

THE

EVERGREEN



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The Primary Leadership Development Course offers junior NCOs down-dirty, hands-on training See pp. 18-19



Photo by SFC Joe Zambone

VA crackdown coming on alcohol abuse

Editor's Note:

The guest commentary was written by Col. George W. Koss, state surgeon, Washington National Guard. Koss is a physician, general practitioner, practicing in Federal Way, Wash.

**By Col. George W. Koss
State Surgeon, Washington
National Guard**

While the AIDS issue has grabbed the headlines in the last year, substantial attention has also been focused on addictions, particularly alcohol and drug addiction.

Many of the past problems with drugs have been alleviated by strict urinalysis programs and strong disciplinary actions for offenders.

Alcohol abuse is quite another matter and is something the military, both active and reserve components, is now concentrating on.

Drinking, partying and over indulgence has been a tradition in our society, making the alcohol issue difficult to handle. Whether it be "going out with the boys for a few after drill," or having the gang over for a Christmas party, alcohol use can get out of hand quickly.

The problem is that drunks, particularly drunken drivers, not only injure or kill themselves, they often permanently harm or kill others. The hurt is not only physical; many suffer permanent emotional scars as well.

With summer camp coming up, it needs to be emphasized that drinking while on or off duty can lead to serious problems and legal charges.

Cirrhosis

Excessive alcohol abuse can lead to cirrhosis of the liver. At just between three and four pounds, the liver is one of the body's most efficient and hardest working organs. But, it too, has limits.

The liver is important because it clears fat soluble toxins from the body, much like the kidneys clear water soluble toxins. It produces bile, the vehicle used for getting rid of waste. The liver regulates energy by synthesizing and metabolizing sugars and proteins in the blood.

But as important and efficient as the liver is, it is not a very good drinker. Just one cocktail can transiently increase the amount of fat in the liver. With continued alcohol abuse, liver

cells are irreversibly injured, die and become replaced by scar tissue. This leads to cirrhosis of the liver, an affliction that will develop in 15-20 percent of heavy drinkers.

Cirrhosis of the liver is deadly. It can stop the body's cleansing process and cause massive internal bleeding.

Traffic accidents

While alcohol involvement in fatal auto accidents dropped significantly between 1980 and 1984, one can't help but remember that two military reservists in Washington last year were involved in traffic fatalities where alcohol was a prime cause.

Instead of giving the car keys to a friend, the individuals tried to drive home. The result was the loss of innocent lives and permanent emotional scars for friends and family.

Washington's legislature has moved to stiffen drunk driving laws as have many other states. Enforcement agencies are keenly aware of the drunk driver and aren't apt to let them off the hook.

Driving while intoxicated (called DWI) violations have become very expensive and embarrassing. Society's attitudes have changed dramatically over the last couple of years.

Rather than bragging about not remembering driving home or about pulling some foolish stunt with an auto, people are viewing themselves as lucky to not get caught or not to have injured someone.

The point of this commentary is not

to downplay AIDS or drug addiction, but to concentrate on alcohol abuse.

Libations can be pleasant and provide enjoyment when taken in moderation. They can be deadly when used excessively.

Alcohol and alcoholism is serious business. The military recognizes the problem with alcohol dependency and has initiated strong programs to recognize and treat it.

Alcohol addiction can be cured only if the individual recognizes he or she has a problem and is willing to do something about it. Treatment depends upon a strong support system.

The strongest support that you can give a friend who has a drinking problem is to direct that person to programs that can help him or her. Also, engage him in social activities that don't depend on heavy drinking.

Annual training develops strong friendships through hard work and good times. Don't ruin them by getting a DWI, or by causing an accident that injures you, friends or innocent victims, or by getting punished for drinking while on duty.

Excessive drinking is dangerous to your physical and emotional well-being, and your pocketbook! ■

Drunk drivers could lose vet benefits

According to the Veterans Administration, you or your survivors could be denied VA benefits due to drunk driving. The VA will deny those benefits if a death or injury is determined to be the result of "willful misconduct." VA regulations state that "the willingness to achieve a drunken state and while in this condition to undertake tasks for which unqualified physically and mentally by alcohol is willful misconduct." ■



Col. George W. Koss

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122nd Public Affairs
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COVER PHOTO: After surviving two foggy, drizzly days of PLDC field duty, Sp4 John C. Smith dabs camouflage makeup on Sp4 Joanne T. Boudrieau before the 2nd squad's all-night patrol.

THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
CAMP MURRAY
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Mercy Missions

Guard U-21 medical airlift aids Grandview

By Patricia Fridlund

On a foggy morning at the Yakima Airport, two days before Christmas, 11-year-old Miguel Linares was laid aboard an Army National Guard U-21 airplane and flown to Seattle for an afternoon surgery at the Children's Orthopedic Hospital.

Miguel, a Grandview resident, was confined to his back with a body cast from his ankles to his chest. He had corrective surgery on his legs six weeks ago. His trip to Seattle on Dec. 23 was so that doctors could remove the pins from his legs. Miguel was born without hip joints and with the upper end of both femurs (thigh bones) missing. The rare birth defect has left him shorter than other children his age.

If it weren't for the efforts of Grandview's mayor, the Washington Army National Guard and the Salvation Army, Miguel would have had to make a much longer trip over slick roads lying on the floor of a van.

"With the weather, it's a hard trip flat on the back on a mattress," said Mayor Dale Burgeson, who had heard that the boy's family couldn't afford an ambulance for the trip. Knowing that the Army National Guard provides humanitarian and emergency-type assistance, Burgeson called National Guard Adjutant General Keith Eggen at Camp Murray near Tacoma on Monday.

Guard answers call

Burgeson's call got results. Within two to three hours, he said, he had the transportation problem solved: The Salvation Army in Grandview would transport the boy and his father and brother to the Yakima Airport, and the National Guard would complete the rest of the trip.

The patient arrived at Children's Orthopedic on Tuesday, and the pins were removed from the extension osteotomy of the femurs, according to Dr. L.T. Staheli, Miguel's surgeon. Miguel was put into another body cast, which he will wear for at least a month, until the femurs have healed. Dr. Staheli said he will eventually have a more normal walk and appearance as a result of the corrective surgeries.

Miguel was discharged from the hospital Dec. 24, in time for Christmas.

A fifth grader at Smith School, Miguel has had three operations on his

legs. The first two occurred when he was one year old and again at age 3 in Mexico City where he, his parents and a brother and sister lived.

His mother, Evelia, was a school teacher in Mexico City while his father, Miguel Sr., worked in a textile factory and studied to operate television

cameras.

The family came to the United States on a medical visa for Miguel's third operation which occurred in November at the Children's Orthopedic Hospital in Seattle.

Between operations, Miguel said, he was able to play like other children, his



A Grandview Salvation Army van transported Miguel Linares to the Guard plane waiting at Yakima Airport.



Hours of travel over icy roads were spared by flying Miguel and his family to Children's Orthopedic Hospital in Seattle.

boy

favorite sport being football. Last year, while at Smith School, he placed first in the fourth grade pull-up competition. He plans on winning that competition again this year.

Miguel has been told by his doctors, however, that he will have to learn how to walk again after his most recent surgery.

During his stint out of school, Miguel said he has been tutored at home by a Smith School teacher so that he doesn't fall behind his class. The bright-eyed boy who has learned English in little over a year, said he is anxious to get back to school.

"I like school because I like to learn and because I like to play," he said on his way to the Yakima Airport in the Salvation Army van early Tuesday morning.

His favorite subject at school is math. Another of his favorites is the computers, he said. He has often stayed in at recess so that he could play games on the computers.

With his stint in the cast nearing an end, Miguel is looking forward to sleeping on his stomach after more than six weeks on his back.

"I am counting the days," he said.



Miguel will be on wheels until he re-learns walking skills.

Mike's doing better

After corrective surgery on his legs and about eight weeks at home on his back in a body cast, 11-year-old Miguel Linares returned to school the first of February.

Miguel, whose Americanized name is Mike, said he is glad to be back in school. His classmates and teacher, Tom Jones, seem especially happy to have him back.

Mike's body cast was removed two weeks ago and he is now confined to a wheel chair. He will have to re-learn walking, a process his doctors have told him he may begin in about a month.

In the meantime, his friends at school like to push him around in his wheel chair oftentimes faster than he wants, he said.

"I'm amazed at how tenderly his classmates treat him," said Mr. Jones. ■

(Photos courtesy
Grandview Herald)

Fliers lend a hand to homeless buddy

By Joseph Turner
The Tacoma News Tribune

Thanks to his buddies in the National Guard, Billy Garst has a home for the holidays.

It's no palace, but the downtown hotel room is better than where Garst has spent the past three weeks - standing in line each night hoping to get a bunk at the Last Chance Shelter.

Members of Garst's former Washington National Guard unit came to his aid after learning he had been evicted from his home and was living on the streets of downtown Tacoma. Garst's story was told in a two-part series on street people published in *The News Tribune*.

Employees of the Army Aviation Support Facility at Fort Lewis passed the hat.

"The first day we collected \$84," said Jim Graves, a technician in the support group and a staff sergeant in the Na-

tional Guard's 116th Attack Helicopter Troop stationed at Gray Field. For nine years, Garst had been a helicopter technician in the Guard unit.

It was enough to get a room for a week, buy him dinner and give him cigarette money, Graves said. But it wasn't enough.

"We got him out of the cold for a week, but then we realized a week was gonna put him back on the street on Christmas Eve," Graves said. "So we went back and took up another collection, and everybody was a little more generous. We came up with \$200."

That paid for a month's lodging at the newly renovated Merkle Hotel, as well as for a hot plate, dishes, utensils, a coffee pot, food and some pocket money for cigarettes.

Garst said the help was unexpected. "I was sitting up at the unemployment office going through the listings when two guys walked up to me and

said, 'Don't you recognize us?' " he said. "They said they were gonna try to find me a place. It made me feel good."

Garst said he had planned to spend Christmas at St. Leo's Church, where the homeless can have a holiday meal. But his former neighbors saw him walking toward Goodwill and invited him over for the holiday.

Graves said more fund raising is planned for the first weekend in January, when the 300-member unit holds its monthly drills. Moreover, the unit hopes to set up a fund so the same kind of help extended to Garst can be extended to other homeless people each year.

"If other organizations could take just one person off the streets for the holidays, it could be that we wouldn't have any homeless at this time of year," he said. ■

Family members unite to support Guard

By SFC Doris Nelson

Imagine this scenario!

You hear a news announcement that said there had been an accident at Fort Lewis and that some soldiers were killed and injured.

You know your spouse is at Fort Lewis for an overnigher and you know they were planning to fire weapons. You do not know how to contact the unit to find out if your spouse is OK.

Answer to a problem

Such an accident actually occurred, and as a result of this incident, the spouses of the 3rd Battalion, 161st Infantry (M) identified a need for "something that wasn't there." Out of this need family support groups were born.

Mrs. Kris Horman and Mrs. Jill Liebel, two of the ladies responsible for establishing the family support groups, stated, "The incident promoted a need for communication within the unit families. That's basically where it began for us."

From that need introductions were made over the telephone and some of the spouses started getting together on the company meeting nights.

There were five ladies that were instrumental in establishing family support groups in each unit of the battalion. They are Debi Cates, Arvonna (Sam) Page, Donna Hale, Liebel and Horman. "From there," Kris said, "it has just blossomed. Our spouses were also very instrumental in supporting the beginning of the groups and their continuation."

Kris's husband, Neil Horman, defines a family support group as "a group of volunteer spouses on the unit level that meet to support their Guard member spouse, each other and the unit."

The family support groups are made up of any spouse, girlfriend, parent or family member that wants to become involved. It's strictly a volunteer group.

"It's demanding only to the point that you want to put in your time," said Liebel. "There are no dues, no rank, no initiation, just a need. The only requirement is that a family member is in the National Guard."

In the 3rd Battalion, every company has a family support group. There is at least one spouse from each unit that meets at the battalion on staff call night. "Just whenever they need to meet," said Liebel. "That way there is an exchange of ideas between companies."

The purposes of the family support groups include supporting their spouses' commitment to the National Guard and bringing basic education to the spouses concerning what the Guard is all about. Part of that education includes basic information regarding structure and function of the company and benefits that Guard families have, including PX and commissary privileges. In some cases this has led to car pooling to the commissary and taking a spouse through for the first time to familiarize her with the procedure.

Purposes served

Another purpose of the family support group is to establish a communication network for spouse support to families when Guardsmen are away. Should a situation occur in which a spouse is uncertain where to turn, the support group provides another option for help - be it transportation, information or just someone to talk to.

Additionally, social functions provide camaraderie among unit members and families. These functions are based on each unit's needs and wants. Holiday parties, potluck meals, picnics and community activities are examples of these functions.

At the battalion level, the support groups have been involved with functions such as the battalion picnic, a bus tour to Fort Lewis to view available facilities, and the Sweetheart Dance last February. At the dance, they had a speaker from Washington, D.C., Ms. Dorothy Ogilvy-Lee, who is the National Guard Bureau's representative for family support groups.

The biggest support group project right now is assisting battalion staff in issuing dependent I.D. cards. With the cooperation of staff, the family support groups are visiting one company per drill between January and April in hopes that all dependent I.D.s will be

issued by AT this year. To accomplish this, they have about 12 people who travel with two or three battalion staff members.

"It really helps the battalion," Neil Horman said, "because it's a pre-mobilization function the battalion had to do. The family support group came up with the plan to meet that need for the battalion."

Unifying effect

One of the benefits of family support groups is that they enhance spouse communications. "It gets rid of misunderstandings and reasons for resentments and arguments. People start working together for a common goal," said Neil Horman.

"It has a very unifying effect, not just unitwise but familywise, including children," said Liebel. "They are able to understand and comprehend better exactly what Dad or Mom is doing in the Guard. They are not just taking off to get away from the family."

"Families, through their understanding, are more independent and support the Guardsman's time away from home," said Kris Horman. "The Guardsman can follow through with his commitment to the Guard much better. He can concentrate on his training because he knows his spouse knows where to get help if needed."

For instance, a Guardsman's wife's car broke down when he was out in the field, and she couldn't get to a doctor's appointment. She called someone in the support group and said, "Hey, I've got a problem." They came to help, solved the problem, and everyone was happy.

It was found that having family support groups actually enhanced training. Attendance was increased because there were fewer family problems.

Jill Liebel's husband, Mike, stated that the work of the support group has brought up the retention rate because of a better understanding between the spouses: "The educational benefits for the spouses were fantastic."

Another benefit from the family support groups are that many friendships have developed. "We are reaping the benefits of having a communication



Mrs. Kris Horman describes family support as "caring."

network," said Kris Horman. "Also, many barriers have been broken down," said Jill Liebel.

Starting a support group

According to Jill and Kris, in order to get a group started you need command emphasis. You need communication by telephone, newsletters and flyers. But above all you need the support of the commander and first sergeant.

They also felt that retention NCOs on company and battalion level can really make it happen. MSgt. Daniel Jackson, former retention NCO with the 3rd Battalion, is now with the 144th Transportation Battalion.

"Dan was very instrumental in getting us established," says Kris Horman. "He helped us set limits and advised us on how to relate and function with the companies, battalion and state.

Jackson stated that part of his job in family support is to advise and set

some guidelines. The 144th Transportation Battalion has four ladies right now, and they are working on building family support groups.

"Start with two or three people," said Jackson. "Start small, build successes and do activities they feel good about. Then they can expand the group. Success breeds success," he said.

At the present time, the advisory contact through the 3rd Battalion is SFC Dewey Broderson, area retention NCO. Broderson is essential in keeping communications open between the family support groups and battalion staff.

Another person who has been instrumental in helping the 3rd Battalion support groups is SFC Bill Schuster, a battalion personnel technician. Kris Horman says of Schuster, who has been doing the I.D. cards with the support group: "He's been wonderful. He's been very helpful in working through this with us."



Mrs. Jill Liebel says, "There are no dues, no rank, just a need."

Sources of help

Also to be recognized for their help and support are SFC Edna Britton at Camp Murray, who spent an afternoon teaching them how to issue the I.D. cards; Ms. Dorothy Ogilvy-Lee; Col. Duane Warren, officer in charge of family support in Washington state; and Lt. Col. Mike Beard, officer in charge of retention NCOs.

"We are asking more and more of our soldiers," Jackson said. "It's taking the soldier away from his family. If we can blend family members in with the unit, it tends to make things easier. That's the concept."

Neil Horman sums it up by saying, "The Guard really is a source of pride, and when it can be shared with family, the sheer power of that cannot be beat. Because then you have a family team which is supporting the National Guard."

The best word describing family support is "caring." "We are all in this together," says Kris Horman. ■

Support Services

New commissary policy, new facilities add to

Story & photos by
Sp4 Richard J. Rabe

Still waiting for your December LES? Never fear, there is a reason.

Beginning Jan. 1, 1987, reserve component personnel can shop at the commissary all the year round. But there's a hitch. Although the plan is past the date it was to go into effect, no instructions for implementing it have come from the Defense Department.

Back on Nov. 14, 1986 President Reagan signed into law the FY87 DOD Authorization Bill which provides entitlements of 14 visits per year to commissary stores servicewide to Guard and Reserve members and their families, rather than only during annual training as was previously the case.

For us here in Washington state, that includes the new commissary at Fort Lewis, as well as commissaries at McChord Air Force Base, Fairchild Air Field in Spokane, Naval Base Bangor, Paine Field in Everett, Bremerton Naval Shipyard, and Sand Point Naval Air Station in Seattle.

When your December LES does fall into your hands, on it will be a new stamp detailing the allotted usage you have earned in the prior year. If you began your Reserve or Guard duty in mid-year, "X's" should appear in the last lines of the stamp limiting use on a pro-rata basis. Once that LES arrives, it must be retained for the entire year, as it is the only document to serve as the "admission ticket" to shop at the

commissaries.

According to the officer in charge of carrying out the plan, Maj. Terry Anderson of USPFO, the stamps have already been designed, ordered, made, and delivered at an approximate cost of \$26 a piece.

Anderson went on to point out that if the orders requiring the stamps had not been expedited, a savings of \$21 per stamp could have occurred, down to a cost of \$5 each. Multiplied out over 38 units to receive the stamp and using that number as the average for each state (which Washington happens to be) and counting 53 states and territories, the amount lost in the rush is around \$42,294.00.

The hurry-up-and-wait problem never seems to go away. But rest assured that when you go to AT this summer you won't have to rent a U-Haul to load a full year's worth of groceries from the commissary. Just be sure not to run your LES through the washing machine. ■



Guard auxiliary enhances morale, understanding

By Sgt. Cindy Loughran

"Another weekend, another two days away with the Guard! What about me and the kids?" Sound familiar? It's probably a statement uttered by over half of the spouses of National Guard members as they head off early Saturday morning to 'play soldier' for 48 hours each month.

A steadily growing number of Guard spouses (nearly 100 now), are finding a way to become an active part of the Guard, through a group called the National Guard Association of Washington Auxiliary (NGAWA)

"The main purpose and intent of the NGAWA is to give support to the Guard and most important, to their partners," said Helen Wilkins, a past president of the auxiliary.

"Being a member of the auxiliary helps the morale of the Guardsperson, to know their spouse is supporting them," she said. "Membership is open to all wives or husbands of Army and Air National Guard members.

"The auxiliary is structured like the National Guard Association, with enlisted, officers, Air Guard and Army all

in one. The chapters combine officers and enlisted spouses. There is no discrimination between the ranks, and no rank worn by members. We have retired generals' wives and enlisted wives alike, as part of the group."

Founded in 1973

In 1973 seven enlisted members founded what was to become the NGAWA. Shortly after, they became interested in affiliating nationally, which required them to join the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the U.S. Auxiliary (EANGUSA). The state received its EANGUSA charter on Nov. 2, 1974, making Washington one of 11 national members.

A few years later officers wives asked to join the enlisted auxiliary, and together they formed one of four combined auxiliaries in the United States.

Today, the NGAWA participates in many annual projects, the biggest being the hosting of the Washington Military Academy (WMA) luncheon held at Camp Murray for the cadets and their families. Their second biggest project is helping with the preparations for the National Guard Militia Ball.

Family emphasis

Many activities for Guard members and their families are planned throughout the year by the NGAWA, with increasing attendance. Ten years ago they hosted their first Christmas party for the children of the Guard. Thirty-seven children attended. Last year the total reached nearly 400.

Members can be seen selling donuts at armories occasionally, raising money from sales for their scholarship fund. The scholarship is awarded to a spouse or dependent within the state. They also assisted in the recent family member identification card registration at Camp Murray.

If you're interested in becoming a 'part of the Guard' through the auxiliary, contact one of the chapter presidents and 'get involved in the Guard' by participating in their many activities.

There are three chapters in Washington state. The Evergreen State Chapter, Lorie Johnson president; the Greater Puget Sound Chapter, Eileen MacIntire president; and the Spokane Chapter, Phyllis Rollins president. ■

National Guard family's benefits



Miles of checkout aisles bring smiles to military families shopping for competitive grocery prices at the new Fort Lewis Commissary.



Bakery delights ease the appetites of commissary patrons.



Spacious new frozen food department at Fort Lewis Commissary gives shoppers elbow room while searching for their frosty favorites.

Changes made in top Army Guard positions

By Maj. Don Brunell

The creation of the 66th Combat Aviation Brigade launched a wave of changes in the Washington Army National Guard's top echelons and added a new general officer's position to our state's ranks.

Maj. Gen. Keith Eggen, the adjutant general, tapped 81st Infantry Brigade (M) commander, Brig. Gen. Dan Sullivan, to head the new element which is attached to I Corps, Fort Lewis. Col. Greg Barlow, assistant adjutant general, Army, was promoted to Brigadier General and assigned to command the 81st, while Col. Robert Watling was elevated from chief of staff to assistant adjutant general, Army, and pinned with his first star.



Brig. Gen. Dan Sullivan

Since the capping of the regular Army manpower at 781,000 troops, the Pentagon has chosen to integrate the 440,000 National Guard and 242,000 Army Reserve troops into its scheme of maneuvers. The result has been better equipment and training for the National Guard and opportunities to participate in overseas exercises with the active duty forces.

"The U.S. couldn't go to Grenada without some support units from the reserve components," Sullivan said. "Therefore, we must train with the active forces."

No longer are the so-called "weekend warriors" the unwanted stepchild of their active duty counterparts. The increased National Guard commitment to the total force's readiness requires additional duty time.

Juggling time between family, jobs and the National Guard is tricky and requires good management skills. Barlow, who heads the Seattle-based Medina Foundation, a charitable organization, and Sullivan, director of public affairs and community relations for Sundstrand, a Redmond aviation electronics firm, spend many evenings glued to the telephone or away from home at staff meetings.

Barlow and Sullivan are not unusual, Watling said. "With the increased commitments and need to perform our wartime mission successfully, it is imperative that headquarters provide support and assistance and not just issue directives to field commanders."

Watling, a full-time Guardsman, and former commander of the 540th Aviation Company (AH), sees his job as clearing hurdles and generating support for the Guard. "As the National

Guard expands in size and scope of operations, we must have state, community and family support."

Communicators

Communications provide the vital link necessary to achieve Guard support. Barlow, for example, spends a third of his time talking to higher headquarters, his commanders and the troops in the field. He and Sullivan also jockey time for Seattle area appearances before civic groups.

"There's a new fad in the military called mentorship," the 81st's new commander said. "It's an old axiom which simply means providing guidance and support and allowing the men to do their jobs in the most creative way."

Tutoring or mentoring is paramount in the Guard today, Barlow added. "We have a lot to do and little time to do it. To accomplish our mission, we must have a strong group of field commanders and NCOs who are committed and can lead."

Watling sees his job as garnering outside support for the Guard. He maintains close liaison with National Guard Bureau and state and local governments.



Brig. Gen. Greg Barlow

Barlow, 47, a highly-decorated Vietnam green beret and pilot, has 24 years of military service and commands the largest element of the Washington Army National Guard. One of the new commander's first tasks is integrating his old armor battalion into the 81st. Barlow commanded the 1st Battalion, 803rd Armor, from 1981-84, when it was a round-out unit of the 9th Infantry Division. The unit was reassigned in 1986.

Watling, 54, is a 37-year Washington Army National Guard veteran, who served eight years in the enlisted ranks before being commissioned.

Sullivan, 49, enlisted when he was 18, and also commanded the 1st Battalion, 803rd Armor, before heading the 81st Brigade.

Trio of flyers

The trio has a number of common threads, but the most notable is that they are senior aviators with more than 1,500 flying hours. They share a similar vision — the Guard must be ready to go to war immediately if called.



Brig. Gen. Robert Watling

As the Washington National Guard grows and attracts new units, modern equipment and additional facilities are essential. "Growth means more state and federal funds, and communities that want armories located there."

"We're selling the benefits of Guard to the community," Watling added. "The Guard attracted more than \$392 million in federal expenditures to Washington during Fiscal Year 1986."

The Army Guard now has **four** generals promoting programs and preparedness that significantly impact the well being of citizens in both this state and this nation. ■

Lawyer credits degree to military assistance

By SFC Doris Nelson

SSgt. Michael E. Ferrell, a legal clerk with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 144th Transportation Battalion had an aspiration to become a lawyer.

After eight straight years of schooling, Ferrell, with the help of the Army's educational system has reached his goal. "The Army has provided me the opportunity to participate in education," said Ferrell.

Started in Korea

Ferrell became interested in law during his active duty tour in Korea and then later at Fort Lewis. Working as a legal clerk for military lawyers inspired him to pursue a career in law.

After leaving active duty in 1977, Ferrell went to the University of Louisville, Kentucky (1978-1979) and entered the legal assistance program. He came back to Tacoma the following year (1979-1980) to attend Fort Steilacoom Community College, where he received an AAS degree, in legal assistance.

From 1980-1982 Ferrell attended Central Washington University, receiving a B.A. degree in law and justice. His graduate program took him first to Pacific Lutheran University (1982-1983) and then to the University of Puget Sound Law School (1983-1986), where he completed his Juris Doctor of law degree.

Throughout his schooling, Ferrell continued his military career, from active Army to Army Reserve and then Army National Guard. He has 14 years of total service and he says, "I am going to stay in for a long time."

Education benefits

School funding for Ferrell came from various sources including (1) Veteran's G.I. Bill active duty benefits of \$14,000, (2) National Guard Tuition Assistance Program with tuition reimbursement up to \$750 per quarter, (3) Student Loan Repayment Program, \$10,000 maximum through the National Guard, and (4) scholarships, grants, and working.

Ferrell stated that the National Guard Tuition Program is phasing out, but other means of funding are still available such as the new G.I. Bill, ACES (Army Continuing Education

System), and the Student Loan Repayment Program.

During Ferrell's three years of law school at the University of Puget Sound, he worked as a legal intern at the law offices of Beverly Johnson in Tacoma. There he acquired valuable firsthand experience in law.

He passed his bar exam in July 1986 and in October 1986 he was sworn in as an attorney licensed to practice law in the state of Washington.

In November 1986 he went to the office of Beverly Johnson, where he is a full-fledged attorney. Ferrell said his



SSgt. Michael E. Ferrell reflects on eight long years of schooling.

practice included employment discrimination under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, wrongful termination, workman compensation, general area of labor law, criminal defense and general practice of law.

Supreme Court next

In December 1986, he was admitted to the Federal District Court in Washington. He is presently applying for admission to the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco.

Ferrell's next goal is to apply for admission to the U.S. Supreme Court. He stated that it requires three years experience as an attorney before anyone can apply for admission. "In 1989 I can then apply for admission to practice, and I'm looking forward to that day," says

Ferrell.

In the Army National Guard, besides being a legal clerk and a retention NCO, he is a member of the state's civil disturbance team, unit NBC team, and a member of the Washington Army National Guard Association. "The association has done so much for us in lobbying for our benefits," said Ferrell.

Military goals

Ferrell's military career goals are just as ambitious as his civilian goals.

His military goals are to seek to become a JAG officer in the National Guard or Reserve, or pick up a commission as a warrant officer, or seek an E-7 position for career progression. But he says he is in a dilemma because he wants career progression, but he really likes the 144th.

"They have been very supportive," said Ferrell. He would like to recognize Maj. Claire Hopkins, Capt. John Fitzgerald, former HHC commanders; MSgt. Barry Caskins, and SFC Connie Byzinker. "All have been supportive at different points of time," said Ferrell. The unit allowed him to take alternative AT periods so he could go to school.

Ferrell further stated, "I do not mean to exclude other people not named who have also been very supportive. I extend sincere thanks and appreciation to them also."

Ferrell had definite goals in his life, and he fought to bring these goals to reality. He said it took a lot of hard work, sweat, and dedication.

"Class after class, hour after hour, for eight straight years. Discipline," said Ferrell, "is doing what you have to do when you don't want to do it, but know you have to do it, so you go on and do it anyway."

Ferrell is married and has four children. "The family has also been very supportive," said Ferrell.

"I am very serious about my work. People entrust their problems to me," said Ferrell. He is conscious of his duty to provide legal service, and he is also conscious of his duty in the National Guard. "I enjoy serving the Guard," said Ferrell.

Ferrell is a young man who set goals and took advantage of the Guard's available means to accomplish those goals. ■



Sgt. Vicki Fehrs (right) of the 1041st 'begs to differ' with Sgt. Nancy Lair of the 1161st, but these administrators of sister units at the Ephrata Armory have a lot in common.

Ephrata boasts top Connelly, maintenance units

By Capt. David Matthews

Sisters are famous for fierce loyalties and competitive rivalries.

Sister trucking units operating out of the Ephrata Armory, the 1161st and 1041st Transportation Companies, certainly live up to those expectations.

Even the unit administrators – Sgt. Nancy Lair and Sgt. Vicki Fehrs – have been mistaken for sisters.

"We're confused with one another," says Fehrs, "but shouldn't be because she needs a milk box to stand on to approximate my height." The blonde Fehrs is a head taller than her red-headed counterpart.

Even though the units recruit against one another, compete for mess and maintenance and other awards, and share facilities like sisters might share clothes or a room, loyalty wins out over rivalry most of the time.

"When Vicki was on maternity leave," says Lair, "I dug into her files to answer callers' questions. And when I was gone for training, Vicki was able to do my unit's payroll for me because our files are set up the same."

"In fact," says Fehrs, "I think the reason that they don't send the two units to the same place is because Nancy and I have so much fun together."

But "fun" is not the whole story.

"We have a good competitive rivalry between us," says MSgt. Richard Spence, 1161st first sergeant. "We have drilled together more and more, sharing classrooms, the drill floor, cleanup, the use of cooks – while still maintaining unit integrity. We train together, providing each other aggressors."

The results of this cooperation speak for themselves. The 1041st bested the 1161st mess for the state Connelly Award (the 1161st finished third), then went on to win at 6th Army level and completed at Fort Lewis Apr. 5 for All-Army best mess honors. The best part of the story, however, is the rapid rise of the 1161st mess section.

"Two years ago we weren't even selected to compete," says 1st Lt. Tony Velasquez, 1161st commander. "But the 1041st helped us from their experience and suddenly we're up to third."

The 1041st's dominance in Connelly

has been matched by the 1161st's maintenance section. Under the guidance of CWO 2 Ken Dawson, SFC Larry Riebli, and SSgt. Darrel Hogge, the 1161st has won "best maintenance section in the state" honors two years running. The runner-up both years? The 1041st.

Both units have equalled this kind of performance in serving the Ephrata community with trucking services that have brought citations, letters of appreciation, and the like.

Both units have provided opportunities for women in the Guard, with nine women per unit currently, including several office positions.

Both units haul beans and bullets with the very best to faraway places like Fort Irwin, California and Gowan Field, Idaho.

Based on their performance, it should be no surprise that National Guard Bureau has plans afoot to put these truckers on the ground in Korea soon. They've already traveled a long way together. ■

Car-pooling commanders conquer Cascades

By Capt. David Matthews

Car pooling for commanders from trucking companies with identical TOEs must be something like riding to the big game with the rival coach.

When that ride begins in Bellevue or Tacoma and terminates in Ephrata, there is plenty of opportunity to "scout" the opposition.

Capt. Daniel P. Hughes of the 1041st Transportation Company can grill 1st Lt. Tony Velasquez, commander of the 1161st, on how his people have won two straight "best maintenance section in the state" awards, while Velasquez seeks pointers on how the 1041st took the Connelly Award for "best mess section."

The commute over Snoqualmie Pass begins about 3 p.m. on a Friday night, so that the commanders can be at Ephrata Armory—the home they share—for meetings, especially ones with the instructors who will present the weekend's training.

The car pool includes 2nd Lt. Michael Kappes, 2nd platoon leader for the

1161st, who once experienced with Velasquez the indignity of commuting in weather so bad one Sunday that Ellensburg was as close to home as they could get.

"We hit whiteout conditions," Velasquez said. "It was too dangerous to push it; it was better to be safe and comfortable."

Velasquez assumed his command in August of 1985. Why did he choose a unit clear across the state, with potentially dangerous commutes?

"Easy," said Velasquez, "some captains would drive all the way to Spokane, just to get a command. I found that coming here would be easier in the long run.

"I used to live in Ephrata, enlisted here in the 1041st, and I knew what the opportunity was here."

The opportunity beckoning was the proud 1161st's tradition of three Eisenhower Awards, an award not given annually and only given to one unit per state per year.

Not bad, and yet Hughes' unit, the



1161st's 1st Lt. Tony Velasquez. (Photo by SSgt. Dave Largent)

1041st, receives higher priority for personnel and equipment because it rates an earlier mobilization date.

Both commanders do steady business by phone during the week.

It all works out well, until Hughes brings up an annoying fact: the 1041st won the softball game at annual training last summer!

But at least the two companies worked together in the basketball game against Ephrata High School. So they lost—you can't win them all. But these companies have come closer to that goal than most. ■

Specialist earns 'Dog Tag Mary' nickname

Story and photo by SFC Doris Nelson

Known at DCSPA, STARC Headquarters, Camp Murray, as "Dog Tag Mary" or "DT," Sp4 Mary Mathis earns her nickname by punching out tags by the 100s.

Mathis makes dog tags when she isn't performing her clerk-typist duties.

Last year she moved from Spokane to Tacoma and began working full time for the Guard at Camp Murray on Dec. 29, 1986.

"I had a lot of dog tags to make," said Mathis. "They didn't have anyone to

make them before. I don't know how long it took me to catch up," she said.

Mathis makes four dog tags for each person, two for the individual and two for the mobilization file. A unit or individual may request dog tags. She says she gets requests on different forms although she does have a form that lists individual's name, social security number, blood type and group, and religious preference.

"I came across religions I never heard of," said Mathis. "I didn't realize that there were so many."

"I like to get the dog tags done as soon as I get the requests," said Mathis.

She even had a soldier from Fort Lewis come over to get a dog tag made because he was getting ready for an inspection and couldn't wait a week to have it done at Fort Lewis.

Mathis previously lived in Spokane and worked as a temporary technician at Geiger Field, but drilled in Ephrata with the 1161st Transportation Company. With the 1161st she worked as a clerk in the maintenance section.

She then transferred from Ephrata to Camp Murray for a full-time Guard position. She likes it here, but finds it's "hard to get used to the rain."

Besides taking care of her clerk typist duties and making dog tags, Mathis takes care of DCSPA travel arrangements. Next year she says she will be traveling to different battalions throughout the state explaining a new weight control regulation and explaining a new recordkeeping system that will replace the functional files they now have.

Mathis' duties are diversified but if you need a dog tag, or need to have information changed on your tag, or you need a medical tag, you can contact Mathis at Camp Murray (581-8248). ■



"Dog Tag Mary," Sp4 Mary Mathis, has given up trucking for personnel work.

Airborne 'gas attack' powders 181st

By Sgt. Don Green

It was a quiet winter afternoon at Fort Lewis. The 181st Support Battalion was in the midst of its annual field training exercise.

Suddenly the unmistakable noise of a UH-1 (Huey) came from a distance.

"WHOPP! WHOPP! WHOPP!"

Helicopter noise is common on any Army post, but the Seattle unit had a funny feeling about this bird. They'd been warned they might be gassed.

As the chopper drew nearer and the racket caused by the rotorblades frantically slapping the air grew unbearable, the troops knew it was time to reach for their protective masks.

GAS! GAS! GAS! was the battle cry!

Then the helicopter crew cut loose with a white cloud of talcum powder — 100 pounds of it to be exact.

WHOOSH! The white stuff covered the greenery like a dusting of Mount St. Helens' volcanic ash.



The M-5 gas unit is loaded with 100 lbs. of talcum powder for the simulated attack. (Photo by Sgt. Don Green)



The enemy from above unloads 'lethal gas' on ground troops. (Photo by Sp4 Richard J. Rabe)

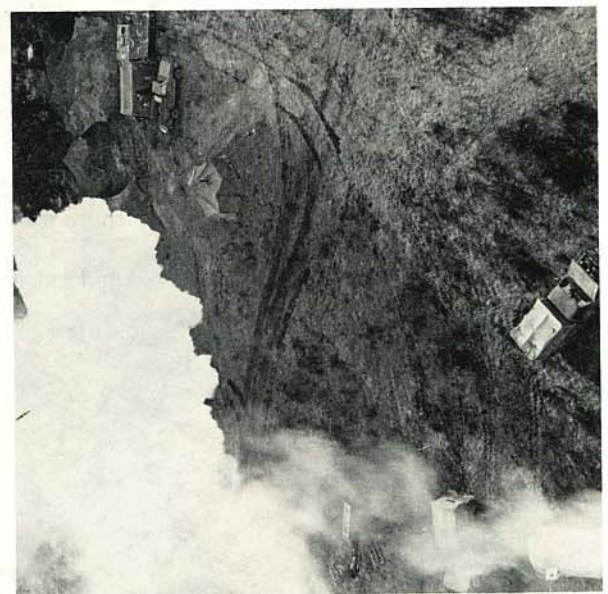
There was little time to react. But that's the way it is in combat. Soldiers must don their masks in split seconds and check them out to insure no lethal agent penetrates.

The man responsible for the NBC

(nuclear, biological and chemical) exercise is Maj. Richard Casey, state chemical officer. "We use talcum powder to simulate chemical attacks during field exercises rather than CS or



SSgt. Ed Smith explains that a proper-fitting mask is essential for protection. (Photo by Sp4 Richard J. Rabe)



A billowing white cloud of "gas" descends on the troops in a matter of seconds. (Photo by Sgt. Don Green)

tear gas. CS lingers in the area too long."

The M-5 riot control agent dispenser is mounted in the helicopter and talcum powder is forced out by compressed air. The unit is used for riot control and can be mounted in a vehicle as well as aircraft.

During annual training at Yakima, troops may get a dose of the real thing—CS.

Casey said there has been more emphasis on NBC warfare in the last few years and training is geared to prepare for the "real thing."

"We used to go to the gas chamber, pop a couple of canisters of tear gas and have the troops put on their masks," Casey said. The emphasis today in the active and reserve components is to integrate NBC training into exercises.

Even though Casey is not the most popular man in town after a "gas attack," he takes his job seriously. He is more than willing to assist units to weave NBC training into their field exercises.

However, commanders shouldn't worry about calling Casey because most of the time he's got "your number." ■



Sp4 David Soeterberg gets an assist in donning MOPP gear. (Photo by Sp4 Richard J. Rabe)



At times, it takes "two to tango" with MOPP gear. (Photo by Sp4 Richard J. Rabe)

Casey's target: modify current MOPP plan

By SSgt. Bob Rosenburgh

Maj. Richard A. Casey, the state chemical officer, is a man with a plan. Among his many well-defined goals is the intent to change the traditional focus of NBC training programs.

"In the past, NBC training has been conducted as a special event," says Casey, "as a block of instruction in a classroom or as a masking exercise in formation. I want it to become commonplace and integrate NBC skills into the soldier's daily routine!"

What that means, he explained, is not to preempt all other training, but to make these basic battlefield survival skills second nature to the troops who will need them.

"The Mission Oriented Protective Posture, or MOPP, should not be considered a 'uniform of the day' wherein everyone wears all their gear at the same time," Casey said. "Each soldier has a different mission in a different environment and needs some flexibility in wearing MOPP equipment." As an example, Casey pointed to the problems faced by aviators.



Maj. Richard Casey gives the M-5 gas unit a final check before attacking. (Photo by Sgt. Don Green)

"When a pilot is wearing his protective mask, MOPP suit, gloves and overboots, he loses a good deal of his tactile senses, so safety and performance may suffer. It's not essential, however, that they wear everything while flying. The gloves, boots and sometimes even the mask can be removed while the pilot is enclosed within the aircraft, then put back on before dismounting."

Casey, who coordinates the activities of his counterparts at Troop Command, the 81st, and the new 66th Combat Aviation Brigade, recognizes that NBC operations are a strong combat multiplier.

"Our biggest change is a complete rewrite of NBC doctrine and equipment. We now have better skin decontamination equipment, and lighter and more portable decontamination apparatus. The M-17A2 protective mask is greatly improved over previous models and we're constantly improving on our protective posture." ■



Students from Chewelah's Jenkins High School rioted for realism during CIDTEP training for Guard soldiers of B Company, 1st Battalion, 161st Infantry.



Guard riot troops 'kept their cool' as the action heated up. (Photos courtesy of Statesman-Examiner)

Guard tested at the Battle of Chewelah

By SSgt. Ronald Wright

A patrol of National Guardsmen turns the corner, suddenly 'shots' ring out. One Guardsman is down, another limps into an alley for safety. Hurriedly, his voice breaking, the platoon leader radios the command post. "Sniper fire, corner 4th and Main. Two of my men are wounded."

The response is swift. In minutes city police and National Guard units are on the scene. Approaching streets and alleys are sealed off. The building housing the 'sniper' is surrounded. A National Guard M113 armored personnel carrier is moved into position.

Scenes from AMERIKA? No, this was the mission of Company B, 1st. Battalion, 161st Infantry (M), Colville, Washington. Simulated, of course, at their annual CIDTEP (Civil Disturbance Training Evaluation Program) training.

The idea of using a real town, its citizens, local police and EMTs (Emergency Medical Teams) for CIDTEP training was the brainchild of Com-

pany B's commanding officer, Capt. Michael Johnson.

In December 1986 SFC Richard Cismonski, area recruiter, and SSgt. Ronald Wright, company training NCO, began the preparation and coordination.

A scenario of events was laid out and coordinated with local officials and residents. With the cooperation of Jim Murphy, chief of police, and Ginger Liebel, head of the EMT units, students from Chewelah's Jenkins High School were enlisted as actors.

Two weeks were spent on briefings and safety training with the students. They were instructed to throw snowballs and balls made from tape. Said Wright, "We didn't want any Guardsmen getting hurt or upset and maybe hurting one of the students."

"Safety for all, Guardsmen, students and local residents was of major concern," Wright said. Safety NCOs led by Company B 1st. Sgt. Elton Smith gave last-minute briefings and stood by to make sure the situation was under con-

trol at all times.

Training on tactics and movements began at 7 p.m., Friday, Feb. 6. The Stevens County Sheriffs Department provided instruction in how to search suspects.

With the exception of key personnel, members of Company B knew only that they would be moving to Chewelah sometime Saturday morning. They were unaware of the realism of the training which had been in the planning for months.

Saturday, 5 a.m., reveille. More training, then at 9 a.m., the company loaded into 5-tons provided by the battalion support platoon for the 23-mile trip.

Escorted by a Stevens County deputy sheriff, the convoy moved down Highway 395 into Chewelah. The stage was set.

Training realism

Soldiers packing full field gear and weapons set up security positions in the city park. Platoon sergeants are briefed on the upcoming events. Two patrols start moving toward the local high school. After a few blocks, 'shots' are heard. A 'sniper attack!' Men are wounded. The patrol alerts the CP by radio. City police, backed up by Guardsmen in an M113, respond.

Under cover of the M113, EMTs transport the wounded to the hospital. Soon the sniper is apprehended and the patrol continues toward the high school.

Small groups of students begin gathering, protesting the government's lack of concern for the town's economic condition. They see the soldiers and begin to shout and make threatening gestures.

Police attempts to quiet and disperse the students fail. The crowd continues to grow and become more vocal. Frustrated, they begin to hurl objects at the Guardsmen. Soon police and Guardsmen have isolated the instigators and the crowd begins to disperse.

The exercise concludes without mishap. The company has gained valuable experience in responding to various civil disturbance situations, and developed an outstanding rapport with local residents and officials of Chewelah.

"Company B intends to continue this type of realistic training," said Wright. "But as well as this mission went, it will be hard to top next time." ■

New antennas extend commo

By Capt. Stephen Crowell

Construction crews from the 215th Engineering Installation Squadron, Paine Field accomplished hands-on construction training while installing four 70-foot antenna support poles at Camp Murray during the March UTA.

The antenna support poles will add high frequency antenna farm support capability for the 256th Combat Communications Squadron and 252nd Combat Communication Group.

Addition of the antenna farm will allow up to three simultaneous high frequency voice network communication links to operate among Washington Air Guard communications units. Addi-

tionally, it will allow a voice-teletype "long-haul" circuit for communication outside the state.

"Our crews received valuable proficiency training on the low-profile antenna maintenance truck, as well as upgrade training for several crew members," said TSgt. Robert G. Schumer, team chief in charge of the construction. "They also performed task qualification training in full chemical warfare gear."

The antenna farm will be fully operational by early May and will enhance training for both the 215th EIS and 256th CCS as well as add valuable radio communication capability. ■



A1C Al Talley and TSgt. Jim Cornell "bust rocks" to keep their auger bit drilling freely. (Photo by MSgt. Harvey Tattel)

Guardsmen and British hit Pt. Robinson

By SSgt. Bob Rosenburgh

The first time they were in a naval action was in 1794 when they raked the decks of the French fleet firing their muskets from an English man-of-war under the command of Lord Howe. The second time, only 193 years later, the Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment of the British Army engaged in amphibious assault exercises with the WashARNG's 144th Transportation Battalion.

The 1 WFR, or 'Woofers' as they call themselves, are in the United States on exercise TRUMPET DANCE 87. TRUMPET DANCE is an annual exercise hosted by Fort Lewis since 1983. Each year, I Corps hosts, consecutively, two battalions of the British Army.

These maneuvers provide the Brits

with training areas vastly larger than those available in the UK. They also find the firing ranges at the fort and Yakima Firing Center are bigger and more effective for live-fire training. They can train in a variety of environments from forest, desert, mountain and arctic to seaborne operations. That's where the 144th lent their expertise.

The amphibious operations were conducted on Feb. 13 and 19 with different companies of the 1 WFR. The purpose was to orient and familiarize British troops with loading vehicles on the LCM8s, transfer at sea from the freight ship *Betsy Ross* onto the LCM8s, and beach assault landings.

With the troops on board, the ship got underway about 10:45 a.m. while an LCM8 loaded British vehicles

at Fort Lewis' Owen Beach. Two more landing craft from the 1118th Transportation Company moved out on line with the *Betsy Ross*. By the time they reached Point Robinson, the site for a practice daytime assault, the four vessels had successfully rendezvoused.

And hit the beach they did. The daytime practice runs at Point Robinson came off without a hitch. The 'Woofers' transferred back to the freight ship and by the time Solo Point was in sight, the sun had dropped over the horizon and everyone was set for the night landing.

The English troops once again embarked onto the landing boats as a light rain began to fall, adding yet another element to the training. One by one, the LCM8s eased onto the beach and dropped their ramps in the dark without benefit of lights or flares. Even the running lights were out during the assault.

Quietly and quickly, the Brits ran down the ramps to defensive positions ashore. As fast as they came, the boats eased back out into the sound and regrouped for the trip back to Pier 23.

Mission accomplished. The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters would continue their training on shore, assaulting their objective and then road marching back to Fort Lewis. The 144th, however, would dock their vessels and leave them ready for the next exercise with the British or whoever else may need them. ■



Sporting a fixed bayonet and plenty of camouflage, a British soldier assaults the objective. (Photo by SSgt. Bob Rosenburgh)

More Training

PLDC is 'do-it-yourself' leadership kit

Story & photos by
SFC Joe Zambone

It's possible to throw months of classroom training at junior leaders and still end up without capable NCOs, because book-learnin' is one thing and down-dirty, hands-on training is another.

But the Washington Military Academy (WMA) has a solution to that fact of human nature. They let a select number of junior NCOs dive into a heap of realism during their Primary Leadership Development Course (PLDC) held twice-yearly at Camp Murray, and annually at Yakima and Spokane.

"We don't just let them get involved,"

said Camp Murray PLDC's 1st Sgt. Chuck Redwine. "We pretty much **force** them into using leadership skills, especially during their week-long field phase. That part is real down-dirty."

"We didn't devise the PLDC program all by ourselves," explained SGM Reed Jarvis, commandant of WMA's Non-Commissioned Officer Education System (NCOES). "Guard Bureau worked on it for several years, and we were chosen to run one of five pilot courses back in the fall of 1983. Data gathered from five states went into the final program used today.

"PLDC rolls the old Primary NCO Course and Basic NCO Course into one," continued Jarvis. "It's a basic phase, aimed at E-4 and E-5 soldiers who are about to be promoted one grade. We also accept a few sharp PFCs who show leadership promise."

PLDC starts in either January or July at Camp Murray, with as many as 48 students who are recommended by their unit's leaders. Spokane and Yakima classes start each January.

"For the first four months our students come to Camp Murray for their drill weekend," explained Redwine. "They learn everything from vehicle maintenance to map reading. They practice close-order drill, take turns giving the commands, and learn to deal with the paperwork junior leaders come up against on duty.

"This is also when the squads blend together as teams. For example, we make squads choose one of their number to be an honor graduate, subject to cadre approval. It's difficult for relative strangers to decide on something like that, but that's how they learn to get along with each other, to take a back seat if someone else is better able to get the job done. They learn agreement and sacrifice by making such group decisions."

Thirty wide-smiling students graduated from the most recent PLDC class on Nov. 23, 1986. They'd endured an intensive program, exposing them to as much leadership training as they'd likely get in several years of duty with their units.

Evergreen caught up with these junior leaders during their field phase, a time of toil and drizzle in the tall timber at I Corps' NCOES area on North Fort Lewis. We spent most of our time with the 2nd squad's 10 members and their cadre trainers, SFC Cliff Ervin and SSgt. Bob Nurmi.

Monday was devoted to classroom safety refreshers and preparing students mentally for the rigors ahead. "We hit the woods early Tuesday," chuckled Ervin, "running a land navigation course all day. It rained sideways. Boy, was it miserable, but no one complained. What a great bunch of youngsters!"

Wednesday was preparation for the



Preparing maps for the land navigation course is one of many jobs SSgt. Gayle Foote, operations NCO, handles during each PLDC cycle.

three-day Field Training Exercise (FTX), a realistic non-stop peek into the miseries of combat which started early Thursday and ended Saturday afternoon.

Students pitched tents and lived in the field. They dug fortifications, set up defensive positions, learned camouflage, made maps and stayed damp. Patrolling was advanced to a fine art, with an all-night romp in the boondocks which resulted in a group of bleary-eyed students at first light.

"We were up about 36 hours all told," said weary Sp4 Joanne Boudrieau, whose Guard job, oddly enough, is personnel clerk and administrative NCO for Camp Murray's PLDC.

"I wouldn't want to go through this again," she added, "but I'm glad I did because now I understand what our students have to endure in PLDC. It's rough, but it's worth it."

"I second that motion," said Sp4 John Smith, A Company, 181st Support Battalion, who was half asleep after the grueling day-night-day schedule. "I thought I knew everything after going through 'Nam, but they taught me a few

things here."

PLDC has been in operation for only a year or so. This was the second cycle to graduate from Camp Murray, a total of four for the state. Three cycles are currently running, with over 100 junior leaders getting a hefty dose of hands-on learning.

The Spokane and Yakima PLDC programs are separate during the four-month classroom phase, but combine at Yakima Firing Center in May for their week of field duty.

"We'd sure like to get some more good instructors," said Chuck Redwine. "We try to maintain a six-to-one ratio of students to cadre trainers, which is usually two cadre per squad of 13.

"Trainers usually do double drills," added Redwine, "which means they earn some extra money for their hard work."

Soldiers in junior grades should ask their Training NCO about attending PLDC. NCOs in grades E-6 or E-7 who are interested in joining the trainer team should contact Maj. Tommy Harmon at WMA, Camp Murray, commercial phone (206) 581-8230. ■



Sp4 John Smith dabs camouflage on Sp4 Edward Dalton before an all-night patrol.



Two bone-weary but happy GIs trudge through smoke and drizzle after a successful early morning assault during the PLDC field exercise.

What's New

Washington Army Guard is computerized

By Lt. Col. Jerry Wilkins

The Washington Army National Guard began training in October 1985 for the two primary computer systems which are being used in most of its units today. And my, oh my! Look what has happened in those short 14 months!

It seems like yesterday when everyone was talking about the classes that were to be given for training on the new computers. It was exciting, and a little intimidating for some people, to sit down before a computer system that looked ominous and very uninviting. But, this was going to be the tool to help us work better, and get more accomplished.

And so they were all installed, with word processing, database management, spreadsheet and communication training. The Intel 310 user systems were located at each battalion headquarters, each major command headquarters and at the state headquarters level.

Personal computers were installed at 56 units and maintenance facilities located away from the battalion or major command headquarters.

The response in the field ranged from "You'll never catch me on that thing again," to the wife calling the unit and saying, "Honey, it's 11:30 p.m., don't you think you should come home for the evening?"

Maj. Larry Gratton, management information systems officer, succeeded in the challenge of tying the whole system together, utilizing two totally different databases.

With subordinate units as far as 200 miles away from the battalion headquarters and battalions the same distance away from their higher units, well-established procedures are a key to communicate reports and data among all. Through Gratton's efforts, units are not too far away from being

able to submit electronically a request for orders by the administrative clerk at detachment level, with all the pertinent personnel data, through four levels of command to state headquarters.

As the request passes through each level of command, it is reviewed, approved and then forwarded to the next higher level. When it reaches the state level, appropriate funding will be provided and the request goes straight to word processing for order cutting.

This same process could apply to just about any functional area, to include training schedules, supply requests and general correspondence.

The DCSOPS for the Washington Army National Guard implemented a Trainers' Users Group (TUG) for the state. Members of this group include both officers and enlisted soldiers. The TUG meeting reviews the current status of the state's computer implementation plan and provides a forum to share current ideas and developments going on in the field. They also submit training applications throughout the state.

Other user groups have been formed. The Logistics Users Group (LUG), the Personnel Users Group (PUG), and the Support Personnel Users Group (SPUG). Someone suggested starting a Senior Management Users Group (SMUG), but they couldn't get anyone to join until the name was changed.

Beyond the institutional rewards of implacing the dynamics of computers within the state is the personal growth and development of many Guardsmen and women, dedicated to putting the systems to work.

Many trials and tribulations have been encountered and many more will probably come. But the cost of the time and effort will be offset by the use of the tools provided to be more efficient and productive in the work of the Guard. ■

AUTOVON system is being replaced

AUTOVON is currently being replaced by the Defense Switched Network, and the probability of gaining access off the installation will be as high as 90 percent. That's because the Department of Defense, through the Defense Communications Agency, will assume responsibility for the access lines.

"The Defense Commercial Telecom-

munications Network portion of the Defense Switched Network in the continental United States has already increased the quality of service dramatically while ensuring the installations don't pay more than they currently do for AUTOVON," said Nicholas Brienza, of the Defense Communications Agency. ■

Guard builds new UTES

By SFC Doris Nelson

A \$2.5 million project is underway to construct a new UTES (Unit Training Equipment Site) facility for the Army National Guard.

This new facility is being built by Pease Construction Company of Tacoma at the Logistic Center at Fort Lewis.

Col. Harry L. Mayfield, Jr., director of facilities engineering, said there were several advantages to having the new UTES at Fort Lewis: "It is closer to training areas, and it eliminates movement of tanks and other vehicles across the freeway."

Perhaps of equal importance was the fact the project qualified for 100 percent federal funding. The new UTES, designed by a Tacoma Architect Engineering firm, Merrit-Pardini, is estimated to be completed July 17, 1987.

The site sits on 12 acres with the new complex itself covering seven acres. There will be nine workbays with the capability of expansion to 12 workbays. The track parking area will be paved, roller-compacted concrete, while the wheel vehicle area will be asphalt concrete pavement.

Other features of the new site will include a state-of-the-art wash rack and fuel island. A containment reservoir for fuel spills and a covered scheduled-maintenance platform will also enhance the new facility.

CWO 4 Francis J. McCollum will be the UTES shop chief. McCollum is very excited about the new facility: "It will be such an improvement over the conditions we work under now."

As for the old UTES site at Camp Murray, Mayfield said there were several possible uses. "It could become Camp Murray's organizational maintenance facility; a facility for Company D, 181st Support Battalion; Camp Murray's Historical Museum; or other possibilities." ■

Educate yourself about GI Bill

Story by Sgt. Cindy Loughran

The GI Bill is nothing new. It has been in effect in some way or another for the past 40 years. But this is the first time it's become available for National Guard members. Congress passed the law initiating the bill in July 1985.

Officers in the National Guard must achieve a minimum 60 semester hours of college by Oct. 1, 1989, and educational requirements may soon be placed on enlisted personnel, for promotion to a higher rank. Enter: the College Education Program (CEP), under the New GI Bill.

According to 1st Lt. George J. Stephanik, education services specialist at Camp Murray, all four-year colleges in the state of Washington were contacted last year, requesting their help in setting up college courses to help achieve the upcoming required education.

"Compiling the information received from the schools, the state was divided geographically into four regions. In Seattle, City University was selected; St. Martins College in Olympia; Heritage College of Toppenish in the Yakima area; and Eastern Washington University in the Spokane area. Today, these schools teach courses in National Guard armories in their area.

"We can offer classes anywhere in the state of Washington within our armories. It's not limited to the sites we are currently working with," said Stephanik.

Any National Guard unit can request education through the college degree program, to be taught in their armory. If there is enough interest shown, they can contact the Education Services Office for information to get the classes started.

"To comply with the requirement of at least half-time attendance to qualify for the New GI Bill, we came up with a method of eight weeks, two nights a week, and the number of hours determined by the Veterans Administration and the school, to qualify for half-time status.

"It's very unique. I had the opportunity to go to the National Guard Bureau and explain to them what we have here and the acceptance of it," Stephanik said.

Not only are Guard members able to take upper-level courses, but so are community members. The adjutant

general opened the courses up to the public, not affiliated with the Guard. "We see this as a great means of rapport with the community. Of course they pay on a non-funded basis for the courses they take," said Stephanik.

Another program offered - Army Continuing Education System (ACES) - is for the Guard member working full-time who wants to complete his education on a part-time basis. It is not intended to compete or be used with the New GI Bill, and is limited to students taking one or two courses per semester, or courses the Washington Army National Guard College Education Program (CEP).

To be eligible for the New GI Bill, you must be a high-school graduate, GED or equivalent; complete 180 calendar days of National Guard ser-

vice (six months from the date of enlistment); complete initial entry training; be a satisfactory participant and have enlisted, extended or reenlisted for six years after July 1, 1985.

If you already have a bachelor's degree, are receiving an ROTC scholarship, or if you cannot extend your enlistment for six years, you are not eligible to receive the New GI Bill.

The New GI Bill may be used only for pursuit of an associate or bachelor's degree. It will provide up to \$5,040.00 in benefits, paid directly to the student.

Benefits are paid at \$140.00 per month for full-time students; \$105.00 per month for three quarter-time; and \$70.00 per month for half-time students. Payments are made until the allowed amount has been used.

For more information call (206) 581-8899; SCAN line 431-1899. ■

105th wins Mission Support Trophy

By Lt. Col. Glenn K. Rice

The 105th Tactical Control Squadron, Washington Air National Guard, located near Cheney, Wash. was recently honored with the Mission Support Trophy at the National Guard Association of the United States Convention in Nashville, Tenn.

The Mission Support Trophy is presented by the NGAUS to the outstanding non-flying unit in the Air National Guard.

The 105th Tactical Control Squadron (TCS) was selected from over 70 eligible units throughout the nation. Each competing unit was judged on the basis of its overall operational readiness during the previous year, as well as its performance in relation to all other Air National Guard non-flying units.

Selection was based upon such criteria as operational readiness inspections; special missions, deployments, and exercises; outstanding accomplishments; unit manning levels; attendance at drills; retention of personnel; and skill proficiency qualification.

Also recognized at the NGAUS Convention was MSgt. Jack C. Powell, a 105th TCS member from Spokane, Wash. Powell received the Clarence W. Long Award, which is presented to the outstanding logistics non-commissioned officer in the Air National Guard.

Powell, receiving the Meritorious Service Medal, was cited by an Inspec-



MSgt. Jack C. Powell

tor General for having developed the best logistics plan office in the Air National Guard Tactical Air Control Systems. The Inspector General also recommended to Headquarters Tactical Air Command that five mobility management programs developed by Powell be implemented for use by the Air National Guard.

Powell is a recognized expert on the Contingency Operation Mobility Planning and Execution System programs and maintains it with 100 percent accuracy.

The 105th, commanded by Lt. Col. Glenn K. Rice, consists of nearly 260 men and women, most of whom reside in eastern Washington and northern Idaho. ■

Postal recognition for Guard's 350th

A commemorative post card, celebrating the 350th Anniversary of the National Guard, is on sale at post offices around the state.

Customers may order the cards from their local post office or by writing the United States Postal Service, Philatelic Sales Division, Washington, D.C. 20265-9997. Customers may pay for their mail order post cards by check or money order and should allow four to six weeks for delivery. There is a 50-cent handling fee for any order of five or less. ■

Unauthorized wear of awards

"We've known a few soldiers who pinned awards on their uniforms when they went home on leave or first wore their uniforms in public," said CWO 4 William B. Thayer of MILPERCEN's Military Awards Branch. "But today's problem involves the intentional wearing of unauthorized decorations by more senior soldiers.

"Some of them knowingly alter official personnel records or construct documents that are passed as official documentation to support award of a badge or decoration, in violation of federal law and the Uniform Code of Military Justice."

Many of these cases end in written reprimands, elimination, resignation, nonjudicial punishment and courts-martial. All are considered appropriate for soldiers who commit such violations.

"There are other adverse results over and above the criminal aspects," Thayer explained. "Wearing unauthorized awards dishonors soldiers whose valor and achievements resulted in badges and decorations."

Alteration of official records and constructed 'official' documents deteriorate the Army's record keeping system, Thayer noted. "All these things devalue awards and decorations and cast doubt on the ethics and integrity of the NCO and officer corps," he said.

Awards for combat valor such as the Silver Star and Distinguished Service Cross are among the unauthorized awards and decorations most often

found. The Combat Infantryman Badge, Parachute Badge and Ranger Tab are also high on the list.

"We periodically audit personnel records," said Thayer. "That consists of comparing awards worn in full-length photographs with those shown on Officer Record Briefs or Personnel Qualifications Records. Both are then compared with the contents of official military personnel files.

"If soldiers believe they are entitled to badges or decorations, but do not have orders or certificates, commanders should help them initiate actions to get those documents," Thayer explained. "They may submit letters or DA Form 4187 through channels to MILPERCEN (DAPC-PDA).

"Soldiers can send photographs of awards being presented, witness statements, completion certificates and extracts of medical records with their requests to confirm entitlement of awards." ■

Precedence changes for Army medal

Effective last Nov. 3, the Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal's (ARCAM) order of precedence for wear is changed from behind the Armed Forces Reserve Medal to directly behind the active Army's Good Conduct Medal. The ARCAM was created to be the reserve component counterpart to the active component's Good Conduct Medal. This reflects that policy and brings the ARCAM's wear policy in line with that of the other services' equivalent awards. Point of contact is Maj. Castle at 202-6973548. ■

WA State Biathlon Championship

The Washington Army National Guard hosted the first Annual Washington State Biathlon Championships recently at Achilles Ranch, Newport, Washington.

The Biathlon, a Scandinavian sport, combines cross country skiing with rifle marksmanship. Approximately 50 participants entered the event near Spokane, in heavy, wet snow.

Winners in the events were: 1st place to Jeff Baltzell, juniors' and under 5 kilometers; Kevin Davis, men's 10 kilo-

meters; Kip Roberts, masters' 10 kilometers; and Deeann Fairbairn-Newcomb, women's 5 kilometers. ■

Survivor benefits for RC families

Congress recently passed the Department of Defense Authorization Act of 1986 (Public Law 99-145) which authorizes commissary, exchange and health care benefits, including CHAMPUS, for surviving family members of Reserve Component soldiers who die in the line of duty while participating in Active Duty for Training (annual training), Inactive Duty for Training (weekend drills) or while traveling directly to and from that training. This change is important because it provides the same benefits to Reserve Component family members as those given to Active Component family members. (Extracted from HQ, Sixth U.S. Army bulletin) ■

National Guard to locate armory in Enumclaw

Camp Murray, Tacoma, Wash. - Maj. Gen. Keith Eggen, the adjutant general, announced that Enumclaw has been selected as the location of a new National Guard infantry unit. The criteria of the selection process included geographics, demographics, availability of sites, and community support.

Approximately 127 soldiers, known as D Company, 3rd Battalion, 161st Infantry (Mechanized), will eventually be stationed in the new armory. Statewide, each Army National Guard soldier is supported by an average of \$8,658 from the Federal Defense Budget. The direct benefit to Enumclaw and the surrounding area will be approximately \$512,046 per year in pay and allowances.

"The planning and engineering process is underway," Eggen said, "but actual construction depends on state and federal funding. Until the armory is built, the unit will establish a temporary home in the community."

For information about becoming a part of this unit, call 1-800-562-8544. For additional information contact, 2nd Lt. Douglas Woods at (206) 581-8481 or (206) 939-2641. ■

Annual training: a nice time to die?

By SFC Joe Zambone

The Guard's two weeks of annual field duty is approaching once again. Most of us will head to Yakima Firing Center, while others will travel to California, Idaho, maybe even Hawaii to cram an entire year's worth of hands-on training into about 12 short days.

We'll kiss our loved ones goodbye, and set off on a trip which transports us not merely a set distance, but also into a lifestyle we haven't seen for some time. Annual training (AT) is a strange new world for citizen-soldiers, requiring all sorts of mental realignment; it can get us into more trouble than we bargained for when we signed up as Guard soldiers.

In fact, statistics show that this new world — which should be filled with learning, excitement, even fun — can flat get us killed.

The mental transformation from civilian to soldier is tough, but luckily we're almost all capable of it. Although we're accustomed to zipping down the freeway at 60 mph, we slow down to 25 or 30 when driving a Jeep because we instinctively know that these little things go belly-up in a second.

Most of us watch where we put our hands when working around heavy equipment, because our subconscious tells us that changing a spark plug on the family sedan is a bit different than pulling several tons of power plant from a tank.

We mostly all know enough not to smoke around fuel or ammunition, not to aim weapons (loaded or not) at other soldiers, and not to pick up duds or reach into snake holes. Common sense tells us not to walk in front of moving tanks, sleep under parked vehicles, stick our hands on hot exhaust pipes or drive 80 mph off the road.

But accidents still occur every summer, and for each soldier hurt there's at least one more forced to take up the slack by doing both his job and the hurt person's job. Accidents also involve medical expenses, recuperation time off from civilian jobs, and reduced training opportunities for a unit because they must devote extra time to injured people.

And sometimes there are shattered families left wondering what went wrong; why did their smiling GI come home crippled, maimed, or in a box?

Instead of depending on a unit safety officer, who obviously cannot keep an eye on everyone all the time, let's try something different for this AT period. Let's **all** become safety officers, constantly watching out for each and every one of our fellow soldiers.

A basic rule of humanity says that it's easier to spot someone else's faults than it is to see our own, and that's why this suggestion will work — if everyone gives it a fair trial.

When you notice a fellow Guard soldier about to do something with inherent danger (just about everything we do during AT), take just a second to remind him (or her) of the risks involved. Reminders should not be offered as **destructive criticism** (hey, dummy, where'd ya get yore license!), but rather in a friendly manner, the same tone you'd use in cautioning your child, or brother or someone else you genuinely care about.

For example, if you note a mechanic using the wrong tool — a large hammer to force a rusted fastener, say, instead of the correct wrench — remind him that thumbs are hard to replace after mash-

ing. If your vehicle driver ignores speed limits, or takes dangerous cross-country chances it's not only healthy to remind him about safe operation, it's also your duty because that reminder can affect your unit's training success.

Keep an eye out for the soldier who forgets to drink enough water on bone-dry Yakima days. Don't just assume he's tuned into this vital way of avoiding heat prostration; if he acts a little goofy, and if there's any doubt in your mind at all, ask him when he took his last drink.

Some Guard soldiers may get angry at what they feel is "babying," but they're often the same folks who get hurt during AT. Typically, they have an exalted opinion of their ability to cut corners and rewrite the rule book enroute to accomplishing a task. Ignore their nasty looks and resistance to correction: if they're screwing up, it's your duty to say so, on the spot.

What safety in the field boils down to is mentioned in the Bible: Be your brother's keeper. It's good business for everyone, not just for the soldier you help to stay in one piece. ■

Letters to the editor

Congratulations

Dear Major Brunell:

Congratulations on your unit's selection as a winner in the 1986 Keith L. Ware Journalism Competition.

The National Guard Association of the United States is proud of your fine accomplishments in achieving 3rd place in the News/News Feature Category. Your hard work and dedication in the field of journalism is vital for a well informed and educated National Guard and civilian community.

Keep up the good work.

Sincerely,
LA VERNE E. WEBER
Lieutenant General,
NGUS (Ret.)
Executive Director

The pre-rep edge

Dear Sirs,

My name is Robert J. Rich from Headquarters, Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 161 Infantry (Mechanized) of the commo section.

I am writing this letter in regards to the pre-rep article in the January 87 issue of the *Evergreen*.

I entered the Guard on July 11, 1980. I was 22 years old when I went to pre-rep.

Upon entering basic, I felt scared but good because of the training preparing me for Basic Training. I felt I had an advantage over the other troops.

About four or five hours after we got off the bus, I was picked to be (you guessed it) the second squad leader. I asked the sergeant why I was picked for squad leader. He said I showed more knowledge than the rest of the troops. I was pleased.

Your article brought back memories and with those memories thinking of the advantages that the pre-rep trainees have over the rest, even the regular Army. It's a great program we have in this state and highly approved of also.

To the men of pre-rep, keep up the good job.

Sp4 Robert J. Rich
HHC, 3/161 Inf. (M)
Commo

On The Lighter Side Translations for your 'better half'

By SFC Joe Zambone

Many a Guard soldier has a "better half" at home who knows almost zero about the military way of life, and less than nothing about the unique terminology we GIs use as a way of complicating simple things.

For example, I was a Guardsman for three years before it dawned on my wife that a *deuce-and-a-half* isn't a losing poker hand. We're currently working on the term *mess hall*, and I'm targeting 1988 for her understanding of why I sometimes earn two days of pay for one day of drill, while other times I work for zip.

If your mate has been left out of the ol' information loop, perhaps the following translations will put you both on the same conversational wavelength.

BDU: Stands for Baggy Drab Uniform. This leaf-motif garb replaces the OD (olive drab) uniform, which had only enough pocket space to carry a credit card. Your favorite GI can now tote along eight pounds of emergency supplies in the BDU's spacious pockets without anyone noticing. This has reportedly led to some strange, soggy items turning up in washing machines.

When your honey comes back from two weeks at Yakima mumbling obscenities about BDUs in hot weather, it's because one design spec called for the BDU to protect soldiers from flame throwers at 10 paces. Coincidentally, most GIs allow that flame throwers at short range would be fitting payment for the BDU's designers.

MUTA-4: Stands for Mostly Uncertain Training Assembly, or weekend drill. That's because no matter how well the training officer puts together a schedule providing for every minute of the drill weekend, it is never followed in real life. Thus originated the modern term: "It looks good on paper."

For example, if marksmanship train-

ing is scheduled at Fort Lewis, there are at least 108 reasons why your mate probably won't fire his (her) weapon that weekend: poor weather; no bus; no rifles; no bullets; no range flag; no range reservation; no safety officer; no targets; not enough troops who can attend; too many troops; wrong ammo; and so on.

It's important to understand how these uncertainties affect your mate. When he (or she) comes home from drill in a weird mood, after looking forward to a day of fun trying to knock down pop-up targets which often don't, it's probably because the training schedule slipped a cog and everyone ended up scrubbing the armory floor with a toothbrush.

MUTA-5: See above; this offers 25 percent more uncertainty, starting on Friday evening.

Deuce-and-a-half: Catchy slang term for the Army's 2½-ton truck, one of the few vehicles in the free world manufactured without springs or other suspension features. The original design team left military employment, after riding less than four miles in their creation, and launched a chain of chiropractic franchises which has made them millionaires.

MRE: Stands for Meal, Remotely Edible. Surplus government food which cannot be given away to needy nations undergoes a drying and hardening process, and is then entombed in plastic for consumption years later by your favorite soldier.

Some food items aren't dried, however. The squeeze-tube of cheese, for example, is vulcanized just like Good-year radials. The candy is dipped in chocolate-flavored fiberglass to make this succulent treat last longer. And the crackers are preserved with the same chemical used in making Roach Motels. Crackers are pre-shattered into tiny

pieces at the factory, so soldiers in the field squeeze cheese or peanut butter mostly on their hands; the side benefit here is that weapons unintentionally stay lubricated.

Mess Hall: Where GIs eat when not scrubbing the armory floor with a toothbrush; a building with hard sides given over to culinary experimentation with a captive audience. Often aptly named.



"Well, that oughta take care of those leaks. Good thing you had peanut butter in your MRE."

MOS: Stands for Marginal Operational Skills. A classification referring to what the soldier does when in uniform. An MOS may be awarded on the basis of schooling, personality, good (or bad) looks, important friends, or (on rare occasions) ability.

The MOS is often given to GIs on the spur of the moment, in field settings. Thus a cook can become a tank driver instantly, if the Powers Above need tank drivers more than food that day.

This basic translation should be a big help to readers who've been trying for years to get their mate to understand just what it's like to be a Guard soldier. ■

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