

Dedication of new state memorial reflects lingering legacy of Vietnam War

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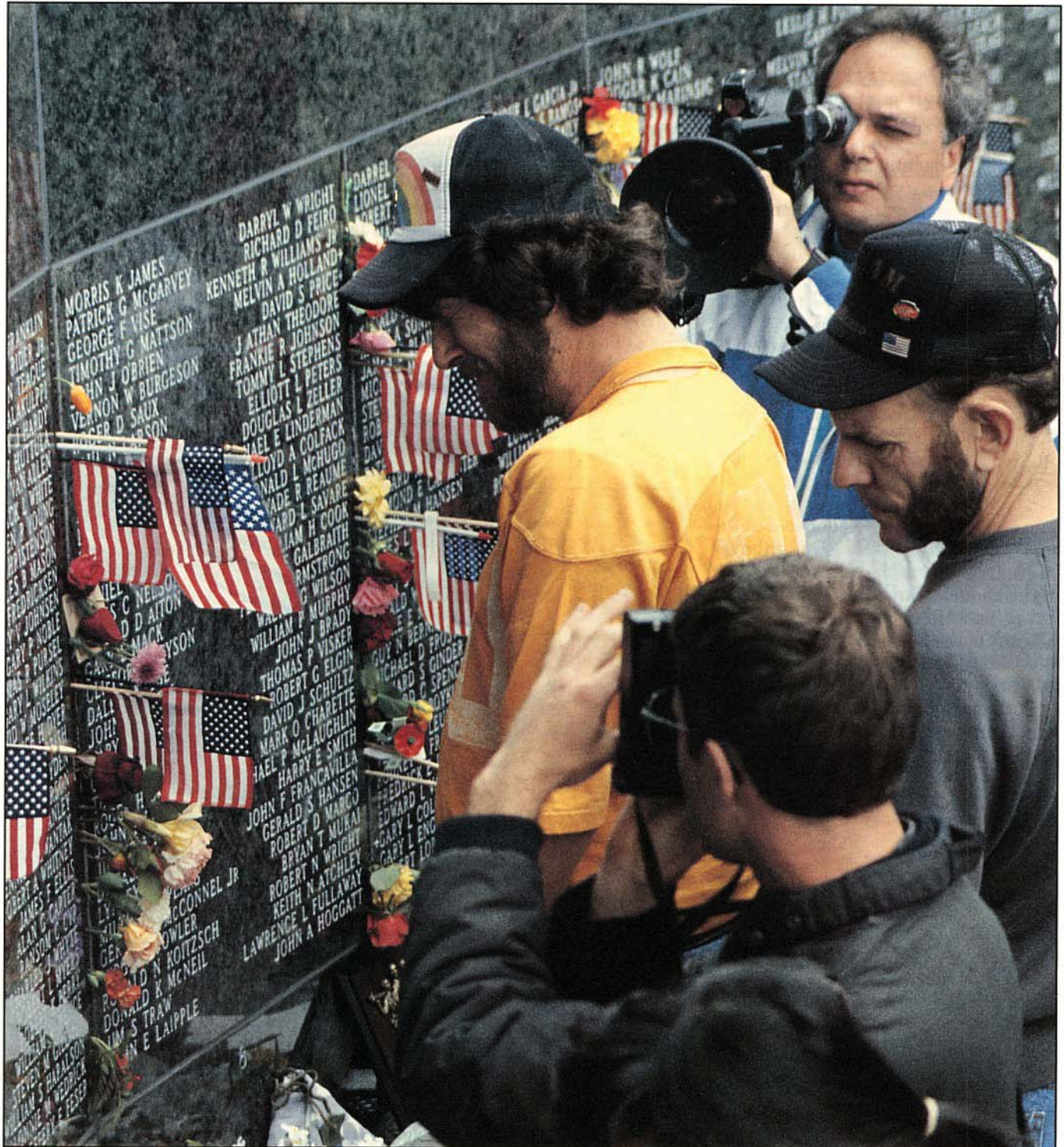


Photo by Maj. Don Brunell

Names once locked away, now emblazoned on state's Vietnam Memorial for all to see

By Maj. Don C. Brunell

After witnessing the outpouring of grief and uncontrolled emotion of the visitors to Washington's new Vietnam War Memorial, one wonders what would happen if all nations listed the names of their dead and missing in action on monuments. Might there be no more wars?

We've all seen many war memorials, most of which depict military triumph rather than the human tragedy. For example, it's hard to think of the thousands who died taking Iwo Jima during World War II when you look at the Marine Corps Monument near Washington, D.C. The sight of soldiers raising "Old Glory" on that tiny island mountain top stirs a hearty mental chorus of the "Marine Hymn" and rarely brings a painful tear to one's eye.

The World War I Memorial in Olympia is physically overpowering. In fact, it even diverts traffic around it. But the 40-foot statue of the "Doughboys" marching down the parade field at right shoulder arms is more likely to bring back fond memories of James Cagney in the hit musical "Yankee Doodle Dandy" than to reflect the tragedy of war.

Perhaps, for many of us, World War I and II are too far in the past. Few World War I vets are alive today and most World War II GIs are in their late 60s and 70s. And those fathers, grandfathers, or aunts lost to the ravages of two world wars do not have their names appearing on stark black stone in a single place in this nation. Their names are scattered on white headstones throughout cemeteries in our country and abroad. Many of the memorials that we've erected to remember them, instead only glorify the conquest and carry patriotic passages.

No doubt the extreme emotionalism of "The Walls" in Olympia and the District of Columbia will taper off as our Vietnam-era population grows older and younger Americans with no personal recollection of Vietnam begin to

dominate our society. But it is doubtful that the Vietnam Memorial's impact will be significantly lessened. It's hard to ignore the names of the fallen when they are in full public view.

The basic contrast between the two "Walls" and our other monuments to war is easily drawn by comparing our state's old Vietnam Memorial to the new one. Until May 25, the names of Washington's killed were imbedded in granite for no one to see. Those names were exhumed on Memorial Day and now appear for everyone to see.

Grieving openly for relatives and friends doesn't lessen our national resolve to defend freedom, but this openness should help us to focus on the realities of our involvement in future conflicts. ■



Like the WWI memorial, the original Vietnam memorial in Olympia did not speak to the human tragedy of war.



Viet vets sound 'taps' for fallen comrades whose names are inscribed on the new memorial in Olympia. (Photos by Maj. Don C. Brunell)

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COVER PHOTO: The state's Vietnam Memorial dedication ceremonies drew more than 6,500 for an emotional tribute to Washington's killed and missing in action. The memorial is located on the capitol campus in Olympia.

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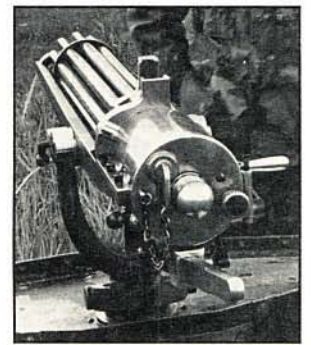
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Training

CARGO: Transporting freight the Total Army way

Story and photo by
SSgt. Dave Largent

Ships, freight, cranes, trucks, fork lifts, boats, cargo and teamwork are all common to the Army Reserve's 498th Transportation Company, Mobile, Alabama. But everything took a strange twist at this year's annual training.

They usually go to Fort Eustis, Va. and work on the docks, loading cargo from ships onto trucks.

This year they came to Puget Sound and worked on a ship loading freight onto LCM 8s (mike boats), to transfer it to shore and then truck it to the final destination.

The *Betsy Ross*, the Washington Army National Guard's freight ship; fork lifts and personnel on loan from Fort Lewis; mike boats from 1118th Transportation Company, Tacoma; and trucks from 1161st Transportation Company, Ephrata came together with the 498th. The Total Army concept once again produced some realistic training.

"The people we're working with have made this a great AT, they're real cooperative and have been able to get us everything we need," said SSgt. Simon Doss, platoon sergeant, 498th Transportation.

Teamwork is nothing new to the 498th.

The unit is made up of several teams; the crane and dozer operators, longshoremen and documentation personnel all work together to get the cargo to its destination in one piece and on time.

The freight loaded onto the *Betsy Ross*, at Bremerton in this case, was inventoried and recorded by the documentation section. Then the longshoremen and crew operators worked together to get it into the ship's hold.

After the ship reached Solo Point, North Fort Lewis, more documentation people and longshoremen got together in the hold to send the cargo to the mike boats via the on-deck crane operated by the hatch farmers, as the crane operators refer to themselves.

The mike boats hauled the cargo to the beach, then it was onto the trucks for shipment to its final destination.

"We separate everything according to the unit that it goes to; and we load the trucks so each load goes straight to the unit. We get everything to where it's supposed to go. If somebody gets the

wrong stuff, it's because they ordered it wrong," said a grinning SSgt. Marshall (Jake) Lawson, documentation platoon sergeant for the 498th.

Members of the 498th are still trying to figure out how they ended up in Washington for this year's AT. They want to know so they can work on coming back next year.

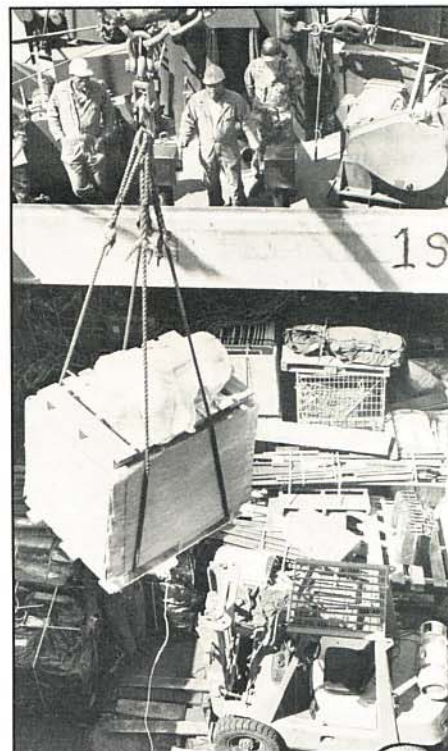
"We normally go to Fort Eustis and work with dummy cargo. Here we're getting to do real work and the weather's been paradise," said SSgt. James Breech, 1st and 2nd section chief.

There are some things at Fort Eustis that can't be found in Washington.

"At Eustis the dummy cargo is always full of water moccasins," said Breech. The crane and dozer operators don't seem to get too worked up over finding poisonous snakes, but for the documentation people and longshoremen who have to work right down in the cargo, it's a different story.

Their eyes get a little bigger and they start watching around their feet whenever snakes are a topic of conversation.

"We've been lucky, nobody's ever been bitten. We usually see 10 or 12 every AT," said Doss.



Unloading freight from the hold requires the cooperation of the crane operator, documentation personnel and the longshoremen.

Whether it's because of the lack of snakes, good weather or a chance to see Washington again, you can expect to see the 498th again, if they can figure out how they got here this year. ■

Sgt. serves on two Guard ships

Story and photo by
SSgt. Dave Largent

The *Betsy Ross*, the Washington Army National Guard's freight ship, is scheduled to be replaced by a 273-foot



Sgt. James Richardson

ship being built in Mossy Point, Mississippi by Ingals Shipbuilding Company.

A 15-year employee for Ingals, James Richardson, a welder supervisor, took a couple of weeks off last May to join his Army Reserve unit for annual training (AT).

Sgt. Richardson, a hatch foreman for the 498th Transportation Company, Mobile, Alabama, was surprised to find out that he would be working on the *Betsy Ross* because she is scheduled to be replaced by the ship he is helping to build back home.

According to Richardson the *Betsy Ross* is in the better shape right now, but the other ship "will be in A-one shape when they come to pick it up."

Who knows, if the 498th makes it back to Washington for a future AT, Richardson may get a chance to work freight on the ship he helped build. ■

Air Guard shoots commo to Spokane

By Maj. Dave Harris

What a nasty day it was to set up tents and electronics gear for the grueling 36-hour exercise. It was one of those dank, wet spring days when the cold knives through layers of clothing.

Instead of firing weapons, this bunch spoke of such operations as "shooting to Spokane" and of wide-band operations to the Gold Mountain relay site southwest of Bremerton, with another relay to Crawford Mountain, near Tenino.

The mission of the 252nd Combat Communications Group is to establish and operate all communications needed to keep several squadrons of fighter aircraft flying into the war zone

from satellite bases.

The intensive exercise put everybody on 12-hour shifts operating under ATSO conditions—"Ability to Survive and Operate."

Not only were they erecting microwave and high-frequency antennas and linking up with remote sites, but seasoned veterans and rookies alike were responding to hostile action—chemical attacks and attempts to sabotage the mission. This meant struggling with the detail work of electronics with the added burden of wearing clumsy chemical warfare gear.

"It's a challenge to continually train new people," said Capt. Michael Stew-

ard, the communications site commander, managing assets of the 143rd and 256th Combat Communications Squadrons.

"The whole organization has to be qualified, including the less-experienced," he said. "We're pressing each other to get everything done in 36 hours.

"One of the most difficult management challenges is to step back and let it go, but not as fast or as well as it could go, in order to train new people."

Battling the elements is business-as-usual for these globetrotters, having sampled the heat of the Las Vegas desert and cold of Alaska, not to mention conditions in Korea and at Fort Irwin, Calif. ■

Joint efforts provide valuable training

By MSgt. Glenn Blomgren

Inter-service cooperation is alive and well!!! Once again it has been proven that Air Force and Army units can join together in mutual efforts to accomplish necessary work and acquire valuable training.

A good example was the recent deployment of 33 members of the 241st Civil Engineering Squadron, Camp Murray, Wash. to Camp Ripley, Minn.

Camp Ripley is an Army Training Post located in central Minnesota which provides training for artillery units similar to that which is available at the Yakima Firing Center here in Washington.

The major projects for this deployment for heavy equipment operators turned out to be a training "bonanza" because it involved so much specialized equipment and variety of operating conditions and applications.

Over 35 pieces of equipment, ranging from Cat 621 scrapers to sheepsfoot rollers, were available for use on this project. Every person on the team had an opportunity to train on each type of equipment without the pressures of a completion deadline.

While one crew was busy pushing out stumps with a D7 dozer in preparation for removing clay fill material, another crew was loading and hauling the clay from the pit area to the landfill site located 1.1 miles away.

And so it went for each phase of the project. The net result was the accomplishment of a significant portion (20

percent) of a large landfill project while at the same time providing excellent, hands-on, practical training for equipment operators.

A variety of projects were outlined for the 241st craftsmen, including removal of wall partitions, relocation of wiring, building a 55-foot by 14-foot high concrete block partition wall and cutting a 100-foot by 2-foot slot in a concrete floor to allow placement of electrical and plumbing service.

Since the 241st was the first of the Prime BEEF teams to deploy to Camp Ripley for these projects, they were instrumental in identifying problem

areas and in working out the "bugs" so that subsequent teams might be able to use their time more efficiently and productively.

One of the reasons that this deployment was so successful and valuable was the fact that a very close, harmonious relationship developed between the host Army support personnel and the visiting Air National Guard Prime BEEF teams.

An effective working relationship was established during this operation which serves to re-emphasize the value and importance of such inter-service liaison efforts. ■



Combining heavy equipment and manpower results in Camp Ripley's new airfield. (Air National Guard photo)

What's Old

Roll out the barrels

Story and photos by
SFC Joe Zambone

On July 4, 1986, a colorful piece of Washington Army National Guard history roared into life at a Fort Lewis firing range. It was the first time Colt's Armory Model 1890 Gatling Gun, serial #494, had fired live ammunition in at least 50 years.

Everyone has seen Gatling Guns in TV movies, spewing zillions of bullets, turning the tide of battle at the last second for besieged Civil War cavalry troops. But that isn't how things really were.

Richard Jordan Gatling, a St. Louis inventor and manufacturer of farm implements, created the world's first rapid-firing gun in about 1860. This forerunner to the modern military machine gun was successfully demonstrated to the Union Army in Dec. 1862. Its awesome firepower could have shortened the Civil War, but the Ordnance Department didn't get around to accepting Gatling's design until 1866, by which time the conflict had ended.

Even though the Gatling Gun didn't play a role in the Civil War, it was used for a long time afterward by the U.S. Army, until John M. Browning invented the belt-fed machine gun which brought so much terror to World War I battlefields.

The Gatling was usually assigned to artillery units, which used it to support advancing units or protect its own batteries if an enemy overran the rear area. Its 10 crank-operated rotating barrels offered a high rate of fire — a 20-

round stick magazine was exhausted in a few seconds — which laid down a lot of lead on enemy troops.

Technically speaking, Gatling Guns fire the old black powder .45-70-405 "buffalo cartridge," a huge .45 caliber slug driven to some 1,320 feet per second (fps) velocity by 70 grains of powder, with a bullet weighing 405 grains (nearly one ounce) which carried quite far and penetrated just about any target. It was especially effective in ambushes against supply trains, turning them into splinters in seconds. In contrast, our modern M16 rifle fires a 69-grain bullet at some 2,800 fps, and the tiny slug won't penetrate wood barriers at ranges beyond point-blank.

Gatling acquired in '55

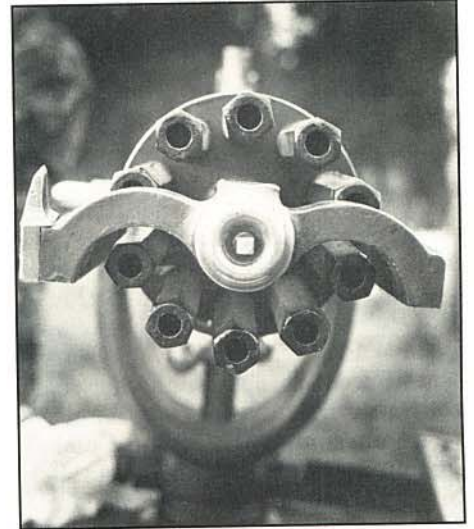
The Guard's Gatling Gun came to us in 1955, by way of a private donor. It's one of the latest designs, sporting a steel carriage rather than one made of wood, and huge wooden wheels to allow towing over rough terrain by horses.

Number 494 was originally used as a ceremonial weapon, firing blank cartridges at such functions as football games and parades. The old firing crew was made up of some familiar names in today's WashARNG: Col. John Murphy, Lt. Col. Tony Axelson and SSgt. Marv Renz. At public appearances they dressed in period costumes, held crew drills and thrilled spectators with noisy and smoky rapid-firing.

But the appearances ceased some years ago, and the Gatling was stuck away in storage. Several years ago, Capt. Bud Searles reincarnated the ol' gal, but she was in a frightful state of repair. SSgt. Don Manning, the Guard's ace shooter and gun shop owner, spent months on his own time doing such things as cleaning up #494, and making a new magazine and crank handle from scratch in his Yakima shop.

Searles estimates the refurbished Gatling Gun is now worth about \$37,000, and that figure will only go up as such military treasures become more scarce.

Manning also handloaded a couple of dozen buffalo cartridges, and after due ceremony on a hazy July 4th Sunday morning, the Guard's Gatling spit out

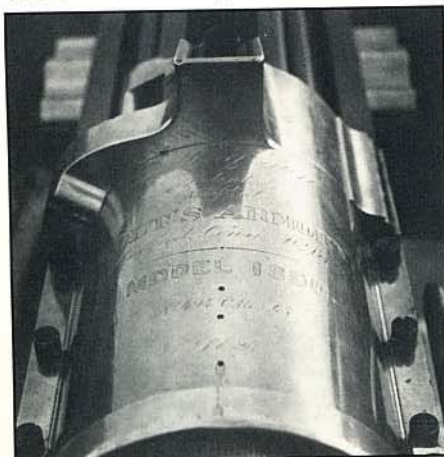


All 10 barrels are ready for firing at ceremonies on July 4, 1987.

its first live ammo in many decades. That slice of nostalgia was over so fast no one even got firing photos.

The Marksmanship Committee will fire Ol' 494 again on July 4th this year at Range 22 on Fort Lewis. Telephone Capt. Searles at 581-8237 (commercial) to check time and schedule.

It's not mind boggling to watch a Gatling Gun spew out a couple of dozen heavy lead slugs, but few people alive today have ever seen one of these original historical weapons in operation. ■



Authentic markings identify the vintage weapon.



Capt. Bud Searles reincarnated Ol' 494 — Colt's Armory Model 1890 Gatling Gun.

Roll in the HUMVEE M-998s

Story and photo by
SSgt. Bob Rosenburgh

The HUMVEE has arrived! Yep, that's HUMVEE, the phonetic pronunciation of HMMWV, or High Mobility Multi-purpose Wheeled Vehicle. The name and the machine are destined to replace the trusty old jeep throughout the Army.

Designed and built as a key element of today's faster and highly mobile force, the HUMVEE outperforms the jeep in every aspect, including safety.

That's why, on May 2, the order of the day at HHC, 1st Battalion, 803rd Armor was smiling faces and toothy grins. Under the tutelage of a special Tank/Automotive Command team from Warren, Michigan, the company's officers and NCOs were learning to maintain and operate their 24 spanking-new HUMVEEs!

The TACOM team explained to them, as they would soon learn firsthand, that the HUMVEE is one mean tinkertoys to take to the field. Its four big 16.5-inch traction tires are all driven by a 150-horsepower V8 diesel through a three-speed automatic transmission and a two-speed, full-time transfer case.

The hefty aluminum body sports a tilt-up fiberglass nose (just like a new Corvette) that facilitates easy maintenance when you need to grease the gizmos.

And the mobility is astonishing!

With a full 16 inches of ground clearance, four-wheel independent suspension and a 300-mile cruising range, HUMVEE can go places where no jeep has dared to go before.

Like up a 60 percent grade. Or through 30-inch deep water, even 60 inches with the special fording kit installed.

And with a 2,500-pound load, or towing a 3,400-pound trailer.

The new HUMVEE drivers in the 1st Battalion discovered for themselves what their new 'hot rods' would do on a specially selected 14-mile course east of Duvall. After a morning of classes and instruction on specifications, operation and maintenance, they convoyed out to the rocky roads and mountain switchbacks used mainly by hikers and bikers.

The HUMVEE comes in 15 basic ver-



(Illustration by SSgt. Bob Rosenburgh)

sions, each configured to specific mission requirements. There's an anti-tank version which mounts the TOW missile launcher, a STINGER air-defense model, eight-man squad carriers, ambulances, communications vans and much more. The HUMVEEs of the 803rd are all M-998s, designed to carry troops and cargo. And, man, can this car go!

Right.



The rocky logging trails outside of Duvall are no match for the agile HUMVEE's astounding mobility.

Up the side of a mountain, through narrow gulleys and all along the pock-marked road, the wide body and low center-of-gravity kept the HUMVEEs from tilting or rolling over, even on washed out corners. The power steering and power brakes made light work of washboard trails and steep downhill grade. To a man (and woman), every driver praised the auto trans, eliminating the chores of shifting and clutching.

The HUMVEEs showed a very big improvement over the jeep when they reached the blacktop. No more shimmying and flipping out on corners. At normal highway speeds, the 1st Battalion drivers found their HUMVEEs to be smooth and stable, whether the road was wet or dry, even in sharp turns. The power steering, light and responsive; the suspension, springy and comfortable.

In fact, it's hard to find fault with the HUMVEE, especially when compared to a jeep. Any jeep. There are, however, two important points that every HUMVEE operator must know.

There is no PARK position on the gear selector. When the vehicle is at a halt, if the engine is running or shut down, SET THE HAND BRAKE with the selector in neutral. That is the only thing, short of the brake pedal, that will keep your new high-technology ground-grabber from answering gravity's downhill call.

There is no spare tire. What is provided, instead, are low-pressure magnesium lined tires that go for 30 miles or more after a puncture deflates them. All the same, the folks at HHC, 1st Battalion, 803rd Armor are concerned about a shortage of replacement tires when 30-mile flats start rolling in!

Although these two matters represent a potential for problems, good training and planning should keep problems to a bare minimum.

All told, this new space-age Army workhorse is proving itself to be rugged, reliable and extremely capable. The HUMVEE is another milestone in the WashARNG force modernization. ■

Aviation Support Facility is pilot's best friend

Story and photo
by SSgt. Bob Rosenburgh

They're highly trained and experienced and they're a pilot's best friend. They are the dedicated, professional staff of the Washington Army National Guard Aviation Support Facility.

These folks are responsible for the readiness of every aircraft in the Wash-ARNG. Theirs is a never-ending mission of continuous maintenance, inspection and aviation support duties. Duties performed readily and with a degree of skill unmatched at their Gray Army Airfield location on Fort Lewis.

"You won't find the kind of across-the-board expertise that we have if you look down the ramp to the active-duty units," says CWO 4 Duke Martini, who is the aircraft maintenance supervisor. He's not comparing the quality of the soldiers, but rather the nature of the organization.

"In a regular Army unit," he explained, "the average aircraft mechanic is a first-term soldier who's only been out of AIT for a couple years or less. The senior NCOs there function mainly as supervisors.



SSgt. Jim Bullion, top, inspects a Cobra transmission as SSgt. Lee Hayes fastens an inspection panel.

"At our shop, on the other hand, you have long-term employees who maintain the aircraft as technicians during the week and then supervise unit mechanics on the drill weekends. That combines the hands-on working knowl-

edge of aircraft maintenance with the skills needed for supervisory duties."

Martini also noted that most of his mechanics are NCOs with more years of experience. An additional benefit is the potential for training new mechanics that such a pool of professionals can provide.

The Aviation Support Facility supports all four aviation units in the WashARNG—the Attack Helicopter Troop of the 116th Armored Cavalry Regiment, the 81st Infantry Brigade Aviation Section, the MAST of the 841st Medical Detachment and the U-21 which belongs to STARC. That U-21, incidentally, is the only fixed-wing aircraft in the WashARNG. All the rest are helicopters.

Martini noted what those responsibilities entail.

"We are the cadre of all the maintenance assets. We operate aircraft everyday and stay open every day of the week to keep those aircraft flying. We also perform higher echelon levels of maintenance than any shop on Gray Field."

Faulty parts

Besides doing routine operational maintenance, they sometimes find duties to be a bit different, like the recent grounding of Cobras for a faulty part. The Army had found defects in the KAMAN K747 Main Rotor Blade Root End Fittings. Out of 1,083 AH-1 type helicopters, 750 had this type and would need inspection.

WashARNG had 10 of them, so when a special team from the KAMAN factory came to evaluate the parts, the Aviation Support Facility coordinated and supported the task, resulting in identification of three aircraft which needed new parts.

The new parts were placed on order and installed as soon as they arrived, putting the Cobras back into flight status. They'll also keep a sharp eye on all the Cobras equipped with the K747 fittings to ensure their safe condition.

Because of this kind of aggressive, proactive maintenance, there have been no accidents caused by the problem, nor are there likely to be any.

Lt. Col. Jim Hodgeboom, the facility commander, is proud of his people. But he's the progressive kind of leader who's

not content to simply mark time in the status quo.

"We have a lot going on in the aviation community, and I see some really dynamic changes coming. Among these is the activation of the 66th Combat Aviation Brigade and the growth of the 81st Infantry Brigade."

66th CAB activated

The 66th CAB was activated in December of 1986 in ceremonies held at Camp Murray. The headquarters of the new unit will be on Gray Army Airfield adjacent to the Aviation Support Facility. The commander is Brig. Gen. Daniel J. Sullivan, who previously commanded the 81st Infantry Brigade.

"We've already obtained 30 percent of the headquarters strength," Hodgeboom said, "which was targeted for October. We're shooting for 100 percent by that date!" At the earliest possible time, he also wants to bring all of the WashARNG aviation elements to 125 percent strength and begin accepting additional aviation assets as they become available.

Both Martini and Hodgeboom were happy with the appointment of Sullivan as the 66th's first commander.

"We're all pleased that General Sullivan is the new CG," says Martini, "He's an aviation officer who believes in a maintenance-intensive program."

"General Sullivan is the senior aviator in the National Guard across the country," Hodgeboom added. "Having him here will have a significant impact on our programs."

And those programs are already expanding rapidly, such as the Wash-ARNG's new alignment with the I Corps under CAPSTONE restructuring to improve and build on the Total Army concept.

"The 66th will continue a state initiative by keeping a close-knit interaction with I Corps," said Hodgeboom. "We want to become an integral part of the corps staff."

So there you have it. A top-drawer team of pros, from the leadership down through the ranks. Hodgeboom summed it up for everyone:

"I'm really enthused about where we are and excited about the potential of where we can go!" ■

144th Battalion vacates Tacoma Armory, temporarily

Story and photos by
SFC Doris Nelson

Because renovation was about to begin on the old Tacoma National Guard Armory to remove the asbestos and make it earthquake safe, the 144th Transportation Battalion had until Sept. 24, 1986 to vacate the building. The trick was to relocate their equipment and personnel without a significant loss of training time.

Find a new home they did at 401 Alexandria Avenue, Building 331. Personnel started Aug. 25, 1986 to prepare the new building for the move from the Tacoma Armory.

Maj. William G. Turk, administrative officer for the 144th, said it took a lot of preparation to get the building ready for the battalion's move, including physical security measures. Doors and locks had to be changed, new ones installed, and screens provided for the windows. They had to make partitions for classrooms and offices, as well as painting, laying carpets, and other work.

The move to the new facility, started Sept. 8, 1986, was all accomplished by Guard personnel from the 144th and Troop Command.

By phasing one unit at a time, it took them three weeks to move into their new facility by the pier. The move was done in conjunction with a mobilization-deployment exercise which Turk says provided excellent training for the Guardsmen. Members of the two units were deployed to active duty for five days for the mobilization exercise.

"They really did an excellent job," said Turk. "There was very little loss of equipment or loss of training time."

Turk said it was a self-help program with everything accomplished by the units.

"It provided excellent training for the welders and various crafts," he stated. They also were able to do a lot of projects on weekend drills without sacrificing their training time.

"The biggest hitch," said Turk, "was the kitchen facility." They completed the project just in time for the Christmas meal.

Turk said that one of the advantages of the new facility includes being closer to the pier. "It doesn't eat into training time as much as commuting back and forth did," said Turk. Also he said they



The work on the skylight is part of the renovation of the Tacoma National Guard Armory that sent the 144th Transportation Battalion looking for a temporary new home.

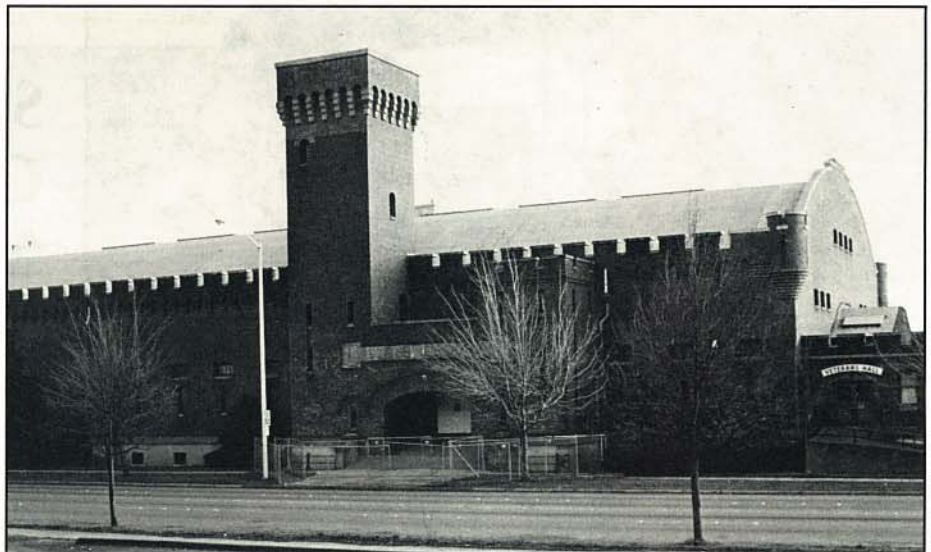
have air conditioning in most new offices and it is a bright, cheery atmosphere.

Some of the disadvantages include no drill floor and a lack of classroom space. There is also shortage of storage space.

The space the 144th utilized in the armory was 60,200 square feet. The

new building has 38,300 square feet. Turk said they had to compress everything down considerably in order to get it to fit.

All in all, everyone seems content with the new surroundings and facilities. However, they do plan to move back to the armory upon completion of the renovation. ■



It's an unusual sight not to see National Guardsmen coming in and out of the Tacoma Armory. It will lie barren until renovation makes it safe for Guardsmen to return.

Army studies idea of super warrant, MWO 5

Story and photo by
SSgt. Bob Rosenburgh

"He's not an NCO, but he warrant an officer, either!"

It's an old gag that we've probably all heard a 1,000 times. It's also a sort of cynical cheap shot at the twilight zone between the officer and enlisted ranks that the warrant officer finds himself in.

Well, some big changes are in the wind for warrant officers, but another old cliché may just be the bottom line to that; 'The more things change, the more they stay the same.'

The revamping of the Army's warrant officer management policies and procedures began in late 1985 as a result of a new law passed by Congress. All of the Armed Forces are now required to standardize those procedures except for the Air Force, since they have no warrant officers.

First and foremost among the new regs is the requirement for commissioning with an oath of office. For National Guard warrant officers, an additional oath is required to swear allegiance to the United States and the state constitution and the president and the governor.

It should be noted, however, that the commission for CWO 2 and above is not mandatory. Declining the oath may affect later promotion potential, but the long-term ramifications are not yet

clear.

What will this new commission do for our warrants? For starters, they'll be able to command units and administer oaths, such as enlistments, re-ups, and referral of charges. They can now apply for inter-service transfers at the same grade or can be charged with 'conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman.'

There's a number of other changes that go along with the new Total Warrant Officer System, or TWOS. Warrants will now be rated by their individual rank instead of by grade groupings.

Enlisted soldiers were once able to apply for a direct appointment to warrant, but now they must attend either flight school or the Warrant Officer Entry Course. The reserve component course is at Fort McCoy, Wisconsin.

Many warrants have a 'wait and see' attitude about the changes. Others, like CWO 4 Donald B. Mathis, the state safety officer, would like to see a few more changes added on.

"I'd like to see a small raise in pay come with these added responsibilities," he explained. "And it would add to the warrant officer's prestige to wear the same brass as regular officers on the Class A cap. And how about branch brass on the lapels?"

Mathis is also more than a little curious about the possibility of a new



CWO 4 Donald B. Mathis

Master Warrant grade of MWO 5. That would give warrants something exceptional to work for and look forward to, especially for retirement purposes.

"As I hear it told," Mathis continued, "about three percent of us will eventually make W5. What I don't know is whether that means three percent of W4s or all warrant officers!"

So, what has changed is the level and scope of responsibilities that warrant officers must bear, with an appropriate increase in their authority. Becoming a warrant officer is now more difficult, with a greater emphasis on qualifications and training, and improvements in the rating scheme.

What remains the same is the pay and the uniform. And a warrant officer still outranks a sergeant major, but remains subordinate to a second lieutenant.

At least they're getting the new WMO 5 rank. Maybe. ■



Spokane Air Guard gets 'vanity plates'

ANG-141 is the civilian license plate issued, appropriately, to Brig. Gen. Carleton B. Waldrop, commander of the 141st Air Refueling Wing, Air National Guard, Spokane, Wash. ANG license plates were originally assigned to counties other than Spokane. Following a request by the Air Guard in Spokane, the various counties with the allotted ANG designations traded some 300 plates with Spokane County, which has reserved the plates for Air Guard members.

Guard renders aid to college after fire

By 2nd Lt. Teri L. Packebush

The 215th Engineering Installation Squadron of the Washington Air National Guard proved its value to the Snohomish County community after a devastating arson fire consumed the central complex of the Everett Community College.

The blaze took the life of firefighter Gary Parks and caused over \$10 million in damage. The food service technology center, cafeteria, student government offices, art gallery and library were a total loss.

Maj. Steven L. Pettersen, commander of the 215th, directed that all available resources be made available to assist the college in its recovery.

The 215th moved trailers and mobile homes onto the campus under the guidance of TSgt. Thomas Bourn, a professional mobile-home mover in civilian life.

The 143rd Combat Information Systems Squadron (CISSQ) from Seattle

joined the effort by setting up three general purpose medium tents as temporary shelters for various student activities, while the 215th transported several loads of donated furniture onto the campus.

Meanwhile, MSgt. Chris Berney, who coordinated the overall relief effort for Pettersen, was mobilizing the support of the corporate, business and civic leaders throughout the community.

The unit hosted a \$200-a-plate benefit luncheon with a goal of raising \$100,000 to replace the books and research materials lost in the fire. Over \$40,000 was raised at the door and additional corporate pledges have put the total raised at over \$125,000.

Mayor of Everett Bill Moore, a former Guard member and staunch supporter of the 215th, characterized the Air Guard's participation during the luncheon when he said, "For over 350 years, the National Guard has cared for and protected the communities in

which it is based. These efforts show once again that the Air Guard is, indeed, 'On Guard.'" ■



MSgt. Chris Berney of the 215th Engineering Installation Squadron addresses local business leaders at the benefit luncheon for Everett Community College. (Photo courtesy of EvCC)

Lowenberg receives Citizen-Soldier of Year Award

Lt. Col. Timothy J. Lowenberg, state headquarters staff judge advocate for the Washington Air National Guard, received the Citizen-Soldier/Sailor of the Year award on May 26, 1987.

Lowenberg is the senior Air National Guard attorney for the state of Washington and actively supervises support legal services for more than 2,000 Air Guard members statewide.

Lowenberg is a partner in the Tacoma law firm of Schweinler, Lowenberg and Lopez. His private practice focuses on civil trial litigation and labor relations.

Besides Lowenberg's law practice, he has served for 14 years as an Adjunct Professor of Law at the University of Puget Sound School of Law. His long and distinguished service makes him

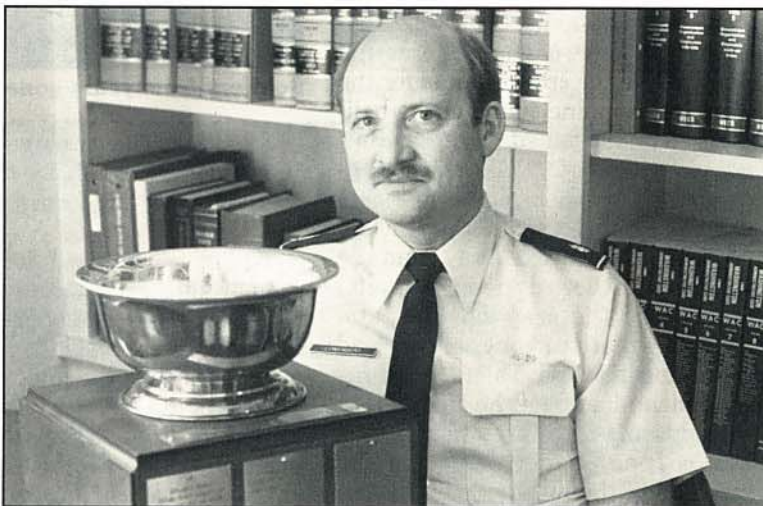
one of the most senior members of the law school faculty.

For his singularly distinctive professional achievements, Lowenberg's biography has been listed in *Who's Who in American Law*.

Lowenberg also gives generously of his time in support of Heart Association, American Cancer Society, and American Lung Association activities locally, regionally and throughout the United States. He is perhaps best known for his groundbreaking work in the field of corporate smoking control policies.

The American Lung Association in 1986 presented him with its highest honor, the prestigious 2000 Award, for his unselfish and inspirational community service in the field of public health.

Brig. Gen. Milton H. Towne, assistant adjutant general, Air National Guard, stated: "He represents the finest our community has to offer and stands as a shining example of the thousands of citizen-soldiers throughout our state who give unselfishly to protect our nation's defense and make this a better and safer world in which to live." ■



Lt. Col. Timothy J. Lowenberg is honored for his exemplary achievements in the community and the Guard. (Photo by MSgt. Harvey S. Tatel)



Memorial dedication evokes cheers, tears and pow

Story and photos by
Maj. Don C. Brunell

More than five years ago, the names of 1,001 Washington casualties from Vietnam were sealed inside a granite marker on the state capitol campus in Olympia.

That simple event didn't sit well with the vets from that conflict.

Rick Covert, an ex-sergeant with the 1st Air Cavalry in Vietnam, gathered a handful of comrades and began a campaign to construct a monument to openly list all the Vietnam casualties.

"It's one thing to bury a man's body. It's another to bury his name," Covert said.

Meanwhile, another key player in the campaign was in Washington, D.C., trumpeting taps on the same day at the dedication of the national Vietnam Memorial. After witnessing the emotions of that Veterans Day in 1982, Adrian Vaeler, a veteran from Olympia who served with the 11th Armored Cavalry during 1969 and 1970, joined Covert's efforts to erect a "Wall" on the state capitol grounds.

With \$78,000 in seed money from the Legislature, the fund drive started. When it finished, private donors contributed \$178,000 to build the new memorial. Secretary of State Ralph Munro, who along with Gov. Booth Gardner spearheaded the fund drive, will be part of a group which presents a check to the state, returning its portion.

6,500 attend

The dedication ceremonies on Memorial Day (May 25) were packed with both jubilation and extreme sorrow for the 6,500 who attended. "One minute I'd cry and the next I'd scream with joy," said Larry Heinz, who served in the Army in Vietnam and now teaches in Rochester.

When the C-130s jetted by at 1,000 feet to open the festivities, the crowd broke into a wild cheer. "Next pass they'll make their drop," yelled an unidentified voice in the mass of vets.

The jubilation continued as Munro proclaimed in fervor: "Welcome, Welcome, Welcome, WELCOME! WELCOME HOME!"

The mood quickly changed when

Munro told of three young men that he knew who perished in Southeast Asia. The governor then broke the somber mood when he proclaimed: "As of this moment, the Vietnam Memorial is officially dedicated."

An uncontrolled, boisterous cheer erupted, and many tears of joy flowed throughout the audience.

Another loud cheer broke out when a contingent of vets handed Gardner the metal container with the 1,001 names that were entombed in the old memorial.

The mood continued to shift in response to patriotic hymns and the words from a series of speakers.

Finally, as the ceremonies drew to a close, Mary Stout, national secretary for the Vietnam Veterans of America, told of the love, compassion and bonding that she witnessed as an Army nurse at the 2nd Surgical Hospital at An Khe and Chu Lai.

"Guys with feet blown off asked about those with no legs. Those with no legs wanted to know how I was doing. These folks cared for one another, and it is time America cared for them," she said.

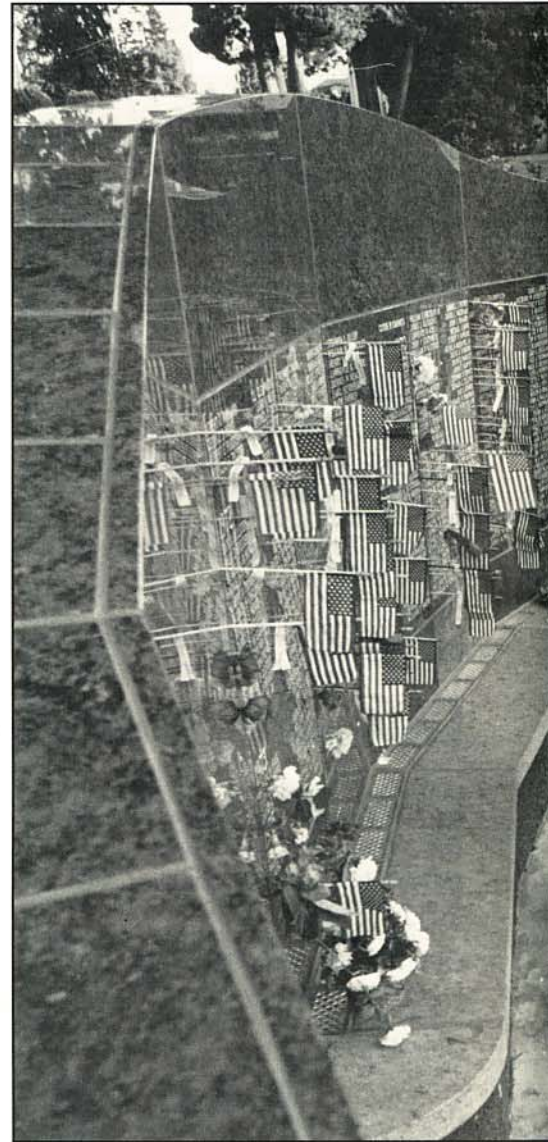
The crowd listened with deafening silence, but when she finished she drew a hearty ovation. "She hit the nail right on the head," said a cameraman from a Seattle TV station.

Guard flyover

The ceremony ended with a Washington Army National Guard helicopter flyover. There were four Cobras and a Huey. While the crowd waited for the distinctive chopping sound of the helicopters, one vet yelled, "Late again!" Another responded: "Ya, but they always showed up when you needed 'em."

After the aircraft made their initial passes, the Huey broke away from the formation and flew to nearby Capitol Lake, where the crew hovered and dropped a wreath in honor of the dead and missing in action. Then the Cobras returned and ended the dedication with a missing-man formation flyover.

The posting of the colors and the symbolism of the missing-man formation that ended the ceremonies were more than many could handle. Vets and family members wept openly, hugging



Soldiers from years gone by study the memor

one another. The pain was obvious, and it seemed as fresh as the day they learned their loved ones weren't coming home.

The massive crowd flocked into the memorial to get a brief glimpse of the name of a family member or friend now etched into the wall.

"It was one of the most moving experiences of my life," Col. Don Hagglund, new Troop Command commander indicated after the ceremonies. "I'm glad that we drove down from Everett to be part of it."

Covert summarized it best: "We now have peace with honor." ■

erful memories



A symbolic break in the wall is in the shape of Vietnam.



Vets make their way forward to read the names.



Together once again, proud comrades reflect on the wall.



Speakers draw applause from vets.



Vietnamese community chose this occasion to express their appreciation to Vietnam vets.

Vietnam Legacy

Guard provides choppers, troopers, tooters

By Sgt. Cindy Loughran

Washington Army National Guard and Air National Guard personnel participated in ceremonies dedicating the Vietnam War Memorial in Olympia on Memorial Day.

A color guard from the 3rd Battalion, 161st Infantry (M) in Kent marched, as members of the 133rd Army National Guard Band played to the large crowd attending the ceremonies.

Capt. David E. English, recruiting and retention officer, Camp Murray, coordinated the ground troops and air show for the event.

"Letters were sent out to the various units throughout Washington for volunteers to participate. Approximately 30 people responded," English said.

Volunteers from the 124th ARCOM, 104th Training Division, and Air National Guard members from throughout the state, stood in formation with active Army and Air Force troops during the ceremony, along with representatives of the Navy, Marines and Coast Guard.

A dramatic flyover and wreath drop into Capitol Lake was performed by the Attack Helicopter Troop, 116th Armored Cavalry, Camp Murray.



A flyover of Cobra gunships elicits a salute from those attending the dedication. (Photo by Maj. Don C. Brunell)

"The hardest part of the entire planning was getting the helicopters there on time," English recalled. "We started them out at a slower speed, and had to increase it considerably, when we realized they were going to be late."

Veterans in attendance were heard nostalgically referring to the chopper's timeliness during the Vietnam War, and how they "always showed up when you needed them" — as they did for the ceremony. ■

Symbolism adds to impact of 'The Wall'

Story and photo by
Maj. Don C. Brunell

The new Washington State Vietnam Memorial faces southwesterly, in the direction of that long yet narrow nation where war claimed 58,000 American lives.

Its design is symbolic in a number of ways. The circular wall represents the circle of life; the undulating top of the wall signifies both the highs and lows of life as well as the hills and mountains of Washington state.

There is one break in the circle — a carved cutout in the shape of North and South Vietnam. The cut signifies the break in the circle of life caused by the war.

Beginning at the cut and moving from right to left are the names of 1,077 Washington residents killed or missing in action in Southeast Asia. The names, engraved in dark green (black appear-



The memorial is a lasting tribute to those who did not return.

ing) granite, are positioned so that they can be touched by all, including children and those in wheelchairs.

The names are listed in order of casualty: the first occurs in 1963 and the last in 1975. Space was left on the wall for additional casualties who may be identified later. Those missing in action have a cross beside their names. If they return home safely, their names will be

removed from the memorial.

The memorial cost \$178,000 and all of the funds came from private sources. A check for \$78,000 will be returned to the Washington Legislature which provided contingency funds.

It is open 24-hours, 365 days per year. The monument has spaces along side each name to place flowers or American flags. ■

Civil War revisited

Comment by Maj. Don C. Brunell

In 1868, the Grand Army of the Republic decided to decorate graves in Arlington National Cemetery to pay tribute to their fallen comrades. America was emerging from its darkest years. The Civil War scars were deep. Its casualty list numbered more than one million dead, crippled or maimed.

The end of May was selected as an appropriate time because spring represented a new beginning. The flowers in our nation's capital were in full bloom. It was known then as Decoration Day because a crowd of 5,000—many Civil War veterans—placed small flags and flowers on each grave.

Gen. and Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant presided over the ceremonies. Oddly enough, the festivities centered around the mourning-draped veranda of the Arlington mansion, once the home of Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee. As Grant looked down from the rolling Virginia hills overlooking the Potomac toward our nation's capitol, he saw the white headstones of some of the 360,222 soldiers from the Union army who died in battle. The 258,000 Confederate soldiers were buried elsewhere.

Following the speeches, children from the Soldiers and Sailors Orphan Home and the Grand Army led a procession through Arlington. Prayers were said, hymns sung, and flowers were scattered on the graves. A sprinkling of the 275,000 Yankee wounded trailed along.

Memorial Day 1987

In Olympia, Memorial Day 1987 was remarkably similar to the first Decoration Day. On May 25, the new Vietnam Veterans Memorial was dedicated before a crowd of 6,500—more than 1,000 of whom were combat veterans from Southeast Asia. Again there were speeches, prayers and patriotic songs. But this time the graves were not decorated with flowers; instead a black granite wall housing the names of 1,077 Washingtonians who died or remain missing in action had hundreds of flowers and flags placed in it. There were floral arrangements and memorabilia at the base of the monument.

The procession wasn't led by chil-



The Curtis-Lee Mansion overlooks the serenity of the Arlington National Cemetery. (Photo by Capt. David Matthews)

dren, but by the soldiers who fought and the relatives that lost loved ones.

Just as the Civil War tore the nation apart, so did Vietnam. Some 58,000 Americans died or remain missing in action.

In both wars, there were no real winners, and soldiers were sent home to piece their lives together. There were no tickertape parades through the New York streets. Many who left Hometown, U.S.A., with arms and legs came back with one or more limbs missing.

The emotional scars of watching friends get blown away by land mines—many times placed by children, women and the aged—was too much to handle. Some GIs couldn't handle the readjustment and died of self-inflicted wounds. Statistics indicate that Civil War veterans probably faced the same stress, especially on the Confederate side because only 37 percent survived after 25 years. Seventy percent of the Union veterans, however, lived to see 1890.

After the Civil War, America faced physical reconstruction. Fortunately, the Vietnam conflict was fought 10,000 miles away. But while the evidence of destruction in the 1860s was there for everyone to see, television, for the first time, brought war's devastation to American viewers each evening on the 6 o'clock news.

The unfolding events on the battlefields near Da Nang, Khe Sahn, Hue and Pleiku sparked protests and deep divisions in our country. Suddenly, the high-school football stars who left home, like their fathers and grandfathers to defend freedom, were now disgraced and labeled "baby-killers."

There would be no bands and politicians to welcome them home—only an ungrateful country hoping to hide its shame by casting the veterans into exile.

It was just as hard for the Vietnam vet to face his family and neighbors as it was for the Civil War soldiers to face the brother or friend that fought for the opposite side.

Wounds heal slowly

It is often said that "War is Hell!" No doubt, the death and destruction far outweigh anything positive that may develop. The dead cannot be resurrected, at least in this life, and limbs are not naturally restored. Emotional trauma can't be erased with a stroke of a magic wand, but with time and caring, bonding and healing can occur.

Mary Stout, national secretary of the Vietnam Veterans of America, said it best at the Olympia dedication. As an Army nurse serving with the 2nd Surgical Hospital at An Khe and Chu Lai, she saw an army of wounded.

"The concern and bonding among those who fought in Vietnam was incredible," she concluded. "Guys with feet blown off asked about those with no legs. Those with no legs wanted to know how I was doing. These folks cared for one another and it is time America cared for them."

Our nation lost a lot 125 years ago and lost a lot in the last two decades. Compassion and forgiveness often are too long in coming. Maybe a couple of black granite walls with listings of the dead and missing in action will speed up the process this time. ■

Vietnam fallout: Some governors object to Guard ODT

By Sp4 Richard J. Rabe

Who is our boss? Is it the governor or the president?

As men and women in the National Guard, we have many missions in times of war and times of peace, but where that mission is located on the globe is now a matter of debate.

When the governors of California, Maine and Massachusetts vetoed participation in training in Honduras, the Pentagon and National Guard Bureau stood up and took notice. In 1986 12 governors vetoed the trips, and others said they will decide each case individually.

Trying to solve the question of ultimate authority is not an easy one. An amendment to United States Code section 501, title 32 offered by Mississippi Congressman "Sonny" Montgomery has banned governors' vetoes under specified conditions:

"(c) With regard to active duty outside the United States, its territories, and its possessions, the consent of the Governor described in section 672(b) and 672(d) of title 10 may not be withheld in whole or in part because of any objection to the location, purpose, type, or schedule of such active duty."

According to Montgomery, "Under this amendment, the governors still have the authority to block the training if he or she thinks the Guardsmen are needed at home for local emergencies."

Minnesota suit

Congress' effort to take away the governors' power to keep their state's Army and Air National Guard units from taking part in overseas training has met resistance in Minnesota. The states' rights issue has been raised.

A suit has been filed there to 1) enjoin Minnesota Guard troops from ODT in 1987, and to 2) challenge the constitutionality of the Montgomery Amendment, based on the militia clause.

The Minnesota suit may be influential in determining further actions by the nation's governors.

The apparent concern is that some Guardsmen may not return from missions in Central America, given the volatile political conditions in the region.

However, the former Chief of the National Guard Bureau, Lt. Gen. Emmett H. Walker, Jr. said when the controversy arose, "We are there to train,

nothing more. We have no desire or plan to provoke attacks or endanger the lives of our people. We have not been asked to place Guardsmen in harm's way by anyone—military or civilian—and we don't expect to be asked.

"When the Guard accepted its role in the total force, we as a nation agreed that the Guard was a full partner in the nation's military ability," Walker continued, "and with the agreement came the responsibility to accept the missions we were assigned."

Views vary

Part of the problem is that there is no real consensus in either the Senate or in the House over what to do.

Sen. J. James Exon, D-Neb., calls the situation, "Terribly overblown," while Sen. Phil Gramm, R-Texas, said the governors' vetoes could lead to future vetoes of training in Germany or Korea.

Sen. Pete Wilson, R-Calif., referred to it as a major problem that needs a quick remedy. Sen. John Glenn, D-Ohio, thinks the issue is essentially political and asks, "Why Honduras? Why not Panama? Why now?"

Sen. Carl M. Levin, D-Mich., said he

found it particularly troubling that Air Guardsmen were on training status when they flew refueling missions in the April 1986 air raid on Libya.

James H. Webb, the assistant defense secretary for reserve affairs, said the incident points out that Reservists and Guardsmen routinely take part in military operations, and that there may need to be some intermediate status between training and a major call-up.

Walker said the vetoes have been only an irritant to Guard Bureau planners and do not constitute a serious problem. He said that NGB has had the power to withhold federal money and equipment to assure state Guard participation in foreign training. He also noted that NGB has negotiated with various states to avoid vetoes.

Deployments to Central and South America in 1987 are projected to include about 9,500 Army and Air Guard members from 16 states. The training will also involve military construction and providing medical care in the host countries.

Army Guard deployments worldwide are projected at 27,800, of which only 7,500 would be to Latin America. ■



Training in Panama, Tennessee Guardsmen test newly-erected floating bridge that spans watery trade barrier for natives.

Registration system assures manpower pool is available

Story and photo by
SFC Joe Zambone

There are 13 "invisible" National Guard officers lurking around Washington state; they often spend weekend drills in civilian clothes, laboring at a task so obscure few of their peers ever see them, let alone know they exist.

They work with the Selective Service System, part of our nation's provision for supplying military manpower during wartime.

Col. Vern Pierson, the military head of our state's system, explained to *Evergreen* how things work. It's complicated, so Lt. Col. Loren Wharton, his second in command, helped translate. Both men work out of Camp Murray, in a small room above the entrance to Building 1; a civilian state director, Ed Weinbrecht, rounds out the management team at state headquarters.

"Nationwide, the Selective Service mission is twofold," explained Pierson. "To provide manpower for activation, and to provide alternative jobs for conscientious objectors (COs). In peacetime, men register with Selective Service—don't use the word *draft*—when they turn 18 years of age. Their names go on file with this civilian agency."

When war is declared, Selective Service local boards gear up to ease the civilian side of inducting large numbers of recruits. They process requests for deferment or CO status, ensure that inductees arrive on time at the processing station, decide on things like hardship cases, and line up suitable jobs for COs in fields such as health, safety or welfare.

Each of our state's 34 local boards serves an area of about 5,000 service-age civilian men. Board members are appointed by the President, and are unpaid except for per diem reimbursement. They must not be retired service members or currently serving, but can have military service in their past.

"This eliminates the chance of a military person bringing pressure to bear, one way or the other, to influence an inductee's future," added Wharton.

Although local board members are appointed by the President, they must be nominated by their state's governor. That's where our rarely-seen Guard officers earn their pay; their key mission is to keep each local board at its full five-member strength.

"We actively recruit board members," Pierson said. "We look for community leaders and public-spirited citizens, and sometimes hear about good prospects by word-of-mouth. We interview them, select or reject them and put their names on the waiting list for a local board area."



Lt. Col. Loren Wharton

Local board members receive 12 hours of initial training, administered by Pierson's crew, plus four more hours yearly at a local board meeting.

There are nine Selective Service area offices in Washington state—Spokane, Bremerton, Kennewick, Wenatchee, Yakima, Longview, Mount Vernon, Seattle and Tacoma—each located in an existing active component recruiting office. The state's two MEPS (Military Enlistment Processing Station) facilities, in Spokane and Seattle, also have a Selective Service liaison officer. That's a total of 13 officers involved with Selective Service in this state, of which 11 are National Guard and two are Army Reserve.

"Area office managers are responsible for local boards in their area," explained Wharton, "but their duties don't end there. They address high-school audiences about Selective Service registration, speak to civic and fraternal groups, visit all high schools with 500 or more students to promote registration, and in general try to ensure that all registration-age males in their area have indeed registered."

"Most of this promotional work is on

our own time," added Pierson. "It takes a lot of free time, working in the field away from the office. And we wear civilian clothing when we're not at the state headquarters office, which makes us even more invisible to our Guard peers."

If the Selective Service is activated, the Guard team must swing into action within 72 hours. Their job is to keep local boards running smoothly, immediately replacing members who drop out or get sick. "We're sort of on-call all the time," chuckled Lt. Col. Bill Moore, an area office manager, "and we'd better be movin' out smartly when the balloon goes up."

In wartime, area offices will acquire the services of 27 full-time active component recruiters, who will help run things for as long as 45 days or until civilian employees can be hired. In a pinch, Selective Service is authorized to hire GS-level government employees to staff area offices.

There are already close ties between recruiters and area offices. They share the same buildings, and even the same computer equipment, for which the Selective Service System has paid its share.

"We borrow the recruiters for two days every year," explained Wharton, "to train them in area office procedures. This year, 39 recruiters will try out a two-day exercise, from May through June, and they'll actually take over area offices and run them, sort of hands-on training in working with the immense load of paperwork we have to deal with."

Our Guard Selective Service team is acknowledged as pretty sharp by their peers in other states. "This year," said Pierson, "California asked us to help register high school students in the Los Angeles area, so we all went down there this spring. We got some valuable training in dealing with huge numbers of registrations."

Pierson and his team are part of STARC, under the direction of the adjutant general in peacetime. They're paid by the Guard, which is reimbursed by the Selective Service System. In time of mobilization, however, they fall under the direction of the President of the United States.

"It's a rotten job," said Moore, tongue in cheek "but somebody's gotta do it." ■

RAOC says 'I like Ike'

By Sp4 Richard J. Rabe

There was only one "Ike," and there's only one Eisenhower Trophy. The man was the top-ranking general in a time of great leaders like Patton, Bradley, and MacArthur; and the award that bears his name is tops in Washington state. Its symbol is a handsome gold cup weighing at least 30 pounds.

The trophy signifies extraordinary achievement in many areas, and winning it is a huge honor for the 116th Rear Area Operations Center (RAOC).

To be in the running for the award, a unit must be battalion size and must first earn the Superior Unit award. The criteria for superior unit include maintaining minimum monthly levels of 95 percent in personnel, MOS qualification, attendance at both monthly as-



Capt. Michael Tracy and Lt. Col. Ronald McAfee of the 116th ROAC proudly display the Eisenhower Trophy. (Photo by Sgt. Don Green)

semblies and at annual training, weapons qualification and other evaluations of performance throughout the year.

According to Lt. Col. Ronald McAfee, unit commander, the unit hasn't been under 107 percent personnel strength for seven years.

The Eisenhower award also considers the percentage of soldiers in

leadership positions who have completed U.S. Army service schools or correspondence courses.

A lot of individual efforts went into winning the trophy, and a lot of units wish they had won it; but each year there's only one to go around; if any unit can qualify. In 1986 the 116th RAOC earned that one-of-a-kind distinction. ■

Say g'day, mate, to Sixth Army Soldier of the Year

By Sgt. Cindy Loughran

Winning the Sixth U.S. Army Soldier of the Year competition took Lisa Ramsdell of the 116th RAOC, Camp Murray, well beyond 'all that you can be,' in fact, half way around the world.

Shortly after winning the competition, Lisa was selected as one of 33 soldiers nationwide participating in a Western Command (WESTSCOM) travel group to Australia. They took part in exercise PACIFIC GLANCE 87, in Sydney, May 28 through June 14.

The program was designed to reward outstanding junior soldiers by giving them a chance to interact with contemporaries from Australia and other NATO countries.

"I had never been up before a board for anything before this," said Ramsdell. "It was my first experience, and I didn't know what to expect!" Certainly, not a trip to Australia!

But the first time worked like a charm for the 27-year-old mother of two, who competed against approximately 15 male and female Guard members in the statewide competition, before winning there and again at Sixth U.S. Army Headquarters, Pre-



Sp4 Lisa Ramsdell of the 116th ROAC. (Photo by Sgt. Don Green)

sidio of San Francisco.

"The competition was held for E-1 to E-4, active Army, Reserve and National

Guard. The questions asked included military bearing, history, MOS related skills, current events and Uniform Code of Military Justice, to mention a few," Ramsdell said. "We were allowed to see and study the regulations governing the competition, and the questions seemed quite fair."

Ramsdell received a lot of encouragement from her unit and her family for the boards.

"They all backed me, all the way. My husband and I met while we both were in the service, so he was able to help me study. Whenever she saw me getting ready, my oldest daughter, who is five years old, would ask me, 'Are you going to another board, Mommy?'" Ramsdell said.

A resident of Tacoma, she has been a full-time clerk typist with the 116th RAOC since 1984. She is a veteran of active duty, serving as an intelligence analyst from 1979 to 1981.

Ramsdell plans to stay in the Guard for the full time, which will be about 30 years. It will be interesting to see what else our Soldier of the Year will do in the next 27 years to top her first try in competition. ■

All-Army Connelly Award brewing at 1041st

By SFC Joe Zambone

Under soggy April skies, six culinary experts from the 1041st Transportation Company scurried about rustling up grub fit for a king, or a company of famished troops. Tall evergreens sheltered the mess tent; it was an idyllic setting except for several eagle-eyed food preparation judges scrutinizing their every move.

It was an intense time for some of the finest cooks around. On the line was their final shot for Connelly Award food preparation fame. Doing things perfectly, with an added dash of luck, would mean sweeping every level of cooking honor: Washington National Guard, Sixth Army and All-Army.

"We work real well together," said SFC Earnest Bennett, head cook. "We're sort of like a family, and these guys are like my sons," he added through swirling clouds of steam.

No strangers to high-level competition, the tossed-salad truckers had already whipped other food service teams in the Washington Guard, as well as slicing and dicing the competition at Sixth Army level.

They did almost as well in 1985, creaming everyone at state level and marinating most Sixth Army teams to become first runners-up (a rare honor).

Unfortunately, this will be a half-baked story; the final results aren't in at press time. Connelly Award judges must inspect food prep teams in each army area before 1987 winners are announced.

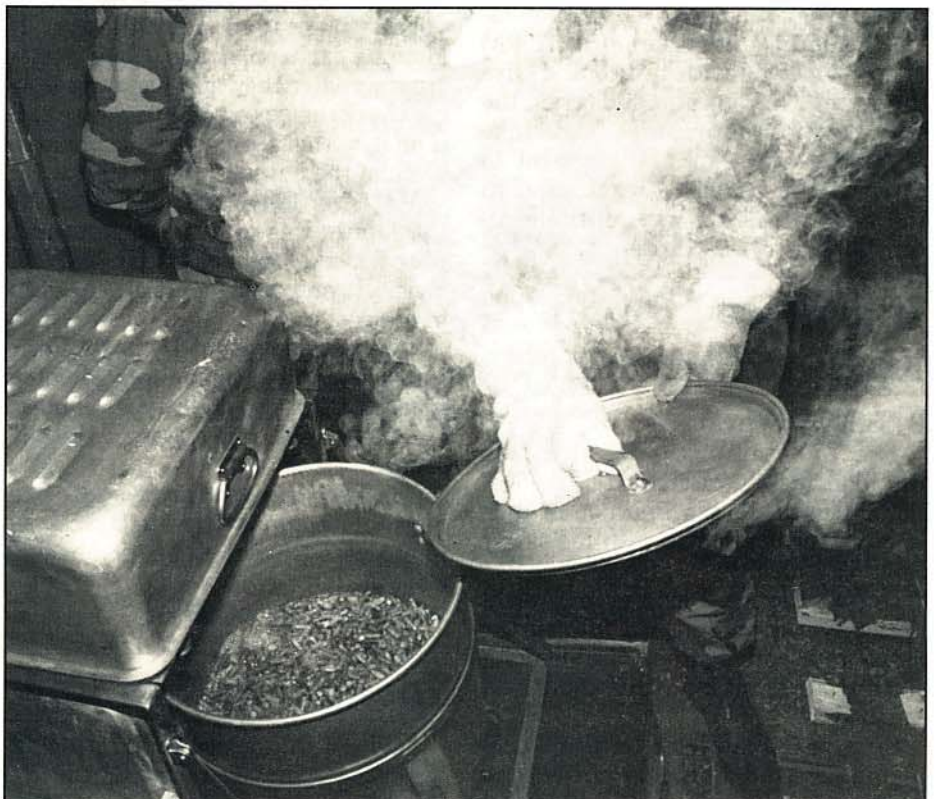
Tune in next issue to learn if the 1041st Transportation Company's fabulous fryers roasted their competi-



1041st Food Strategist, SFC Earnest Bennett.



Sgt. Michael Mason displays his unit's confidence after winning Sixth Army's Connelly Award.



The proof of the Connelly is in the pudding and other culinary delights. (Photos by Sgt. Don Green)

Direct deposit your paycheck

Why should you sign up for electronic funds transfer?

USAFAC is offering you an improved method to receive your JUMPS-RC pay. It is called Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). EFT is a government program that allows you to have your payment deposited directly into your personal checking or savings account — automatically!

EFT eliminates the possibility of your check being lost, stolen or delayed in delivery. If you are sick, in the hospital, on vacation, or out of town on business, you will know that your funds have been safely deposited in your checking or savings account. You will continue to receive your Leave and Earnings Statement (LES) when you attend your next drill. If you need to know the amount deposited before then, contact your bank or your unit.

Join the growing ranks of over 20 million satisfied people who are already using Direct Deposit. To enroll, simply contact the financial organization of your choice (bank, savings bank, savings and loan organization or credit union). They will assist you in completing the authorization form (SF 1199A) and provide you with two copies. Give the original to your unit and retain the other copy for your records. It will take 30-60 days for your first payment to arrive at your financial organization. In the meantime, you will continue receiving your checks as before. ■

Biathletes finish sixth in Vermont

By SSgt. Kevin Davis

The Washington National Guard Biathlon Team participated in the National Guard Bureau Biathlon in Burlington, Vermont along with 154 skiers from 32 states.

During the week-long event, Washington biathletes finished fifth in the patrol race and eighth in the relay for sixth overall, making this their best finish year.

First-year biathletes on the Washington team did well in the novice competition. AIC Scott Jonas from the 141st Information Systems Flight placed first in the Novice 7.5K, first in the

Novice 10K, and first in the Novice Combined.

SrA. Jim Broberg, 105th Tactical Control Squadron, placed second in the Novice 7.5K, third in the Novice 10K, and second in the Novice Combined. 2nd Lt. Dave Colvin, Company C, 1st Battalion, 161st Infantry (M) placed second in the Novice 10K.

Biathlon is a combination of two sports that require an individual to excel in cross-country skiing and target shooting. ■

Check LES, then shop commissary

By SSgt. Bob Rosenburgh

So, you have your LES from December 19, 1986. And there's the Commissary Entitlement Stamp overprinted onto it. Now, you and your dependents are all set to head for the fort for some serious bargain shopping.

Whoa, there! Slow down and take a second look. Like everything else, commissary privileges are backed up by official papers that need all the right blocks filled, the T's crossed and the I's dotted.

Take that million-dollar December LES, for example. It must have a list of your authorized dependents. If Momma isn't on it she'll feel pretty crummy when they turn her away. Double-check that your administrative unit is on it, with a signature and signature block of the authenticating official.

All there? Great. But don't jump in the family wagon just yet. You need your Reserve Component ID card (DD Form 2A) and dependents also need ID to enter.

The best dependent ID is DA Form 1531, Army/Reserve Family Member Identification, but other types of photo ID can be used, like a state driver's license.

OK. LES with overprint and pertinent information? Check! ID cards or photo ID? Check! Cash or checks? Check!

Let's go shopping! ■

Incapacitation pay

Soldiers injured or contracting/aggravating a diseased condition in the line of duty after Nov. 14, 1986 come under a new incapacitation pay policy.

The new policy affects Guard mem-

bers who are injured in the line of duty while performing MOS duties or who suffer injuries while traveling directly to and from all types of training.

Loss of income, to include both civilian and military salary for all injuries or disease conditions found to be in the line of duty, will be considered.

Incapacitation pay will be offset by any private income protection insurance plan.

The maximum period of payment will not exceed six months, unless a greater period of time is authorized by the Service Secretary concerned.

If the soldier is unable to perform both their civilian and military duties, then incapacitation pay will be paid based on military grade and years of service.

If the soldier is able to work at his civilian job but is unable to perform military duty, then his pay would be limited to inactive duty for training pay that would have been earned during the period of incapacitation.

For a soldier who is unable to perform his civilian occupation but is able to perform military duty, incapacitation pay will be based on military grade and years of service.

If military compensation exceeds the civilian salary, then military compensation will be further reduced to equal the civilian salary loss. On the other hand, where the civilian salary exceeds the soldier's pay, the maximum payment is based on the military pay scale for that soldier's grade and years of service. ■

Editor's apology

Apologies to the soldiers of the 1041st and 1161st Transportation Companies from Ephrata. The April 1987 *Evergreen* carried a story on page 12 about these award-winning units, but in noting that each unit had nine women soldiers, a typo confused the nature of their jobs.

What should have read "several officer positions" said "office positions." Knowing that both units take pride in their women officers, drivers, mechanics, and section leaders, we regret the false implication of the typo. ■

SRIP officer bonuses

By SFC Doris Nelson

Unless it receives congressional approval to continue, the current selected reserve incentive program (SRIP) will expire Sept. 30, 1987. However, MSgt. Jim Addington, incentive manager, says the outlook for renewal of SRIP is good.

During the first three months of this year the program has paid a total of \$238,945 to our soldiers to help them with their educational pursuits. The approximately 2,500 people involved in these programs at this time will not be affected by the expiration date.

Addington stressed that the rules and criteria change every year. Interested personnel need to be aware of the

criteria in order to qualify for the bonuses or the student loan repayment program.

For soldiers meeting these criteria, SRIP includes enlistment bonuses for non-prior service personnel (maximum \$2,000), retention bonuses for current members of the Guard (maximum \$2,500), affiliation bonuses for soldiers coming off active duty (maximum \$7,200), and student loan repayment program for all members of the Guard (maximum \$10,000).

"We paid a million dollars this year in incentives to bring in qualified people," said Addington. Approximately 900 new people are added to the program every year.

Addington explained that the student loan repayment program may be used with many other programs, such as the retention bonuses. Also, he said, "Once you complete the enlistment or

affiliation bonus, you can sign up for the retention bonus, provided you meet the qualifications of each at the time of application."

The new GI Bill and these programs are completely separate. You can have both. "Some at retention are signing up for the GI Bill, retention bonus, and student loan repayment program for approximately \$18,000 in benefits over a six-year extension," said Addington.

"If you are eligible, don't put off signing up for them because the criteria may change and they might not be available.

"The bonuses plus drill pay is a good way to pay your way through college. We never have had so many benefits," Addington said.

Interested personnel should contact their unit retention NCO for more information. ■

Air Guard Awards

General's Trophy presented to 241st

By Capt. Stephen Crowell

Maj. Gen. Keith Eggen presented the Adjutant General's Trophy to the members of the 241st Civil Engineering Squadron of the Air Guard in ceremonies on March 7. The award represents the adjutant general's recognition of the 241st for superior performance during the preceding year.

"It all came together for us in 1986," said Lt. Col. Jacob Armstrong, commander of the 241st. "The high morale, excellent training program, the quality of our engineering work, and the 'Excellent' rating on our recent Management Effectiveness Inspection (MEI) were all conclusive evidence that the people in this unit have been doing excellent work. I am pleased that the adjutant general has chosen to recognize the 241st."

The 241st, which has been in existence only six years, received its first MEI during November of 1986 and acquired the coveted outcome of "Excellent Overall."

During the year, the unit managed the construction of three new buildings valued at more than \$2 million while continuing to maintain other Washington National Guard real estate.

Members of the unit deployed during April 1986 to Eglin AFB for "Prime BEEF" rapid runway repair training, simulating the post-attack emergency runway repair service.

They assisted the Washington Department of Transportation with extensive engineering and construction work at Bandera Airfield near Snoqualmie Pass and performed significant community service work during 1986. ■

Prather outstanding team chief of '86

A member of Everett's 215th Engineering Installation Squadron was named 1986 Air National Guard Engineer Installation Team Chief of the Year, at ceremonies held at Tinker Air Force Base, Okla.

TSgt. Robert Earl Prather was selected in the worldwide competition for his work quality and quantity, safety, leadership, training adaptability, and customer relations/satisfaction. He has led teams in erecting Air Force communications systems around the world.

Asked how he felt about being number one, Prather said, "It feels very gratifying, because of the people who did the work for me. If it wasn't for them, none of this would be possible." ■

TSgt. Hurlbut, NCO of Year

By Capt. Stephen Crowell

TSgt. Terry Lee Hurlbut of the 241st Civil Engineering Squadron has been named the Washington Air Guard NCO of the Year. Hurlbut specializes as an instructor and heavy equipment operator for the 241st at Camp Murray.

When a major mission reorganization required rapid cross-training for nearly half the squadron in heavy equipment operation, Hurlbut volunteered to train and certify all 40 of them on as many as nine different pieces of heavy equipment including bulldozers, road graders and backhoes.

Though the training schedule was demanding, Hurlbut was frequently cited for his "safety first" approach, and he is given significant credit for his squadron's record of no vehicle accidents during the year.

Hurlbut has volunteered many hours of his off-duty time in support of Highline School District, where he established a "Walking and Bicycle Safety" program. This program is now being copied and implemented at 25 different schools.

Hurlbut was presented the NCO of the Year award by Maj. Gen. Keith Eggen, the adjutant general, during the March unit training assembly. ■

Health Benefits

Benefits open to under-60, 'gray area' Guard retirees

"Gray area" retirees (Guard and Reserve retirees who have received their 20-year letter notifying them of eligibility for retired pay at age 60 but who are not yet age 60) are entitled to certain benefits. These benefits are:

Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) — The Reserve Plan Under Age 60: A September 30, 1978, amendment to the Survivor Benefit Plan allowed Guardsmen and Reservists gray area retirees for the first time an opportunity to participate in the SBP program upon completion of 20 years of service. Under the new plan, Guardsmen and Reservists were given the option of electing coverage for spouse, spouse and child, child alone, or those Guardsmen or Reservists without a spouse or children could elect to cover a person who had an insurable interest in the individual such as a relative or business partner. Upon completion of 20 years, the member must elect one of the following options:

Option A — The gray area retiree can decide to delay the decision for or against SBP until reaching age 60. If this option is taken and the retiree dies before reaching age 60, no SBP benefits are payable. However, if the retiree lives to age 60, then he or she could elect or decline SBP coverage at that time.

Option B — The gray area retiree may elect SBP with benefits to be payable on the date he or she would have reached age 60 if death occurs before that date. If the Guardsman dies after

age 60, the annuity payment would begin the day after the date of the death.

Option C — The gray area retiree may elect to have the survivor receive an immediate annuity payable on the date of the member's death whether before or after age 60.

Requirements to elect in writing — The Guardsmen will have three months from receipt of notice of completion of 20 years of creditable service to elect in writing one of these options. If no election is made by the Guardsman within the three months following notification, the member is presumed to have elected Option A, that is, to have delayed the election until age 60. An election not to participate at the maximum level (participating at the maximum level means the retiree elected to have all of his or her retired pay be the amount used as the base for determining SBP payments later) or to decline coverage during the interim period between receiving the 20-year letter and age 60 requires the concurrence of the spouse.

A Guardsman without a spouse or dependent children upon completion of 20 years of service who later marries or parents a child will have one year from the date of marriage or the acquisition of the child to elect SBP.

There is no cost for Reserve Component Survivor Benefit Plan coverage until the retiree reaches age 60 and is entitled to retired pay. Then the monthly cost is deducted from retired

pay.

Servicemen's Group Life Insurance (SGLI): Individuals assigned to the Retired Reserve Control Group who have at least 20 qualifying years of service for retirement but who have not been certified for retired pay or have not reached age 61, are eligible for full-time SGLI coverage until they receive retired pay or turn 61 whichever is earlier. Members in this category should apply on SGLI Form 8713 to the Office of Servicemen's Group Life Insurance, 213 Washington St., Newark, NJ 07102. Information on premium payments will be furnished by that office.

Space Available Travel: Gray area retirees are eligible for Space-A seating on military aircraft between Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam and the continental United States, or within these same regions.

When traveling Space-A, the gray area retiree should carry a valid red ID card (DD Form 2) and a letter from your military department indicating that you have completed at least 20 years of qualifying service and will be eligible to receive reserve retired pay upon reaching age 60. The family members of gray area retirees are not eligible to travel Space-A, but they will be when the retiree reaches age 60. If you did not receive a Red ID card after 20 years service, write to: Commander, ARPERCEN; ATT: DARP-PAS-EVC, 9700 Page Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63132-5200. For Air Guardsmen write to: Air Reserve Personnel Center, Denver, CO 80280-5000.

This article was prepared by ARPERCEN. For more information call toll free, at 800-325-8311. ■

New law increases Guard health benefits

Health benefits for Reserve soldiers recently increased with passage of the Armed Forces Reserve Health Care Benefits Act.

Under the new law, Reserve soldiers who are injured, become ill, or suffer from an illness that worsens during, on the way to, or returning from military duty or training may be eligible to receive government-paid medical treatment for the condition. Also, soldiers who are partially or completely disabled by illnesses or injuries contracted or worsened in conjunction with performing their duties may qualify for the compensation.

Under the law, Reserve Component soldiers participating in physical training or undergoing 40-and-over cardiovascular screening are eligible for several new benefits. "Before, a Reserve Component soldier injured during PT would receive no health care, no incapacitation pay, and no disability," Lamude said. "Now, the soldier is covered for health care, incapacitation and disability; and his family may be eligible for survivor benefits." The old law didn't prohibit 40-and-over screening and PT for Reservists, but made it difficult because of lack of proper protection under law.

A soldier will not automatically receive benefits. A review board will decide each case on an individual basis. The board takes into account various factors, including whether the soldier was injured in the line of duty and whether he was 'employed' in a military capacity.

Until passage of the act, entitlements differed according to the military member's branch of service, Reserve Component affiliation, and category of training. Also, eligibility for treatment and compensation for injured soldiers differed from that which was available for ill soldiers. ■

Health Issues

Testing, vital weapon in war against AIDS

Story and photos by
Sp4 Richard Rabe

We learn first aid for battle, Farm Aid helps agriculturalists, and a Band-Aid helps heal a cut, but clearly not all aids help. In fact, AIDS kills!

Although we've been bombarded with news of this deadly virus, few Americans are completely aware of the long-term ramifications of AIDS. According to 1st Lt. Janet Bates, the Washington State National Guard POC for the AIDS screening project, it could be 10 years or more until a cure is found.

Even more frightening is the chance that no cure will ever be discovered.

At a recent press conference, President Reagan called for increased routine testing of hospital patients and health care workers as well as prison inmates and immigrants to the U.S. A small but vocal portion of those in attendance booed and hissed their displeasure with the commander-in-chief's proposals. Public opinion seems equally divided on the question of testing.

Drugs are being sold in Mexico and Canada that control the symptoms or outbreaks of the virus, but it still reproduces itself during an incubation period of anywhere from two months to five years. The most positive research stems from a French spermicide contraceptive which in lab tests kills the



1st Lt. Janet Bates, coordinator for the AIDS screening project (center), looks on as James Adams takes a blood sample from MSgt. Ron Ayers.

virus.

Dr. Jean-Claude Chermann of the Pasteur Institute reports that benzalkonium chloride, "is enough to render the AIDS-causing HIV virus totally inactive."

But one of his team members, Dr. Francoise Barre-Sinoussi, warns, "The results must be taken very cautiously. We have not shown that the product prevents the transmission of AIDS in man, but simply that when the HIV virus was mixed in a test tube with the spermicide, the virus was killed, was inactivated, and that it was then unable to infect white cells or lymphocytes."

Testing of Washington National Guard personnel should be completed by November of 1987. Screening of active duty military personnel began in 1986, and positive results show up in eight out of every 1,000 as compared to one in 1,000 Army Guard soldiers, according to Bates' Guard Bureau statistics.

Of the 29,000-plus documented AIDS cases 57 percent have died, usually of pneumonia or meningitis.

Experts theorize that the origins of AIDS is in Africa, and although the strain has been found in certain species of monkeys there, not all researchers agree.

Perhaps the most notorious fact about AIDS is its transfer by homosexual activities. The next most frequent cause of spreading the disease is sharing of needles by drug abusers.

Other means of transfer are less known; they include tattooing, artificial insemination, blood-brother rituals, breast milk, childbirth, and directly during pregnancy. Three health workers caught AIDS from blood splashed onto open cuts or into the mouth.

In cases of heterosexual contact, the percentage of AIDS victims has gone up from one percent to four percent since 1983. The AIDS virus is most often found in seaport cities, where large numbers of transients are found, and Seattle ranks fifth in AIDS cases among American cities.

If military personnel test positive for the virus, they are kept in the Guard or active Army until it is determined that they are immune deficient. A non-military related medical discharge is then given, and treatment continued. While



A grimace tells it all, as Sgt. Gale Martin looks the other way while Lee Menke inserts the needle to draw blood.

on duty, those tested positive are re-evaluated yearly and barred from overseas duty, shipboard assignments, and deployable units. Exempt stations include Alaska, Hawaii, Guam, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

The nature of combat and of the blood donor buddy system make AIDS a major concern for the military. Another danger for soldiers who have the AIDS virus is the incidence of unusual diseases present in foreign lands.

Even though there is little good news about AIDS, a few things are noteworthy: It can't be spread by casual contact such as kissing or hugging, by common drinking glasses or eating utensils, nor can it be passed by sharing swimming pools or hot tubs.

Preventing the disease is happily simple; avoid high-risk activities like intercourse with prostitutes, homosexuals or bi-sexuals; and consider the most obvious, reliable, and perhaps overlooked of all impediments, abstinence. Monogamy is also making a comeback as a safety measure.

The testing of soldiers, sailors, marines and airmen is not meant to punish, but rather to help those afflicted with a killer virus. The onus is upon us to acknowledge the threat and do combat with the microbe that has changed the way we live. ■

True confessions of the deepest kind

By SFC Joe Zambone

Recently, the *Evergreen* and its staffers received another bushel or so of medals and plaques, for doing a bang-up job at producing one of America's best military publications.

This happens every year, and the casual observer probably thinks we're so proficient at slapping together our little rag by now that we're all on remote control, dropping in every few months simply to collect praise and pay vouchers.

Wrong.

Around the *Evergreen* "office" it often seems that a gen-yoo-ine disaster is about to leap up and bite us on our collective fannies. It's about like attending the average Chinese Fire Drill. Psycho wards are sedate, by comparison.

To start with, the office periodically converts to a miniature version of the Bermuda Triangle. Important items often disappear, even when passed hand-to-hand.

Several *Evergreen* cover photos entered the Triangle this year, causing Excedrin-strength dismay. One was never seen again, and two others surfaced mysteriously moments before deadline.

It's deadline Sunday as this is written, which is how the *Lighter Side* usually gets done. As my thoughts leap onto paper with glacial speed, other staffers are also on deadline. With less than a day until the whole mess goes to the printer for typesetting, no one seems real concerned. You'd get the same impression here that you'd get if you saw some clown mixing a martini as his house burned down around his ears.

No one's quite sure right now, with mere hours to go, which photo will make the front cover. As a matter of



fact, no one is really sure there is a photo, or what the cover story will be, or what happened to the Connelly Award pictures, or if Zambone will ever finish his zany column. It's that way in every news office at deadline, but this knowledge doesn't make for any less heart flutter.

With six hours to go, our quarterly disaster is shaping up nicely.

On the surface, it appears that the Disney-like birthing process which results in the *Evergreen* is more a mystical experience than any combination of effort or talent. Like it happens by accident.

But our bizarre methods of getting the job done are much the same as those used by every other Washington

National Guard unit. Indeed, the same basic methods have been used by American GIs since Ol' George camped at Valley Forge.

Somehow, when GIs are involved, it all comes together at the last moment—drill weekends, assaults on invincible enemy positions, making dead vehicles run for just one more day, or putting out command info.

Five minutes before any military shindig, large or small, an observer from another culture would be forced to predict failure, disaster or worse. He'd bet good money on the whole plan going down the flusher, because so many soldiers appear to have trouble figuring out which end is up.

He'd lose, because the American soldier is without equal in talent, ingenuity, creativity and the ability to work feverishly when the chips are down, no matter how tough the task or the odds against success. He does his homework, and puts in many off-duty hours to make sure on-duty things go right at the last minute.

These are the "mystical" qualities which allow us to put out our paper—the same unique and vibrant qualities synonymous with the term "Guard soldier." Our labors are simply more visible, and we vie for recognition nationally, not against similar units in Washington state.

We wish there was some way to share our good fortune with you readers, since each of you deserves a pat on the back, a round of applause, a medal or plaque as much as we do.

By publishing stories about you, we try to provide as much of that vital recognition as possible. Thanks for being dead-sharp, and for helping us win awards by publicizing **your** winning qualities. ■

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