony in honor of their new roles in the Georgia Guard. These two Soldiers, along with the ones following them in their transition, say they must learn to put down their NCO rank and pick up a more strategic way of thinking. That kind of change can be difficult, but Georgia Guardsmen are known for being particularly adaptive.

“I’m just taking it day by day. It’s still too early to tell what the most challenging parts of the changes will be, but I’m ready for them and I know that my command will stand behind me,” Karp said. “Warrant Officer Candidate School is comparatively the easy part. The real challenge comes when you report back to your unit and you have to apply everything you’ve learned in training.”

As newly promoted warrant officers, they will go on to serve as technical advisors to their command, and that means more teamwork at every level.

“That’s what a warrant officer is: an expert advisor in their discipline. We’re counted on to solve problems and work together

during challenges,” Smith explained. “I’m excited to put my skills to use in that way.”

Warrant officers not only assist in the day-to-day running of the organization, but hold a special place in the structure of the Georgia National Guard’s dual role as foreign and domestic responders.

“With the growing threat of foreign and domestic terrorism, it’s important that the Guard is well-prepared for any situation,” Karp said. “Warrant officers, particularly in the intelligence field, can play an important role as advisors to command for those types of

situations.”

Karp will fill his role as a Human Intelligence Collection Technician, interrogating and debriefing as defined by regulation and UCMJ. Smith will fall in as a Counterintelligence Technician, where she will conduct investigations and operations by applying methods to prevent acts of espionage, sabotage, and terrorism. Both Soldiers will have to employ their legal, ethical, moral, and operational skills learned during training and their career experience, undoubtedly playing a key role in the safety of our state and nation.

# AIR FORCE REDESIGNATES 116TH ACW AS ACTIVE ASSOCIATION

Story by André Kok  
Air Force Public Affairs

**WASHINGTON, DC, Nov. 23, 2010** – The chief of staff of the Air Force recently designated the 116th Air Control Wing at Robins Air Force Base as an “active association” wing.

The newly designated “active association” also establishes the 461st ACW as the regular Air Force “associate” wing. Together, the two wings will continue to accomplish the critical Joint Surveillance and Target Attack Radar System (JSTARS) mission.

There will be no change to manning or aircraft levels due to this administrative action.

“The active association construct will ensure the JSTARS team is in compliance with Air Force guidance,” said Col. Jeffrey Herd, the current 116th ACW commander, who will be the future 461st ACW commander. “The 461st ACW and 116th ACW team along with our joint partners in the 138th Military Intelligence Company will continue to deliver JSTARS combat capability in support of the combatant commanders.”

The Department of Defense originally designated the 116th ACW as a “blended wing” in 2002.

Since that time, the Air Force has developed standard constructs for Total Force Integration to improve unity



of effort and leverage the collective strengths of the active and reserve components. These standards led to the designation of an active association construct for the 116th.

The “blended wing” construct integrated Air National Guard and active duty Airmen within the same unit and introduced an alternating regular Air Force and Air National Guard commander and vice commander rotation every two years.

The “active association” construct establishes both an Air National Guard wing and a regular Air Force wing, working side-by-side, to accomplish a unified mission.

The Air National Guard unit serves as the “host” wing and maintains primary responsibility for weapon systems but shares the mission with the regular Air Force “associate” wing.

The ANG wing commander maintains administrative control over the Air Guardsmen assigned to the unit, while the regular Air Force wing commander maintains administrative control over the active duty Airmen assigned to the unit.

“The 116th ACW and 461st ACW will be the same team we have today,” said Col. William Welsh, 116th ANG element commander and future 116th ACW commander. “We will strive to make this transition as seamless as possible. Most individuals working in the wing should not notice a difference in their day to day operations.”

# CBRNE SPECIALIST WEARS MANY HATS

Story and photo by Brittiny Prenell  
Public Affairs Office  
Georgia Department of Defense

**CLAY NATIONAL GUARD CENTER, MARIETTA, GA., Aug. 2, 2010**— In the world of chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosives (CBRNE) Sgt. 1st Class Deric Richardson with Joint Task Force 781, being an MOS 74D40 means wearing many hats.

“At this level, I supervise other Soldiers at the 10, 20 and 30 skill level. I am the only chemical operation specialist in the battalion,” said Richardson.

As a supervisor, Richardson spends a lot of his time making sure his Soldiers are following through on all additional duties they have been assigned. In addition to being the Battalion CBRNE expert, he is also the Safety NCO.

“I am the point of contact for all training schools our soldiers need to attend,” he said. “And as a decontamination NCO, I provide training for all elements of the task force in hazardous materials.”

In time of crisis, such as when weapons of mass destruction are disbursed, Richardson is responsible for preparing equipment and tracking the logistics of the decontamination line.

“Any contaminated items – such as gloves, boots or suits – that can’t be decontaminated, must be recorded and discarded,” he said.

Were a WMD released, JTF 781st’s main body must be on the scene within six hours. Once the unit arrives on site, its job is to mitigate the effects of the WMD on the effected population. Then, equipment that detects radiation and chemicals is used to identify the agent that was released so that responders can quickly

initiate the cleansing process.

Some might consider CBRNE work terrifying, but this Guardsman finds it fascinating.

“As a CBRNE specialist, I mostly work with chemical warfare agents, such as toxic industrial materials that might be used by terrorists. The most interesting thing about my job is having knowledge of threats and potential WMD chemicals we might face,” he said.

Yet, his interest in chemicals agents did not begin with his military career.

“As a civilian firefighter, I had a background in working with hazardous materials,” Richardson said. “After joining the National Guard, a job became

available with JTF 781. I went to MOS school, which led me to where I am today.”

Richardson said he followed in the footsteps of several family service members when he joined the Navy in 1987. In 1992, he joined the National Guard as a traditional

Guardsman, and has been working full-time for the Guard since 2003.

“My most memorable experience was as a 38-year-old staff sgt. at Advanced Individual Training, having to keep up with 17-year-old privates,” he said. “It was a culture shock seeing the generational gap between people like me, who are toward the end of their career, and those who are just starting.”

Although he may consider himself “near the end of his career,” Richardson says he’s not done yet. He has future plans to become the battalion operations and training NCO. He is also pursuing his master’s degree in Public Administration.

“I still have a lot to share with my fellow Soldiers, and I look forward to doing that for a while to come.”



# ROME GUARDSMAN GIVES GIFT OF LIFE

Story by Spc. Joyelle Tornis  
Photo by Aaron Coffey  
Public Affairs Office  
Georgia Department of Defense

**CLAY NATIONAL GUARD CENTER, MARIETTA, GA., Oct. 23, 2010** – When most service members take the oath of enlistment, they do so knowing full well that they may be called upon to save a life or put their own at risk, if necessary, in defense of the nation. Georgia Army Guard Spc. Jeffery Pelfrey takes immense pride in his oath to serve, and answered the call to save a life earlier this year by registering as a participant in the Department of Defense Marrow Donor program.

The decision to join the marrow donor program by Pelfrey, a scout with Rome’s Troop D, 1st Battalion, 108th Cavalry, may be the reason someone out there in need of stem cell injections will go on living. Pelfrey does not know who it is who will benefit from his generosity, but he knows it was the right decision to make.

“It’s been instilled in me since childhood that God has a plan for me, and that I always need to help others,” Pelfrey said. “I wasn’t given any information about the person needing the transplant, but as soon as I knew that my stem cells were a match for him, or her, I knew I had to follow through on God’s plan for my life.”

Pelfrey says he was surprised to find out he was a match, but helping someone else was clearly what he wanted to do. While he has faith that he was called upon as part of God’s plan, decisions like this are easier to make knowing he also has the support of family, friends, his civilian employer and the Guard leadership, he says.

“The military community was especially supportive. Besides being excused from monthly drill at the 108th, the Department of Defense sponsored my flight and expenses,” he said. “But once everything was approved, there was no cost involved for me or my traveling companion, Aaron Coffey.”

The commander of the 1-108th Cavalry, Lt. Col. Matthew Saxton, says Pelfrey sets an excellent example of selfless service.

“I am very proud that Spc. Pelfrey has stepped up and volunteered to give this life-saving gift,” said Saxton.

Pelfrey said he went through a process of questions, physical exams and telephone interviews to make sure his health was sufficient before traveling to Georgetown University in Washington D.C. for the procedure. The doctors injected him with a synthetic hormone twice daily for five days, and on the last day medical personnel removed stem cells through an Asperesis



machine (which removes the stem cells from the blood before putting the blood back into the patient) and transferred what they had taken to a medical facility for transplant into its new body.

Pelfrey is quick to point out the procedure to remove his stem cells wasn’t painful or lengthy, saying, “I was up and walking around that day, but I had flu-like symptoms for about a week.”

As to how the recipient of his charitable trust is faring, Pelfrey said he will get an update in about three months. If the individual is in good health after a year, the two of them may have the opportunity to meet.

According to the Washington-based National Marrow Donor program, about 70 percent of those needing a transplant do not have a matching donor in their family. Usually used to fight leukemia and lymphoma, a bone marrow donation is often a victim’s last chance at beating a potentially fatal disease.

The C.W. Bill Young Department of Defense Marrow Donor Center is located in Rockville, Md., and supports Department of Defense bone marrow volunteers. It is one of 79 donor centers working with the National Marrow Donor Program. The DoD program has registered more than 600,000 donors in its database, which accounts for 20 percent of the bone marrow donors worldwide that are matched to potential recipients.

Established by Congress in 1990, the DoD program is open to active duty military members and their dependents, DoD civilians, the Coast Guard, National Guard and Reserve members between the ages of 18 and 60 who are in good health. Matches are based on genetic typing found through the Human Leukocyte Antigen, which describes the protein markers found on most of the body’s cells used to match patients to donors.

Anyone interested in volunteering can get more information at the Department of Defense Bone Marrow Donation Center Website [www.dodmarrow.org](http://www.dodmarrow.org), by calling 1-800-MARROW-3 (1-800-627-7693) or (301) 984-1515, or by e-mailing the center’s public affairs office at [publicaffairs@dodmarrow.com](mailto:publicaffairs@dodmarrow.com).



A medic working with Search and Extraction Team 1 provides on-site first aid to a “victim” of a dual chemical and bomb attack.

# Douglas Engineers apply battle skills to homeland defense mission

Story and photos by Sgt. 1st Class Roy Henry  
Public Affairs Office  
Georgia Department of Defense

**CAMP BLANDING, Fla., Nov. 7, 2010** – Georgia Guardsmen with Douglas’ 848th Engineer Company are taking their skills as combat engineers and applying them in a new way. Instead of focusing on the destruction and removal of obstacles that block advancing units on the battlefield, the 848th will now serve as a search and extraction element for homeland defense missions.

“Here at home, we’ll be called on to remove the obstacles that trap people among the devastation caused by a disaster,” said 1st Lt. Jonathan Kiel, the unit commander. “It’s a similar mission, but with a different objective. What we bring to this isn’t just the desire to defeat an enemy – whether that enemy is man or mother nature – but also the aspiration of providing the best support possible for those

providing and receiving help in a disaster.”

The 848th has become the search and extraction element for both Kennesaw’s Joint Task Force 781 and CBRNE Enhanced Response Force Package (CERFP) because Augusta’s 877th Engineer Company – the unit which previously performed in this role – is at Fort McCoy, Wis., training for deployment to Afghanistan.

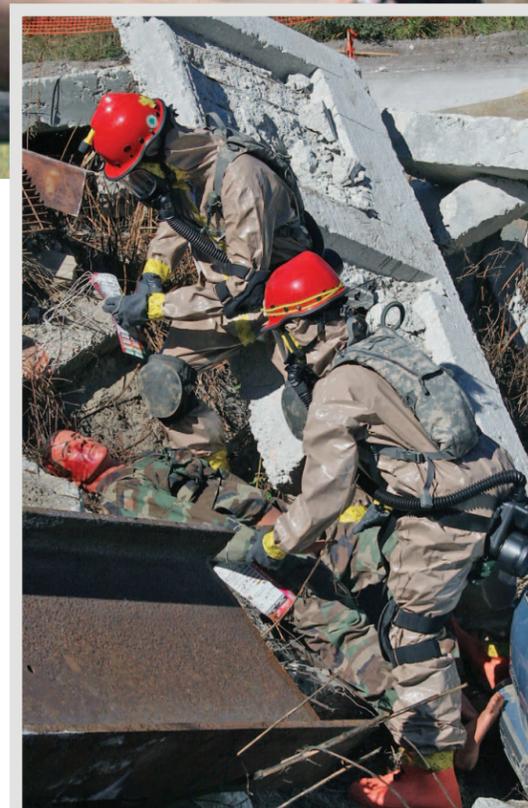
For three days, Kiel’s Soldiers conducted realistic scenarios amid the rubble piles of the Florida National Guard’s Urban Defense and Disaster Response Training Site. Under the watchful eyes of the JTF and the Joint Interagency Training Center (JITEC) out of Callahan, W.Va., as part of a planned exercise, the 848th breached and broke through obstructions so “victims” could be searched for, retrieved and moved to decontamination and medical collection points.

The engineers also learned how best to use special equipment and clothing that can keep them

from becoming victims themselves.

“Their lists of collective tasks are long and the work is hard, but it isn’t something they’re not used to as combat engineers. They’re just doing it in a different way,” said 1st Lt. David McMillan, one of the JITEC observe-controllers whose job is to provide guidance and evaluate how well the 848th performs the assigned tasks. “Breaching and breaking into a rubble pile, or even a standing building that may collapse at any moment, isn’t work for the weak-hearted. From what I and my colleagues have seen, so far, these Georgia Soldiers are just what the task calls for.”

Dealing with victims reaching out for help, constant contact with wounded or dead victims, and the



possibility of a rescuer becoming a victim is something with which Spc. Matthew Freeman says he is very familiar. As a civilian, he is an emergency medical technician with American Medical Response in Gulfport, Miss., and a volunteer firefighter who does urban search and rescue with the Socialzana, Miss., Fire Department near Yazoo City.

“The hardest part for me is letting go of the instinct to ‘reach and treat,’ when we find someone. There are medics for that,” Freeman said. “Finding and retrieving victims is my main focus, that and the safety

of everyone involved.”

The 848th’s mission of assisting civil authority in times of disaster, Freeman says, is just one more way for Georgia’s Citizen-Soldiers to give back to the communities in which they live and work.

# THE SUPPLY ROOM

Column by Staff Sgt. Olivia Singleton  
Supply System Analyst  
USPFO CIF

'Tis the season to be jolly. The holidays are coming and we would like you to fill out a Christmas list for what type of help, training, mobilization, showdowns and ideas CIF can gift you to become ready and prepared for battle. Each unit should provide us this list. In addition we have some administrative details to rein in this month.

All soldiers should review their DA 1687 for 2011. This is critical, as the ISM accounts will expire if not completed. You have until Dec. 15, 2011. If you need help filling out the form, please go to the USFPO sportal site and look at the examples posted. Do not forget to update and sign your signature cards. They need to be updated as well this month.

Supply specialists need to review the Basic Issue Menu and make sure your soldiers are prepared and ready. Any shortages need to be identified. We need to take care of our Soldiers, or we may have some supply specialists whose name will be crossed off Santa's list this year. Yes, we at USFPO have a direct line to Saint Nick.

In addition to being jolly this season, we want to be giving. For the last few months, we have been writing about the abundance of field jackets we have for our Soldiers. Supply specialists that have not already picked up the field jackets for their units should contact us immediately. We will need a spreadsheet listing the Soldier's name, social security number and field jacket size. The jackets are made big, so please use the Soldier's uniform size. There is still plenty of time to come pick them up and get them gift wrapped before the holidays!

For CIF appointments please call CIFGA CIF contacts:

- Sgt. 1st Class Caryl Belk, USPFO CIF Supervisor/PBO – (678) 569-6750 ext: 8497
- Staff Sgt. Olivia Singleton, USPFO CIF Supply System Analyst – (678) 569-6749



## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT BOOKSHELF: REVIEWS OF BOOKS THAT TEACH US ABOUT OUR CRAFT

Column by Maj. John H. Alderman  
Public Affairs Office  
Georgia Department of Defense

“Pulling about a 4-G turn, I climbed to the right and rolled off the top underneath him. It took about 25 seconds - I closed to 600 feet, fired and watched the MiG explode and begin burning, then saw the pilot eject.”

So reads a first-person account of air combat in the Korean War.

Modern aviation is aloft on the wings of a full century of pioneering aviators. So rapidly have aircraft and tactics advanced in that time that the leading edge of each new plane has been the cutting edge of a new mini-era in aviation.

The technology, the mental agility, the marriage of art and science necessary for air combat demands and creates a special kind of leadership; and those leaders' exploits are key to our history and power as a nation.

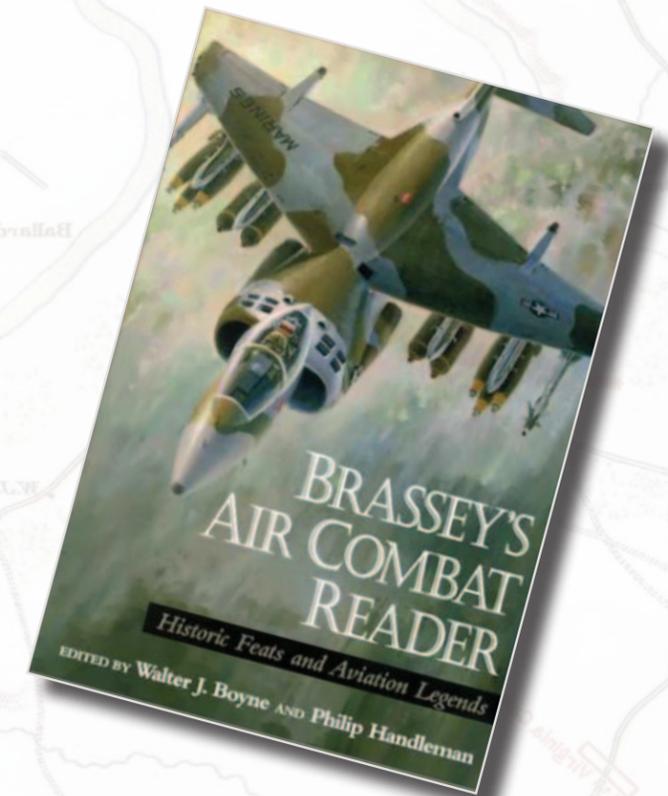
Boyne and Handleman have captured a number of stories rich in history with their anthology *Air Combat Reader: Historic Feats and Aviation Legends*. A collection of anecdotes, first-person accounts, and strategic planning documents, it's a lively read full of intimate details and heroism.

**“THE 30-MM CANNONS ROARED, AND THEIR BULLETS PLOWED INTO THE RUNWAY BENEATH THE MIGs.  
AN ENTIRE LINE OF MIGs WAS WIPED OUT BEFORE MY EYES.”**

It includes selections illustrating air combat in WWI, WWII, Korea, Vietnam, over the Middle East, and in the Persian Gulf War. Papers covering the art and science of air warfare round out the collection and the century.

Like any anthology, there are omissions - Doolittle's raid over Tokyo, for example - and sometimes the abridgments leave out details momentarily confusing. Overall, however, the concept works; and will be especially useful to the uninitiated rather than to the consummate air historian.

Besides early exploits of the Army Air Corps, later Army Aviation gets some attention, too, with stories of



the Huey in Vietnam taken from *Chickenhawk*. Other stories of Forward Air Controllers in that same conflict will help Soldiers better understand what they're asking from their blue-suited friends.

This book makes it onto the Professional Development Bookshelf because it's a great way for all of us to understand the history of this critical element of national

power. It's easy to look up at an F-22 and think we've got the most incredible plane out there, and always have, and always will. But not really. And not necessarily.

I think it's also useful because it reveals both similarities and incredible differences in the day-to-day combat lives of leaders and participants in our profession. Pilots see things from a different perspective, and it's good to get even a glimpse of why.

# AROUND THE GEORGIA GUARD

## UGA TO ACCOMPANY 877TH TO AFGHANISTAN

ATHENS, Ga., Nov. 2010 – The 877th Engineer Company will be carrying a little more than Soldiers and their bags on the flight to Afghanistan. A 300-pound cement statue of the UGA Bulldog will be accompanying them for their deployment. This bulldog will be the mascot and the good luck charm for the company and their missions, and has even inspired the call sign for the company, “Bulldog.” The 877th was invited to the UGA campus and presented the bulldog by the head football coach at UGA, Coach Mark Richt. He signed the bulldog, “To the 877th EN CO. Go Dawgs!”



## 148TH FORWARD SUPPORT COMPANY CARRIES STARS AND STRIPES FOR THE ALBANY PARADE

ALBANY, Ga., Nov. 11, 2010 – For Veterans Day, members of the the 2-121 Infantry Battalion supported the city of Albany by carrying the town parade’s most precious cargo - the Stars and Stripes - at the request of the local VFW and city government officials.



## GEORGIA AIR NATIONAL GUARD CELEBRATES FAMILY DAY

SAVANNAH, Ga. Nov. 6, 2010 – The Georgia Air National Guard’s 165th Airlift Wing hosted a family day in recognition of the families that “serve on the home front.” As members of the 165th prepare for another deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, over one thousand family and friends gathered to celebrate with their “Guard Family.” The festivities included a static air show of many aircraft in the U.S. military inventory, a picnic, and children’s games. Here, Chief Master Sgt. Ashley Barre takes his turn in the dunking booth.



## TRANSPORTATION UNITS TO PROVIDE SECURITY FOR WARFIGHT

CLAY NATIONAL GUARD CENTER, Marietta, Ga., Oct. 26, 2010 – Georgia Guardsmen with the 1177th and 1148th Transportation Companies located at Fort Gordon and LaGrange, Ga., will be using their Soldier skills to assist in the warfight by providing base and convoy security for an upcoming deployment to Qatar.

Part of the Georgia Army Guard 265th Regional Support Group, the two transportation units consisting of more than 240 Soldiers

normally have a mission of transporting equipment from tanks to medical supplies throughout a theater. However, now they will use their basic Soldier skills to provide security for military installations, sea ports and convoys moving equipment and supplies in and out of the ports.

Providing security is not a new mission for the 1177th. In 2003, the unit mobilized and provided base security for two Georgia airbases – Moody Air Force Base and Warner Robins Air Force Base. The unit was deployed for more than 18 months conducting security operations, to include operating check points, roving patrols, and searching vehicles at the main gates into the air bases.

In 2003, the 1148th spent 15 months supporting coalition forces in Operation Iraqi Freedom, logging more than 1.8 million miles of driving equipment throughout the country. Traditionally, transportation companies are the “movers and shakers” of the supply needs that keep the Army “rolling along.” Comprised mostly of light-wheel and heavy-wheel mechanics, truck drivers and support personnel, units like the 1148th and 1177th have participated in all major campaigns since World War II.



## THE HONOR AND REMEMBER FLAG COMES TO GEORGIA

ATLANTA, Ga., Oct. 29, 2010 - From left to right: Capt. Nathaniel Stone, Irene Franklin, Jo O’neal, Florence McSween, and 2nd Lt. Derek Ellyson, Second row: George Lutz and Maj. Gen. Maria Britt, Commander of the Georgia Army National Guard, pose with the new Honor and Remember flag on the steps of the Georgia State Capitol during a ceremony held in remembrance of the fallen Soldiers, Airmen, Marines and Sailors dating from WWII.

Mr. George Lutz, the President of Honor and Remember, Inc., said “the mission (of the new flag) is to establish a tangible national symbol of gratitude, as a visible public reminder to all Americans, that perpetually recognizes all military lives lost in defense of our national freedoms.”

Mr. Lucas presented Maj. Gen. Britt with the flag in hopes of raising awareness of the service men and women who have lost their lives defending this great nation. The Honor and Remember Flag is comprised of seven individual symbols that come together to represent the blood spilled by brave men and women in America’s military throughout history.





# GEORGIA GUARDSMAN

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