

# THE BLUEGRASS GUARD

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## OPERATION SUPERCHARGE

### 149th Armor Brigade Fires Up Ft. Hood!

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## OUR COVER

As a scout helicopter circles overhead, an M113 of the 149th IN BN roars at top speed into battle with the OPFOR "Red Brigade" during OPERATION SUPERCHARGE conducted 8-24 July by the combined elements of the 149th Armor Brigade at North Fort Hood, Texas. For additional annual training photos from Ft. Hood, Camp Shelby and Ft. Knox see pages 4-7 (Photo by 1LT Phil Miller, 133rd PAD)

## AT EASE

Annual training has kept many Kentucky Army Guard members busy during the past month or so, and we've devoted several pages to stories and photos of AT '88. But another situation this summer has called for the attention of the Guard, too—the long drought. Though it didn't involve more than a fraction of the number involved in annual training, we think those members who hauled hay, dredged a water supply and flew sustain observers deserve some attention. Their stories and photos are on the opposite page.

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### THE BLUEGRASS GUARD

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# COL Van Fleet Among Kentuckians on Active Duty Tours at National Guard Bureau in Washington

First of a series of articles about KJARNG officers on NGB tours.

By MAJ Keith Kappes  
KJARNG PAO

After 15 years of active duty tours as an Army National Guard officer, COL Frank C. Van Fleet still proudly displays his Kentucky State flag on his desk at the Pentagon and he is quick to tell others of his ties to the Bluegrass state.

Today, the former Bowling Green resident is chief of the organization and training division of the Army Guard Directorate at the National Guard Bureau in Washington, DC. He is among more than two dozen Kentucky Army Guard officers on active duty tours outside the state and holds the distinction of being the senior in terms of continuous active duty service.

"We've been away from Kentucky for several years but return as often as possible, and our son is in graduate school at UK," said the 49-year-old armor officer who has been in the Guard for 32 years. "We try to get back home for the National Guard Association meetings and always look forward to receiving *The Bluegrass Guard* by mail each month. There are several other Kentuckians here at NGB and we keep each other posted on what's happening there."

**"Kentucky is well regarded in the entire National Guard . . . I'm especially proud that Kentucky tour officers are well respected."**

COL Van Fleet says he has had the advantage of being from a state with a strong tradition in National Guard matters, particularly in terms of manpower strength, realistic training and a high state of readiness.

"Kentucky is well regarded in the entire National Guard and I know that we have a bright future in the changing military picture," said the former full-time training officer in the 149th Armor Brigade. "New missions will be going to the Guard and Reserve and Kentucky will be in the forefront because we maintain strength and readiness and train aggressively."

COL Van Fleet's career as a "tour officer" has been on a strong upward curve since he left the state in 1975 to become part of the newly-reactivated 24th Infantry Division at Fort Stewart, GA.

"That experience has proven invaluable to me over the years because the 24th was the first active division to be reorganized with a reserve component brigade and that since has become the model," said the former NCO who received a direct commission in 1963. "Total Force was a brand new concept when I came aboard and we have demonstrated through the evolution of 'affiliation' and 'roundout' that the Guard and Reserve can perform their missions alongside the active force."

His assignments have taken him from Fort Stewart to the National Guard Bureau, to the National War College, to Fort Meade, MD, as senior ARNG advisor to Fleet Army, to the advisor's post at FORSCOM at Fort McPherson, GA, to Harvard University for the prestigious "Senior Officials in National Security" course and back to the Pentagon for his current assignment as the Army Guard's chief trainer. He has served on the staffs of two NGB chiefs, LTG "Mickey" Walker and LTG Herbert Temple, Jr.

"I've worked hard in my assignments to be professional and to make a good impression for myself and for my home state,"

he added. "I'm especially proud of the fact that Kentucky tour officers are well respected."

COL Van Fleet enlisted in the 3rd Battalion, 133rd Armor, as a 17-year-old high school student and had advanced to E-6 when his unit was activated during the 1961 Berlin Crisis.

In addition to his military education, the Kentucky Guardsman holds associate and bachelor's degrees and is working on a master's degree, all earned on active duty.

He said he was "very, very pleased" when the colors of his old battalion were taken out of retirement with the reactivation of the 3rd Battalion, 133rd Armor, as Kentucky's newest major unit. "I had hoped that would occur and I am confident that the new battalion with its new troops and equipment will carry on the old traditions," COL Van Fleet said.

Kentucky's top Guardsman on federal active duty would prefer to stay in NGR status until early 1993 and then return to his beloved home state. He is married to the former Erma Joyce Fleming of Butler County. His mother, Lois Van Fleet, still lives in Bowling Green. COL and Mrs. Van Fleet also have a married daughter and a granddaughter. The Van Fleets live in suburban Virginia.

"The state flag on my desk and the state seal on my mantle at home make it clear to everyone how I feel about Kentucky," he said, proudly.



## Let The Games Begin

Adjutant General Michael W. Davidson carries the torch for the opening of the Bluegrass Games on the first leg of its trip from Frankfort in Lexington July 29. Several KJARNG units were involved in supporting the games. Stories and photos about their involvement in the next edition of *The Bluegrass Guard*. (Photo by 1LT Phil Miller, 133rd PAD)

— Helping in the Drought —

# Engineers Dredge North Middletown's Water Supply

By SGT Robert W. Pillow  
133rd PAD

**NORTH MIDDLETOWN** — Some Kentucky Army National Guard engineers hit rock bottom during their July drill.

Members of the 20th Engineers Delta Company of Carlisle and Headquarters Company of Ashland traveled to Stoner Creek one mile south of North Middletown to assist the community's water works with dredging and general stream cleanup operations.

The town's city council asked the Guard in November to dredge around a dam on the creek which impounds a pool from where the town draws water for its nearly 750 residents. The council assumed mud was reducing storage capacity and blocking the water system's inlet.

Engineers were also asked to clear the creek's banks of dead-fall wood and other debris which had slowed the flow of the water and, in the past, clogged the inlet for the water system.

The engineers began clearing in the spring on still staves with a crane, bulldozer and front-end loader.

While working around the dam

and inlet, the group of 20 engineers found out how the creek was named.

"We found flat stone on the bottom and there was very little mud," said 2LT Ben Powell.

Delta's First-platoon leader and officer in charge. "I think the creek bed is just shelves of rock."

Although the dredging around the dam pool wasn't necessary, the engineers removed a log jam about 100 yards upstream and cleared as much of the banks as possible. They also dredged some of the creek bed below the dam which was dry at the time because of the drought.

In July, North Middletown was enforcing water use restrictions because of the drought. Car washing and laws and tree watering were prohibited, according to Jimmy Jones superintendent of the North Middletown Public Works Department.

Jones said the Guard's work will help the community, but the town ultimately needs to find an alternate water source such as a Knox well and upgrade its water treatment plant, which has the capacity to purify 106,000 gallons of water per day.

The pool around the inlet is

stagnant, but Jones said the water plant continues to treat and purify the water effectively. No boil notices have had to be issued.

Under normal conditions consumption of water by the town equals or exceeds the plant's capacity, but during the drought it dropped to 40,000 because of the water restrictions, Jones said. As of July 16, the town has a 50-day supply of water. If necessary the town could start rationing water at the rate of 30 gallons a day per person, Jones said.

"But we don't want to do that," he said.

The engineer's work was scheduled before the drought created water shortages for the Boone County community, but their task took on new importance because of the dry weather, according to 2LT Powell.

"We usually do community service projects about twice a year," Powell said. "But they aren't usually crisis oriented (as this one is)."

1LT Edward Taylor, Delta's commander, said North Middletown is paying for the fuel and liability insurance required for the work, which is a domestic action project.



SGT Ron Parks of D Co., 20th Engineers of Carlisle, connects a chain to tree so a National Guard crane can clear a log jam in Stoner Creek. (Photo by CW2 James D. Pope Jr., 133rd PAD)



**CONVEYORS OF ASSISTANCE** — SP4 Todd Green and PFC William Rucker, both of Co. E, 135th Aviation in Frankfurt, help remove bales of hay from a United Parcel Service "bigloo" at Louisville's Standiford Field last month. LPS flew the hay from Oregon for drought-stricken Kentucky farmers. State Agriculture Department employees loaded it onto a National Guard truck which Green and Rucker drove to Dixon, in Webster County. (Photo by Mike Lynch, Kentucky Department of Military Affairs)



## Guard Helicopters Survey Streams

Story and Photo By SGT Robert Hahn, 133rd PAD

Helicopters and aircrews from the 140th Signal Battalion were called to state active duty in July to survey the damage of the severe drought. The helicopters were used to provide personnel from the Kentucky Division of Water Resources closeup looks at streams and rivers that dropped to dangerously low levels over the summer.

"It's really bad down there" said CW2 Don Livingston, an OH-58 pilot interviewed while refueling his aircraft at the Mt. Sterling Municipal Airport. "We saw spots on the Licking River that you could walk across."

Steve Crumms, an observer from the Department of Natural Resources, praised the role of the National Guard helicopter crews in determining the level of rivers and streams, saying that this "birds eye" look at the situation would help the department determine the need for additional water conservation measures.



**LAYING IN WAIT** - Dispersed along a tree-lined ridge, an M60A3 (above) from 1/123 AR BN awaits the signal to attack an approaching column of tanks from the OPFOR "Red Brigade" (center right) while being stalked by "Tank Killers" (far right) in Improved TOW Vehicles from 1/149th Infantry (MECH).



**149th**

**DIRECTIONS** - BG Julius Berthold (center), assistant division commander of the 35th ID (M), gives KsARNG aviators CW4 Logan Weiler (left), CW4 Murray Welch and CW2 Gary Duggans grid coordinates for pick-up zones to be used during the 149th Bde FTX.



Photos  
By  
ILT Phil Miller  
133rd PAD



**MEDIC** - 1LT Scott Black, a third-year medical student assigned to the 475th MASH starts an IV on a beat casualty at the field dispensary operated by Co. C (MED), 103rd Forward Support Battalion.



**TOC GUARD** - PFC Randy Bratcher mans a .50 Cal. machinegun atop an APC blocking the entrance road to the 149th AR Bde TOC.





## R BDE AT FT. HOOD

8 - 24 July, 1988



**SMOKERS** - Screening the maneuver area with smoke, (above) APC's equipped with smoke units heavily blanket a large area to cover the repositioning of armor units, while (below) SP4 Gerald Jackson, 141st Chemical Company, adjusts the oil flow on his jeep-towed smoke generator in another sector of the battle area.



**FIELD CHEFS** - SGT Darrell Huguely (left) and PFC Robert Drake of Co. C (MED) 103d FSB, prepare chow for hungry field medics at the North Fort Hood Brigade Support Area.



**COOLIN' OUT** - SP4 Gerald Jackson takes advantage of 141st, 149th Bde's field shower to get some relief from Fort Hood's 100 degree temperatures.

# 130th MAINT CO ARTEP At Fort Knox



SGT Richard Lozier hammers edges of a bear in the hood of a five-ton truck to prepare the sheet metal for welding during Annual Training at Fort Knox 8-24 July.



One of the original charter members of the 130th, SSG Grover Hofbrook checks a gas tank from one of his unit's welding rigs for leaks.



130th MAINT CO machinist SGT William Brewer and CW3 Ronald Evans discuss repair of sheared bolts on an M60A1 tank turret and barrel mount with CPL Norman Smalls of D Troop, 10th CAV. (Photos by 1LT Phil Miller, 133rd PAD)



SSG William Allen searches for wiring problems in a 36,000 BTU heat pump at a Fort Knox maintenance facility.

AT '88's "Other War"

## Texas Chiggers Torture Kentucky Troops



SSG Glen Cartwright of Det. 1, 140th SIG BN, straps flea-collars on his boots to help combat the chiggers of North Fort Hood.

By 1LT Phil Miller  
133rd PAD

While battles between the tankers and mechanized infantrymen of the 149th Brigade may have been the primary focus of Kentucky National Guard troops training at North Fort Hood in mid-July, the many individual battles with the Texas Army post's mightiest of mites—the chigger—tallied more casualties than the OPFOR could ever claim.

"They first attacked our right around the beltline, and then they moved about two clicks to the south," said SP4 Jimmy Dean, an RIO for the 35th AVN Bde units providing aviation support for Operation Supercharge. "They hid in the high weeds around the LZ. We

didn't have a chance," he added.

Meanwhile, medics at the Co. C, 103rd FSB (MED) aid station in the Brigade Support Area were reporting that 75-80 percent of the troops being seen by medical personnel had had problems with chiggers. "I went to a battalion aid station a couple of days ago and everybody out there was eaten up with chigger bites," said 2LT Scott Black, a medical student assigned to the 475th MASH. "About all we can do is give them some calamine lotion and send them on back to the battle...It's safe to say they're not happy campers."

"We hit 'em with bug spray and clear nail polish and they just dug in deeper," said CW4 Logan Weiler, a pilot for Det. 1, 140th SIG BN. "Let's face it, this is not a noble beast we're doing battle



with, it may hide like a snake in the grass, but at least a Texas rattler gives you some warning when it's about to strike. These little buggers just hop on and start torturing you."

Even though Kentucky's Guardsmen fought a valiant battle against the pesky mites, utilizing sophisticated countermeasures ranging from special anti-chigger ointments and sprays to wearing cat and dog flea-collars around the tops of their boots, many still returned to home station at the end of the two-week exercise bearing, and some still scratching, the scars of North Fort Hood's "other war."

# Operation Celtic Shield

198th MP Battalion at Camp Shelby, MS

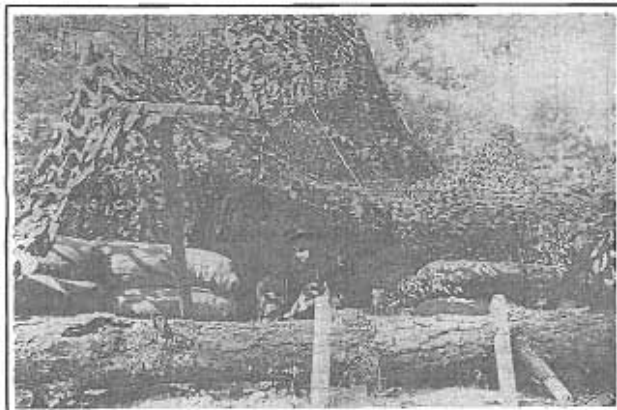
Photos By ILT Phil Miller, 133rd PAD



**MOTOR POOL** - Motor Sergeant Mike James replaces a carburetor on one of the 614th MP Company's M151 jeeps prior to launching of Operation CELTIC SHIELD.



**UPLOAD** - SGT Dwaine Musgrove, 1st Platoon, 614th MP CO, prepares his jeep-mounted M60 machinegun for an early morning feeding of 7.62mm ammunition.



**UNDER COVER** - Peering out from under a bunker constructed of logs, dirt and cut foliage, SP4 Ronnie Adams guards an entrance road into the 198th MP BN's southern Camp Shelby bivouac area.



**PLANNERS** - CPT Marvin Miller, 198th MP BN S-2 (left) and ILT Todd Harrison, 614th MP CO platoon leader, identify troop positions for ARTEP evaluators.



**MORNING REPORT** - SFC Donald Dreddy, (right) and SGT Steven Underwood, both of HHC, 198th MP BN, check with other units to meet perimeter guard manning requirements during ARTEP at Camp Shelby.



**WATER BREAK** - With southern Mississippi temperatures regularly averaging more than 100 degrees, PFC Rondo Dorsey, 438th MP CO, pauses for one of many water stops enforced during AT '88.

## BRIEFLY NOTED

## MG Conaway Becomes NGB Vice Chief

The Secretary of Defense has announced the appointment of Major General John B. Conaway as Vice Chief, National Guard Bureau. The establishment of the Vice Chief position was recently recommended by the Chief, National Guard Bureau and approved by the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Secretary of Defense as a joint duty assignment.

The Vice Chief will be responsible to the Chief, National Guard Bureau for the day to day operations of the National Guard Bureau to include the supervision of the Army and Air Directories as well as the Joint staff.

General Conaway previously served as the Deputy Director (April 1977 to April 1981) and most recently as the Director, Air National Guard, National Guard Bureau (April 1981 to June 1988).



Conaway

## Guard Collected \$50,000 For Easter Seals

Reports from all the Kentucky Army National Guard units which conducted their annual "Buckeye Brigade" for Easter Seals have been received at the Kentucky Easter Seal Society headquarters in Louisville.

According to Mr. Gaion Miller, Executive Director of the Kentucky Society, this year's Guard collection exceeded the \$50,000 mark.

"With this year's collection, the men and women of the Kentucky Army National Guard have raised 1.6 million dollars during the last 17 years for the benefit of the disabled children and adults we serve at the Easter Seal Society," Mr. Miller stated.

## National POW/MIA Day Set for September 16

A Senate Joint Resolution has been introduced to establish Friday, 16 September 1988, as National POW/MIA Recognition Day 1988. It is expected that this resolution will pass and the President will sign a proclamation as he has in past years, encouraging both the private and public sectors to conduct activities on that day honoring POW/MIAs and their families.

## KyANG Pistol Team Has First Woman

By SSGT Jeff Sansbury  
123rd TRW PAO

The all-male KyANG Pistol Team held try-outs last fall for some newly-created vacancies, and AIC Sheila Young was nervous.

Only four weeks earlier, Airman Young hadn't even held a pistol. She flinched, she remembers, after firing her first round. "I hit the target on my first try," explains the 123rd TAC Hospital medic, "and that was a bit of surprise."

The bigger surprise came in October, when Airman Young earned a permanent spot on the team, making her the first female in KyANG history to do so.

By April, the 34-year-old had placed third in a local pistol tournament, and that achievement earned her a slot on Kentucky's National Guard State Pistol Team at Fort Knox, which consists of both Army and Air guardsmen.

For a couple of hours each Tuesday night, Airman Young loads nearly 250 rounds into her .22, .38 and .45 calibre pistols. It's addictive, she admits.

"She puts a lot into it, and that's why she gets so much out of it," explains TSgt Gary Stormen, the KyANG team advisor and a member of the 123rd CAM Squadron. "Sheila is confident and is



AIC Sheila Young

always optimistic. Her future looks real good."

"We're all supportive of each other. That's the only way it can work," she explains. "Pistol competition is not just an individual skill - it's also an exciting team sport."

Airman Young says she became interested in joining the Kentucky pistol team because only a few women have approached the idea, and because she wanted to encourage other females to participate more actively in traditional male sports.

"Being a woman is not a factor...not in this sport," says teammate MSGT Mike Cook. "She can out-shoot a lot of us guys, and we don't hesitate to admit it."



MAJ Rodney Alsop, left, is presented the S. Ernest Vandiver Trophy for 1987 by MG Joseph W. Griffin, center, the Adjutant General, and BG William K. McDaniel, Assistant Adjutant General - Georgia Army Guard. (Photo by SP4 Jerry DeAvila, 124th PAD)

## Former Kentucky Guard Aviator Wins Georgia Award for Anti-Drug Effort

MAJ Alsop is a former operations officer of Kentucky's 441st Med. Det. (HELAMB) and Vietnam veteran with Co. A, 2/13th FA.

By SGT Toby Moore, 124th PAD  
Georgia Army National Guard

An Atlanta Army National Guard member has received one of the most prestigious awards given to Georgia military reservists.

MAJ Rodney Alsop, training officer for the 15th Military Intelligence Battalion, was awarded the S. Ernest Vandiver Trophy.

Alsop was cited for his work in "coordinating operations between his unit, the U.S. Coast Guard and the National Narcotic Border Interdiction Service in a drug suppression mission supervised by the vice president's office."

Named for a former governor and adjutant general of Georgia, the Vandiver Trophy is presented annually to an outstanding member, officer or enlisted, of the state's Army or Air National Guard.

"This award is given to an individual member of the organization, but it reflects on each and every person in the unit," said MG Joseph W. Griffin, Georgia's Adjutant General. "I am very proud of this unit and this individual."

Alsop, a 22-year veteran of the National Guard, is an assistant professor of accounting in the College of Business Administration at Georgia State University. Part of his work includes teaching Vietnam veterans how to start their own business, for the Georgia Vietnam Veteran Leadership Program.

A native of Milton, Ky., Alsop holds degrees from Eastern Kentucky University and the University of Kentucky.



## KyARNG Jeeps Get Rollover Protection

In the photo above, SGT Dwaine Musgrove, PFC Phillip Bryan and PFC Dennis Wilson of the 614th MP Company, move out on patrol at Camp Shelby, MS in one of the M15A2 quarter-ton jeeps now sporting rollover protection. According to CW2 Voin Barker of CSMS, the first phase of installing protection kits consisting of rollbars, four-seat shoulder harnesses and protective webbing began in mid-April of this year at OMS 8 in Louisville, OMS 11 in Owensboro and at the Murray Armory, with a total of 129 vehicles being modified at a cost of about \$100 each.

"We've already had one accident where the rollover gear kept two of our soldiers from being thrown out when a civilian vehicle struck the back of their jeep," Barker said. "In my opinion, the protection package has already paid for itself."

Modification of the 184 remaining KyARNG jeeps will begin in FY '89.