

It's 'Back to the Future' for 32nd Brigade

At Ease Staff

The 3,900 soldiers of Wisconsin's largest Guard unit are going "back to the future" to stay relevant in the 21st-century Army, according to Maj. Gen. James G. Blaney, the state adjutant general.

The 32nd Infantry Brigade, now a mechanized brigade in the Minnesota-based 34th Infantry Division, will become a separate light infantry brigade, Blaney said. By shedding its heavy tracked vehicles — tanks, self-propelled howitzers and armored personnel carriers — the brigade will gain the agility now favored by the

leadership of the Army.

For the individual soldier, it means easier access to more relevant training. "We used to spend half the weekend riding buses to and from Fort McCoy, drawing our heavy equipment, or at the wash rack preparing to turn it in," said 32nd Brigade commander, Col. James Krueck. "Now most of our soldiers will be able to get right into the field in a local training area near their hometown armory."

"It's a good deal for our soldiers, and it's a good deal for the Wisconsin Army National Guard," said Brig. Gen. Kerry Denson, deputy adjutant general for Army.

"The 32nd Separate Infantry Brigade will again be a historic force from Wisconsin, with a nationally important mission."

The brigade is descended from the 32nd "Red Arrow" Division, an infantry outfit formed of Wisconsin and Michigan Guardsmen mobilized in 1916. The division earned its distinctive insignia, a vertical red arrow through a horizontal red bar, by piercing every enemy line it encountered in four World War I campaigns.

The Red Arrow Division was mobilized again in October 1940 before the United States entered World War II; played a key role in

capturing Buna, a strategic enemy stronghold in Papua New Guinea in 1942; and logged a total of 654 days in combat, more than any other U.S. Army division in any war.

In October 1961, President John F. Kennedy called the division to federal service during the Berlin Crisis; the unit served until August 1962 at Fort Lewis, Wash., before returning to Wisconsin. In 1967, the 32nd Division — by then made up entirely of Wisconsin units — was deactivated and reorganized as the 32nd Separate Infantry Brigade. In 1971, the brigade was converted to mechanized infantry.

"In returning to the 'straight-leg' infantry tradition of the Red Arrow Division, we are actually going back to the future," Blaney said. "The Army recognizes that its units have become too heavy; they need to lighten up to be quickly deployable anywhere in the world. Wisconsin's 32nd Brigade is going to be part of the solution."

After it is converted back to light infantry, Army officials plan to designate the 32nd an "enhanced" brigade, eligible for a higher level of funding and other resources than most National

Guard brigades receive.

"We will receive more than \$6 million a year in additional federal funds to operate our units and provide training and logistics support," he said. "In addition, we increase the number of physical assets, such as trucks and scoop loaders, which become available to the state in an emergency. We also will have positions for as many as 265 additional female soldiers, with positions for female soldiers more geographically dispersed than they are now."

"Most of all, the 32nd Brigade will have a relevant and viable federal mission," Blaney said, "and units that are relevant and viable get more federal support and a brighter, long-term future."

No Wisconsin community will lose its local Guard unit and no Guard member will lose a position in the infantry brigade's conversion, Blaney said. Although a community's Guard unit may change its mission or designation, most unit members will be able to continue attending unit drills in the community where they are now assigned.

See 'Red Arrow' page 5



Two Red Arrow infantrymen, their M-16 rifles ready, wait tensely under natural concealment. Wisconsin Army National Guard photo by Steve Olson.

at ease

Celebrating 24 years of service to members of the Wisconsin Army and Air National Guard and their families

Summer 2001

Community of excellence: Army Guard wins half-million

At Ease Staff

The pursuit of excellence has many rewards, including \$500,000 for the Wisconsin Army National Guard.

At a Pentagon ceremony on May 3, the Wisconsin Army Guard received the Army Communities of Excellence (ACOE) award as the top National Guard community in the nation and was presented a half-million dollars for its efforts. The \$500,000

will be used for facility improvements and other initiatives to improve the quality of life for soldiers in the Wisconsin Army Guard.

The award maintained the momentum of other recent ACOE successes for the Wisconsin Army Guard, which garnered third place awards in 1999 and 2000.

The Badger State was well represented in this year's ACOE awards, with Fort McCoy earning the distinction of the top

Army Reserve installation.

The ACOE program recognizes Army installations and organizations that have planned and executed effective strategies and programs for meeting the needs of those they serve.

"Award recipients were those who had improved their overall performance and demonstrated excellence in delivering high-quality products and services to customers," said Maj. Gen. Robert Van

Antwerp, the Army's chief of staff for installation management.

The installations and organizations did not compete against each other to achieve excellence. Instead, they were recognized based on the Army Performance Improvement Criteria, which focuses on self-examination.

In its ACOE Self-Assessment docu-

See 'ACOE' page 14

Wisconsin tanker, fighters join Air Force and Navy for 'dissimilar' training over Florida Straits

By Tim Donovan
At Ease Staff

KEY WEST NAVAL AIR STATION, Fla. — Approaching Key West Naval Air Station in the mid-afternoon of April 2, you get a sense this will be a busy place for the next couple of days.

The visiting Air Force C-21 Learjet is diverted past the Navy airfield on Boca Chica Key because the field will be "saturated" with traffic for a while. As the small twin-engine jet soars out over the Florida Straits, a dozen Navy and Air Force fighters are either taking off or landing below — and a two-ship formation of Navy C-2A Greyhounds flies past a few miles to the west.

On the ramp below, an Azerbaijan airliner has just dropped off president Heydar Aliyev and an official delegation for a peace conference with Armenian president Robert Kocharian the next day. Also expected at the Navy installation is Gen. Colin Powell, the former Joint Chiefs chairman who is now U.S.

secretary of state.

Adding to the crowded Key West ramp are five F-16 fighters from the Madison-based 115th Fighter Wing and a KC-135 tanker from Milwaukee's 128th Air Refueling Wing. The fighters are on a week-long deployment for "dissimilar air combat training," practicing their fighting skills against U.S. Navy F/A-18 Hornets. The tanker is there in support, not only transporting Madison's 35 ground support personnel — but also refueling the fighters on the cross country flight to south Florida and during their training missions.

It was a good opportunity for the two Wisconsin Air National Guard units to work together. Traveling with the Milwaukee tanker, Madison's jets could get to Key West in one efficient "package" with all the required fighter support personnel and equipment arriving in Florida on the same aircraft.

And both units would train in

See 'Keys' page 4



Two Navy F/A-18s fly alongside a 128th Air Refueling Wing KC-135 tanker during an air refueling mission over the Gulf of Mexico during an April deployment to Key West, Fla. Photo by Kelly Pensinger.

Editorials

Final tuition grant outcome not yet known, but Wisconsin will still offer a great benefit

When state revenue forecasts worsened earlier this year, the Legislature's budget-writing Joint Finance Committee looked to trim \$671 million from Gov. Scott McCallum's budget proposal.

There were few "sacred cows," and almost every state agency — including the Department of Military Affairs — had cuts proposed (see story on page 3).

With a small state budget, the National Guard's share of the pain was a proposed reduction to the tuition grant program. This action is subject to amendments in either house of the Legislature, further modifications in conference committee, and the governor's line-item veto pen.

As At Ease went to press in mid-June, the final chapter in the budget approval process is yet unwritten, but three things are known for sure:

- The Guard tuition grant has Gov. McCallum's support. He included it in his budget proposal in February and he reaffirmed it in an interview for the last issue of At Ease.

- The tuition program is *not* being eliminated. Reduced, maybe; eliminated, absolutely not.

- The Guard's leadership is working very hard to preserve this program in as close to its present form as possible — especially for soldiers and airmen already using the program to pay for their college tuition.

It is still too early to tell what our tuition program will look like after the legislative process is complete, but it is likely there will be some change.

However it turns out, when Gov. McCallum signs the 2001-2003 biennial budget into law it will include a valuable benefit which, when combined with the Montgomery G.I. Bill and other programs, should keep the doors to college open for our eligible members.

Last word on black berets

By Sept. 1, all members of the Wisconsin Army National Guard will be wearing the new Army black beret as their basic headgear (see story on page 13).

Ever since Army chief of staff Gen. Eric K. Shinseki made the surprise beret announcement last fall, there has been much debate on the Army's new headgear.

There should be no "beret debate" here in Wisconsin.

As members of the Wisconsin Army National Guard, we are expected to wear the official U.S. Army uniform — whatever that uniform is. In the past 20 years we have said good-bye to the venerable khaki uniform and to olive drab fatigues. Our fathers or grandfathers once wore brown boots, and our great-grandfathers' Army uniforms featured Sam Browne belts.

The point is: uniforms change.

On Sept. 1, the uniform will change again. Wear the new beret with the same pride you have in any uniform you have ever worn as a soldier in America's Army.

at ease

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at ease: TWENTY YEARS AGO...



Photo by Don Erickson

From the Summer 1981 edition:

Engineers from Company B, 724th Engineer Battalion, constructed a 100-yard long footbridge, left, across the Mississippi during Annual Training at Camp Ripley, Minn.

Other news from 20 years ago:

- Three Wisconsin Army Guard members were killed and one seriously injured when an OH-58 observation helicopter crashed at Fort McCoy during annual training. Nearly 150 members of the 32nd Mechanized Infantry Brigade searched for more than seven hours before the downed helicopter was found in thick woods on rough terrain.
- The 128th Tactical Air Support Wing of Madison received the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award. The wing received high marks in unit readiness, training and energy conservation.

Column left...CLICK!

By Keith Fenske
At Ease Staff

Attention all M-day soldiers, the Army National Guard now has a Web site for you!

Believe it or not, the Army National Guard has gone digital at www.virtualarmory.com.

I'll admit, when I was tipped off to this Web site, I wasn't expecting much. However, from the first flashy animated screen to the home page, I became more and more impressed.

Currently boasting more than 8,500 registered users, Virtual Armory is a unified information source that pulls together an array of valuable information for Army National Guard members and their families.

In order to view content on this Web site, you must first register. A secure Web page form asks for a few

pieces of information, which then verifies you are a soldier. I found the registration process very fast and easy to accomplish. Once logged in, you have sixteen different categories to choose from, including news, physical fitness, education, benefits and family. There's even a section where you can play games online.

Being rather impressed with the cosmetic aspects of the site, I started to explore the content. All too many times I have seen Web sites that look nice and flashy, but severely lack material that would make me want to return.

First, I viewed the site map. I received so many choices I didn't know where to go first! At my fingertips was information for new soldiers and career members alike, ranging from basic training tips to printable physical fitness journals. Even more impressive is the way the content is presented. Unlike text you are accustomed to reading in your favorite training or field manual, the content in Virtual Armory is well written, interesting, and motivating.

Do you have an upcoming Class A inspection and need to view a ribbon chart? Virtual Armory has it. How about

physical fitness test charts? You'll find that information as well. I even discovered that an M-249 Squad Automatic Weapon can fire up to 750 rounds per minute at up to 800 meters! In between viewing the categories, I decided to take a break and click over to the games section. Here I had a choice from such classics as Tic Tac

Toe, checkers, and concentration. There is also a customized game for the website called Humvee, where you are required to deliver supplies to headquarters while avoiding various obstacles and pitfalls. After about a one minute wait on my DSL line, the game was loaded, and was easy to learn. Ten minutes later, I had yet to complete a mission! Oh well, I will hone my Humvee skills at a later time.

As if Virtual Armory didn't offer enough, the site also allows you to easily keep in touch with other Guard members. By providing all Army National Guard members with free e-mail accounts and offering a chat room and forum directly on the site, the Virtual Armory makes it easy to get in touch with fellow soldiers, no matter where in the world they may be.

One of the few drawbacks I found to this Web site is that it doesn't cater to older Web browsers. If you have a Web browser older than Microsoft Internet Explorer 5.0, don't bother going to Virtual Armory until you upgrade.

All said, I think the Army National Guard webmasters did their homework before creating this Web site. It is obviously well thought out, contains interesting reading material, and possesses the interactive features needed to keep the Web site interesting.

Kudos to the team that planned and developed this site, as I know I will find it useful many times in the future.

Rated Items

(scale of 1-5, 5 being highest):

Website content:	⊖⊖⊖⊖⊖
Ease of use:	⊖⊖⊖⊖⊖
Download speed:	⊖⊖⊖⊖⊖
Interactive features:	⊖⊖⊖⊖⊖
Relevant to Guard:	⊖⊖⊖⊖⊖
Total Rating:	⊖⊖⊖⊖⊖

Changes proposed for state tuition grant

At Ease Staff

Legislators working to prepare a biennial state budget for the period July 1, 2001, to June 30, 2003, may lower the amount paid to future enrollees in the highly effective tuition reimbursement program — one of the strongest recruiting and retention inducements available to the Wisconsin National Guard.

As this edition of At Ease went to press, Maj. Gen. James G. Blaney, the adjutant general, emphasized that the Legislature has several steps remaining before a final budget is determined. Some legislators, concerned about a diminished program adversely affecting recruiting and retention, are asking for additional information about the program and its benefits for upcoming discussions in the state Senate and Assembly.

"The Governor and the Legislature are contending with the most complex financial challenges the state has experienced in more than 30 years," General Blaney said. "It has become necessary to re-examine many programs throughout state government that are funded

by tax dollars, and unfortunately the tuition reimbursement program is one of them.

"At this point," the adjutant general continued, "nothing is certain, but our hope is that the Legislature will choose to retain the program in its present form because of the Guard's value to Wisconsin."

No matter the potential for legislative change, Blaney stressed:

■ Even if funded at a lower rate, a state tuition reimbursement program will continue into the future for enlisted members and warrant officers who meet eligibility criteria.

■ The Guard leadership has been working with legislators to "grandfather" all existing participants to protect them from changes in the program for the current maximum of eight semesters, but not beyond June 30, 2005. This protection was passed by the Senate in its version of the budget and it is also expected to be included in the Assembly version.

The Senate completed its work on the budget June 20 and the Assembly version was expected to be passed before the

end of June.

A conference committee then irons out difference in the two packages before a final budget is sent back to both houses for legislative approval. The final step is approval by the governor, who can modify the budget with vetoes.

The potential for a change in the tuition grant program first arose when the Legislature's Joint Finance Committee, comprised of eight Democrats and eight Republicans, voted to cap tuition reimbursement payments at \$1,000 per semester instead of the resident undergraduate rate for a semester at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, the standard for the program since it began.

For the 2000-2001 academic year the reimbursement is \$1,645. Tuition for the new 2001-2002 academic year has not yet been set by the UW System Board of Regents, but is expected to increase when the regents meet this summer.

The tuition reimbursement program was fully funded in the budget submitted to the Legislature by Gov. Scott McCallum, but the action by the Joint Finance Committee would have that

amount of funding by nearly \$1.4 million. The committee also moved to exclude students attending private colleges and universities in Wisconsin and out-of-state institutions from the state reimbursement program. (They would, however, still be covered by the federal Montgomery G.I. Bill).

The state tuition reimbursement program was established in 1977 but offered only partial reimbursements until 1997, when the 100 percent parity with UW-Madison rates was established.

"While the program was 'out there' and used prior to 1997, it really came into its own as a recruiting and retention incentive when a semester's reimbursement matched the UW-Madison rate," Blaney said. "We know this program makes an incredible difference in attracting talented and hard-working young people into the Guard — many of whom could not afford higher education without this assistance.

"Wisconsin citizens benefit twice from this program," he said. "First, these young people are the life's blood of a strong National Guard which serves the state and

nation. Second, through higher education and their military experience, these soldiers and airmen are able to make greater contributions to Wisconsin's workforce and economic well-being.

"The Guard tuition reimbursement program is a common-sense, grassroots investment in the future of Wisconsin," he concluded.

Air and Army Guard leaders will continue to provide information to interested legislators during the budget deliberations, which are expected to continue into the summer.

Guard members interested in contacting their state legislators about the tuition reimbursement program can get further information from either the Wisconsin National Guard Enlisted Association or the Wisconsin National Guard Association.

Information about contacting legislators is available on the Wisconsin government Web portal: www.wisconsin.gov. For further information, select "government," "legislature," and "who are my legislators?"

Developments will be reported in the next issue of At Ease.

Aviators, MPs set for presidential call-ups

At Ease Staff

Two Wisconsin Army National Guard units are preparing for mobilization under separate Presidential Selected Reserve Call-ups.

The Madison based 147th Command Aviation battalion will be sent to Kuwait at the end of July, while the 32nd Military Police Company will provide support to Balkans stabilization force efforts in Hungary.

The aviation battalion is scheduled to support two back-to-back rotations for Operation DESERT SPRING, the U.S. military presence designed to deter aggression against Kuwait. Each rotation is six months duration, however Wisconsin was given

granted permission to breakdown each six-month rotation into two three-month packages.

In the first rotation, the battalion will provide four UH-60 Blackhawks and approximately 35 personnel. The second rotation will involve two Blackhawks and fewer than 30 personnel.

The 147th Aviation Battalion has an authorized strength of 216 soldiers in four companies in Wisconsin. A fifth company, Company B, is part of the Indiana Army National Guard.

This will be the first mobilization for the aviation battalion, but not its first overseas deployment. In 1999 the battalion provided personnel and four aircraft to support hurricane relief efforts in Guatemala. The unit

has also participated in a number of out-of-state deployments since converting to UH-60 helicopters in 1994. Recent operations include a summer-long mission at Fort Lewis, Wash., in 1995 and four weeks at a Roving Sands exercise at Fort Bliss, Texas, in 1996.

Soldiers deploying to Kuwait are completing annual training in Utah in July. Troops will deploy to Southwest Asia from Utah, however the four helicopters will be flown from Volk Field to Kuwait aboard a C-5 Galaxy transport.

The 32nd Military Police Company is headquartered in Milwaukee with a detachment in Madison.

Details of the company's mobilization were not yet final as At Ease went to press

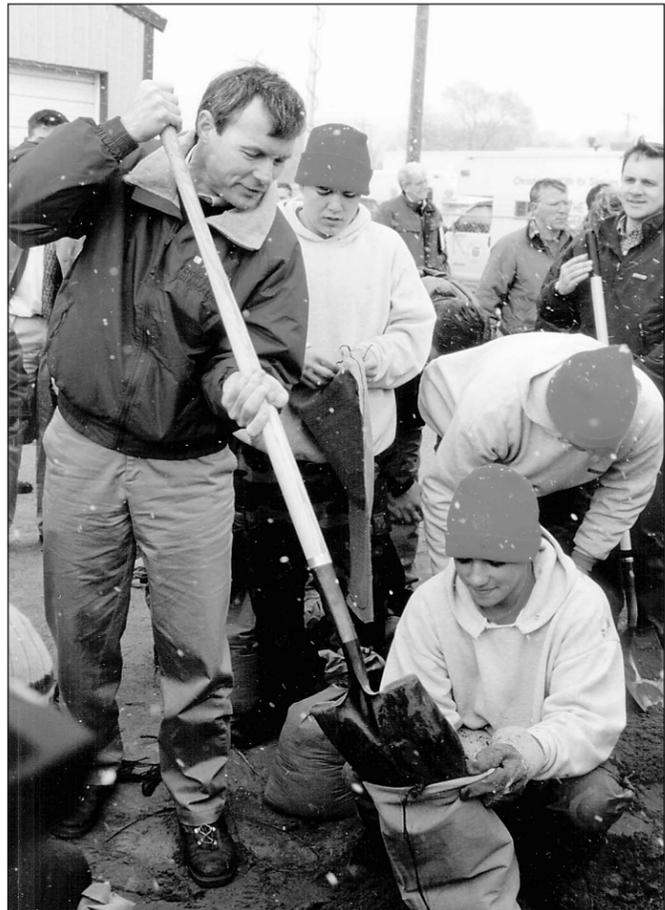
in mid-June, however it is expected that fewer than 50 of the unit's 185 personnel will be mobilized.

These mobilizations will be the 12th and 13th call-ups of Wisconsin Army National Guard units since the beginning of the Persian Gulf War.

Eight Army Guard units were called up for Operations DESERT SHIELD and DESERT STORM in 1990. Three more Wisconsin units were called up to support Balkans peacekeeping operations in 1997.

Recent Wisconsin Air Guard mobilizations included the 128th Air Refueling Wing's call-ups for Desert Storm and Kosovo, and the 128th Air Control Squadron, which was also ordered to active duty for Kosovo in 1999.

Help is 'in the bag'



Under an April snow flurry, cadets from the Wisconsin National Guard Challenge Academy at Fort McCoy work with Gov. Scott McCallum to fill sandbags. The governor visited emergency workers in the Town of Campbell on French Island April 16, as the Mississippi River rose to near-record levels in the LaCrosse area. Photo by Tim Donovan.

Defense advisory panel proposes sweeping personnel changes

American Forces Press Service

The American public holds the military in high regard, but "the propensity to serve is very low," a high-level Pentagon adviser said June 13.

Retired Adm. David Jeremiah, a former vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told reporters that the military needs a personnel system designed for "changing demographics" and better pay for mid-grade enlisted members to deal with the issue.

Jeremiah led a far-reaching review of quality-of-life and morale issues at the request of Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld. He briefly went over the panel's 60-some recommendations in the Pentagon briefing.

He said the military has a personnel system with "no real structure, no strategy that deals with human resources in the (Defense) Department across the board, not just military but civilians and contractors as well."

"What you have is a system that is basically 50 years old and has been 'Band-Aided' over the years to accommodate different stresses and strains on it," he said.

The current up-or-out system "works OK...but doesn't necessarily recognize the individual needs of the services," Jeremiah said. He said more flexible retire-

ment systems, including allowing certain career fields to get some retirement benefits before 20 years and not forcing others out at 30 years, might be smart ways to do business.

"We need to know what kinds of skills and experience we're going to need for our transformed force... We may not want a 60-year-old infantryman...but I'd be happy to have a 60-year-old information warrior," Jeremiah said. "He or she has probably got 15 or 20 years of experience in the business, knows how to do it, (and) knows all the tricks of the trade.

"There are different needs out there," he said. "The one-size-fits-all (system) doesn't work any more." The admiral called a flexible retirement system "the most fundamental" recommendation to come out of his panel's review.

The QOL study is just one of what have come to be called "the Rumsfeld Reviews." It was begun to "stimulate the secretary's thinking" on the myriad issues relating to quality of life and morale.

Higher education levels in the enlisted force have made the pay gap for mid-level enlisted grades larger than the gap for other grades, Jeremiah said. He noted that nearly 80 percent of enlisted members have "some college" by the time they've been in the service 10 years.

"We find now many enlisted people with...more than one bachelor's degree or master's degrees," the admiral said. "So it's a different force than the high school graduates — if we were lucky and ahead of the sheriff — that we got 50 years ago."

He said the gap results from DoD paying these ranks on the assumption they are high-school grads only, not individuals with some college or with college degrees. He recommended President Bush's recent pledge of \$1.4 billion more in military pay raises be targeted to mid-grade enlisted service members.

Excess bases make upkeep nearly impossible. The solution: fewer bases and a commitment to maintain the ones we keep, Jeremiah said. He said old workspaces in disrepair hurt morale and make people in the military wonder what the country thinks of them.

High operations tempo and the increased use of Guard and Reserve forces were also noted as quality-of-life problem areas. "This is a world in which we're not at war and we're not at peace," Jeremiah said. "The peace that we're in is the absence of major war, but it isn't peace as we know it, and it demands an enormous amount of activity on the part of the military members in the force."

State News Briefs

Event honors minority vets

Minority veterans from Wisconsin who served in World War II will be guests of honor at the War Memorial Center in Milwaukee Sept. 21.

The "Day of Honor" is being organized and coordinated by the Day of Honor Committee, including Milwaukee County Veterans Service Officer Ted Fetting.

Fetting said the committee is attempting to locate and invite all minority WWII veterans to attend the event.

A free-of-charge banquet will be provided for each veteran and one guest.

There will be other special recognitions and gifts for each of the honorees. A documentary film will be shown and there will be a few guest speakers.

There will be limited seating for donors. People desiring to reserve seats may send \$25 to event coordinator Jill Grisham at (414) 345-4271.

Anyone wishing to attend the event, or may be willing to sponsor a table, is asked to contact Grisham.

Tax break on military pensions?

The Wisconsin Legislature is currently considering an Assembly bill that would offer income tax breaks on all military pensions. Wisconsin is one of seven states that do not offer some type of income tax break on military pensions. Assembly Bill (AB) 389 would impact approximately 17,000 former service members from Wisconsin, who receive a military pension or their survivors' benefits.

The average Wisconsin military retirement beneficiary receives approximately \$13,300 annually. Currently, Wisconsin State Law only exempts military retired pay from state income taxes for those who began their military service before Jan. 1, 1964. The Assembly Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs unanimously adopted AB 389. The bill is now before the Joint Committee on Tax Exemptions for a hearing. The tax exemption on the statewide total of \$226 million in military retirement is estimated to cost the state of Wisconsin \$7.8 million in revenue annually.

Better late than never: State may authorize diplomas for deceased vets

Local school boards may soon be able to award high school diplomas to deceased veterans who joined the military during a time of war.

Senate Bill (SB) 61 will permit school boards to award a high school diploma to a person who attended their high school, but who did not graduate because they answered the call of duty to defend their country.

Family members of deceased veterans may request that the high school degree be awarded posthumously to their veteran family member.

SB 61 will apply to a deceased veteran at any age. Current law already permits a living veteran over the age of 65 to petition for a high school diploma. This bill would expand the law to deceased veterans and their families.

SB 61 passed the Senate and is scheduled for a vote in the Assembly.

Tick, tick, tick...Lyme explosion

Summer is here and so is tick season invading Wisconsin Air and Army military training sites.

Tick bites can cause the debilitating and even deadly Lyme disease.

Left untreated, Lyme disease can advance from early flu-like symptoms to painful and permanent damage to the joints, according to the National Center for Disease Control. The disease can also affect the nervous system, causing numbness, pain, stiff neck and severe headache or muscle weakness in the face or limbs. Occasionally, heart irregularities occur.

The first stage of the disease begins three to 31 days after the tick bites. Symptoms can include fatigue, chills and fever, headache, muscle and joint pain or swollen lymph nodes.

Another mark of Lyme disease is a peculiar expanding circular skin rash in the areas where the tick bite occurred. Patch shapes vary depending on location but can be from five to 20 inches in diameter. The rash appears mostly on the thighs, groin, trunk and armpits, and on the faces of children. Approximately 70 percent of the people who contract Lyme disease develop a large red patch.

After being outdoors:

- Promptly remove and wash clothing.

- Inspect your body carefully and remove attached ticks with tweezers, grasping as close to the head as possible and gently tugging the tick free without crushing its body. Squeezing the tick's body may force infected fluid into the wound.

- Place tick(s) in a sealed container for examination by a local health department.

- Wash the wound and apply an antiseptic.

Information is available by contacting the Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventative Medicine at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., website: www.apega.army.mil/ento, or Armed Forces Pest Management Board website: www.afpmb.org/pubs/tims/tim36.pdf.

There is also information listed at LymeNet: www.lymenet.org; Lyme Disease Foundation: www.lyme.org; or the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources at: www.state.dnr.wi.us or www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/dvbid.htm.

Keys

Continued from page 1

the increasingly important joint-service environment which has emerged from the more single-service operational environments of the past.

Milwaukee's KC-135 tankers, for example, were designed in the 1950s to refuel other U.S. Air Force aircraft. In the Air Force, most "receivers" have an air refueling port somewhere along the top surface of the fuselage. As a receiver approaches the tanker from behind, the tanker's boom operator sticks the boom's tip into the refueling port.

Operating from Key West, the Milwaukee tanker can be configured to accommodate a completely different refueling system. Most Navy and Marine Corps fighter aircraft are equipped with an air refueling probe, which the fighter pilot "plugs" into a shuttlecock-shaped drogue trailing behind the boom on a flexible hose. It's almost directly opposite the Air Force system, but the Milwaukee KC-135's capability to adapt to it also shows the Air Guard's joint-service interoperability.

Refueling Hornets

The next day, Milwaukee's tanker is preparing for a mid-morning takeoff, configured to refuel Navy fighters launching ahead of them for the morning's fight. As the tanker, call sign "Upset 66," rolls along a taxiway waiting for the F/A-18s to take off ahead of it, a questioning voice from the control tower crackles over the radio.

NAVY GROUND: "Does your basket always hang?"

UPSET 66: "Yes, it does. That's the way it works with our boom. And a good question, they always ask it."

With the F/A-18s now launched and the tower's question answered, Upset 66 is cleared for takeoff. The four engines spin up, the brakes are released. The tanker roars down the runway and lumbers into the air.

The air refueling track that morning is only about 70 miles due west — a short flight for the tanker as it climbs to altitude over the Florida Straits. Somewhere below, Madison's F-16s are fighting the Navy Hornets. Before the fight even ends, the tanker is orbiting along the oblong refueling track waiting for its first customers. The tanker crew doesn't wait long.

ZAPPER 21: "Zapper 21...flight of two Hornets looking for some 'plugs.' Wondering if you're on station yet."

"OK, I've got you," Lt. Col. Scott Gronland replies.

"Got 'em off the left wing...two of them, anyway," Maj. C.J. Graham tells the tanker crew.

UPSET 66: "Clear to pre-contact."



A Navy F/A-18 plugs into the 'basket' during a refueling mission over the Florida Straits. Photo by Kelly Pensinger.

ZAPPER 21: "Understand you've got some gas for me."

UPSET 66: "That's right...5K [5,000 pounds of jet fuel]"

ZAPPER 21: "If you can keep the boom steady that would really help."

UPSET 66: "Boom's steady. Is 5K all you require?"

ZAPPER 21: "We could take about 6K if I can get it."

UPSET 66: "We'll give you 5K right now."

ZAPPER 21: "That'll be fine."

The first of two Navy F/A-18s flying alongside the tanker's left wing slides into position just behind and beneath the extended boom. A panel beside the fighter's cockpit pops open, the crook-shaped fuel probe tilts out into the slipstream, and the fighter pilot creeps forward toward a basket-shaped drogue trailing six feet behind the boom at the end of a flexible hose. The Navy pilot struggles to fly steady as he makes contact with the basket, then pushes it slightly forward.

The first Hornet, "Zapper 21," takes on the requested fuel, then backs out of the basket before sliding over to a position off the tanker's right wingtip.

Now it's the wingman's turn at the pump, but the second pilot needs four tries before he can make contact. When refueling Air Force fighters, the tanker's boom operator, or "boomer," does most of the work, but the Navy-favored "probe and drogue" system puts more of the receiver pilot's skills to the test. This Navy pilot was having a rough morning.

Air refueling operations continue with other F-18s for about a half hour, then Upset 66 turns east

for Key West. The morning mission is over, but this crew will be back over the Florida Straits in the afternoon.

'Air Force vs. Navy' Day

For Madison's 115th Fighter Wing, the day's main event is the opportunity to fight different jets, different pilots and different tactics — dissimilar air combat training, as it's called. On this day, Madison will join forces with active duty F-15C Eagles from Tyndall Air Force Base. Together, the Air Force and Air Guard pilots will attack targets around the Dry Tortugas islands and try to get away unscathed. The targets will be defended by Navy Hornets, whose pilots will also try to make the Air Force pay for its attack.

Although Air Force F-16s and Navy F/A-18s have much in common, they are entirely different aircraft.

Both are multirole fighters capable of both ground attack and air-to-air combat. But the larger F/A-18 has two engines and weighs seven tons more than the nimble, single-engine F-16. And, while the Hornet is less limited in angles of attack, the F-16 has a better thrust-to-weight ratio.

These differences create offsetting advantages and disadvantages — and they suggest different tactics to gain an edge over an opponent. Madison's F-16 pilots like their odds fighting Hornets.

Their confidence was well founded: In the morning battle, Madison's jets defeated every Navy plane they faced. The afternoon fight went almost as well, with only one Madison fighter "killed" amid heavy Navy losses.



Milwaukee's KC-135 tanker crew after a Key West refueling mission in April. Besides refueling Air Guard, Air Force and Navy fighters, the tanker also transported the 115th Fighter Wing's fighter support package on the deployment. Photo by Kelly Pensinger.

Red Arrow converting to light infantry

Continued from page 1

Major changes in the structure of the 32nd Infantry Brigade are as follows:

- One new infantry battalion — the 2nd Battalion, 128th Infantry — is formed to fill the brigade's three-battalion light infantry complement.

- The 173rd Engineer Battalion and the 1st Battalion, 632nd Armor, are deactivated. Similar or related missions are assigned to new, smaller units — the 32nd Engineer Company and Troop E, 105th Cavalry, a light reconnaissance unit.

- The 1st Battalion, 120th Field Artillery will convert from 155 mm self-propelled howitzers to 105 mm towed howitzers.

- The brigade adds an intelligence unit, the 232nd Military Intelligence Company.

- New detachments are formed in the 132nd Support Battalion to provide transportation support to the brigade's three infantry battalions.

- The 32nd Brigade headquarters moves from Madison to Camp Douglas and Wausau — locations more central to the brigade's statewide units.

The 37 communities affected by restationings associated with the 32nd Infantry Brigade's conversion are listed alphabetically below.

Abbotsford, now home to Detachment 1, Battery A, 120th Field Artillery, will instead become the location of Detachment 1, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 128th Infantry.

Antigo will see Company B, 1st Battalion, 632nd Armor replaced by Detachment 1, Troop E, 105th Cavalry.

Appleton's Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 127th Infantry, will convert from a mechanized to a light infantry headquarters.

Arcadia's Company D, 1st Battalion, 128th Infantry, will be redesignated Company C (-), 1st Battalion, 128th Infantry and converted from mechanized to light infantry.

Baraboo: Company C (-), 173rd Engineer Battalion will be replaced by Company C (-), 2nd Battalion, 128th Infantry (Light).

Camp Douglas, already home to several Army and Air Guard organizations, will add the Headquarters and Headquarters Company (-), 32nd Infantry Brigade (Light).

Clintonville's Battery B, 1st Battalion, 120th Field Artillery, will convert from 155 mm self-propelled to 105 mm towed howitzers.

Eau Claire: Headquarters and Headquarters Company (-), 1st Battalion, 128th Infantry, will convert from mechanized to light infantry; and Company B, 173rd Engineer Battalion will be replaced by Detachment 1, Company A, 132nd Support Battalion, a forward area support team designed to provide transportation support to the nearby 1st Battalion, 128th Infantry.

Elkhorn will see Detachment 1, Battery



A pair of 32nd Division soldiers sprint across an open field while attacking an opposing force position at Fort McCoy. Wisconsin Army National Guard photo.

A, 1st Battalion, 126th Field Artillery, replaced by Detachment 1, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 128th Infantry (Light).

Fond du Lac's Company C, 2nd Battalion, 127th Infantry, will be converted from mechanized to light infantry.

Fort Atkinson's Company A, 2nd Battalion, 127th Infantry, will be converted from mechanized to light infantry and will be redesignated Company A, 2nd Battalion, 128th Infantry.

Green Bay's Company B, 2nd Battalion, 127th Infantry, will be converted from mechanized to light infantry.

Hartford: Company D (-), 2nd Battalion, 127th Infantry, will be converted from mechanized to light infantry and redesignated Company B (-), 2nd Battalion, 128th Infantry.

Janesville: Company A, 132nd Forward Support Battalion, will be redesignated Company A (-), 132nd Support Battalion, and will include a forward assistance support team designed to provide transportation support to the nearby 2nd Battalion, 128th Infantry.

Madison will lose the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 32nd Infantry Brigade (Mechanized); the Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 132nd Forward Support Battalion; and Detachment 2, Company B, 132nd Forward Support Battalion. However, Madison will also gain the new Headquarters and Headquarters Company (-), 2nd Battalion, 128th Infantry (Light); Detachment 1, Headquarters Company (Brigade Material Management Office), 132nd Support Battalion; and the new 232nd Military Intelligence Company.

Marinette will see Company C, 1st Battalion, 632nd Armor, replaced by Company D, 2nd Battalion, 127th Infantry (Light).

Marshfield's Battery A (-), 1st Battalion, 120th Field Artillery, will be converted from 155 mm self-propelled to 105 mm towed howitzers and redesignated Battery A, 1st Battalion, 120th Field Artillery. The 13th Medical and Dental Detachment, which also has a presence in Marshfield, is not part of the 32nd Brigade and will not be affected.

Mauston's Detachment 1, Company B, 132nd Forward Support Battalion, will be redesignated Company B (-), 132nd Support Battalion.

Menomonie's Company A, 1st Battalion, 128th Infantry, will convert from mechanized to light infantry.

Merrill will see Company A, 1st Battalion, 632nd Armor replaced by Troop E (-), 105th Cavalry.

Milwaukee's Company C (Medical), 132nd Forward Support Battalion, will increase by 43 positions as the battalion converts from a divisional unit to a support battalion in the 32nd Separate Infantry Brigade.

Mosinee will have Company D, 1st Battalion, 632nd Armor, replaced by Detachment 1, Headquarters Service Battery, 1st Battalion, 120th Field Artillery.

Neillsville will see the Service Battery, 1st Battalion, 120th Field Artillery, replaced by Detachment 1, Company C, 1st Battalion, 128th Infantry (Light).

New Richmond's Company B, 1st Battalion, 128th Infantry, will be converted from mechanized to light infantry and redesignated Company B (-), 1st Battalion, 128th Infantry.

Oconomowoc will see the Service Battery, 1st Battalion, 121st Field Artillery, replaced by Detachment 1, Company B, 2nd Battalion, 128th Infantry (Light).

Onalaska: Three units of the 173rd Engineer Battalion — the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Company A, and the Support Platoon — will be replaced by the new 32nd Engineer Company and Detachment 1, Company B, 132nd Support Battalion.

Portage will have Company B (-) (Maintenance), 132nd Forward Support Battalion, replaced by the Headquarters and Headquarters Company (-), 132nd Support Battalion.

Reedsburg will see Detachment 1, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 128th Infantry (Mechanized), replaced by Detachment 1, Company C, 2nd Battalion, 128th Infantry (Light).

Rice Lake's Company C, 1st Battalion, 128th Infantry (Mechanized), will be redesignated Detachment 1, Company B, 1st Battalion, 128th Infantry (Light).

Ripon will have Detachment 1, Company C, 173rd Engineer Battalion, replaced by Detachment 1, Company A, 2nd Battalion, 127th Infantry (Light).

River Falls's Company E, 1st Battalion, 128th Infantry, will be converted from mechanized to light infantry and redesignated Company D, 1st Battalion, 128th Infantry.

Stevens Point's Battery C, 1st Battalion, 120th Field Artillery, will convert from 155 mm self-propelled to 105 mm towed howitzers.

Watertown's Company E, 2nd Battalion, 127th Infantry, will convert from mechanized to light infantry, and be redesignated Company D, 2nd Battalion, 128th Infantry.

Waupaca: Detachment 1, Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 120th Field Artillery, will be replaced by Detachment 2, Company A, 132nd Support Battalion, a forward area support team designed to provide transportation support to the nearby 2nd Battalion, 127th Infantry.

Waupun's Detachment 1, Company D, 2nd Battalion, 127th Infantry, will convert from mechanized to light infantry and be redesignated Company A (-), 2nd Battalion, 127th Infantry.

Wausau: The Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 632nd Armor, will be replaced by Detachment 1, Headquarters and Headquarters Company (-), 32nd Infantry Brigade (Light).

Wisconsin Rapids's Headquarters and Headquarters Battery (-), 1st Battalion, 120th Field Artillery, will be redesignated Headquarters Service Battery (-), 1st Battalion, 120th Field Artillery.

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Conversion from mechanized to light infantry is expected to begin in September. Formal ceremonies to mark the changes will be planned in all of the brigade's armories.

Army Guard honors seven legends

By Lisa Munson
At Ease Staff

The new Wisconsin Army National Guard Hall of Honor held its first induction ceremony June 3 at the State Capitol rotunda in Madison.

"Today we honor seven great men who have made exceptional contributions throughout their military careers," said Maj. Gen. James G. Blaney, the adjutant general. "Their boots may have been put away, but these men won't be soon forgotten."

Blaney and Brig. Gen. Kerry G. Denson, deputy adjutant general for Army, honored Maj. Gen. Jerome J. Berard, Maj. Gen. Julius J. Chosy, Col. Thomas J. Makal, Lt. Col. Herbert M. Smith, and Command Sgt. Maj. Richard J. Boye, all retired; and posthumously honored Brig. Gen. Arvin R. Ziehlsdorff and Command Sgt. Maj. Carl J. Gieg.

The Hall of Honor was established to honor those who have made exceptional contributions to the Wisconsin Army National Guard and to encourage mem-



Jerome J. Berard



Richard J. Boye



Julius J. Chosy



Thomas J. Makal



Herbert M. Smith

brance of the best in Wisconsin's military, according to Blaney.

Nominees must have made significant contributions to the Guard and must have exemplified the core values of military service: Duty, honor, service, respect, loyalty, integrity, and personal courage. A board made up of senior leadership representatives from the major commands and representatives from the Retiree Council chose the inductees from nominations solicited last fall.

"It means everything," said Makal. "It's my whole career, the whole 33 years. My advice to young soldiers is to work hard and be actively involved

in the organization."

"It's a shock to me to receive this award considering the numerous other people up for the award," said Boye. "I'm just grateful I was able to serve in such a wonderful organization for over 41 years."

Each inductee made a unique contribution to the Guard. Berard, who retired as the adjutant general of Wisconsin, was known for his warm, people-oriented management style as well as for battling the floods of 1993 and pushing the 100 percent tuition assistance plan enacted by the state in 1997.

Boye served in almost every

noncommissioned officer position possible in the Wisconsin Army National Guard.

Chosy, in 28 years as a Medical Corps officer, rose to become a special assistant to the surgeon general of the Army. Gieg was a Marine Corps veteran of World War II who later became the Wisconsin Army Guard's top enlisted member. Makal served in World War II with the 32nd "Red Arrow" Division artillery.

Smith joined the State Guard in 1919 and commanded a battalion of the 32nd Division in the U.S. Army's first offensive battle of World War II. Ziehlsdorff, whose career began in 1934, also

saw combat with the 32nd in the war and eventually retired as commander of the division's successor unit, the 32nd Infantry Brigade.

All five living inductees were present for the ceremony and are pictured above. The two posthumous inductees were represented by their widows.

"The attendance here today speaks for itself in terms of recognition for these seven recipients," Denson said. Approximately 300 people attended the ceremony.

For information on how to nominate future honorees, contact Maj. Joni Mathews at (608) 242-3480.

Soldier wellness boosts retention

Report documents program's success

By Tom Michele
At Ease Staff

It's been documented: The Soldier Wellness Program works.

Retention, cost effectiveness and soldier caring are all major parts of the successful Wisconsin Army National Guard program. That is the thrust of a study by Col. Roger Lalich, the Wisconsin Guard's state surgeon, which was published in the March 2001 issue of *Military Medicine*, the official journal of the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States.

The Wisconsin Army National Guard developed the Soldier Wellness (originally, "Soldiers First") Program in 1995, driven by a desire to maintain personnel strength and a concern for the health and fitness of its soldiers. The aim was to retain soldiers who otherwise would be discharged because of failure to meet fitness and weight standards. The program has continued since its inception.

"The Soldier Wellness Program was started in December of 1995 and I followed all of the attendees and looked to see who was still in the Guard in December 1999," Lalich said after publication of his report.

Lalich analyzed retention rates for 324 soldiers who completed and graduated from the program between December 1995 and December 1999. The average age of the participants was 31 years, with a range of 18 to 57 years. The average time of military service was nine years. Graduates included 33 women and 18 full-time Active Guard Reserve or technician members of the Army National Guard.

"At 48 months, graduates of the pro-

gram had a 55 percent retention rate," Lalich reported. "This program is cost effective and soldier caring."

Commanders recommend soldiers enter the program based on marginal performance, as determined by the soldier's unit, or actual failure to pass the Army Physical Fitness Test (APFT) or meet weight standards. Participation is voluntary, but soldiers realize that if they do not enroll in the program they will probably be discharged.

"The bottom line is that soldiers completing the course are healthier because they worked their way through it," Lalich said. "These are soldiers who liked the military enough to go through it, or else they wouldn't be in the military. It's soldier caring, on the part of the soldier and also on the part of the Army. The Army doesn't want its soldiers dying of heart attacks, so this program is the best thing they are doing for their troops."

Soldiers failing or at risk of failing weight and fitness standards attend a Wellness Program one weekend per month for three consecutive months. The wellness curriculum includes stress reduction, smoking cessation, nutrition, exercise training and promoting healthy habits. Motivational speakers include past course attendees who have been successful since completing the program.

"The goal of this program is to help the soldier meet weight and APFT standards," Lalich reported, "but this is not to be achieved through dieting and vigorous exercising during the three weekends of the course. This program is intended only to give the soldier the tools needed to reach these goals."

The 426th Regiment (Leadership), at Fort McCoy, Wis., administers the program. Facilities used are those at the Wisconsin Military Academy, which has billeting, din-

ing facilities and classrooms all contained on one building. A fitness center at Fort McCoy is also used.

Soldiers attend the course in place of their monthly drill or as additional military duty. Classes run from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, with additional elective activities Saturday evenings.

A certified, Army-trained master physical fitness instructor is assigned to each group of about eight soldiers. This trainer evaluates, mentors and sets weight, lipid, and APFT goals for the soldiers. A lipid profile is obtained from each soldier on the first weekend and is reviewed with the soldier on the second weekend. Heart disease and risk prevention are correlated with the lipid concentrations for the individual.

The instructor is encouraged to maintain contact with the soldier during this three-month period when the soldier is not on military duty.

One of the goals of the program is to aid the soldier in passing the three events of the standard APFT — the two-mile run, sit-ups and push-ups — and these areas are included in the program of instruction.

Also included are additional activities to keep physically fit, such as swimming, walking and sports. Injury prevention, stretching, clothing and introduction to training equipment are incorporated into the exercise curriculum.

According to Lalich's report, the 55-percent 48-month retention rate of soldiers who have completed the wellness program is not statistically different from the 63-percent rate over the same period for the general soldier population in the Wisconsin Army Guard. "The fact that the retention rates of the two groups are close speaks for the success of the Wellness Program," Lalich wrote.

The program's cost is estimated at \$1,153 per graduate. Because the Army's average cost to train a new recruit is \$35,000, the program is cost-effective.

"If only two soldiers per class are retained because of the wellness course, the cost is justified," Lalich concluded. "Personnel strength is aided by retaining these soldiers. Soldier caring is demonstrated for these at-risk soldiers because many of them will benefit with healthier futures."

Lalich is Army Guard's 'Top Doc'

Col. Roger A. Lalich began his military career as an enlisted soldier in the Colorado Army National Guard, where he served from 1970 to 1976.

After completing medical training at Oklahoma State University Medical School, he did his obstetrician-gynecologist internship and residency at St. Mary's Hospital in Milwaukee.

He then undertook a two-year fellowship in Chicago in reproductive endocrinology, after which he entered private practice in Waukesha.

Lalich joined the Wisconsin Army National Guard in 1989, with the 135th Medical Company in Waukesha.

He then transferred to Troop Command as a surgeon and flight surgeon. From there he went to the 13th Medical and Dental Detachment as its commander.

In June 2000 he became the Wisconsin Army National Guard's state surgeon, while continuing as commander of the 13th Medical and Dental Detachment.

Support Battalion troops get jump start on basic

By Cpl. Kerry McAllen
Detachment 2, Company B,
132nd Support Battalion

New members of the Wisconsin Army National Guard get a head start in their training thanks to dedicated soldiers. Staff Sergeant Jimmy Dollar and Pvt. Cindy Brisky of Detachment 2, Company B, 132nd Support Battalion, have organized a Non-Prior Service Training program designed to take the fear out of Army Basic Training for new recruits.

This is a three-month program open to all new 132nd Support Battalion recruits. They attend the program one weekend a month at the battalion's armory in Madison.

"I want the soldiers to know they belong to something exciting," Dollar says, "and that

there is a family atmosphere for them. The drop-out rate of new recruits can be reduced by familiarizing them with the unknowns of basic training."

Veteran members of the battalion have embraced the program enthusiastically, volunteering to teach classes such as M-16 rifle familiarization, drill and ceremony, and map reading. The new recruits are also introduced to Army drill instructors on a human level and participate in a question-and-answer session with them. They even go to Fort McCoy for two days of activities aimed at teaching them the basics of Army life.

Dollar hopes to keep the program alive for years to come. He says this should not be a difficult task since the favorite word used by the new recruits to describe this program is, "Awesome!"



Pvt. Quinton Reichhoff drops down and gives 20 during his Non-Prior Service Training program. Reichhoff is a member of Company B, 132nd Forward Support Battalion. Photo courtesy of the 132nd Forward Support Battalion.

Croft is new Air Guard Chief of Staff

Brig. Gen. John Croft was promoted to his new rank by Gov. Scott McCallum at a ceremony at the state Capitol June 1.

Croft began his military career as an active duty Air Force second lieutenant in 1972. He served six years on active duty as a KC-135 tanker pilot. He joined the Wisconsin Air National Guard's 128th Air Refueling Group in 1979. He is a Desert Storm veteran and flew 46 combat support missions — beginning with two missions on the first day of the air war.

After the Gulf War, Croft transferred to the state headquarters in Madison where he served as operations officer and director of operations. He was detailed

back to the 128th Air Refueling Wing in 1999 where he served as operations group commander during the unit's deployment for the Kosovo conflict.

As chief of staff, Croft directs the state headquarters staff and advises Wisconsin's top Air National Guard commanders.

Croft believes the most important issues deal with people. "We want to retain these great people and help them balance the needs of their families and employers in times of high

Operations Tempo and limited budgets," he said.

He calls the Wisconsin Air National Guard the "best in the country" and pledges to keep it strong.



Brig. Gen. Croft

Changes...

Command of one Wisconsin Army National Guard battalion changed in the past several months.

In Appleton, command of 2nd Battalion, 127th Infantry transferred from Lt. Col. Dan Jesen to Lt. Col. Todd Nehls. Nehls was previously assigned as commander of

the 54th Civil Support Team.

In the Wisconsin Air Guard, two lieutenant colonels from the 115th Fighter Wing were recently promoted. Col. Gary Ebben, wing vice commander, and Col. Cheryl Priland, support group commander, were promoted to their current ranks in April.

Nike veterans plan summer reunion

Wisconsin Army National Guard veterans who manned Nike missile sites to protect Milwaukee during the 1960s are planning a reunion later this summer.

The reunion will be held Aug. 31 and Sept. 1 at the Oak Creek Community Center in Oak Creek, Wis.

From 1960 until 1970, the Wisconsin Army Guard was responsible for the air defense of Milwaukee at two missile

sites, one on West Silver Spring Drive and the other in Muskego. Later, the operation was moved to a Nike site in Waukesha.

Approximately 500 soldiers from the Guard worked in the Nike program until it was discontinued in 1970.

More information on the Nike reunion is available from Sgt. Maj. (retired) Bill Krueck, 262-639-1199.

Security is more than a thumb and a blanket

Tanker troops police Alaska Olympics

By Master Sgt. Kristina Sullivan
128th Security Forces Squadron

A detail of volunteers from the 128th Security Forces Squadron, Wisconsin Air National Guard, safeguarded athletes, coaches and spectators at the 7th Special Olympics World Winter Games in Anchorage, Alaska, in early March. The airmen were among 300 military members on duty at the games — active-duty soldiers from nearby Fort Richardson and Air National Guard members from around the country.

The event was the largest international sports meet ever held in the state of Alaska, with more than 2,750 athletes and coaches from approximately 80 nations. Athletes competed in seven official sports: alpine skiing, cross country skiing, floor hockey, figure skating, speed skating, snowshoeing, and snowboarding.

The 13 participants from the 128th provided hotel security at the Holiday Inn in the athletes' village throughout the games. They also provided security at the floor hockey venue during the last weekend of the games and at the closing ceremonies.

The Holiday Inn housed athletes and coaches from Canada, the Isle of Man, Croatia, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, China, Greece, Japan, Kuwait, and Cyprus. All 13 Wisconsin personnel were assigned there together, thus maintaining unit cohesion and integrity. They encountered and dealt with security and law enforcement issues including sexual predators, assaults, noise complaints, thefts and drunks wondering in off the streets. There were calls for service for an injured bird, a moose in the parking lot, flooded toilets and missing athletes. Between these incidents, the airmen had opportunities to hear the athletes, returning from their events, give enlightening and touching accounts of their efforts.

128th Security Force Squadron personnel who deployed to Fort Richardson from Feb. 27 through March 13 to support the 2001 Special Olympics World Winter Games were Master Sgts. Kristina Sullivan and Michael Koch; Tech. Sgts. James DeMeio, Denise Cournoyer and James Cieslewicz; Staff Sgts. Gary Lindner, Wade Holding, Patrick Rielly and William Feely;



128th Security Forces Squadron members gathered for a group photo during their deployment to Alaska to help the Special Olympics. Photo by Master Sgt. Mike Koch.

Senior Airmen Michelle Montes and Stephen Lezala; and Airmen 1st Class Matthew Parco and Jason Wick.

"Deploying to Alaska was an excep-

tional and unique experience, from the interaction with the athletes to our security duties," Sullivan said. "It was a worthwhile event not to be forgotten."

Iron Brigade leaders take stock at artillery conference

By Maj. John Schroeder
57th Field Artillery Brigade

Leaders of the 57th Field Artillery Brigade — officers, warrants and NCOs — came together March 17-18 to assess where the brigade has been, where it is now, and where it is headed in the future.

Leaders at all levels participated, representing all units of the brigade — the Headquarters and Headquarters Battery; the 1st Battalion, 121st Field Artillery; the 1st Battalion, 126th Field Artillery; and the 122nd Ordnance Detachment.

It was a needed get-together: The whole brigade has not trained together since its 1998 deployment to Camp Grayling, Mich., because of training requirements associated with recent and ongoing modernizations. These include the fielding of the M-109A6 Paladin self-propelled 155 mm howitzer to the 126th and the projected fielding of the Multiple Launch Rocket System (MLRS) to the 121st. The brigade also plans to field the Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data System in 2002. The rapid pace of change has kept leaders of units within the 57th from training with their counterparts at brigade or battalion level.

Keynote speaker for the weekend was Brig. Gen. William Engel, assistant commandant of the Field Artillery School and deputy commanding general for training, Fort Sill, Okla. Engel spoke on the future of the Field Artillery branch, including an overview of the Army transformation process and comments about the "Legacy Force," "Interim Force," and "Objective Force" concepts. He

also dealt with doctrinal evolution, leader and soldier training, the future family of munitions and delivery systems. The Field Artillery branch plans to field systems such as the Crusader 155 mm self-propelled howitzer, the Joint Lightweight 155 mm towed howitzer, the High Mobility Artillery Rocket System, the M-270A1 MLRS, and the Future Combat System. Artillery systems of the future are designed to be more deployable, responsive, versatile, agile, lethal, sustainable and survivable.

Other programs included:

- Discussion of the Battle Command Training Program.

- Discussion of the Military Decision Making Process (MDMP) using the Battle of Gettysburg for illustration.

- Briefing by brigade historian Sgt. Jeff Alderson on the lineage and history of the 57th Brigade and 32nd Division Artillery, from the Civil War through the two world wars and the Berlin Crisis call-up of 1961.

- Separate breakout sessions for officer career management and NCO specific topics, conducted by Lt. Col. Peter Seaholm and Command Sgt. Maj. Marc Shapiro, respectively.

- Briefing on III Armored Corps exercises and joint training opportunities by Maj. Mark Sisco, Army National Guard liaison officer for the corps.

- Sunday morning address by Brig. Gen. Andrew Schuster, assistant adjutant general for readiness and training.

Spouses and guests joined the soldiers of the Iron Brigade for the annual St. Barbara's Day dinner and awards ceremony on Saturday night.



Staff Sgt. Lisa Organ of the 426th Regiment (Leadership) becomes Wisconsin's first female member of the Honorable Order of Saint Barbara at the annual St. Barbara's Day Dinner, held in Wisconsin Dells on March 17. Photo courtesy of the 57th Field Artillery Brigade.

Special honors highlight field artillery dinner

The weekend was not just about military briefings and lectures.

On Saturday evening Col. Schiller, commander of the 57th Field Artillery Brigade and president of the Wisconsin Chapter of the U.S. Field Artillery Association, hosted the annual Saint Barbara's Day Dinner in the banquet hall at the RainTree Resort. St. Barbara is the patron saint of the Field Artillery.

Eighteen officers and noncommissioned officers were inducted into the Honorable Order of Saint Barbara. The order recognizes those who have demonstrated the highest standards of integrity and moral character, displayed an outstanding degree of professional competence, served the U.S. Army or U.S. Marine Corps Field Artillery with selflessness and contributed to the promotion of the Field Artillery in ways that stand out in the eyes of the recipients, seniors, subordinates and peers alike. Brig. Gen. Kerry Denson, deputy adjutant general for Army, and Brig. Gen. Schuster were honored guests for the dinner.

Schiller and Brig. Gen. Engel also presented the Artillery Order of Molly Pitcher to Sue Lang, wife of Capt. Eugene Lang of the 1st Battalion, 121st Field Artillery. The order recognizes women who have voluntarily contributed to the betterment of the Field Artillery community in a significant

way that exemplifies the spirit of sacrifice and devotion of Molly Pitcher. "Molly Pitcher" is the familiar name of Mary Hays McCauley, the wife of an artilleryman, William Hays, in George Washington's army. In blistering heat on June 28, 1778, at the Battle of Monmouth, she earned her name by bringing pitcher after pitcher of cool water to the suffering soldiers. When her husband fell wounded, she took the rammer staff from her husband's hands and manned the gun. For her heroic role, General Washington himself issued her a warrant as a noncommissioned officer. Thereafter, she was widely hailed as "Sergeant Molly."

Those inducted into the Honorable Order of St. Barbara were Maj. John Schroeder and Master Sgt. Alan Kriplean, 57th Field Artillery Brigade; Maj. Scott Rice, Capt. Jeff Kurka and Jeremy Steingraber, Master Sgt. James Geisberger, Sgt. 1st Class Scott Metzger and retired Sgts. 1st Class John Dillard and Bruce McCormick, 1st Battalion, 121st Field Artillery; Capt. Thomas Parr, 1st Lt. Craig Van Kirk and Sgt. 1st Class Jeffery Dement, 1st Battalion, 126th Field Artillery; Sgts. 1st Class Mark Gaikowski and Duane Miller, 1st Battalion, 120th Field Artillery; Staff Sgt. Lisa Organ, 426th Regiment (Leadership); and Sgt. 1st Class David Reedich, 1st Battalion, 426th Regiment (Field Artillery).

Milwaukee Security Forces NCO is Air National Guard's best

By Chief Master Sgt. Edward Ellis
128th Security Forces Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Sheri M. Zindrick, 128th Security Forces Squadron, Wisconsin Air National Guard, has been selected as the Air National Guard's Outstanding Security Forces NCO of the Year for calendar year 2000.

This national-level award is presented to the Security Force noncommissioned officer who best epitomizes performance of duties, community service, and self-improvement efforts.

Zindrick enlisted in the Wisconsin Air National Guard in 1987. She is currently assigned as the Force Protection

NCO and is primarily responsible for conducting anti-terrorism and force protection briefings for all 128th Air Refueling Wing personnel.

A mother of two daughters, Tech.

Sgt. Zindrick is currently enrolled in a bachelor's degree program at Mount Senario College and is also pursuing her associate's degree in Criminal Justice through the Community College of the Air Force, as well as working the night shift full-time as a member of the wing security force.

Having been selected for this Air National Guard award, she is automatically entered to compete against her active-duty counterparts for the same award Air Force-wide.



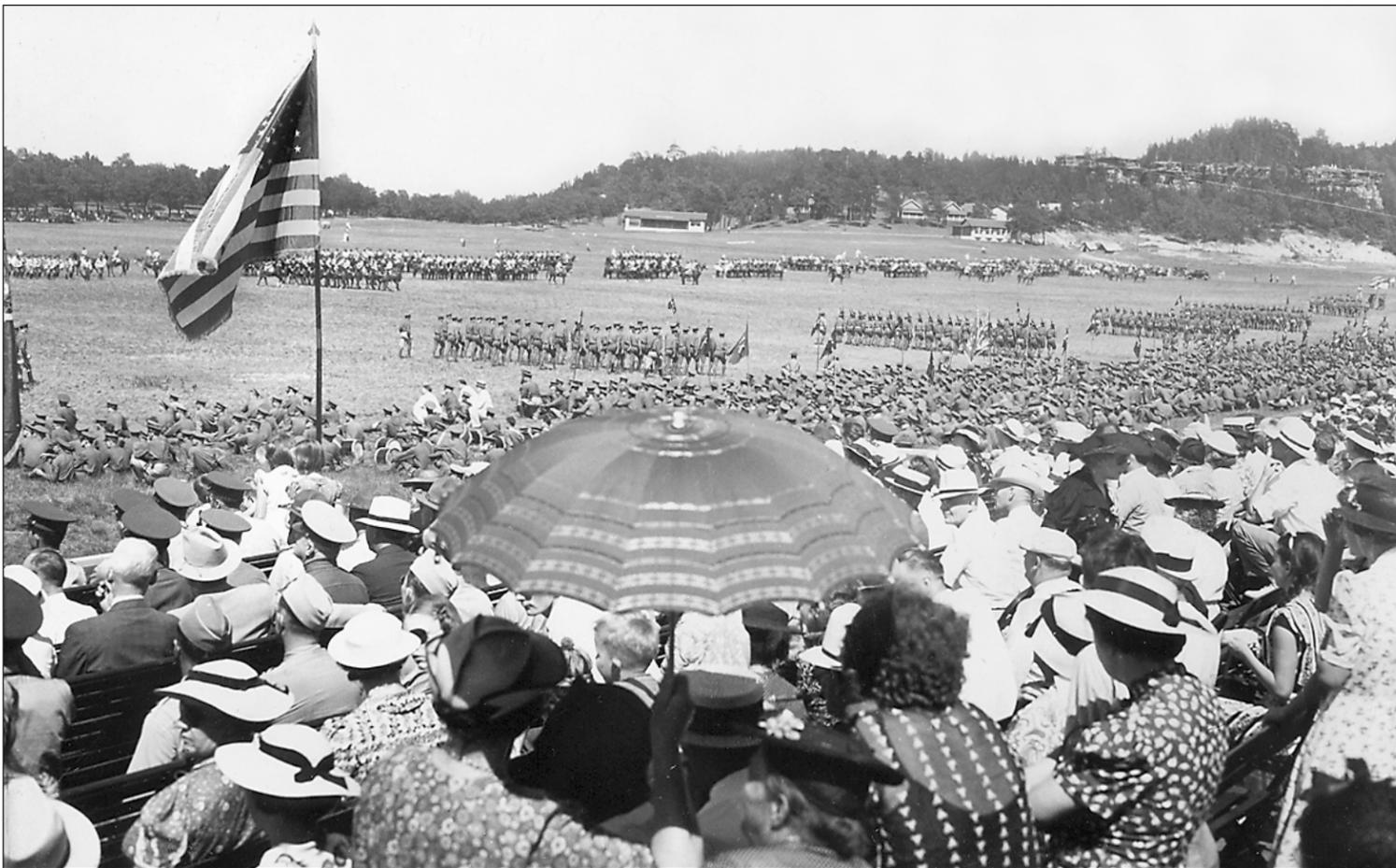
Zindrick



Col. Forest H. Himes, seated with a map at 127th Infantry Regiment field headquarters, holds an open-air conference with battalion commanders and regimental staff.



"Relax! Reveille ain't for another five minutes yet!" Young infantrymen pose in partial uniform before morning formation. Photos courtesy of the Wisconsin National Guard Museum, Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs.



A crowd of civilians observes a review under the noonday sun at Camp Williams, the Wisconsin National Guard's military reservation at Camp Douglas, Wis.

THE WAY

Wisconsin hosts

By Tom Doherty
At Ease Historian

In the 1930s, the social benefits of Guard life combined with the inward-looking quality of small-town life to overshadow hard realities elsewhere in the world.

While armies overseas seemed to incorporate whole new technologies and tactical concepts overnight, the National Guard had become frozen in time, clinging to horse cavalry and trench warfare, enamored of its past but ignorant of the present.

Late in the decade the first shock waves from overseas jarred the nation — and the Guard — into action. Budgets and enlistment ceilings increased; training became more intense and realistic.

In 1940, mobilization was on the mind of everyone old enough to follow events in Europe. But before the call went out, planners in the War Department wanted to know just what their ground force reserves were capable of and what kind of training they would need when they came on active duty.

The maneuvers of August 1940 were designed to provide them with that information.



Never before had Wisconsin hosted an event so vast in scope and so spectacular:

Sixty thousand competitors from seven states ranging over and above a playing field of thousands of square miles. Thousands of trucks and armored vehicles, dozens of special trains, nearly a hundred war planes gathered from coast to coast.

Local people knew something big was underway in April 1940 when the Rent and Claims Office opened in Sparta, and government agents armed with leases scoured

the countryside.

Most of the land in the four-county combat zone was rugged and untilled, remote even by the standards of Black River Falls and Baraboo — mile after mile of red sand hills densely covered with pine, of marshes and streams and occasional straight-up outcroppings of sandstone or hard rock, which were impossible to go over and wearying to go around.

Getting ready

Preparations went on all summer. Tons of lumber and supplies filled the depots

of Camp Williams and Camp [now Fort] McCoy. Works Project Administration (WPA) crews cleared brush from wilderness areas to make room for thousands of pup tents that would appear overnight.

They cut roads and surfaced them with shale, cut and stacked wood for field kitchen stoves and poured forms to make cement floors for officers' tents. Army engineers set up water purification units, strengthened bridges and reinforced roads throughout the four counties. The Signal Corps installed a network of 3,000 telephones woven together with 2,000 miles of wire.

Early in August, provisions for nearly 800 separate messes began to arrive, the first shipments of what would eventually total 12 freight car loads of flour, 85 tons of fresh meat, 16 tons of corned beef, and more than 30 tons of prunes.

In armories from Blue Ridge Mountain towns westward across the Great Lakes states, monthly drills took on a welcome sense of urgency as hometown outfits prepared for the war games — short of facing live ammunition, this would be as close as a man could get to the real thing.

July 31, 1940 was payday. The night spots of Black River Falls, Tomah and Sparta were suddenly filled with hard-drinking men in khaki — Regular Army troops, whose long green convoy of howitzers and reconnaissance vehicles, sent to help exercise the Guard divisions, had been rolling through the Coulee Country up and around Shamrock, the dust visible for miles. For the next five nights, the tills rang at a pace unmatched since before the Crash of '29.

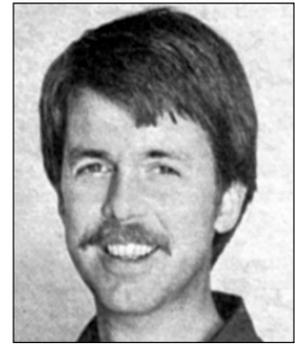
Then in mid-August they all converged: 13 trains bearing most of Ohio's 37th Division to a point on the map called Warrens; 23 trains unloading 38th Division Guardsmen from West Virginia, Kentucky and Indiana at Wyeville; 150 truck convoys directed through a maze of highways clogged with sightseers to assembly points at Wisconsin Dells and Reedsburg.

Maneuvers begin

On a hot, bright afternoon — Sunday, Aug. 11, 1940 — folks from all around spread picnic lunches on hillsides near Tunnel City and settled down to watch units of their 32nd Division and of Illinois' 33rd Division get off the train, form up, and march to Camp McCoy under the awesome roar of low-flying warplanes.

The Second Army Maneuvers of 1940 were underway.

The tent cities went up fast, and troops dispersed to the makeshift railheads and convoy assembly



Tom Doherty

WE WERE guns of August

points where sprawling accumulations of horses, tanks, truck-drawn artillery, scout cars, and mountain ranges of stacked crates awaited claiming. Regimental bands played.

Officers and NCOs reeled from meeting to meeting until finally on Aug. 13, Lt. Gen. Stanley Ford, commanding general of the Second Army, put a formal end to the preliminaries with an address to thousands of assembled officers.

Illusion of readiness

At camps in New York, Louisiana, Minnesota and Washington state, other Guardsmen had gathered for maneuvers. Collected by the tens of thousands, they created an illusion of readiness and strength. But for the time being they were still, essentially, state militias. Their training was confined to summer camps and one weekend a month at hometown armories. Many had never fired their weapons.

Already, legislation allowing President Franklin Roosevelt to call them to active duty was being debated in Congress. Less controversial than the conscription law also under consideration, its passage appeared inevitable. Most of the men gathered for the August maneuvers no longer asked if they would be called. Now, they were asking when.

This was the summer that France fell, the summer of Dunkirk and the Battle of Britain. Each day, the front pages detailed the impending doom of Great Britain. "London Aglow from Nazi Bombers" was a typical headline.

As General Ford spoke to the Guard officers, intelligence sources in Europe were predicting that Britain would be invaded within three days. Newspapers ran a map of the East Anglian peninsula, with arrows indicating the invasion points chosen by the Wehrmacht high command for amphibious assault. News service photos showed warplanes plunging to earth, bombed neighborhoods, and home defense troops drilling in parks.

By August 1940, Germany owned most of Europe. It seemed only a matter of time before she would have it all. Whether or not the Guardsmen sorting themselves out at Wyeville, Warrens and Camp McCoy followed these events, the German army was an almost tangible presence to their commanders.

The generals were haunted by *Blitzkrieg*: the slashing penetration and destruction of Poland, the effortless grab of smaller nations to Germany's north and west, and finally the envelopment and collapse of the French army — each campaign decided within days, if not hours, of the initial assault.

In August 1940, the German army appeared invincible. That the young men they commanded, trained with Great War weapons and tactics, might soon face elements of that army must have been a waking nightmare to the generals gathered in central Wisconsin.

Alarming message

While General Ford could speak only in vague terms about what lay ahead for these men, anyone who listened closely detected a new and alarming message. The current defensive posture of the U.S. Army was strictly a "temporary measure," he said, "intended only as a preparatory for the offensive to follow."

This was a blatant contradiction of the conditions Congress was then

imposing upon the anticipated call-up of Guardsmen. They were to be activated for one year only and for home defense only. They were not to be sent overseas, Congress said.

Clearly, General Ford was looking beyond domestic politics to an inevitable conflict with Germany. In an apparent reference to the German policy of making war on civilians as well as armies, he said that some methods used in Europe would never be used by Americans: "We maintain that an American Army can fight a superior and successful war and still remain American."

Having established the moral distinction between the U.S. Army and Germany's, he then went on to outline the sorts of tactical exercises his listeners were about to engage in, and in doing so he illustrated how much the United States was learning from the Germans' tactics.

"Many of the operations in these maneuvers will feature the cooperation of light bombardment squadrons, mechanized units, and motorized infantry, all cooperating in offensive missions. Bombardment aviation and mechanized units will endeavor to pin the enemy to the ground, while infantry is rushed forward in motors.

"The infantry attack, of course, must be closely coordinated with aerial and mechanized efforts. Failure to achieve this coordination or to properly evaluate time and space factors will result in disaster," he said.

Learning to fight

To give the Guardsmen a taste of European warfare, the Army had brought in the 5th Division, one of the new, stripped-down assault units.

Inspired by the Panzer force concept, the division consisted of 10,000 troops in motorized, radio-coordinated infantry, artillery and armor elements.

Its role was to penetrate or sweep around enemy lines, drilling deep into the defenses, destroying artillery and lines of communications. The force was supposed to create chaos and exploit it, gutting the enemy while he was stunned from initial concentrated penetration.

Like the Panzer units, it was to accomplish all that even at the risk of severing its own lines of supply and communication. And so it refueled in the field, treated its own water, and continued to move and inflict punishment independently.

The only true professionals on the scene, the 5th had staked claim to an area near Shamrock, an aloof distance from the four Guard divisions clustered around Camps Williams and McCoy. These were the men who, two weeks before, had squandered a small fortune at the local roadhouses and honky-tonks.

New tactics

The influence of *Blitzkrieg* was also reflected in the sudden emphasis on anti-tank warfare. On combat ranges, selected units received intensive training with the new 37 mm anti-tank gun — a weapon still in short supply among regular Army units — then tested their skill against elusive tank silhouettes that zigzagged across the range at up to 20 miles per hour.

In their current war with Finland, the Russians had successfully used smokescreens to cover assaults, and so — like the anti-tank guns and the 5th Division — smoke became another hasty addition to the schedule in the Army's obses-



Wisconsin National Guard soldiers of Troop B, 105th Cavalry, wave to friends and family as they depart Milwaukee in high spirits.

sive desire to expose Guardsmen to as many elements of contemporary European warfare as possible in three weeks.

Finally, modern warfare made obsolete the old artillery concept of saturation bombardment, in which whole geometric sections of land were churned up in endless rolling barrages. Bodies of troops were too elusive and fast moving nowadays, the battlefield too fluid.

"Concentration of fire" was the new catch phrase. Compared with saturation fire, it was an almost surgically precise technique, requiring new methods and high levels of skill. It meant coded and coordinated target areas, forward observers, and the capacity to lay down fire rapidly on a succession of targets while remaining prepared to move out fast.

Stressing fundamentals

While these innovations shared the limelight, the greatest need of most Guardsmen was hard training in the old fundamentals. Thus their first days were spent on the combat ranges at Camps McCoy and Williams. Infantrymen moved out in cautiously advancing lines, firing their '03 Springfields at fixed targets and the sudden pop-up variety that were an unexpected test of their reactions under stress.

Machine gunners flailed away at truck-drawn tank silhouettes, while mortar crews lobbed shells at unseen machine-gun nests, and artillerymen zeroed in on both fixed emplacements and moving targets that simulated enemy transport.

Guard units that for decades had been ammunition-poor now blazed away in a dawn-to-dusk crescendo reminiscent of the Western Front.

Meanwhile, other infantry units moved into wooded areas on field

problems that tested their ability to maintain lines of advance in the wilderness. Repeatedly, squads separated from platoons, and individuals from squads. Umpires with white hatbands materialized to chew out lieutenants, sergeants, and wandering privates, who through neglect, ignorance or no fault of their own, found themselves alone in the woods.

Cavalry's changing role

What the mounted cavalry was up to went largely unrecorded by the newspapers. Fifty years earlier, the troopers on horseback would have been the main attraction. Now it was tanks and planes that sent shivers down everyone's spine, and the two horse-cavalry brigades waited uneasily in the background.

There wasn't much for them to do: tend horses, swim in the La Crosse River spillways, and perhaps ride out on an occasional patrol. They were a prime source of manpower for the work details everyone else was too busy for — like gathering firewood.

If they did play a role in the mock battles to come, no one took them seriously enough to record it. Although the Wisconsin adjutant general had spoken optimistically about the role of horse in modern war, clearly the Department of the Army felt differently.

Troopers gloomily bided their time, awaiting the inevitable proclamations that would motorize, mechanize or machine tool them into the 20th century. They did not look forward to the conversion.

Late in the first week, the 54th Cavalry Brigade (Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana) passed in review, more than 1,000 strong, at the Tomah Indian

School. It was their last review on horseback, and they knew it.

A few days later, on Sunday, Aug. 18, elements of the 5th Division — the wave of the future — passed in review at Camp McCoy's old airfield.

Wisconsin Gov. Heil and Guardsmen's families who had come for Visitors' Day saw a thousand vehicles move by four abreast, 5,000 infantrymen in precise blocks, and the row after row of truck-drawn howitzers and anti-tank guns. For people whose exposure to the military had been limited to July 4th parades down Main Street, or to sewing patches on tunics, it was hard to imagine such strength in a whole army, let alone a single division.

Also parading past the visitors' stands that day was the 32nd "Red Arrow" Division, its Wisconsin and Michigan troops marching together for the first time since General Pershing reviewed the division in Dierdorf, Germany, 21 years before.

If Wisconsin men marched with a swagger, they had reasons, both physical and emotional. Many were exhausted after a day-and-night battle that climaxed before dawn Friday under a noisy, wet, lightning-webbed sky — the Michiganders fleeing over the La Crosse River, the Wisconsin troops in hot pursuit, led by the Janesville Tank Company.

In fact, toward the end of the first week, battles had broken out all over. Opposing battalions of Illinois' 8th Infantry Regiment, an all-black outfit, had also been noisily engaged in a predawn fight in the woods.

Observation planes masquerading as German Stukas screamed down ahead of the attackers. Smoke boiled out of the defenders' lines, covering their withdrawal for the counterattack.

See 'Guns' next page

Guns of August

Continued from page 9

Similar firefights — each contrived to incorporate unique tactical problems — lit up the hills and flatlands all around.

But on Sunday, the tanks and guns served no weightier purpose than to make shade for picnickers.

The calm did not last. The schedule called for more and larger wars, and so next day the 32nd and 33rd Divisions took to the field to slug it out.

Life outdoors

To the northwest, the 37th and 38th were also moving into position for battle, though many from warmer climates would have preferred not to; one Kentuckian alleging that back home even the birds were not allowed out in weather like this.

Probably the only welcome benefit of the sudden cold snap was the disappearance of mosquitoes. In the spring, state health authorities had worried about the possibility of malaria spreading to the maneuver area. Malaria had disappeared from Wisconsin 50 years before only to return in 1939, showing up in counties bordering the Mississippi River. Officials debated the risk of mosquitoes infecting Guardsmen, and the Guardsmen in turn introducing the disease into their home states.

Tropical diseases were not on their minds as they camouflaged their new bivouac areas, grateful for the overcoats they had considered useless baggage throughout the first week. They ate from the backs of trucks and cat-napped in their tents. And they waited to be fed into the battle everyone believed to be shaping up in front of their lines.

The division battles begin

As their commanders knew, the division-sized conflicts now developing were the second in a sequence of four battles that the Guardsmen would participate in, each suc-

ceeding battle directed from a higher level of command and involving more men, more complex tactical problems and — perhaps most important to the observers from Washington — more complicated logistical problems.

Again with an eye on Europe, the generals knew that tactical skills alone were like guns without ammunition. The Army needed the capacity to move swiftly, under all conditions, without jeopardizing communications or lines of supply.

That the solutions to such problems all too frequently involved long night marches from areas made livable only after long hours of effort to cold, wet thoroughly unlivable areas miles away did not sit well with the privates — not that they expected to be consulted.

That night most of the Red Arrow infantrymen found themselves rushing through the dark on such a move.

Artillerymen had been the first to spot troop movements to the division's rear. They sent word to General Fish, the division commander, who promptly ordered the infantry to move back there. He was banking that the Illinois division, which had been encamped on a ridge 10 miles off, was engaging in a vast encircling movement, intending to overrun the 32nd from behind.

The general's gamble paid off. Where they expected to find sleeping support groups and untended guns, the attackers from Illinois instead encountered mined bridges, tank traps, artillery fire, and thousands of wide-eyed riflemen. The so-called "Battle of the La Crosse River" ended at seven the next morning with the umpires declaring the 32nd the victor.

On Saturday, Aug. 24, troops moved into positions and sent out patrols. There were occasional skirmishes, but the fighting did not get underway in earnest until Sunday, when Blue armor appeared through rain and fog in a three-pronged assault along high-



In a field near a city of tents, Wisconsin field artillery gunners practice sighting their 105 mm howitzers during the 1940 maneuvers.

ways 12 and 16 and County Trunk B.

General Fish sent the 33rd in a counter-attack that drove the Blues back from Trout Falls to west slope of Purdy Ridge, north of McCoy. A Cincinnati battalion got cut off and surrounded by Red forces at Millston, but it was saved from humiliation by a motorized column sent to retrieve it. In return, the Blues captured an entire squad of the 106th Cavalry.

Unexpected train ride

One night that weekend, in another of those inexplicable moves to which they kept falling victim, Wisconsin infantrymen found themselves pulled out of the combat zone, loaded onto three trains at Black River Falls, and sent speeding westward through fog-shrouded hills and over the black Mississippi River to Winona, Minn. There they

filed out of the Green Bay and Western coaches, hauling their gear through the cold rain to waiting trains of the Milwaukee Road. Then they were off again, heading eastward this time, through La Crosse to Camp McCoy.

Some may have perceived the looping night ride as a test of mobility, an aggravating but comprehensible part of the make-believe war.

But to others, it was another example of what happens when your fate is in the hands of a remote authority.

Nothing made sense. You had power over nothing. Nothing was predictable. In itself, the trip held no danger. But for men huddled in the darkened rain-swept coaches, it was hard not to imagine the horrible fates that could await them when commanders in distant headquarters chose to fling them into the darkness.

Fledgling Air Guard leaves nest for Korean War

By Tech. Sgt. David Anderson

Under the cover of bad weather in the early morning hours of 25 June 1950, communist forces of the North Korean People's Army thrust across the 38th parallel in an all-out attack on the Republic of Korea. Columns of North Korean infantry supported by Soviet-built T-34 tanks easily overran the lightly armed South Korean soldiers and caused great alarm to the unprepared U.S. military forces in the Far East. Due to post-World War II neglect and poor planning in the U.S. Air Force's Far East Command, the 5th Air Force was hard pressed to provide air support for retreating allied troops in the summer of 1950.

In an attempt to slow the tide of the invading communist forces, every available resource was sent

to Korea from the United States, including 296 F-51 Mustang aircraft assigned to Air National Guard units. In July 1950, the 176th Fighter Squadron, Wisconsin Air National Guard, surrendered 10 of its 25 F-51s to the Korean mobilization. This was only the beginning of the unit's involvement in the Korean War.

On Feb. 1, 1951, the 176th Fighter Squadron, commanded by Maj. Oliver Ryerson, was activated at Truax Field. Milwaukee's 126th Fighter Squadron, commanded by Maj. Paul Dowd, was also activated and was relocated to Truax Field.

The activation of the two flying squadrons required the Truax Field facilities to be upgraded to support the air defense mission assigned to them. Both squadrons were placed under the command and control of the newly organized 128th Fighter



In April 1952, the 176th became the first Air National Guard unit to fly the jet-propelled Northrop F-89 Scorpion.

Wing, commanded by Colonel Collins Ferris. A total of 1,443 Wisconsin Air National Guardsmen were mobilized.

Although 176th Fighter Squadron personnel anticipated activation, a lot of energy was put into renovating the base facilities,

which had been neglected since the base closed at the end of World War Two. Other challenges involved converting from reserve status to an effective active duty unit. The austere supply situation caused by the Korean War also added stress to the unit's activation process.

Although both Wisconsin Air Guard flying units remained at home station, many Guard personnel deployed worldwide, including to Korea. Notably, Lt. Jerome Volk of the 126th Fighter Squadron was killed in action over Korea in his F-80 Shooting Star. Volk Field is named in his honor.

During its active duty tour, the 176th conducted flight operations with an understrength fleet of F-51 aircraft until April 1952, when they converted to the Northrop F-89B Scorpion, becoming the first Air National Guard unit to fly this modern jet fighter. The Wisconsin airmen experienced many "teething" problems with this new aircraft, but eventually overcame them. Then, just when the unit

had begun to be familiar with the F-89, they converted back to the F-51H Mustang. In October 1952, they were deactivated from and returned to state status.

During the Korean War, 66 of the 92 tactical squadrons in the Air National Guard were called to active duty. Approximately 45,000 personnel, 80 percent of total Air Guard strength, saw active duty between 1950 and 1953. Of the 66 units mobilized, 51 remained stateside but supplied many pilots and key personnel to other Air Force organizations. The Air National Guard units helped the service expand to meet the feared global confrontation with the Soviet Union.

The Korean War marked a crucial turning point for the Air National Guard. This event helped erase a previous pattern of hostility and neglect in the Air Guard-Air Force relationship. The Guard's appropriations for resources, personnel and operational capabilities continued to increase following Korea



P-51 Mustangs like this one were the basis on which Wisconsin's 176th Fighter Squadron was built in the immediate post-War years. They were called on almost immediately for the emergency which erupted on the Korean Peninsula in 1950. Photos courtesy of the 115th Fighter Wing.

57th adds water and snow to training mix

By Master Sgt. Mark Spitz
57th Field Artillery Brigade

Soldiers of Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 57th Field Artillery Brigade, didn't know training could be so much fun.

Unit leaders, with guidance from Col. James Schiller, the brigade commander, and under orders of the battery commander, Capt. Daniel Ertel, have been working hard to incorporate elements of adventure into mission-focused battery training. Pursuing training opportunities suggested by junior troops, the battery has given a degree of ownership to those soldiers, created an enjoyable yet challenging atmosphere, and raised morale in the unit.

During Annual Training 2000 and MUTA-5 (Friday through Sunday) weekend drills, the battery has been using Fort McCoy's confidence and conditioning courses to beef up its physical fitness training. They have also used the Engagement Skills Trainer (EST), a video-based simulator, to prepare for individual weapons qualifications and standard land navigation courses to improve soldier skill level tasks.

But the best was yet to come.

Water survival training

In its December drill the unit underwent water survival training. Enlisting the support of Emergency Survival Team members from the Wisconsin Air Guard's 128th Air Refueling Wing, battery members trained on aircraft emergency equipment in the Milwaukee Messmer High School swimming pool. At the same time, the unit trained using Army-prescribed techniques as well. Soldiers spent four hours in the pool, wearing BDUs, while they learned to work with U.S. Air Force rafts and one-person flotation equipment, and even to convert their own clothing into flotation devices.

It was both fun and exhausting. Troops finished the exercise understanding just how fatiguing saving yourself can be, even in a controlled environment. The same training was conducted simultaneously by the battery's Detachment 1 at the Two Rivers High School, after careful planning and coordination by Sgt. James Taulbut, and with the assis-

tance of a local scuba diving school.

"Sergeant, it's cold outside"

Battery soldiers also spent time in their December and January drills preparing for their first encounter with cold weather training. During those two monthly drills, the unit learned the proper use of the Army's cold weather clothing and tent heaters as well as cold weather operation of vehicles. The advance training was capped with cold weather field training in February.

"Many soldiers joined the Army for the excitement it brings to their lives," said Capt. Ertel. "Our battery's strategy is to maximize on opportunities that keep the training interesting, challenging, and battle-focused. Our arctic field training exercise in February was an example of this."

The battery arrived at Fort McCoy by convoy late Friday night; soldiers spent a warm night in barracks and headed to the field early Saturday morning. The objective: Sustain operations in cold weather.

Temperatures hovered in the 20s and the snow fell all day. Unit members erected tents, started heaters, served food and conducted training classes. Six inches of ice-covered snow had to be removed before the unit's assortment of GP-Medium, GP-Small and frame tents could go up. Soldiers used steel tent stakes instead of wood to pierce the frozen tundra of Fort McCoy. Trainers conducted classes on snowshoeing, use of night vision goggles and the AN/PSN-11 Navigational Set Satellite System, a military version of the Global Positioning System (GPS). The day was completed with a night patrol through the South Post land navigation course.

Tired soldiers hit the sack on cots in tents, with guards posted to keep a watchful eye on the diesel fueled tent heaters.

"Soldiers had warmth concerns leading into the event, but the enthusiasm of the leadership kept spirits high and allowed a new level of confidence in the equipment. Exit surveys concluded this was the most positive training yet," Ertel said.

With regular feedback from soldiers and an aggressive leadership emphasis

on innovative training methods, the battery continues to plan for future adventure training, aiming to remain at or near its most recent strength level of 114 percent.

"The value of this diversified training is significant," said Command Sgt.

Maj. Marc Shapiro, the brigade's senior enlisted advisor. "It builds both individual and team confidence, provides soldier survivability skills training on tasks seldom offered, and keeps soldiers coming back for more of this type of training in the future."



Soldiers of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 57th Field Artillery Brigade, Wisconsin Army National Guard, learn to use an Air Force 20-person life raft. The water survival training was held in December in the Messmer High School swimming pool, Milwaukee, Wis.



On a cold day in February, members of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 57th Field Artillery Brigade, Wisconsin Army National Guard, gather in a field at Fort McCoy to learn the basics of walking on snowshoes. Wisconsin Army National Guard photos by 57th Field Artillery Brigade.

Badger Guard marathon runners go the distance

Four Wisconsin National Guard members competed in a field of 220 Guard runners in the 18th annual National Guard Marathon Trials May 6 in Lincoln Neb.

Christopher Toepfer, Pamela Niebuhr, Mike Zeigle and Charles Munich ran the 26.2 mile course.

Toepfer, 38, a captain and operations officer in the 147th Aviation Battalion in Madison, placed fifth in the open division and also fifth in the overall standings with a time of 2 hours 42 minutes 59 seconds.

Niebuhr, 42, a sergeant first class and finance NCO at Headquarters, State Area Command in Madison, placed ninth in the female division and 148th overall in a time of 4:02:51.

Zeigle, 49, a technical sergeant in the Air National Guard, ran a 2:53:49 time for fifth place in the masters division and 18th overall.

Munich, 28, a staff sergeant and motor sergeant with the 264th Engineer Group in Chippewa Falls, earned a 102nd place finish overall with a running of 3:32:55. He also works full-time as a mechanic at OMS 12.



Capt. Christopher Toepfer sprints to the finish line during the National Guard Marathon Trials.

Wisconsin drug testing program wins NGB award



Maj. Mike Nicholas (second from left), director of the National Guard Bureau Counterdrug Office, recognizes the Wisconsin Army National Guard's random drug testing program as the nation's most improved. The award takes into account improved accuracy in testing procedures and increase in the percentage of soldiers tested. Last year, more than 50 percent of Wisconsin Army National Guard soldiers were tested. Receiving the award are (left to right), Sgt. Jason Koenigs, Staff Sgt. Gerald Parchem, and Capt. Michael Hert. Parchem coordinates the Wisconsin Army Guard's Alcohol and Drug Prevention and Control Program. Koenigs is a test site coordinator and Hert serves as an alcohol and drug control officer.

107th Maintenance storms North Chicago beach with assists from 147th Aviation, U.S. Navy



Wisconsin Army National Guardsmen practice maneuvering a rubber "zodiac" boat under the direction of a Navy Reserve SEAL, center, during Operation Trident at Naval Training Center Great Lakes. U.S. Navy photos by Photographer's Mate 1st Class Michael Worner.



Navy Reserve Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Felicia Williams of the Fleet Hospital Reserve Unit, Detachment 17, assesses Wisconsin Army National Guard Pvt. Miranda Levy, a mock casualty, during Operation Trident.

By JOSN Brian Badura
Naval Training Center
Great Lakes

Saving Private Ryan was not on their Mission Essential Task List (METL), but 35 members of the 107th Maintenance Company, Wisconsin Army National Guard, waded ashore à la Tom Hanks to secure a beachhead on Lake Michigan Saturday, May 19.

Airlift courtesy of the 1st Battalion, 147th Aviation, and a boat ride from the U.S. Navy, put the troops in place for the amphibious landing as part of Operation Trident, a joint military exercise held at Great Lakes Naval Training Center, North Chicago, Ill.

The drill began around 8:30 a.m., when the Wisconsin Guard troops flew in to Ross Field at Great Lakes in two UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters provided by the 147th. Upon arrival, troops quickly disembarked to ready themselves for a full weekend of training alongside their Navy counterparts.

Participants in Operation Trident, besides the Wisconsin Army National Guard, included Naval personnel from Assault Craft Unit One, Detachment 1813; SEAL (Sea-Air-Land Forces) Team Eight; and Fleet Hospital 9, Detachment 17.

According to Chief Warrant Officer 2 Mike Kerley, operations officer for the assault craft unit, the exercise culminated 6 months of planning by him and Capt. Scott Southworth, commander of the 107th. "Our primary goal in designing this training was to strengthen the interoperability between the Army and Navy," he noted.

Guard troops, led by Southworth, were loaded aboard Navy LCMs — Landing Craft, Mechanized — and taken "out to sea." This gave sailors an opportunity to hone their skills in picking up and landing troops. Upon landing, Guard troops disembarked and stormed the beachhead, securing the area by moving forward in full tactical formation.



Wisconsin Army National Guard Spc. Hannes Stieg, Tomah, scans Nunn beach for snipers after disembarking a Navy landing craft during Operation Trident at Naval Training Center Great Lakes.

Guard members were also given a chance to get some insight alongside one of the Navy's elite SEAL teams. Members of SEAL Team Eight broke into small groups, training Guard members in the basics of small craft operation, security methods and overall awareness in a combat environment. Participants from both branches also strengthened their skills in helicopter medical evacuations at Great Lakes Naval Hospital.

The exercise was designed to boost retention for the Sparta-based 107th, according to Southworth, as well as increasing operational readiness and giving junior enlisted personnel a chance to show their leadership skills.

"These junior people can get

the message through to their peers very effectively," said Command Sgt. Major Doug Gehrke, 64th Troop Command. "Many... have not even been to basic training yet," he noted. "This is the best opportunity for them to see and experience training in a realistic setting."

"We designed this Army/Navy retention mission to provide high-speed, innovative, inter-force training for our best young soldiers," said Southworth. "The relationships established will enhance the readiness of both forces. I can now honestly say, 'Go Army!' and 'Go Navy!' in the same breath."

Additional material provided by Capt. Scott Southworth, 107th Maintenance Company.



Members of the Wisconsin Army National Guard make their way ashore at Nunn Beach during Operation Trident at Naval Training Center Great Lakes.

Japan rolls out red carpet for 64th ROC

By Sgt. Rebecka A. VanderWerf
64th Support Detachment

The 64th Support Detachment (Rear Operations Center), Monroe, sent 15 of its 49 soldiers to Japan in January to take part in "Yama Sakura," an annual joint exercise of the United States Army Japan and the Japanese Ground Self Defense Force.

The exercise is the second largest in the Pacific and changes locations within Japan every year. This year's Yama Sakura 39 took place at Camp Kita-Kumamoto, near Kumamoto Prefecture on Kyushu, the southernmost island of Japan.

Four thousand American and Japanese soldiers located in Kumamoto participated, plus three thousand soldiers and airmen from Yokota Air Base, near Tokyo, and Fort Lewis, Wash.

The 64th ROC logged, plotted and tracked more than 3,000 chemical and Special Operations Forces attacks against individuals, vehicles, roadways and property. The Monroe unit's mission is to plan and coordinate movement control and support. It is responsible for the defense of units that support the forward elements.

"The Japanese are extremely professional, courteous, and dedicated to their duties," said Sgt. 1st Class Tom Marschke,

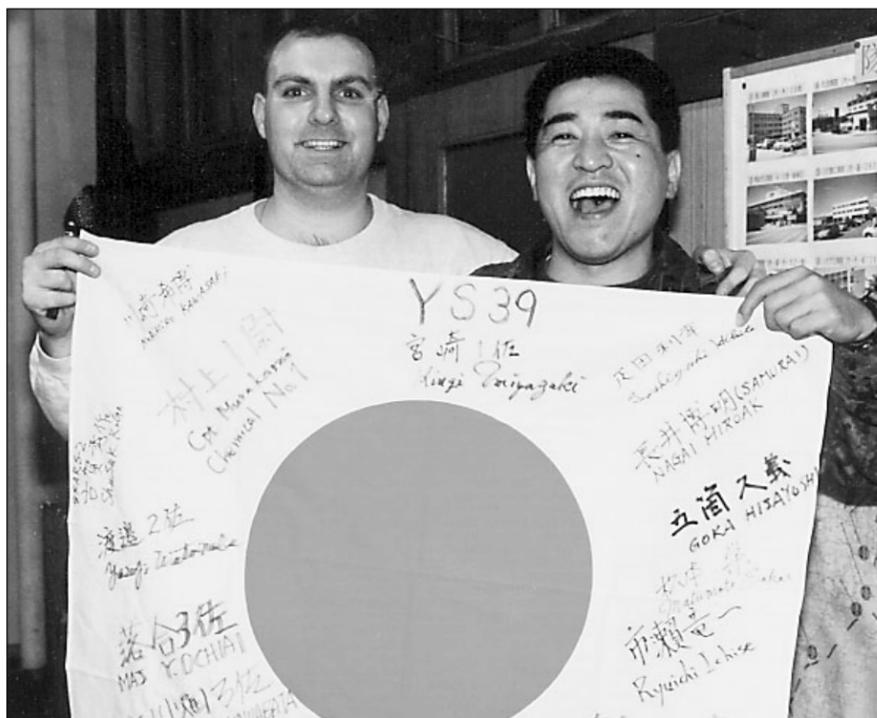
who worked as a liaison to the Japanese Western Army.

Maj. Charles Olsen, the 64th's senior officer for the exercise, said he developed "a great deal of respect, both professionally and personally, for the Japanese and their culture. They went out of their way to make our soldiers feel welcome."

When soldiers were not actively involved in the exercise, they found themselves cast as goodwill ambassadors at five social events. Their Japanese hosts provided cultural demonstrations of everything from martial arts to the traditional Japanese tea ceremony. Female soldiers got the opportunity to don kimonos and discovered that it takes half an hour to put one on, even with the help of a professional kimono dresser.

The Wisconsin Guard members had only positive comments about the experience. "It was a lot of fun, and I enjoyed getting to know the Japanese," said Spc. Laura Bolder.

Since 1995, the 64th has regularly participated in Northern Edge, a four-service harbor defense exercise held in Alaska, as well as training opportunities in South Korea with the active Army and in South Dakota as part of Golden Thunder, which is attended by National Guard units from across the nation.



Capt. Douglas Novak poses with one of his Japanese counterparts during the farewell social event for the 64th ROC. The Japanese flag is signed by the staff of the Japanese Western Army Ground Self Defense Force Rear Area Operations Center, the 64th ROC's counterpart during the joint exercise. Photo courtesy of the 64th Support Detachment.

Paladin troops train early at McCoy

By Col. David Gapinski

Snow blanketed the northern slopes of the sandy hills, and ice still covered Alderwood Lake, as the 1st Battalion, 126th Field Artillery conducted Phase I of its annual training (AT) at Fort McCoy March 30 through April 7.

This is the second successive year in which the battalion has chosen to split its AT into separate one-week periods. Unit members favor the concept because employers can handle a one-week military absence more easily than two weeks, and unit leaders like it because at least one week of training can be scheduled during a period when the Fort McCoy's ranges are not in heavy use by other units. The battalion is preparing for a platoon-level Army External Evaluation scheduled for August.

"The lack of (other) people training here at this time opened up more of the post for us and allowed us to conduct other training at the same time," said Maj. John Schroeder, training officer for the 57th Field Artillery Brigade, the battalion's parent unit.

Training in early April offered some challenges. "We experienced all of the seasons except summer...every day!" said Staff Sgt. Robert Clayton Thomas Jr., a howitzer section chief in Battery B.

In its five-day live-fire field exercise the battalion fielded 14 of its 18 howitzer sections and safely fired 749 rounds. The unit, which currently stands at 100 percent authorized strength, mustered 305 of its 497 members for the first week of AT 2001; members attending school or awaiting military training made up most of the non-attenders. The 305 soldiers who took part in Phase I increased their skills and experience with the tools of their military trade.

"I really gained confidence in the capabilities of this Humvee," said Pfc. Michael Wade, the battalion commander's driver, as he slogged through mud and soggy ground of Paladin Firing Area #3.

"It's just amazing to see what these things can do," said Pvt. Daniel Simonsen, a combat signaler with the Headquarters Battery. "This was my first AT, and I gained confidence in my weapon system. I qualified with an M-60 machinegun."

Pvt. James Davis, a member of Service

Battery, also gained confidence in his skills as a soldier. Davis' training included firing a .50-caliber Browning machinegun from the turret of an M-88 Track Recovery Vehicle. "It was like shooting from the top of a house," he said.

While individual unit members were mastering their particular tasks, the leaders of the 126th were concerned with significant unit-wide training issues arising from changing technology and organizations. The battalion fielded the M-109A6 Paladin howitzer and its accompanying Field Artillery Ammunition Support Vehicle (FAASV) during a three-week AT in 1999. The Paladin is designed to maximize dispersion of firing batteries and can be used in a variety of employment options. Firing batteries can be employed using battery, platoon, paired and single-howitzer methods.

The Paladin's digital fire support system and autonomous tactics place increased responsibility on section sergeants. Successful communication and coordination of fire rely on the Single Channel Ground and Airborne Radio System (SINCGARS) and the Battery Computer System (BCS). Personnel turnover and system upgrades require crews to constantly train and retrain on the system. A regimen of crew drills and discipline teaches them to respect themselves and their leaders. Tough, realistic training prepares soldiers to withstand, heat, cold, dust, mud and aching muscles. Section sergeants provide hot coffee, soup and snacks while their crews perform maintenance on the Paladin during the cold nights.

"We're not only training, we're retraining ourselves," according to Pvt. John Sexton, a cannon crewman with Battery A. "My section chief puts trust in me. He passes on his knowledge. When I enlisted I planned on my 'eight and out.' Now I'm going to stay longer."

Watchful eyes from the Training Support Brigade - Fort Knox were on hand to observe the Phase I training week. It was the first "outside look" for the 126th since their new equipment training in 1999. The field artillery battalion returned to Fort McCoy in June for another live fire exercise (LFX) and then continues with its Phase II annual training and Army External Evaluation in August.

Note: Additional material from the Fort McCoy Triad.



Behind the .50-caliber machinegun atop a Paladin howitzer, a soldier of the 126th awaits the command to fire at a distant target.



Sgt. Bruce Eidson, a gun chief in Battery B, 1st Battalion, 126th Field Artillery, in the hatch of a 155 mm Paladin howitzer, reviews a fire mission on the gun's fire control computer. Photos courtesy of 1st Battalion, 126th Field Artillery.

Berets coming in September

At Ease Staff

For most soldiers in the Wisconsin Army National Guard, black berets will become standard headgear on Sept. 1. The announcement was made in June by Brig. Gen. Kerry Denson, deputy adjutant general for Army.

As At Ease went to press in mid-June, Wisconsin's berets had not yet been received, due to procurement problems that also caused a phased-in Army-wide fielding schedule for the new headgear.

Originally, the entire Army was scheduled to don berets on June 14 — the service's 226th birthday. Some members of Congress and U.S. businesses criticized Defense Department contracting officers because only one of seven firms initially contracted had a plant in the U.S.

Another recently announced change is elimination of any "rites of passage" in order to receive the beret, Army officials said.

"The sergeant major of the Army consulted with the senior command sergeants major around the Army and their recommendation was that soldiers

who have completed Initial Entry Training were qualified to be issued the beret at their first duty station," said Master Sgt. Dave Schad, a spokesman for Sergeant Major of the Army Jack L. Tilley. He said senior Army leaders approved the recommendation.

Army Chief of Staff Gen. Erik Shinseki said that his order of business is transformation and building cohesiveness in the ranks. "It is important to ensure that all soldiers know that they are a part of the cutting-edge Army...as momentum is gained with the first two Interim Brigade Combat Teams at Fort Lewis, Wash." he said.

"The black berets will build bonds between active-duty, reserve, aviation, maneuver and support communities," Shinseki said, "because no one wins wars alone."

"We are all part of the Army's transformation," Shinseki said.

In October, Shinseki announced that the Army would outfit its soldiers with black berets as a symbol of transforming to a lighter, more-deployable force.

Editors Note: Army News Service contributed to this story.

Fighter wing duo get medals for helping save a boy's life

By Kelly Pensinger
At Ease Staff

Two airmen from the 115th Fighter Wing helped save a young boy from drowning while deployed to the Caribbean last winter. Tech. Sgt. Daniel Bryant and Staff Sgt. Steven French each received the Air Force Achievement Medal from Lt. Gen. William Hobbins, commander of the Twelfth Air Force, for their quick thinking and teamwork.

While off duty one day Bryant and French saw a little boy being pulled out of the water and up onto the beach. The little boy was unconscious and vomited white foam. The two men and a Canadian warrant officer who was nearby ran over to the little boy.

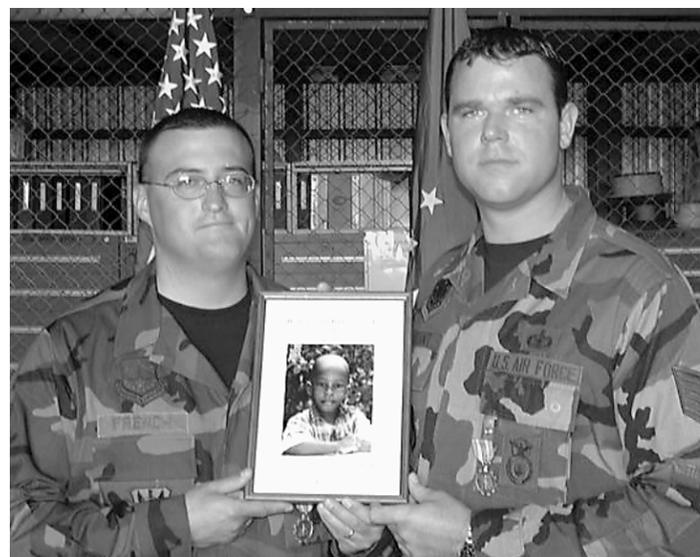
"I looked for a pulse, but couldn't find one," said French. "The Canadian began rescue breathing while I watched and felt the chest to see if the breaths were going in." Bryant cleaned sand out of his eyes and ears.

A couple days later Bryant and French were able to see the little boy in the hospital. They

found out his name was Jurian and he is 9 years old. Jurian's father gave Bryant and French a photo of Jurian with the inscription "Every time you look at this picture you will remember that once you saved my life."

As part of the security forces both men are trained in first aid and CPR and French was previously an EMT.

"We were in the right place at the right time," French said. "We had great teamwork."



Staff Sgt. Steven French (left) and Tech. Sgt. Daniel Bryant show a picture of Jurian, the young boy they helped save from drowning while they were deployed to Curacao last winter. Both were awarded the Air Force Achievement Medal. Photo courtesy of the 115th Fighter Wing.

264th HQ troops test war skills in Germany



Spc. Anne Toutant updates the map board in the Administrative Logistics Operations Center. Photo by Maj. Connie Schauer.

By Maj. Connie Schauer
264th Engineer Group

Six dozen members of the Chippewa Falls-based Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 264th Engineer Group — headed to Grafenwoehr, Germany, March 24 to spend their Annual Training in a V Corps Warfighter exercise. It was the first time the entire unit deployed to Germany since a REFORGER (Return of Forces to Germany) exercise in January 1990.

The V Corps Warfighter exercise used a computer-simulated wartime scenario, which allowed the group's headquarters staff sections to test their ability to command and control subordinate units in times of conflict. More than 8,800 civilians and soldiers from more than 30 units in the Army and Air Force — active, reserve, and Guard — were players in the exercise.

Some soldiers in the headquarters company worked directly with their active-duty counterparts. For example, eight cooks from the 264th augmented the base dining facility's usual staff of 12.

The cooks completed all phases of meal preparation from breaking down rations to serving four meals per day to hungry troops. They enjoyed the opportunity to work with cooks from all over Germany. Sgt.

Robin Breutzmann, a cook, said, "Integrating with the active component allowed the section to hone their culinary skills and learn different feeding systems."

The group chaplain provided another example of integration with the active component. Chaplain (Lt. Col.) John Steiner was one of only two Roman Catholics among more than 50 chaplains who took part in the exercise.

"The Warfighter exercise provided a valuable experience to better understand how the various levels of religious ministry relate to each other, from battalion through corps," Steiner said. In addition to providing religious support to exercise participants, he also supported the on-post Catholic community.

While in Germany, about 50 unit members visited a World War II concentration camp at Dachau and spent the remainder of the day exploring Munich.

"The Warfighter exercise with V Corps was the ultimate training opportunity," said Col. Michael Williams, 264th Engineer Group commander.

"The soldiers of the 264th Engineer Group were able to train on several mission-essential tasks, interface with the active component, and experience the culture of a foreign country," he said.

ACOE prize

Continued from page 1

ment, the Wisconsin Army National Guard noted its varied customer base, including soldiers, airmen, Guard retirees and their families. The Guard's external customers encompass an array of local, state and federal agencies as well as employers, education institutions, and community groups.

The document also outlined the strategic planning and after-action evaluations implemented to guide the Guard in providing better, more efficient service to its customers. The Challenge Academy, strength-management initiatives, Drug Control Program, Tuition Grant Pro-

gram, and responses to state emergencies are just a few of the many services and initiatives highlighted in the self-assessment report.

According to Brig. Gen. Kerry Denson, deputy adjutant general for Army, the self-assessment report demonstrates the Wisconsin Army National Guard's commitment to establishing systematic processes to improve business practices. In the area of customer service, the Wisconsin Guard has incorporated some of the analysis as the result of the Army Performance Improvement Criteria to improve retention rates.



Brig. Gen. Kerry G. Denson and Maj. Steve Roberts (holding cup) led a delegation of Wisconsin Army National Guard ACOE team members at a Pentagon award ceremony.

Tootin' their own horns...



The 132nd Army Band plays an Armed Forces Day concert on the State Capitol grounds in Madison May 19. The band begins a summer concert tour (see below) during their annual training in July. Photo by Kelly Pensinger.

Date	City/Town	Concert Time	Location
July 14	Black Earth	6:30 p.m.	Veteran's Park
July 15	Prairie du Chien	7:00 p.m.	Fort Crawford Museum
July 16	Mineral Point	7:00 p.m.	Opera House
July 17	Independence	7:00 p.m.	High School
July 18	La Crosse	6:30 p.m.	Riverside Park
July 19	Platteville	7:00 p.m.	City Park
July 21	Baraboo	9:00-10:00 a.m. 10:30-11:00 a.m. 1:45-2:15 p.m. 2:30-3:00 p.m.	Circus World Museum/Big Top
July 22	Mauston	2:00 p.m.	Juneau Co. Courthouse Lawn
July 23	Monroe	7:30 p.m.	Twining Park Band Shell

Wisconsin Military Academy Hall of Fame to induct five in August

Five retired Army Guard soldiers have been chosen to be inducted into the Wisconsin Military Academy Hall of Fame. They are Col. David Schumacher, Col. Fred McCormick, Col. Clark Babl, Master Sgt. Lauren LaFleur and Master Sgt. Jerome Strok.

The induction ceremony will be held Saturday, Aug. 18, at 10:00 a.m., at the Wisconsin Military Academy, Fort McCoy, Wis. All are welcome to attend.

For more information call Ron Bieker at (608) 242-3037 or WMA at (608) 388-9990.

Air Guard NCO honored as outstanding Madison woman

By Kelly Pensinger
At Ease Staff

Master Sgt. Marsann "Buddy" McCants of Wisconsin Air National Guard Headquarters was one of ten women nominated for the Madison Business Forum's Athena Award.

The nominees were honored March 7 at the annual "Celebration of Excellence" event at the Monona Terrace Convention Center in Madison.

The Athena Award is presented for outstanding achievement, service, and assistance to women in reaching their full personal and leadership potential. As the state human resource advisor for the Wisconsin Air National Guard, McCants assists in setting national diversity goals at the state level. She also promotes the Air Guard by providing mentorship programs to the community.

Through the Guard's Diversity Council — which she founded three years ago to

boost minority recruiting — McCants established a mentorship program for at-risk and disadvantaged children.

She has worked with other organizations to host Safe Night, a night of fun for middle and high school students, and has made time to mentor Madison La Follette High School female minority students through a group called "Sistas."

"We could not be more proud of Master Sgt. McCants and all that she has accomplished in her civilian and military endeavors," said Brig. Gen. Al Wilkening, deputy adjutant general for Air.

"To be included in this select group of high-impact professional women is a tribute to her outstanding contributions to this community and the National Guard. She simply represents what is best in who we are and what we do," Wilkening said.

In her civilian role, McCants has a full-time job as customer service manager for Interview Technologies, Inc.



"Buddy" McCants

National News Briefs

Army welcomes new secretary

The 18th secretary of the Army, Thomas E. White, affirmed his commitment to soldiers during a ceremony welcoming him to office June 7 at Fort Myer, Va.

"Taking care of soldiers is the sacred trust of my office," White said as he stood in front of soldiers from the 3rd U.S. Infantry (The Old Guard) and the U.S. Army Band, "Pershing's Own."

"The old adage that people are not in the Army, they are the Army is absolutely true," White said. "In my view, our people have paid a disproportionate price for the success that our Army has enjoyed over the past decade."

He said he will pay particularly close attention to personnel, housing and pay and benefits.

"We will take better care of soldiers and their families. We simply must make soldiering fun."

Gen. Eric K. Shinseki, chief of staff of the Army, expressed his confidence in White's leadership and vision.

"He knows our values — he's lived them," Shinseki said.

White graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1967 and rose to the rank of brigadier general during a 23-year career in uniform.

Army Guard director gets third star

Maj. Gen. Roger Schultz, Director of the Army National Guard, was promoted to the rank of lieutenant general June 13 in a ceremony at the Pentagon. The chief of the U.S. Army Reserve, Maj. Gen. Thomas Plewes, was also promoted to three-star rank during the ceremony.

Previously, the heads of each service's reserve forces were authorized 2-star rank, but Congress authorized the higher ranks in the FY 2001 National Defense Authorization Act.

"The Army is privileged to have great officers like Tom Plewes, chief of the Army Reserve — and Roger Schultz, director of the Army National Guard, leading our magnificent citizen soldiers," said Gen. Eric K. Shinseki, Army Chief of Staff.

"Two years ago, we made a bold declaration — that we were 'The Army — totally integrated, with a unity of purpose — no longer the total Army, no longer the one Army.' We acknowledged our components and their unique strengths and made it clear that we would 'march into the 21st century as The Army.' Today, that's exactly what we're doing, and today's ceremony is symbolic of the unity our Army has demonstrated over the past two years, serving 'on point' for the Nation," Gen. Shinseki said.

As the director of the Army National Guard, Lt. Gen. Schultz oversees 350,000 soldiers, 3,200 Army National Guard facilities in 2,700 communities, and an annual budget of \$7.5 billion.

Supply kink slows anthrax program

The Department of Defense is further curtailing the anthrax immunization program due to inadequate supplies of the vaccine, DoD officials said June 11.

Effective immediately only service members assigned to "special mission units" will receive the six-shot series.

The action is necessary because of delays in DoD receiving FDA-approved vaccine from Bioport, the sole source of the vaccine.

Officials expect the Food and Drug Administration to approve Bioport, based in Lansing, Mich., for full production no later than March 2002, said Marine Maj. Gen. Randall West, special assistant to the deputy secretary of defense for chemical and biological protection.

But until then, DoD will conserve the dwindling supply of approved vaccine. There are a few more than 30,000 doses of vaccine available for use now. West said only small special operations units, people working on research and some congressionally mandated studies will continue to receive the vaccine.

Now service members deploying to Southwest Asia will no longer receive the vaccine. About 13,000 U.S. service members are deployed to Southwest Asia. U.S. Central Command will have sufficient antibiotics on hand for post-exposure treatment in case of an attack.

Service members who've begun the vaccination regime will not have to start over when vaccine comes available. "Fortunately, even a couple of shots provide some resistance to anthrax," West said.

Cuisine, Haute, Ready-to-Eat

Pork chow mein and "smoky franks" are toast. Menus for Meals, Ready-to-Eat, often referred to as "Meals, Rejected-by-Everybody," are getting an update, according to Gerald Darsch, joint program director of the Department of Defense Combat Feeding Program.

New items are being added to the MRE ration line for 2001. Service members will start seeing seafood jambalaya, beef enchiladas and mashed potatoes. In 2002, service members will see beefsteak with mushroom gravy, multigrain cereal, cappuccino and hamburger patties. Beefsteak and chicken with rice will disappear.

Also on the horizon is a new meal, called the first-strike ration. Its intent is to allow service members to eat on the move. "Warfighters won't have to stop to use even a spoon," Darsch said. The ration prototype consists of shelf-stable pocket sandwiches, and pouches of carbohydrate-enhanced "Zapplesauce" product and Ergo high-energy drink powder.

"What we envision is the Zapplesauce being consumed directly from the pouch using a nozzle," he said. A fitting on the Ergo pouch would connect to a troop's 'camelback' water carrier — soldiers would fill the bag with water, shake it and then drink from a nozzle. "Everything would be complete to 'eat on the go.'"

'Multi-capable mechanics' are future of Army maintenance

By Cpl. Kerry McAllen
Co. B, 132nd FSB

Col. John Schwenner, director of maintenance for the Wisconsin Army National Guard, outlined the future of Army maintenance for members of Company B, 132nd Forward Support Battalion, at a unit dining-out held in Portage March 21. More than 80 unit members and their guests from Madison, Portage and Mauston attended. A dining-out is a formal military social event designed to give senior officers an opportunity to gather soldiers and guests in a morale-building setting to discuss issues affecting them.

Schwenner spoke about the constantly changing nature of the U.S. Army and the future of maintenance in the Wisconsin Army National Guard.

One of the most significant changes in the offing, according to Schwenner, is the "multi-capable mechanic," a soldier trained to meet national skills standards and perform precision maintenance. The future mechanic will be fully mobile, carry all necessary tools and equipment, and use computers to test and diagnose equipment, access equipment records and order repair parts. The goals are to increase efficiency, reduce equipment downtime and save taxpayer dollars.



Col. John Schwenner, director of maintenance for the Wisconsin Army National Guard, spoke recently at a dining-out about the constantly changing nature of the U.S. Army and the future of maintenance in the Wisconsin Army National Guard. Photo by Cpl. Kerry McAllen.

The future of Army technical training is expected to change, too, said Schwenner.

"The Army is looking at future training to take place at junior colleges and technical schools where soldiers will be grounded in physics, electronics and basic

mechanical skills," he said. This, he added, should reduce the amount of time National Guard members are away from home for training, as well as boosting the civilian economy through the Army's use of local education systems.

Volk airfield manager named best in Guard

By Maj. Brendan Smith
Volk Field

The Air National Guard has selected Senior Master Sgt. Bill Milem as its Airfield Management Senior Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year for 2000, and Volk Field simultaneously was named Airfield Management Facility of the Year.

Selection for these awards means that Milem and Volk Field will compete in these same categories at the Air Force level, which includes airfield management personnel and facilities throughout the world.

Milem and Volk Field were chosen over several other Air National Guard personnel and facilities. Nomination criteria for the awards included notable contributions to quality, safety, or procedural developments; sustained efficiency as recognized by users; outstanding personnel performance; and duty above and beyond normal day-to-day operations.

Milem was recognized for his outstanding management of Volk Field's Base Operations, flight line and runway. Base Operations is responsible for managing Volk Field's airspace, which includes several Military Operations Areas, aerial refueling tracks, restricted areas, and low-level corridors. Base Ops also coordinates all aircraft movements on the flight line. Of particular note was Milem's support of the 115th

Fighter Wing's six-month deployment to Volk Field while their home-field runway was being repaired. The F-16 unit from Madison flew all of its daily missions out of Volk Field during this period without a single accident or incident.

Milem was also recognized in several other areas. His Bird Aircraft Strike Hazard program reduced aircraft strikes of both birds and deer on the runway to the lowest level seen in years. He also rewrote the Flightline Driving Program, incorporating new computer-based training. While deployed to Prince Sultan Air Base in Saudi Arabia for Operation Southern Watch, Milem sug-

gested several improvements that were adopted and significantly enhanced the base's safety.

Volk Field's facilities — particularly its new 9,000-foot runway — were also recognized by the selection committee.

An Air Force flight standards inspector summed up Milem's management and Volk Field's facilities during a recent inspection, when he wrote that Volk Field has the "best airfield and facilities seen in my 38-year career."

This is the second time Milem has won the Senior Non-Commissioned Officer category.

Volk Field won the Facility of the Year Award in 1998 and the Airfield Operations Flight Complex of the Year Award in 1999, which combined both airfield management and air traffic control facilities.



Milem



Volk Field and Senior Master Sgt. Bill Milem were selected for awards for the year 2000. Photos by Maj. Brendan Smith.

at ease



Wisconsin Army National Guard Pvt. Ryan Hubbard, Mauston, trailed by other Wisconsin Guard members, makes his way ashore on Nunn Beach during Operation Trident at Naval Training Center Great Lakes. The operation was a joint exercise that included an aerial insertion of army troops, amphibious beach assaults and mass casualty drills. Helicopters and troops from the Wisconsin Army National Guard, landing craft from the Naval Reserve, and the Navy Reserve SEAL Team Eight all participated. See Operation Trident story on page 12. U.S. Navy photo by Photographer's Mate 1st Class Michael Worner.

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