MG BILLY G. WELLMAN REAPPOINTED AG

By Capt. J. Gordon Nichols

The Kentucky National Guard played several roles in the inauguration of the Commonwealth’s first woman Governor Martha Layne Collins.

Military Police members from Louisville arrived very early and were briefed with local police from all regions of the state and state police on their assignments. The 198th M.P. Headquarters, 223d and 438th Companies provided 51 troops. Their duties ranged from traffic direction to guarding the parade route and providing security on the inauguration platform.

With the crowds numbering several thousand in a small area of Frankfort, medical problems were a possibility and an air ambulance team from 441st Medical Detachment and first aid station from 475th Combat Support Hospital stood by. Other units provided help with towtrucks stationed along the parade route, and communications specialists tied all the operations together from a common center near the platform.

The Governor’s first act was to reappointment Major General Billy G. Wellman as the Adjutant General. Wellman was first appointed by Gov. Julian Carroll and then re-appointed by Gov. John Y. Brown, Jr.

Collins indicated her continued support of the Kentucky National Guard and the accomplishments made under Wellman.

On the final day of his administration Governor Brown signed an Executive Order taking the Department of Military Affairs out of the Justice Cabinet and putting it directly answerable to the Governor’s office as it had been for many years. Therefore Wellman relinquished the added duties of Justice Cabinet Secretary and State Police Commissioner.

A reception sponsored by the National Guard Association of Kentucky for Wellman was held in the afternoon.

At the end of the day, a group of officers in dress blues escorted newly elected and appointed officials during the Grand March to the Governor’s Inauguration Ball.

The Air National Guard participated with a color guard as did the Army Guard. The 202d Band was one of the first units in the parade.

(Continued on page 4)

GUARDSMEN GET TAX BREAK!

By Sgt. Robert Pillow

Unreimbursed expenditures for travel, clothing, transportation, dues and subscriptions could be used for deductions on federal income tax returns for members of the National Guard, according to two professors at Georgia State University.

"Generally, the individual who benefits most from home from travel expense deductions is the Guard member whose unit is well beyond the city or general locality that constitutes his or her principal work place or regular post of duty," say Capt. Rodney G. Alsup and Dr. Michael L. Holland. Alsup was formerly a Kentucky Army Guardsman.

"This is because the distance involved precludes daily commuting and requires the individual to remain overnight at the unit location," the two men said in a story in the December 1983 “National Guard” Magazine.

For example, a Guard member who lives and works in Glasgow and travels to Bowling Green to drill may claim the mileage he drove his personal vehicle as a deduction. However, the Guard member who works and drills in Bowling Green and lives in Glasgow may not claim the mileage he incurred traveling to his duty station.

Other possible deductions for travel expenses include overnight trips to state and national association meetings and other similarly related Guard functions, the story said.

Part-time Guardsmen who purchase military clothing may also deduct the garments’ costs on their returns, and the care and cleaning of these items may also be used as a deduction.

Dues and subscriptions related to professional duties may also be deducted as business expenses, they said. Dues to the National Guard Association of Kentucky and the National Guard Association of the U.S. would be such a deduction.
"POINTS" EQUAL DOLLARS!

By Capt. Tom Little

If you plan to earn military retirement through membership in the National Guard, "points" equal dollars. If you know and understand that, you're already looking ahead and probably don't need any help.

But, if you're far from that 20-year minimum, you may not be thinking about the things that will mean added income to you in the future. The time to plan is now.

The actual calculations for retirement pay are based upon several factors, but "points" provide the basis. You must have 50 points to earn a satisfactory year, but you can't be credited with more than 60 inactive duty training points during a training year, even if you earn them. Public Law 810, passed in 1948, set that ceiling.

You can, however, earn additional credit for retirement points through annual training, Full-Time Training Duty (FTTD), and temporary active-duty assignments, such as those for extended schools.

Here's how you earn points:

First, you get 15 "free" points just for belonging to a Guard unit. Then you get a point for every training assembly (usually four per weekend). Therefore, you should earn 88 active duty points just for meeting minimum requirements (remember, only 60 count). Points for military correspondence courses also fall in this category.

If you attend 15 days of annual training, you will get an additional 16 points that do count toward retirement. If you pick up any other days for AT, they will count, too.

Therefore, if you have an opportunity to perform only the minimum service of 12 drill weekends and 15 days of AT, you'll get 75 retirement points during the year.

HALL OF FAME SELECTS DANIEL

Col. James R. Daniel, former Commandant of the Kentucky Military Academy, has been selected for membership in the Infantry Officer Candidate School Hall of Fame.

Daniel will be inducted into the "Hall of Fame", which was dedicated to honor the achievements and contributions of graduates of the school, on Feb. 14, 1984. He now serves as Commandant at the National Guard Professional Education Center, Camp Robinson, Arkansas.

AIR/ARMY ASSISTANT AG'S NAMED

By Sgt. Robert Pillow

A state senator and a Frankfort insurance company owner were sworn in as Assistant Adjutant Generals Jan. 21.

Brig. Gen. Fred F. Bradley, a state senator from Frankfort, and Col. Kenneth C. Wood, the owner of Wood Insurance Co., were sworn in by Franklin County Judge/Executive Robert Harrod.

Bradley is the Assistant Adjutant General for Air; Wood holds the same position for the Army Guard. Both men were appointed by Governor Martha Layne Collins Jan. 13.

Bradley, 52, has been in the Guard since 1956 when he joined the 165th Tactical Reconnaissance squadron as a first lieutenant. He was commissioned in 1958 through Air Force ROTC from the University of Kentucky. He served in the Air Force from 1953 to 1956 as pilot trainee and fighter interceptor pilot. In the Guard, Bradley has been a pilot, intelligence officer, flight commander, director of operations for the 123rd Tactical Reconnaissance Wing, the wing chief of staff, and commander. He had retired in July 1983 as a brigadier general.

Bradley has journalism and law degrees from UK.

The command pilot has more than 4,000 hours of flying. His decorations include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Vietnam Service Medal and the Combat Readiness Medal.

Wood was director of the selective service section of the state area command before his appointment. He has been in the Guard since 1953, when he joined as an enlisted man after serving in the regular Army. He received a direct commission in 1957.

Wood, 51, has been commander of the 198th Military Police Battalion, a plans and military support officer and commander of the 123rd Public Affairs Detachment in Frankfort. He is a former Frankfort city commissioner and a former state representative of Frankfort. He has been awarded the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the Kentucky Merit Ribbon and the Kentucky Commendation Ribbon. He holds an associate of applied arts degree from Kentucky State University.
DURING A Frankfort ceremony, Lt. Gen. Emmett H. Walker, Chief of the National Guard Bureau, announces the presentation of 68 M60A3 tanks to the Kentucky Guard while Governor Collins looks on. (Photo by Ray Kransic, Department of the Army)

By Capt. J. Gordon Nichols.

Lt. Gen. Emmett Walker, Chief of the National Guard Bureau, and Governor Martha Layne Collins recently joined Adjutant General Billy G. Wellman to announce the allocation of 68 M60A3 tanks to the 2nd Battalion, 123d Armor units and Troop A, 240th Cavalry.

The tanks, which cost approximately $1.3 million each, bring more than $88 million of equipment to the units in Bowling Green, Russellville, Livermore, Henderson, and Owensboro.

The tanks will be placed at the Weekend Training Site in Central City and at Fort Knox. They will be delivered in March and training will begin at Fort Knox in late April. The annual training schedule changes will rotate the units through May.

Walker noted in the press conference at Boone Center that he expected in the near future to announce more M60A3’s for the armor battalion.

Col. Edward Gill, Director of Plans, Operations, and Training, noted that as soon as the 2/123d units are trained, they would train the 1st battalion members so their transition time into the new tank would be minimal.

The tanks are built by General Dynamics Corporation, whose representatives made many comments on the close similarities between the M60A3 and M1. Except for a higher profile and slower speed, the M60A3 has the same features, such as computerized fire control, laser range finder, driver night viewer, grenade smoke system, and thermal gunner’s sight.

Collins said Kentucky’s Guard units were the best in the nation and she appreciated the Guard Bureau’s acknowledgement.
BOOK REVIEW

HISTORY OF THE MILITA AND THE NATIONAL GUARD

By Maj. Gen. Billy G. Wellman
The Adjutant General

The words "tradition" and "heritage" are tossed around pretty easily by National Guardsmen, but it is doubtful that many really know details of the Guard’s history. There are a few books on the market now that can change all that.

We’re not usually in the business of reviewing or selling books, but this one is excellent. John K. Mahon has written History of the Militia and the National Guard as part of MacMillan’s “Wars of the United States” series.

The book is a factual, objective account of the Guard and it’s militia predecessor from colonial times to the present. But, even better, it also delves into the conflicts that have long existed between the citizen-army and the “regulars” and examines the people and philosophies that led to the current status of the Guard.

Unlike many histories, it’s well-written, interesting narrative. When the author covers the early tasks of Indian-fighting and the terrible problems of supply, the reader can sense the times.

Mahon explains the transition Thomas Jefferson underwent that had a profound impact upon the status of the militia. At inauguration, he believed “the only force competent to defend the nation against attack” was the militia. But the war in Europe in 1803 began to change his mind as he found militiamen less than anxious to become involved in a foreign war.

The book is not all good news – the wars show too. For example, Mahon tells of one battle lost in the War of 1812, even though American troops out-numbered the British 3-1. Militiamen refused to cross into Canada and Regular forces refused to fight under the command of a Militia officer, so a force of 750 was lost.

The many, and varied, duties of the Guard are reviewed in considerable detail. The author recalls that units were called to protect prisoners against lynch mobs, to enforce quarantines, and to break strikes. In some cases, particularly after the Civil War, the Guard became personal armies for governors.

Most of the second half of the book is devoted to the modernization of the Guard and to the achievements during the world wars and in Korea. The growth of the Air Guard after the Korean War is particularly noteworthy.

Of particular interest is the author’s view of the role of the National Guard Association of the U.S., as a major force in shaping the Guard and in gaining essential resources – often in conflict with the Department of Defense.

There are plenty of amusing facts throughout the work. For example, for many years the Adjutant General of West Virginia’s principal job was to serve as state librarian.

In short, Mahon’s book is interesting, informative, and entertaining. I highly recommend it. One copy is available for loan from Lt. Col. Larry Barker in Frankfort.

KENTUCKY RANKS FIFTH BY NGB AVIATORS

States with good aviation records were honored by National Guard Bureau during Army Area Management Conferences in Spokane, Wash.; Charleston, W.Va.; and New Orleans, La.

To qualify for the aviation award, states had to compile a record of five years or 40,000 flying hours in Army National Guard aircraft without a Class A or B aircraft accident.

FACTS ON THE BLACK HAWK

The 115th Transportation Company now has the helicopter that is replacing the workhorse UH-1 "Huey". The Black Hawk can carry more than twice the UH-1 payload, faster, and in all weather conditions. It’s easier to maintain in the field and features many survivability improvements. How much can it carry? The Black Hawk can reposition a 105mm Howitzer, its six-man crew and up to 30 rounds of ammo in a single lift.

GUARDSMEN GET TAX BREAK!

Subscriptions to publications and journals that would be helpful to a Guardsman’s military job performance are also deductible.

A Guard physician or nurse could deduct subscription costs to magazines dealing with first aid and medical care, they said. Management journals’ costs could be a deductible for Guardsmen in supervisory positions, mechanical publications for mechanics, and aviation magazines for Guard aviators.

Documentation is needed to claim these deductions, they said. Receipts, cancelled checks, and personal mileage logs should be maintained for tax return use, they said. Guardsmen must also provide an explanation of why the expenses are deductible.

A little knowledge, time and thoughtfulness spent in record-keeping can pay handsome rewards in the form of reduced federal income taxes,” the story said.

Kentucky Guard members may claim an additional deduction on their state income returns. The deductions is claimed as an extra dependent.