

## The Kentucky

## GUARDSMAN



## Governor appoints Wellman to be AG



WELCOME—Maj. Gen. Billy G. Wellman chats with Gov. Julian M. Carroll following the swearing-in ceremony in the governor's office. General Wellman succeeds Maj. Gen. Richard L. Frymire, who resigned to devote more time to his family and his Madisonville law practice.

## Tuition fund gets boost

Gov. Julian M. Carroll has granted the Kentucky National Guard Educational Encouragement Fund an additional \$35,000 to keep the program operating.

The \$25,000 originally provided for the fiscal year was rapidly committed, according to a Board spokesman, and more than 100 applications for the fall term have been pending further funding. Additionally, requests for spring term aid have already begun to arrive.

The spokesman said that the grant should meet most needs through the fiscal year, but that spring applications would probably have to be reviewed in bulk during the term. He also said that the Board hopes to have some checks processed by mid-January and to have

the backlog cleared out during the month.

The Department of Military Affairs has requested a significant increase in funding for the program during the next biennium.

## New plates set

New National Guard license plates will be issued by county clerks for 1978, according to A.A. Flatt, of the state's Bureau of Vehicle Regulation. He explained that all Kentucky plates are being replaced.

Guardsmen who purchased the distinctive plate in 1977 will pay only \$1 for the new plate, while those making the purchase for the first time will pay \$26. Each year thereafter, renewal will cost \$1.

Billy G. Wellman, former Army Guard Chief of Staff, has been appointed by Gov. Julian M. Carroll to serve as the Adjutant General. The appointment, which was effective Dec. 9, brought with it the rank of major general.

He succeeds Maj. Gen. Richard L. Frymire, who resigned to devote more time to his family and his Madisonville law practice. He had served in the post for six years, one of the longest periods in modern times.

General Wellman had served as Chief of Staff since 1975 and has worked in a full-time capacity for the Guard since 1957. He has taken a leave of absence from his technician position to accept the appointment.

Governor Carroll said that General Wellman was one of three men he considered for the position. The other two are Brig. Gen. Wilbur R. Buntin, Jr., Assistant Adjutant General for Army; and Col. Taylor Davidson, regional Selective Service director in Atlanta and a former Kentucky Air Guardsman.

"This is one of the most personal appointments that a Governor must make, and given the superb quality of all three of the individuals I considered, it was one of the toughest selections I have ever had to make," the governor said.

General Wellman began his career with the Guard in 1951, serving as an enlisted man. He earned a commission in 1956 and has since received training in virtually all army branches, including Adjutant General Corps, Armor, Engineer, Military Police, and Infantry.

He is also a graduate of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College and the Senior Commanders Orientation Course.

He earned his bachelors degree from Morehead State University.

Following his appointment, General Wellman pledged to continue the progressive programs initiated by General Frymire and to build upon the foundation that has been established.

Many military and government dignitaries attended a Dec. 14 reception sponsored by the National Guard Association of Kentucky for General Wellman.





## DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS

OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

FRANKFORT 40601



9 December 1977

To the employees of the

DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS  
AND KENTUCKY NATIONAL GUARD

My six years with you have been meaningful to me. I have never worked with a more dedicated, professional, and conscientious group of people. Together we have accomplished many things including the construction of many fine facilities, the EOC, the development of a Military Museum at the Arsenal, the improvement of the force structure of the Kentucky Guard, and the equipping of our units and the armories with the best equipment ever.

However, the most meaningful association has been with the people who have worked so hard to make the Kentucky Guard and Disaster and Emergency Services the most professional in State and Nation. I thank you for your dedication, professionalism and loyalty.

Phyllis and I thank you for the beautiful gifts that you gave to us on the evening of my farewell dinner. It was a wonderful occasion and you were extravagantly generous to us. The brass candle holders and the bowl are beautiful additions to our home. I look forward to spring so that I can try out my new lawn tractor, and particularly the camouflaged wagon. If you will drop by Madisonville I will be happy to furnish you with some firewood that has been freshly cut with my new chain saw.

It has been a real pleasure to serve with you. I expect you to continue to excel.

Sincerely,

*Richard L. Frymire*

RICHARD L. FRYMIRE

## Guard... at a glance

### Germany Trip

Company C, 201st Engineer Battalion, in Jackson, has been selected to perform 1978 annual training in Germany. The unit will be attached to the 130th Engineer Brigade from Aug. 5-20.

### Promotion

The Kentucky National Guard has a new general officer. William F. Gast, Air Guard chief of staff, attained the rank of brigadier general recently.

### Marksman

Maj. Presley Kendall, of the Army Guard state headquarters staff, has earned more honors in international shooting competition. He was a member of the U.S. team that earned a gold medal recently at the Championship of the Americans in Mexico City. Twenty countries participated and the U.S. team defeated Cuba by only one point. Kendall was only slightly short of a world record, scoring 593 out of 600.

### Commo Checks

Kentucky Army and Air Guardsmen

have been working for several months to check and improve communications systems that might be used during an emergency in the state. The 123d Communications Flight and various elements of the Army Guard have worked on joint exercises to insure that communications capabilities will be available if needed anywhere in the state. An Air Guard spokesman said that the initial exercises have been quite successful.

### Drill issue defeated

The House Appropriations Committee's proposal to eliminate drills for legal, public affairs, chaplain, and civil affairs personnel was defeated in joint conference. The Senate committee had opposed the change.

### Travel benefits

Got some free time and want to travel? As a National Guardsman, you can take "space available" flights on military aircraft. To qualify, you need a current and valid Reserve ID card and DD Form 1853, Authentication of Reserve Status for Travel Eligibility.

## Guardsmen get Medal for Valor, top state award

Five Kentucky Guardsmen have recently received the Medal for Valor, the highest award given by the state.

Two Army aviators, SP5 Harmon Cross and SSgt. Hugh Ross, both of Frankfort, received recognition for rescuing three women from a rooftop in Pineville during the April floods.

The church where they were stranded was surrounded by water flowing in a swift current and nearby power lines had made all other rescue attempts unsuccessful. In high winds, the Guard helicopter maneuvered over the church and SP5 Cross was lowered to the roof. There he loaded the women, ranging in age from 68-83, onto the rescue net. Sergeant Ross raised them into the helicopter.

Because of a low fuel supply and heavy load, SP5 Cross was forced to remain on the roof while the women were transported to a hospital and the helicopter was refueled.

Sgt. John Larka, of Paducah, received the award for rescuing a fellow Guardsman from a swimming pool at Fort Hood, Tex. during annual training in July.

While off duty, he noticed a man attempting, without success, to pull someone from the pool. The individual had gone down under 10 feet of water and was on the bottom of the pool by the time Sergeant Larka reached the scene. He rapidly pulled the victim to the surface, where others assisted by providing first aid successfully.

Two Air Guardsmen, SSgt. Michael O. Harp and SSgt. Jerry M. Perkins, were also involved in a dramatic life-saving action.

The men were off-duty at Bowman Field in Louisville on April 17 when a small single engine aircraft crashed upon take-off. They rushed to the crash site and immediately began to try to remove the pilot and his passenger. The pilot was removed without difficulty, but the passenger was pinned between the crushed nose of the aircraft and the seat back. Fuel was leaking from the full fuel tanks, creating a very hazardous situation.

The two Guardsmen continued to work to free the passenger, in spite of the mounting risks, and were successful minutes before fire and emergency medical teams arrived on the scene.

## SGLI offers \$20,000

Some Guardsmen are apparently unaware that they are insured for \$20,000 through Guard membership and that they pay only \$3.40 per month for the benefit.

Speaking of benefits, a Guard spokesman said that many who leave evidently do not realize that they leave this substantial benefit behind. He explained that the coverage is in effect full-time and does not apply only when the individual is on training duty.



**FIRING**—Sgt. Ron Miller handles the ammunition as SSgt. Morrison Lowellen prepares to fire his M-60 during a major training exercise recently at Fort Knox. Both men belong to the 614th MP Co. (Photo by SSgt. Ron Bayes)

## Patterson recognized for NCOA efforts

SSgt. Larry C. Patterson, of the 303d General Supply Company in Danville, earned top honors in the recently concluded NCO Academy program. He graduated with an overall grade standing of 93.02, also earning the Enlisted Association Award for academic achievement.

The Association of the U.S. Army Award was claimed by Sgt. Robert G. Gooch, of the 130th Maintenance Company, while SP5 Jessie M. Bandfield, of Company C, 201st Engineer Battalion was recognized as the "most improved candidate."

Sgt. William T. Dixon, of Co. C, 201st Eng. B., finished second overall and Sgt. Charles C. Sewell, of the 413th Maintenance Co., finished third.

## Guardsmen eligible for USMA Prep

Guardsmen with some academic deficiencies may still have the opportunity to attend West Point, utilizing training offered by the U.S. Military Academy spaces Preparatory School (USMAPS).

Each year spaces are set aside at the school for Guardsmen and Army Reservists and those who successfully complete the program may compete for one of the 85 West Point scholarships available each year to the Reserve components.

To compete, Guardsmen must meet several criteria, explained in AR 40-501. Only those between the ages of 17 and 21 may apply. The Guardsman must have at least seven months of service.

Anyone interested may apply by letter to the Commandant, USMA Preparatory School, ATTN: Admissions, Fort Monmouth, NJ 07703 by June 1 of the year in which the individual hopes to enter school.

According to school literature, "if good grades were made in a college preparatory program in high school and placement was in the upper third" of the class, chances are good for acceptance.

## Three armories dedicated

Three new armories were dedicated in November, and two more were near completion.

Dedication ceremonies were conducted in Estill County, Harrodsburg, and Carlisle, as construction entered the final stages in Richmond and Prestonsburg.

Major Gen. Richard L. Frymire, then

Adjutant General, delivered the principal address at the dedication of the \$488,142 Harrodsburg structure, and Brig. Gen. Wilbur R. Buntin, Assistant Adjutant General for Army, dedicated the other armories. The Estill County project totaled \$490,680, while the Carlisle Armory cost \$468,618.

## NG Technician position announced

The following full-time technician position openings have been announced and applications will be accepted until the closing date noted. Anyone interested can get applications at the unit or through the Technician Personnel Office in Frankfurt.

### Air Guard

- \* Administrative Specialist, GS-05, Standford Field (Jan. 23)
- \* Electronics Mechanic, WG-11, Stand-

ford Field (Jan. 24)

- \* Air Operations Specialist, GS-05, Standford Field (Jan. 24)

### Army Guard

- \* AST, GS-05, 475th Med Hospital, Frankfort (Jan. 10)
- \* AST, GS-07, 475th Med Hospital, Frankfort (Jan. 10)
- \* General Mechanic, WG-09, OMS No. 2, London (Jan. 24)

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