NGAKy Conference set for 15-17 February

Registration Form page 3
Contact Association for Hospitality Room info

The 71st annual National Guard Association of Kentucky conference is set for 15-17 February at the University Plaza Hotel in Bowling Green.

The annual conference gives officers of the Kentucky Air and Army National Guard the opportunity to meet in fellowship, network with exhibitors interested in doing business with the National Guard and its soldiers and airmen, and discuss National Guard-related matters.

This year’s conference also provides attendees the chance to meet the new Adjutant General of Kentucky, Brig. Gen. D. Allen Youngman (see bio, page 4).

Conference highlights include an Exhibitor’s Reception Friday evening from 1630-2000 (Central Time), with entertainment provided by the Dean Osborne Eastbound Bluegrass Band, followed by adjournment to the multiple command hospitality rooms. Saturday’s agenda features the association business session from 0800-1100, a spouse function (still to be determined), a President’s Reception from 1800-1900 and a military banquet from 1900-2030, with dancing and hospitality rooms afterwards. The annual KMA Breakfast will be held Saturday morning at 0700.

See NGAKy CONFERENCE, page 5...

Deadline for NGAKy award nominations Monday, 15 January

The deadline for submitting award nominations to the National Guard Association of Kentucky is Monday, 15 January. Each year, the association honors junior grade officers from the Air and Army who performed exceptionally outstanding service to their unit with the George Rogers Clark Outstanding Young Officer Award.

All Kentucky National Guard officers in the rank of O1 through O3 and Warrant Officers in rank WO1 and CW2 are eligible providing the nominees have been in the KYNG for at least two years.

If you would like to nominate a junior officer in your unit for this award, please contact Maj. Barry Metcalf at the association (800-251-233 or 564-7500) by 15 Jan.

Other awards are also available, including the Community Service Award, open to any member of the Kentucky National Guard regardless of rank, and the General John Hunt Morgan Award for outstanding service to the association.

Historical Foundation scholarships available

The deadline for application to receive a Kentucky National Guard Historical Foundation Scholarship is Monday, 15 January.

Each year, the KNGHF presents six $600 scholarships; two each to a child of an enlisted Guardsman and a child of an officer Guardsman, and one each to a child of a retired Guardsman and a child of a deceased Guardsman.

The KNGHF Scholarship Program was created in memory of Colonel Joseph P. Craft.

Eligible applicants must be dependent children of:
- Present members serving honorably in the Kentucky National Guard.
- Members who retired from the KYNG after 20 years or more of qualifying service.
- Deceased parents/legal guardians who were members of the KYNG at the time of death.

If applications are not received in one or more of these categories, the scholarships may be awarded to other qualified applicants. The selected recipients will be announced during the NGAKy Conference in February. Scholarships must be claimed by 30 April of the award year. Awards are based on academic grades, personal character, leadership qualities and financial need. Selections are made without regard to applicant’s race, sex, religion or the selection committee’s member’s friendships and associations.

Guardsmen
Fellow Guardsmen, we will find rest, someday
When the final vestige of evil is rooted out
When children no longer have bad dreams and wake up afraid
When the weak and the small are no longer victims
When the spirit of all mankind is free to pursue its God-given rights...

Until then, we will remain at our posts
Keeping watch, ever vigilant
Despite the fatigue, never can we grow tired
Though we stumble, never may we fall
Our reward is not in gold or silver
Or in praise and medals
It is found in a mother’s prayer of gratitude
Many generations from now
As she thanks God for you...
On Veterans’ Day

Col. Bob Yaple
HQ Kentucky Air National Guard
Conference to focus on NGAKy business - please visit exhibitors

Our 2002 business session will be unique in that it will focus solely on association business issues, from the president’s report to resolutions and the presentation of awards and scholarships, etc. We are not planning on having any keynote speakers. Normally, we plan the business session around the Adjutant General’s “State of the Guard” address, with one or two other keynote speakers. My understanding is that the Adjutant General plans to address all of the officers under his command at a separate function, and we strongly support that decision. We expect to build on last year’s success with our exhibitors, when well over 30 companies supported our conference in Lexington. Please come out and show them your interest. Many of you have reached positions or will reach positions where you will play a role in determining what supplies and equipment is purchased and used by the Kentucky National Guard. Our exhibitors greatly value your attention. ‘We’ll once again have our exhibitors’ reception Friday evening, and plan to adjourn the business session by 1100 so you can visit them during lunch on Saturday. I’d be remiss if I didn’t note that this year’s conference offers many of you the opportunity to meet our new Adjutant General, Brig. Gen. D. Allen Youngman. Come on down to Bowling Green and enjoy the fellowship of your Army and Air Guard officers and exhibitors at our receptions, dinner and hospitality rooms - especially the hospitality rooms!

Association insurance program undergoing review

Most of you are aware of our SSLI program offering up to $50,000 of supplemental life insurance, with the great benefit of it paying your family within 24 hours of the death notification. That benefit, not matched by SGLI, takes immediate financial concerns off the minds of the bereaved family. Our insurance program, currently with Jefferson-Pilot, funds our association. With the recent revisions to SGLI, our program is threatened. Many of our members have already cancelled, and more do so every day, after noting their increased SGLI amount. If the bottom falls out of our SSLI program, we will lose our NGAKy building in Frankfort. Last spring we put together an insurance committee under Maj. Tim Barrett that has thoroughly examined our current program and compared it with all other known SSLI programs. Ours compared very favorably, but the new SGLI rules have forced a change in thinking among other SSLI programs. One program in particular has caught our eye. It’s a multi-state National Guard associations pool run under New York Life, and it compares very favorably to SGLI -- offering the same amount of coverage as SGLI at rates equal to or better than SGLI -- while keeping the best part of our program -- a payment with 24 hours. Our committee members, including Maj. Barrett, myself, LTC Don Conover, Maj. Joe Livers, Maj. Bob Snyder, Maj. Barry Metcalf and CW4 Frank Willey, are examining our options and hope to make a final recommendation to our board soon. We want the best available program to offer our Guard members and their families and one that will allow us to maintain a strong presence in Frankfort. One of our most productive moves this year has been to refinance the mortgage on our NGAKy Building in Frankfort, held under our Kentucky National Guard Historical Foundation. We’ve reduced the mortgage from 7.75 to 6.5 percent (variable, fixed for 5 years, worst case rise to 12.5 percent, but even in the worst case scenario, we would save $55.00 over the 20-year life of the loan).

State legislature convenes Jan. 8 -- TAG qualifications on the agenda once more

Just a note to make you aware our General Assembly comes together on Jan. 8 for a 60-day annual session. Our legislators are very proud and supportive of our efforts. Rep. Steve Riggs has prefiled a bill requiring a refund of prepaid state tuition funds when a beneficiary chooses to join the military. Rep. Robert Danron has prefiled a bill protecting Kentucky military heritage sites and objects, and Rep. Mike Weaver has prefiled bills requiring Kentucky High Schools to give recruiters access to their campuses and student information and granting tuition waivers to children of veterans wounded in military service and those who served in our nation’s wars. The LRC-published “Issues Confronting the 2002 General Assembly” lists revisions to the qualifications for Adjutant General as an issue. We opposed legislation that failed in 2000 that would have removed the requirement that our TAG have Kentucky National Guard experience. We will monitor the session as it proceeds.
71st ANNUAL
NGAKy CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM (15-17 Feb 2001)

___ Army ___ Air Rank/Name ______________________________

Address _____________________________ City ____________ St _____ Zip _________

SSN __________________ Phone # (home) ____________________ (work) _______________

Unit ________________________________ Spouse / Guest ______________________

Names for name badges: (Yourself) ____________________ (Spouse / Guest) __________

ACTIVITY INFORMATION

Do you plan to attend the Exhibitors Reception Friday evening? # attending __________

Do you plan to attend the Business Session Saturday morning? Yes _____ No _____
(see proposed agenda)

Does your spouse plan on attending the Business Session? Yes _____ No _____

SAVE MONEY BY REGISTERING IN ADVANCE!!!!!!

Price includes: Entrance to Friday Night Exhibitor Reception, coffee/donuts during Business Session,
Military Banquet and Entertainment

Company Grade ($25.00 per person*) Number Attending _____ Total $___________
(OC, 2LT, 1LT, CPT, WO1, CW2)

Retirees ($30.00 per person*) Number Attending _____ Total $___________

Field Grade ($35.00 per person*) Number Attending _____ Total $___________
(CW3, CW4, CW5, MAJ, LTC, COL, G.O.s*)

A late registration fee of $10.00 per person will be assessed after 11 February 2002

Does your spouse plan to attend the Spouse Breakfast and Tour? Yes _____ No _____

Spouse Function ($10.00 per person) Number Attending _____ Total $___________

Military Banquet meal choices are:
London Broil w/Sherry Mushroom Sauce # ___________________________
Grilled Breast of Chicken w/Basil Cream Sauce # _______________________
Vegetarian Platter # _____________________________________________

Please enclose check or complete credit card information below Total $___________

Credit Card # ______________________ Exp. __________ Signature ____________________

Circle One: VISA or MASTERCARD

LODGING / UNIVERSITY PLAZA HOTEL Information
Bowling Green, Kentucky

Make lodging reservations by calling 1-800-801-1777.
To receive discount rates, please state that you are attending the "National Guard Association of Kentucky Conference."
Please try to make your room reservations by 22 January 2002.
Discount rates – $78.00/night (please specify whether you want a single or double bed – same rate applies)

Please return this Registration Form by mail or fax to:
NGAKy, 1111 Louisville Road, Frankfort, KY 40601
FAX – 502-564-7504 (CHECK)

For more information, call 502-564-7500 or 800-251-2333

Sign up for NGAUS email alerts!!!

The National Guard Association of the United States now has an active email news alert system and Congressional Action Team. If you are interested in receiving these updates, please visit the NGAUS website at www.ngaus.org. If you have any problems logging in or don’t know your NGAUS membership number, please contact Nick Lashinsky, public affairs assistant, at 202-454-5301.
Governor appoints Adjutant General coordinator for Kentucky’s Homeland Security issues

Governor Paul E. Patton Oct. 17 announced the appointment of State Adjutant General D. Allen Youngman as the commonwealth’s coordinator for homeland security issues.

The announcement came during the second meeting of the Governor’s Homeland Security Team, a consortium of state agency representatives established to manage the state’s preparedness to respond to any potential acts of domestic terrorism.

Having been informed by both State Police Commissioner Ilishon Burke and Public Health Commissioner Rice Leach, that, to-date, all incidents investigated by their agencies had resulted in no substantiated acts of terrorism, the governor again offered reassurance that no evidence of an imminent threat has been found in the commonwealth.

“As I stated last week after our first meeting, I remain confident Kentucky already has an excellent plan in place to ensure the safety of our citizens,” said Gov. Patton, “but in these times of ever changing threats and fluid situations, we must continue to fine tune our existing security measures and also be ready to adapt and overcome new threats if and when they emerge.”

Among issues discussed at the day’s session were: Ongoing physical security upgrades for state facilities to include the capitol, and that the Governor’s Office of Technology will establish in the near future a Homeland Security website link on the state’s website www.kydirect.net to provide updated security information and answer frequently asked questions.

Also, Dr. Leach again urged Kentuckians to use common sense when handling mail, saying, “We don’t need to send every letter to law enforcement and laboratories. Its OK to toss it out if you don’t know where it came from and it doesn’t worry you. But if something does makes you suspect tampering or a threat, don’t open the mail and call law enforcement.”

The state’s Homeland Security Team will be convened on a regular basis by Cabinet Secretary Crit Luellen to share information and maintain communication between local, state and federal agencies.

Col. Donnie Storm named Chief of Staff

On 1 October, Colonel Donnie C. Storm took on the duties of Chief of Staff of the Kentucky Army National Guard. Col. Storm, a native of Laurel County, has worked for the Department of Military Affairs since June 1976 and assumes the position after holding numerous positions at the battalion, brigade and director level. He previous position was as the Counter Drug Coordinator for the department. Outgoing Chief of Staff Col. Jasper Carpenter, who had served in the role since 1995, has assumed a new position as Director of Maintenance.

A member of the military for more than thirty years, Storm is a graduate of Eastern Kentucky University and the US Army’s War College. He is a Vietnam War veteran, and for his service received the Bronze Star, the Vietnam Service Medal, the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal and the Meritorious Service Medal.

Storm is also the former commander of the Kentucky Army Guard’s 1st Battalion, 149th Infantry, based in Barbourville. He currently resides in Elizabethtown with his wife, Monica, and their three children, Kara, “D.C.” and Meredith. He is the son of the late Robert (“Bob”) and Bertha Storm of London.

ELECTION INFO

Deadline for nominations to NGAKy President-Elect, Vice President - Army and Vice President - Air are due to the association office by 15 January. Nominations from the floor will be accepted during the conference. See you commander if you are interested in a position on the NGAKy Executive Council.

RECENT LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES:

- 4.8 percent pay raise
- Thrift Savings Plan for Guard members
- Family eligibility to participate in the Military Dental Plan
- Improved Montgomery GI Bill Benefits
- $90 million for full-time manning
- $500 million for military construction
- $540 million for operations, training, maintenance and readiness
- $700 million for modernized equipment

OUR FUTURE:

The NGAUS represents all members on issues that have an impact on you directly today and in the future:

- Pay and allowances
- Educational benefits
- Unit full-time manning levels
- Military construction funds for new armories, air bases, training sites and maintenance facilities
- Force structure, equipment and modernization
- Funding for critical training
- Missioning of units

The Kentucky Guardsman, a publication of the National Guard Association of Kentucky Fall/Winter 2001
President Bush names Myers, Pace to Joint Chiefs

American Forces Press Service


Speaking to reporters at his ranch in Crawford, Texas, Bush added that Marine Corps Gen. Peter Pace, 55, would succeed Myers as vice chairman. The current JCS chairman, Army Gen. Henry H. Shelton, retired Sept. 30.

Choosing a new JCS chairman is “one of the most important appointments a president can make,” Pres. Bush said.

“Secretary (of Defense Donald) Rumsfeld and I thought long and hard about this important choice, and we enthusiastically agree that the right man to preserve the best traditions of our armed forces, while challenging them to innovate to meet the threats of the future, is Gen. Richard B. Myers,” Pres. Bush said.

Pres. Bush called Gen. Myers, who became vice chairman in March 2000, an officer “of steady resolve and determined leadership” who “understands that the strength of America’s armed forces are our people and our technological superiority.

“And, we must invest in both,” he added.

Gen. Pace “represents a new generation of leadership and military thinking.” Pres. Bush said, adding that he has spent “a substantial amount of time” working with both men and “is convinced they are the right people to lead our military into the future.”

Formerly the commander of U.S. Southern Command in Miami, Gen. Pace is the first Marine to serve as vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs.

In making his announcements, Pres. Bush was accompanied by Sec. Rumsfeld, in Texas for force review and defense budget consultations, Gens. Myers and Pace, and their wives.

The president has tasked DoD to transform the armed forces into “a 21st-century military that can deter aggression and help us extend peace” well into the new century, Sec. Rumsfeld said.

That kind of change is difficult and “not undertaken lightly. It takes clarity of vision, and unity of purpose, and it takes leadership. Gen. Dick Myers is such a leader.”

Gen. Myers was a fighter pilot in Vietnam, is a former commander of U.S. Space Command, and was the assistant to former JCS Chairman Army Gen. John Shalikashvili.

Sec. Rumsfeld characterized Gen. Myers’ military career as “the embodiment of the transformation with which he will be charged as chairman as the Joint Chiefs of Staff.”

Gen. Pace, a former deputy commander of U.S. Forces Japan, has extensive experience, having served “from the jungles of southeast Asia to the streets of Mogadishu,” Sec. Rumsfeld said.

“General Pace has fought the country’s fights, small and large, and demonstrated an extraordinary capacity for leadership along the way,” he added, noting that Gen. Pace’s “background, expertise and insight” would complement Gen. Myers.

The secretary also used the occasion to thank Gen. Shelton, the outgoing chairman, for “his outstanding and his courageous service” and professionalism.

Gen. Shelton himself noted in a Aug. 24 statement that he was pleased with Gen. Myers’ and Gen. Pace’s nominations, describing Myers as “a crucial and indispensable part of the national security team for the past two years,” and praising Gen. Pace’s “wides-ranging operational and joint experience.”

Both nominees said being chosen humbled them. Gen. Myers noted that he had learned a great deal under Gen. Shelton’s tutelage. Gen. Myers told reporters he has “figuratively and literally enormous shoes to fill.”

Gen. Pace said he and Gen. Myers “would work to take great care of the wonderful young men and women who serve this country in uniform.”

What is . . . The National Guard Association of Kentucky?

Since its beginning in 1931, the National Guard Association of Kentucky has marched with the Kentucky National Guard to attain the objective and goals of military preparedness that we presently maintain. The Association was formed to promote and support adequate National Security. It looks after the common welfare of the members of the National Guard Association of Kentucky and the Kentucky National Guard. The Association also regularly works to improve public relations with the general public for the Kentucky Army and Air National Guard. The Association is governed by an Executive Council consisting of the President, President-Elect, Vice President-Air of Air National Guard and Vice President of Army National Guard, 20 directors, the Executive Director and the Secretary-Treasurer. All officers, except the Executive Director and the Secretary-Treasurer, are elected annually. Directors serve for three years and represent every command in the state. The Association sponsors a high coverage, low cost insurance program providing protection for Kentucky Guard members and their families. The Association is proud to boast virtually 100 percent of all officers as members of the Association. Most former officers of the Kentucky National Guard maintain their relationship by becoming a life member. The enlisted guard members are associate members through their participation in the insurance program. For more information, call 800-251-2333. In Frankfort, call 502-564-7500. Or write: NGAKy 1111 Louisville Road Frankfort, KY 40601-6118 Phone: 502.564.7500 or 800.251.2333

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NGAKy Conference set for 15-17 February

Continued from page 1 ...

Room reservations are available at the University Plaza Hotel for $78 per night by calling 800-801-1777. Please try to make your reservations by 22 January. State that you are with the “National Guard Association of Kentucky Conference.” To register for the conference, please return the registration form on page 3 or the one you received in the mail to the NGAKy office in Frankfort by 11 February. A $10 late charge will be assessed for late reservations.

If you have a resolution you wish to submit for consideration at the conference, please forward it to the association no later than 1 February.

Fall/Winter 2001 The Kentucky Guardsman, a publication of the National Guard Association of Kentucky  Page 5
Maj. Gen. James nominated as Air Guard director

Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld has announced that the President has nominated Air Force Maj. Gen. Daniel James III for appointment to the grade of lieutenant general with assignment as director, Air National Guard, Arlington, Va.

Gen. James served as adjutant general of the state of Texas, Texas Air National Guard, Austin, Texas since his appointment to that position in 1995.

Gen. James was a distinguished graduate of the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps program at the University of Arizona and received his regular commission as a second lieutenant in June 1968. He is a command pilot with more than 4,000 hours in fighter and trainer aircraft. He is a combat veteran with over 300 missions in Vietnam. He completed two tours of active duty in Southeast Asia, during which he served as a forward air controller and F-4 Phantom aircraft commander.

He was appointed to his current position as adjutant general on November 1995.

Maj. Gen. Weaver retires as Air Guard director

By Sue Cathcart

In a ceremony that included a gentle roasting from his good friends and was attended by many of the Air National Guard’s top leaders, Air Guard Director Maj. Gen. Paul Weaver Jr. retired Dec. 3 after nearly 35 years of service. Weaver has been director of the Air Guard since 1998.

During the retirement ceremony, which took place on the opening day of the Air National Guard Senior Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C., former Air Force Secretary Whit Peters and Rep. Jim Gibbons, R-Nev., related humorous and touching stories about their dealings with Weaver. Peters served as Air Force secretary or acting secretary through most of Weaver’s tenure as director.

One of the most controversial issues Weaver faced on his watch was the anthrax immunization program. In October 2000, the director came under fire from members of Congress after a Government Accounting Office study revealed that being forced to take the vaccine was the leading cause of pilots and aircrew members leaving the Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve. Weaver had previously told lawmakers that only one Guardsman had refused the vaccine. He later explained that his response didn’t include members who “simply left” the Guard because service is voluntary.

Weaver was commissioned in 1967 through the Air Force Officer Training School. During his career he flew F-4 fighters and C-5 cargo planes. He joined the New York Air Guard in 1975. He was commander of the 105th Airlift Group at Stewart Air National Guard Base in New York, and served as deputy director of the Air National Guard for four years before assuming the director’s position in 1998.

President Bush’s nominee to succeed Weaver, Texas Adjutant General Maj. Gen. Daniel James III, is awaiting Senate confirmation.

Kentucky legislators receive terrorism-preparedness briefing from TAG

State agencies are stepping up efforts to protect Kentuckians from terrorism and ensure that the state is prepared to respond to emergencies, legislators were told Nov. 1.

Brig. Gen. Allen Youngman, Kentucky’s Adjutant General, told members of the General Assembly’s Interim Joint Committee on Seniors, Military Affairs, and Public Safety that while intelligence-gathering typically falls to federal officials, state and local personnel are usually the first responders in an emergency situation. Accordingly, Youngman has been designated as coordinator for Kentucky’s homeland security efforts, which also include other agencies such as the Kentucky State Police, the state Department of Transportation and the Department for Public Health, he said.

Gen. Youngman told lawmakers that state agencies are assessing any areas in which Kentucky may be vulnerable to terrorism attacks and reducing those vulnerabilities wherever possible. Areas of focus include:

- Limiting access to high profile buildings such as the State Capitol.
- Better information-sharing among key agencies that deal with security issues.
- Identifying potential legislation that may be helpful in addressing security issues.
- Tightening procedures for obtaining both a Kentucky driver’s license and a commercial driver’s license, particularly one allowing the holder to carry hazardous materials. In particular, foreign nationals applying for a driver’s license are now required to produce additional information and documentation
- Improving training and awareness by helping state officials and citizens learn how to recognize a potentially dangerous situation and how to respond.
- Establishing protocols for dealing with suspicious envelopes and packages.
- Training physicians and other health care providers to recognize and treat diseases such as smallpox.
- Ensuring the state lives up to its commitment to veterans and retains its military bases will also be priorities for the new committee, Seum said.

New Senate committee to study military, protection issues

A new Senate committee has been created to study military, veterans and homeland security issues.

“The events of Sept. 11 ... reinforced what we’ve known all along: We can never do enough to protect people from a terrorist attack.” Sen. Dan Seum, R-Louisville, said during the announcement ceremony. Seum will chair the new Senate Veterans, Military Affairs and Public Protection Committee.

The new committee will look for ways to improve local and state law enforcement knowledge about terrorism threats, assess the vulnerability of possible terrorist targets in Kentucky, ensure that state police have the intelligence-gathering ability they need to protect the public, and ensure the state is alert to the threat posed by cyber-terrorism and possible threats to the state’s food supply, Seum said.

Ensuring the state lives up to its commitment to veterans and retains its military bases will also be priorities for the new committee, Seum said.

Senate President David Williams, R-Burkesville, said the formation of the committee will give lawmakers new opportunities to ensure Kentuckians are safe.

“I want to pledge to you one thing — that on the issues of veterans, military affairs and public protection, those of us in the Senate accept very seriously the challenge that our nation faces and that our state faces,” Williams said.

“This committee shall be authorized to meet in continuous session when we are in a (legislative) session and shall be authorized by the leadership to meet as frequently during the interim as necessary.”

www.ngaky.org

National Guard cartoons by LTC Lyle Farquhar (lfarquhar@mostj.ang.af.mil) can be found on the Air National Guard website -- www.ang.af.mil
Mission accomplished! -- 223rd returns from Bosnia

It was an emotional crowd that greeted the 223rd Military Police Company upon its return home from a deployment supporting the peace-keeping mission in Bosnia in September. In the wake of the terrorist attack in New York and Washington, DC, families were especially glad to see their loved ones, who were gone for more than seven and a half months.

“We’re just glad he’s home,” said Anna Hill of her husband, 1st Lt. Charles Hill. Their daughter, Joanna, sported her father’s BDU cap. “She’s nine months old and he’s been gone seven and a half, so we have some catching up to do.”

Shelita Jones just as glad to see her father, Spc. Joseph Jones. “I’m just happy, happy, happy!” she said with a smile. Her sister, Telana, nodded in agreement.

A somber note tempered the occasion as the recent national tragedy was on everybody’s mind.

“We were flying over New York City twelve hours before it happened,” said Staff Sgt. Richard Winder. “We saw the twin towers. Here we leave all the death and destruction [in Bosnia] and now we come home to this. It’s a crazy world.”

“As you all know, this has not been a great week for America,” Brig. Gen. D. Allen Youngman, Adjutant General for Kentucky, told the returning troops. “But your coming home safe and sound has made it a little bit better.”

Acting in his role as commander-in-chief for the Kentucky Guard, Governor Paul E. Patton greeted soldiers and thanked the families and employers who supported them while they were away. He said that the attacks on the nation shows that “Freedom is not free... and we must have our soldiers to protect our interests.”

Mission accomplished! -- 223rd returns from Bosnia

A Kentucky Army Guardsman launches a bridge section in preparation for a river crossing.

The Franklin Armory is one of 50 Guard armories and training centers across the Commonwealth.

This M109A5 155mm Self Propelled Howitzer is used for indirect fire support. It fires an approximately 6.2 inch diameter shell up to 14.5 miles.

Kentucky “Cowboys” and their M1 Abrams Main Battle Tank.

The HMMWV (High Mobility-Multi Purpose Wheeled Vehicle) replaced the venerable jeep and is the new workhorse of the U.S. military.

Kentucky Army Guardsmen join their employer in front of a 105 mm Howitzer during a “Bosslift.”

University of Kentucky men’s basketball coach Tubby Smith filmed a Public Service Announcement (PSA) commercial on behalf of members of the National Guard and Reserves in the Commonwealth in August at the Fort Knox MATES facility. Adjutant General D. Allen Youngman escorted Coach Smith, who thoroughly enjoyed his day at Fort Knox, including a ride in an Army Guard UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter and a ride in the M1 Abrams tank simulator. Look for the Kentucky Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve PSA on local television. (David Altom photos)

Photo Gallery -- The Kentucky National Guard in action

A Kentucky Army Guardsman launches a bridge section in preparation for a river crossing.

Kentucky Army Guardsmen fire the MLRS at Fort Knox. It is an impressive site.

Photo Gallery -- The Kentucky National Guard in action

The Frankfort Armory is one of 50 Guard armories and training centers across the Commonwealth.

This M109A5 155mm Self Propelled Howitzer is used for indirect fire support. It fires an approximately 6.2 inch diameter shell up to 14.5 miles.
Posting of the Guard

APPOINTMENTS

MAJ ANDERSON, John T. – 165th Airlift Sq, 20 Jul 01
MAJ FOX, Joseph W.A. – 165th Airlift Sq, 17 Jul 01
MAJ SCHERZER, George E. – 165th Airlift Sq, 3 Oct 01
MAJ SEITZ, Dylan Francis – JAG, HQ STARC, 2 Jul 01
CPT BARTELT, Craig Alan – HHQ 35th SPT BN (FSB), 16 Sep 01
CPT DEMATHEW, Douglas A. – 165th Airlift Sq, 17 Jul 01
CPT HARRISON, Jeffery D. – 165th Airlift Sq, 3 Oct 01
CPT WELCH, Timothy M. – 165th Airlift Sq, 2 Jul 01
1LT NAYLOR, Matthew Evan – HHQ 2/138 FA BN 155 SP, 10 Aug 01
1LT STREETMAN, William Craig – 410th QM SUP CO (GS), 31 Aug 01
2LT STURGEON, Karin L. – 165th Airlift Sq, 3 Oct 01
2LT HATFIELD, James William – HHQ 206th CHEM BN, 8 Jul 01
2LT HOOD, Joseph R. – 165th Airlift Sq, 10 Sep 01
2LT JOHNSON, Jason R. – 165th Airlift Sq, 10 Sep 01
2LT NUTTER, William Nolan – 133rd CHEM BN, 1 Sep 01
2LT JONES, Franklin Lashaune – HHQ 2/138 FA BN 155 SP, 8 Jul 01
2LT KING, Jaime L. – 165th Airlift Sq, 22 Nov 01
2LT MAGGARD, Freddie Wayne II – 617th MP CO (-), 31 Jul 01
2LT SPENCER, Jason Gary – HHC 1/149 AR BN, 3 Aug 01

PROMOTIONS (to grade shown)

State promotions date of board pending federal recognition

MAJ BARTON, John Raymond – from HHC 149
MAJ THORNBERRY, Kevin E. – from 123rd Airlift Squadron
MAJ ROBINSON, Phillip D. – from 201st EN BN, 27 Jun 01
MAJ LIVERMAN, Frederick Wayne – from HHQ 1/149 AR BN, 8 Jul 01
MAJ STEELE, John Jackson – from HHQ 1/123 AR BN, 11 Jul 01
MAJ SEITZ, Dylan Francis – from HHQ 1/123 AR BN, 10 Aug 01

TRANSFERS

COL ABEL, Virgil Allen – from HHQ 206th CHEM BN, 1 Sep 01
LTC ADAMS, Benjamin Franklin III – from HHQ 1/149 BDE 35th ID, 1 Sep 01
LTC BAXTER, Larry A. – from HHQ 206th CHEM BN, 1 Sep 01
LTC BUCKLEY, Robert Patrick – from HHQ 1/149 BDE 35th ID, 1 Sep 01
LTC GREENE, Michael – from HHQ 1/149 BDE 35th ID, 1 Sep 01
LTC JENKINS, Samuel N. II – from HHQ 1/149 BDE 35th ID, 1 Sep 01
LTC PEDEN, Charles Howard Jr. – from HHQ 2/138 FA BN, 1 Sep 01
LTC PEVELER, William Dwight – from HHQ 1/123 AR BN, 1 Sep 01

See POSTING OF THE GUARD page 9...
During the mobilization process, Woody said, care if DEERS information is accurate, Woody said. Since DEERS is the system used to determine eligibility for TRICARE, family members to do is make sure all the component members to do is make sure all the covered under TRICARE Standard or Extra until TRICARE covers most activated reservist’s families 30 days, their families are covered under the TRICARE Extra or Standard programs from the day the member is activated, Woody said. While these family members would be eligible for space-available care in any military medical treatment facility, Woody, who is a nurse, cautioned that available space is limited and suggested using it only for an emergency.

“Want you to have them in a program with some continuity with the providers,” she said. Eligible family members pay deductibles and cost-shares under both TRICARE Extra and Standard, Woody explained. Using a TRICARE Extra network provider can minimize those costs. Beneficiaries can get information on finding network providers in their area on the TRICARE Web site at www.tricare.osd.mil, or at their local TRICARE service center.

In addition, family members of reservists and guardsmen activated under orders for 179 days or more have the option to enroll in TRICARE Prime, the military’s version of a health maintenance organization. They will receive care in a military medical treatment facility or be assigned to a network provider in their area with no cost-shares or deductibles.

“TRICARE Prime is the only one of the TRICARE options that requires pre-enrollment on the part of the family members,” Woody said. Enrollment information can also be found on the TRICARE Web site or by contacting a local TRICARE benefits counselor. “Enrollment has to occur by the 20th of the month in order to be eligible for care on the 1st of the following month.”

For instance, reserve component members who might be mobilized in coming weeks must have their enrollment forms in to TRICARE by Oct. 20 in order for their families to start receiving care on Nov. 1 under the Prime option, she explained. The family would be covered under TRICARE Standard or Extra until enrolled in Prime.

She said the most important thing for all reserve component members to do is make sure all the information in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System is accurate, Woody said. Since DEERS is the system used to determine eligibility for military health care, family members could be denied care if DEERS information is incorrect or incomplete.

Activated reservists are given a chance to review and make changes to their families’ DEERS enrollments during the mobilization process, Woody said.

In cases where service members are activated for contingency operations, they and their family members are eligible to retain their military medical benefits for up to 30 days after they’re released from active duty, unless sooner covered by an employer sponsored health care plan.

“This gives them a cushion to get civilian healthcare coverage in place,” Woody said. Dental care for both reservists and their family members fall under somewhat different rules. Since earlier this year, reserve component members and their families have been eligible to enroll in the TRICARE Dental Program.

Woody explained that reserve members who had previously enrolled in the program are automatically removed when mobilized because they receive dental care from military providers while on active duty. Reserve members in the Dental Program pay monthly premiums of $19.08 for one family member or $47.69 for a family enrollment. If the reserve sponsor is called to active duty, the premiums fall to the active-duty rates of $7.63 per month for one family member or $19.08 for multiple family members, Woody said.

Families who had previously declined TRICARE dental coverage but who wish to enroll after their sponsors are mobilized will be able to join at active-duty rates during the first 30 days. Enrollment forms and information are available online at http://www.tricare.osd.mil.

Woody noted that once the sponsor leaves active duty the rates revert to the higher premiums.

TRICARE changes mean lower healthcare costs for activated Guard/Reserve members

By Sgt. 1st Class Kathleen T. Rhein, USA

American Forces Press Service

DoD officials have enacted healthcare system changes to make life a little easier for reserve component members and their families following the Noble Eagle/Enduring Freedom call-up to active duty. The most significant change is a national demonstration project that waives all TRICARE deductibles for family members of Noble Eagle/Enduring Freedom activated reservists and guardsmen for care received since Sept. 14.

TRICARE officials realized many of these families probably paid deductibles for their civilian health plans earlier in the year. They didn’t feel it fair for them to shoulder another financial burden just because their sponsor was called up toward the end of the year, said Coast Guard Lt. Cmdr. Robert Styron, regional operations officer for the TRICARE Management Activity.

Another change for reserve component members is that TRICARE will pay for up to 115 percent of what is usually allowed for care under existing guidelines. Styron said the change would help reservists who live far from active military facilities in areas that don’t have TRICARE provider networks.

Their families probably would end up paying more out-of-pocket if TRICARE hadn’t agreed to the higher fees.

New TRICARE clinic open on Kentucky Air National Guard base in Louisville

From the Cargo Courier

A TRICARE Family Practice clinic opened at Louisville’s Kentucky Air National Guard Base in May to provide medical care to military members, retirees and their families.

The new clinic has a staff of eight, including Dr. Lisa Corum, a family practice physician. Anyone who is eligible for TRICARE can be treated at the facility, which is located in the wing hospital. Master Sgt. Laura Crowder, the 123rd Medical Squadron’s senior health technician, said the new clinic is a welcome addition for area residents.

“Military members who live in the area were having to drive to Fort Knox for medical care,” she explained. Another benefit of the clinic is that it currently treats full-time base technicians as a courtesy, Crowder said.

Before patients can visit the clinic, they must change their primary care physicians. This change can be made when patients call to schedule an appointment, Crowder said.

The clinic is open Mondays through Fridays from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For an appointment call 502 364-9635.

For more information on TRICARE benefits, visit the program’s Web site at www.tricare.osd.mil.

Information on the TRICARE Dental Program can be found at www.tricare.osd.mil/reserve/default.htm.


The third change is that TRICARE officials have waived the need for Guard and Reserve family members to obtain nonavailability statements before receiving care from a civilian provider.

Styron said DoD acknowledges many reserve families have existing relationships with civilian providers.

“If you’ve already got these established relationships with a provider, we’re not going to get in the way. We will allow you to continue seeing providers you know,” he said. Active duty family members don’t need a nonavailability statement if their family has one or two family members who live near a military facility, however, they generally need the statement or they must pay for the care themselves.

DoD officials have explained that families of reserve component members called up for at least 30 days are eligible to use TRICARE benefits. Families of those activated for at least 179 days are also eligible to enroll in TRICARE Prime, which offers the most cost-effective way for military families to receive medical care.

For more information on these new benefits and on healthcare for reservists and guardsmen, visit TRICARE for the reserve components at www.tricare.osd.mil/reserve/default.htm.
Army announces ‘Stop-Loss’ program

By Army News Service

An Army-wide “stop-loss” program announced Dec. 5 will keep soldiers in selected military occupational specialties from leaving active duty.

Those are mainly personnel in special operations and some in the aviation field. Reginald J. Brown, assistant secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, approved the stop-loss measure Nov. 30. The Air Force and Navy moved quickly to implement their stop-loss programs following Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld’s Sept. 17 delegation of authority to the heads of the military departments.

The Army’s initiative freezes soldiers in the active Army and does not include Active Guard-Reserve, or AGR, members. Lt. Col. Robert Ortiz, chief of the Enlisted Professional Development Branch under DCSER, said this stop-loss measure doesn’t affect reserve-component soldiers who have not been activated. Ortiz cautioned, though, that stop-loss could be expanded at a future date to include reserve-component soldiers, if operational requirements dictate the need.

The Army’s selective stop-loss program allows the Army to retain soldiers with critical skills on active duty beyond their date of separation for an open-ended period, officials said. Soldiers affected by the order generally may not retire or leave the service as long as National Guardsmen and Reservists are called to active duty or until relieved by the president, whichever is earlier.

The Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel estimates that this stop-loss program will stabilize 994 soldiers in the Army through the end of this fiscal year. The enlisted specialties affected by this decision include soldiers with the following MOSs:

- MOS 18B, Special Forces Weapons Sergeant
- MOS 18C, Special Forces Engineer Sergeant
- MOS 18D, Special Forces Medical Sergeant
- MOS 18E, Special Forces Communications Sergeant
- MOS 18F, Special Forces Assistant Operations and Intelligence Sergeant
- MOS 18Z, Special Forces Senior Sergeant
- MOS 00Z (only those with Career Management Field 18 background)
- MOS 67U, CH-47 Helicopter Repairer (all skill levels)

The only commissioned officers affected by the stop-loss will be those in Career Management Field 18, Special Forces.

Warrant officers affected by the stop-loss include those in MOS 180A, Special Forces, and aviation warrant officers with the following specialties:

- 152C, OH-6 Scout Pilot
- 153D, UH-60 Pilot
- 153E, MH-60 Pilot
- 154C, CH-47D Pilot
- 154E, MH-47 Pilot

The stop-loss will also affect all warrant officers with the following Additional Skill Identifiers:

- K4, Special Operations Aviation
- K5, MH-60K Pilot
- K6, MH-47E Pilot

No new requests for separation will be accepted from soldiers in categories affected by the stop-loss, officials said. But they said some soldiers scheduled to separate prior to Jan. 15 may still be able to do so.

“The intent is to ensure the Army does not create hardship for soldiers who have begun transition leave,” Ortiz said. “If you’re a soldier who has already started transition leave and conducted final out-processing and cleared your installation or transition center, the Army will allow you to separate.”

Ortiz explained that retirements and separations scheduled before Jan. 15 will be looked at on a case-by-case basis. The Army last used stop-loss during Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm in 1990. The decision to enact stop-loss now was based on a service-wide manning analysis that considered input from all major commands, officials said. The Marine Corps has not yet implemented a stop-loss program.

The assistant secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs received authority to implement stop-loss on Oct. 18 from Secretary of the Army Thomas White. The Army did not immediately enact ‘stop-loss’ because it was already at its congressionally-mandated strength level, according to Brown. In addition, he said National Guard and Army Reserve soldiers were initially able to fill special needs when activated. The recent Army-wide manning analysis, however, indicated that stop-loss would enable the Army to retain trained, experienced and skilled manpower in certain essential MOSs deemed critical to the defense of the United States, officials said.

Exceptions to the stop-loss policy allow the involuntary discharge of soldiers for criminal acts under the Uniform of Code of Military Justice, or for medical reasons. In fact, most involuntary discharges will not be affected by stop-loss, officials said, nor will stop-loss change any Army policies or regulations currently in effect that might lead to an administrative discharge or medical discharge. Additionally, officials said the selective stop-loss does not impact soldiers who meet their mandatory retirement date. The Army will re-evaluate stop-loss on a monthly basis, officials said, and use it as a tool to maintain unit strength levels.

Members of the Kentucky Army National Guard prepare to rappel from an airborne UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter. These and other photos of the Kentucky National Guard in action are available at the Kentucky National Guard/Department of Military Affairs website at www.state.ky.us/agencies/military/.

Posting of the Guard

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MAJ JOHNSON, Wesley Wyatt – from Dep. Dir. Of Aviation to Aviation Operations Officer, HQ STARC, 1 Sep 01
MAJ SNYDER, Lewis Robert – from Exec. Officer to Commander, HHD 103rd FSB 35th ID (M), 1 Sep 01
CPT SINGLETON, Benjamin James – from Public Affairs Officer to Commander, 133rd Public Affairs Det., 1 Sep 01
CPT SLUSHER, Raymond Alan – from C-E Officer to S3 Air, HHC 1/149th IN BN(M), 15 Oct 01
CPT STEPHENS, Michael Webb – from Asst. S-4 to Commander, HHC 63D AVN GP, 1 Aug 01
CPT WERTZLER, Brian Francis – from Plans Officer to S-1, HBB 2/138th FA BN 155 SP, 1 Sep 01

SEPARATIONS

COL PERRINE, John Dixon – HBB 138th FA BDE to The Retired Reserve, 29 Nov 01
COL SHARPE, Franklin H. – 123rd Operations Group, 19 Sep 01
COL SHELLEY, Melvin Lee – HHC 1/149th BN 35th ID (M), to The Retired Reserve, 30 Sep 01
LTC DICK, Karl V. – 123rd Medical Squadron, 2 Oct 01
LTC FRENCH, Ronald Lewis – HQ STARC to The Retired Reserve, 30 Sep 01
LTC MCMILLIN, Gary Wayne – HQ STARC to The Retired Reserve, 30 Sep 01
MAJ NUTTER, William Nolan – HQ STARC, 22 Sep 01 (to IRR)
CPT BLANTON, Travis – HHD 103rd FSB 35th ID (M), 12 Oct 01 (to IRR)
CPT KORHAGE, John F. – 123rd Medical Squadron, 30 Oct 01
1LT CLINE, Jeffery Grant – 212th TC, 1 Jul 01 (to IRR)
1LT SPAULDING, Darryl W. – 123rd Airlift Wing, 1 Oct 01
1LT WILSON, Anthony Douglas – DET 2 HHC 35th ID (M), 8 Jun 01 (to CTANG)
2LT RILEY, William Garard – HBB 2/138th FA BN 155 SP, 8 Jun 01 (to IRR)
CW2 BAUMBACH, James Arthur – DET 1 207th MAINT CO, to The Retired Reserve, 30 Sep 01
CW2 POWERS, Christopher Paul – CO F (-DET1) 135th AVN 35th ID, 1 Nov 01 (to IRR)
Kentucky Military History Museum

The Kentucky Military History Museum emphasizes the service of the Kentucky Militia, State Guard, and other volunteer military organizations, from the Revolution through the Gulf War. Displays include an impressive collection of firearms, edged weapons, artillery, uniforms, flags, photographs, personal items, and other equipment that illustrates the Commonwealth’s martial heritage. The KMHM is operated by the Kentucky National Guard and the Kentucky Historical Society.

The Commonwealth of Kentucky constructed the Old State Arsenal in 1850 to house the weapons and equipment of the Kentucky Militia. Designed by Kentuckian N.C. Cook, the two-story brick Gothic Revival “castle” stands on a cliff overlooking the Kentucky River and the downtown area. In 1973 the Old State Arsenal became the home of the Kentucky Military History Museum.

Museum Hours: Tuesday - Saturday, 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. -- Sunday, 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. (The museum is closed on Mondays and most holidays.)

NGB website celebrates Presidents who served their nation in the National Guard

The National Guard Bureau has a wealth of information on its website at www.ngb.dtic.mil, including detailed history information about America’s National Guard.

One of the most interesting sections outlines historical prints available from NBG. Last month we featured prints from famous battles in which Guardsmen played a key role. This month, we feature some of the prints from the NGB Presidential Series. At least 19 of our American Presidents have seen service in the National Guard. They include George Washington, Theodore Roosevelt, Harry Truman and Chester Arthur, whose prints are shown here. Prints are also available for 14 other Presidents, including James Madison, Thomas Jefferson, William McKinley, Benjamin Harrison, Rutherford B. Hayes, James Garfield, James Buchanan, Abraham Lincoln, Ulysses S. Grant, John Tyler, James Polk, Franklin Pierce, William Henry Harrison and Andrew Jackson.

There is not as yet available a print of our current President, George W. Bush, who served as a fighter pilot in the Texas Air National Guard.

The NGB print series also features a third segment, State Missions, highlighting deployments, rescue missions and other accomplishments in our National Guard history.

Holiday message to Guardsmen/Reservists

By Laura Bush
First Lady
(Oct. 20, 2001) — I am delighted to wish you a happy Thanksgiving. This year the holiday season holds special meaning for Americans, and we are particularly grateful for members of our National Guard and for members of our armed forces Reserves.

As we continue to heal from the tragedies that began on September 11, your role becomes even more important – and more appreciated – than ever. Our nation depends on the premiere, community-based force of the National Guard and Reserves. You are America at its best.

For many of you, this will be a season of separation from friends and loved ones. The President and I appreciate your sacrifices and commend you for defending our country, from ensuring that our airports and ports of travel are safe, to protecting our nation’s borders. Your presence across our homeland and abroad is a source of pride and reassurance for all Americans.

This holiday season, Americans are reflecting on what is most important to us: our faith, our family and friends, and our freedom, which you defend with honor and dignity.

Thank you again, and may God bless you and your families as you continue your service to America.