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THE GEORGIA GUARDSMAN

Season's Greetings

Vol. 10 No. 1

Fall 1989

Lawmakers visit Guardsmen at Ft. Stewart during AT-89

By Staff Sgt. Elliott Minor,
124th Public Affairs Detachment

About 30 Georgia lawmakers visited Fort Stewart on Aug. 21 and 22 to observe the National Guard tactical exercises and chat with constituents at remote training sites.

Rep. Ron Fennel, a member of the



Staff Sgt. Edward M. Batey

Georgian competes in pistol tourney

Savannah National Guardsman, Staff Sergeant Edward M. Batey, was one of 1,109 competitors, a record high number, on hand for the 1989 National Pistol Championships at Camp Perry, OH.

Staff Sgt. Batey is a member of the select All National Guard Pistol Team, which is composed of the best pistol shooters in the Guard. He is with the 165th Tactical Airlift Group of the Georgia Air National Guard in Savannah.

The National Guard was prominent among the winners. Among the accomplishments of the NG at this year's "World Series of Shooting" was: eight Guardsmen in the top 100 in the prestigious President's Match, two selected for the Mayleigh Cup and third place overall honors out of 152 teams represented. Batey was a firing member of that team.

Approximately 4,000 shooters were on hand for the three phases; pistol, small bore rifle and high power rifle, of the month-long matches. The Championships were first held at Camp Perry, near Port Clinton, OH, on the shore of Lake Erie in 1907. They are open to members of the Armed Forces, National Guard, Reserve Officers Training Corps, Air Force Reserve Officers Training Corps, Citizen's Military Training Corps, Citizens Air Training Camps, rifle and pistol clubs and civilians.

state House Defense and Veterans Affairs Committee, said morale is high and the Georgia Army National Guard troops appear to be well trained.

"It's a terrific sacrifice for the guys," said the Brunswick Democrat. "It's terribly hot, but that simulates the environment that they might have to fight in."

Fennel and State Rep. Anne Mueller, R-Savannah, climbed into 155-mm self-propelled howitzers while members of the 1st Battalion, 230th Field Artillery took part in a firing exercise. Two of the battalion's batteries drill in Brunswick and one in Savannah.

Sen. Culver Kidd, who was wounded while serving with a National Guard unit during World War II, said the guard's training and equipment are better than ever.

"I wish all the people of Georgia could see our units here," said the 75-year-old Milledgeville Democrat. "I feel much better about any problems that might face us nationwide because our guard units are great - physically, mentally, equipment wise . . . I just wish all Georgians had an opportunity to feel like I do."

Traveling by Huey helicopters and Hummers, the Army's high-mobility replacement for the Jeep, the delegation visited training sites deep in the pine forests of the 280,000-acre post.

They were briefed by representatives of the 560th Engineer Battalion of Columbus; the 1st Battalion, 121st Infantry of Dublin; the 148th Forward Support Battalion of Forsyth; and the 230th, headquartered in Waycross.

The guard members arrived at Fort Stewart on Aug. 12 for two weeks of annual training. Most are members of the 48th Infantry Brigade (Mech), headquartered in Macon, which is preparing for a three-week exercise next summer at the National Training Center in California.

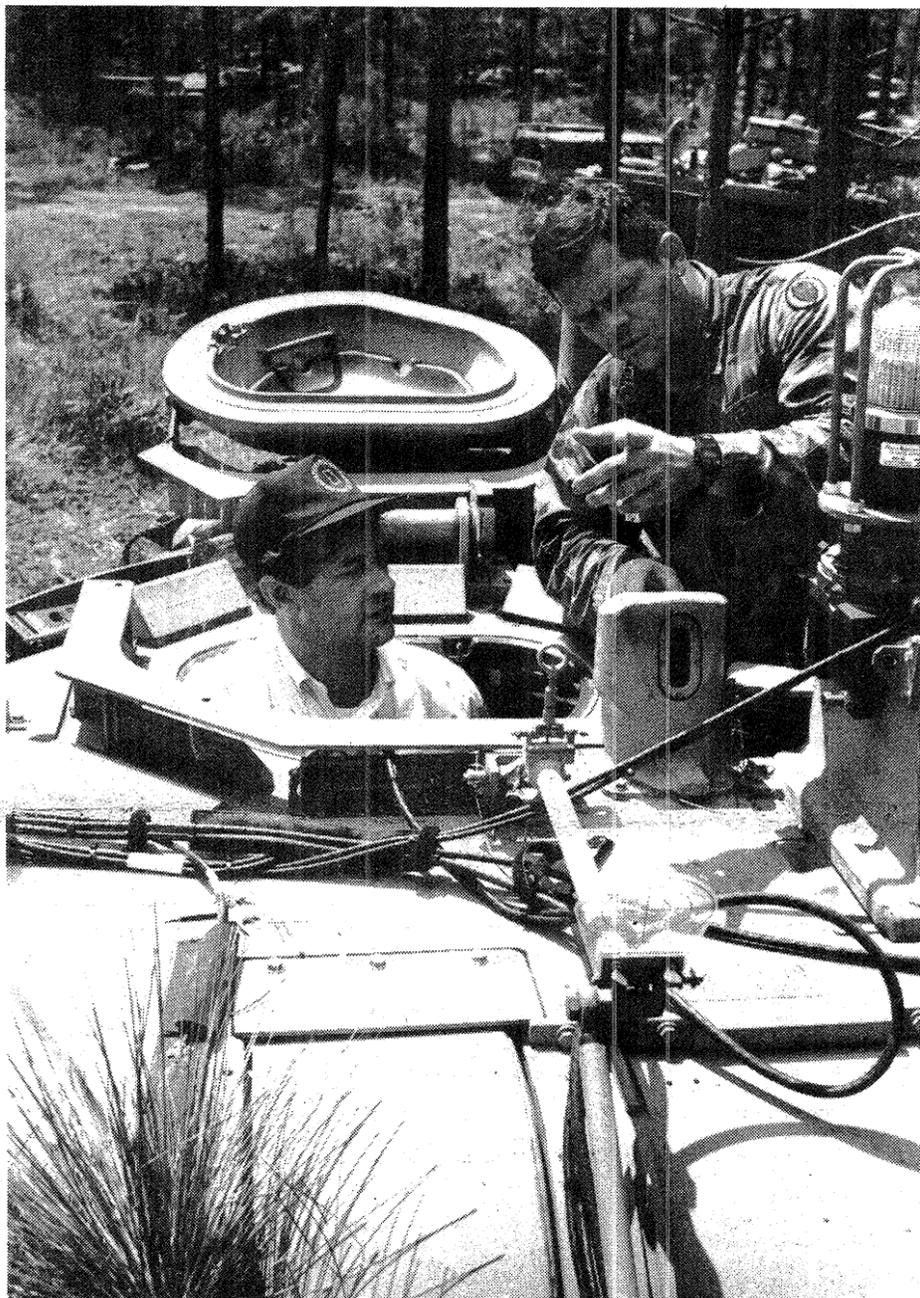
See Photo Story on pages 6 & 7

During a briefing, Maj. Gen. Joseph Griffin, the adjutant general of Georgia, noted that over 50 percent of the Army's strength and 45 percent of all combat infantry and armor are in the guard and reserve.

Griffin said the nation could not go to war without reservists.

After a short flight to a dusty clearing, Rep. Marvin Adams, D-Thomaston, jumped out smiling and greeted members of the infantry battalion.

"It was great," he said of the flight. "It thrills me to know we have this kind of defense and we have these young men who care about the defense of their country."



State Rep. Vinson Wall, of Lawrenceville sits in the gun turret while Sgt. 1st Class Frank A. Silsby explains the sights on the Guard's new Bradley Fighting Vehicle. Georgia legislators visited with Army National Guardsman at Ft. Stewart during annual training recently. (Photo by Spec. Gloria Barlay, 124th PAD)

At one stop, Adams joked with constituents, shook hands with Spec. Kevin Ferguson, 20, who said he has never voted.

"I've got to get him registered," Adams quipped.

Awaiting Sen. Tommy Olmstead was his son-in-law, 1st Lt. David DeVore, a liaison officer with the infantry battalion.

Olmstead, a Macon Democrat, said he was impressed with the skill and professionalism of the guard.

Rep. Karen Irwin, D-Winterville, found the turret of a Bradley fighting vehicle to be very cramped and was surprised that crewmen have to spend hours inside it.

"I'm very appreciative that they do this," she said. "To be in the heat with the bugs, you can certainly appreciate a

shower. They miss time from their families and their jobs."

Kidd's party dined on barbecue, cooked carrots, boiled potatoes and applesauce while visiting a computerized range where crews were firing the Bradley's 25-mm cannon.

The food was part of a new type of ration known as T-rations. They come in sealed metal trays, that are heated in mobile kitchens and served on trays.

"I'm very proud of all of you," Kidd told a group of guardsmen dining beneath a metal shelter. "You are our first line of defense. All this damn equipment I don't know about, but if we have to go to war we know you'll be No. 1."

Later, they visited an equipment storage site where some went for rides in Bradleys and M-1 tanks.

My Georgia Guardsman

WHEN I MARRIED MY GUARDSMAN,
twas for better or worse,
the good days I count and put them in verse.
WHEN the hurricane struck the east Georgia coast,
my guardsman was there never leaving his post.
WHEN month after month there was so little rain,
my guardsman flew off and delivered other states grain.
WHEN a tornado touched down leaving everything bare,
who cleaned up the mess? My guardsman was there.
WHEN voices were raised within prison walls,
my guardsman was there receiving all calls.

WHEN I MARRIED MY GUARDSMAN,
twas in sickness and health and the Guard
it has brought us much more than wealth.
For riches are more than just dollars and cents.
IT'S friends helping friends, rebuilding a fence.
IT'S praying for peace while preparing for war.
IT'S aiding the sick, the homeless, the poor.
IT'S not the blues or the greens that you wear,
they're just the outward signs that you care.
IT'S serving your country, your neighbors, your state,
IT'S doing your part to keep our nation great.

WHEN I MARRIED MY GUARDSMAN,
twas till the end of all time and
the love and respect that I feel, has not rhyme.
One weekend a month and a few extra days,
are now part of our lives in so many ways.
THE few dollars more puts food on the table,
makes a car payment and keeps our life stable.
IT allows that college can be more than a dream,
and a fruitful retirement, more than a scheme.
Sometimes with schools, extra duty and such,
his time far from home can seem a bit much.
I stop for a minute and look into my heart,
then I realize, we're both doing our part.
No matter what the future may bring,
no matter how hard, I have no fear that we'll survive --
because my spouse is a member of THE GEORGIA GUARD.
— By A Georgia Guard Spouse

THE GEORGIA GUARDSMAN

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Director, Public Affairs Col. (Ret.) Harry A. Heath
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Editor B. I. Diamond
Assistant Editor Kenneth Davis
Editorial Assistant Dolores Thomas

Staff Master Sgt. Randy Garrett, Staff Sgt. Gene Crowder, Staff Sgt. Toby Moore, Sgt. Elliot Minor, Sgt. 1st Class Willis Mitchell, Spec. Kimberly Ryan, PFC Emery Minor, Spec. Gloria Barlay, Spec. Mattie Jones, PFC Michael Hubbard.

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.

GLAD TIDINGS of the SEASON

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: "PEACE IS OUR PASSION"

TWO HUNDRED YEARS AGO OUR FOUNDING FATHERS MET IN PHILADELPHIA TO WRITE INTO LAW WHAT THEY HAD CREATED IN WAR -- A NEW NATION, CONCEIVED IN LIBERTY, AND COMMITTED TO THE GREAT IDEA THAT ALL MEN ARE CREATED EQUAL. THEY WROTE OUR CONSTITUTION.

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-EIGHT YEARS AGO WE ENGAGED IN A GREAT CIVIL WAR TO TEST IN BLOOD WHETHER A NATION WITH SUCH A CONSTITUTION COULD ENDURE. IT DID.

FORTY-EIGHT YEARS AGO WE ENGAGED IN A GREAT WORLD WAR TO TEST WHETHER THE POWER OF OUR NATION COULD PREVAIL OVER THE MOST DESPICABLE TYRANNY IN HUMAN HISTORY. IT DID.

IN THE 1960's WE ENGAGED IN FIERCE DOMESTIC STRUGGLE TO TEST WHETHER FOR ALL AMERICANS WE COULD BRING THE REALITY OF OUR NATION CLOSER TO THE WORDS OF THE CONSTITUTION AND ITS ACCOMPANYING BILL OF RIGHTS -- CLOSER TO THE AMERICAN DREAM. WE DID.

TODAY, WE STILL HAVE A LONG ROAD TO TRAVEL. THERE IS MUCH YET TO BE DONE. ABOVE ALL, WE ARE ENGAGED IN A MIGHTY STRUGGLE TO TEST WHETHER THE WORLD CAN LIVE IN PEACE. WHAT MOTIVATES THAT STRUGGLE ARE THE OLD IDEAS -- LIBERTY, EQUALITY, THE RULE OF LAW, AND GOVERNMENT OF, BY, AND FOR THE PEOPLE.

TODAY WE HAVE FRIENDS AND ALLIES IN THIS STRUGGLE, SOME WHO HELPED TEACH US WHAT IT IS WE HAVE BECOME, OTHERS WHOM WE HAVE BROUGHT ALONG BY OUR CARING AND OUR EXAMPLE. TOGETHER THE FREE WORLD MOVES INEXORABLY TOWARD ITS DESTINY: PEACE, FREEDOM, AND ECONOMIC PROSPERITY FOR ALL.

WE HAVE MANY PROBLEMS. THE WORLD HAS MANY PROBLEMS. THESE PROBLEMS WILL NOT BE SOLVED BY TYRANTS. THEY WILL NOT BE SOLVED BY ARMIES. THEY WILL NOT BE SOLVED BY GOVERNMENTS. THEY WILL NOT BE SOLVED BY INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

THEY WILL BE SOLVED BY PEOPLE.

THEY WILL BE SOLVED BY PEOPLE LIKE THOSE WHO MET IN PHILADELPHIA TWO HUNDRED YEARS AGO AND WHO, AGAINST ALL ODDS, AGAINST THE AWESOME WEIGHT OF HISTORY, AND AGAINST OBSTACLES THAT MAKE EVEN THE BRAVE SHUDDER, NONETHELESS PREVAILED. THEY WROTE THE CONSTITUTION.

THE CONSTITUTION EMPOWERS YOU AND ME AS SOLDIERS. IT GIVES US OUR EXISTENCE, OUR ALLEGIANCE, OUR OBLIGATION.

WE ARE ITS GUARDIANS. AND AS ITS GUARDIANS, WE ARE THE PROTECTORS OF THE PEACEFUL FUTURE OF THE WORLD. "PEACE," AS THOMAS JEFFERSON SAID, "IS OUR PASSION."

IT IS A RESOUNDING AND REMARKABLE RESPONSIBILITY. WE DARE NOT FAIL IT. WE MUST BE TRAINED, READY AND PROUD TO FULFILL IT. WE MUST RESOLVE THAT GOVERNMENT OF, BY, AND FOR THE PEOPLE WILL ENDURE, THAT NO ENEMY FOREIGN OR DOMESTIC WILL DESTROY IT.

IN THAT SUPREME AND GLORIOUS RESOLUTION I AM PROUD TO STAND NEXT TO YOU, ALL OF YOU, SOLDIERS AND CIVILIANS, ACTIVE ARMY, ARMY RESERVE, AND ARMY NATIONAL GUARD. NO PLACE ON EARTH AFFORDS A BETTER VIEW.



COLIN L. POWELL,
Chairman
Joint Chiefs of Staff

Guard Mother finds adventure at first camp

By Staff Sgt. Elliott Minor,
124th Public Affairs Detachment



Mrs. Lois Kenemer of Dalton poses beside an M-1 tank at Fort Stewart. She visited the post recently to observe Georgia Army National Guard equipment and training. With her are her three sons - Command Sgt. Maj. Bernard Kenemer; Col. David Kenemer; and Lt. Col. Marshall Kenemer. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Elliott Minor, 124th PAD)

For 35 years, Lois Kenemer has seen her sons go off to annual training with the Georgia Army National Guard. This year she joined them.

"I worried a lot when they were training," said the 74-year-old Dalton grandmother. "There's danger in it. I was always glad when they got back."

Mrs. Kenemer's three sons work full-time for the National Guard. Together they have a total of 97 years of service.

Command Sgt. Maj. Bernard Kenemer, 53, of Dalton, is the training sergeant for the 1st Battalion, 108th Armor in Calhoun. In his capacity as a command sergeant major, he is responsible for the welfare of more than 500 members of a tank unit that drills at armories in Calhoun, Douglasville, Rome, Cedartown, Dalton and Canton.

He joined the guard in 1954 while still in high school and has served in a variety of leadership positions in the battalion, including supply sergeant, mess sergeant and platoon sergeant.

Col. David Kenemer, 51, of Conyers, is the assistant U.S. Property and Fiscal Officer for Georgia. The USPFO is responsible for all federal funding and property supplied to the National Guard. He joined the guard in 1956.

Lt. Col. Marshall Kenemer, 46, of Morrow, is the Georgia Guard's command logistics officer. He helps develop policies that determine the priorities for issuing a wide range of military equipment and supplies from tanks to toilet paper. He signed up in 1961 and worked his way up through the ranks from private.

Mrs. Kenemer and Marshall Kenemer spell their names differently from David and Bernard Kenemer.

During a recent interview, Marshall Kenemer hauled out a genealogy book and noted, "There are 137 different spellings of the Kenemer name."

Bernard Kenemer said he spells his name with only one "n" because that's the way it's listed on his birth certificate.

Mrs. Kenemer said she has always been fascinated by her sons' discussions about annual training, so this year she came along.

As a guest for three weeks at the Hinesville home of Marshall Kenemer and his wife, Deniece, the gray-haired widow hosted "bean-night" suppers for family friends, she watched a convoy of guardsmen leaving for 11-days of field duty, she was presented a basket of flowers at a unit party, she climbed into an armored personnel carrier and she chatted with young tankers from her hometown during a visit to a motorpool.

"Everybody's been so nice and friendly," she said. "They seem to be very caring people. I've enjoyed meeting all of them."

She said she was moved by the sight of young guardsmen disappearing down tank trails to take part in tactical exercises and by the site of guardsmen clustered around the pay phones, waiting to call loved ones back home.

"They need support," she said. "When they're gone they need to know things are being taken care of at home. It's a sacrifice on everyone's part."

Mrs. Kenemer worked in a Dalton hosiery mill and then a carpet factory. Her husband, B.C. Kenemer, was a barber until his death in 1972. The couple had three sons and a daughter, Virginia, who lives in Dalton.

Mrs. Kenemer's sons agree that what the family lacked in income, it made up for in love. The sons had a paper route that was handed down from boy to boy over a 10-year period.

"Beans and 'taters were our mainstay," recalled Marshall Kenemer. "We never wanted for the necessities of life, but we didn't have wealth. We were rich in the love that mom and dad gave us."

Mrs. Kenemer's pinto beans have a special place in the family. She turns two pounds of pinto beans and a couple of slabs of fatback into a feast, complete with onions, pickled tomatoes, hot peppers and cornbread and biscuits. The family holds hands while offering a blessing.

The Kennemers also cherish the strong family ties they find in the National Guard.

"Our upbringing was a close family and the guard - because it is a family, too

fits into our upbringing," added Marshall Kenemer.

David Kenemer paid his way through Georgia State University and Marshall Kenemer got assistance from the guard while earning three years of college credit.

Bernard Kenemer said he enjoys the challenges and camaraderie of the guard.

"You don't know you can go three days without sleep until you do it," he said.

Marshall Kenemer said logistics work is important and gives him a chance to travel. He recently returned from a trip to Yakima, Wash., to make arrangements for a guard deployment.

"I enjoy logistics because everything you do is a live mission," he said. "If you don't issue food, they don't eat. If you don't issue bullets, they don't shoot."

David Kenemer said he's found a lot of job satisfaction as a finance officer.

"It's been a rewarding career," he observed. "I feel fortunate that I was able to work for some real good people who helped me along. I think that's indicative of the people in the guard."

When they could spare the time, Mrs. Kenemer's sons gave her tours of guard offices and motorpools.

She particularly liked the guard's few remaining jeeps, which are being phased out, and the M-1 tanks.

Mrs. Kenemer still drives, but avoids left turns. If she has to go left, she makes a right turn, drives down the street until she can turn around and then proceeds through the intersection.

"She never makes a left turn," said Deniece, a civilian employee at Fort Stewart's Winn Army Community Hospital. "She doesn't like to cross traffic. Because she has avoided left turns for so long, the car refuses to make left-hand turns."

Mrs. Kenemer said it's meant a lot to see where her sons have been going all these years.

"I feel better now," she said. "I know about things."

NGAGA Group Life Insurance increases benefits and gives more 'free insurance'

GREAT NEWS!

The maximum benefit available under the National Guard Association of Georgia Group Life Insurance Program has been increased to \$35,000 on Guardmembers, \$15,000 on spouses and \$7,500 on each child. Important... Guardmembers and their families who are currently insured can increase their life insurance benefit up to the maximum without evidence of insurability (No Health Questions). We will have this "Open Enrollment" period through 31 December 1989. Guardmembers who are not currently enrolled can do so by simply contacting their Unit Administrator or by calling the NGAGA office at 404-239-0422 for an application.

MORE GREAT NEWS!

The Board of Trustees voted to increase the "Free Insurance" from 10% to 15% on the Guardmembers.

Example... If you have \$35,000 life insurance coverage, the free insurance amount will be \$5,250 for a total of \$40,250. As I am sure you know, a check for the "free insurance" is delivered to the beneficiary within 245 hours after notification of death. All Guardmembers insured by the NGAGA Group Life Insurance program and having had this program for one year are entitled to this "free insurance". A Good Program is now even Better!!!

Be sure to take advantage of these opportunities to increase your family security especially during this Open Enrollment period. Contact your Unit Insurance Administrator or call the NGAGA office at 404-239-0422, or write to the National Guard Association of Georgia Insurance Trust, 9 Piedmont Center, Suite 112, Atlanta, Georgia 30305.

NGAGA GROUP LIFE INSURANCE

GIVES
"FREE INSURANCE"

NOW
15%

Historical Society starts

The Georgia Militia and National Guard Society, Inc., is a newly established non-profit organization designed to promote, educate and perpetuate the history and heritage of the Georgia National Guard and Militia.

Open to anyone, the society's goals include the establishment of a major museum housing artifacts from Georgia's military past, and a reference library where scholars, students and members may research the state's military heritage.

Charter memberships to the society are now available.

To become a member complete the form and enclose check or money order payable to the Georgia Militia and National Guard Society, Inc., and mail to Georgia Militia and National Guard Society, c/o Public Affairs Office, P.O. Box 17965, Atlanta, GA 30316-0965.



GEORGIA MILITIA AND NATIONAL GUARD SOCIETY

_____ Please enroll me as a member of the Georgia Militia and National Guard Society.

_____ Please send me more information on the Georgia Militia and National Guard Society.

Name _____ Grade or Rank (if applicable) _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Telephone () _____ Present Unit (if applicable) _____

Past Military Associations (if any) _____

I have enclosed a check made payable to the Georgia Militia and National Guard Society in the amount of (Check One):

\$5 Student _____ \$20 Regular Member* _____ \$50 Contributing Member _____ \$100 Sustaining Member _____

\$200 Patron _____ \$300 Life Member _____

*50 percent discount (\$10) for Active military and members of the National Guard E-4 and below.

Send check to Georgia Militia and National Guard Society, P.O. Box 17965, Atlanta, GA 30316-0965

Guardsmen to face ultimate test in the Mojave Desert

By Staff Sgt. Elliott Minor,
124th Public Affairs Detachment

FORT STEWART, GA. — More than 2,000 members of the Georgia Army National Guard will face what could be their greatest test next July during a 21-day exercise in California's Mojave Desert.

Brig. Gen. John R. Paulk, commander of the guard's 48th Infantry Brigade (Mech), said the hardships of the Army's National Training Center (NTC) are about as tough as they can be, short of an actual war.

Units scheduled to deploy are the 848th Engineer Company of Douglas; the 148th Support Battalion of Forsyth; the 1st Battalion, 230th Field Artillery of Waycross; the 1st Battalion, 108th Armor of Calhoun; and the brigade's headquarters company from Macon.

The brigade, a part of the Nation's Rapid Deployment Force, has been preparing for the desert exercise for months.

The intense preparations continued recently during two weeks of annual training at Fort Stewart with tank, infantry and artillery exercises that covered a large area of the 280,000 military post.

Many brigade guardsmen have already been to the NTC with their battalions, but its officers have never before been called upon to direct the battle.

To make the training even more realistic, members of the brigade will work beside their active-duty counterparts from Fort Stewart's 24th Infantry Division (Mech). If activated, the brigade

would become a part of the 24th.

Lt. Col. Arnold Canada, commander of Fort Stewart's 2nd battalion, 7th Infantry, said he welcomes the opportunity to train with the guard.

"During the exercise the biggest thing I want to accomplish is to coordinate and integrate soldiers from the 27th and the 48th Brigade to fight as one unit," he said.

Paulk said the desert will provide a harsh contrast to the fertile fields and pine forests of Georgia.

"It's very hot. You can dehydrate within hours without taking in fluids," said the Fitzgerald businessman. "You start looking around and the first few days and one mountain starts looking like another. Direction starts to be a problem."

Paulk said the Mojave has little vegetation or animal life.

"You might see a tumbleweed or whatever they call it, and occasionally you might see a jackrabbit," he said. "It's very sparse."

The general said he feels good about the level of expertise in the brigade and is pleased with the guardsmen's knowledge of basic soldier skills and job skills.

He also is proud of their performance at Fort Stewart this summer.

"They've worked real hard," he said. "They knew it was going to be hard work when they came . . . Everywhere I've been morale has been high."

Paulk said he won't be able to accompany the troops to the Mojave because he is retiring in March with 31 years of service.

His successor will be Col. Al Holland of Dalton.

Holland, the former commander of the

1st Battalion, 108th Armor, is now the brigade's deputy commander.

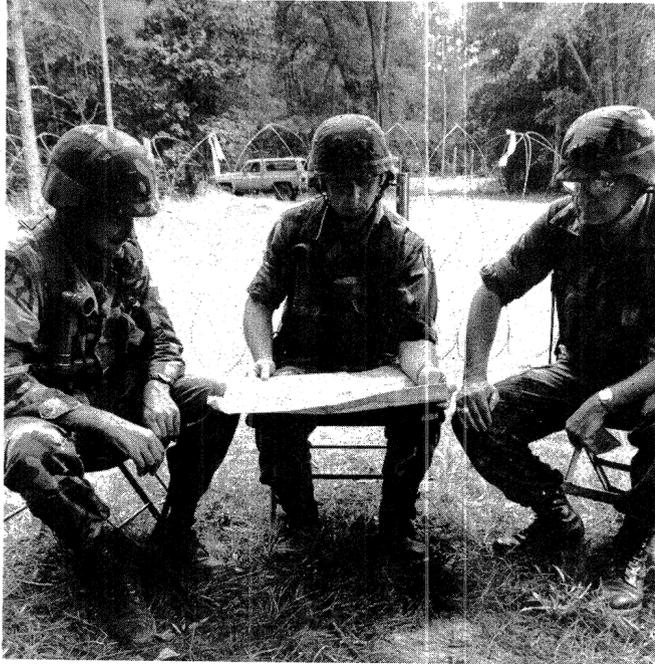
"We're preparing hard for the trip to the NTC," said Holland, who went there when he commanded the armor battalion.

"It's a very demanding environment and

the exercise is probably the most stressful event a person might encounter in his life.

"It'll force us to be a better brigade, better prepared for war," added Holland.

The 48th's new deputy commander will be Col. Don Davis of Macon.



Brig. Gen. John R. Paulk (r) of Fitzgerald confers with members of his staff during annual training with the Georgia Army National Guard at Fort Stewart. Paulk is the commander of the 48th Infantry Brigade (Mech). Col. Al Holland of Dalton (center), the brigade's deputy commander, scans a map, while Col. Don Davis of Macon looks on. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Elliott Minor, 124th PAD)

Wife dedicates support facility at Dobbins

Dobbins AFB. . . "The "Father of Georgia's Air National Guard," Major General George G. Finch was remembered recently in ceremonies at Dobbins AFB with the dedication of a new \$1.4 million Support Facility bearing his name.

The new 16,000 square foot building will house administrative sections of the 116th Tactical Fighter Wing of the Georgia Air National Guard.

Major General Finch organized the first flying unit of the Georgia Air National Guard on September 15, 1941. Known as the 128th Observation Squadron (OS), General Finch was its first Commander. The unit with a strength of 16 officers and 102 enlisted was originally based at Chandler Field in Atlanta and had only three aircraft.

The 128th OS was later designated the 54th Fighter Wing with General Finch as its Commander. This was to be the first Air National Guard Wing to be activated after the start of World War II. In 1955, Major General Finch became the first Air National Guard officer to command a numbered Air Force, the 14th Air Force. Today the 54th TFW is the 116th TFW of the Georgia Air National Guard and has more than 1200 men and women Guardsmen. The unit flies the F-15



Mrs. George G. Finch cuts the dedication ribbon at Dobbins AFB for a new Support Facility, named in honor of her late husband, Major General G. Finch.

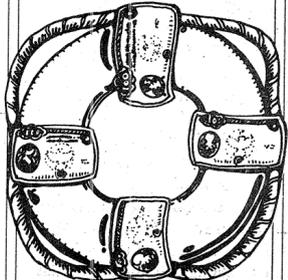
Eagle aircraft.

Mrs. George G. Finch, wife of General Finch cut the ribbon dedicating the new Dobbins facility. General Lawrence Skantze, former Vice Chief of Staff, USAF, recalled many years of personal service to General Finch as an Aide early in his career. Also on hand to

remark on General Finch's career was Major General Joseph Griffin, Adjutant General of Georgia, and Brigadier General Ben Patterson, Assistant Adjutant General for Air. More than 150 invited guests were in attendance for the ceremonies in August.

Play It Safe

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U.S. SAVINGS BONDS
THE GREAT AMERICAN INVESTMENT

Georgia Air Guardsman makes daring rescue of Army National Guard pilot

A Georgia Air National Guardsman from Roswell is credited with the heroic rescue of the pilot of an Army National Guard helicopter which crashed near Jacksonville, Fla., in August.

Staff Sgt. Ronald L. Shank, an F-15 crew chief with the 116th Tactical Fighter Wing, Georgia Air National Guard, along with his brother, Clifford A. Shank, a Jacksonville police detective witnessed the crash of the Apache helicopter from the Army National Guard.

According to Shank, who was beginning a vacation in

Florida at the time of the crash, he witnessed the erratic movements of the helicopter flying at tree-top level. After a violent counter-rotation at very low altitude, the helicopter was seen to dip behind the tree line. A black plume of smoke confirmed the disaster.

Shank exited the highway and broke through a padlocked gate which obstructed the only entrance leading to the location of the rising smoke. At the end of a small private airstrip located deep in the woods, Shank found the helicopter, laying upright and engulfed in flames. Shank

and his brother took immediate action to search for survivors. The tail rotor of the helicopter was torn from the fuselage, according to Shank. The cockpit remained intact and free of flames. The voice of the pilot was heard shouting from the tall grass nearby. Apparently thrown free from the aircraft upon impact, the pilot suffered severe burns and lacerations.

Shank immediately saw the co-pilot trapped in the seat in the cockpit. His helmet was ablaze as he struggled to free himself from the seatbelt. Shading his face from the heat and flames, Shank moved toward the cockpit. Fire forced him to retreat. Shank tried again with the same result. On a third attempt an explosion rocked the craft and engulfed the cockpit in flames.

A shifting wind continued to ignite the dry grass around the Shanks and the injured pilot. Shank quizzed the downed pilot as to the possibility of munitions being on board and was assured that none were aboard.

As the flames continued to ignite the dry grass and inch closer to the three, county emergency units arrived and began fighting the enlarging fire. A rescue unit cared for the pilot and struggled to reach the body of the co-pilot. The ordeal of saving the life of the Army aviator still had a few capricious twists left for the Shanks. Having left the crash site, the Shanks continued on their vacation unaware of an all-points police bulletin which had been issued for them throughout Florida. Upon arriving at their destination, sheriff's deputies met and immediately escorted them to a local hospital where Shank, his brother and their families were admitted for observation of magnesium poisoning, a dangerous effect of fire on today's sophisticated aircraft.

Avoiding the label of hero, Shank admits that he wished only that he was able to reach the scene of the crash moments earlier to have had a better possibility of saving the life of the trapped co-pilot.



LTC Marvin C. Horner, Chief of Maintenance for the 116th Tactical Fighter Wing, Georgia Air National Guard, congratulates Staff Sgt. Shank for his valiant efforts.

GaARNG implements U.S.A.R.S.

In an effort to improve esprit de corps and to create a greater sense of unit identity among soldiers, the Georgia Army National Guard (GaARNG) recently implemented the U.S. Army Regimental System-Army National Guard (USARS-ARNG).

The National Guard Bureau (NGB) released control of the six combat arms regiments in Georgia to the Adjutant General earlier this year. The combat arms regiments in Georgia are the 108th Armor in Calhoun, the 121st Infantry in Dublin, the 122nd Infantry in Winder, the 214th Field Artillery in Elberton, the 230th Field Artillery in Waycross and the 348th Cavalry in Griffin.

The new system, USARS-ARNG, replaces the Combat Arms Regimental System (CARS) which was created as a framework for battalions to continue their identity and affiliations to their parent regiments without restricting changes in force structure. Under CARS, the regiment continued to serve as the repository of lineage, honors, traditions and heraldry. Basically, CARS preserved the regimental number, but not the identity of the regiment, whereas USARS more closely resembles the "historical regiment."

"The basis for a regimental system, with regimental organization, is that a soldier joins a fighting unit, rises through the ranks of that fighting unit and leaves that fighting unit when he either gets out of the military or retires," said Maj. George Olney, Secretary of the General Staff of the GaARNG. "That's the system we live under, it's just that now, we're adding a layering of history and honorary leaders to the regiments," he added.

Behind the change was a study of what motivated soldiers to fight. "It was discov-

ered [in the study] that soldiers don't fight for ideals, soldiers don't even fight for survival, although that is very important. They fight for the peer group and their friends. That's been recognized for many, many years by knowledgeable combat leaders. Now, it's being recognized by the scientific community," Olney stated.

Unit esprit de corps and unit cohesion are essential characteristics of an effective fighting organization. Military history shows that units with esprit, a sense of tradition and pride in past achievements perform well in combat, according to the NGB study. The regiment was the primary tactical unit in the National Guard from the organization of the North, South and East Regiments in 1636 until 1959, when CARS was implemented.

The active Army implemented the USARS system several years ago and the Reserve components are implementing the historical regiment now and emphasizing the history part of it, according to Olney. He said there is no discernable change to the units involved, no money involved and no troop strength involved.

"The only involvement that you'll get now, is a deliberate effort to bring back older members of the unit to maintain a continuity over the decades," Olney continued.

The regiment had its roots in a particular community or geographical area within a State. It was not only the repository for history and tradition, but also served as the basic personnel organization. Before 1959, National Guard soldiers could spend their entire military careers in a particular regiment. In 1959, ARNG regiments were replaced by battle groups, which were later replaced by battalions.



Edward A. McCorvey, of Riverdale, gets his sergeant major insignia pinned on by his wife and Command Sgt. Maj. Billy Manning during a ceremony in Atlanta recently. (Photo by PFC Mike Hubbard, 124th PAD)

McCorvey receives sergeant major insignia

By Spec. Kimberly Ryan
124th Public Affairs Detachment

Former Pensacola, Fla., resident, Edward A. McCorvey, was promoted to sergeant major recently at a ceremony in Atlanta.

McCorvey, of Riverdale, is the new personnel sergeant for the Georgia Army National Guard's 118th Personnel Service Company in Atlanta. He was the first sergeant and enlisted band leader of the 116th Army Band in Atlanta for six years prior to his promotion.

"It's been a long, hard road. Getting my sergeant major insignia is my reward," said McCorvey.

The new personnel sergeant started his military career in the Army Reserve,

later converting to active duty in the 82nd Airborne Division Band. Following active duty, he has been a member of the Florida, Oklahoma, Washington D.C., Puerto Rico and Georgia Army National Guard.

McCorvey has earned the Army Achievement Medal, Good Conduct Ribbon, National Defense Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal, NCO Development Ribbon, Army Service Ribbon, Expert Rifle Badge and Master Parachutist Badge.

He is an aviation safety inspector with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Flight Standards District Office in Atlanta.



A Georgia Army National Guardsman fields a question about the "Dragon" missile launcher from State Rep. Lanett Stanley of Atlanta.



First Lieutenant David DeVore of Macon (center) greets State Sen. Tommy Olmstead of Macon, the lieutenant's father-in-law, and State Sen. Culver Kidd of Milledgeville.

Photo story

Legislators visit AT-89, observe combat training

by Staff Sgt. Elliott Minor and Spec. Kimberly Ryan, 124th Public Affairs Detachment



(Left) State Rep. Marvin Adams of Thomaston, greets one of his constituents, Spec. Kevin Ferguson, 20, also of Thomaston. Adams said he was impressed with the skill of the Georgia guard.

(Below) State Rep. Karen Irwin, of Winterville, stands in the turret of a Bradley Fighting Vehicle while observing combat training exercises.



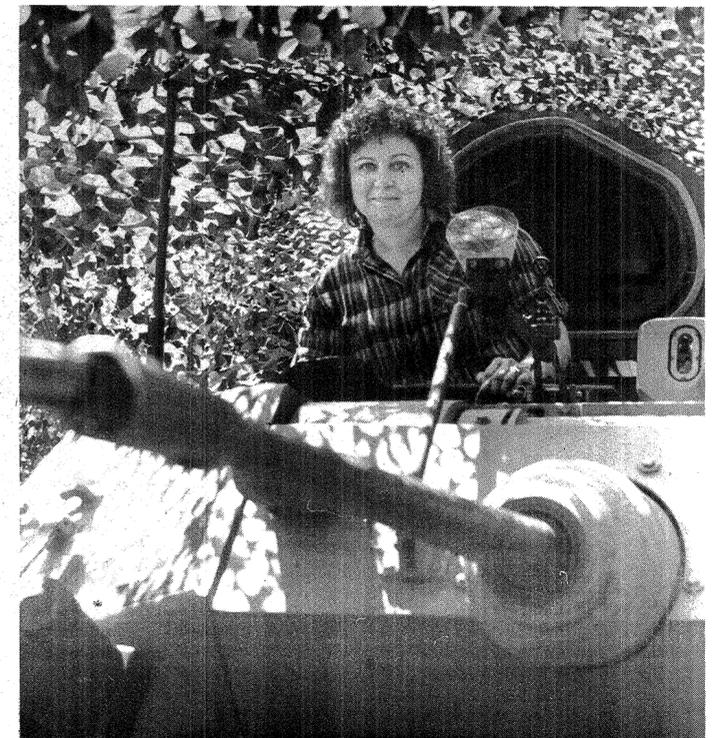
State Rep. C.J. Powell of Moultrie talks to a Georgia Army National Guard soldier during the legislative visit.



A member of the 148th Forward Support Battalion shows State Sen. Mac Collins of Jackson, the Bradley Fighting Vehicle during the visit. The 148th has units in Forsyth, Sparta, Jackson, Metter and Macon.



Sgt. 1st Class David Burford of the 148th Forward Support Battalion explains the firing mechanism of the M-16 rifle to State Rep. Larry Smith of Flovilla.





TWO OF A KIND — Spec. John Hutwagner, left, and Spec. Lawrence Hutwagner inventory equipment used recently for annual training at Camp Blanding, Florida. The brothers are members of the Georgia Army National Guard's 122nd Rear Area Operations Center (RAOC) in Lawrenceville. (Photo by Spec. Mattie Jones, 124th PAD)

Brothers 'help one another,' the GaARNG's 122nd ROAC

By Spec. Kimberly Ryan,
124th Public Affairs Detachment

They have the same hobbies, work for the same company and are in the same National Guard unit. You'd think these brothers are twins, but they aren't.

Spec. John Hutwagner, 25, and Spec. Lawrence "Eddie" Hutwagner, 24, have much more in common than just their last name.

Both have been in the Georgia Army National Guard's 122nd Rear Area Operations Center (RAOC) in Lawrenceville for about five years. They enlisted after high school for the educational benefits.

Both Hutwagners were graduated a year apart from Berry College, in Rome, with bachelor's degrees in industrial technology. "We've had many of the same interests since ninth grade," said Eddie. "I guess we aren't very original."

Even though the brothers don't look alike, they are often confused. "Sometimes our paperwork is mixed up and people in the unit call me by my brother's name," said John.

Sibling rivalry is not a problem with the brothers. "We have learned to help one another instead of competing for

everything," said John.

For example, one brother assigned kitchen duty might trade with the other brother who is assigned overnight office duty. "We work well together," said Eddie.

John is a radio teletype operator, while Eddie is an illustrator for the 122nd RAOC.

A RAOC unit is responsible for coordinating intelligence and troop movement for rear echelon troops during battle.

Unlike most units in the Georgia guard, the RAOC trains at Camp Blanding, Florida, near Jacksonville. During annual training, members of the 122nd RAOC are presented with "what if" situations while simulating a wartime atmosphere," said John. "We then make recommendations to deal with the situation."

John, of Atlanta, is a quote coordinator for Automotive Development Associates in Newnan. Eddie, of Morrow, is an associate engineer for the same company.

Both share the same hobbies as well. "We design and build furniture and enjoy fishing and hunting," said Eddie.

John, the older brother, is married. This is one of the few ways to distinguish between the Hutwagner brothers.

Air Force Tech. Sgt. reveals total costs of D.U.I.

Driving Under the Influence — One Man's Story

(Reprinted from *The Seymour Johnson Scope*)

This informative and always timely article is especially relevant now, with the holiday season fast approaching.

We've all read articles about "what might happen" if we're caught driving under the influence of alcohol. A technical sergeant at Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C., found out "what does happen." This is his story:

"January 25 began like any other day for me. Nothing significant happened until, after work, I decided to stop at the NCO Club for a couple of beers and maybe a little pool.

One thing led to another, and the next thing I knew it was 10:30 p.m. I realized I should be getting home, and against my better judgment, I decided it was OK to drive.

On the way, a traffic light ahead turned yellow. I entered the intersection thinking I had time to clear the light. I didn't. The light turned red with my car right under it.

Unfortunately for me, a Goldsboro policeman saw all of this happen. Before long I was in the back seat of a police cruiser in handcuffs, having failed the field sobriety test. My blood-alcohol level was .19.

I was charged with driving while impaired and was put in jail. There, I waited for my first sergeant to bail me out. This was only the beginning of the huge price to be paid.

First, there is the punishment I face on base. My driving privileges on base have been revoked for one year. My wife may drive, but must have a DUI identification sticker on her car.

I received a letter of reprimand and was entered into drug and alcohol abuse treatment through social actions, and I must attend Alcoholics Anonymous meetings twice a week. I will be in these treatments for one year.

During that year I cannot change stations, re-enlistment may be denied if my commander so chooses, my leave will be monitored strictly and, finally, I cannot touch alcohol.

Then there is the punishment I face off base. I was found guilty of DUI in Wayne County District Court March 16.

They sentenced me to 120 days in the county jail, but suspended the sentence in lieu of two years' probation. I must pay a \$120 fine, \$40 for court costs, provide 48 hours of community service worth \$50 within 30 days and must have a \$125 alcohol evaluation performed at my expense by the Wayne County Mental Health Department.

Expensive, isn't it? Well, it gets worse — much worse. The mental health department, due to my blood-alcohol level, entered me into still another drug and alcohol education and counseling. The \$125 I mentioned earlier only covers the initial evaluation and first day of education.

The education phase will last 16 hours — twice a week for four weeks, two hours per session. The cost, based on the pay of a technical sergeant, is \$25 per hour, for a total of \$368.

After education, the counseling phase will begin. I will enter therapy at \$11.50 per hour until the counselors feel I no longer need to attend. If this counseling lasts six months at one hour per week, it will cost me \$299. A year would cost \$598.

Now for the worst financial punishment of all. Car insurance for my 1976 Nova and 1988 Civic was \$450 for six months. This DUI increased this rate by 450 percent to an almost unbelievable \$2,055 for that same six months.

During the next three years, car insurance will cost me \$12,150. That's \$337.50 a month, every month of those three years, simply because of a stupid decision to drive when I had been drinking.

There is another type of cost that is very important to me — the cost to my family. I have been a burden on my wife to drive me anywhere I need to be. The financial burden has also made things tense. I have to live with the knowledge that my 4-year-old son will be deprived of many things we would like him to have, including quality time with me, since I have to be at those sessions four nights a week.

The exact amount this DUI will cost me is \$10,158. Is it hard to believe? Not for me. I face it every day. Personal time, which also is very important to me, is almost nonexistent. My career — is in grave jeopardy and, of course, the embarrassment is very severe.

I thank God no one was hurt or killed in my DUI. But too often, that isn't the case.

Please don't drink and drive. It's not worth losing all these things I've mentioned — your career, family, self-respect and maybe your life.

I don't suggest everyone stop drinking. I only ask — I plead — that you use common sense when you drink.

If you're going to drink, simply arrange sober transportation home. A taxi fare is significantly cheaper and smarter all the way around.

A final word to all supervisors: please take care of your people. Let them know they can call you for a ride or help in getting one if they're stranded somewhere after drinking. Make every effort to be available for them.

The time you sacrifice may save someone's life.

Terrain Management Section maps the way through dangerous territory

By Spec. Mattie Jones,
124th Public Affairs Detachment



Staff Sgt. Obie King readies a map for a training class held by the Terrain Management Section (TMS) of the 122nd Rear Area Operations Center (RAOC) in Lawrenceville. (Photo by Spec. Mattie Jones, 124th PAD)

As if it weren't hard enough being responsible for yourself during wartime, how would you like the awesome responsibility of carrying the weight of an entire Georgia Army National Guard unit's safety on your shoulders?

That is the mission of the Terrain Management Section (TMS) of the 122nd Rear Area Operations Center (RAOC) in Lawrenceville. The eight-member team is one of the smallest sections in the unit — but with one of the largest missions.

Should the Georgia Guard ever go to war, we would serve as tactical coordinators, according to Staff Sgt. Obie King. Located in the rear, the section would track enemy movement along main thoroughfares to prevent ambushes. There would be no troop or vehicle movement without consultation with this eight-man crew.

Military police would physically patrol the roads. They would in turn report findings to TMS. As other units prepare to move, they would contact TMS, whose members would provide the safest and quickest route.

The unit recently returned from its annual training at Camp Blanding, Fla., near Jacksonville. While there, the unit took part in Vulcan Nite '89, a reinforcement exercise, according to Sgt. Floyd Harris, a TMS member. "We drilled with units from all over the U.S., Canada and Germany," he added. "We learned from them as they learned from us."

Section members say that RAOC is the best unit in the Georgia Guard. There isn't a very high turnover, said King. Most of the people have been in the unit for years, Harris added.

Both soldiers live in Decatur and commute to Lawrenceville for their weekend training.

Engineers lay 'razor-sharp' trap

By Staff Sgt. Elliott Minor,
124th Public Affairs Detachment

Troops of the 560th Engineer Battalion dug ditches, strung razor-sharp concertina wire, laid minefields and blew road craters to delay tank attacks during their annual training at Fort Stewart.

Members of the battalion drill at armories in Columbus, Griffin, Dawson, Montezuma, Reynolds, Bainbridge and Thomasville.

They arrived for two weeks of annual training and moved to the field with their bulldozers, front-end loaders and dump trucks.

On one of their missions, Staff Sgt. Carlton Powell and a dozen other members of Company D sat in the middle of a 500-acre field awaiting a tank battle. One guardsman rested in the shade of a small

persimmon tree while others munched on scuppernon grapes that grow wild in the area.

When their supplies arrived, they unloaded rolls of concertina wire and began stringing it across the field.

"Tanks are hard to destroy if you shoot them in the front," said Powell of Thomasville. "This wire will make them turn sideways so we can destroy them."

Combat engineers build obstacles on battlefields, fix roads and set up temporary bridges. They also use explosives to destroy roads, bridges and enemy obstacles.

Because they are likely to be close to the battlefield, combat engineers keep M-16 rifles, rocket launchers and other weapons handy to defend themselves against enemy attacks.

GaARNG flag football team opens second season

Showing considerable improvement since last year, the Georgia Army National Guard flag football team stands at 3-2, slightly more than halfway through the 1989 Fort McPherson Intramural Flag Football League season.

We've got a young team, and some new players since last year," said Staff Sgt. Juan D. Davis, head coach. "But, they've showed a lot of spirit so far."

The Georgia Guard team opened its second season of league play with impressive consecutive wins against two opponents from Fort McPherson — U.S. Army Information Systems Command (USAISC) and U.S. Army Health Clinic (USAHC). But since then, the Guard team has dropped two out of three — with

losses to Fort Mac's Law Enforcement Activity (LEA) and Fort Gillem's 2nd Recruiting Brigade sandwiched around a win against Company A of the U.S. Army Garrison on Fort Mac.

"We need to work harder in practice," said Staff Sergeant Davis, who serves as Training NCO for both the Georgia Guard's 116 U.S. Army Band and the 124th Public Affairs Detachment, each of Atlanta. But I see no reason why we can't finish up 6-2 for the season."

After the regular season, the Georgia Guard team will join the other eight league teams in a single elimination playoff to determine a league champion for 1989.

NGASC needs help for 'Hugo' victims

By William H. Shackelford, Col. (Ret), SCARNG

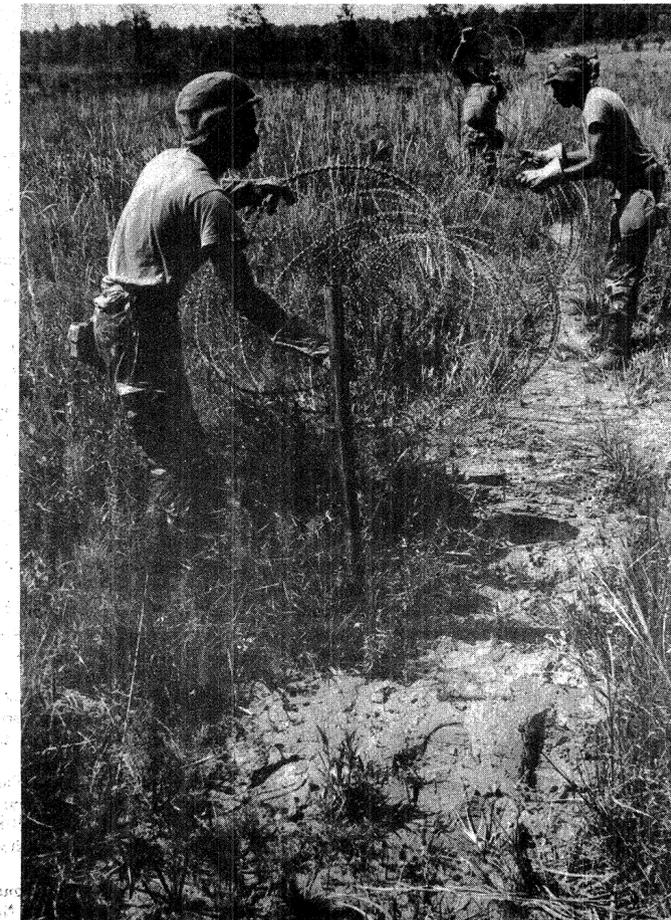
South Carolina has been devastated by the wrath of Hurricane Hugo. Beaches from Folly Beach, south of Charleston, all the way to the North Carolina border have been damaged beyond imagination and belief. Inland cities were crushed by winds exceeding 100 miles per hour as far as 175 miles from the coast. Photographs fail to portray the immensity of this disaster and it will be many years before the scars are covered.

Ever since September 21, thousands of South Carolina National Guard soldiers have been on duty assisting in recovery efforts. Many of these are themselves victims of the hurricane, having lost homes, automobiles, and, in many instances, all of their personal possessions.

The National Guard Association of South Carolina (NGASC) has established a Hurricane Hugo Relief Fund to be used specifically to help members and families of the National Guard who need financial help. We are asking fellow Guard members from other states to assist us in this effort. Any financial contributions you can make will be gratefully appreciated. Every penny will be used to provide relief. All administrative costs will be paid by the National Guard Association of South Carolina. If any funds are unused, they will be donated to the American Red Cross and the Salvation Army.

This effort has been approved by the Adjutant General of South Carolina, Major General T. Eston Marchant.

Please make your checks payable to the NGASC Hurricane Hugo Relief Fund and mail to the National Guard Association of South Carolina, 924 South Stadium Road, Columbia, South Carolina 29201. On behalf of the many who will benefit from this effort we thank you from the bottom of our hearts.



Three Thomasville-area guardsmen with the 560th Engineer Battalion set a trap for "enemy" tanks with concertina wire during annual training. (Photo by 124th PAD)

Promotion to E5, above requires HS/GED diploma

Readiness, Competitiveness depends on education

By Capt. Laura Wickett, Education Service Officer, Georgia Army National Guard

The decline of educational skills and achievement among American citizens is a controversial topic all across the nation today. Our government, schools, businesses, financial institutions and military could become "second-rate," unless greater emphasis is placed on education in the home, school and workplace.

"There is no way in which the United States can remain competitive in a global economy, maintain its standard of living and shoulder the burden of the retirement of the baby boom generation unless we mount a forceful national effort to help adults upgrade their basic skills in the very near future." (Jump Start: The Federal Role in Adult Literacy, GED ITEMS, pp. 1-3, Vol. 6, No. 2, March/April 89)

Basic skills mean . . . going back to teaching fundamental reading comprehension and writing skills. Soldiers lacking the very basic of reading and writing skills obviously perform lower on the Skills Qualification Test (SQT) and have difficulty completing military training such as the Primary Leadership Development Course (PLDC). The soldiers in the National Guard are a microcosm of society. The skills needed to perform in the work force are the same skills needed to perform their military duties.

"People who can't read and write, can't work. Yet 35 percent of the adult population of Georgia is functionally illiterate. Of the state's high school students, 37 percent fail to graduate. ("Barking Dogs! Warn that the Wolf is at the Door," by Durwood McAlister, *The Atlanta Journal*, Section A, p. 10, April 18, 1989)

The Georgia Army National Guard (GaARNG) recognizes the extent of the problems associated with illiteracy and has taken steps to eliminate it from its ranks.

The Education Service Office at GaARNG State Headquarters has been providing resources for units to develop a General Education Development (GED) program for the past three years. Since January 1989, a soldier must have a high school diploma or its equivalency in order to be promoted to or beyond E5 in the National Guard. Also, National Guard soldiers must now have a high school diploma or GED certificate to attend the PLDC or the Basic Noncommissioned Officers Course (BNOC).

Staff Sgt. Ralph Gaddy, a member of Company C, 560th Engineer Battalion of the GaARNG in LaGrange, sets an example for all noncommissioned officers (NCOs) to emulate. Realizing he would not be promoted beyond the grade of E-6, Staff Sgt. Gaddy, with the support of his wife, took the initiative and went back to high school to earn his General Education Development (GED) diploma.

Earlier this year, Staff Sgt. Gaddy took the time to share his success story with me, Capt. Laura Wickett, the Education Service Officer (ESO) for the GaARNG.

GED Success Story

ESO Interviews Staff Sgt. Ralph Gaddy

Capt. Wickett - Where were you born and where did you attend school, Sgt. Gaddy?

Staff Sgt. Gaddy - I was born in Camden County, right on the line of Byrd and Colquitt. I started school in Colquitt and then we moved to Troup [County], then to Meriwether County and Heard

County. I didn't attend school prior to the 8th grade or anywhere until I went to school for two years to get my GED [diploma].

Capt. Wickett - You actually didn't have any formal schooling until you entered the 8th grade?

Staff Sgt. Gaddy - That's right. I finished the 7th [grade] and didn't go any in the 8th [grade].

Capt. Wickett - Why was that?

Staff Sgt. Gaddy - You see, my mother was sick in bed for 20 years and I was the only one in the family - my father had to work and we couldn't afford someone to look after her. I finished two years in school and never even entered the door. The teacher would come by in the morning and assign my homework and come by in the afternoon and grade it. I finished the 5th and 6th grades without going to school one day.

Capt. Wickett - When did you join the Guard?

Staff Sgt. Gaddy - January 15, 1957.

Recent GEDs

Congratulations to the following soldiers who have recently received their GED certificates:

Sgt. Benny G. Barnes, Co C, 1/108th Armor
Sgt. Dave Bragg, 165th Supply Co
Sgt. James N. Carr, 2/214th FA
Sgt. Charles M. Conaway, 165th Supply Co
Sgt. Ray Conner, 2/214th FA
Sgt. 1st Class Park C. Davison, Co A, 158th MI Bn
Spec. Charles Dolton, 178th MP Co
Staff Sgt. Ernest Fowler, Det 1, Co D, 1/121st Inf
Pfc. Thomas H. Gunter, Co B, 1/122nd Inf (TLAT)
Spec. Larry W. Henderson, Co A, 1/122nd Inf
Spec. Ricky D. Mikell, 165th Supply Co
Sgt. John D. Vickers, 848th Engr Co
Spec. Stanley W. Wiggins, 848th Engr Co
Spec. Johnny L. Winters, Co A, 1/121st Inf
Spec. Terry L. Wooten, HHB, 2/214th FA

Capt. Wickett - Which Guard units have you been assigned to?

Staff Sgt. Gaddy - Company C only. It used to be Company A, Recon Battalion, old 48th Division, but they changed from that to the 560th Engineer Battalion. That's where I have been all the time - one company.

Capt. Wickett - Why did you decide after all these years to go back to school and get your GED?

Staff Sgt. Gaddy - Well, I got to thinking. I was getting a pretty good ways down the road and I wondered if I was ever going to advance beyond E6. For retirement purposes, my plans are to get promoted to E7 and I knew I couldn't do that if I didn't get my GED. So I went to school for two years at night. My wife and I both did, at the same time.

Capt. Wickett - Did you do this on your own or was it a part of the 560th's GED program?

Staff Sgt. Gaddy - No, I did it on my own.

Capt. Wickett - Have you found the GED has helped you with regard to reading to family mem-

bers? Don't you have something in common with them now or did they even know you didn't have one [a high school education]?

Staff Sgt. Gaddy - No, they knew I didn't have a high school education. I am more than an average, accomplished reader. I finished two grades of school and never entered the door, so I had to read, comprehend and use a dictionary a lot more than most of the people who have gone to school and college. Actually I can read better than most college people you run up on now.

Capt. Wickett - What part of the GED did you find the most difficult to prepare yourself for?

Staff Sgt. Gaddy - Science and social studies. I was never interested in science in school. Social studies is the overall concept of everything you've studied from the ABC's on through, so you've got to comprehend all that to be able to understand it. One thing, if you stay out of school - see there was 30 years I wasn't in school - it's hard to get yourself back into good study habits. In other words, to be able to really study, you've got to more or less make yourself do it. It's really hard to get back in the groove. Another thing, the older you get, the harder it is to retain material in your mind because you don't learn as quickly as you did, when you were younger.

Capt. Wickett - You probably read the newspaper and books at home even though you didn't attend school. At the age you began studying for your GED certificate, did you discover contradictions in what the text books said and what you had learned through experience and read previously on your own? If so, was it confusing or did it help clarify things you had been reading all those years?

Staff Sgt. Gaddy - Well, it helped clarify a lot of the stuff I didn't quite understand or get the picture of; but, there is no substitute for experience. If you can combine the experience and then try to add something to it, in the way of learning, then I think you are on the right road. If you can't combine those two, I don't think you will make it.

Capt. Wickett - How many children do you have?

Staff Sgt. Gaddy - I have two.

Capt. Wickett - Did they complete high school?

Staff Sgt. Gaddy - Oh yeah. My son and daughter both have two and a half years of college.

Capt. Wickett - Did you push them to go to school because you did not have the opportunity to go to school?

Staff Sgt. Gaddy - No. I did not push, as such. I just made a plain statement. I said, "You are going." I never had any problems. They never mentioned quitting school to me or anything else because I think people who have children should get involved in their activities within the school and outside the school, where their children are concerned. I am a certified baseball, basketball and football official and I saw kids play four years in high school and I know their parents never came to see a game. If you don't back the kids in school, then what do you expect from them. You've got to be there to know what they are doing, how they're behaving, how they conduct themselves. That's my point of view on it.

Capt. Wickett - Do you run into many enlisted people in your unit, especially the early ranks, the E1s, E2s or E3s, who don't have their GED or high school diploma? Do they come and talk to you about why they quit high school?

Staff Sgt. Gaddy - No, not necessarily. People are self-conscious about that. It is hard to get somebody to talk about things like that. Usually, you let them open up first before you say anything because it is a ticklish situation. We've got some in our unit who really need to get it [a GED certificate], but whether they do it or not is entirely up to them.

Capt. Wickett - If I were one of those people who didn't have my GED and I came to you and said, "Sgt. Gaddy, I have been thinking about going, but you know my Dad and Mom never finished high school and they have done okay," what would be your advice to this soldier?

Staff Sgt. Gaddy - My advice, first off, would be to look at his situation and decide what way he wanted to go. I would say, "If you want to stay E2, E3, [or] E4 for 20 years or until you get out then I don't think you especially need it. But, if you plan to go up to E5 or E6 and stay in for 20 years, then you've got to have it." As I've already said, if you don't have a GED you can't be promoted to E5. I would tell them it would be to their benefit down the road. Because life is a one-way street, you don't back up on it. You either get it going down the road or you don't get it.

Capt. Wickett - You are not discouraging people from getting it, are you?

Staff Sgt. Gaddy - No. It is a personal choice of what they want to do with their life. In other words, if a person wants to improve himself in life, in society, they have to make a personal sacrifice to do it. You don't get anything for nothing. As I said, I went to school for two years at night and worked three nights a week. That's hard to do.

Capt. Wickett - At any time during your professional development in your work career did you feel that not having a GED or high school diploma kept you from getting promoted or being selected for higher paying positions?

Staff Sgt. Gaddy - Oh yes, no doubt. I've run jobs, down through the years, where I did what I call a splendid job. [I] ran it well. When it came time to move up, they looked at my record and saw I didn't even have a high school education. Well, naturally they went on to the next person.

Capt. Wickett - Do you feel that now that you have your GED it will help you with future promotions here?

Staff Sgt. Gaddy - Oh yes, it sure will. Not only that, but I now have a bunch of schools behind me, besides my GED. Your employer looks at all that sort of stuff when job promotion time comes. He looks for the qualifications of the people he already has and if he doesn't have the qualified people already, then he goes out and finds them.

Capt. Wickett - Now that you have your GED, have you entertained any thoughts of going on for higher education with all the GI bill benefits we have?

Staff Sgt. Gaddy - No, not really. You see, I am only 5 years away from retirement. What I am mostly going to be looking at now is vocational type schools, where I could go and improve my knowledge in the field I am working in, which is mechanical.

Capt. Wickett - Did you know that the tuition assistance program now pays for vocational training, too?

Staff Sgt. Gaddy - It does? Good.

Capt. Wickett - You said both you and your wife went to school together. Did that make it easier for you, having your spouse go with you?

Staff Sgt. Gaddy - Oh yes. We studied together. We disagreed a lot about the way to work problems and that sort of stuff but she got some ideas from me, I got some from her and we combined them, worked them out and it benefited both of us.

Capt. Wickett - How did you feel sitting in that classroom?

Staff Sgt. Gaddy - To start off with, we felt a little bit cramped and a little out of place, but after the first two or three months it started weaving together and we didn't think anything about it. We had them [students] in there from 18 to 53 years old, which was my age at that time.

Capt. Wickett - How many years ago did you do this?

Recent College Graduates

Congratulations to the following soldiers who received college degrees from Brenau College this year:

Capt. Howard E. Brandon, HHD, Troop Command, Decatur, GA
Staff Sgt. Glyn V. Fancher, Det 1, HHB, 1/230th FA, Jesup, GA
Capt. John K. Gallman, Det 1, HHB, 1/230th FA, Jesup, GA
Sgt. James D. Riggins, HHB (-), 1/230th FA, Waycross, GA
Maj. Stephen D. Scott, HQ, Troop Command, Decatur, GA

Staff Sgt. Gaddy - Four to six years ago. We graduated in 1985. We started in 1983.

Capt. Wickett - I think it is wonderful, I really do. I hope this is an inspiration to a lot of people your age and even younger. Did your commander say anything when you told him you had gotten your GED certificate?

Staff Sgt. Gaddy - Oh yes, he said, "I knew you could do it." After I got my GED; I put in for it [promotion] again and they came down with another directive. You had to go to PLDC and BNOC. Now I have PLDC behind me so I have to go back and get BNOC before I get promoted. All in all, the educational part of it is not something to look at and say, "Well, I don't know if I need this or not." You've got to have it now. There's no way around it. You either get your education and get qualified or you just sit there like a stump.

Capt. Wickett - Do you have any words of wisdom and experience that you would like to say in closing?

Staff Sgt. Gaddy - Well, the only thing I would say to a young person coming into the Guard, first of all, is don't jump to conclusions about what you want to do. I would come in, get my obligation over with and then sit down and ask myself, "Is this what I want?" Do I want to put any more time in the Guard? If you are going to stay for 20 years, make sure you get your education and service schools behind you. Then as the promotion slots come open and you are qualified, you can move on up. But if you don't lay the groundwork before you get there, you are not going to make it. That, more or less, is it in a nut shell. It boils down to this. A person does or will do what they want to. But they have got to have the self-motivation within themselves to do it. Now you can hammer their heads against the wall



Col. Michael J. Bowers, deputy Chief of Staff of Georgia Air National Guard, presents the Individual Flying-Hour Milestone Award at the ceremony in honor of Senior Master Sgt. Kenneth Walters.

MAC presents accident-free award

Senior Master Sgt. Kenneth E. Walters of the 165th Tactical Airlift Group has attained a milestone in accident-free flying hours with the United States Air Force. In reaching the 15,000 mishap-free flying hours, Walters was presented with an Individual Flying-Hour Milestone Award from the Military Airlift Command. Few airmen reach this milestone.

Walters joined the 158th Fighter Interceptor Squadron in 1954. (The 158th FIS later became the 165th TAC). From 1954 until April 1962, Walters' contact with U.S. Air Force aircraft varied from F-84D's, F84F's, to F-86's. In April of 1962, Walters' career with the Georgia Air National Guard was changed to a Flight Engineer on the recently assigned C-97's of the 165th Tactical Airlift Group. Walters' then flew on the C-97's, C-124's and the C-130 Hercules currently assigned.

Walters' contributions to the mission of the 165th TAC is endless. During the Southeast Asia Conflict, Walters and his crews airlifted tons of equipment and supplies, as well as personnel, to Southeast Asia. Later, he was consistently volunteering to participate in exercises such as Volant Oak, Gallant Eagle, Quick Thrust, and Volant Shield. Lt. Col. James Nottoli, Commander 158th TAS, stated, "Senior Master Sgt. Walters is totally involved with the mission of the 165th Tactical Airlift Group."

Senior Master Sgt. Walters is now retired from the Georgia Air National Guard. Since his retirement, he spends his spare time fishing, making knives and wood-working. He is also involved constructing ramps, trays and slides to assist wheelchair bound persons. He lives on Isle of Hope in Savannah with his wife, the former Geraldine Bazemore.

Awards . . .

The Georgia Distinctive Service Award
 Capt. Thomas F. Taylor, HQS 1/214th FA Bn, Elberton
 Sgt. 1st Class Raymond N. DeLaigle, Jr., Btry C, 1/214th FA, Waynesboro
 Staff Sgt. Joseph E. Davis, HHB, 2/214th FA, Statesboro

The Georgia Medal for Valor
 1st Lt. Davis S. Lee, Btry C, 1/230th FA, Savannah
 2nd Lt. Richard K. Straut, Co B, 1/244th Avn Rgt, Winder
 Sgt. Ernesto S. Ford, 138th Med Co, Atlanta
 Spec Thomas A. Brown, 178th MP Co, Monroe

The Good Conduct Medal
 Staff Sgt. Jerrold Hinton, HD STARC, Atlanta

The United States Meritorious Service Medal
 Lt. Col. Jesse H. Minix, HQS STARC, Atlanta
 Chief Warrant Officer Frank A. Eidson, HQS STARC, Atlanta
 Chief Warrant Officer Ronald S. Lohmeier, HHC 265th Engr Gp, Marietta
 Command Sgt. Maj. King D. Laviner, Jr., HHC, 265th Engr Gp, Marietta
 Command Sgt. Maj. Ernest C. Morgan, 148th Fwd Spt Bn, Forsyth
 Command Sgt. Maj. Jerry D. Slade, HHC(-), 48th Inf Bde, Macon
 Sgt. 1st Class Gregory C. Sampson, Sr., HQS 148th Fwd Spt Bn, Forsyth
 Sgt. 1st Class Melvin L. Thaxton, HHD, 148th Fwd Spt Bn, Forsyth

The Georgia Commendation Medal
 BC Charlton B. McArthur, 121st US Army Reserve Command, Birmingham
 Col. Homer E. Davis, HW, STARC, Nashville
 Col. Joseph B. Hutchinson, 2nd U.S. Army Support Office
 Col. George H. Moseley, HQS STARC, St. Augustine
 Col. George P. Perdue, Trng Site Spt Det, Hinesville
 Col. Robert L. Powell, Senior Army Advisor Group, Atlanta
 Lt. Col. Harry A. Smith, Senior Army Advisor Group, Atlanta
 Lt. Col. Charles B. Sikes, HQ STARC, Atlanta
 Lt. Col. Richard F. Riggs, HD STARC, Atlanta
 Lt. Col. Alan L. Hinson, 2nd Army Readiness Group, Atlanta
 Lt. Col. Cleburne L. Webb, HQS, 3rd ROTC Region, Fort Riley
 Maj. Douglas M. Brantley, Jr., HD STARC, Atlanta
 Chief Warrant Officer Eli M. Evans, HD STARC, Atlanta
 Chief Warrant Officer Joe E. King, HD STARC, Atlanta
 Chief Warrant Officer C. Cuyler McKnight, III, HD STARC, Atlanta
 Chief Warrant Officer James A. Weitman, HD STARC, Atlanta
 Army Sgt. Maj. Pledge M. Cannon, Senior Army Advisor Group, Atlanta
 Command Sgt. Maj. Samuel G. Smith, 2nd US Army, Ft. Gillem
 Sgt. Maj. Joe D. Allen, Senior Enlisted Advisor, Ft. Gillem
 Sgt. Maj. James E. Brewer, HD STARC, Atlanta
 Sgt. Maj. Albert Hart, HD STARC, Atlanta
 Sgt. Maj. Robert C. Jett, 265th En Gp, Marietta
 Master Sgt. Neil G. Russell, 118th FA Bde, Savannah
 Master Sgt. Thomas F. Carner, Jr., HD STARC, Atlanta
 Master Sgt. Larry F. Jewell, Readiness Group, Ft. Gillem
 Master Sgt. Roger N. Walters, Readiness Group, Ft. Gillem
 Sgt. 1st Class Freddie L. Chappell, HD STARC, Atlanta
 Sgt. 1st Class Jimmy C. Fletcher, HD STARC, Atlanta
 Sgt. 1st Class Douglas McCoy, HD STARC, Atlanta
 Sgt. 1st Class John U. Rogers, HD STARC, Atlanta
 Sgt. 1st Class Tommy Spikes, HD STARC, Atlanta
 Staff Sgt. Robert A. Grimaud, HD STARC, Atlanta
 Staff Sgt. Julia V. Heyward, HQ STARC, Atlanta
 Staff Sgt. Rufus L. Love, HD STARC, Atlanta
 Staff Sgt. Rudolph J. Martin, HD STARC, Atlanta
 Staff Sgt. Doreen E. Tracy, HD STARC, Atlanta
 Staff Sgt. Michael E. Walker, HD STARC, Atlanta
 Staff Sgt. Allen C. Wells, HD STARC, Atlanta
 Sgt. Gary A. Arnold, HD STARC, Atlanta
 Sgt. John L. Cleghorne, HD STARC, Atlanta
 Sgt. Thomas E. Dorsey, HD STARC, Atlanta
 Sgt. Joshua A. Johnson, Btry A, 1/230th FA, Brunswick
 Sgt. Pearl M. Lloyd, HD STARC, Atlanta
 Sgt. Alfred T. Martin, 118th PSC, Atlanta
 Sgt. Ricky R. Moore, HD STARC, Atlanta
 Spec. Aubrey C. Berry, HD STARC, Atlanta

Spec. Joseph A. Dickey, HD STARC, Atlanta
 Spec. Michael L. Flowers, HD STARC, Atlanta
 Spec. Navy L. Johnson, HD STARC, Atlanta

The Army Achievement Award
 Col. Tommie R. Lewis, HQ STARC, Atlanta
 Lt. Col. Robert T. Baird, III, HQ STARC, Atlanta
 Lt. Col. Johnny D. Brown, 110th Maint Bn, Decatur
 Maj. Gregory B. Edwards, HD, Troop Command, Decatur
 Maj. John D. Gaines, HHC, 2/21st Inf, Albany
 Maj. Henry C. Pickelsimer, Jr., HHC, 265th Engr Gp, Marietta
 Capt. Timothy D. Becton, Svc Btry, 1/214th FA, Elberton
 1st Lt. Thomas J. Prime, HQS 878th Engr Bn, Augusta
 Chief Warrant Officer Paul E. Hoffman, HQ STARC, Atlanta
 Chief Warrant Officer C. Cuyler McKnight, III, HD STARC, Atlanta
 Warrant Officer Daniel M. Wallace, HQS 151st Mi Bn, Dobbins
 Command Sgt. Maj. Billy C. Manning, HD STARC, Atlanta
 Sgt. Maj. John T. McMillan, HD STARC, Atlanta
 1st Sgt. Jack L. McGill, Co C, 1/108th AR, Dalton
 Sgt. First Class Troy V. Powers, HD STARC, Atlanta
 Sgt. First Class Tracy J. Smith, 178th MP Co, Monroe
 Staff Sgt. Charles F. Hogan, 118th PSC, Atlanta
 Staff Sgt. Gordon F. Strong, HQ STARC, Atlanta
 Staff Sgt. Ruth A. Crowell, HQ STARC, Atlanta
 Sgt. Francis E. Davis, HQs 151st Mi Bn, Dobbins
 Sgt. Charles J. Johnson, Jr., 117th MASH, Atlanta
 Sgt. Yona R. Thornton, HD STARC, Atlanta
 Sgt. Jerome E. Vinson, 118th PSC, Atlanta
 Spec Anita V. James, 118th PSC, Atlanta

Air Force Commendation Medal
 Lt. Col. Edward J. Farrell
 Lt. Col. Robert B. Miller
 Lt. Col. Luther R. Reed
 Maj. William D. Bryan, Jr.
 Maj. James F. Jenkins
 Capt. Forrest D. Gann
 Capt. Michael E. Smith
 Chief Master Sgt. Arnold J. Deal
 Master Sgt. Jack L. Bean
 Master Sgt. Joe P. Collins, Jr.
 Master Sgt. George D. Palmer
 Tech Sgt. Patricia R. Dixon
 Tech Sgt. Ronald E. Grady
 Tech Sgt. Gary M. Smith
 Staff Sgt. Ronald D. Aikens
 Staff Sgt. John W. Taylor, III

Air Force Achievement Award
 Maj. Donald N. Edmonds, Jr.
 Maj. Michael W. Worley
 2nd Lt. William Collins, Jr.
 Chief Master Sgt. David Williams
 Master Sgt. James D. Arrington
 Master Sgt. Winston J. Baker, Jr.
 Master Sgt. Larry B. Bryant
 Master Sgt. James P. Ellis
 Master Sgt. John W. Humbles
 Master Sgt. Claude E. Smith
 Master Sgt. Pamela S. Wozniak
 Tech Sgt. Philip E. Bersch
 Tech Sgt. Edna A. East
 Tech Sgt. James W. Foster
 Tech Sgt. Albert W. Herrington
 Tech Sgt. Billy L. James
 Tech Sgt. John R. Larrick
 Tech Sgt. Royal V. Morgan
 Tech Sgt. Rochelle I. Nobinger
 Tech Sgt. Alicia W. Price
 Tech Sgt. Robert L. Walker, Jr.
 Staff Sgt. Robert L. Adams

Staff Sgt. Jo D. Browder
 Staff Sgt. Randy R. Cooper
 Staff Sgt. James R. Curtis
 Staff Sgt. Leticia T. Lyons
 Staff Sgt. Donnie R. Smith
 Staff Sgt. Robert D. Stanzland
 Staff Sgt. Cheryl L. Walter
 Staff Sgt. Robert M. Waters
 Staff Sgt. Clarence L. Williams

Air Force Service Medal
 MC James R. Mercer

Army Commendation Medal
 Maj. Henry W. McConnell, HQS STARC, Atlanta
 Capt. Charles W. Lewis, HQS STARC, Atlanta
 1st Lt. Cindy S. Lloyd, 277th Maint Co., Atlanta
 Sgt. Maj. William M. Orlean, Jr., HD STARC, Atlanta
 Sgt. Maj. John W. Campbell, HQ STARC, Atlanta
 Master Sgt. William E. Daniell, HQ STARC, Atlanta
 Staff Sgt. James N. Cumming, HD STARC, Atlanta
 Staff Sgt. Barry A. Bates, HD STARC, Atlanta
 Sgt. Wayne F. Horsley, HD STARC, Atlanta
 Sgt. Joseph Powell, HD STARC, Atlanta

Georgia Meritorious Service Medal
 Gen. Joseph T. Palastra, Jr., FORSCOM, Ft. McPherson
 Maj. Gen. Gerald H. Bethke, 2nd US Army, Ft. Gillem
 Col. Hugh L. Neisler, HQ STARC, Atlanta
 Lt. Col. Terrance R. Brand, HQ, 170th MP Bn, Atlanta
 Lt. Col. Richard A. Carter, Jr., HQ STARC, Atlanta
 Lt. Col. Harry A. Smith, US Army Advisor Group, Atlanta
 1st Sgt. John S. Phillips, 848th Engr Co, Douglas
 Sgt. 1st Class Clarence F. Cheek, Det 1, Co D, 1/21st Inf, Hawkinsville
 Sgt. Jeffery M. Boyd, Co A, 1/108th AR, Rome
 Spec. Clarence F. Chek, Det 1, Co D, 1/21st Inf., Hawkinsville
 Spec. Eddy R. Clark, Co A, 1/108th AR, Rome

Retired
 Command Sgt. Maj. King D. Laviner, 265th Engr Gp, Marietta
 Command Sgt. Maj. Ernest C. Morgan, 148th Fwd Spt Bn, Forsyth
 Command Sgt. Maj. Carner B. Williams, Jr, 122nd ROAC, Lawrenceville
 1st Sgt. Johnny S. Phillips, 848th Engr Co, Douglas
 Master Sgt. Paul H. Anderson, 148th Fwd Spt Bn, Forsyth
 Master Sgt. Harris D. Cofer, Co E, 1/122nd Inf, Washington
 Master Sgt. Clinton B. Crooms, HHQ, 48th Inf Bde, Macon
 Master Sgt. William R. Hancock, 148th Fwd Spt Bn, Forsyth
 Sgt. 1st Class James W. Barnes, 148th Fwd Spt Bn, Jackson
 Sgt. 1st Class James H. Brooks, 148th Fwd Spt Bn, Forsyth
 Sgt. 1st Class Robert E. Crumb, 1/230th FA, Ser Bt, Brunswick
 Sgt. 1st Class Pinkie B. Houser, HQ 560th Engr Bn, Columbus
 Sgt. 1st Class Roy D. Huckaby, Troop E, 348th Cav, Griffin
 Sgt. 1st Class Edward H. Law, 1177th Trans Co, Macon
 Sgt. 1st Class William C. Mayhin, Co C, 878th Engr Bn, Lyons
 Sgt. 1st Class Melvin C. Peugh, Co B, 560th Engr Bn, Reynolds
 Sgt. 1st Class James W. Shaw, 1/230th FA, Waycross
 Sgt. 1st Class Melvin L. Thaxton, 148th Fwd Sp Bn, Forsyth
 Staff Sgt. Charles D. Brown, Co A, 151st Mi Bn, Dobbins
 Staff Sgt. William T. Crox, 108th Armor, Calhoun
 Staff Sgt. Harmon J. Davis, 2/121st Inf, Tifton
 Staff Sgt. Tommy H. Hoeten, 148th Fwd Spt Bn, Jackson
 Staff Sgt. Curtis L. Jeffries, Tr Site Spt Det, Hinesville
 Staff Sgt. James A. Marshall, Co C, 2/121st Inf, Americus
 Staff Sgt. Dennis J. Palmer, 151st Mi Bn, Dobbins
 Staff Sgt. Carl M. Ratliff, Co A, 2/121st Inf, Valdosta
 Staff Sgt. Alfred Royals, 1/230th FA, Waycross
 Staff Sgt. Charles L. Strickland, Btry C, 2/214th FA, Springfield
 Staff Sgt. Samuel W. Williams, 82nd Maint Co, Toccoa
 Staff Sgt. Donald E. Zell, Co B, 1/108th Ar, Cedartown
 Sgt. Gary L. Suber, Co D, 2/121st, Moultrie
 Spec. 4 Bobby J. Brickle, Det. 1, 2/121st Inf, Tifton

National Guard Association of the United States News

Mobilization: The Reason for Readiness will be the 1990 theme of the National Guard Association of the United States, Major General Charles M. Kiefner, president, recently announced.

"The National Guard, especially in the last 10 years, has focused very heavily on training and readiness," Kiefner stated. "This theme gives us the opportunity to remind ourselves why we train as we do. The events and the lack of preparedness for mobilization leading up to World War II are excellent starting points for understanding the need for today's combat readiness in preparation for mobilization."

"Training is not glamorous; it is tedious, it is repetitive and it does not make the evening news," Kiefner pointed out. "And results are difficult to gauge. It is in Total Force competition, such as the recently completed Gunsmoke match, that the nation's defense leaders have the opportunity to see how well the Guard can operate and train with the equipment it receives."

At Gunsmoke, a worldwide Air Force competition for air to ground fighters, the Air National Guard finished first. The overall Top Team was the 169th Tactical Fighter Group (TFG) from the South Carolina National Guard.

The 169th TFG is a subordinate group of 116th Tactical Fighter Wing of the Georgia Air National Guard based at Dobbins AFB in Marietta, Georgia.

South Carolina's 169th TFG practiced for Gunsmoke at the Townsend Bombing Range near Hinesville, Georgia.

"South Carolina's top rating is a great barometer of the calibre of Guard training. They were flying the older version of the F-16 and came out on top of units flying more recent versions," Kiefner stated. "And there are other examples."

Among other examples cited by Kiefner were the Apache attack battalion in the North Carolina National Guard, the Blackhawk helicopter unit in Kentucky, the M1 and Bradley units in Mississippi and the Multiple Launch System unit in Oklahoma. These units, Kiefner stressed, were able to achieve Army readiness status in the proscribed time. The Air National Guard, Kiefner emphasized, has consistently reached conversion milestones ahead of schedule. These milestones, he pointed out, are established by the Air Force and are measured by Air Force inspection teams.

"We hope our 1990 theme, **Mobilization: The Reason for Readiness**, will help us all focus on the elements of readiness, and the need to further enhance National Guard readiness," Kiefner continued. "The National Guard provides value for the defense dollar. The Association's goal will be to increase that value even more in 1990."

"We in the National Guard Association have worked hard to insure that the National Guard

receives the resources required to train," Kiefner continued. "Without the most modern equipment available, without the soldiers and airmen filling out our ranks, we cannot train effectively."

Since 1878 the National Guard Association of the United States, now a 56,000 member organization, has diligently dedicated its efforts and expertise to increase the readiness of the militia and National Guard.

Activities promoting the 1990 theme culminate in the 112th General Conference to be held in Reno, Nevada, October 1-3, 1990.

Deadline extended for Award Nominations

In recognition of outstanding safety achievement, the State Safety Award of Merit will be awarded annually to deserving units of the Georgia Army National Guard (GaARNG).

Because this award is being made for the first time (based on fiscal year 1989 achievements) the deadline for nominations has been extended to Dec. 15. In the future, nominations for the award must be made no later than Nov. 1 of each year. Criteria outlined in Appendix O, Change 6, Georgia National Guard Regulation 672-1, 29Aug89, should be used by major commands and battalions in selecting their nominees.

Contact CW3 Ronald L. Ayers, autovon 338-6670 or commercial (404) 624-6670, for additional information.