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The BLUEGRASS GUARD

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Kentucky Brigade: dream come true

A dream for many years has become a reality. Effective Nov. 1, the Commonwealth became the home of the 149th Separate Armored Brigade.

"The Kentucky Brigade" is headquartered in Louisville and is commanded by Brig. Gen. Robert James. It increases the strength of the Kentucky Army Guard by 500 troops.

James stated that most units will remain essentially the same but some will change in strength. Some of those communities gaining significantly are: Lexington, 134; Harrodsburg, 54; Richmond, 48; Hickman, 33; and Bowling Green, 23.

Two new units are being formed, one a medical company in Campbell County, authorized for 111 troops and the other an armored calvary unit in Owensboro, authorized for 153 troops. The armor battalion headquarters in Owensboro is being moved to Bowling Green.

The other major move will be that of moving the Military Police Company from Louisville to Murray. State Adjutant

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KyARNG at 100 percent

State Adjutant General Billy G. Wellman announced that the Kentucky Army National Guard has attained 100 percent of its authorized enlisted strength of 6,400 troops.

Wellman stated that "every Guardsperson must be given credit for aiding in the attainment of my number one goal."

He noted that much work has to be done to maintain full strength since the announcement of a Separate Armored Brigade and subsequent increases in state troop strength authorization will move the present overall strength back to 93 percent.

A new advertising campaign using the

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VISITORS LOOK LIKE ANTS in this aerial view of the Air Guard's Open House '80. Over 40,000 people crowded the parking ramp at Standiford Field to view the more than 45 types of aircraft on display. The C-5A Galaxy, world's largest aircraft, is in the lower right portion of the photo. (Photo courtesy of *The Courier-Journal*.)

Aircraft displayed

Open House '80 attracts over 40,000 visitors

Over 40,000 visitors came to view more than 45 different types of military and experimental aircraft at the Kentucky Air National Guard's Open House '80 held at Standiford Field in Louisville on Sept. 14.

The parking ramp was filled with fighters, bombers, cargo, trainers and special purpose aircraft, representing the Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps.

The "star of the show" was the C-5A Galaxy, the world's largest aircraft, making its first public appearance in Kentucky at the fourth annual Air Guard event.

To give an idea of its mammoth size, the view from the cockpit of a C-5A is similar to that from a seven or eight story window. The Galaxy is capable of carrying over 200,000 pounds or the equivalent of two M-60 tanks.

Highlights of the afternoon were the Kentucky Air National Guard's flyover with four of the unit's RF-4C Phantoms and a concert performed by the U.S. Air Force Band from Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio.

"This show is growing in significance," Brig. Gen. William P. Gast, chief of staff of the Kentucky Air National Guard, said. Air National Guard officials had predicted around 15,000 visitors.

Military aircraft on display included the F-105G Thunderchief, F-106 Delta Dart, A-7 Thunderbolt II, A-7 Corsair II, A-10 Thunderbolt II and A-37 Dragonfly.

Trainer aircraft on display were the T-33 T-bird, T-34 Turbo Mentor, T-38 Talon, T-39 Sabreliner, Helio Courier and U-3 Centurion.

Cargo Aircraft included the KC-135 Stratotanker, C-130 Hercules, C-131 Samaritan and C-141 Starlifter.

Antique aircraft on display were an F-51 Mustang, a C-54 Skymaster, a C-47 Gooneybird and an RF-101 Voodoo.

Air, Army Guard combine defenses during 'attack'

The Kentucky Air National Guard combined forces with two Army National Guard units to ward off the attacks of aggressive forces in Derby King '80, a simulated North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) environment exercise held at Standiford Field Oct. 4.

The Louisville-based 123rd Tactical Reconnaissance Wing was subjected to simulated air assault, chemical warfare, sniper fire, bomb threats and all manner of probes on the Air Guard facility's perimeter.

Serving in a combined effort with the 123rd were the 198th Military Police Battalion and the 614th Military Police Company, Louisville-based units of the Army National Guard.

The aggresive forces consisted of the 100th Division, Military Training Command, 389th Military Intelligence Detachment and 42nd Aviation Group, Company C, of the Army Reserve, and the 223rd Military Police Company, of the Army Guard. These units are also based in Louisville.

The unique feature of this simulated attack is that it involved both the Air and Army Guard, as well as the Army Reserve. It is unusual, too, for an Air National Guard unit to be chosen to participate in such a major Department of Defense endeavor.

The Kentucky Air National Guard was recently designated part of the U. S. Air Forces' Rapid Deployment Force, a major ingredient in today's defense posture.

Fort Chaffee: two Louisville units experience a different AT

Two Louisville-based units had a different annual training than most Kentucky Guard units. They were selected to provide security assistance for Cuban refugees at Fort Chaffee, Ark.

The headquarters of the 198th Military Police Battalion and the 223rd Military Police Company were on federal duty Aug. 9-23 to augment the security force at the refugee camp. Approximately 160 Kentucky troops were involved.

The units were selected for several reasons, including the qualifications and professionalism they have displayed in past missions. They were picked by the National Guard Bureau in Washington.

Maj. Gen. Billy G. Wellman, the Adjutant General, visited the troops at Fort Chaffee. He said he is pleased that they had an opportunity to serve in the mission because of the realistic experience it offered.

When visiting Fort Chaffee, Wellman commented of the Kentucky troops, "Their attitude and morale are excellent. They feel like they're doing something important here."

The troops would have served their two-week annual training at Fort Knox, had they not been requested for the mission at Fort Chaffee.

On target

Rifle team sets records at Winston P. Wilson championship matches

The Kentucky National Guard's amazing rifle team is at it again, proving once more that Kentucky is "home of the best."

The rifle team members, all from the 1st Battalion, 149th Infantry (Mechanized) based in Barbourville, took most of the first place awards at the Winston P. Wilson Championship Matches held at Camp Robinson, North Little Rock, Ark., Sept. 8-12. Participants were from all over the United States and Puerto Rico.

Team members are Spec. 5 Lawrence L. Rigney, Cumberland; Staff Sgt. Ray E. Patterson, Somerset; Sgt. Bobby P. Middleton, Barbourville, and Pfc. Paul M. Frost, Middlesboro.

The team set a record with its aggregate score of 1,885 of a possible 3,000 in M-60 light machine gun team competition. While it is unusual for a team to place first in all three matches, the Kentucky team did just that with scores of 589, 633 and 633, each of a possible 1,000.

Team Captain Rigney established a record for the second year in a row in the M-60 light machine gun individual matches and was awarded a handmade, engraved M-1 rifle.

Of the 87 participants who competed in the individual category, Rigney set records in two of the three matches and held the record in the third match based on his performance last year. His top score of 345 of a possible 500 beat the record of 298 he set last year. Rigney's total score of 946 of a possible 1500 set an aggregate record in the individual division.

Rigney has been chosen by the National Guard Bureau's National Guard Marksmanship Training Unit for an M-60 training film which is scheduled to be completed later this year.

GOV. JOHN Y. BROWN JR., keynote speaker at Dining-In VIII, displays two gifts he received from Guard units. Maj. Gen. Billy G. Wellman (right), the Adjutant General, was among 620 officers attending.

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Robinson becomes 201st commander

The 201st Engineer Battalion in Ashland has a new commander and a new trophy.

The new commander is Maj. Harold G. Robinson of Wurtland, who is replacing Lt. Col. Edward L. Gill, now of Frankfort.

The change-of-command occurred just after an announcement that the 201st Engineer Battalion had been selected for the fifth consecutive year as the best National Guard battalion in the four-state area of Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio and Indiana.

Maj. Gen. Billy G. Wellman, the Adjutant General, announced the National Guard Bureau's award of the Milton Reckord Trophy to the 201st, then conducted the change-of-command ceremonies.

Gill, who commanded the 201st from February 1978 until his promotion to the state headquarters staff in Frankfort on Aug. 1, 1980, now serves as state maintenance officer for the Kentucky Army Guard. He was a member of the 201st for 25 years.

Robinson, who is now eligible for promotion to lieutenant colonel, has been a member of the battalion since enlisting in 1957. He earned a commission through Officer Candidate School in 1960.

He served as a platoon leader and executive officer in Company A of the 201st for nine years before starting a three-year tour as the company commander in 1969.

Robinson advanced to the battalion staff in late 1972 and held several positions before becoming battalion operations officer in 1976. He was appointed executive officer of the 201st in 1978.

The 44-year-old commander works in civilian life as a pipefitter at Armco Steel Corporation. A 1953 graduate of Ashland High School, Robinson is married to the former Mary Miller of Ashland. They have two children, Regina and James.

KyARNG

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title "The Guard is America at Its Best" will begin in Kentucky this month. Radio, television and newspaper advertisements will promote the new "Kentucky Brigade."

Wellman also stated that making communities aware of the Guard has helped our success in recruiting. In coming months, more state staff and local commanders will be urged to speak at civic clubs to help promote Guard awareness.

Wellman said, "For two years, we have made Kentuckians much more aware and we must not let the momentum stop now."

SPEC. 4 HUGH A. SMITH, of the 133rd Public Affairs Detachment, Frankfort, won second place in the annual National Guard Association of the U.S. photo contest for this photograph taken in Somerset of a National Guardsman dismounting a truck and an American flag flying in the background.

Capstone Program links active, reserve component units

An agreement to further develop the Army Capstone Program was signed recently by several U.S. military leaders. The memorandum of understanding was made between the Commander of the U.S. Army Forces Command, the Chiefs of the National Guard Bureau and Army Reserve, the Commander of the Western Command and the Adjutants General of the several states.

Capstone is short for the Army Capstone Program, a mutual support program which evolved from two separate but related programs -- the Support Unit Improvement Program (SUIP) and the Wartime Mission/Utilization Program (WARMUP).

SUIP developed peacetime training and support relationships of active and reserve logistics units with their most logical higher headquarters. WARMUP linked the units to their higher headquarters for wartime purposes.

"Capstone ties together active and reserve component units in a way that has never been done before," explained Col. Harold O. Loy, director of Plans, Operations and Training, Army Guard state headquarters.

Capstone is designed to optimally group active and reserve component units for wartime- and sustaining-based needs, develop training and planning associations for units in each Capstone grouping so that those units can train and plan in peacetime with the organizations they would function with in wartime, provide a clearly-defined organizational format for force planning and provide priorities for support of active and reserve component units.

Capstone should improve mobilization, training, deployment, force management and wartime planning.

Under Capstone, an individual's peacetime training is based on the job he or she would perform under wartime conditions.

"The program identifies the active Army headquarters a unit would be assigned to if it were mobilized," Loy said. Units with similar missions are in a group or "package," usually from the same geographic area. Packages either deploy to Europe or provide stateside support.

Once mobilized, the package is commanded by the senior headquarters in the group. "Active and reserve component units will be mixed, with each furnishing information to the others," Loy said.

Peacetime training programs will be mutually agreed upon by all components involved. Also, peacetime chains-of-command will not change. "The chain-of-command will remain the same for each state's National Guard -- through the Adjutant General of the state," Loy said.

Programs which will be affected by Capstone include: participation in major joint training and readiness exercises; training, including affiliation and round-out; mobilization stationing; resources and priorities for reserve and guard components, such as recruiting and retention benefits and equipment issue.

Guard . . . at a glance

The Kentucky Army National Guard Aviation Support Facility made its 100th baby run on Sept. 2 as part of the Neo-Natal program, a cooperative agreement between the Guard, the UK Medical Center and the Department for Human Resources which began Jan. 31, 1979. "This program is something we enjoy doing because we feel that it's a service to humanity," Col. David F. Fleming, director of Army Aviation, said.

Spec. 4 Hugh A. Smith, of the 133rd Public Affairs Detachment, has won second place in the annual National Guard Association of the U.S. photo contest. Smith earned a $75 award for his entry in the community service/domestic action catagory. (Look for Smith's award-winning photo in this issue.)

Staff Sgt. Ron Wallace and Sgt. Arlington Wood, of the 223rd Military Police Company, have been getting excellent exposure for the Guard while helping young people in Bullitt County's Explorer Post 223. The scouts' color guard has been in frequent demand and the two Guardsmen normally accompany them in their dress uniforms.

Kentucky Brigade

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General Billy G. Wellman said, "This community has shown over the past two years that a full-size unit can be easily manned and supported in Murray."

Wellman added that a new goal is to train the entire brigade at Camp Shelby, Miss., for annual training '82.

The personnel section of state headquarters has been under pressure for the past few weeks cutting the hundreds of orders for assignments to the new brigade.

TROOPS FROM THE 201st Engineer Battalion in Ashland and Cynthiana loaded and transported pumps and pipes needed to avert a serious water shortage in three Kentucky communities.

Guard, DES efforts avert water shortage crisis

Residents of three eastern Kentucky communities have been able to avoid a water shortage crisis, thanks to efforts of the Kentucky National Guard and cooperation between the Guard and the state's division of Disaster and Emergency Services.

A severe drought had drastically depleted water supplies in the cities of Jenkins, Inez and London, when officials of those areas contacted Gov. John Y. Brown Jr. for help. Although local emergency measures had been implemented, the situations were becoming critical and each area faced the prospect of being totally without water, even for fire-fighting, health and sanitation purposes.

Gov. Brown authorized Maj. Gen. Billy G. Wellman, the Adjutant General, to utilize any necessary resources to bring relief to the areas.

Because the requests for aid occurred over a period of several weeks, Gen. Wellman had to utilize a variety of resources and units. As Adjutant General, Wellman also heads the state disaster response agency, which maintains a stockpile of 1,500 gallon per minute pumps, nearly nine miles of eight-inch steel pipe and the necessary valves and couplings.

During the three separate operations, troops from the 201st Engineer Battalion in Ashland and Cynthiana were called to help, as were Kentucky Guardsmen from Danville and the Combined Support Maintenance Shop in Frankfort.

The troops used cranes, front-end loaders and other heavy equipment to load and transport four pumps and more than seven miles of pipe. In each case, the equipment averted the water shortage crisis. And, in the most dramatic case, more than nine million gallons of water had been pumped over a mountain in Inez in the first 30 days of operation.

Although a current television commercial may disagree, in Kentucky "relief" is spelled N-A-T-I-O-N-A-L G-U-A-R-D.

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