

THE MAGAZINE OF THE NEW JERSEY NATIONAL GUARD

Vol. 27 No. 2

GUARDLIFE



Be Prepared For That Next Job!

By Maj. Gen. Paul J. Glazar

CHANGE IS THE one thing that will always be constant in an organization like the New Jersey National Guard. We live in the midst of one of the most dynamic economies in the United States, with job changes, transfers, and retirements happening



The Adjutant General addressing a group of Clinton Elementary School students for the Reading Is Fun Day.

all the time - with those changes having their effect on our Guard units. We have seen the transition of commanders in both of our air wings recently, as well as the change of commanders in several of our army battalions and air squadrons. When changes occur, especially with little advanced warning, we look for the best replacement to fill that vacancy.

If you are looking at your future progression and are counting on a couple of years before your boss retires or moves on - you know, a couple of years to "complete that next course," or go to "that school you need for promotion," you may find yourself out of the running when an opportunity pops up.

Balancing the demands of your job, family, and military requirements is harder than ever, but I cannot stress enough the need to be prepared to step up to your next job or promotion - you never know when you might be asked. In many cases military school slots and professional education go unfilled for lack of student inputs. In most cases, the schools

are there - you only need to have the initiative to apply and attend. The same is true of required civilian education - with all of the educational benefits you accrue as a Guard member, there are few reasons not to finish that degree or other program.

We are always looking for leaders, and in some cases we must pass over a person who demonstrates great leader qualities because they are not qualified for that next job. Don't let that happen to you - be prepared - that call may come much sooner than you think.

A word of congratulations to our two new air commanders, Colonels Mike Cosby in the 177th Fighter Wing and Craig Widen in the 108th Air Refueling Wing. Both are veterans of Desert Storm and both are pilots with many thousands of hours in their aircraft. Both face the challenge of maintaining our readiness and meeting the worldwide demand for aircraft, aircrew, and support personnel. Best of luck in the new positions. ✪



GUARDLIFE

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About The Cover

Last Minute Changes

Sgt. 1st Class Bill Castro (left) goes over last minutes changes with 1st Lt. Greg Conklin (right) as Charlie Battery of the 3-112th Field Artillery prepares to fire at Fort Dix. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Kryn P. Westhoven, 444th MPAD.

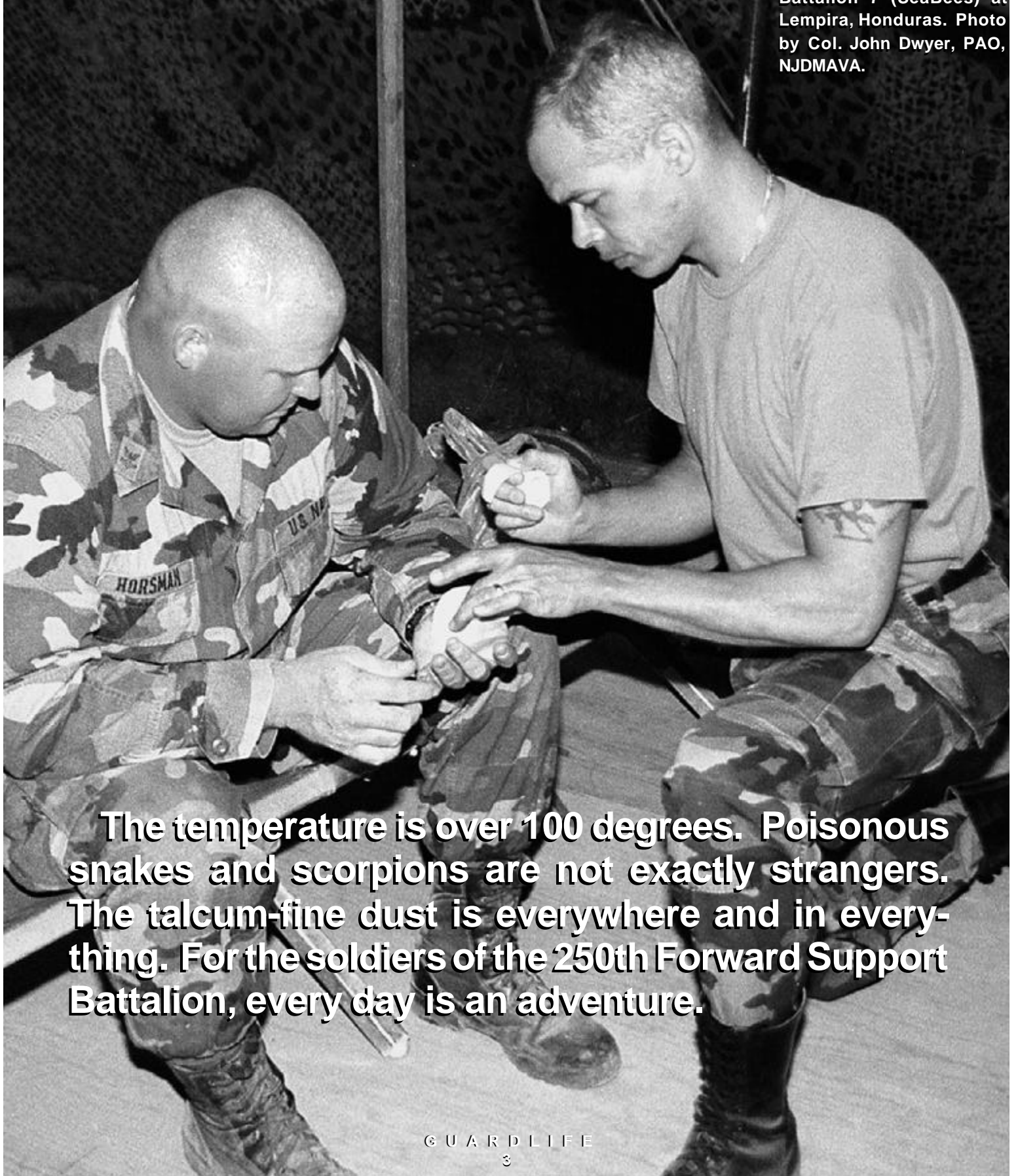
Errors

We didn't find any in the last issue. If you did, we're sorry.

Mission: Honduras

By Col. John Dwyer, PAO, NJDMAVA

1st Lt. (Doctor) Philip Campbell, 250th Forward Support Battalion, ministers to Petty Officer 2nd Class Blaise Horsman of the Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 7 (SeaBees) at Lempira, Honduras. Photo by Col. John Dwyer, PAO, NJDMAVA.



The temperature is over 100 degrees. Poisonous snakes and scorpions are not exactly strangers. The talcum-fine dust is everywhere and in everything. For the soldiers of the 250th Forward Support Battalion, every day is an adventure.



Mission: Honduras

Twenty medics from Company C, 250th Forward Support Battalion, were part of "Operation New Horizons 2001" building roads, schools, clinics and latrines in rural villages in the mountains of Honduras. The New Jersey medics provide medical care for U.S. forces in their area and assisted with "sick call" for the local citizens in the remote, impoverished villages in the Department (province) of Lempira.

While deployed to Honduras, the men and women of the 250th were responsible for the health care of the more than 500 personnel assigned to the joint task force in Lempira. This included operating a clinic tent in the base camp and having medics and ambulances on all of the active construction sites out in the villages. As with any construction project, there is a risk of serious injury where backhoes, bulldozers, and heavy equipment are being used. The medics treated mostly heat injuries, sprains, cuts, and some allergic reactions. In case of a serious medical emergency, there were medivac helicopters on 24-hour call to evacuate patients to the U.S. Air Force clinic at Soto Cano Airbase, Honduras.



Capt. (Doctor) Rocco Pascucci (left), Spc. Eric Guzman (center), and Spc. Melanie Metzger (right) from the 250th Forward Support Battalion work on a soldier suffering from heat injury at the Base Camp Clinic in Gracias, Honduras. Photo by Col. John Dwyer, PAO, NJDMAVA.

New Jersey medics also got to practice some "shade-tree medicine" as they accompanied medical teams to outlying villages where clinics were held to treat the local citizens. Often more than 700 people would show up to be treated at these "sick call" sites. Teamed with medical professionals from the South Dakota Army National Guard, the 250th medics helped translate, administer medicine, and teach basic sanitation techniques.

The medics lived in a tent camp with other guardsmen from Puerto Rico, Tennessee, South Carolina, and South Dakota, as well as Marine Corps reservists from Missouri and Navy Seabees from Mississippi. All drinking and wash water was drawn and purified from a local stream by the medics. A few amenities were around to make camp life a bit easier: satellite TV was beamed into the recreation tent to provide access to American programming and news; AFEES had a trailer on-site which sold cold drinks, snacks, and sundries; there were a few computers with internet access with E-mail; and there were phones where they could call home. The showers and latrines - individual showers and flush toilets (high



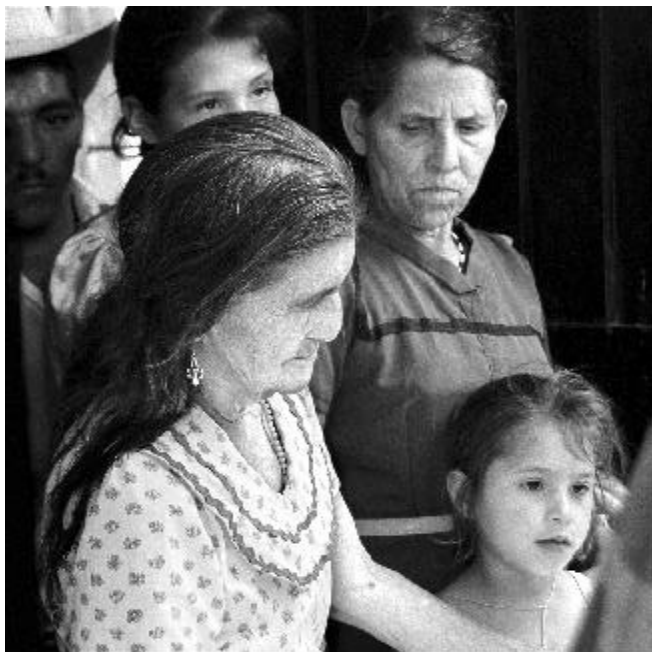
HUMVEE transporting a patient from La Campa to the base camp in Gracias, Honduras. Photo by Col. John Dwyer, PAO, NJDMAVA.

250th Deploys To Central America

tech deployable wonders) - just like home... well almost.

Lempira Province is in the mountains of Honduras, along their continental divide. It is extremely mountainous and fairly undeveloped. Many of the villages where our soldiers were working had only just received electricity in the last few years. Running water was still far from being standard and horses and ox-carts were the norm for transportation. Soldiers got to see first-hand how the morning cup of coffee started out, as sacks of fresh beans were off-loaded from mules and sun-dried on concrete patios along the roads. In the villages, 300-year-old churches were more common than modern buildings, and the daily bread was still baked in wood fired clay ovens.

New Jersey personnel rotated every two weeks



Hondurans wait in line outside one of the sick call sites run by the 250th FSB. Photo by Col. John Dwyer, PAO, NJDMAVA.

from February through the end of May. The 250th provided medics in February and March, and the 50th Main Support Battalion in April and May. This is the second time that New Jersey has participated in Operation New Horizons in Honduras - the first was in 1999 in the Cortez and Yoro Provinces. Plans are underway to deploy to Nicaragua for a similar mission in 2002. ♣

Faces of New Horizons 2001



Spc. Cheryl Cwiklik, 250th FSB, provided aid and comfort to one of inhabitants of the village of La Lima, Honduras. Photo by Col. John Dwyer, PAO, NJDMAVA



The La Campa Elementary School principal accepts a soccer ball donated by Maj. Ronald Walls (far right). Every day 250th medics would play soccer with area children. Also pictured Col. William Bertsch (center) and 1st Lt. Luis Aguinaga (left). Photo by Lt. Col. Eric Anderson, 250th Forward Support Battalion.

Exporting Democracy

By Col. John Dwyer, PAO, NJDMAVA

If you ask the truckers from the 253rd Transportation Company what they were doing in Honduras you'd hear: "Hauling block and gravel and building schools."

But I would say that they were exporting democracy - one truckload at a time.

The soldiers of the 253rd are part of the U.S. task force supporting "Operation New Horizons 2001" in Honduras. They are responsible for transporting supplies, materiel, and equipment to a base camp in Lempira Department (Province), and, from there, serviced five construction sites in remote mountain



Sgt. 1st Class Joseph Dicola prepares for another trip from the base camp to one of the construction sites. Photo by Col. John Dwyer, PAO, NJDMAVA.



Spc. Mark Leonard loading cement bags for a construction site. Photo by Col. John Dwyer, PAO, DMAVA.

villages. Through their efforts, Hondurans will have five new schools, four new clinics, and four running-water latrines in this impoverished area and the United States will have a stronger ally in Central America.

The 253rd is no stranger to deployments - they were called up for Desert Storm, have participated in joint operations at Fort Bliss, have

moved supplies from Army depots across America, and are on their way to the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk later this year.

This operation is a little different. The province's roads are narrow - so narrow that even a Humvee occupies the whole width of the road. Steep mountain roads rose more than 6,000 feet.

The roads are steep, wrought with hair-pin turns, and have no guardrails to save them from a plunge of several hundred feet. Local drivers pass at every opportunity - regardless of line-of-sight.

Then there is the equipment - not exactly

new trucks borrowed from other National Guard units, shipped by sea to Honduras and driven eight hours into the mountains. Spare parts were scarce to nonexistent; the dust and roads were a mechanic's nightmare. The temperature was frequently more than hundred degrees throughout the day.

And then there are the loads - mostly construction materials - steel



Rush-hour traffic - Honduran style. Photo by Lt. Col. Eric Anderson, 250th Forward Support Battalion.

One Truckload At A Time

rebar, bags of concrete, sand, gravel, concrete blocks, roof trusses, and lumber; almost all of it loaded and unloaded by hand.

It was not hard to tell where the Cape May troops were living - a large sign decorated the entrance to their GP medium tent and local plants had been transplanted in front. They share the camp with about 500 other soldiers, Marines, and the SeaBees who were there to build schools, clinics, latrines, and to repair bridges and roads.

The 253rd's day started at about 5 a.m. when they got up and queued up for an open spot at a sink to get shaved. Chow was served until 6 a.m., but the convoys to the worksites departed at 6 a.m., so the

truckers quickly ate the unit rations and headed to the motor pool to draw their trucks for the day. From that time until the crews from the villages returned at 6 p.m., the truckers of the 253rd hauled as many loads of block, sand, gravel, or whatever that they can. A single round-trip to a village 14 miles away took about four hours over primitive roads and steep grades. Since most materials have to be hand loaded and unloaded, it adds more time as well. The soldiers had MREs for lunch. At the end of the day, trucks were serviced, and the drivers return to the base camp for Army

chow and a hot shower. After chow, the next day's assignments were handed out and the cycle would start all over again. The Marine Corps engineers were so appreciative of the 253rd's support, that they presented Spc. Stephen Hoppe with a commander's coin for his work.

The 253rd rotated personnel to support Operation New Horizons every two weeks from January through



Two hours and 14 miles later the supplies are dropped off at the construction site. Photo by Col. John Dwyer, PAO, NJDMAVA.

April. In January, the 253rd hauled in all of the material to construct the camp in Lempira from the Port of LaCeiba eight hours away. As the mission to build schools was completed and the camp was dismantled, truckers from the 50th Main Support Battalion replaced the 253rd truckers and helped haul the containers and equipment back to the port for shipment back to the United States.

"A single round-trip to a village 14 miles away takes about four hours over primitive roads and steep grades."

When Sgt. 1st Class Joseph Dicola, rotation NCOIC, was asked how he liked the work, he acknowledged that it was, "long, hot and hard but I can see that it makes a difference to the people in the villages." He also noted that, "Building schools makes it real hard for these people to dislike Americans...they can see the benefit from being friends with the U.S.A." Exporting democracy one truckload at a time works. ✪



Be it ever so humble...the 253rd's home during their rotation in Honduras. Photo by Col. John Dwyer, PAO, NJDMAVA.

The Second Hurdle: Retention

By Sgt. Barbara Alling, 444th MPAD

Let's face it: most students must often hold a part-time job while attending college.

Extra money can help with tuition, books, as well as room and board. Yet how many part-time jobs offer free state tuition in exchange for working one weekend per month and two weeks each year? In the New Jersey National Guard, not only do you get paid, but you may also be eligible for up to an \$8,000 sign-on bonus and the Montgomery G.I. Bill.

Ironically, despite all the various benefits, recruitment and retention is still a challenge for the NJNG today. For Lt. Col. Edward Slavin, the new NJARNG Recruitment and Retention Manager, the first hurdle in recruitment right now is the public perception of the Guard. "We are a community-based organization, but the majority of people see us as the 'big, bad Army.'" The Guard was

there in the towns helping out when Hurricane Floyd caused flooding across the state and was also instrumental in assisting the Kosovo refugees housed at Fort Dix.

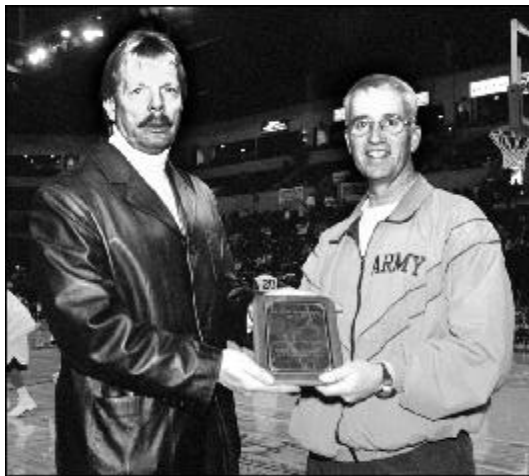
Slavin is starting an awareness campaign, using his 74 recruiters. He wants to bring a brand new enthusiasm to recruiters, as well as recruits, to help spread the word about the NJNG's educational and economical benefits. The target is the young high school student intending to go to college in New Jersey. These include 2- and 4-year colleges, vocational-technical schools, cooperative programs, correspondence courses, apprenticeships and on-the-job training, and even flight training.

The second hurdle is retention. Unfortunately, there is a high turnover for first-year enlistees. Many recruits do not complete their obligation or do not reenlist. "These young people often have false expectations," noted Slavin. Part of this problem can be blamed on misinformation from recruiters. The other problem is poor retention efforts from the units. "If we can get them past the first year of basic, AIT (Advanced Individualized Training), and give them a good Annual Training, we would have a better chance of keeping them."

Slavin understands many young people are looking for "instant gratification." He realizes a lot of them sign-up for the benefits. "Ninety-nine percent of it is economic and one percent is patriotic," admits Slavin.

With good training and a positive experience, Slavin hopes those percentages will become more balanced. Consequently, soldiers will view the National Guard with long-term service in mind while achieving substantial financial and educational rewards. ✪

Guard Of The Game



The National Guard got plenty of court time at the Sovereign Bank Arena in Trenton when the recruiters sponsored the 'Guard of the Game' plaque to a deserving player from the dozens of high school basketball teams playing in the tournament. Primetime tournament coordinator Jeff Hewittson, a former Guard member at the Lawrenceville Armory with Lt. Col. Edward Slavin. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Kryn P. Westhoven 444th MPAD. ✪

Space-Required Travel for UTAs

Members are now authorized to travel on DoD aircraft from their homes to their drill location. They will be able to make reservations on aircraft up to 30 days in advance. As with any travel on DoD aircraft, missions are subject to cancellation at anytime. This benefit will apply only for travel to and from UTAs, NOT annual training. See http://www.af.mil/news/n20010323_0410.shtml for more info. ✪

Warfighter: Next Best Thing To Being There

By Sgt. Thomas Porter, 444th MPAD

After months of preparation, in 72 hours Warfighter was all over.

The soldiers were exhausted, but not from spending three days in the field. This exercise took place on the virtual battlefield.

From February 23 through 25, approximately 450 soldiers from the 1-114th and the 2-113th Infantry, the 2-102nd Armor, the 3-112th Field Artillery, the 250th Signal, and the 250th Forward Support Battalions participated in the exercise. Each unit's Tactical Operations Center (TOC) was lined up in the snow behind the Training and Training Technologies Battle Lab at Fort Dix.

The Warfighter concept is simple; the 50th Brigade, which normally trains apart, could now train together without the costly logistics of a brigade-size operation. Commanders and staff officers get together to fight the battle, but the tanks and the majority of the troops could stay at home.

In the simulation room, the officers and NCOs make and enter the decisions into a computer. The decisions are then executed by virtual units on a simulated battlefield. Because all the action takes place inside a computer, the officers and NCOs concentrated more on improving strategy, and worrying less on the physical logistics of the exercise.

"Rather than having to deal with troops out here, getting fuel to tanks, and food to the soldiers; we run it through the computer and it tells us what we lost," stated Cpl. Tom

Atkinson, 1-114th Assistant Operations Sergeant. "That way, we can concentrate on working the bugs out of the operations." The challenge is still there, however. "The real logistics, we don't have to deal with," observed Master Sgt. Frank Kirby, 1-114th Operations Sergeant. "The game logistics, we do."

"In a computer simulation, the staff faces some of the same stress they would face in a real situation; even though it's a simulated battle, it's still a battle," said Maj. Joseph Sarama, 2-113th Executive Officer.

"Planning for this exercise started back in September, and some of us spent a week in Kansas (Fort Leavenworth) preparing," noted Maj. Sarama. "This is the culmination of a lot of work. That motivates these soldiers because they put a lot of time into this."

Before the exercise, thirty senior leaders from the Royal Saudi Land Forces observed the planning process. The Saudis were here to learn: they plan to hold their own Warfighter back in Saudi Arabia.

On the morning of February 24, Maj. Sarama stood on the frozen ground that served as the floor of the 2-113th's TOC.

He was intensely involved in the battle, and spoke as if it were really happening. "The exercise is set up in real time. Last night, we were able to seize an objective and pass the 2-102nd forward, so they could accomplish their part of the mission," explained Maj. Sarama. "Right now we're transitioning to defense. This evening, the 2-102nd is going to come back, the enemy forces will come down, and we're going to do a rearward passage align, and the situation is just developing."

Behind him in the TOC were soldiers from Massachusetts and Illinois. "If we get called up for deployment to the field, we're ready,"



Pfc. John Wells (left) of the 50th Brigade and Pfc. Thomas Hunt (right), from the 3-112 Field Artillery talk on radios during the Warfighter exercise. Photo by Spc. Kevin Collins, 444th MPAD.

noted Maj. Sarama.

The McGuire Project

By Capt. Denise Waggoner, PAO, 108th ARW

Brick Township High School students teamed up with the 108th Air Refueling Wing pilots, navigators and technicians to learn the physics of flight.

On February 20, fifteen Brick Township High School students, along with their physics teacher, took their classroom on location to the 108th.

First came a tour of one of the unit's KC-135E Stratotankers, followed by classroom instruction. The students learned how to calculate total weight, ground speed, acceleration, thrust, drag, drift, distance, center of gravity, fuel consumption and all the other variables involved in getting a KC-135E Stratotanker airborne.



Brick Township High School students prepare for their presentation at the 108th Air Refueling Wing as part of the McGuire Project. Photo courtesy of the 108th ARW Public Affairs Office.



Maj. Pat Kennedy, Maintenance Officer and the program facilitator describes how engines work to a group of Brick Township High School students. Photo courtesy of the 108th Public Affairs Office.

When asked about the team's goals, 12th-grader Amanda Kissell observed, "To apply physics in our everyday lives. Sitting in the classroom and not know how it's applied, well, it's hard to visualize. You can't grasp the concepts. To actually see it is another thing."

A more down-to-earth response came from 12th grader Jeff Mercer who stated, "It was really cool! I got to sit in the pilot's seat and see where the boom operator works. I can just imagine if I was up in the air...what it would be like."

After Maj. Pat Kennedy, Maintenance Officer and the program facilitator, wrapped up the lesson, physics student Brad Miller, noted, "It lets you appreciate the amount of work that goes into flying an airplane. We can use what we learn in the classroom and see how it works

in real life." He added, "I liked the hands-on approach."

According to Joseph Tomaselli, Executive Administrator of Quality Education New Jersey, the McGuire Project combines classroom and hands-on learning. "Problem-based learning is the ability to communicate and demonstrate knowledge learned, with an

appreciation of the inter-dependence and inter-relatedness of science, mathematics and technology."

"Problem-based learning is students gathering and applying knowledge from multiple disciplines in their quest for solutions," explained Tomaselli. "The teachers are trained as cognitive coaches helping students to develop critical thinking skills, practice collaborative skills, conduct data searches, generate solutions, use problem solving skills, formulate hypotheses, perform experiments and determine best solutions."

Gary Tutzauer, a physics teacher, summed up the program, "I feel that the best way to learn the principles of physics is to experience them. By participating in this project, students are working with members of the 108th Air Refueling Wing to solve problems and learn about the wing's mission." ✨

The New Jersey Distinguished Service Medal

YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR A NEW JERSEY Distinguished Service Medal (NJDSM) if you were a Vietnam or Persian Gulf War combat veteran.

In order to be eligible for the NJDSM, recipients must currently be a resident of New Jersey and also have been a resident of the state at the time they entered into military service; have been honorably discharged; and, must have proof of having served in combat while on active duty during wartime. Those recipients whose service was recognized by the award of the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Air Medal or equivalent medal will receive a NJDSM with an oak leaf cluster. The medal can also be awarded posthumously to the veteran's next-of-kin.

The NJDSM was originally issued in 1858 for veterans who had distinguished themselves in the New Jersey Militia. After the Spanish American War, the Mexican Border Expedition and again after World War I, the State of New Jersey minted special medals for returning New Jersey veterans to honor their service. After WWII, Korea, Vietnam and subsequent combat actions no such medal was available. Since its re-authorization in 1988 by

Governor Kean, more than 4,000 medals have been awarded to New Jersey combat veterans.

Anyone interested in applying for the New Jersey Distinguished Service Medal should send a written request together with copies of all pertinent information, discharge document (e.g. DD 214), award citation, honorable discharge, etc. to:

NJDMAVA
ATTN: CIO-GS-PA
P.O. Box 340
Trenton, NJ 08625-0340

Be sure to include full name, home address and daytime telephone number. ✪



The Weather Rock

After two weeks of accurate and outstanding weather forecasting for Headquarters State Area Command at AT 2001, Fort Drum, N.Y., Sgt. Hernando Coy, United State Property and Fiscal Office, was surprised and somewhat embarrassed to find that Chief Warrant Officer 4 Harry McCurdy, Department of Logistics, had discovered his secret. Chief McCurdy had found Sgt. Coy's improvised weather forecasting system on Division Hill, behind building 2314. The system consists of a large gray rock suspended from a government issue tripod. The following written instructions were attached to the tripod:

The Weather Rock Property of SGT H. Coy

Operating Instructions: If it is wet, it's raining; If it is dry, it's clear; If it is white, it's snowing; If it is hot, it's sunny; If you can't see it, it's dark out; If it is swinging, it's windy; And, if it is missing, it's a tornado! ✪



Sgt. Hernando Coy and the Weather Rock pose outside of building 2314 on Division Hill at Fort Drum, N.Y. Photo courtesy of Chief Warrant Officer 4 Harry McCurdy, DOL.

Ohayo (Good Morning) New Jersey

Story and photos by 1st Lt. John Powers, 444th MPAD

On Jan. 16, six members of the 444th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment (MPAD) departed Philadelphia Airport for one of the more exotic Annual Training events in this year's calendar - Japan.

The ultimate destination was Camp Kita-Kumamoto in Kyushu Prefecture (prefectures are similar to states or provinces) to attend the bilateral exercise Yama Sakura (Mount Cherry Blossom) which lasted from Jan. 26 through 31.

Yama Sakura, or "YS" is the second largest simulation in the Pacific Theater, after Cobra Gold in Thailand and the single most important event in the Japanese Ground Self Defense Force's training calendar. The JGDSF hosts the biannual Command Post computer exercise on a rotating basis and has been held twice a year since 1980. Twice a year one of the four regional armies (northern, southern, northeastern, or western) assumes responsibility to house and feed 4,000 to 5,000 soldiers and operate the exercise which is similar in size to a corps level warfighter. The strategies vary from year to year since YS rotates among the major Japanese commands and the scenarios are geographically and politically specific. The basic scenario involves the combined forces of United States Army Japan, 9th Theater Support command and the JGSDF defending the island of Japan from an amphibious attack by the 25th Infantry Division.



Preparing a news release during the exercise, left to right: Sgt. 1st Class Yasushi Yamakawa, Staff Sgt. Bob Stephenson, Spc. Joe Donnelly, and Sgt. 1st Class Yoshii Takeda.

In total, more than 1,300 American and 3,000 Japanese troops participated in the event. Of the U.S. troops, reserve, National Guard and active components of all four branches were involved. The purpose of the exercise was to enhance the inter-operability of the American units and the JGDSF.

During the exercise, the 444th was able to perform its wartime mission on a real-time basis. This included writing news releases, handling reporters, holding press conferences, and publishing a newspaper. Titled *US@YS*, this publication contained six to ten pages of original stories on the Yama Sakura exercise and the many cultural events that took place during the exercise. As a unit the 444th was allowed to participate in press conferences, photo-

graphic coverage and reporting on the people and events of YS.

Lt. Gen. Mitsuo Sakudo, Western Army Commander, JGSDF, stated "I would like to see us strengthen the mutual trust we have built by face-to-face contact, while gaining an understanding of the differences between our national traits, culture, traditions, defense policies and operational doctrine."

Yama Sakura was also about developing relations between the two countries. Creating good will and understanding was included in the overall mission's success. There were bilateral social events planned throughout the week both on and off post, and each day the word bilateral was stressed a thousand times. This fact became obvious to the public affairs team the first full day at Camp

444th Deploys To Kunamoto Japan

Kita-Kumamoto when the 444th met the Japanese public affairs contingent. Fortunately the Japanese team spoke English much better than we spoke Japanese. The New Jersey team fumbled its way through the “How do you do, pleased to meet you” greetings in Japanese that had been learned on the flight over. There was laughter and clapping and the 444th was told that we spoke excellent Japanese, which proved how polite they really were. That is one important point about traveling to Japan. If a traveler make an effort to learn the basic greetings, learn a little bit of Japanese geography and history the trip becomes more meaningful and the Japanese will go that extra mile to help. This also applies to the use of hashi (chopsticks). Just remember that you will be complimented on how skillful you are regardless of your true abilities.

Japanese military customs are similar to the United States. Japanese enlisted personnel salute their officers, but unlike the U.S. military, Japanese enlisted members also render salutes to each other. Since the JGSDF wear insignia very different from the American Army, U.S. soldiers don't have to worry about learning to recognize the different insignia. Especially since U.S. military members are expected to salute their Japanese military counterparts of all ranks. As it is here, saluting is usually restricted to out-of-doors. However, unlike any of the American customs, bowing within the mili-

tary ranks is commonly practiced in addition to the hand salute to extend courtesy and respect from subordinate to superior. You are not expected to know how to bow properly, as it is practiced throughout Japan, but you should know to “bow when bowed to.” Lastly, in Japan, while shaking hands is common between Japanese and Americans, it is not unusual to be performing all three greetings simultaneously trying to honor the Japanese with a bow and they reply with a handshake and then both groups finish with a salute.

The Japanese public affairs team were polite and generous - especially when it came to giving gifts - omiyagi. This means is that if a person receives a gift, then they are

expected to give one back. The downside is that this is not a one-off exchange. Omiyagi is a continual cycle in which both parties give and receive over and over and over... So, to avoid any uncomfortable episodes, wait until just before leaving and spring a present on them. They will surely have one ready and the pressure of a second go-round is relieved (it worked for the 444th).

After 15 days, the MPAD climbed back on board the commercial flight for the 15-hour trip back to Philadelphia. There was no question that not only had the 444th improved upon its public affairs training, the detachment had also done its best to improve relations between the Japanese military and the NJARNG. ✪



Seeing the sights in Kunamoto(l-r): Staff Sgt. Bob Stephenson, Sgt. Patrick O'Flaherty, Spc. Kevin Collins, 1st Lt. Yoshiio Katsutaka (JGSDF), 2nd Lt. Masako Iwamoto (JGSDF), Spc. Joe Donnelly, and Master Sgt. Joe McGrath.

North To Alaska



*Story and photos by
Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen*

Everyone pitched in when the asphalt was delivered to cover the drain in front of the flightline facility. The new drain will prevent the annual spring flooding that was part of life at Kulis.



It's May and springtime in Alaska which includes snow, 30 degree weather, and hairy mosquitos. Lovely.

It was. Truly. Yes, there was snow - in the mountains; yes, it was 30 degrees - but only on one day and that was at 6 o'clock in the morning and it got up to 66 degrees later that same day; and yes the mosquitos did look like they were wearing fur coats.

So how does the 177th Fighter Wing Civil Engineering Squadron fit in with all this?

From May 12 through 25, forty-eight members of the CE Squadron deployed to Kulis Air National Guard Base outside of Anchorage. Following a two-day trip on a C-130, CES began remodeling a communications/control center for the 210th Rescue Squadron - the largest and most complex job of the deployment; installing a set of steps more than 40 feet long and 10 feet wide which included excavating, creating the forms, and pouring the cement; removing the existing wiring and completely rewiring the Non-Destructive Inspection Shop; installing a drainage system to prevent flooding; and laying a concrete pad for a pavilion funded by the Kulis Chiefs' council. In addition, nine members from the Services Flight worked at Elmendorf Air Force Base (where CES stayed during the deployment).

Deployments play a key role in the development of CES members' skills. "By going to Kulis, everyone gets the chance to adapt to working at a different base while doing their jobs," noted Chief Master Sgt. Herb Mimler,

CES NCOIC. "During these two weeks they will get the same amount of training they normally would get in two years of drill weekends. It also gives them the opportunity to see a project from beginning to end, the chance to work together and build team spirit."

Everyone got the chance to do their job; the electricians did electrical work, the plumbers plumbed, the carpenters and utility people remodeled rooms, the masons did concrete work, and the heavy equipment operators got to work with equipment that for those of us who played with Tonka trucks as kids only dreamed about. "CE is unique, it is a great place to learn," noted Mimler.

continued on page 16



Civil Engineering Squadron members pour the concrete for the steps behind the operations building at Kulis Air National Guard Base.



North To Alaska

Continued from page 15

Learning was a key part of this deployment. The concrete steps that were formed in back of operations are a good example of that process. Of the eight people working at the site, only two were experienced in working with concrete. Yet with their leadership the steps are indistinguishable from those done by professionals.

Civil Engineering has a reputation for working hard, in a space of three days the future 210th Rescue Squadron communications/control center - a 60 feet long by 22 feet wide empty room - turn into a six-room work area with floor-to-ceiling sheetrock walls. Yet, all is not hard work, the evenings were spent exploring Anchorage's nightlife, as well as the staggeringly beautiful countryside. The weekend was spent sightseeing and fishing. Portage Glacier (see picture on page 14) and Seward Glacier were visited. In fact, an airman who had just joined the squadron landed a whopping 140 pound halibut. Bet he'll be telling his grandkids about this deployment.

In the end CE completed all the major tasks it had been assigned. "The 177th CES saved the Alaskan Guard easily \$100,000," stated Lt. Col. Andrew Mamrol, commander, 176th Wing Civil Engineering squadron. "definetely a win-win situation."

Now about that snow, sub-freezing temperatures, and those hairy mosquitos...bring 'em on. ✪



Staff Sgt. Mark Sparagna (left) and Tech. Sgt. Edwin Reyes (right) prepare a stud wall for the 210th Rescue Squadron communications and control room.



Staff Sgt. Steven Romine flattens the ground around the new storm drain catch basin outside the flight line facility.



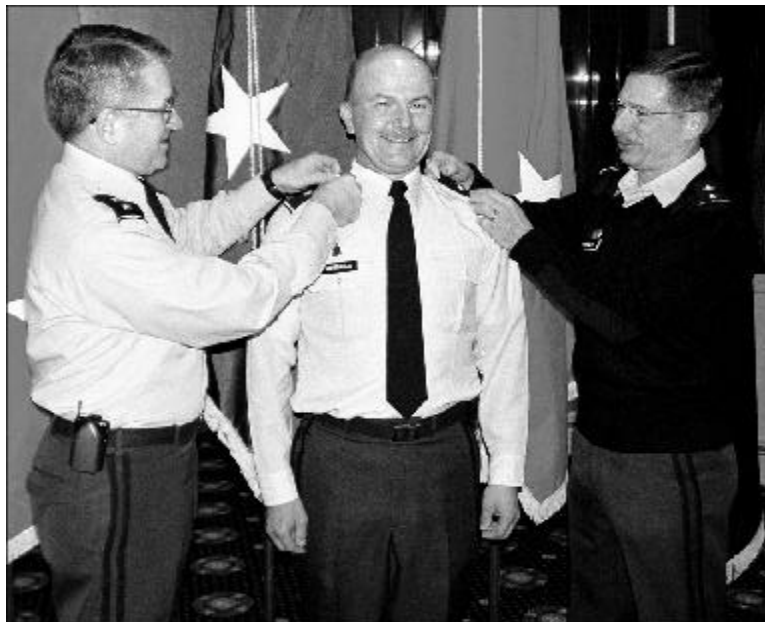
Tech. Sgt. Bob Leek (left), Master Sgt. Paul Nieczpiel (center), and Senior Airman Ryan Butcher (right) are observed closely by two chief master sergeants and a first sergeant as they pour a slab for the Kulis Air National Guard's Chiefs' Council gazebo.

Wondrack Promoted to BG

Photo by Col. John Dwyer, PAO, NJDMAVA.

Maj. Gen. Paul J. Glazar (left), the Adjutant General; and Maj. Gen. Tom Garrett (right), Commander, 42nd Division; pin on Brig. Gen. Kenneth F. Wondrack's (center) stars.

Brig. Gen. Wondrack was promoted to Brigadier General on March 24. Wondrack serves as the Commander of 42nd Division Troops in New Jersey. Brig. Gen. Wondrack began his career in 1963 as a private in the United States Marine Corps where he served in combat operations in Vietnam with the Ninth Marine Regiment. Prior to his current assignment, Wondrack served as the Chief of Military Support where he served as liaison between military and civilian authorities and was responsible for overseeing emergency operations for civil disorders or natural disasters. ✪



Earth Week Celebrated



Senior Airman Julius Simmons assists 6th graders from Stafford Intermediate School in planting pitch pine sapplings during the Earth Week Celebration at Warren Grove Bombing Range April 23 through 27. During the celebration more than 4,500 sapplings were planted. Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, 177th Fighter Wing Public Affairs.

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Know someone who wants to join the NJNG?
Clip this card, have them fill it out and pass it on
to your unit commander.

Continuing Partnership For Peace

By Sgt. Thomas Porter, 444th MPAD

The training and influence of the New Jersey Army National Guard is stretching around the globe.

The latest evidence is the high-level visit of Albanian Army officers who toured the 254th Regiment North East Training Center at Sea Girt and the Training and Training Technologies Battle Lab at Fort Dix in the beginning of March.

Among the six visiting officers was the Albanian Ministry of Defense liaison officer, as well as the chief of staff, chief of logistics, and operating officer of the Albanian Army NCO Academy. They were on a fact-finding mission, and said they will apply New Jersey's experience to their own Army.

Speaking through an interpreter, the Albanian NCO Academy Chief of Staff Col. Lulzim Bllaka said, "It is known, even in Europe, both Western and Eastern, that the United States experience is best regarding NCOs. It is understandable that we are using your experience; we can copy that."

"With everything I saw here, we are going to let our other colleagues at our NCO Academy know what we saw here," said Col. Bllaka. "The importance of the information we got here is to not keep it to ourselves, but to let others know and do our best to apply to the Albanian NCO Academy."

Some of their observations can be put to use immediately. For example, Capt. Isuf Kasmi and Capt. Perparim Taka teach tactics and fire. They may apply their lessons-learned directly to their courses, noted Col. Bllaka.

Perhaps more important, the NCO model is influencing the Albanian Army in a fundamental way. "The Albanian Army is being restructured, and a representative involved in that restructuring is here," stated Col. Bllaka. "He will tell others to put into the organizational structure the NCO role."

In essence, New Jersey Guard members, through their interaction with Albanian Army soldiers, are influencing the restructuring of the Army one of the world's newest democracies.

Back in 1994, the United States helped Albania establish its NCO Academy. In addition, Albanians have been visiting New Jersey for a few years now as part of the Partnership for Peace program.

Of course, New Jersey's partnership with Albania is a two-way street, and representatives from the New Jersey National Guard have been visiting Albania periodically. When asked what we can learn from the Albanian Army, Col. Bllaka smiled and said, "When you come to Albania next time, you can see." ✪

Albanians Visit EOC

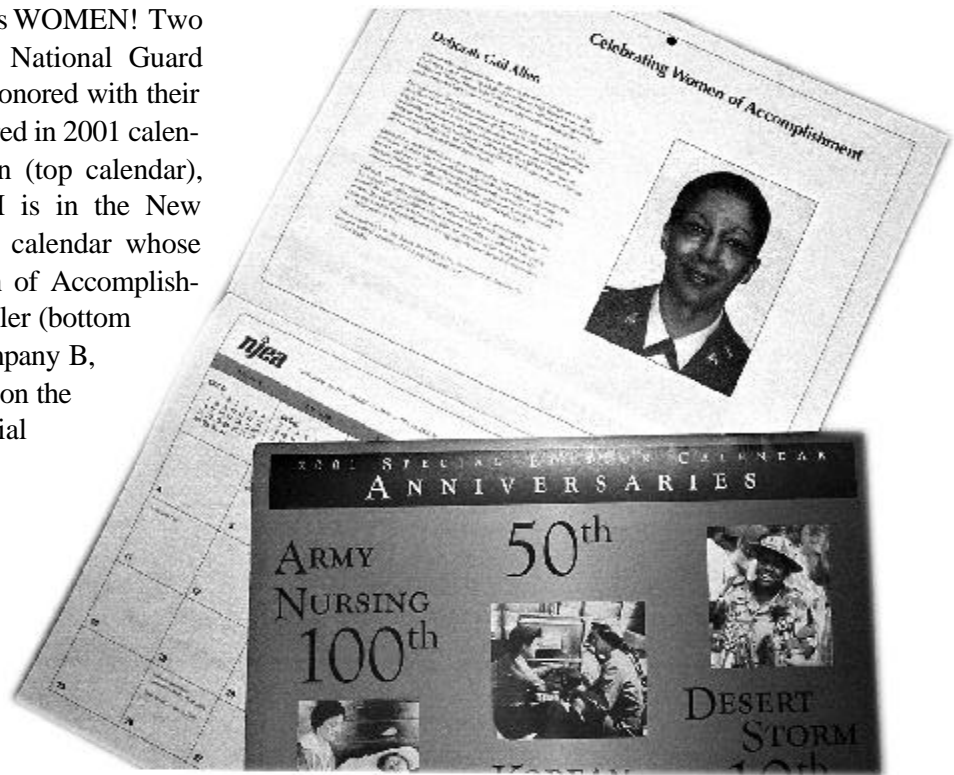


The New Jersey National Guard hosted a second Partnership For Peace delegation this spring. Tech. Sgt. John Duffy of the New Jersey Guard Emergency Operations Center at Fort Dix stands with (left to right) Maj. Nazmi Cahani, field artillery officer, Col. Bashkin Shehi, Director of Civil Protection and Capt. Clirim Mema, civil protection logistics stand with Sgt. Maj. Duke Khadan-Sawh, operation sergeant major. In front are Col. Shetih Spahiu of the Albanian Army headquarters staff and interpreter Dr. Denisa Tutla. The Albanian officers visited the Burlington County and New Jersey State Police Emergency Operations Centers, a demonstration of air-sea rescue at Lakehurst Naval Air Engineering Center and a tour of the New York City emergency center as well as a visit to the Statue of Liberty. They even got a taste of American home cooking as Tech. Sgt. Duffy took the group to his house for a meal during the week. Photo by SFC Kryn P. Westhoven, 444th MPAD.

Calendar Girls

By Col. John Dwyer, PAO, NJDMAVA

Of course we know it's WOMEN! Two New Jersey Army National Guard women have been honored with their pictures being featured in 2001 calendars. Lt. Col. Deborah Allen (top calendar), Headquarters, 42nd DISCOM is in the New Jersey Education Association calendar whose theme is "Celebrating Women of Accomplishment." Sergeant Veronica Miller (bottom calendar, photo on right), Company B, 50th Main Support Battalion is on the cover of the Women's Memorial calendar which celebrates the 100th anniversary of Army Nursing, the 50th anniversary of the Korean War and the 10th anniversary of Desert Storm. Miller deployed with the 253rd Transportation Company, NJARNG, for Desert Storm. ♣



USP&FO Moves To Fort Dix

Spc. Jason Gilson (left) talks with Staff Sgt. Jaime Cosme (right) in the converted classrooms and cafeteria at the National Guard Training and Training Technology Battle Lab at Fort Dix that are now the United States Property and Fiscal Office offices. After more than 25 years in Lawrenceville, the USP&FO moved to the T3BL on March 26. Of the 74 USP&FO staffers, 54 made the move to the T3BL, the rest will remain in Lawrenceville to maintain the warehouse and the data processing center. The move is part of Maj. Gen. Paul J. Glazar's plan to centralize major components of the NJNG. The USP&FO is responsible for obtaining and accounting for the property and finances of the United States Government that is given to the Guard. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Kryn P. Westhoven, 444th MPAD. ♣



Last Round: Candy Man

Photo and story by Col. John Dwyer, PAO, NJDMAVA

Spc. Mark Leonard has a soft touch when it comes to children.

While on deployment to Lempira, Honduras he developed a huge fan club as he made his rounds to the construction sites in the remote villages. Like the aviator who became known as the "candy bomber" for his drops of candy to the children of Germany during the Berlin Airlift, Spc. Leonard became the "candy man" around Gracias. At night Leonard would collect the unopened and uneaten portions of the MREs that his friends didn't want, then head off to the AAFEES trailer to buy a big bag of candy in preparation for his trucking missions the following day.

After getting his truck and loading it, Leonard would head out to the first site he was assigned. As he drove his route, children would hail him from along the roadside and he would stop and distribute some of his cache. Happily smiling, eyes sparkling, they ran back into their mud-and-wattle houses to show off their treasures. The scene was repeated many times per day, the supply never quite meeting the demand, but Leonard says he never saw a single scuffle over the gifts. "They all seem to share



Candy de jour is Swedish Fish. Spc. Mark Leonard and friend in the village of La Campa, Honduras.

whatever they get," he said. "They can hear the big diesel engine from a long way off, and they are always waiting as I come up the road. If I didn't have anything left, I would wave and they just wave back."

Leonard did more than pass out candy. Every night he set up a 50-50 raffle next to the chow line which was to benefit the orphanage in neighboring Gracias. He took in U.S. dollars, Lempira (the local currency) and coins of all types and divided into two piles – one

for the winner, one for the children. The regional Army Civil Affairs team planned to convert the proceeds from the two-week effort into goods needed by the children and present them to the orphanage.

Back home in N.J., Leonard plans to collect children's clothing and school supplies and ship them back to the children he saw along the roadside. "We have so much, and they have nothing at all," noted Leonard. "We throw away things that these people could desperately use. Every kid in New Jersey should see this place - it would make them thankful for everything they have." ✚

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