

The background image shows a large military aircraft, possibly a transport plane, engulfed in flames. Two firefighters in full protective gear are in the foreground, one kneeling and another leaning over a red fire hose. The aircraft has "Daddy's Girl" and "F-15C II" written on its side. The scene is set outdoors on a tarmac.

**gt**

Volume 2, Number 3

Summer 2009

# guardtimes

Serving the New York Army and Air National Guard, Naval Militia, New York Guard and Families

[www.dmna.state.ny.us](http://www.dmna.state.ny.us)

PG 8 > **Dirty Bomb Disaster Preparedness**

PG 12 > **Task Force Jester-No Joke**

PG 16 > **From MP's to Leathernecks, to Iraq**

PG 31 > **Air Guard and NASA Solid Team Work**

PG 38 > **New Guard Commander Pinned**

PG 42 > **Naval Militia Plying the Waters of NY**



# FROM THE LEADERSHIP

## Our Guardsmen Serving Community and Nation

Responding to emergencies in our own backyard has been a hallmark of New York National Guard service since the state's first Citizen Soldier force, the Burgher Watch, was formed back in the days of Dutch New Netherlands.

Under the Dutch, Citizen Soldiers marched against a native attack against a settlement in modern-day Kingston; New York Provincial Soldiers fought against the French and their Indian allies along Lake George; and in the Revolution, militia Soldiers turned back a British invasion force at the Battle of Oriskany.

Today, I'm proud to say that our modern Citizen Soldiers and Airmen are well trained and prepared to defend our homeland against the current threats of pandemic disease, terrorist attack, and natural disasters. We've come a long way in a relatively short time.

We've created a modern Joint Operations Center in our Latham headquarters, and staffed it 24/7 with well-qualified non-commissioned officers which gives the command group the ability to monitor events around the state and

around the world and speeds up our response time.

We are continually training to improve our skills and identify our weaknesses. We participated in the state's Empire 09 emergency response exercise this spring by building our own National Guard follow-on exercise, Empire 09 Plus by exercising the ability of our CERFP (CBRNE Enhanced Response Force Package) to deploy, conduct a mission, and return home.

The New York National Guard has now validated two CERFP teams since 2007, which is a noteworthy accomplishment. This team of about 300 Army and Air National Guardsmen and women and New York Guard members is specially trained to extract, decontaminate, and stabilize victims of a chemical, biological or radiological attack as a follow-on to civilian first responders.

We've exercised with the state Department of Health to be prepared to receive and stockpile drug supplies in the event of a pandemic, preparing for an outbreak of flu or another disease.

Our force of full-time Guard Soldiers and Airmen will soon include two fully equipped Civil Support Teams, trained to help detect radiological, biological and chemical weapons, allowing us to fully cover threats in the New York City area and upstate.

We're also revising our hurricane response plan to ensure that we're prepared to respond should a storm hit Long Island or New York City.

Most importantly, the skills our members have learned in overseas federal deployments, the ability to plan and execute missions rapidly in an ever-changing environment, make the New York National



**Maj. Gen. Joseph J. Taluto**

"Responding to emergencies in our own backyard has been a hallmark of New York National Guard service since the state's first Citizen Soldier force."

-- Major General Joseph Taluto,  
The Adjutant General

Guard fully prepared to assist in homeland security and defense.

We members of the National Guard bring our chain of command and our combat-tested decision making skills with us when we go into a situation. We can use these assets to help our civilian bosses and counterparts do their jobs better when an emergency arises.

Most of you have served your country with distinction and honor in Iraq, Afghanistan, Kuwait or another overseas location. I'm very proud to say that you're just as well prepared and trained to serve your community and state here at home.



gt



# guardtimes

Summer 2009 | Volume 2, Number 3

Governor David A. Paterson, COMMANDER IN CHIEF  
Maj. Gen. Joseph J. Taluto, THE ADJUTANT GENERAL  
Eric Durr, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS  
Lt. Col. Paul Fanning, PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER  
Lt. Col. Richard Goldenberg, COMMAND INFORMATION  
Sgt. 1st Class Steven Petibone, NYARNG, EDITOR

## About Guard Times

The *Guard Times* is published quarterly using federal funds authorized under provisions of AR 360-1 and AFI 35-101 by the New York State Division of Military and Naval Affairs and the New York Army and Air National Guard Public Affairs Office.

Views which appear in this publication are not necessarily those of the Department of Defense, the Army, the Air Force or the National Guard Bureau.

The *Guard Times* has a circulation of 20,000 and is distributed free to members of the New York State Military Forces and employees of the Division of Military and Naval Affairs.

## Submissions

Articles, photos and letters are welcome. Please provide article submissions via email saved in Microsoft Word or rich text (rtf) format along with high resolution digital (jpg) photos. Submission deadlines are February 15 (winter issue), April 15 (spring issue), July 15 (summer issue), and November 15 (fall issue). Send your submissions to:

Guard Times  
DMNA-MNPA  
330 Old Niskayuna Road  
Latham, New York 12110-3514  
OFFICE (518) 786-4581 FAX (518) 786-4649  
or richard.goldenberg@ng.army.mil

Complimentary or Back Issues of the *Guard Times* are available. Contact us at the address above or visit us on the web for current news, photos or to download prior issues at [www.dmna.state.ny.us](http://www.dmna.state.ny.us).



gt

[www.dmna.state.ny.us](http://www.dmna.state.ny.us)

## This Issue's Highlights:

### The Joint Force

- 8 CERFP Mobilizes for Training
- 10 National Guard Marathoners
- 11 CIP-MAA an Industry Standard

### Army National Guard

- 12 Attack Helicopter Battalion Back Home
- 14 Artillerymen at Southern State Training
- 16 206th MP's Call in the Big Dogs
- 18 "Huey" Aircraft is History
- 20 369th Hears from Subject Matter Expert
- 21 42nd ID Change of Command
- 26 Top Three Soldiers Chosen
- 28 World War II Veterans Recall Memories

### Air National Guard

- 31 L.I. Rescue Wing and NASA-Time After Time
- 32 106th Fireman Respond to All Calls
- 34 Day of the Reaper
- 35 105th Keep Abreast of UXO's
- 36 174th Medical Provide Service in Puerto Rico
- 37 Season Opener Break-In

### New York Guard

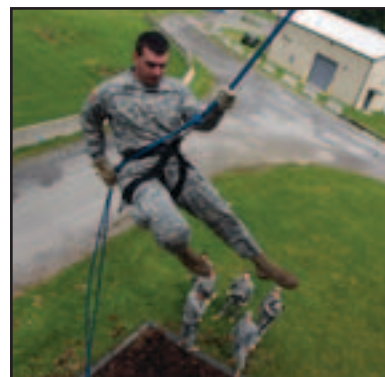
- 38 NY Guard Commander Times Two
- 40 Guard and Air Get with Program

### New York Naval Militia

- 42 Naval Militia Makes Summer Waves

### Guard News Briefs and Photos

- 44 Family Fund Raising Afoot
- 45 Patriot Flight Veterans
- 46 National Guard Born in 1640



New York Army National Guard Spc. Peter D. Haas and Soldiers from the 56th Personnel Services Battalion learned how to rappel off the 60-foot tower at Camp Smith, N.Y. on June 8. The group continued on with a land navigation course during the 56th Personnel Services Battalion training weekend. Haas transferred to the 42nd Infantry Division when the 56th Personnel Services Battalion deactivated this summer on August 1. Photo by Staff Sgt. Dennis Gravelle, 369th Sustainment Brigade

ON THE COVER: Members of the New York Air National Guard's 105th Air Wing Fire Department, Stewart Air National Guard Base, douse flames during a multi-organization training exercise here May 16. The training is coordinated by the Port Authority of N.Y. and N.J. and takes place every three years and involves the department along with several civilian emergency service agencies. Senior Airman Jonathan D. Young, 105th Airlift Wing.

BACK COVER: Sergeant Chris Warr, Detachment 1, Company B, 3rd Battalion, 126th Aviation takes in the view of Range 48 at Fort Drum. The 126th conducted door gunnery qualifications as well as water bucket training and a sling-load operation to assist Fort Drum in clearing the runway at Range 48 of large conexes. Photo by 2nd Lt. Benjamin Postle, 126th Aviation.



## Central NY College Expands New GI Bill for Veterans

### New Post 9-11 GI Bill Gives Added Education Benefits for Troops

SYRACUSE (Syracuse University News)

-- Building on its historic role of educating post-World War II veterans under the Montgomery GI Bill, Syracuse University will offer higher education benefits to post-9/11 servicemen and women and their dependents beginning in the 2009-10 academic year through the Yellow Ribbon Education Enhancement Program.

The new program is a provision of the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008, also known as the New GI Bill.

The Post-9/11 GI Bill is a new benefit providing educational assistance to individuals who served on active duty on or after September 11, 2001. Generally, servicemembers may receive up to 36 months of entitlement under the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

Syracuse University, in partnership with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), will expand that support to Servicemembers and cover tuition costs that exceed those paid by the VA for post-9/11 vets eligible for the program.

In order to participate in this program, veterans must be in the 100 percent eligibility tier as defined by the legislation (i.e., having served an aggregate period of active duty after Sept. 10, 2001, of at least 36 months).

Beginning this fall, those who qualify for Yellow Ribbon benefits may choose from graduate and full and part-time undergraduate programs in any of SU's schools and colleges. During the initial year of the program, the University is prepared to assist as many as 132 qualifying veterans or their dependents.

Applications for full-time undergraduate and graduate study for fall 2009 will be accepted on a space-available basis. Applications for part-time undergraduate study are being accepted now. Awards can be renewed annually.

University College (UC) is the point of entry for veterans applying for the Yellow Ribbon Program. For more information, contact UC at (315) 443-3261 or [veterans@syr.edu](mailto:veterans@syr.edu).

"Syracuse University is committed to doing whatever it takes to swing open the doors of opportunity for our veterans. We've done it before, as a leader in implementing the first G.I. Bill following WW II," says Chancellor and



President Nancy Cantor. "In accordance with our vision of Scholarship in Action, which defines the University as public good and models ways to address pressing national problems on a local scale, we will do it again. Through programs like Yellow Ribbon, we will support 21st century GIs by providing the educational benefits, access and assistance needed to repay the debt of gratitude that our community and nation owes them."

Passed by Congress last year, the New GI Bill provides significant expansion of the educational aid available to post-9/11 vets. It is considered the most extensive educational assistance program authorized since the original GI Bill in 1944. The new bill provides tuition assistance, a housing allowance, a stipend for books, and the option to transfer benefits to family members under certain circumstances.

"Syracuse University's participation in the Yellow Ribbon Program demonstrates our longstanding commitment to supporting our nation's veterans," says Vice Chancellor and Provost Eric F. Spina. "The entire institution is embracing the program in order to provide contemporary veterans with an undergraduate or graduate education that might otherwise have been cost prohibitive."

In order to better assist student-veterans, SU established a new veterans' services resource center. Housed within UC's Student Administrative Services Office, the office will provide a personalized, student-centered set of services from recruitment to degree completion.



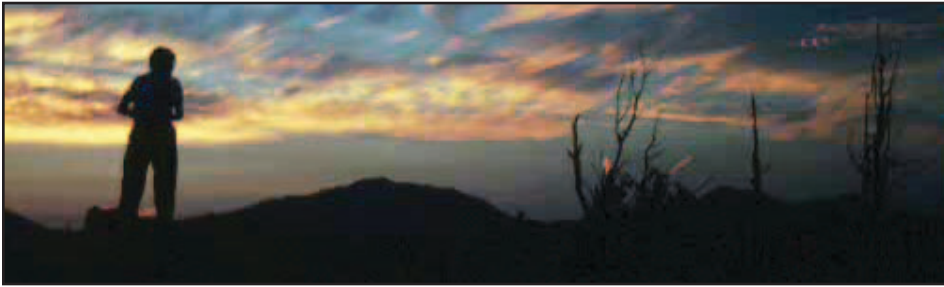
"Syracuse University is committed to doing whatever it takes to swing open the doors of opportunity for our veterans."

-- Syracuse University Chancellor and President Nancy Cantor

"Taking a leadership role in serving the educational needs of our servicemen and women is not new to Syracuse University," says Bethaida (Bea) González, dean of University College and institutional lead for the Yellow Ribbon Program. "While we may be uniquely qualified to educate returning veterans based on our track record, we understand that meeting the needs of 21st century GIs requires services beyond what institutions typically provide."

For information on the New GI Bill and Yellow Ribbon Program, visit the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs website at [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov).

For more information about education benefits and services with the National Guard, contact the New York National Guard education office at [education@ny.ngb.army.mil](mailto:education@ny.ngb.army.mil).



## 2009 Safe Summer Campaign in Full Swing

### A Message From the State Safety Office

LATHAM - With Summer in full swing, Soldiers, Airman and families members are seeking ways to have fun. The time for outdoor activities, vacations and weekend road trips will be the norm for many.

On May 4, the U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center, in conjunction with the Air Force, Navy, Marines and Coast Guard launched the 2009 Safe Summer Campaign. Some of the topics from this campaign are discussed below:

#### Click It or Ticket

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, a recent national study shows that one in five Americans still fail to wear their seat belts. During 2008, the Army lost 74 Soldiers to privately owned vehicle accidents. Fifteen percent of the drivers and passengers were reported as not wearing their seat belts. The most effective way to reduce fatalities and protect people in motor vehicle crashes is to wear seat belts. In an effort to change this attitude, the U.S. Army is joining with state and local law enforcement agencies and highway safety officials to enforce more traffic check points as part of the Click It Or Ticket campaign.

#### Alcohol Effects More Than Driving

The widely known campaign slogan "Don't Drink and Drive" has been drilled into the minds of every Soldier at every level. Everyone is aware of the risks and dangers while driving under the influence of alcohol. What most don't understand is that almost any activity while impaired can be dangerous and result in injury or death.

According to the National Highway Safety Administration, in both 1993 and 2003, about half of all pedestrians aged 24 to 44 killed in a traffic accident had a blood-alcohol content of 0.08 or higher. The U.S. Army has lost 56 Sol-

diers in off-duty pedestrian in the last ten years. These statistics mirror accidents of the civilian sector, with 49 percent of Soldier pedestrian fatalities involving probable use of alcohol.

## Education Benefits Now Transferable

LATHAM - According to DA Policy, the Chapter 33 Post 9-11 GI Bill that goes into effect August 1, 2009 is transferable to a spouse or dependent. The following information is based on DA policy. It could change slightly once NGB policy is released. Please read carefully before proceeding to the link.

To be eligible, the Soldier must:

- 1) Be eligible for the Post 9/11 GI Bill (90 days or more on title 10 following 9-11-01) \*Soldiers that elect Chapter 33 are making an irrevocable election to give up their Chapter 1606, 1607 and 30 benefits.
- 2) Have at least 6 years of military service when the request is submitted; all military service counts towards the six year requirement except time in the Individual Ready Reserves.
- 3) Not have an adverse action flag.

Soldiers who transfer benefits incur an additional service obligation of 4 years or up to Retention Control Point/Mandatory Retirement.

Soldiers can transfer to a spouse or child once they have served 6 years and agree to serve 4 more. A spouse is eligible as soon as the transfer is approved. However, a dependent can not start using it until the Soldier has served the 10 years.

The Soldier can elect to transfer the benefits by signing on to the DOD Transferability Website at <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/TEB/>. Follow the instructions in the attached document.

Visit the Chapter 33 corner on the Education website at <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/535774>.

## Guard Joins Reserve For Helmets to Hard Hats Program

WASHINGTON -- The Army National Guard joined the U.S. Army Reserve's partnership with a nonprofit program that pairs service members with construction careers.

Maj. Gen. Raymond Carpenter, acting director of the Army National Guard, signed an employer partnership initiative agreement with Lt. Gen. Jack Stultz, the chief of the U.S. Army Reserve, and Darrell Roberts, executive director of Helmets to Hardhats, at a July 2 ceremony at the Pentagon.

"The men and women of the Army National Guard and the U.S. Army Reserve are highly motivated, seasoned professionals and some of the highest caliber potential employees for private industry," Carpenter said. "This program is good for our Soldiers, local communities and the nation."

Helmets to Hardhats is a free, nonprofit program that connects National Guard, Reserve, retired and transitional active-duty service members with construction training and careers. It brings trade associations, employers, labor unions and the armed forces together to support Soldiers and their families.

Partnering with employers only makes sense, because "we need plumbers. We need electricians. We need brick masons. We need carpenters. We need truck drivers. We need all those kind of skills in our civilian sector, but we also need them in the military," Stultz said.

"Eighty percent of our Soldiers in the Army National Guard are what we call 'traditional' [Guardmembers who] either are going to school or they have a job or they are looking for a job," Carpenter said. "It is absolutely critical to our organization to be able to sustain our responsibility in partner with the Army to have employers out there who absolutely support our organization."

Through the partnership, Guardsmen and Reservists will gain opportunities for construction industry employment or federally-approved apprenticeship training programs.

Stultz said the program is one of the first such partnership opportunities with the Guard.

# Military Personnel News: The MILPO CORNER

## Military Personnel Directorate

**MNP Continues Development of AKO Web Portal.** MNP continues to develop their web portal within AKO for convenience in accessing many tools, web sites and information relating to all personnel actions. Each branch of MNP has a subpage within the web portal for issues, actions, information and more. Please visit this web portal on a regular basis: <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/553732> and see how MNP is leading the way in getting information to all commands and each Soldier. Recommend that you save this page as a favorite by selecting Options and selecting "Add to Favs."

**Military Personnel Guides.** In an effort to provide easy to read and understand informational resources for use by Soldiers to help understand important areas of military personnel management, we are preparing a series of NYARNG Military Personnel Guides.

These guides are tri-fold and duo-fold pamphlets which include important information concerning the particular subject areas, with references and web sites included for detailed information.

All can be accessed on the main page of the MNP AKO Portal and used as handouts, when printed back to back, for Soldier instruction. Go to <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/553732>

**Enlisted Promotions.** The Personnel Automated Branch is pleased to announce the creation of an Enlisted Personnel webpage that is available for all Soldiers to view on AKO. To view the website visit the MNP web portal (from above), the NYARNG Military Personnel Directorate home page on AKO.

Go to MNP Sections and click Enlisted Personnel. This brings you to the Enlisted Personnel Webpage. Here you will find all sorts of information to include Promotion Lists, POCs for Advancements, Promotions, along with a brief slide show on the basics about Advancement (PV2 to SPC) and Promotions (SGT to CSM).

Of particular note is the Promotion Lists. This list is updated on a daily basis to reflect the most current Enlisted Promotion Lists based on Grade, Career Promotion MOS (CPMOS), Points, and Unit Processing Code (UPC). This program allows every enlisted Soldier in the NYARNG visibility of where they stand on the

Promotion List and how many points they currently have.

Also on the Enlisted Personnel Webpage you will find other pertinent Enlisted information such as Draft Lists, Briefs, Forms, Letters of Instruction and Policy Memos. In the future, MNP-PAR looks forward to bringing more programs for Soldiers to utilize.

## Education Office

**GI Bill Calculator.** The New York National Guard developed a Chapter 33 Post 9-11 GI Bill calculator. To view the calculator, please visit our Education website at <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/535774>. The calculator is posted in our News section.

The calculator will give Soldiers the percentage of eligibility, monthly BAH rate, tuition and fee limits by state and the yearly stipend for books.

The Chapter 33 Post 9-11 GI Bill is a new benefit that starts Aug. 1. To be eligible for the benefit, the Soldier must have served at least 90 days or more on title 10 following September 11, 2001. For more information on Chpt 33, please visit the Education website at <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/535774>.

## Mobilization Readiness

**Official Government Passports.** Soldiers do not require an Official Government Passport if they are deploying to Iraq or Afghanistan. The only documents required are Military Identification/Common Access Card and Travel orders (NATO orders).

Soldiers scheduled to perform duty in a foreign country (other than Kuwait, Afghanistan or Iraq) may require an official government passport and must contact their First Line Full Time Unit Representative for assistance. The First Line Full Time Unit Representative must then go to [www.fcg.pentagon.mil](http://www.fcg.pentagon.mil) to find out passport requirements for the country or countries travel and duty are to be performed in. This website can only be accessed from a military computer and travel requirements change daily. If duty requires a passport the First Line Full Time Unit Representative must contact MNP-MR for further assistance. It takes approximately six months to process and receive a No Fee official Passport. It is important to note that MNP does not handle Civilian Passports. For more information on Civilian Passports contact your local post office.



POC for Official Government Passports is Sgt. Art VanNess, (518) 272-6436 or Arthur.VanNess@ng.army.mil and Sgt. 1st Class John Devaul, (518) 272-6434 or John.Devaul@ng.army.mil

## Health Services

**Soldier Medical Treatment.** Soldiers utilizing drill as a form of health care has sky-rocketed. Unless you have a medical section, sick call is not available during an IDT weekend. Civilian emergency rooms, including VA facilities, should not be utilized for anything other than emergencies.

If a Soldier has a cold, headache, another common malady or pre-existing injury, the Soldier should be released from drill, not ordered to seek healthcare. LODs and medical treatment at government cost is for injuries and illness caused by military service, not diagnosed while on military duty. LODs are required to cover costs of any civilian treatment rendered while on military duty. Without an in-line of duty determination, bill payment is questionable and may become the sole responsibility of a Soldier.

Commanders and senior leadership should use their best judgment in evaluating the need for emergency care and the responsibility of the government to cover the care. Units must provide Notification of Emergency Treatment to the JOC and MNP-LOD as soon as treatment is rendered and all bills should be forwarded directly to MNP-LOD for review and payment. Medical bills will not be paid until the LOD is completed and approved. For questions please see the MNP-LOD AKO Webportal.



**TRICARE Reserve Select (TRS) Soldier Medical Insurance.** TRICARE Reserve Select (TRS) is a premium-based TRICARE health plan which is available for purchase by qualified members of the Selected Reserve (SelRes).

Effective January 1, 2009 TRICARE Reserve Select reduced the rates for TRS. Monthly premiums for TRS individual coverage dropped 44%, from \$81 to \$47.51, and TRS family coverage dropped 29%, from \$253 to \$180.17.

TRS is a premium-based health plan available for purchase by qualified members of the National Guard and Reserve. Soldiers interested must be drilling members of the Reserve Component and not be eligible for enrollment in the Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Plan. TRS is available to all Selected Reserve members that meet the above criteria regardless of any active duty served.

There is continuous open enrollment. The date coverage begins is determined by the date on which Health Net Federal Services receives the enrollment form and the first month's premium. If a completed form and payment is received prior to the 20th of the month, cover-

age would begin the first day of the next month.

To check qualification and purchase insurance visit <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/appj/trs/>.

**Post Deployment Health Reassessment (PDHRA).** The PDHRA identifies Soldier physical and behavioral health concerns and provides Soldiers with education on issues such as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). All Soldiers who deployed, are eligible for the PDHRA 90 days post-deployment; most Soldiers complete the PDHRA 90-180 days after return from combat. It is the most important requirement for each returning Soldier.

The first method is the On-Site PDHRA process which involves:

Soldiers view the Battlemind II Training video on AKO, preferably in small groups, to encourage interaction and discussion. The video focuses on transitioning from combat to home. The training is best given by behavioral health personnel, chaplains, or other personnel (e.g. senior NCOs), who are familiar with behavioral health issues, the referral process, and deployment experience.

Next, each Soldier completes the Soldier's

portion of the Post Deployment Health Reassessment, DD Form 2900 on AKO. Each Soldier's responses are voluntary and confidential. Only the completion of Section One on the DD Form 2900 is mandatory. All answers given are privileged information. Release of this information to parties who do not have a medical need to know may constitute a violation of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) of 1996.

Finally, each Soldier engages in a one-on-one interview with a health care provider to complete the DD Form 2900. PDHRA Conducted On-Site, is the preferred method. Teams of Physician Assistants provide a one on one interview. These events are normally scheduled during the 90-day reintegration event.

A less effective method is the on-line or telephone method, if Soldiers are unable to attend their 90-day on-site event. Instructions for the online PDHRA are at <https://apps.mods.army.mil/mwde/secure/defaultin.asp>; If this link doesn't work, complete the process via phone 1-888-734-7299. You MUST talk to a health care professional to complete the process.

## Inspector General Corner

*Lt. Col. Theresa VanCort, Deputy Command Inspector General*

JOINT FORCES HEADQUARTERS, Latham – The Inspector General (IG) functions as an extension of The Adjutant General's eyes, ears, voice and conscience for the force.

IGs are neutral, unbiased fact finders who execute their duties based on four functions: teaching and training; Soldier and unit assistance; inspections and investigations. IG's provide advice on matters concerning the well-being and readiness of units, service members, civilian employees and family members.

The goal of the Inspector General is to keep The Adjutant General, commanders and staff apprised of significant issues and concerns affecting the New York National Guard, especially those pertaining to unit readiness and care of Soldiers, civilians and family members.

The IG always looks to "make the command the hero," to help resolve concerns brought to the IG's attention through the receipt of IG Action Requests.



The Inspector General office supports everyone: commanders, Soldiers, civilians and family members.

The military always recommends that problems and concerns be addressed at the lowest level possible, to give the command the opportunity to resolve conflicts first. If your issue goes unresolved contact an IG, as appropriate. Remember, the IG works to assist units and leaders with systemic or problematic issues, so the fix to your issue may be something that impacts the entire force.

Take the time to review the IG websites. There is valuable information

on our sites regarding appropriate IG actions, how to request assistance, contact information and much more. A "best practices" file was recently added to the IG AKO Knowledge Center which captures some good unit practices that others may benefit from.

On AKO, <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/534621> or on the New York National Guard web site at <http://dmna.state.ny.us/ig/ig.php>.

# THE JOINT FORCE



Members of the New York National Guard's CERFP scale the "rubble-pile" searching for victims from the site of a "dirty bomb" attack during a Defense Support to Civil Authorities exercise held Saturday, June 6, at the New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control Training Site. More than 400 members of the New York Army and Air National Guard, and the volunteer New York Guard, participated in the three-day training exercise which tested the ability of the National Guard to supply follow-on forces in the event of an attack. Photo by Staff Sgt. Kevin Abbott, Joint Forces Headquarters.

## Training For Dirty Bomb Disaster

### New York CERFP Mobilizes for Albany Area Training Exercise

*Story by Eric Durr, Director of Public Affairs*

COLONIE - Four hundred New York National Guard Soldiers, Airmen and New York Guard volunteers converged on Albany June 5-7 to hone their skills in responding to a dirty bomb attack on an American city.

The three-day exercise brought members of the New York National Guard's CERFP—an element trained to rescue survivors from contaminated attack sites-- from Buffalo, the Finger Lakes and New York City, to the state capitol to exercise with civilian urban search and rescue experts in finding victims buried in building rubble.

Dubbed "Empire 09 Plus" the National Guard training piggybacked onto a New York State and federal emergency response exercise, involving 600 participants, called Empire 09. In that scenario a high explosive device covered with radioactive material went off outside the New York State Capital, covering downtown

Albany with radioactive contamination and forcing thousands of residents to shelter indoors for two days.

The New York National Guard exercise, conducted as a weekend drill for Army and Air Guardsmen, tested the National Guard's ability to respond as a follow up force and assist first responders, said Brig. Gen. Patrick Murphy, director of joint staff for the New York National Guard.

The joint exercise provides all elements of the CERFP, which stands for CBRNE (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and high-yield Explosive) Enhanced Response Force Package, an opportunity to see each other in action and work together, said Air National Guard Lt. Col. Ken Kieliszek, a health services administrator from the 107th Airlift Wing, based in Niagara Falls.

"Very rarely do we get to see the whole

thing together and see how the whole thing fits together as a team," Kieliszek said. "Every time we do this we get a little better."

The scenario called for the New York CERFP, one of 17 in the country, to be mobilized to assist Albany authorities in dealing with an apartment building explosion. Police suspected that a premature detonation in a bomb-makers hidden laboratory was responsible for the incident.

The New York CERFP is composed of elements from different units.

The 102nd Military Police Battalion provides command and control, while Company A of the 27th Brigade Special Troops Battalion provides the "extraction team," which enters a damaged building to remove survivors. The 105th Military Police Company and 104th MP Battalion provide manpower for the decontamination line, along with 50 members of the New York



Guard's 88th Brigade.

The medical element of the team is supplied by medical personnel from all Air National Guard wings. For this exercise the security element, responsible for working with civilian police to secure the area was handled by a mix of Air National Guard security force personnel.

The CERFP, which had been on standby to deal with the "Empire 09" incident was mobilized and members traveled by convoy, bus, and aircraft to Stratton Air National Guard Base in Scotia for a "bed down" with the 109th Airlift Wing.

Finding the space for 350 extra people during a drill weekend in which 1,000 109th members were already on the base was challenging, said Air Guard Major Ty Randall, the 109th's Civil Engineering officer. The wing accommodated almost 300 people in one of its hangers, and put other exercise players in other available spaces.

"It was a good opportunity to exercise the 109th's role in receiving emergency responders and supplies into the Capitol Region," Randall said.

On Saturday, the CERFP teams moved to the New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control Training Center in Colonie. They teamed up with members of New York Task Force-2, the state's urban search and rescue team, to explore a rubble pile on the site which simulated an apartment building.

Training with the National Guard gives the civilian responders a sense of how the military operates and a chance to share their skills, said Chief Bryant Stevens, head of the Office of Fire Prevention and Control's Special Services division.

"It puts faces with names and starts to build relationships with some of the different components and different people," he said.

After arriving on scene the CERFP began erecting decontamination and treatment tents and the extraction team began donning hazmat suits.

"The hot weather made the day less than ideal to wear a suit that is essentially a plastic tarp," Spc. Arom Schultz, a member of the 105th Military Police Company said.

The CERFP hazmat suit is lighter than the MOPP suit (Mission Oriented Protective Posture) most Soldiers and Airmen are familiar with, but it doesn't breathe and is not as comfortable, Schultz explained. "It's just a lot hotter," he said.

About 30 members of Joint Forces Headquarters acting as victims (I was "volun-told," joked Staff Sgt. Brian Manny) were pulled from the rubble with various kinds of injuries, decontaminated and treated.

An OH-58 helicopter equipped to beam live



Members of the extraction team assess the situation during the events of Empire '09 Plus in Albany, a National Guard Support to Civil Authorities exercise on June 6 at the Office of Fire Prevention and Control's Urban Search and Rescue Center. Photo by Staff Sgt. David J. Murphy, 106th Rescue Wing.

video from the site back to the state Joint Operations Center, and high-tech satellite command and control equipment were also integrated into the exercise.

New York Guard Sgt. First Class Emil Mejia, said the New York CERFP has come a long way since 2003. There is more and more training, and more manpower dedicated to the mission now, Mejia said.

"I've seen it come from the crawl stage to the run stage," he added.

Lt. Col. Martin Dinan, the commander of the 102nd Military Police Battalion and the CERFP, said he was especially pleased with the June exercise.

"This is really coming out great. It's good to work with the state fire and some of the other capabilities," Dinan said. "It seems like we are really starting to hit the run mode and, as a matter of fact, we are starting to talk about some new capabilities to bring to the table." **gt**



Sergeant First Class Dave Byron, Joint Force Headquarters, acts as a victim during the Empire '09 exercise on June 6, at the Office of Fire Prevention and Control's Urban Search and Rescue Center in Albany. Photo by Staff Sgt. David J. Murphy, 106th Rescue Wing.





LINCOLN / NATIONAL  
LINCOLN

2:50.29

## NY Runners Make Guard Marathon Team

LINCOLN, Neb. - Chief Warrant Officer Barry Brill, a member of the New York National Guard Marathon Team is the first of four New York runners to make it across the finish line with a time of 2 hours, 50 minutes and 26 seconds. His achievement on May 3 placed him 7th overall out of 148 Army and Air National Guard runners. Additional members of the team included, Chief Warrant Officer Russel Hoyer, Master Sgt. Walter Bird and Staff Sgt. Tommy Perry. The annual marathon is held in Lincoln, Neb. Brill, Bird and Hoyer all qualified for the 2009-2010 All-Guard Marathon Team. The All Guard Marathon Team is expected to compete in five to eight marathons across the United States during the upcoming running season. The selectees will alternate events that they attend. Photo courtesy of the Nebraska National Guard.





# Meet the NY CIP-MAA Team

Story by Master Sgt. Melissa Sanzo



Members of New York's Critical Infrastructure Protection – Mission Assurance Assessment (CIP-MAA) team thank employees at a New Jersey-based defense contractor for the work they do for the "Warfighter" on a daily basis during the team's assessment. Courtesy photo.

**JOINT FORCES HEADQUARTERS, Latham - Finding weaknesses in the infrastructure and security of key defense industries, and then suggesting ways to fix them, is the unique job of seven members of the New York Army and Air National Guard.**

Since 2005, the members of New York's CIP-MAA (for Critical Infrastructure Protection—Mission Assurance Assessment) Team have been inspecting private companies that are part of what's known as the Defense Industrial Base, to help make the nation's defense capability more secure.

The New York team is one of three--there are also teams in West Virginia and Colorado—which are currently funded by the National Guard Bureau. CIP-MAA team members work full-time conducting risk assessment missions,

normally taking about six weeks per assessment, but still remain drilling Guardsmen and women in their home units.

Since its establishment, the New York CIP-MAA Team has conducted 19 assessments of Defense Industrial Base (DIB) companies and facilities, making recommendations on how to protect against infrastructure failure or terrorist attack.

"DIB sites have improved their business continuity plans. They are more proactive in identifying weaknesses and getting those weaknesses repaired," said Major Scott White, the CIP-MAA team leader.

When they're not conducting assessments of DIB locations, the CIP-MAA Team conducts infrastructure assessments within New York. In June the New York State Homeland Security

Strategy Work Group thanked New York's CIP-MAA team for classifying New York's critical infrastructure into categories mandated by the federal Department of Homeland Security.

"Its basically a win-win situation for federal and state missions by having the team based in New York for its Defense Industrial Base assessment missions as well as a variety of different capacities for New York State," said Master Sgt. Michael Pingitore, a CIP-MAA infrastructure analyst said.

"Each of the teammates take a specific physical infrastructure source such as: electricity, water, natural gas, communications, etc and really analyzes it as thoroughly as we can in the amount of time that we have," explained Master Sgt. David Guest, a CIP-MAA mission analyst. **gt**

# ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

## Another of New York's Aviation Units Home from Iraq

Story Sgt. 1st Class Steven Petibone, 42nd Combat Aviation Brigade

FORT DIX, N.J. - By the time they arrived at McGuire Air Force Base on May 17 and 24, the men and women of Task Force Jester, otherwise known as 3rd of the 142nd Assault Helicopter Battalion, had flown 15,000 hours, moved 47,745 people, and transported 500 tons of cargo, during their 10 month tour in Iraq.

The Soldiers "performed magnificently," said Lt. Col. Albert Ricci, the battalion commander.

Despite the requirement to deploy aircraft and personnel across Central and Southern Iraq, and repeated command realignments, the Soldiers of the New York Army National Guard, and a company from the Missouri Army National Guard which was also part of the battalion, met every challenge, Ricci said.

"Our number one asset was each and every Soldier who deployed into theater," Ricci added.

The battalion—based at MacArthur Airport in Ronkonkoma and Albany International Airport in Latham-- mobilized in May 2008, following a two-year pre-deployment training program in which battalion Soldiers worked with the 42nd Combat Aviation Brigade and the state Pre-Mobilization Training Element to qualify on individual tasks prior to mobilization.

After deploying in August the battalion was initially deployed with the Minnesota Army National Guard's 34th Combat Aviation Brigade in Baghdad. But after a couple of months in Iraq the battalion was attached to the 10th Mountain Division and sent south to provide air transportation for American Soldiers taking over from departing British troops.

"The unit was challenged to support all of Central and Southern Iraq with their UH-60 Blackhawk Helicopters; Baghdad south to Kuwait," Ricci said.

Company C was sent to Basra and Company A linked up with an Apache unit from 4th Infantry Division to form a single aviation task force in southern Iraq. Later Company B was also reassigned to the south and a Detachment of Company D beefed up the Company C mission. Along with Task Force Jester, the unit supported Task Force Quick Strike in Basra and Task Force Dragon in southern Iraq.



Major Jason Lefton, 3rd Battalion, 142nd Aviation exits from a chartered transport aircraft that arrived at McGuire Air Force Base, Fort Dix, N.J. on May 24 as part of the second iteration of Soldiers returning from a year-long deployment to Iraq. Members of the 142nd were greeted by a host of officers and senior NCOs. Shown is Brig. Gen. Steven Wickstrom, commander, 42nd Inf. Div. and Brig. Gen. Michael Swezey, commander, 53rd Troop Command. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Steven Petibone, 42nd Combat Aviation Brigade.





Bellows of black smoke rise skyward near Basra, Iraq. The smoke is waste product from oil production. Photo courtesy of 142nd Attack Helicopter Battalion.



142nd UH-60 Blackhawks in Arifjan, Kuwait have their blades folded in preparation for coming home from Iraq via a U.S. Naval vessel. Photo courtesy of 142nd Attack Helicopter Battalion.

**"Task Force Jester quickly earned the reputation of being highly responsive and reliable to all of the different aviation mission requirements bestowed upon them."**

-- Lt. Col. Albert Ricci, commander, 142nd Attack Helicopter Battalion

Along with spending 15,000 hours in the air, the Aviation Soldiers of the task force executed 1,625 General Support mission and pumped more than two million gallons of JP 8 aviation fuel into aircraft 3,720 times.

"It was a total team effort everyday to; fly 6-7 hour flight missions, maintain the aircraft maintenance and conduct re-fueling opera-

tions," Ricci said.

He also credited the battalion's rear detachment and Family Readiness Group for making the mission successful.

"The entire deployment wouldn't have been a total success without the help, support and enormous amount of time the Family Readiness Group provided," Ricci added. **gt**



(At Left) Private 1st Class Joseph Lasasso and Spc. Ryan Bradshaw Company D torque-checking a UH-60 Blackhawk in a 40-hour scheduled maintenance check in a Baghdad International Airport hangar. Photo courtesy of 142nd Attack Helicopter Battalion.

(Below) First Lieutenant Michael Squires poses with Iraqi Soldiers that provide protection around the Forward Operating Base in Basra, Iraq. Photo courtesy of 142nd Attack Helicopter Battalion.



# 258th Field Artillery Gets Fired Up in Florida





CAMP BLANDING, Fla. -- Approximately 170 New York Army National Guard Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 258th Field Artillery conducted extended training early this spring.

The troops deployed April 16 on three Air National Guard C-130 aircraft (photo, opposite page) for the four-day drill weekend. The Soldiers, from Battery B in the Bronx and Headquarters Battery and Company G, 427th Support Battalion from Jamaica conducted artillery crew live fire exercises to qualify individual Soldiers and gun crews (photos, below left) and provided troops with leadership and confidence course training (at right).

The artillery troops also practiced air assault raids with the M-102 cannon system and the UH-60 helicopter.

Training out of state provided an opportunity for Soldiers and junior leaders to prepare for deployments on military aircraft and train in new terrain.

The 107th Airlift Wing, based in Niagara Falls, supported with its C-130 aircraft. The wing recently converted to the C-130 transport. Photos by 2nd Lt. Mark Getman.



# Learning from Leathernecks

## NY Army National Guard Troops Train for Iraq Deployment with Marine Corps Team

Story by Lt. Col. Richard Goldenberg, 42<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division



ORISKANY – Members of the New York Army National Guard’s 206th Military Police (MP) Company from Latham completed their final pre-deployment training task at the New York State Emergency Preparedness Center here May 12-14 when they tackled the most deadly threat to Soldiers serving overseas – the Improvised Explosive Device (IED), or roadside bomb.

More than 160 Military Police troops preparing to mobilize in June for deployment to Iraq learned techniques and tactics to identify, react to and defeat the IED threat.

Training for the Citizen Soldiers was provided by a cadre of instructors from the U.S. Marine Corps Engineer Center of Excellence. The trainers in the IED defeat team came from Camp Pendleton, Calif., to demonstrate IED tactics used most commonly in Iraq or Afghanistan and ways to defeat them.

“What they get in the classroom, what they get on the training lane is the same standard we have for every Soldier or Marine who is heading downrange,” said Chris Nelson, senior technical instructor from the Explosives and Obstacles Branch.

The training team was provided by the First U.S. Army for the 206th MPs as part of the pre-deployment training, the unit’s final task before its mobilization in late June.

“This was our culminating event for our pre-mobilization year,” said Capt. Kevin Manion, 206th MP Company Commander. “With this done, we’re ready to go.”

The 206th MP Company will spend its year

in Iraq partnered with Iraqi police forces in order to better support the Multinational Forces Iraq Coalition Police mentoring teams.

The unit is equipped with the latest Military Police equipment, including the M1117 Armored Security Vehicle and the M1151 armored humvees, similar to the vehicles used in Iraq. The ASV, as it is called in the Army, is employed as a convoy escort vehicle.

The Soldiers completed their three-day training with an IED reaction lane, where the troops negotiated a 3-kilometer long IED training range to better prepare the MPs to respond as a

team to recognizing and reacting to roadside bomb threats and attacks.

The training at the former Oneida County Airport provides sufficient maneuver space and resources to the company training. The State Emergency Preparedness Center utilizes the existing buildings, hangars and terrain as a location to train first responders and law enforcement.

“In 2003 we didn’t have any of this,” Sgt. Paul Bonificio said. Bonificio deployed to Iraq in 2003 with the 105th MP Company during the initial liberation of Iraq. **gt**



Private 1st Class Jerald Russell from the 206th Military Police Company mans the gunner position during reactions to an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) while training at the New York State Emergency Preparedness Center in Oriskany, N.Y. on May 13. The Army National Guard Soldiers completed their IED training as part of their preparation for mobilization and deployment to Iraq later this summer. Photo by Lt. Col. Richard Goldenberg.



## Capital Region MP Company Bids Farewell



ALBANY - On the entrance to the Empires State Plaza Concourse about 185 military police Soldiers from the 206th MP Company were honored and bid farewell by family members and local officials and New York Army National Guard leaders on June 24 before departing for Fort Dix, N.J. The Latham-based 206th Military Police Company has been preparing for its upcoming Iraq deployment since the middle of 2008. The 206th will arrive in Iraq sometime this Fall and the deployment is expected to last approximately 12 months. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Steven Petibone, Guard Times Staff



# Closure for Vietnam-Era Workhorse

## Army Aviation Modernization Forcing UH-1's into Retirement

ROCHESTER – The “Huey” era ended in New York, April 27, as the last four UH-1’s operated by the New York Army National Guard left Army Aviation Support Facility 2 here for the last time.



In war and peace, the UH-1 ‘Huey’ aircraft served as a versatile asset. During military graduation ceremonies at Camp Smith, a Huey performs a fly-over for Soldiers and families leaving a purple plume of smoke. Photo courtesy of State Aviation Office.

The iconic aircraft of the Vietnam War—and ever present in war movies of the era—had served in the 249th Medical Company (Air Ambulance) since the unit converted from an Attack Helicopter Battalion in 2002. The New York Army National Guard first began operating UH-1s in the early 1970s. The UH-1 has carried the load for the U.S. Army and New York Army National Guard being a reliable work horse—training aviators and crew chiefs, responding to emergencies throughout the state, and safely moving Soldiers into and out of combat.

The UH-1 was introduced into the Army inventory in 1959 and about 16,000 were produced before the assembly line shut down in 1976.

On April 27, eight Huey-qualified pilots, including Chief Warrant Officer Frank Rotella, a Vietnam War veteran, “turned the blades” on one of the four ‘Huey’s for the last time from the Rochester flight facility and flew them off to be rebuilt in Temple, Texas.

“We selected pilots to make the last flight of

New York’s UH-1’s based on who was current from the 249th Medical Company (Air Ambulance) and those pilots still in our formation who flew them in combat.” Col. Michael Bobeck, State Aviation Officer for New York said.

The 249th was reorganized and renamed in 2002 when the 142nd Aviation Battalion stopped operating Cobra Attack helicopters. Less than a year after being reorganized, the 249th was soon put to work being mobilized in November 2003, to back-fill for the air ambulance company at Fort Benning, Ga. while active duty coun-

ter-part units and their aviation assets were deployed to Iraq. The 249th and their ‘Huey’s were vigilant for 18 months covering Forts Benning, Bragg, Campbell, Knox, Stewart, and the Ranger Training Camps at Eglin Air Force Base, Dahlonga, Ga.; one aviation unit doing the work of three. For their support the 249th received the Meritorious Unit Citation.

“We had one mission where we were transporting a pregnant woman who delivered in flight.” Maj. Michael Charnley, 249th commander said.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, 2005, the 249th deployed to Gulfport, Miss. providing humanitarian assistance flying medical teams to remote areas to check on sick or elderly residents and deliver supplies for infants to

local distribution centers.

Seemingly, the ‘Huey’ resurrected another “life” for itself. Last year, the 249th was activated to assist with Hurricane Gustav. They deployed to Louisiana to assist in any potential recovery efforts. The ‘Huey’ aircraft was modified into the medical evacuation configuration in the 1980’s. It is equipped with six litters for wounded and can accommodate medical equipment and one medical attendant as well.

The ‘Huey’ got its name almost instantly. When Army aviation units first received them they were designated as the HU-1 which stood for Helicopter Utility-1. Aviators quickly dubbed it the ‘Huey’ and when the Army’s designation system changed it to UH-1 the nickname remained. The close-out date for all Army-owned UH-1 aircraft is set for September, 2009.

Since the ‘Huey’ has endured as a dependable aircraft for the Army for so long, it is almost branded in the minds of the American Soldier. Uncannily and perhaps unintentionally, it has connected Soldiers from two eras: Vietnam and Iraq.

There are some that say among ‘Huey’ pilots, that when the last UH-60 Blackhawk is flown to the bone yard, a UH-1 ‘Huey’ will be there to bring the crew back home. **gt**



Sergeant First Class John Bobeck, a technician from Army Aviation Support Facility 2 in Rochester, makes last minute inspections on one of four UH-1 aircraft preparing to take off on April 27 for Temple, Texas where they will be turned in for refurbishing or parts. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Steven Petibone



# Can You Hear Me Now?

Story and Photos by Spc. Jimmy Bedgood, 42nd Infantry Division

RANSOMVILLE -- New York Army National Guardsmen from Buffalo's 27th Brigade Special Troops Battalion (BSTB) and the 42nd Infantry Division's Tactical Command Post 1, took their communications gear to the field here in early May for a joint-tactical exercise with National Guard Soldiers from the 26th Signal Company from Hudson, Massachusetts.

The exercise, conducted from April 20 through May 3, was one of a series of tactical training exercises launched two years ago to improve the Army National Guard's communications interoperability.

"We may be from different states, but we're all in the National Guard," said Staff Sgt. Christopher Winslow, the 26th Signal Co.'s "spectrum manager."

"There's value in seeing how units operate across state lines," Winslow said.

The training exercise utilized the National Guard's Hawkeye II Satellite System. The Hawkeye II brings the communication system right to the battlefield: it has voice communications connectivity and an antenna pedestal that automatically positions and finds the desired satellite within minutes. It is contained in a system call SMART-T, for Secure Mobile Anti-Jam Reliable Tactical Terminal in an armored humvee.



Soldiers with the 42nd ID Tac 1 dig a trench for the Hawkeye II cable reel.



Soldiers from the 42nd Infantry Division TAC 1 assemble a Hawkeye II Satellite System.

Spc. John Baldwin, a combat engineer with the 27th BSTB's Company C in Buffalo, said the very broad bandwidth and frequency spectrum of this new system is, a real leap forward, in the Guards communication systems.

The newer system bridges communications on the battlefield through more effective range and mobility, Baldwin explained. Previously, the frontline on the battlefield moved faster than communications units could support.

"The goal is to make things faster," Baldwin said.

The operating system and its video system are both very user friendly, Baldwin said. "A well-trained crew can set up in hours," he said.

The global range of the System's Hawkeye II Satellite is made possible, by the Army's Joint Node Network (JNN), communications technology.

JNN Control Shelter is an advanced communications system that will allow the New

York Army National Guard interoperability with signal units from other states, such as the Massachusetts Army National Guard forces in the training.

What makes JNN different is the system's synchronized data links, Baldwin said.

"JNN has sophisticated routing that can tie into any network," Baldwin said.

The combination of rapid deploy ability, mobility, broad bandwidth and frequency spectrum provided by the System also allows more effective use of information from Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Systems, he added. **gt**

*"We may be from different states, but we're all in the National Guard,"*

*-- Staff Sgt. Christopher Winslow, 26th Signal Company, Mass. Army National Guard*

## 69th Infantry Hones Urban Tactics at Fort Knox



FORT KNOX, Ky. - Soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry go into the attack mode during annual training, June 13-27. Nearly two hundred Soldiers of the "Fighting 69th" practiced urban combat tactics at the Zussman Range Complex at Fort Knox, which simulates a village environment. The Soldiers also conducted a battalion field exercise, live fire,

and crew-served weapons training. Last year many of the Battalion's Soldiers were deployed to Afghanistan with the 27th Brigade Combat Team and the unit Annual Training this year was an opportunity to train many of the battalion's Soldiers together. Photo courtesy of 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry.

## Plan, Support and Win Is Authors Message

PEEKSKILL - John M. Menter Ph.D., retired Army Colonel and now employed by General Dynamics as the Distributive Battle Simulation Program Warfighter Functional Area Team Chief, speaks to logistics Soldiers assigned to New York's 369th Sustainment Brigade about their role in Army Modularity, June 6.

Menter is also the published author of the book, *The Sustainment Battle Staff & Military Decision Making Process Guide: For Brigade Support Battalions, Sustainment Brigades, and Combat Sustainment*.

The main point of Menter's briefing was that since 2004, the U.S. Army has started a revolution of reorganization and doctrine development throughout its Combat, Combat Support and especially Combat Service Support "logistics" organizations, known as "Transformation." In the logistics or "Sustainment" arena, the Army's concept towards supporting other units has changed from the old "out-stockpile" concept towards a system used by modern civilian distributors.

To successfully accomplish this, Sustainment planners must thoroughly understand the Military Decision Making Process. Conducting a Sustainment oriented mission is essential in integrating the Sustainment War Fighting Functional Area into the unit's plan and for ensuring a synchronized and supportable course of action.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Thomas Wheeler, 138th Public Affairs Detachment.





## Command of 42nd Infantry Division in New Hands



Major General Joseph Taluto (back to camera) conveys the 42nd Infantry Division colors to incoming Division commander Brig. Gen. Steven Wickstrom as Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Jenks prepares to take the colors for safe keeping. Photo by Spc. Rachel Sanzo, 42nd Infantry Division

CAMP SMITH TRAINING SITE, Cortlandt Manor - The 42nd Infantry Division welcomed its new commander in a formal military ceremony Sunday, May 3.

Iraq War veteran Brig. Gen. Steven Wickstrom took command of the New York Army National Guard's 42nd Infantry Division in a change of command ceremony in front of Divisional Soldiers.

It was the first National Guard divisional headquarters called to active duty for combat operations since the Korean War. The division served as the Multinational Division Headquarters for North Central Iraq during the Iraqi Constitutional Referendum vote in 2005.

Brigadier General Steven N. Wickstrom, incoming commander of the 42nd Infantry (Rainbow) Division has served in numerous leadership and staff positions in his 28 year career as an officer in the Army National Guard. He is a veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom and previously served as the Deputy Commanding General of the 42nd Infantry Division.

Wickstrom took command from Brig. Gen. Paul C. Genereux, Jr., the Division commander since April 2006 and formerly the division's deputy commander for combat operations during the unit deployment to Iraq in 2005. **gt**

## Former 42nd Commander Gets Armored Cavalry Recognition



Major General Joseph Taluto awards Brig. Gen. Paul Genereux the Medallion of the Order of St. George during a 42nd Infantry Division farewell dinner for the outgoing 42nd commander.

General Taluto is assisted by 42nd STB Command Sgt. Major John Willsey. The award of the Medallion of the Order of St. George is the United States Armor Association's recognition of the very best of tankers or armored cavalymen.

Photo by Master Sgt. Corine Lombardo, 42nd Infantry Division.



## Welcome Home, Soldiers

*ITHACA - New York Army National Guard Soldiers of Company D, 2nd Battalion, 108th Infantry are honored for their service in Afghanistan at a "Freedom Salute" ceremony Sunday, May 17 at the campus of Cornell University.*

*The Soldiers from Company D served with more than 1,700 members of the 27th Infantry Brigade Combat Team in support of Combined Joint Task Force Phoenix VII in Afghanistan during 2008.*

*National Guard Bureau created Freedom Salute Ceremonies in 2003 as a nationwide way to recognize members of the Army National Guard for their service in Operations Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom and to thank their spouses, children and employers for their support.*

*Photo by Staff Sgt. Kevin Abbott, Joint Forces Headquarters.*

## N.Y.C. Transit Authority and National Guard Hold Memorial Service



*NEW YORK - At right, Colonel Glenn Marchi (center) representing Gov. David Paterson and Roger Newman, (left) a Vietnam veteran from the Mayor's Office of Veterans Affairs and Petty Officer (Ret.) Harry Strano lay a wreath on May 22 at New York's Vietnam Veterans Memorial in lower Manhattan. The event was hosted by New York City's Transit Veterans' Association (TVA). The Honor Guard services were provided by the TVA's Pride and Honor Guards and New York City Transit Pipes and Drums, Brooklyn. Photo courtesy of Patrick Cashin New York City Metro Transit Authority.*







*NEW YORK -- New York Army National Guard Pfc. Amanda Rosado, Headquarters Company, 369th Sustainment Brigade joins Army Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Peter Chiarelli in cutting the Army Birthday Cake on June 14 during a ceremony aboard the U.S.S. Intrepid Air and Space Museum, marking the 234th anniversary of the birth of the United States Army. Traditionally the youngest Soldier present joins the oldest Soldier in cutting the cake at Army Birthday events. Photo courtesy Office of the Chief of Army Public Affairs, New York City*





## Guardsmen With a Need For Speed

*WATKINS GLEN - Thirty-seven New York Army National Guard Soldiers from across New York had the opportunity to meet with Vitor Meira, driver of Indy Race Car Number 4, a specially constructed tandem race car on Thursday, July 2 as the team prepared for Fourth of July race weekend. Guardsmen talked with the car's crew, toured the pits, and even got to take*

*test runs seated behind the driver while dressed in professional racing attire. The car featured a hood emblem for the 27th Brigade Combat Team, based in Syracuse. The Brigade returned from deployment to Afghanistan at the end of 2008 as the headquarters for Combined Joint Task Force Phoenix, training and mentoring the Afghan national*

*army and police forces. The Army National Guard car is owned by Panther Racing team owner John Barnes. The Dallara Indy race car has a 3.5-liter Honda Indy V-8 engine and runs on ethanol. It's the latest addition to the team of race cars sponsored by the National Guard. Photos by Capt. Robert Romano, 27th Infantry Brigade Combat Team.*





FAMILY AND MWR COMMAND PRESENTS...

# THE 2009 U.S. ARMY SOLDIER SHOW

*lights*  
camera  
action

AN ARMY ENTERTAINMENT PRODUCTION



**Special Invitation: Army National Guard members - Bring your FAMILIES and your CIVILIAN EMPLOYER!**

Fort Knox	July 1 - 7 p.m.
Fort Knox	July 2 - 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.
Fort Leonard Wood	July 4 - 7 p.m.
Red River Army Depot	July 7 - 7 p.m.
Fort Polk	July 10 - 7:30 p.m.
Fort Polk	July 11 - 7:30 p.m.
Fort Hood	July 23 - 7:30 p.m.
Fort Hood	July 24 - 2 & 7:30 p.m.
Fort Hood	July 25 - 2 & 7:30 p.m.
Fort Sam Houston	July 28 - 7 p.m.
Fort Sill	July 31 - 7:30 p.m.
Fort Sill	Aug. 1 - 2 & 7:30 p.m.
Fort Sill	Aug. 2 - 2 p.m.
Fort Carson	Aug. 6 - 7 p.m.
Fort Carson	Aug. 7 - 7 p.m.
White Sands	Aug. 11 - 7 p.m.
White Sands	Aug. 12 - 1 & 6 p.m.
Fort Bliss	Aug. 14 - 7 p.m.
Fort Bliss	Aug. 15 - 2 p.m.
Fort Huachuca	Aug. 18 - 7 p.m.
Fort Huachuca	Aug. 19 - 2 & 7 p.m.
Fort Irwin	Aug. 22 - 7 p.m.

Fort Lewis	Aug. 28 - 2 & 7 p.m.
Fort Rucker	Sept. 30 - 7:30 p.m.
Fort Rucker	Oct. 1 - 11 & 7:30 p.m.
Fort Benning	Oct. 3 - 7 p.m.
Fort Stewart	Oct. 6 - 7 p.m.
Fort Stewart	Oct. 7 - 7 p.m.
Fort Bragg	Oct. 9 - 7 p.m.
Fort Bragg	Oct. 10 - 12 noon
Fort Drum	Oct. 14 - 6:30 p.m.
Fort Drum	Oct. 15 - 6:30 p.m.
Fort Hamilton	Oct. 16 - 8 p.m.
Fort Hamilton	Oct. 17 - 3 p.m.
USMA, West Point	Oct. 20 - 7 p.m.
Fort Monmouth	Oct. 22 - 1:30 & 6:30 p.m.
Fort Lee	Oct. 27 - 7 p.m.
Fort Lee	Oct. 28 - 2 & 7 p.m.
Aberdeen Proving Ground	Oct. 31 - 2 p.m.
Aberdeen Proving Ground	Nov. 1 - 2 & 7 p.m.
Fort Monroe	Nov. 4 - 2:30 p.m.
Picatinney AR	Nov. 6 - Time TBA
Fort Belvoir	Nov. 8 - 2 p.m.

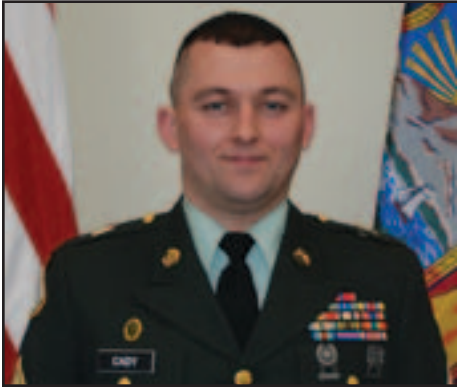
\*Schedule subject to change. Go to [armymar.com](http://armymar.com) for the latest details.



# New York Army National Guard Names Top Soldiers

## Three Chosen For Honors After Weekend Competition

Story and photos by Sgt. Christopher Connelly, 42nd Infantry Division



**Staff Sergeant Morgan Cady  
104th Military Police Battalion**

JOINT FORCES HEADQUARTERS, Latham - The New York Army National Guard selected its three finest Soldiers after a demanding weekend competition for Soldier and Non-commissioned Officer of the Year, March 29, at the Joint Forces Headquarters in Latham.

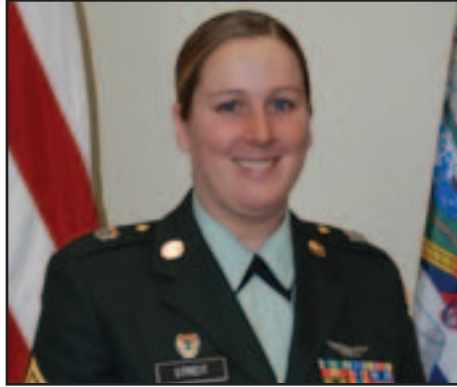
Staff Sergeant Morgan Cady, of Booneville, Lewis County, a member of Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment of the 104th Military Police Battalion competed and won the Traditional Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year award. The 104th MP Battalion is based in Kingston.

Specialist Sebastian McClendon, of New York City, a member of Company A, 1st Battalion 69th Infantry was selected as the Traditional Soldier of the Year. The company is headquartered at the Lexington Avenue Armory in New York City.

Staff Sergeant Tiffany Streit, of Albany, a member of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 42nd Combat Aviation Brigade was named Active Guard Reserve NCO of the Year. The Brigade is based in Latham.

Traditional Guard Soldiers perform their duties on a part-time basis, spending one weekend a month and two weeks a year to serve their country, while an Active Guard and Reserve Soldier serves on a full-time basis, mainly in administrative functions.

The Soldiers were chosen based on their breadth and depth of knowledge of numerous subjects during both a written test and a board



**Staff Sergeant Tiffany Streit  
42nd Combat Aviation Brigade**

appearance. These subjects included military leadership, history and justice, security and intelligence, weapons and warrior tasks which included first aid, field sanitation and land navigation.

"We are getting more diversified Soldiers who are more prepared, and I truly believe we have a good chance of winning the regional event," said New York Army National Guard Command Sergeant Major Robert Van Pelt.

"It's nice to know that they felt I was worthy of the Soldier of the Year title, it shows how far females have come in today's army," Streit said.

The jam-packed weekend of evaluation included an Army physical fitness test followed by hands-on performance tests in voice communications, first aid on an open head wound, identifying terrain features on a map, performing a functions check on an MK-19 machine gun and performing the placement of a claymore mine, while wearing full battle gear and protective mask.

"During the Board I kept visually looking back at the study guide in my head when I was being asked the questions and at the same time trying to keep my bearing and make sure I didn't twitch and move around and show how nervous I really was," Cady said.

Their afternoon consisted of a land navigation and map exercise, reciting the NCO Creed and ended with a social gathering. Although the get-together is an opportunity for Soldiers to interact with each other, it allows the candi-



**Specialist Sebastian McClendon  
1st Battalion 69th Infantry**

dates conduct and behavior to be evaluated in a formal setting.

"I like winning, I have a huge amount still to learn and most of all it's an honor to be part of history, with the 69th and other Soldiers of the Year representatives that came before and will come after," McClendon said.

"I strongly encourage our leadership at all levels to identify our brightest and talented Soldiers, by nominating them for Soldier and NCO of the Year they demonstrate their confidence in their abilities and it helps build esprit de corps within the National Guard," Van Pelt said. **gt**

**"We are getting more diversified Soldiers who are more prepared, and I truly believe we have a good chance of winning the regional event."**

-- Command Sergeant Major Robert Van Pelt, New York Army National Guard



# Upstate Boys and Girls Day Camp Gets Face Lift

Story by Eric Durr, Director of Public Affairs

ALTAMONT -- Camp Lovejoy, a day camp run by the Boys and Girls Club of Schenectady, is in better shape today thanks to an unusual 12-day annual training conducted by the New York

Army National Guard's 1156<sup>th</sup> Engineer Company.

Thirty members of the company spent their annual training this summer demolishing a decaying pavilion, putting a new roof on

another pavilion, and installing a footbridge for the kids to use.

Because the camp serves low-income families, the emphasis is on spending as much money as possible on providing "camperships" for kids, said Camp Director Maria Nadler. Without the efforts of the 1156th these projects just would not have gotten done, she said.

"It was a wonderful experience to see these guys and girls come out and really get excited about what they were doing at the camp," Nadler said.

The Camp Lovejoy Project, executed through the Guard Help program, gave his Soldiers a chance to use their vertical construction skills doing a real-world mission, said 1st Lt. Sean Gill, the 1156th's commander.

"They absolutely love it. It is within their MOS, so this is what they signed up to do. They also have the added benefit of helping the community," he explained. **gt**



The early stages of construction of a footbridge over a drainage swale, using existing concrete footings left from the previous bridge. Photo by 1st Lt. Sean T. Gill, 1156 Engineer Company.



During their unit annual training this summer, Soldiers from the 1156th Engineer Company provided a construction platoon for the Boys and Girls Club of Schenectady to Camp Lovejoy in Altamont to construct a bridge, pavilion and some small "fix-it" projects around the camp. Photo by 1st Lt. Sean T. Gill, 1156 Engineer Company.

## 'Fighting 69<sup>th</sup>' Soldiers Help Deliver Meals to Veterans

Guard Times Staff



Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry deliver meals to war veterans in Harlem on July 1. The effort assisted Citymeals-on-Wheels to deliver as many as 13,174 meals before July 4th. Courtesy Photo.

NEW YORK - As New Yorkers geared up to celebrate the July 4th weekend, Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry Regiment were on "active duty" on July 1 delivering boxed holiday meals to World War II veterans in Harlem.

The boxes contained assorted food-items to help home-bound Citymeals-on-Wheels recipients get through the three-day weekend when their local meals delivery centers are closed.

After packing up the boxed meals at the Jackie Robinson Senior Center in Harlem, the group made special meal deliveries to elderly Citymeals' clients including a 93-year-old World War II veteran who served in the Air Force, an 81-year-old World War II veteran who served in the Navy; and an

88-year old World War II Army veteran who served in England, France and Okinawa.

"Today, we are honored to be in the company of seven incredibly brave Soldiers from New York's Fighting 69th and a few old Soldiers who fought generations before them. It is only because of the heroic efforts of our military men and women that we are able to celebrate our freedom this Independence Day," said Marcia Stein, executive director of Citymeals-on-Wheels.

Citymeals-on-Wheels attempted to deliver 4th of July holiday boxes and friendly visits to 13,174 elderly New Yorkers before the Friday of the July 4th holiday weekend.

In honor of the holiday, the 69th Soldiers presented the meal recipients with American flags and other mementos. **gt**

# Rainbow Division Veterans Revisit Laughter and Pain

Story by Spc. Jimmy Allen Bedgood  
Photos by Spc. Rachel Sanzo

DAYTON, Ohio - More than 200 World War II 42nd Infantry Division veterans shared war stories and memories as they celebrated the 65th 42nd Memorial Foundation reunion, July 7-11.

"Some people get out of the Army and want nothing more to do with it, yet, some build relationships and camaraderie," said Richard Tisch, who served with the 392nd Field Artillery.

A highlight of the reunion was a memorial service hosted by the 42nd Rainbow Division Memorial Foundation.

"The service does not celebrate war, rather it honors the brave men and women who paid the ultimate sacrifice, their lives," Tisch said.

These veterans want to share their stories and experiences with today's Soldiers to ensure the legacy of the "Rainbow" Division survives, said Captain Benjamin Tupper, who represented today's division Soldiers at the reunion.

These veteran Soldiers are anxious for news of the modern Rainbow, Tupper said.

A recurring recollection of the veterans was the liberation of the infamous Dachau Concentration Camp on April 29, 1945.

"We had no idea Dachau was a concentration camp," said Richard M. Morowitz, then a 19 year-old Jewish-American, who served with the Rainbow Division's 222nd Regiment Intel-

ligence and Reconnaissance section. "We didn't even know what a concentration camp was."

Federick "Fritz" Krinkler, a German-American also with the 222nd Regiment, and close friend of Morowitz, admits he was torn between his German heritage and American citizenship when he arrived at Dachau.

Fritz arrived at Ellis Island from his hometown of Stuttgart at age 14. Arriving at Dachau he realized his duties might require a lot more than translating.

Fritz asked Morowitz, "What do I need to do? I can't do this, these are my countrymen and possibly my family."

"The first time they shoot in your direction you'll change your mind," Morowitz responded.

About 30,000 Jews and other enemies of Hitler died at Dachau, one of the first camps to be liberated in the closing days of the war.

The next day, Morowitz obtained one of the war's great souvenirs when German informants offered to lead the intelligence section to Hitler's "secret location" in Munich.



Captain Benjamin Tupper, a public affairs officer with the 42nd Infantry Division listens to stories of "Rainbow" Division veterans Vassil Evanoff, Bloomington, Minn. and Ivan Wallace from Pinetta, Fla. during the Rainbow Division Veterans Foundation's 65th Annual Reunion on July 11. Both men served in the 22nd Medical Battalion during World War II.

Three jeeps, 12 Americans, and two German spies drove the nine miles to Munich from Dachau and pulled up before Hitler's house in the city.

"A couple of us got to Hitler's house and banged on the door. The door was opened by Hitler's house keeper who asked 'Why is everybody so mad at Mr. Hitler, he's such a fine man.'

As Morowitz searched a bedroom he found a shiny black top hat in an empty closet.

"I pulled it from the shelf and when I looked inside, in big-bold gold letters were the initials A. H. and I remember leaping from the chair where I stood on the hat and jumped up and down upon it, repeatedly. Afterwards I looked down and realized the top hat was collapsible."

"I laughed uncontrollably, so much so, my laughter caught the attention of the Soldiers in the other room. Shortly after I heard Hitler committed suicide. It was a good day," Morowitz said.

More than 60 years later, he still has the battered top hat.

Krinkler's most memorable encounter came after the German surrender on May 8.

"German soldiers were retreating. My job was to take them to prisoner of war camps. We were screening for S. S. personnel--killers, special troops. I was on a dirt road on a motor-



42nd Infantry Division veterans from left: Sidney Shafner, Burchard Neet, Richard Marowitz, and Frederick Krinkler reunite at the Rainbow Division Veterans Foundation's 65th Annual Reunion on July 12 to recall their past experiences while serving together during World War II. The four veterans were part of the 222nd Infantry Regiment, Intelligence and Reconnaissance platoon as point scouts who led fellow Rainbow Soldiers in the liberation of Dachau in April 1945.



42nd Division Veterans' Reunion con't.



Dachau prisoners cheer their 42nd "Rainbow" Division concentration camp liberators, April 29, 1945. Photo courtesy of National Archives.

cycle. I saw two German Army vehicles coming with their lights on. The vehicles approached me and stopped. A German captain got out of the vehicle. He asked me in German: "Where can I turn my soldiers in?" I responded, "Don't you recognize me?" There was a long pause, then the German captain asked me, "Are you Frederick's boy?"

"Yes!"

The German captain was Krinkler's long-lost Uncle. **gt**

## Aviation Soldier Dies During Training

*Guard Times Staff*

FORT LEONARD WOOD, Mo. -- New York Army National Guard Spc. Kevin Illes, a member of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 142nd Aviation, died here July 9 while attending his advanced individual training.

The 29-year old Shirley resident was training with the post's 84th Chemical Battalion. He was found unresponsive in his barracks room shortly after 5 a.m. Other Soldiers administered CPR and called EMS but he did not respond. His death is not considered suspicious and is under investigation.

Specialist Illes was buried at Calverton National Cemetery on July 15. He is survived by his parents, Aida and Frances Illes, both of Shirley. **gt**

## A Portrait of a Hero Presentation

*Story and photo by Lt. Col. Paul Fanning, Guard Times Staff*



Mrs. Rose McKay, son Shane and daughter Tanisha shown with the painted portrait of the late Sgt. 1st Class Joseph McKay.

NEW YORK - A painted portrait of the late New York Army National Guard Sergeant First Class Joseph McKay of Queens, commissioned by a not-for-profit group, was presented to his family at the Jamaica Armory on Friday, 10 July.

Rose McKay and her family, were joined by friends and dozens of Soldiers of the 1st Battalion 258th Field Artillery, for a special presentation and remembrance.

"That's my Joseph," said Rose as she looked on the painting through tear-filled eyes with her son Shane, age 15 and daughter Tanisha, age 23. "Thank you. This means so much to us," she said.

Texas artist Phil Taylor and his wife Lisa of the American Fallen Soldiers Project came to New York to personally present the portrait to the family. At the family's request, a ceremony was organized at McKay's former armory so that friends and fellow Soldiers could attend.

The American Fallen Soldiers Project is a 501c 3 non-profit organization committed to honoring the memory of fallen military personnel by presenting the next of kin with custom portraits of their late loved one at no cost. The project is supported by American Airlines which transports the portraits and the artist free of charge from Texas to locations around the country for in-person presentations.

McKay was among 1700 members of the New York National Guard's 27th Infantry Brigade Combat Team that were mobilized and deployed to Afghanistan in 2008 as Combined Joint Task Force Phoenix VII. McKay, Specialist Mark Palmateer from Poughkeepsie and Sergeant First Class Matthew Hilton of Livonia, Michigan were killed in an ambush on their convoy on June 26, 2008 when an Improvised Explosive Device struck their vehicle in Eastern, Afghanistan.

McKay was a career New York National Guard Soldier who first joined in 1977 and served continuously until his death last year. He was a naturalized American citizen from Guyana, South America and lived with his wife and two children in Queens. He was called to State Active Duty following the 9-11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and continued to serve as a volunteer with the Guard's Task Force Empire Shield providing security support to the civil authorities at New York City's airports, train stations and other sites until his mobilization and deployment last year for Afghanistan.

For more information go to [www.americanfallsoldiers.com](http://www.americanfallsoldiers.com). **gt**

# AIR NATIONAL GUARD



Photo courtesy of Jim Siegel, Freelance Journalist and Photographer



# Helping NASA Reach For The Stars

## Long Island Rescue Teams Support Space Shuttle Launch for 100th Time

Story and photo by Master Sgt. Corine Lombardo, Guard Times Staff

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla.-- Eight para-rescue men aboard "King 2" an HC-130 from the New York Air National Guard's 106th Rescue Wing released a collective breath as the space shuttle Atlantis, traveling over 3,000 miles an hour, reached orbit at 2:07 p.m. (EDT) May 11th for NASA's final visit to refurbish and restore the Hubble Space Telescope.

It was the hundredth time Airmen from the Long Island-based rescue wing have watched a Space Shuttle climb into orbit and stood by to rescue the crewmen just in case something went wrong. The New York Air National Guardsmen have been standing by to retrieve shuttle crew since December 1988, when NASA conducted the first post-Challenger disasters launch of the space ship.

"Every member of the 106th Rescue Wing is proud of this mission," said Col. Michael Canders, commander of the 106th. "Our unit has played a critical role in the exploration of space for the last 20 years and we look forward to continuing to support this effort."

The highly trained rescue crew eagerly awaited Atlantis' lift-off from Cape Canaveral, Florida, where they remained alert to retrieve shuttle astronauts should a mishap occur that

prevents the shuttle from reaching orbit. If that happened the seven member Atlantis crew would have used an escape hatch to bail out into the Atlantic.

While "King 2" stands ready at Patrick Air Force base, a short distance from Kennedy Space Center, a second HC-130 "King 1" orbited the eastern sea coast prepared to rush to the projected impact area or splash point, if necessary.

National Guard personnel from the 106th Rescue Wing, based at Gabreski Field Air National Guard Base in Westhampton Beach, NY routinely practice this contingency procedure, known as Mode 8 Egress, which is essentially a parachute descent to safety.

Should an eject happen, the shuttle crew would be spread out roughly a mile apart given the speed the shuttle would be traveling as the astronauts exited the shuttle. Once located, the pararescuemen, a.k.a. PJs for short, deploy in two teams via parachute, along with a Zodiac inflatable boat, to retrieve the astronauts, explained Canders.

"I am always grateful for the outstanding job the 106th Rescue Wing does for NASA's Shuttle launches. They are a critical part of our overall launch contingency planning and I am absolutely certain that if called on, they would perform their job in a flawless manner," said NASA Launch Director Mike Leinbach.

"Although we're ready, we're relieved we don't have to rescue the astronauts. It's a mission you train for and hope you never have to execute," said Lt. Col. Jim Kelley, 106th navigator and King 2 AIRBOSS or mission commander, responsible for controlling the rescue package and helicopter refueling plan for this mission.

The PJs on King 2 are from the 129th Rescue Wing, Sunnyvale, California, filling in for 106th PJs deployed forward to Spain, on-site to support a Transatlantic Landing Site should the shuttle need to land there.

Knowing the PJs are close by is important, said Air Force Col. Lee Archambault, who commanded a Shuttle mission in March 2009 and flew on another one in 2007.

"Because of the amount and level of egress training and rescue procedures we receive, we know we are well taken care of should we need to get out of the vehicle if the worst of the worst happens," Archambault said.

"We very much appreciate the support of the 106th Rescue Wing and all the rescue personnel on station throughout the world, without your support we couldn't do what we do, Archambault said.

Following the Challenger disaster, the Shuttle had been redesigned to include an escape hatch, which would allow crew members to exit the spaceship in an emergency. Rescue crews were now needed to locate those downed crewmen and pluck them from the waters off Cape Canaveral. The 106th Rescue Wing volunteered for the mission, developed and validated the astronaut search and rescue procedures, and has been there for nearly every shuttle mission since, said Col. Robert Landsiedel, the wing's vice commander. **gt**



Lieutenant Colonel Jim F. Kelley, 102nd Rescue Squadron, 106th Rescue Wing, leads the 100th Shuttle Mission as the air boss. Photo by Staff Sgt. David J. Murphy, 106th Rescue Wing.



## 106th Firefighters Train for Other Rescues

*Story by Capt. Alexander Q. Spencer, 106th Rescue Wing*

SUFFOLK COUNTY FIRE ACADEMY, Yaphank - New York Air National Guard firefighters turned out for a response call on April 9 at Gabreski Field Air National Guard Base here when the 106th Rescue Wing received notice of heavy smoke coming from a building on the base.

When firefighters arrived, they learned that one individual was missing and presumed to be inside. Fortunately, they also learned that the scenario was a training event to sharpen their skills as the firefighters trained here at the Suffolk County Fire Academy with other firefighters from the Brookhaven National Academy.

The training facility at the Suffolk County Fire Academy allows firefighters to train in a structure with an actual fire burning. Having an actual fire burning in the structure during the scenario provides a much more realistic training environment for the firefighters. The firefighters get to operate with their personal protective equipment and self contained breathing apparatus in a low visibility, high heat environment.

"First, we send a search team into the structure in order to locate the fire and any possible victims. Then, we advance the line into the structure and extinguish the fire." said Chief Edward C. Metcalf. Chief Metcalf is also a retired New York City Firefighter where he last served as a Captain with Squad 252 in Brooklyn.

The firefighters operated with a search team and an engine crew on "the line," referring to the hose that they use to put water on the fire. The search team gained entry into the building, located the fire, and searched for the missing state worker. The engine crew then maneuvered the hoseline through the building to the location of the fire and extinguished the fire. When bringing the hoseline into the building, the firefighters charged the hose, meaning the hose

was filled with water. The water adds considerable weight and makes the hose less maneuverable making for a difficult task, especially when dealing with a charged hoseline that has a diameter of 1¼ inches and a length in excess of 150 feet. **gt**



Firefighters from the 106th Rescue Wing train with the Brookhaven National Laboratory Fire Department at the Suffolk County Fire Academy in Yaphank, New York. Photo by Senior Airman Chris S. Muncy, 106th Rescue Wing.



## Commo Key in Civil Response

Story by Senior Airman Kevin Dean, 174th Fighter Wing

HANCOCK FIELD AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE, Syracuse -- The 174th Fighter Wing's Communication Squadron trained Air Guard communications members from across the state in how to set up and employ the Joint Incident Site Communications Capability (JISCC) system on June 7, 2009. The JISCC is an initial mobile support communications system that deploys from N.Y. National Guard units to provide radio, radar, telephone and internet capabilities to first responders and other local, state, and federal agencies.

Communication members from the 105th Airlift Wing, 106th Rescue Wing, 107th Airlift Wing and Northeast Air Defense Sector trained here on setting up the JISCC in preparation for exercise Vigilant Guard in November.

The 174th Fighter Wing Communication Squadron here in Syracuse is the only Air National Guard unit in New York State with the Joint Incident Site Communications Capability.

The communications center is set up by six enlisted members and one officer and can be set up and operational in one hour.

"We can sustain this over a period of months using other units," 174th Communication Officer, Captain Jason B. Taylor said,

The system was designed as a response to the communication problems experienced during Hurricane Katrina in 2005 and in April of 2009 the North Dakota National Guard used the system while fighting floods from the Red River. The system allows military and civilian to communicate through various methods such as cell phone, landline and radio via the JISCC.

In November, members from the 174th Fighter Wing Communications Squadron will participate in the National Guard's Vigilant Guard domestic operations response exercise simulating an earthquake disaster in conjunction with civilian first responders and other National Guard response forces. **gt**



174th Fighter Wing, New York Air National Guard Commander Col. Kevin W. Bradley, meets with members of the wing's Communications Flight at Hancock Field in Syracuse on June 7, Bradley was being updated on the abilities of the Joint Incident Site Communications Capability system (JISCC). Courtesy Photo.



### NY Mets Tip Their Hat to Guardsman

#### Home from Deployment, Citi Field Honors Airman

NEW YORK -- Senior Airman James J. Bavaro, 106th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, receives a moment of appreciation for his service and safe return from deployment at a New York Mets game at Citi Field in Flushing on June 11. Senior Airman Bavaro returned from his Air Expeditionary Force deployment in Afghanistan in early May and was joined at the game by three of his friends, Dave Shearer, Phil Ebel and Brendan Primus. The Mets lost to their east coast rivals in extra innings when the Phillies rallied with a three-run homer in the tenth inning. Photo by Staff Sgt. David J. Murphy, 106th Rescue Wing.

# Day of the Reaper

Story by Capt. Anthony Bucci, 174th Fighter Wing

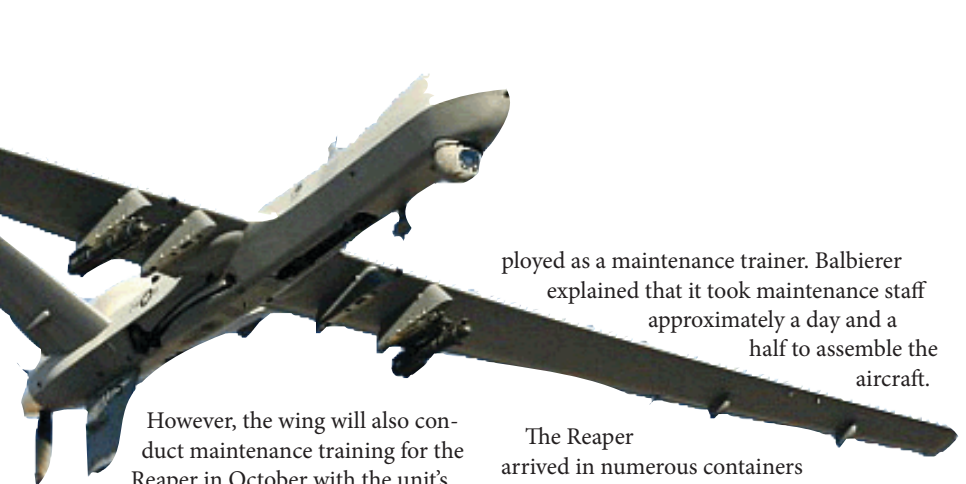
HANCOCK FIELD  
AIR NATIONAL GUARD  
BASE, Syracuse - After more than 60 years of flying manned aircraft, the New York Air National Guard's 174th Fighter Wing will convert to the MQ-9 Reaper unmanned aerial vehicle.

The unit began conversion when it returned from its last scheduled Air Expeditionary Force rotation to Southwest Asia with the F-16 in June 2008, but as the moment gets closer the realization of the switch becomes more evident to the Airmen.

On June 26, the 174th informed local news media and the community about the conversion process to the MQ-9 Reaper. Col. Kevin W. Bradley, 174th Commander, spoke about the changes as he briefed this new mission.

"Obviously as you can see there is no cockpit, no place for the pilot to sit within the aircraft," Bradley said. "However, the pilot will be sitting in the cockpit, the Ground Control Station, on the ground next to the sensor operator controlling the aircraft in theatre from right here in Syracuse."

The unit will fly Combat Air Patrols with the MQ-9 beginning in November, while continuing to fly the F-16C until March, 2010.



However, the wing will also conduct maintenance training for the Reaper in October with the unit's newest element, the Field Training

Detachment.

The detachment's location is a renovated building that has classrooms and a fixed Ground Control Station, which will be used to train all MQ-9 maintainers for the U.S. Air Force, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard.

"Starting this October, the Field Training Detachment will begin teaching various classes relating to the maintenance of the MQ-9 Reaper. These classes will vary in length ranging from six to eight weeks long," said Col. John M. Balbierer, 174th Maintenance Group Commander.

The MQ-9 arrived in January and is em-

ployed as a maintenance trainer. Balbierer explained that it took maintenance staff approximately a day and a half to assemble the aircraft.

The Reaper arrived in numerous containers aboard a flat bed truck. 174th Airmen worked side-by-side with technicians from General Atomics utilizing their technical manuals and trying to create Air Force technical orders based on the joint endeavor.

"Air Combat Command has entrusted our maintainers to validate the Technical Orders based on the General Atomics technical manuals for use by all MQ-9 Reaper Air Force maintenance personnel," Balbierer said.

The unit will maintain two aircraft for maintenance training and 14 additional aircraft for flight missions, two of those in the local area.

The 174th is the first Air National Guard unit to fly the Reaper; the only other Air Force unit is at Creech Air Force Base in Nevada. **gt**



Associated Press Correspondent William Kates touches the wing of an MQ-9 Reaper Unmanned Aerial Vehicle at Hancock Field, June 26. Kates was invited as part of the media day event introducing the new mission of the 174th Fighter Wing. Photo by Tech. Sgt. Jeremy M. Call, 174th Fighter Wing.





## Rescue Wing Takes to Sky for Jones Beach Air Show

WANTAUGH -- The New York Air National Guard's 106th Rescue Wing demonstrated a series of different rescue operations during the Jones Beach Air Show at Jones Beach State Park in Wantagh, N.Y. on May 23 and 24, 2009. The event was narrated by Col. Michael F. Canders, 106th Rescue Wing Commander, and featured aircrew members and aircraft from the 101st, 102nd and 103rd Rescue Squadron, such as the HC-130, HH-60, and Pararescue Jumpers. Recruiters and volunteers from the 106th Rescue Wing were also present on the ground to answer the public's questions about the aircraft and the unit's capabilities. Photo by Staff Sgt. David J. Murphy.

## Training Keeps Airmen Ready for Overseas Deployment

STEWART AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE, Newburgh -- Airmen of the New York Air National Guard's 105th Airlift Wing conducted training for unexploded ordnance (UXO) sweeps and identification during the 105th's Emergency Management and Readiness Flights refresher class, April 4. Airmen demonstrated their proficiency during their mandatory 20-month Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, (High Yield) Explosive Survival Skills class. Prior to attending the CBRNE Survival Skills class, personnel completed knowledge-based computer training to identify several types/classes of UXO's such as projectiles, bomblets, rocket propelled grenades and IED's. Photo by Tech. Sgt. Michael O'Halloran, 105th Airlift Wing.



# Healing Hands Travel to Train for Trauma

*Story and photos by Senior Airman Kevin Dean, 174th FW*

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico -- The 174th Fighter Wing Medical group flew to Puerto Rico to recertify medical skills training at a trauma hospital in the Puerto Rico Medical Center “Centro Medico” from May 3-16.

The hospital is a very busy 24/7 trauma unit that has both CT scans and an MRI machine with over 100 beds. The opportunity for members of the New York Air National Guard to train here presented real world challenges for the 174th doctors, nurses and technicians.

There is a language barrier as residents of Puerto Rico speak both Spanish and English and the training provides a chance for the 174th medical team to learn not just medical skills but interpersonal skills in a highly active trauma hospital. The medical staff learns not only how to communicate with the patients, but also the hospital staff that has varying levels of fluency in English.

The 174th deployed two unit members who speak fluent Spanish. One is the commander on the trip, 174th Fighter Wing Flight Surgeon, Lt. Col. Guillermo Quetell and the other is Medical Administration Specialist Staff Sgt. Evette Turner. Even with unit members fluent in Spanish, the transition provided a learning curve so each member had a card with common medical terms to help ease the transition.

“I know that if we went into a foreign country we could communicate no matter what,” Lt. Col. Valentine Barzac said of the training.

The large public facility is located in San Juan, the capital of Puerto Rico and has a comprehensive level of care in a multi-hospital complex located on 22 acres.

The Centro Medico trauma hospital offers many unique services such as trauma care, a hyperbolic chamber, an endovascular lab, and aero-medical services. Members of the medical unit rotated through each of the unique services learning the essential skills needed.

Quetell is a Syracuse plastic surgeon in private practice and a flight surgeon at the 174th Fighter Wing. He attended high school in Puerto Rico and was trained at Syracuse Medical School and is one of three flight surgeons at the 174th Fighter Wing.

For Quetell, coming home to Puerto Rico as an Air National Guard officer and plastic surgeon provided a special opportunity for the group to learn about the culture and integrate into the hospital as a working team.

The emergency division of the hospital receives over 50,000 visits a year with 70% of those trauma related. The unit members from the 174th rotated through the various units on both the day and night shift to receive maximum exposure and training.

“Studies show that efficiency is increased when volume is high in hospital,” Quetell said. The trauma center in Puerto Rico is able to provide a fast paced training environment. Unit members will now be able to bring those learned skills back to the 174th Fighter Wing.

Many members of the medical group are practicing nurses, technicians and doctors and the instruction was an opportunity to gain skills that they may not normally be exposed to in their civilian careers but are required by the Air National Guard for medical personnel.

“The immersion in this training environment provides real world training and helps to break down any language barriers,” said Tech. Sgt. Jerry Douglas.

“Providing quality care to the patient is true whether you’re deployed to a combat zone or a training mission,” Douglas said. **gt**



Technical Sergeant Micahel J. Lowe, 174th Fighter Wing Aerospace Medical Specialist assists with Surgery May 11, during annual training in Puerto Rico.



Technical Sgt. Jerry W. Douglas, 174th Fighter Wing Medical Specialist and Sr. Airman Brianne A. Ives, 174th Aerospace Medical Specialist prepare to enter the operating room during the unit’s deployment to Puerto Rico on May 11.





## Air Force Makes Room on Base for Army Soldiers

*NIAGARA FALLS AIR RESERVE STATION - Dignitaries gather for a ground breaking ceremony April 7 for an Armed Forces Reserve Center slated to be built at the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station.*

*The new \$27 Million readiness center will provide a 600-member training facility with administrative, educational, library, learning center, weapons vault, and weapons simulator areas for 12 U.S. Army Reserve units and one New York Army*

*National Guard unit.*

*From left to right: Mr. Ken Kramer, Vice President, TCI Inc., Mr. Brian Reitzel, Project Manager, TCI Inc., Mr. Josh Feldmann, Project Manager, U.S. Army Engineer, Buffalo District, Mr. Michael Hrywnak, Construction Representative, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District, Col. Rosemary Kuca, Former Commander 865th Combat Support Hospital, U.S. Army Reserve, Col. Allan Swartzmiller, 914th*

*Airlift Wing Commander, Congresswoman Louise Slaughter, Brig. Gen. Michael Smith, Deputy Commanding General 99th Regional Support Command, Col. Patrick Ginavan, 107th Airlift Wing Commander, Lt. Col. Daniel Snead, Commander U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Buffalo District, Mr. Merrell Lane, President, Niagara Military Affairs Council. Construction is expected to be completed late next year. Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Ray Lloyd.*

## Jump Starting Unit Cohesion

*NEW WINDSOR -- Senior Airman Darryl Reeves, at left, defends against Staff Sgt. Michael Winfield's drive to the basket in the 105th Airlift Wing 3-on-3 basketball Tournament here on May 3. Fifty-five members of the Stewart military community participated in the games at the New Windsor Recreational Facility. Air Guardsmen and Marines vied for base bragging rights in a double elimination competition.*

*The First Six Enlisted Council created the 3-on-3 tournament to raise morale, strengthen unit camaraderie and to jump start fitness. "I found this event to be very exciting and a healthy challenge and was happy to see so many come out and participate," said Winfield, from the 105th Air Wing. "I believe if this tournament was a consistent part of future drill weekends it would improve the fitness of members."*

*The overall winners of the tournament were the Marines of MAG49-Detachment B. "It was nice to see people having fun and exchanging contact information. Having an outing like this has served its purpose. There will definitely be more events like this to come," Tech. Sgt. Jose Chevere, President of the Council said. Photo by Sr. Airman Jonathan Young.*



# New York Guard

## New York Guard Commander Gets Star Treatment



*New York - New York Guard Commander, Maj. Gen. Fergal Foley, shakes hands with Gov. David Paterson in the Governors Office in New York City, following a short ceremony July 16 in which the governor pinned on his two-star general rank in recognition of Foley's command of New York's all-volunteer Guard forces.*

*Foley, a retired Colonel from the New York Army National Guard, was named the New York Guard's commander earlier this year. His appointment to two-star general in the New York Military Forces was recently confirmed by the New York State Senate.*

*Photo by Darren McGee, Courtesy New York State Executive Chamber.*

## Honoring Those Who Died During the Great War

*Story and photos by Pvt. Ubon Mendie, Headquarters, 56th Brigade*



The New York Guard's 98th Band, commanded by Capt. Douglas Hedwig, marches into place at the 1st Provisional Regiment Memorial Ceremony, Sleepy Hollow Cemetery.

SLEEPY HOLLOW – Members of the New York Guard gathered at Sleepy Hollow Cemetery, May 3 for an annual ceremony hosted by the 56th Brigade to honor the memory of those who died while serving to protect New York.

Continuing a 91 year tradition, troops gathered at the memorial stone for 32 Soldiers of the New York Guard's original 1st Provisional Regiment who perished during the Spanish influenza pandemic in 1918. The Guardsmen were deployed stateside to replace the National Guard's 27th Infantry Division, following the 27th's overseas deployment in World War I.

"We gather at this site to recognize those who gave their lives to insure our sovereignty," Sleepy Hollow Mayor Kenneth Wray said. "Our presence is a show of support to those serving presently, and those of the past."

Over 8,000 New Yorkers, from all walks of life, served in the 1st Provisional Regiment, the original New York Guard unit. **gt**



Staff Sergeant Augustine DePalma, 56th Brigade, commands the honor guard at the 1st Provisional Regiment Memorial Ceremony, Sleepy Hollow Cemetery.



*GUILDERLAND -- Sergeant Major Bruce Jagroo, 1st Battalion, 3rd Regiment puts the finishing touches on a pavilion built at the New York National Guard's Guilderland Training Site during the New York Guard's annual training week from July 20-25. Jagroo, from Hamburg, N.Y. was attached to the Binghamton-based 102nd Engineers which has been upgrading facilities at the Albany-area training site. The 102nd spent 11 days, over four months, working on the pavilion complex prior to annual training and also worked on upgrading the berms at the training site's pistol range, according to N.Y. Guard Major Douglas Creamer, the 102nd's commander. Photo by Eric Durr, Public Affairs Director.*



## 10th Brigade Honors Past, Remembers the Maine

*By Major Dave Greenwood, 10th Brigade*

ALBANY – Soldiers from 10th Brigade assembled at Graceland Cemetery May 3 for the annual dedication of the war memorial honoring members of the 177th New York Volunteer Infantry (the 10th Regiment's federal designation during the Civil War) and the 1st New York Volunteer Infantry (Spanish-American War), as well as other servicemen of the Civil War, Indian Wars, Spanish-American War and World War I.

The annual "Hiker" Memorial Ceremony is so named because during the Spanish-American War, the Soldiers who served were referred to as "hikers" because they spent long hours hiking from one place to another. "Hikers" were as famous in their day as were the "Doughboys" of World War I and "GI Joe" in World War II.

The 10th Brigade commemorates the service of its forebears each year, along with members of the Sheehy-Palmer Post, Veterans of Foreign Wars (which, itself, was an out-growth of the United Spanish War Veterans).

Interred at the memorial site are 67 Soldiers and Sailors, including volunteer Soldiers of the 177th Volunteer Infantry and the 1st Volunteer Infantry. Both of those units were formed from the 10th New York Infantry Regiment, whose colors and honors are carried today by the 10th Brigade. Veterans from other units are buried there as well, including Buffalo Soldier veterans from the Indian Wars and World War I.

A unique feature of the memorial is the plaque affixed to the front which is cast from the actual hull material of the U.S.S. Maine whose destruction in Havana Harbor led to the Spanish-American War in 1898 ("Remember the Maine!"). The memorial was repaired and upgraded in

2001 by members of the 10th Bde. as part of the National Guard's Guard-HELP program.

In 2002, the 10th dedicated a bronze plaque at the site, to commemorate the service of Command Sgt. Maj. James A. Speranza, a 52 year veteran in the New York Army National Guard, the Reserves and the New York Guard who spearheaded the restoration project but who died before the project was completed. **gt**



The 1st New York Volunteer Infantry Regiment, New York National Guard bivouacked at Waikiki Race Track, Honolulu, Hawaii, June 1898 for service in the Spanish - American War. Photo courtesy [www.spanamwar.com](http://www.spanamwar.com).



Chief Warrant Officer Patrick Guthoff, 56th Brigade, instructs a New York Air National Guard airman from the 105th Airlift Wing in cable television distribution at Stewart Air Base, Newburgh. Photo by Sgt. Chris Ferraro, 56th Brigade.

## State and Air Guard Train on Communications Cabling

*Guard Times Staff*

STEWART AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE, Newburgh — Communications officers of the 56th Brigade, New York Guard trained airmen from the 105th Air Wing, New York Air National Guard in cable television distribution over a three month period at Stewart Air Base.

The training program was a joint New York Guard – New York Air National Guard venture.

Master Sergeant Brian Northrip and Tech. Sgt. Paul Rosenthal, 213th Engineers, 105th Air Wing developed the training program and requested the assistance of trained instructors from the 5th Civil Affairs Regiment, 56th Brigade.

“We run any live wire from point A to point B - anywhere, anytime.” Rosenthal explained. “The value of this training is that it strengthens our ability to accomplish our mission: to install and maintain

electrical and communications networks for military installations through-out the state.”

The 56th Brigade’s radio communications officer, Chief Warrant Officer Patrick Guthoff, brought his civilian engineering expertise in the cable television industry to the mission of training the airmen.

“This is what it’s all about as a New York Guardsman”, Guthoff said. “This is why I joined the New York Guard – to use my training and skills to assist the National Guard.”

The 56th Brigade has been augmenting 105th Air Wing training at Stewart Air Base for the past year on several fronts: providing certified instructors to train new recruits, Judge Advocate Group teams for legal services operations, medical and dental personnel for Soldier readiness processing, and kitchen patrol troops to work the chow line. **gt**





# 14<sup>th</sup> Brigade Hits the Beach for Training

Story by Staff Sgt. Paul Rosa, 14th Brigade



14th Brigade members train for a state weather emergency on a blustery Spring day on Long Island giving N.Y. Guard members a sense of real world conditions. Photo courtesy of New York Guard Public Affairs Office.

EAST QUOQUE, Long Island --In order to enhance preparation to augment the National Guard during state weather emergencies, the Soldiers of the 14th Brigade, New York Guard spent their May drill training in sandbag wall construction at the Dune Road Beach in Long Island.

The training was conducted by Spc. Bill Delaney, a New York City Emergency Medical Services responder and Spc. Raul Martinez.

During the training, on an unusually blustery Long Island day, the rainy and windy weather helped simulate emergency conditions, which New York Guard members could face while responding to a disaster.

In various weather emergencies, building sandbag walls or retainers require the same military skills as all other missions-

team work, efficiency and mission readiness.

The troops also trained in safety measures, such as working in pairs, proper lifting techniques and switching positions to fend off fatigue and maximize effectiveness.

Although there are various uses for erecting a sandbag wall or retainer, the day's training focused specifically on the usage for flood protection. The unit was taught how to pyramid stack sandbags, which is instrumental in diverting water and debris away from the structures that are being protected. Sandbags are used for low-flow protection – up to two feet in height.

With the sandbag training under their belt, the 14th Brigade troops added another skill set to their emergency response capabilities.**gt**

## Vets: Continue Your Service in the NY Guard

*The NY Guard is New York's official State Defense Force. Our mission is to augment and assist the NY Army and Air National Guard in a variety of stateside missions: WMD decontamination, domestic search and rescue, radio communications, and much more. NY Guard members volunteer their service within New York State.*

*We need physically fit, experienced National Guard troops who want to continue their service. If you are ETS'ing and looking for a way to continue the mission, contact the NY Guard recruiting officer today.*

**Recruiting Officer:**  
*Capt. Peter Piro (516) 361-2800  
email: [nyg-recruiting@att.net](mailto:nyg-recruiting@att.net)*

# New York Naval Militia



## Naval Militia Spends Busy Summer on NY Waters

Above, New York Naval Militia Machinist Mate 1st Class Michael Porter, pilots Patrol Boat 400 near the historic ship Half Moon on the Hudson River on June 12 near Castleton on Hudson. PB 400 and PB 301 escorted historic ships for the 400th anniversary of the founding of the Hudson River. Photo by Commander Don McKnight.

At right, Mr. Rufus Lekala, Harbormaster for the Port of Durban, South Africa, listens to Captain Robert Pouch of the New York Naval Militia explain the capabilities of patrol boat PB 400 on June 5. Lekala was in New York as part of a South African delegation participating in a State Partnership Program port security event. The South African team met with various interagency partners responsible for the security of New York Harbor. Photo by Maj. Pat Chaisson.







Above, New York Naval Militia Sailor Chief Warrant Officer Dennis McCoy assists Governor David A. Paterson aboard Patrol Boat 440 on July 4th for a Joint Task Force Empire Shield and New York Naval Militia support mission to transport the New York State Commander in Chief to Liberty Island. Courtesy photo.



Along with other historic ships celebrating the 400-year anniversary of the Hudson River, New York Naval Militia Patrol Boat 400 was open to the public on the morning of Saturday, June 13 at Castleton on Hudson. Photo by Commander Don McKnight.



New York Naval Militia crews supported the Quadricentennial celebration in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. on June 10 with additional maritime security. The patrol boat crews and Maj. Gen. Robert Wolf, Commander of the New York Naval Militia were hosted afterwards by the Pirate Canoe Club in Poughkeepsie. In the photo (L-R): Chief Petty Officer Bill Palmer, Lieutenant Commander Nick Valhos, Maj. Gen. Wolf, Petty Officer Rich Penta, Petty Officer Sean Farmer, Petty Officer Tom McMahon and Commander Don McKnight. Photo by Caroline Hamilton-Matuk.

# GUARD NEWS BRIEFS AND PHOTOS

## Fast Family Fund Raising



COLONIE-- Runners hit the road as the 2nd Annual Hometown Heroes Race sponsored by the New York National Guard Family Readiness Council, Inc. got underway on Saturday, June 20.

One hundred and ninety-five runners took part in the event held at Colonie Crossings Park outside Albany and another 82 ran a second race on June 28 at Stewart Air National Guard Base in Newburgh. Together the two races raised more than \$7,000 to help Soldiers and Airmen and their families in time of need, as well as to assist unit Family Readiness Groups.

Family Readiness Council President Susan Taluto explained. "It is focused on our military members and, as you know; military members have an obligation to stay in good physical condition. We felt it was a good fit." Photo by Sgt. Christopher Connelly, 42nd Infantry Division.

## A Proven Track Record Gets Noticed



ALBANY--New York Army National Guard Signal Soldiers pose with Dr. Melodie Mayberry-Stewart New York's Chief Information Officer, during the New York State Interoperability Symposium, held July 1-2 at the Desmond Hotel.

The members of Joint Forces Headquarters demonstrated the New York National Guard's JISCC (Joint Incident Site Communications Capability)

during the two-day meeting which brought together communications experts from a number of state and federal agencies.

The Soldiers with Dr. Mayberry-Stewart are (from left) Spec. Amanda MacWhinnie, Sgt. 1st Class Charles Moore, and Chief Warrant Officer Dave Tiffany.

Photo Courtesy New York State Chief Information Officer/Officer for Technology.



## Diversity Has Its Day

LATHAM -- Members of the New York National Guard get some "stage time" with the local college dance group Capiorea from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. The Soldiers, from right to left, Maj. Gen. Deborah Wheeling, Pvt. Natiasia Cooper, Pvt. Kerri Kenyon and Master Sgt. Michelle Lindsey try to imitate complex dance moves following the members of Capiorea.

The 2nd Annual Diversity Day for the New York National Guard was held at the Division of Military and Naval Affairs in Latham on April 28.

This year's theme was Diversity: Shaping Tomorrow's Guard. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Steven Petibone, Guard Times Staff.



# Troops Welcome RAF Bike-Riders to New York City

Story and photo by Lt. Col. Paul Fanning, JFHQ-NY

NEW YORK -- Members of the New York Army National Guard joined representatives of the New York City Police and Fire Departments, and the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey in welcoming two members of the Royal Air Force to New York City and “Ground Zero” on Saturday, June 13.

The two Royal Air Force veterans, Warrant Officer Nick Styles and Sgt. Jason Lewis and their support team, Andrew Jones, Peter Taylor and Roy Hunte, rode across the United States as part of an effort, called Operation Long Road, to raise funds to help wounded British veterans of Afghanistan and Iraq through the Help for Heroes Foundation.

They finished their 3,181 mile ride with a wreath laying ceremony at the site where the World Trade Center used to stand prior to the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

A six-Soldier team from the New York National Guard’s Joint

Task Force Empire Shield, which provides full-time security augmentation to New York City law enforcement, took time out of their security duties to salute the British military men. Major General Joseph Taluto, sent a congratulatory message which was presented to the cross-country bikers.

They launched their ride on May 4 at the Santa Monica Pier, Calif. Financial supporters for the trip included Prince Harry and Prince William, second and third in line for the British Crown, and British Prime Minister Gordon Brown.

The bikers finished their ride by honoring the almost 3,000 Americans and others who died on September 11. The celebrations at the finish line, with the presence



Members of the New York National Guard’s Joint Task Force Empire Shield joined representatives of the New York Police and Fire Departments in welcoming a British Team that bicycled across the United States to New York on Saturday, June 13. The British team are, from left, Sgt. Jason Lewis, Police Constable Peter Taylor, Roy Hunte, Mike Andrews, and Warrant Officer Nick Styles.

of the military, the police and the fire departments, and members of the public, made it very special, Styles said.

“It has been an outstanding trip across a great country, and we

thank everybody who has made it possible,” he added.

You can find out more about their cross country trip by going to their web page at [www.raf.mod.uk/rafcoasttoeast](http://www.raf.mod.uk/rafcoasttoeast). **gt**



Kevin Brunick (left), New York State Representative for Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association (CVMA), and Marty Dinan, N.Y. State Chapter Commander, donate \$500 on behalf of CVMA N.Y. Chapter 19, to Mr. Bill Peak, founder and treasurer of the Colonie, N.Y. based Patriot Flight, Inc.

## ‘Chrome Horse’ Veterans Serve Veterans of WWII

Story and photo by Staff Sgt. Thomas Wheeler, 138th Public Affairs Detachment

LATHAM - With a ground shaking rumble the New York Chapter of the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association continued its history of supporting Veteran’s causes with a donation of \$500 to Colonie-based Patriot Flight Inc.

Patriot Flight, Inc. is a not-for profit Veterans organization dedicated to giving every World War II veteran a chance to visit the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C.

“Our motto is ‘Veterans Helping Veterans,’” said Marty Dinan, commander, CVMANY Chapter 19 in the Capital Region and a New York Army National Guard Officer.

To date, Patriot Flight, Inc with the help of Veteran groups like the CVMA, have served 211 Veterans. The organization grows every year and to date boasts a national membership of more than 3,500. **gt**

# Getting your Clock Cleaned

Commentary by Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Glenn McQuown

Not that long ago, but a very long way away, an aspiring Chess Master from Romania looked for a keen competitor. Chess is the same game in any language and culture and so is the penchant for winning, so I obliged.

The game did not even begin simply. I made a first move and my soldier chess-mate, soon to be Mr. Checkmate, jumped up with both feet on the table and forcefully moved his pawn forward.

Then the game got worse. I would deliberate and sweat endlessly, finally moving a chess piece and my opponent would counter in less than a couple seconds. He moved quickly and furiously and won our first game on intimidation alone.

During another game he gave me his Queen at the beginning. He won. In yet another I captured his Queen but only because he had a greater strategy- to win the game. He schooled me in the fundamental rule of chess: 'Position, position, position.'

He went to his foot locker and came up with the same time clocks that Spassky and Fischer used in their 1972 chess competition. He suggested we play five minute games.

I must have thought he meant, "Let's play five minutes of a game with these clocks." He meant let's move and whack the clock and play the entire chess game in five minutes or less. He won rapidly and repeatedly. He would pause to talk with me about opening and finishing a chess game (for him, I think that was one move).

His appreciation of the United States was readily evident. Like his



comrades from Romania, he had a deeply committed faith and a rich a devotion to his country. I think these Romanian soldiers best captured that devotion and faith by their national celebration of the anniversary each year when at the closing of the Second World War the "last square inch of Romanian soil was regained."

Even losing so many games of chess, I had an opportunity to win much more. Sometimes, the many challenges of deployments can also come with the richest of cultural blessings and rewards. Even if it means getting clocked at chess. **gt**



Members of the New York Army National Guard's 53rd Army Forces Liaison Team deployed to Baghdad, Iraq, announce the NY Mets starting lineup during the Mets home game on Memorial Day, May 25 from Citi Field. Courtesy photo.

## Baseball in Baghdad

### Troops broadcast live for Mets Game

By Capt Amy Wood, 53rd Army Forces Liaison Team

BAGHDAD - Members of the New York Army National Guard's 53rd Army Liaison Team (ALT), while deployed to Iraq, experienced a baseball game in a different manner...via satellite on Memorial Day, May 25.

Missing were the peanuts, popcorn, fans and even the stadium, however; present were the bright lights, enormous insects, and most importantly, their families...well sort of. The New York Mets invited the family members of the 53rd ALT to the Memorial Day game and were given complimentary tickets to watch the Mets vs. the Washing-

ton Nationals. Additionally, some family members were taken onto the field where they spoke with their loved ones live via satellite which was broadcast on the "Citi-vision" stadium screen.

Nine 53rd ALT Soldiers introduced the Mets starting line-up, and, although unable to see their family members, the Soldiers were able to hear messages from their loved ones on the field back in New York.

Colonel Gary Machina, commander of the 53rd Army Liaison Team, threw out the first pitch of the game...live from Baghdad.

The Mets beat the Nationals, 5-2. **gt**



# New York National Guard Born in 1640

## National Guard Heritage Traced to Dutch Colonial Times

By Eric Durr, Director, Director of Public Affairs



Each resident was directed to “provide himself with a good gun and keep the same in good repair and at all times ready and in order, and, as they live at a distance the one from the other, every warned person is placed under his corporal in order that in time of danger he may appear at this post with his gun.”

--Directives of the Dutch New Netherlands Colony, May 16, 1640

LATHAM - New York's National Guard turned 369 years old this May. The National Guard of the United States claims Dec. 13, 1636 — the date the General Court of the Massachusetts Bay Colony formally organized a colonial militia. Here in the Empire State, New York claims May 9, 1640 for its National Guard origins.

On that date, the Provincial Council of the Dutch New Netherlands colony established a part-time defense force called the Burgher or “citizens” Guard. There were only 50 Dutch East India Company Soldiers at Fort New Amsterdam, and it was feared that local natives might attack; the Provincial Council thought the regular troops needed help.

Each resident was directed to “provide himself with a good gun and keep the same in good repair and at all times ready and in order, and, as they live at a distance the one from the other, every warned person is placed under his corporal in order that in time of danger he may appear at this post with his gun.”

The alert procedure for 1640 involved firing off the fort cannon three times if “God forbid that any mischief occur either from enemies or traitors at night.”

The Council passed new rules in 1643, fining Soldiers 10 “stivers” if they took “the name of God in vain,” and another monetary fine of 30 stivers for “speaking ill” of another Soldier.

By the 1650s the Burgher Guard mustered about 200 Soldiers divided into two companies; the blue flag company and the orange flag company. The Guard turned out 100 men in 1659 when Indians raided the Dutch settlement at Esopus, where Kingston is located today but then-Governor Peter Stuyvesant told the men that anybody who was really scared did not have to come along on the mission. Eventually, the Burgher Guard established units in that settlement as well as in what became Albany.

In 1664, the English Duke of York conquered New Netherlands, renamed it New York, and disbanded the Dutch Burger Guard. The Duke of York established a new militia in which white males between 16 and 60 and all free black men were required to arm themselves and serve, unless they were ministers, doctors, schoolteachers or Quakers.

In 1691, New York became a royal colony and the new Provincial Assembly passed their first militia law, establishing the force that became the New York State Militia and the New York National Guard of today. **gt**

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
ROCHESTER, NY  
PERMIT NO. 211

