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THE GEORGIA
GUARDSMAN

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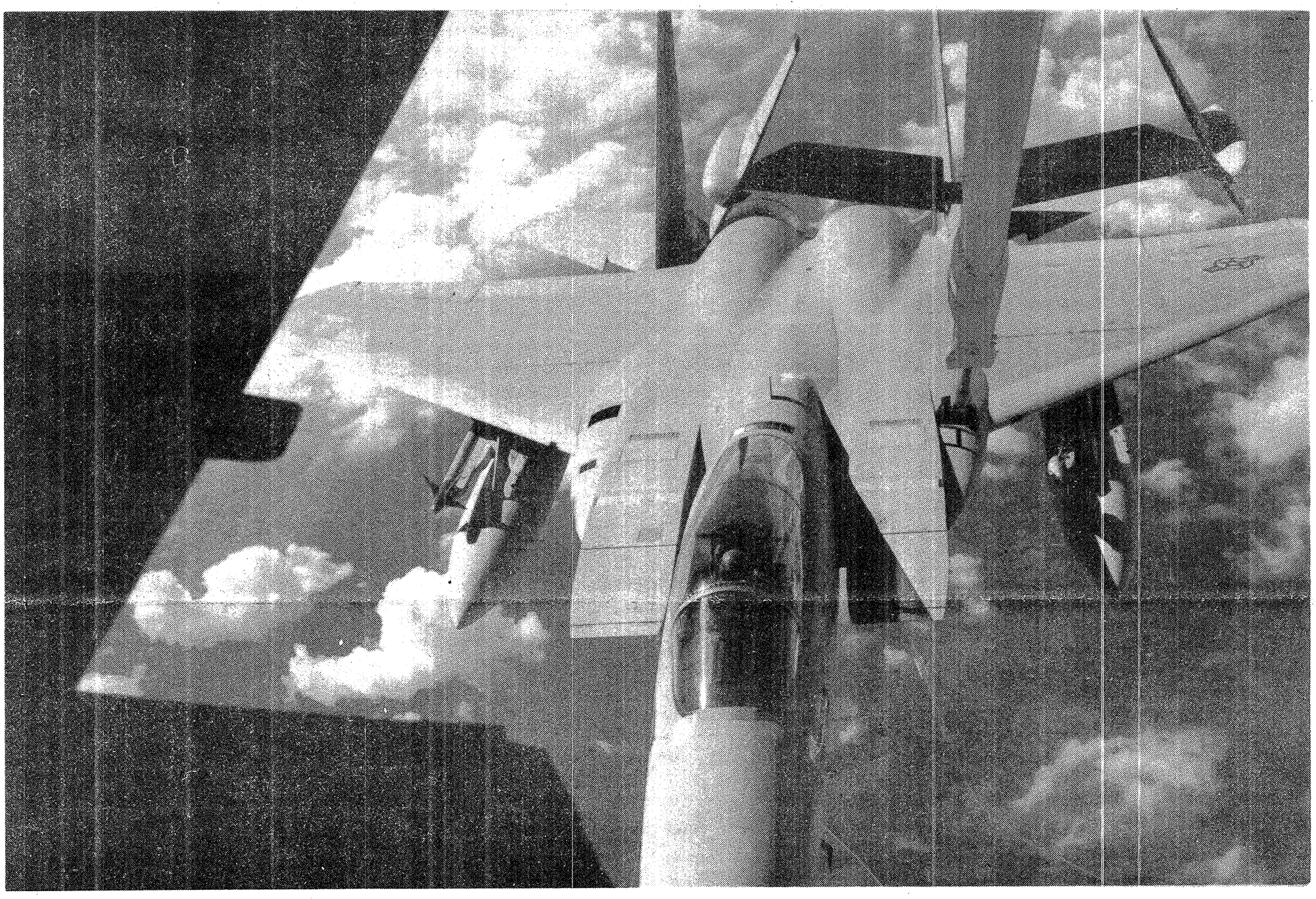

116th deploys to Turkey

By Maj. Ken Baldowski
Public Affairs Officer
116th Tactical Fighter Wing

Its neighbors are unpredictable, combative and adventurous and possess the military might to launch a preemptive attack on its soil. Threats to Turkey's sovereignty are as real today as they were two thousand years ago when armies of the Ottoman Empire, Rome and Greece coveted this area known as Asia Minor.

As the geopolitical center of Europe and Asia today, Turkey was the strategic arena for the NATO-sponsored international wargame exercise known as "Display Determination."

For two hundred and eighty members of the 116TFW of the Georgia Air National Guard, "Display Determination '91" was a real world test of the fighter unit's capability to deploy, live and perform its combat mission anywhere in the world at anytime.

Georgia Air Guardsmen spent two weeks in early October deployed to Balikesir AB, located on Turkey's northwest corner near the Aegean Sea. U.S. Air Force active duty and reserve units regularly deploy to more than a dozen military locations throughout Turkey to familiarize themselves with the flying environment of NATO's southern region and to practice scenarios that could occur in this volatile area of the world.

But deployment to this exotic region provided the Georgians with a unique opportunity to gain an intimacy with the culture and the people of Turkey. It meant exploring some of the world's most renowned archeological sites, sampling a new cuisine -- lamb kebobs of many names and many seasonings, eggplant and yogurt, and pistachios and pumpkin seeds bought in paper cones from street corner vendors.

And, most of all, it meant getting to know the warm, open and proud Turkish people, all the while drinking the strong Turkish tea called "cay" (pronounced chy).

NATO's southern region is by far the largest area in the alliance, covering almost half a million square miles. But more significantly, within its range lies the Middle East's oil fields, the Persian Gulf and the Straits of Dardanelles -- the Soviet Union's main route to the Mediterranean. The strategic role of Turkey cannot be underestimated. As a former commander of the Sixth Allied Tactical Air Force once remarked, "Everyone who comes here should have a firm understanding that there is no more important place in all of NATO today (than Turkey).

"Display Determination '91" was the first international deployment for the men and women of the 116TFW to the unit's "Checkered Flag" base. In 1980, a smaller contingent of Georgia Guardsmen deployed to Murted AB, in northern Turkey.

The NATO exercise occurs every two years in the alliance's southern region and involves Air Forces from eight NATO partners. Participating with the 116TFW in this year's exercise were aircraft from Turkey, Germany and the Netherlands. In other parts of the region, multinational land, sea and air forces performed a variety of offensive and defensive maneuvers and tactics.

The exercise had two major objectives for Georgia pilots. The first was to become operationally proficient in the different procedures, conditions and tactics used by NATO and USAFE forces. Second, it gave Georgia Air

(116th deployed continued on page 6)

From the *TOP*

Let's make 1992 a *QUALITY* year

We are starting a new year – a year which will bring about many changes in the Georgia National Guard. In 1992, we will feel the effects of the reduction in the Defense budget in that we may lose some of our units. We will certainly see that the number of dollars we have enjoyed in the past will shrink.

Because of this, it is important that we add one word to all of our programs. That word is QUALITY.

As our force gets smaller, we must recruit and retain QUALITY men and women. Our missions will not significantly change even though we have fewer soldiers and airmen.

The remaining QUALITY people must receive QUALITY training and administration.

Starting at the top, we must insure that we have QUALITY management. This means that all of us must fully understand our individual responsibilities. We must accept these responsibilities and be ready to be held accountable for them. Every leader must also have the authority to do whatever is needed to discharge these responsibilities.

If all of us dedicate ourselves to QUALITY training, QUALITY administration, QUALITY leadership, then we will certainly have a QUALITY force.

So, I ask every soldier and airman, every member and employee of the Georgia Army and Air National Guard to make 1992 a QUALITY year.

Brig. Gen. Bland

Pearl Harbor

Another war, another memory 50 years later

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Information Service

President Franklin D. Roosevelt called it the "day which will live in infamy."

Fifty years later, the phrase still means Dec. 7, 1941, the day the Japanese launched a surprise attack on Pearl Harbor.

Fifty years later, members of the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association still recall the day in vivid, minute detail.

The attack blasted the United States into World War II. The Japanese killed more than 2,300 U.S. servicemen and wounded more than 1,100 others. All eight battleships in the harbor were hit; five sank. Eleven other ships were sunk, and 140 aircraft were destroyed.

Navy Yeoman 3rd Class Robert J. Watson watched the first Japanese planes dive on Battleship Row from his barracks on Ford Island.

"I was in the screened-in porch on the second floor, shooting the bull with some of my friends," he said. "I saw the planes coming in and thought it was one of the (U.S.) carrier squadrons returning.

"I saw the bombs falling off the planes like feathers and then the explosions and realized immediately they were Japanese."

Watson ran to his battle station and watched as the Japanese bombed Battleship Row and the hangars and planes on Ford Island. "It was the perfect spectators' spot," he said. "Looking out the windows on one side of the building we saw the battleships getting hit, and on the other we watched as the airfield was bombed."

Smoke and flames covered Pearl Harbor, and Watson manned his battle station through the night and into the next day.

Navy Radioman 3rd Class Adolph "Ski" Cerwenka was catching some sleep aboard the USS *West Virginia* when the attack started. "General quarters sounded, and I ran to my battle station in my underwear and with one sock on," he said. "Someone said it was the Japanese, and I believed them." The *West Virginia* was berthed outboard of the USS *Tennessee*, just aft of the USS *Oklahoma* and just forward of the USS *Arizona* -- right in the middle of Battleship Row.

"We took seven torpedoes in the port side before all the electricity went out," he said. "Funny thing I still remember is that every time a torpedo hit, it would splinter the paint off the bulkhead. There was one radioman who grabbed a broom after each hit and tried to sweep it up as if we didn't have more important things to worry about."

After abandon ship was sounded. Cerwenka helped pass the injured out, then went on the quarterdeck. A blast from the *Arizona* knocked him under No. 2 turret. He then slid out from under the turret, over the side and into the oil-covered water. "There was an empty motor launch I was able to climb into," he said. "I started hauling people out of the water. The first person I got was a coxswain, the second an engineer. They knew how to run the launch, so we went around and hauled people from the water."

Japanese planes were still making bombing runs on the ships as Cerwenka and the makeshift crew picked up sailors in the water. They also went to the overturned battleship *Oklahoma* and plucked survivors from the hull. After dropping survivors off at Ford Island, a regular motor launch crew took over, and Cerwenka finally got some clothes and tried to scrape off the oil.

Army 2nd Lt. Roy Morgan's first intimation something was wrong came when the mirror in his bachelor quarters at Hickam Field fell off the wall. "I put my clothes on, ran to the window and looked over at the flight line," he said. "I saw this airplane making a run on the parked planes. It pulled up, and I saw the red circle under the wing. I thought, 'They wouldn't dare.' But, of course, there they were."

He ran toward the flight line, but was forced to take cover from strafing Japanese planes. "I jumped into this excavation and hugged the corner, but I was on the wrong side," he said. Morgan watched as a plane flew toward him firing its machine guns. "I could see puffs of dust as the bullets hit the ground toward me," he said. "The last one passed so close it burned my hand."

Morgan ran to the barracks and reached it just as a string of bombs landed on it. "The walls bulged, and some masonry fell on me, and I ran to the parade ground on the other side of the barracks," he said. "The first person I saw was the officer of the day. He had been killed by the concussion of the bomb blast as he tried to get soldiers out of the barracks. The whole parade field was covered with dead. One man I remember in particular was leaning against a tree. I thought he needed help and went over. He was dead and pinned to the tree by bomb fragments."

When Morgan reached the flight line, there wasn't much he could do. He found all airplanes destroyed or damaged. A Japanese plane strafed the base, and Morgan in his frustration, took out his .45 caliber pistol and fired at it.

Navy Signalman 3rd Class J. Stanley Levitt of the destroyer tender USS *Rigal* was asleep in base housing when the attack began. He was awakened by his wife, Harriet, who told him there were planes and explosions coming from Pearl Harbor.

"I could see from the window smoke and anti-aircraft fire over the harbor," he said. "She asked me if it was an air raid drill. Just at that moment a Japanese torpedo bomber flew by so low I could've recognized the pilot.

"I told her to pack a bag and that I'd be back, and I went off to the base. I was the only guy on the road, and for some reason a gunner in a torpedo plane fired at me -- why I was worth a burst I still don't know," he said.

He reached his ship in time to get soaked by three near misses and then was order to take a garbage lighter with firefighting gear loaded on it to the *Arizona* and *West Virginia*.

"We spent more than 24 hours pouring water on the ships," he said. "At first, we made jokes about how they could have at least given us an empty garbage scow, but when the wind shifted and blew the flames toward us, we had to jump into the garbage to shield ourselves. Would have been a long drop without that garbage."

THE GEORGIA GUARDSMAN

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Georgia Commander-in-Chief ..... Gov. Zell Miller
Georgia Adjutant General ..... Brig. Gen. William P. Bland, Jr.
Director, Public Affairs ..... Col. (Ret.) Harry A. Heath
Public Affairs Officer, GaARNG ..... Lt. Col. James Wooten
Public Affairs Officer, GaANG ..... Capt. Ken Baldowski
Editor ..... B. I. Diamond
Editorial Assistant ..... Delores Thomas

124th Public Affairs Detachment
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Correspondence should be addressed to: Public Affairs Office GA DOD, P.O. Box 17965, Atlanta, Ga. 30316-0965, Phone (404) 624-6060 or Autovon 338-6060.

Guardsman hopes to 'power' his way to 1996 Olympic Games

For Staff Sgt. M.R. Wideman, a member of Summerville's Long Range Surveillance Unit (LRSU), participating in Atlanta's 1996 Olympics is a goal he's got a grip on -- a powerful one at that.

Over the past six months, Wideman has earned a gold medal in powerlifting at the sixth annual Police and Fire World Games in Memphis and another first in the Georgia Regional Powerlifting championships sponsored by the Natural Athlete Strength Association (NASA).

Powerlifting is a three event sport involving squat, bench press and deadlift. According to Wideman, powerlifting is considered the world's strongest sport. More than 60 nations now participate in the sport, but 75 nations must take part in it for it to be considered for inclusion in the Olympic games.

Wideman said he became interested in powerlifting in January 1991 while attending the US Army Master Fitness School.

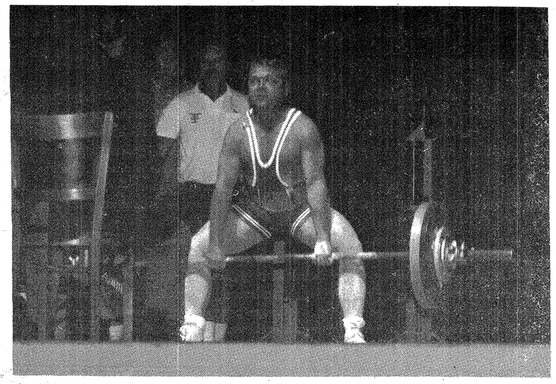
"I met George Herring of Lilburn, who is a 3-time World Powerlifting Champion. He said I was a natural in size and asked if I wanted to be a world champion. I said 'yes'."

In February 1991, Wideman, who serves as the LRSU's retention NCO, weight control NCO, Master fitness trainer and is a qualified "Pathfinder," began training. A month later he participated in the United States Powerlifting Federation (USPF) Georgia State Championships held in Suwannee, Ga. He placed first in the Natural and Class II division and second in the Open division of the 132.5 pound weight class.

Wideman said he hopes to compete in 1992 in the U.S. Armed Forces Nationals, the NASA and USA Nationals, the Georgia State Championships, the International Games and the World Championships.

Ultimately, he says, he hopes to compete in the 1996 Olympics.

A member of the Georgia Army Guard since 1989, Wideman is a resident of Lawrenceville, Ga., and a Gwinnett County deputy sheriff.



Staff Sgt. M. R. Wideman of Summerville's 122nd Infantry (LRSU) in competition.

116th welcomes new commander

Colonel Stephen G. Kearney, a 19-year veteran of the Georgia Air National Guard assumed command of the 1200-member 116th Tactical Fighter Wing at a military Change of Command ceremony at Dobbins AFB December 15th.

Colonel Kearney succeeds Brigadier General Don V. Hubbard, who retired as Wing Commander following 30 years of military service.

Entering the Air Force in 1966 following graduation from Villanova University, Kearney attended undergraduate pilot training and earned his wings in 1968. During the Vietnam War, Kearney was assigned to Da Nang AB, where he recorded 278 combat missions in the F-4 Phantom jets. In 1972, he joined the Georgia Air National Guard as a pilot in the 128th Tactical Fighter Squadron. Since joining the Air Guard, Kearney has served as an instructor pilot, flight commander, assistant deputy commander for Operations, and deputy commander, Maintenance. Kearney is a command pilot with more than 4,700 flying hours in the F-100, F-105, F-4D and F-15 aircraft.

Also recognized during the ceremony were 65 members of the 116 TFW called to active duty earlier in the year during Operation Desert Storm. Members of the 116TFW augmented stateside units whose personnel had been deployed to the Persian Gulf. Each Guardsman received the National Defense Service Medal.

The retiring commander, Brig. Gen. Hubbard, was awarded the prestigious Legion of Merit Medal. Brigadier General William P. Bland, Jr., the Adjutant General of Georgia, presented the award. During Hubbard's three years as Commander of the Wing, the unit received its seventh Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, a distinction held by no other Air National Guard unit. The 116TFW recently returned from an overseas deployment to Turkey, where it participated in the NATO exercise, "Display Determination."

Concurrent with the changes in command at the 116th, Lt. Col. John F. Disosway, formerly 128th Squadron commander, will assume the position of deputy commander, Maintenance. Succeeding Disosway as 128TFS commander is Lt. Col. William G. Bader.

Georgia Air Guardsmen win State, Regional rifle honors

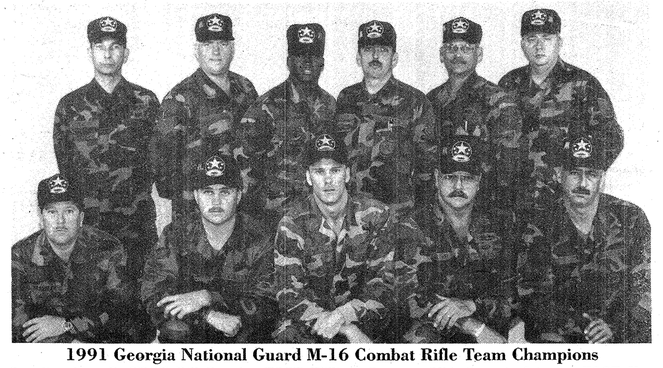
A team of local Air National Guard personnel recently won the Georgia National Guard M-16 Combat Rifle State Championship and then represented the state at the 1991 Winston P. Wilson M-16 Combat Rifle Championship at Camp Robinson, North Little Rock, Arkansas.

For the second consecutive year, the team took first place honors in the state championship at Ringgold, Georgia. Participating in the match were teams from Georgia Army and Air National Guard units statewide. Although many units throughout the state intended to take away the annual trophy, the local team won by a larger margin than in 1990.

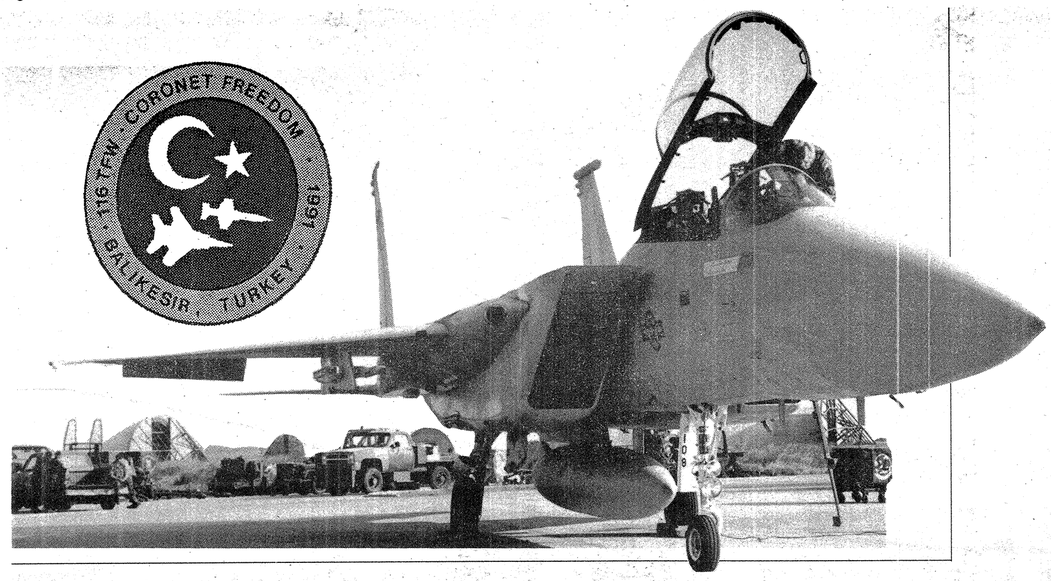
Representing the Georgia National Guard, the team participated in a national match in Arkansas against teams from the other states. The 1991 team was declared as a regional winner and overall placed in the top ten percent among the 50 states, Great Britain, Australia, Philippines, and Puerto Rico. The team placed 5th in the "Enhanced Infantry Trophy Match" against electronic pop-up targets.

Several of the team members won individual honors, TSGT. William J. Crooms placed first in the 200 yard rapid fire match; MSGT Larry Tanner placed third in the 100 yard rapid fire match; and SRA George H. Stinson (novice class) placed first in 200 yard rapid fire, first in 400 yard rapid fire, second in 300 yard rapid fire, and fourth place overall for individual in the match.

The team is made up of eight Air National Guard members of the 224th Joint Communications Support Squadron and two members of the 11th Tactical Air Control Party Flight located at the Glynco Jetport, Brunswick, Georgia.

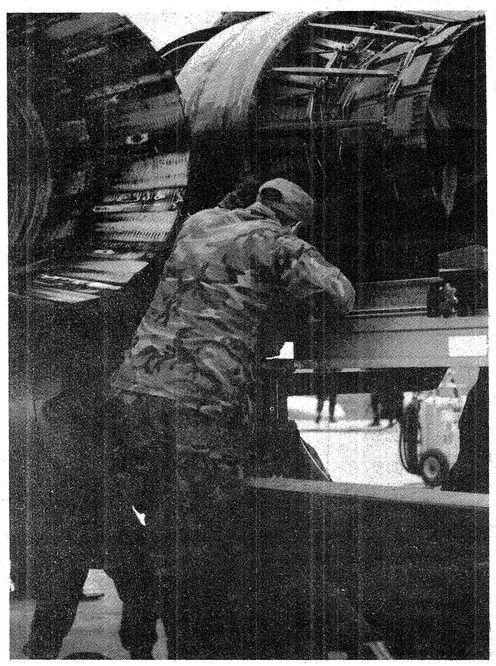


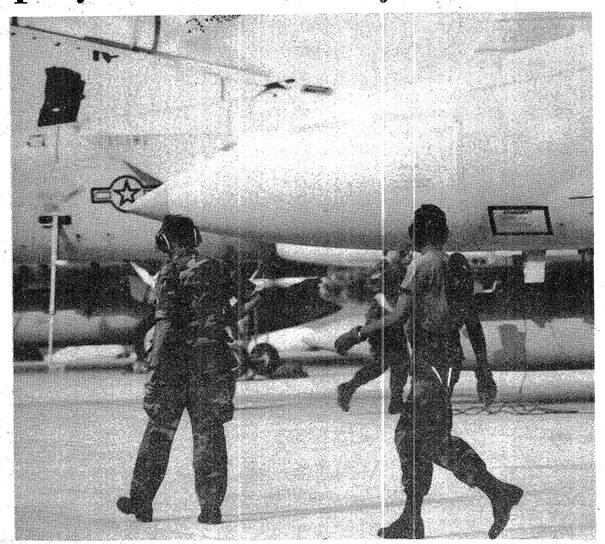
1991 Georgia National Guard M-16 Combat Rifle Team Champions
Standing L to R: TSGT Bill Brooks, TSGT William Crooms, SRA Georgia Stinson, TSGT Ken Allen, TSGT Jessie Davis, and MSGT Larry Tanner. Kneeling L to R: TSGT Kurt Standley, SRA Craig Tutarow, SSGT Jeffrey White, TSGT Mike Waters, and SSGT Raymond Ganas.



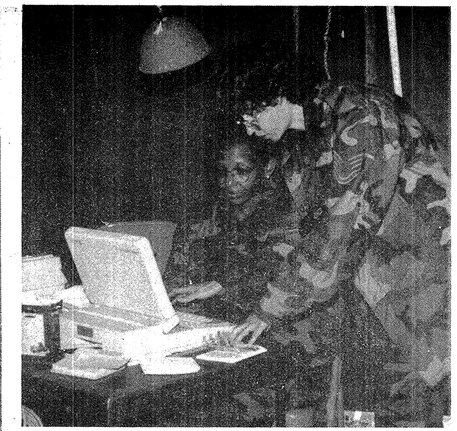
'Display(ing)' the 'Determination' to defend the peace

Scenes from a deployment to Turkey

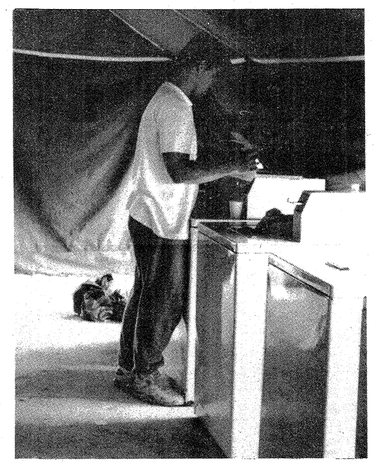




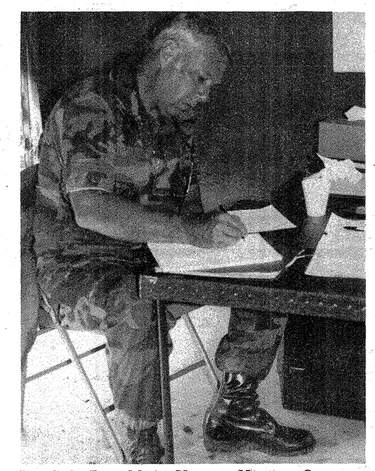
(At left) members of the 116th's maintenance crew change an engine on an Eagle, while (above) operations on the flight line at Balikesir continue.



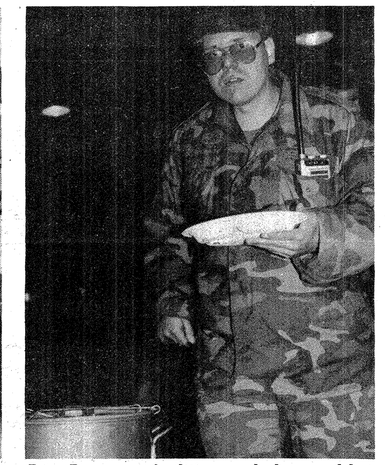
(At left) A portion of "tent city," the Georgians home away from home during the exercise. (Above) two members of the 116th use a computer to keep up with deployment operations.



Laundromat-in-a-tent.

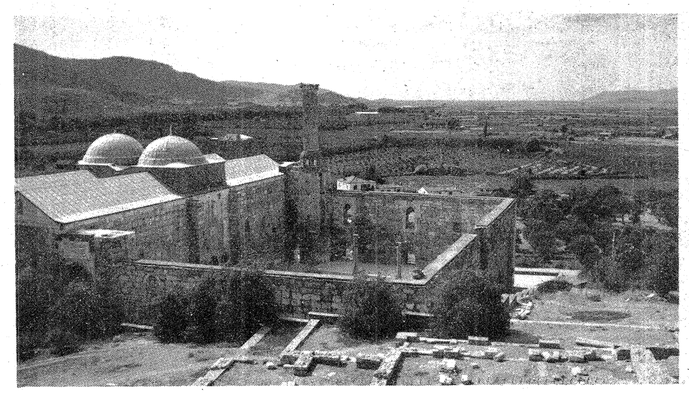


Lt. Col. Ronald A. Moore, Mission Support Squadron commander, prepares for morning staff meeting.



Bare-Base mess facilities regularly served hot meals.

Past, future meet in Turkey



116th displays determination

continued from page 1

Guard pilots the opportunity to fly with pilots of the Turkish Air Force in a variety of offensive and defensive air operations throughout the region. Georgia pilots flew more than 200 sorties. Overall, the Georgia Guardsmen were impressed with the flying ability and air combat skills of their Turkish colleagues, even though their aged F-104 Starfighters were rarely a match for the more sophisticated F-15.

The first challenge of the two-week exercise was to get twelve F-15s across the Atlantic. Sixteen aircraft (four spares) were launched in the early morning hours from Dobbins AFB on the first leg of a 4,000 mile, 8 hour trans-Atlantic crossing bound for Terrejon AB, Spain. SAC refuelers were employed multiple times over the ocean. Leg two took pilots over the Italian Alps and across Sicily, arriving in Balikesir in the late afternoon two days after their departure.

The 116TFW's support team of more than 260 Guardsmen departed Dobbins in a chartered jet for an 18-hour flight through Shannon, Ireland into Balikesir. Two MAC C-141s and a C-130, which left several days earlier, brought necessary supplies and spare parts for the deployment.

For the next 15 days, Georgia Air Guardsmen lived and worked in an elaborate "tent-city" compound constructed adjacent to the flightline and carved out of land once believed to be part of an adjoining pasture. More than 50 tents with assorted mess, shower, laundry and latrine facilities were set up in advance of the 116's arrival by active duty Civil Engineers from Bitburg, Germany.

Unaccustomed to the rigors of tent life, the Guardsmen struggled to become acclimated to the Turkish elements. Temperatures soared to 95 by day and dropped to 34 degrees by night. Intermittent rain showers created bog-like conditions in tent city. The mud later dried to brick-hard slabs when the sun finally appeared during the second week.

"We were forced to be innovative," remarked one Guardsman who made the best of the situation. The hand-painted wooden marquee above his tent read "The Peachtree Plaza." Inside, his tent took on the appearance of a makeshift efficiency apartment with cardboard crates stacked as cabinets, an uneven wooden table built from leftover lumber, and a labyrinthine arrangement of clothes line holding both uniforms and snack foods high in the air away from the bugs (and scorpions, centipedes and spiders which co-habitated with the Georgians).

Specialists in all areas combined to make the one acre site as livable as possible for the two week deployment. Hot water, a luxury, only became available to the camp four days after arrival when portable water heaters were ultimately purchased and flown into Balikesir.

Feeding the 250 Guardsmen in field conditions tested the adaptability and resourcefulness of the eight Services Flight (SVF) personnel who prepared and served two hot meals daily. Meals Ready to Eat or MREs substituted for a luncheon menu and Guardsmen soon became officionados of the various menu items of the foil packed delicacies.

Maintenance specialists, who composed the largest portion of the support team sent to Balikesir, kept the twelve Eagles operational throughout the exercise. With missions numbering as many as 2 to 3 per day for each F-15, maintenance crews worked in shifts often late into the evening. Crew chiefs checked and rechecked each aircraft and then waited expectantly as each was launched and retrieved.

With the single exception of the change of an engine, which occurred mid-way through the deployment, few serious maintenance problems plagued the Georgia aircraft and no missions were scrubbed due to maintenance problems.

Flying an average of two or more missions daily, the Georgia Eagle pilots were called into the exercises almost immediately upon arrival. Pilots flew a wide variety of offensive and defensive combat missions and frequently engaged German F-4s, Turkish F-104s, F-5s and F-16s.

The otherwise normal flying routine called the "Display Determination" operational plan was abruptly interrupted early in the exercise by a report that two Turkish F-104s, launched on an early morning mission along with Georgia F-15s,did not return from the mission. Within hours, the wreckage of both aircraft were located in a mountainous region of northern Turkey and the bodies of the two pilots recovered and returned to Balikesir. Preliminary reports indicated that the two Starfighters had been involved in a mid-air collision.

The death of the two Turkish airmen stopped Turkish participation in the exercise for a day and sent a poignant reminder to every pilot of the very real dangers that are inherent in these "war games." In a tribute to the pilots and the unit, Georgia flyers flew the ceremonial "Missing Wingman" formation above the assembled squadron of the two men who died - a symbolic gesture of respect.

Balikesir, like all of Turkey, is a picture of contrasts. Automobiles dash recklessly through the narrow streets slowing only for an occasional mule drawn cart loaded with produce. The older Moslem women still cover their face, while their daughters wear western-styled clothes sporting the labels of Levi and Nike. Turkish men still talk and sip Turkish tea in smoke-filled rooms lighted only by the dim glow of a television.

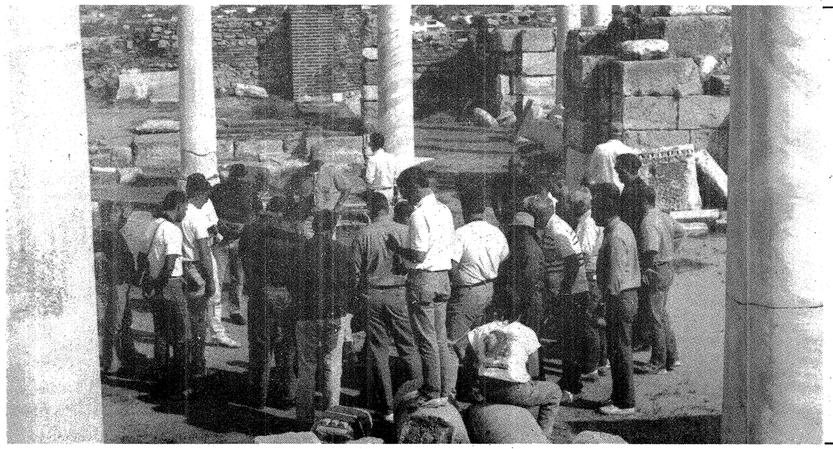
An hourly bus schedule into Balikesir was set up for the visiting Guardsmen and the Georgians took every opportunity to visit the city. Weekends were market days for the population and vendors packed a five-block area displaying their produce. Bartering was the accepted form of commerce. If one vendor rejected your offer, four others would descend upon you with better deals. More seasoned vendors displayed their wares on wooden carts, but the majority simply laid out their goods on soiled newspapers on the streets where flies enjoyed the feast. Lamb, a staple meat product in Turkey, hung sheared except for the head, in the unrefrigerated open air butcher shops throughout the city. While in the city, several Guardsmen viewed the unusual sight of a farmer shooting his bull in the city square because the animal would not move, and then begin to carve up the carcass to sell to passers-by.

Special arrangement were made early in the planning of the Balikesir deployment to give Guardsmen the chance to experience the many areas symbolic of Turkey's rich history. Tours were arranged to visit Ephesus, Troy, Ismir and Perganum. The more adventurous struck out for the Aegean coast and the cities of Ayvalik and Bursa.

The Christian ruins of Ephesus where John the Apostle is buried and where the Apostle Paul preached to the Ephesians, led one Guardsman to comment, "This is the origin of my religious roots. It all has its beginnings here. I've waited fifty-six years and nine months to get to this place."

In a tradition which started during the unit's first deployment to Turkey, 116th Guardsmen and their families collected clothes, toys and money prior to deploying, in hopes of locating an orphanage to which to distribute these items. Two state operated orphanages were located in Balikesir and arrangements were made for more than twenty Guardsmen to visit and distribute the items to the children. The scene was heartwarming as children eagerly paired off with individual Guardsmen to play with their new toys and with their newly discovered friends from Georgia.

The NATO orders which each Georgia Air Guardsman carried stated that the area was classified as an "area of imminent danger." For most Guardsmen, Turkey was the closest that they came to hostilities which plagued the region only eight months prior to their arrival. But peace in this region has been an illusive commodity for thousands of years and its only guarantee for the future is an ever vigilant defense posture. For two weeks in October, Air National Guardsmen from a world away, were players in this constant vigil for peace.



Air Guardsmen of Georgia's 116th Tactical Fighter Wing used their free time to tour ruins of ancient Turkey. At left a group of the Dobbins AFB, Ga., Guardsmen view the ruins of the ancient city of Ephesus.

Colonel Douglas M. Padgett, The Assistant Adjutant General of Georgia, Air, congratulates 2nd Lieutenant Kim Sheppard. A resident of Marietta, Ga., Lt. Sheppard is the first female pilot in the Georgia Air National Guard. The lieutenant, who is assigned to Savannah's 165th Tactical Airlift Group, is a native of Liverpool, N.Y. (Georgia National Guard Photo)

Georgia Air Guard welcomes first 'lady flyer'

If Kim Sheppard has a say in it, she won't be Georgia's first and only female Air National Guard pilot for very long. "I recruit all the time," exclaimed Lt. Sheppard.

Lt. Sheppard, who spent 12 years as an Army fixed wing and rotary aviator before enlisting in the Georgia Air Guard in 1990, recently received her senior pilot's wings at a ceremony in Atlanta. "This is a wonderful opportunity for me," she said. "So much is happening here (in Georgia) and I've lived all over the world . . . This is exactly where I want to be."

About being the first female pilot in the Georgia Guard, Ms. Sheppard says it is a role she is not unaccustomed to playing. "I've been the first women in schools . . . I think it's a challenge. It causes me to do a better job," said the Marietta, Ga., resident.

The members of Savannah's 165th Tactical Airlift Group to which she is assigned have received her well, she said. The women in the unit have been supportive and the male pilots have been friendly, but "totally professional." Husband David, an Army aviator, took a similar view: "They're like all pilots, they'll reserve comment until they see the product."

Ms. Sheppard's credentials are, however, impressive. She has logged more than 2,800 hours as an Army helicopter aviator, and more than 500 in multi-engine fixed wing aircraft. Prior to her commissioning in the Air National Guard, Ms. Sheppard was a pilot for a commuter airline out of Orlando, Fla., but flying the large four engine C-130 cargo plane has been a long-standing ambition. "The mission is so varied, you really need to commit a lot of time to the program," she said. "I want to do the tactical missions, do my own planning."

Some women she notes, "have a hard time visualizing this," but as the daughter of a corporate pilot, Ms. Sheppard, a native of Liverpool, N.Y., grew up in airports. "I was sixteen years old when I started." And, while some women encounter rough going in attempting to enter some military occupations, Ms. Sheppard seems to have slipped easily into the role of military pilot. "I had a full college scholarship, and was in Air Force ROTC, but the Army called me and said (if I enlisted) 'I could fly right now.' " For the next dozen years, Ms. Sheppard flew VIP, medical evacuation and transport missions for the U.S. Army.

Sheppard found herself in the Georgia Air Guard, following some research. The 165th had just opened its unit to female pilots. After two interviews, one in which she traveled from Korea, she was finally accepted and enlisted in the Georgia Air National Guard. "We had a long courtship."

"I have a strong commitment to the unit and to the flying program," Sheppard said. Then, a smiling Lt. Sheppard, said, "I've been lucky . . ."

214th hammers out a training mission

Guardsmen from the Savannah area spent a weekend in November, blasting targets with devastating 155mm self-propelled howitzers.

Capt. Richard Iler, commander of Savannah's Bravo Battery, 2nd Battalion, 214th Field Artillery, said the training helps the guardsmen maintain skills that would be needed in combat.

"I take the training we do very seriously because it's important to ensure the troops can perform their wartime mission," Iler said as artillery rounds whizzed high overhead.

The battalion is headquartered in Statesboro, but also has batteries in Springfield and Savannah.

The batteries went to the woods Saturday morning and positioned their guns for firing at targets five or six miles away. The targets were in a large impact area, bounded on the east and south side by the meandering Canoochee River.

Members of the Bravo Battery took turns firing and practicing crew drill. Each member of the six-man gun crew has specific responsibilities when preparing the gun for firing from a new location. Crews are supposed to be able to fire in about eight minutes, said 1st Lt. Terry Benton of Rincon.

2nd Lt. Ronald Carroll of Savannah used an optical device known as an aiming circle to orient one of the guns.

Carroll, a physical education major at Armstrong State College, said he is learning a lot with the battery.

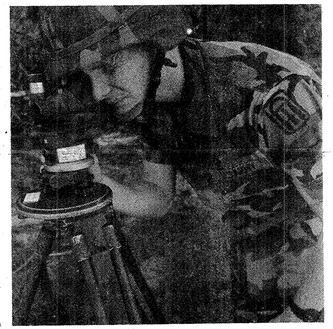
"It's very interesting how these instruments work and how we prepare to shoot a bullet downrange," he said. "A lot goes into it."

Another Armstrong student, Spec. Douglas Chanco, joined the guard after completing a four-year Army tour that took him to Fort Riley, Kansas and Germany.

Driving a self-propelled howitzer gives Chanco a break from his computer science studies.

"I love it," he said. "I wish we could come to the field more often."

Sgt. Cleve Sanders of Savannah shows the breech of a 155mm self-propelled howitzer. Sanders is a member of Bravo Battery, 2nd Battalion, 214th Field Artillery.strong State College. He is a member of Savannah's Bravo Battery, 2nd Battalion, 214th Field Artillery.



2nd Lt. Ronald Carroll of Savannah uses an optical instrument known as an aiming circle to orient a 155mm self-propelled howitzer. The Georgia guardsman is a junior at Armstrong State College. He is a member of Savannah's Bravo Battery, 2nd Battalion, 214th Field Artillery.

Spec. Douglas Chanco of Savannah, prepares to lock the barrel of his 155mm self-propelled howitzer in a support during a weekend drill with the Georgia Army National Guard. The Armstrong State College student is a member of Savannah's Bravo Battery, 2nd Battalion, 214th Infantry.

Miller honors employers of Georgia Guardsmen

In a recent ceremony honoring Georgia's Desert Storm soldiers and their employers, Georgia Governor Zell Miller signed several Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) Proclamations.

Miller remarked, "I urge employers across the nation to issue statements of support to give the National Guard and Reserve the recognition they have earned. They deserve our thanks, our respect, and most of all, our support."

In attendance at the ceremony were Secretary of the Army Michael P. W. Stone and Mr. Coy Short, the Georgia State ESGR Committee Chairman.

More than 5,000 Georgia National Guardsmen and Reservists were mobilized during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. They joined more than 132,000 other citizen-soldiers called to active duty.

"The men and women who serve in the National Guard and Reserve are a vital part of our nation's defense," Miller commented. "They have proven themselves in times of crisis, and I join all of America in paying tribute to these forces for their loyalty."

Coy Short outlined the purpose of the overall ESGR program when he noted, "Our aim is to establish a better understanding and relationship between Guardsmen and employers."

The Department of Defense chartered the National ESGR Committee in 1972. Today, the national organization plays a vital role in balancing the part-time military and full-time civilian careers of modern-era Minutemen.

Others in attendance at the ceremony included: General Edwin H. Burba, Jr., Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Forces Command; Mr. Houston Weaver, Vice Chairman, ESGR; Mr. Jim Redmond, Area Chairman; Major General Max Baratz, Deputy Commanding General, U.S. Army Reserve; Major General William Bland, The Adjutant General for Georgia; Brigadier General Jerry Keeton, Deputy Commanding General, Reserve Component, 2nd U.S. Army; Brigadier General Charles L. Whitlock, Deputy Commanding General, 81st ARCOM; Colonel Bob Jackson, Commanding Officer, 14th Air Force; and Lieutenant Colonel Joseph Ruthenburg, Commanding Officer of Marine Air Group 49.

Awards . . .

THE UNITED STATES MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL
Lt. Col. James A. Bruno, HQ, 170th C&C Bn, Atlanta
Maj. Charles C. Olson, HHD, 148th FSB, Ft. Stewart
Maj. Douglas O. Smith, HHC, 265th Engr GP, Marietta
Maj. Clifford M. Underwood, HHD, 170th C&C Bn, Atlanta
Maj. Francis B. Williams, III, HD, STARC, Atlanta
Maj. William K. Woods, HHD, 170th C&C Bn, Atlanta
Capt. Timothy B. Britt, 170th C&C Bn, Atlanta
Capt. Joseph P. Hoffman, 190th MP Co, Atlanta
Chief Warrant Officer Alvin N. Gay, HHC, 265th Engr Cp, Marietta
Chief Warrant Officer Charlie R. Lockhart, Jr., HHD, 148th FSB, Forsyth
Chief Warrant Officer Ralph E. Shadix, HQ, STARC, Atlanta
Warrant Officer Alvin D. Faulkner, HHD, 148th FSB, Ft. Stewart
Master Sgt. Walter Bush, HHD, 148th FSB, Forsyth
Master Sgt. Clarence A. Caldwell, HHC(-), 48th Inf Bde, Macon
Master Sgt. Bruce D. Thomasson, HHC, 560th Engr Bn, Columbus
Staff Sgt. Juan D. Davis, 116th Army Band, Atlanta
Staff Sgt. Lewis W. Hollar, Jr., Det 1. Co A. 560th Engr Bn, Columbus
Sgt. 1st Class Benjamin B. Livesay, HD, STARC, Atlanta
Sgt. 1st Class Randy L. Smith, 190th MP Co, Atlanta
Sgt. 1st Class Cleo Troup, HD, STARC, Atlanta
Staff Sgt. Terry W. Gualtney, Co B, 560th Engr Bn, Reynolds
Staff Sgt. William H. Martin, Det 1, Co B, 560th Engr Bn, Montezuma
Sgt. Edward M. Croom, Co D, 560th Engr Bn, Thomasville
Spec. Charles D. Davenport, HHC, 560th Engr Bn, Columbus
Spec. Kent B. Moldenharuer, HHC, 560th Engr Bn, Columbus

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL
Maj. James D. Cook, GMI, Macon
Capt. William A. Dent, HD, STARC, Atlanta
Capt. Victor L. Maret, GMI, Macon
Chief Warrant Officer Danny P. Hammond, HD, STARC, Atlanta
Chief Warrant Officer Joe O. Maxey, HD, STARC, Atlanta
Staff Sgt. Daniel L. Anderson, HQ, STARC, Atlanta
Staff Sgt. William B. Redd, Btry B, 2/214th FA, Savannah
Sgt. 1st Class Patricia A. Barton, HD, STARC, Atlanta
Sgt. 1st Class Cecil Brown, HD, STARC, Atlanta
Sgt. 1st Class Robert A. Dunaway, HD, STARC, Atlanta
Sgt. 1st Class Rayford C. Newman, HD, STARC, Atlanta
Sgt. Jorge A. Gonzalez, 118th PSC, Atlanta

GEORGIA COMMENDATION MEDAL
Lt. Col. Alan D. O'Rourke, HQ, 1/108th AR BN, Calhoun
Maj. William S. Sellers, Readiness Group, Atlanta
2nd Lt. Richard G. Goodson, Jr. GMI
2nd Lt. Lou Sylvia Johnson, GMI
Chief Warrant Officer Stanley W. Hammond, HD, STARC, Atlanta
Warrant Officer Shelley S. Cronkhite, HD, STARC, Atlanta
1st Sgt. William G. Archbelle, III, HD, STARC, Atlanta
Sgt. 1st Class Therret Goswick, HQ, STARC, Atlanta
Sgt. 1st Class Luther N. Sturdivant, HHD, STARC, Atlanta
Staff Sgt. Jessie L. Duffey, Co B, 148th FSB, Jackson
Staff Sgt. William A. Estes, HHD, STARC, Atlanta
Staff Sgt. Sammy J. McBroom, HQ, STARC, Atlanta
Staff Sgt. Francis X. Schott, HD, STARC, Atlanta
Sgt. Ronald K. Davis, HQ, STARC, Atlanta
Spec. Donna L. Berryman, 117th MASH, Atlanta
Tammy Burroughs, Lake Harbin Elem. School, Morrow
Kathy M. Dally, Family Support Ctr., 190th MP Co, Atlanta
Kathy Justiss, Family Support Group, Det 1, Trp E, 348th CAV, Newnan

ARMY ACHIVEMENT MEDAL
Maj. Eugene C. Martin, HQ, STARC, Atlanta
Maj. Henry W. McConnell, HQ, STARC, Atlanta

GEORGIA MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL
Col. Edwin E. Wade, Mob Troop Command, Ft. Gordon
Lt. Col. Theodore M. Brown, HQ, STARC, Atlanta
Maj. Phillip H. Glise, HHC, 48th Inf Bde, Macon
Maj. Larry G. McLendon, HHC, 48th Inf Bde, Macon
Command Sgt. Maj. Rodney J. Harville, HQ, 118th FA, Savannah
Sgt. Maj. Thomas H. Mincey, HQ, 118th FA, Savannah
Sgt. 1st Class Richard E. Cooper, HHD, 170th C&C Bn, Atlanta
Sgt. 1st Class William H. Gensinger, HHD, 170th C&C Bn, Atlanta
Sgt. 1st Class Elze H. Kennedy, HD, STARC, Atlanta
Sgt. 1st Class William T. Mullinax, HD, STARC, Atlanta

GA Department of Defense
P.O. Box 17905
Atlanta, GA