
THE BLUEGRASS GUARD

Vol. 28, No. 10

Frankfort, Kentucky

October 1988



REFORGER 88

133rd PAD Covers FTX Certain Challenge

1/623rd FA Takes
Kerwin Again
Page 3



Air Guard Gets
• First C-130
Page 6



Towers Built
• for Rappelling
Page 8



What Training Means to an Army Spouse



OUR COVER

Capturing chemical decontamination of an M-1 Abrams tank at Wildflecken, West Germany, was one of many assignments given to members of the 133rd PAD during Reforger 88. In our cover photo, SGT Charles Spizziri videotapes chain decon operations. More photos and a story on Reforger are on pages 4 and 5. (Photo by LT Phil Miller, 133rd PAD)

AT EASE

Once again, the results of pride and hard work by members of the Kentucky Army National Guard has shown through, as the 162nd FA has captured the Kerwin Award (opposite page). The pride of former members of the Guard who served their country in Vietnam brought them together again for a reunion (also on page 3).

The Bluegrass Guard is here to display that pride, and we're ready to tell the entire Kentucky National Guard your stories.

Call us at: (502) 564-5779
Antevon 366-3600

THE BLUEGRASS GUARD
ATTN: KG-PAO-AR
Boone National Guard Center
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601-6168

THE BLUEGRASS GUARD

The Bluegrass Guard is published monthly under the provisions of A.R. 360-21 for the personnel of the Kentucky Army National Guard. Contents of the Bluegrass Guard are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army, or the Department of Military Affairs. News, features, photographs and art material are solicited from readers; however, attention is at the discretion of the editorial staff, by writing Editors, Bluegrass Guard, Boone National Guard Center, Frankfort 40601-6168 or call (502) 564-5779. No paid advertisements will be accepted, nor will payments be made for contributions.

Commander-in-Chief
Col. Wallace G. Wilkinson
The Adjutant General
BG Michael W. Danaher
Deputy Adjutant General, Army
COL James Daniel
Editors
LT Phil Miller, Mr. Mike Lynch
State Public Affairs Officer
MAJ Keith Kappen
Typesetter
Susan Mayes
133rd PAD Commander
CPT J. Gordon Nichols

Printed under contract with U.S. Government
Printing Office. Printed by: Standard Printing
Company, Appleton, WI 53106

(Pam Dufresne, an Army spouse stationed with her husband at Fort Devens, MA, wrote this editorial about her husband's training, what it means to her, and how his training affects their family life.)

"Oh, by the way, I forgot to tell you we're going to the field for training next week." These are times when those words can be music to my ears.

Training is the Army's theme for this year and it's probably an appropriate time for family members to think about what training means to the soldiers and their families.

Of course, when you're the wife of an infantry soldier, training means he will be going to the field -- usually in one-week sports, but occasionally longer. There are a lot of wives who grumble and groan about field time, but there are others like me who enjoy it.

It's like a mini-vacation. For one whole week, there's no green laundry. We can have all the macaroni and cheese we want (my husband hates the stuff), and the kids can watch something on television besides the Nightly Business Report. Last, but not least, the grocery bill is considerably lower.

There are also the side benefits of going out with the girls and trying out different restaurants and having a few hours at night (after the kids are in bed) just to work on crafts or do nothing.

The greatest benefit to training, however, isn't for me, but for my husband. The better trained he and his fellow soldiers are,

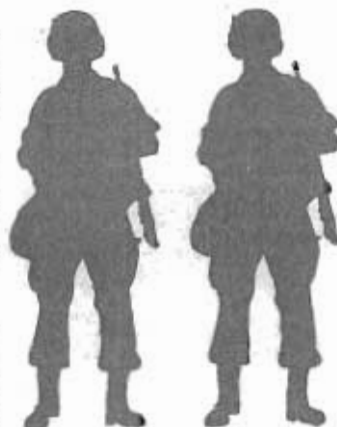
the better their chances of survival in a combat situation. Having spent four years in the Army myself, I've seen that. Training isn't always exciting, it can be boring, but it's always necessary.

Training also builds his confidence. When he has accomplished a task and done it well, he feels good about himself and his abilities. I've seen that in my husband when his training has gone well. He feels good about his unit, and the unit has pride in itself and works hard to keep it.

There are times when training causes problems for our family. He was supposed to be home from the mortar range by six, but he didn't get home until nine, so he missed the school program or dinner at a friend's house. There have also been times during a training exercise when the car's broken down, the garbage disposal's quit and birthdays and anniversaries have been spent alone. The hardest time was when he was in another country, and a young teenage friend of the family was killed in a car accident.

His being away has helped me become pretty self-sufficient. I may not always take care of things the way he would if he was home, but I can usually handle whatever comes up.

Training is an important part of Army life -- for the soldier and his family. We take it as it comes, and the problems usually work themselves out. Most important of all, my husband knows how to do his job.



Veterans Day Message from Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci

Veterans Day is a special time. As Americans gather at ceremonies and memorials throughout this great land, we are reminded that fundamentally we are a family. We pause this day to reflect on the love and commitment of nearly 40 million living veterans who have served that family. We acknowledge that none have given fuller expression to that love than those who have died or been disabled in defense of our nation.

We demonstrate today through your ceremonies and in our private thoughts and prayers America's lasting gratitude and admiration for those who have allowed us to prosper in peace and freedom. We reflect that such blessings are not universally enjoyed; that tyranny, aggression, and cruel terrorism challenge

what so many Americans have fought and died to protect.

We honor our veterans in a manner that befits the American family. Our nation might have chosen the anniversary of a great battle. Instead, we chose the anniversary of a great silence, the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month when the guns of World War I at last were still. We celebrate not war, but the end of war. We are a people of peace.

As we look with hope toward the day when the guns are forever silent, let us once again express appreciation to those whose splendid heritage lives on in a generation of servicemen and women who have taken their places on the battlefields of American freedom.



1/623rd FA Takes Kerwin Second Straight Year

By Mike Lynch

Department of Military Affairs

Likening it to winning the NCAA basketball championship two years in a row, Gov. Wallace Wilkinson announced last month that Kenney's 1st Battalion of the 623rd Field Artillery had once again won the coveted Walter T. Kerwin Readiness Award. It was the second straight year the national recognition had been given the Glasgow-based unit.

"I commend you and I commend the members of your battalion for your hard work and your dedication to your state and to your country," Wilkinson told LTC Michael F. Gantt, the commander of the 1/623rd. "That's a well-deserved award, and I'm proud of you. We all are."

The governor made the announcement during his third Capitol to the Counties program in September. He was speaking before a forum of local government leaders from the Second Congressional District, who gave the announcement a standing ovation.

The National Guard Association, the Association of the U.S. Army and the Reserve Officers Association present the award to the best battalion in the Guard



Gov. Wilkinson congratulates LTC Michael Gantt on the 1/623rd's second consecutive Kerwin Award. Adjutant General Michael Davidson, right, was in Elizabethtown for the announcement. (Photo by Mike Lynch, Military Affairs)

based on the professional training of its troops and its equipment maintenance. The 1/623rd became eligible for the Kerwin by winning the Milton Reckord Award, an award the battalion has dominated in the Second Army area for a decade.

Besides its headquarters battery in

Glasgow, the battalion has batteries in Tompkinsville, Campbellsville, Monticello and Springfield.

"It's the soldiers that make this battalion work so well," said Adjutant General Michael W. Davidson, who was in Elizabethtown for the announcement.

"They're the finest soldiers in the nation, and the battalion benefits from the quality of its soldiers."

"(The award) keeps us in a winning role in all the training opportunities, the equipment and the funding flow to the winners. This battalion is definitely a winner. It raises the profile of the entire National Guard in Kentucky."

LTC Gantt, who has been with the unit for two years, accepted the congratulations of the governor and adjutant general, but said the members of the unit deserve all the credit.

"What it boils down to is...pride in the individual, the patriotism demonstrated by the individuals and the professionalism which adds up to the performance that the Walter T. Kerwin Award is recognizing."

Gantt also noted the work of the full-time cadre in the battalion, the spouses who sacrifice and participate in unit activities, the communities where his batteries are located and the employers who cooperate in allowing their Guard employees time off for training and schooling.

He will be in Washington, DC, this month to formally accept this year's Kerwin Award plaque.

2/138th's Veterans Re-unite Near Elizabethtown

Editor's Note: This story, published in the Elizabethtown News Enterprise September 12, is published with permission of that newspaper.

By Mike Douglas and Tom Stone

Raindrops beating on the tin roof of a shelter reminded the men of their time in Vietnam, sparking jokes about tropical monsoons they endured some 20 years ago.

But the 35 men who served with the Kentucky National Guard unit based in Elizabethtown didn't just meet to talk about the weather. It was the group's 19-year reunion, held Sunday behind the Valley Creek Volunteer Fire Department near Elizabethtown.

These soldiers, a majority representing Hardin, Meade, LaRue, Jefferson and Warren Counties, were called to Vietnam in October 1968.

"We were all like brothers - one big family," said Francis Simpson, now a Hardin County magistrate.

"I just can't believe how some of you guys have aged," said retired Brig. Gen. Robert Caudill.

Leon Thomas, now a local dairy farmer said they remember more of the good

times than the troubling ones. They try, he said, to forget the bad times.

But that can be difficult with constant reminders, from magazine articles to the war's popularity at the box office. And most recently in the political circle, where Republican vice presidential nominee Sen. Dan Quayle of Indiana was questioned about whether he joined the Guard to avoid being drafted. The Indiana unit was not called to Vietnam.

Some of the men who served in the Guard but did not go to Vietnam, including doctors from Elizabethtown, were here by the fortification that being in the Guard was a safe harbor sought by those who weren't as patriotic or courageous as those who enlisted or were drafted.

Simpson said the media overlooked at least two facts. Many of those National Guard units on standby were called, and that many of the people in regular military units never went near Vietnam.

But Simpson knew the National Guard would be ready, if only because of maturity. Members of Guard units tended to be older than the men who were being drafted, and they had worked as a unit in the states before being called.

Some of those drafted - many still teenagers - had too little training before



Members of Elizabethtown's Company B, 2/138th Field Artillery who served in Vietnam gathered recently for their 19-year reunion. They plan a bigger gathering for the 20th anniversary of their return. (Photo by Mike Douglas, courtesy of The News Enterprise)

they were put on the job, Simpson said.

The Elizabethtown unit, which numbered over 100, was known as B Battery, 2nd Battalion of the 138th Artillery of the Kentucky National Guard. The unit, which supported the 101st Airborne, lost

one member during a one-year tour of duty. Bert Carr of Louisville was killed on a "recon" mission, Simpson said.

The group plans a bigger and better reunion next year - the 20th anniversary of their homecoming, Simpson said.

Scenes From

CERTAIN CHALLENGE



WERTHEIM — In above photo, a UH-60 MEDEVAC helicopter sits on the 68th MED GROUP Field Hospital alert pad, following delivery of patient (photo below) to emergency surgery where medical personnel from the Washington, D.C. National Guard were "operating". (Photos by CW2 James D. Pope Jr. and SSG Ron Bayes, 133rd PAD)



WILDFLECKEN, West Germany — Civilians (as well as some of you older troops) may still call it summer camp, but no member of the Kentucky Army National Guard's media unit was in danger of getting hot during annual training here.

The Frankfurt-based 133rd Public Affairs Detachment travelled overseas September 5-22 to assist in providing media coverage of the 20th annual Return of Forces to Germany (REFORGER) exercise, codenamed "CERTAIN CHALLENGE".

The largest NATO military exercise in Europe since World War II, "CERTAIN CHALLENGE" involved 125,000 U.S. troops and was designed to once again show the United States' commitment to defend Europe.

The unit flew from Fort Campbell on an Air Force C-141 Starlifter on September 5, arriving at Wiesbaden Air Base on the afternoon of September 6, then moved on by motor convoy to Wildflecken training area, a former World War II German training camp, or kasern, situated 13 kilometers from the East German border.

After two days of mild, sunny weather, however, the 12 reporters, broadcast journalists and photographers suddenly found themselves facing the cold, wind and rain daily. In other words, it was a typical German autumn.

"The scenery around Wildflecken was beautiful," said SFC Tom Murphy, public affairs supervisor for the 133rd. "I just wish I had been there in the summertime so I could enjoy it more."

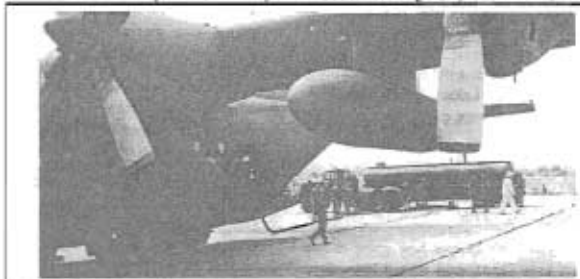
At night, when the copy, photographs and video stories were turned in at the Press Center, unit members returned to their sleeping quarters in the massive tent city, constructed by the 3rd Support Command, at the base of a perpetually fog-shrouded mountain.

It was a "GP Medium" equipped with "central heating" — a smoky, more-trouble-than-it-was-worth coal stove, that never failed to extinguish itself around 0300 every morning.

"Sometimes it was so cold at night, you could see your breath inside the tent," said SGT Robert W. Pillow of Frankfurt. "And one night it was so windy the ridge pole in the tent started creaking and some of us thought the whole thing would come down."



BAD KISSENGEN — A German father and son got a chance to check out the cockpit of a UH-1H HUEY helicopter after it landed near their "volksmarch" route through the Bavarian countryside. (Photo by CW2 James D. Pope Jr., 133rd PAD)



KITZINGEN — A U.S. Air Force C-130 "Bladder Bird" pumps diesel fuel into a 5,000 gallon tanker immediately after landing at a forward area airstrip. (Photo by CW2 James D. Pope Jr., 133rd PAD)

REFORGER 88

GE for 133rd PAD

During this REFORGER, members of Kentucky's PAD covered units of the 3rd Support Command — the providers of fuel, food, transportation, maintenance, chemical decontamination, medical and other logistical support to the line units of V (U.S.) CORPS.

"The challenge was to get good coverage of the support units, which are essential to success on the battlefield, but are not as glamorous as combat arms units," said CPT Gordon Nichols, commander of the 133rd.

"In order to carry out these missions, crews sometimes had to drive for more than three hours, battling high-speed traffic on the autobahns or fighting narrow country roads, trying to find units who were rarely still in the same location they had been in when the crew departed the Press Center."

"After spending several more hours interviewing and shooting film and video of the troops, the guys still had to drive back to Wildflecken and develop or edit their stuff before it was time to call it quits for the day, and there was many a time it was already the next day before they got back to the seat."

Working with the 3rd Support Command and V CORPS' Public Affairs Office, unit members' photographs, and print and broadcast stories were used by civilian and military media, including Armed Forces Network Television, throughout the United States and Europe.

"The National Guard and Army Reserve train the same as the Army," Nichols said. "It's a large exercise like CERTAIN CHALLENGE that allows the Guard, Reserve and regular Army to work side by side. We put to real-war-use what we train for on drill."

The PAD has deployed overseas five times in the last six years — twice to Central America and three times to West Germany for REFORGER exercises.

"Before, we got to go to southern Bavaria and southern Hessen, German states with Kentucky-type terrain and weather," Nichols said. "This time we got sent to the top of a mountain in southern Bavaria. If we had been about 150 meters higher, we'd have probably gotten snow as other parts of Germany, like the Black Forest, already had."

"The PAD doesn't often get cold weather training in September," Nichols quipped.



ALTBESSINGEN — Twelve year old Swen Feser takes a close look at SGT Tharmon Griffin's M-16 rifle. The two met while SGT Griffin's unit, the 590th Trans. Co., was awaiting an air-drop of supplies near Swen's village in northern Bavaria. (Photo by 1LT Phil Miller, 133rd PAD)



WEITTHEIM — Tank crewmen catch MRE's pitched to them by soldiers from the 3rd Support Command as a column of V CORPS M60A3's rolled into a Forward Arming and Refueling Point during REFORGER 88. (Photo by SSG Hugh A. Smith, 133rd PAD)



BUCHOLD — A farm tractor towing a wagonload of corn stalks and children shares the right-of-way with a CH-47 Chinook helicopter momentarily parked along a one lane road running between the villages of Buchold and Altbessingen. (Photo by 1LT Phil Miller, 133rd PAD)



BAD KISSENGEN — SGT Charles Spitzirri and CPT Kelly Byrd videotape field aviation maintenance for Armed Forces Network Television news.



WILDFLECKEN — Home, sweet home, for the 133rd PAD during REFORGER 88, was "Tent City". The name Wildflecken, which translates into "wild place", prompted unit members to sing "There's no Flecken, like Wildflecken!" as they crawled out of sleeping bags and pulled on MOPP suits each morning.

Second One Due This Month KyANG Receives First C-130 for New Mission

By SSGT Jenny Montgomery
KyANG Public Affairs Office

It's here!

The 123rd TRW, soon to be renamed the 123rd TAW -- Tactical Airlift Wing -- received its first C-130B Hercules September 16.

Flown in by the Charlotte, North Carolina, Air National Guard where it was previously assigned, the aircraft was greeted by many curious KyANG members. After Brigadier General John L. Smith, wing commander, accepted aircraft 57-0528 from the aircraft commander, it was opened up for viewing. Members of the KyANG were able to

walk around and inside the plane for a close-up inspection.

This aircraft will be used primarily by maintenance for training purposes, according to MAJ Paul Stone, organizational maintenance branch chief. A second trainer aircraft for maintenance is expected to arrive in October, said MAJ Stone.

Maintenance plans for the aircraft include a transition class, systems class, a class on the rails on the floor of the aircraft and then a dock or inspection class. Classes will be conducted by members of the Field Training Detachment from Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas.

MSGT Richard Scanlon is the assigned

crew chief for this C-130, and he is assisted by MSGT James Bryan and TSgt Darrell Minton. Each flightline shop will use the aircraft to learn their own unique areas, said MAJ Stone. Although some people will have to go away for school, the ma-

jectory of the maintenance training will be conducted here, he said.

Plans are being made for General Duane H. Cassidy, commander in chief, Military Airlift Command, to fly in the C-130 in January when the conversion is official.



This C-130 lands at its new home with the KyANG, Standiford Field. (Photo by SMSGT Dave Tinsley)



Members of the Kentucky Air National Guard check out the inside of the unit's first C-130. (Photo by SMSGT Dave Tinsley)

KyARNG Leading the Nation With SMP Push

By Mike Lynch

Department of Military Affairs

For the past few years, ROTC members attending Kentucky colleges and universities have been able to join the National Guard at the same time through the Simultaneous Membership Program (SMP). But the number of participants is expected to swell in the next few months as the SMP has become more organized and centralized. Adjutant General Davidson has appointed the Deputy AG, COL James Daniel, as career manager for the SMP, and CPT Roger Winsett is serving as program coordinator.

Winsett says only two other states have programs as organized as Kentucky's has recently become.

"We are developing the model for the nation," he adds.

To be a simultaneous member, the student/Guard member must meet all the entry requirements of both ROTC and the Na-

tional Guard. The only exception is the waiving of the MEPS (Military Entrance Processing Station) physical, usually required for joining the Guard. Winsett says the waiver is allowed because the ROTC has a stringent physical entry test, and the waiver speeds the entry process.

"It allows us to process the individual in two or three days," he says. "Otherwise it could be two or three weeks, due to the need to schedule the visit to the MEPS center."

Of course, membership in the program requires more of the ROTC member as a result of the monthly Guard drills and annual training. But Winsett points out that both the member and the military eventually get a better officer out of the program.

"SMP accentuates their training," he says, "putting the ROTC student's classroom training to use in the field. We're treating them as soldiers, not as officers. They are learning common soldier tasks."

The SMP member can also earn a lot of extra money over what he or she would earn by simple ROTC membership.

For example, a cadet could earn, in addition to the \$100 per month ROTC stipend, \$124 in drill pay a month, plus \$140 monthly in GI Bill college tuition benefits and \$750 per year in state tuition assistance.

Winsett says the main advantage of the new emphasis on the program is central management of the training of the SMP, so that the participant is getting better training in the branch he or she wants to join after college.

"We wanted to have a program to train these people to be soldiers, regardless of where they go in their future military career," Winsett said, noting that some of the ROTC students are certain to join the active military forces. ROTC scholarship students have an obligation to the active military after college, and the simultaneous membership program is now open to them

as well.

There were about 185 SMP members in Kentucky in mid-September. Winsett believes that by this month there will be another 80 who will join the program.

The new emphasis will also open some avenues of cooperation between the Guard and ROTC. Winsett expects representatives of each program to be promoting military service side-by-side at high school career days and other public functions. Some SMP members will also be joining Guard units on FTX weekends, while Guard members accompany ROTC units to help with their training exercises.

"Adjutant General Davidson has noted several times recently that with defense budget constraints the Reserve Component is where the growth is going to be," Winsett says. "That's why he's so enthusiastic about this program and its potential for training young people not only as officers but as well-rounded soldiers."

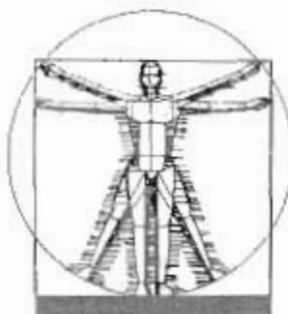
"Flu Season" Misery Can Be Avoided

By Paula M. Maionchi, MD
Assistant State Surgeon

"Flu Season"? Those two words bring up images of fall and winter misery for most people. They envision fever, aching all over, headache, dry cough, chills and extreme fatigue that may last for weeks after their bout of the flu ends.

Most people, however, do not think about the fact that influenza can be accompanied by much more serious complications. Flu can be complicated by pneumonia, meningitis or encephalitis (brain infections) and unfortunately sometimes by death. These complications are more common in persons with high risk factors such as: persons with heart disorders, diabetes, chronic lung problems, asthmatics, the elderly and persons living in nursing homes.

The elderly and persons with high risk for flu complications also experience an increased level of hospitalization during the influenza months, November through February. It is estimated that high risk groups may experience 150,000 additional



hospitalizations during a moderate epidemic at an additional cost for medical care of at least \$600 million dollars a year.

During the past 30 years there have been 18 moderate to serious flu epidemics. These epidemics have resulted in an excess of 250,000 unnecessary deaths from flu complications. This is a tragedy. The majority of cases of flu and the accompanying deaths could have been avoided by in-

fluenza immunizations, "flu shots."

The U.S. Public Health Service has been publishing recommendations for the prevention of flu for over 25 years. Flu shots do work. They help prevent the most common strains of flu infection. Vaccines are developed annually based on information from epidemiologists on the expected strains of virus that will be present in the population.

The side effects of flu shots are minimal in the majority of cases. Most people will develop a sore arm at the sight of injection. Some people will develop low grade fever and muscle aches. Allergic reactions such as hives and rash are rare, except in people who are allergic to eggs. People allergic to eggs should not receive flu shots.

Increasing the numbers of persons immunized could dramatically decrease the rate of flu infection in a community in two ways. First, the persons actually immunized would be at a lower risk of contracting the flu and second, the fewer persons in a community with the flu the lower the number of persons carrying and spreading the virus in the community.

Immunization against flu should begin in mid-October or early November. The flu season usually begins about the middle of November and continues through February.

Who should receive flu shots? Adults and children with chronic medical problems, such as: diabetes, lung or heart problems, asthmatics, residents of nursing homes; healthy persons 65 years old and older; persons caring for sick people (hospital, medical office, nursing home personnel, visiting nurses and volunteer medical workers); persons providing essential community services (fire personnel, police and ambulance personnel) and healthy people who wish to reduce their chances of acquiring the flu.

An aggressive program of flu immunizations can help a community avoid serious medical complications from the flu and the increased death rate from flu complications. In addition to these benefits, an effective immunization program can help business and industry to avoid productivity losses by preventing the spread of this highly communicable infection in their plants, offices and businesses.

Give Your Boss A Pat on the Back for Supporting Your Guard Service

The National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve conducts an awards program to honor employers who support a strong Guard and Reserve force.

The top award in the program is the prestigious *Pro Patria*, a Latin expression which means "for the nation." It symbolizes the patriotism of the recipient, who has indicated support of the nation's defense by adopting policies which make it easier for employees to participate in the Guard or Reserve. Award of the *Pro Patria* is highly selective; no more than one award will be given in each state annually.

In addition to *Pro Patria* awarded by the Secretary of Defense, there are two other awards: The State Chairman's Award — a plaque-nominate certificate presented by state committees for employer support, and The Employer Support Certificate of Appreciation, awarded by the National Committee on behalf of the Department of Defense.

All members of the Guard and Reserve are eligible to nominate their employers for the *Pro Patria*. In addition, the National Committee will take nominations from other sources.

Employers qualify for recognition when they practice personnel policies that support employee participation in the Guard and Reserve.

(Federal law requires employers to

grant excused absences to Guard and Reserve members for military training; simple compliance with the law does not qualify an employer for an award.)

Nomination may be by letter. You must explain why the employer deserves consideration for an award. Members of the Guard and Reserve should nominate their bosses directly to this address.

NCSGR
111 20th Street, NW
Suite 414
Washington, DC 20036-3407

Guard members making nominations must include in the letter the identification and address of their unit and the name of its commander.

There are no losers in the competition. Not every employer nominated can win the *Pro Patria*, but each will receive the Employer Support Certificate of Appreciation. Each nominee will be considered for both of the other awards.

Nominations may be submitted at any time. There is no cut off date.

The certificate of appreciation for your boss will be forwarded to your unit commander in a presentation folder. You will be notified when the certificate is mailed. Please ask your unit commander to watch for the certificate in the mail. The commander will receive detailed information on various methods of presentation of the certificate to your employer.

KPUP -- A Terrific Training Opportunity

Editor's Note: As they become available, KPUP tour listings will be posted monthly in a special section of *The Bluegrass Guard*.

Alaska, Panama, Germany and the Caribbean — those are just a few of the places where Kentucky Army Guardsmen are currently on individual training assignments under the Key Personnel Upgrade (KPUP) Program.

Administered by the National Guard Bureau, KPUP offers CONUS and OCONUS field training opportunities for soldiers in specialty fields ranging from truck driver to orthopedic surgeon.

"It gives the Army Guard soldier the chance to get additional training in his or her duty MOS alongside their active Army counterparts," said MAJ Melvin Shelley, KyARNG Training Officer.

"Most importantly, it enhances the visibility of National Guardsmen as deployable assets of the Total Force by allowing them to operate in a particular type of environment (such as

Europe) where they have to deal with real world situations on a daily basis."

According to MAJ Shelley, listings of available KPUP tours, normally ranging from 22 to 60 days in length, are regularly supplied by the Directorate of Plans, Operations and Training to the battalion level, where the staff must screen applicants to make sure the following prerequisites are met:

- * Must have at least one year remaining before ETS.
- * Must meet height/weight requirements of AR 600-9.
- * Must have qualified with individual assigned weapon and passed APFT within last 12 months.
- * Enlisted personnel below E-8 must have passed CTT within last three years.
- * Must possess a valid military drivers license.
- * Individuals may only apply for KPUP training in their current duty MOS.
- * Only one OCONUS KPUP opportunity allotted per individual within a particular training year.

OCONUS KPUP TRAINING Host Country Listings

Europe: Germany, Italy, Belgium, United Kingdom, Norway, Turkey

Korea: (South)

Japan: (Honsha), (Oknawa), (Hokkaido)

Centralcom: Kenya, Jordan

Westcom: Hawaii, Alaska, Philippines, Australia, Thailand, Tonga (Samoa area) Marshall Islands

Latin America: Panama, Honduras, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Argentina, Chile, Dominican Republic

Note: Includes FY '87 and FY '88

BRIEFLY NOTED

Vietnam Veterans Memorial To Be Dedicated

Kentucky's memorial to its Vietnam veterans is scheduled to be dedicated in a public ceremony Saturday, November 12. The huge sundial-shaped monument, bearing the names of over 1,040 Kentuckians who died in the conflict and those who remain missing in action, is located on a gentle hillside near the state Library and Archives building in Frankfort.

The ceremony will start at 11:00 a.m. eastern time and will include an artillery salute by members of the 2/138th Field Artillery, which served in Vietnam, and a wreath-laying by Vietnam veterans who won the Medal of Honor.

Later in the day, beginning about 3:00 p.m., the names of all the Kentuckians who died will be read aloud in a two-hour ceremony, after which the memorial will be lighted. It is located on Coffee Tree Road, off of Frankfort's East/West Connector, south of the Capitol.

Literacy Testing Underway

Education programs coordinator CPT John Roth has begun giving literacy tests to full- and part-time members of the Kentucky Army National Guard. He is using the reading section of the Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE) to measure vocabulary and reading comprehension.

The first tests were given to 26 Guard members at UTES-2 in Greenwell, where seven members scored below the 10th grade reading level. That grade level is considered critical because the training manuals for the Army's M-1 Abrams tank are written at the 10th grade level. CPT Roth says he plans to test all members of the Kentucky Guard, beginning with the tank units.

He adds that members who score below 10th grade will have access to a KET videotape series on better reading, similar to the GED test preparation series introduced to the Guard last year.

Guard Members Serve as Movie "Extras"

Some members of the Kentucky Guard from the Paducah area received combat "experience" recently in the swamps of Ballard County in Western Kentucky. Five members of the 1/123rd Armor were used as extras for scenes in the movie "In Country" filmed in the Paducah area.

Enlisted advisor MSG Walter Spunn played the part of a squad leader, while SGT Greg Smothers of Company D, SGT Steven Frudge, SGT James Gaines, SPC Roderick Hightower and SPC Terry Draiper, all of HHC, 1/123rd, also had parts.

CPT William Hilling, administrative officer for the unit and a Vietnam veteran (1965-69) was chosen as a technical advisor.

The film stars are Bruce Willis and Emily Lloyd.

New KyARNG Promotional Campaign Hits the Air

You may already be seeing new TV public service announcements or hearing radio promotions for the Kentucky Guard. The Recruitment and Retention Office began the latest promotional campaign on October 1.

The television spots were filmed at the WEBSITE and produced by Western America Films of Billings, Montana. The National Guard Bureau allocated \$15,000 for the production of the TV spots. There are three versions of the promotion, running one minute, thirty seconds and fifteen seconds.

Six versions of a "Catch the Spirit of the Kentucky Guard" radio promotion were produced by Silver Sound Productions of Nashville and paid for with federal recruiting funds allocated to the state.

SGT Chuck Toler of the Recruitment Office says he expects to have the radio and television announcements running statewide by the end of this month.

Guard Family Members Need New ID Cards Early Next Year

Beginning in January, family members of Army National Guard and U.S. Army Reserve soldiers will require a new photo identification card.

The card eventually will be put to several uses, say officials at the U.S. Army Reserve Personnel Center. The card will be used for identification for entry into Army commissaries, and in conjunction with such documents as training or mobilization orders and leave and earnings statements.

Members of Guard and Reserve units will have the cards issued for their family members at their units' armories and training centers. But officials note that a special procedure is required for the nearly 300,000 members of the Army Reserve who aren't unit members. These soldiers include members of the Individual Ready Reserve and Individual Mobilization Augmentation programs.

Receiving and using the new card is critical to the families of individual reserve soldiers who train, because it is the only photo ID which will be authorized for family member use of Department of Defense commissaries when their sponsor trains for any period of 30 days or less.

U.S. Army ID card issuing facilities will issue the card to eligible family members

of IRR and IMA soldiers. According to ARPERCEN officials, IRR and IMA soldiers should first contact the nearest active Army installation to make sure the documents are available and to make an appointment.

If the active Army installation doesn't have the cards, officials say, IRR and IMA soldiers should next try local Army National Guard and Army Reserve facilities.

Officials caution that only Army ID card facilities can issue the new card; facilities of the other services won't have them.

When reporting to the ID card facility, both IRR and IMA soldiers need the following documents:

- DD Form, 2A the red Reserve Components ID card.
- Certified true, raised-renal, copies of birth and marriage certificates, divorce decrees, and court orders for adoption pertaining to family members to whom the card is to be issued.
- IRR soldiers must also have their DD Form 214 or assignment orders to the Army Reserve Control Group (Reinforcement or Control Group (Annual Training)).
- IMA soldiers must have an ARPERCEN-issued order assigning them to a mobilization unit and position.



Rappelling Towers Go Up At Frankfort and Artemus

Members of the Kentucky Guard taking rappelling training will no longer have to rely on natural cliffs to provide a training ground. Two fire towers donated to the Guard by the Kentucky Division of Forestry will soon serve the purpose.

Towers no longer used for spotting fires near Morehead and Manchester were removed from their original sites and rebuilt at the Artemus Training Site and at Boone National Guard Center in Frankfort. Members of the 201st Engineer Battalion did all the work, including attaching booms to the sides of the towers (above).

Though the towers were donated to the Guard, reconstructing them cost about \$6,500 each for additional materials, like lumber and concrete.

When completed, each tower will provide facilities for rappelling from heights of 20, 40 and 60 feet. (Photo by Mike Lynch, Department of Military Affairs)