

# New laws boost tuition, auto tag benefits

Two new laws passed by the 1978 Kentucky General Assembly will become effective in coming months, bringing expanded benefits to Guardsmen.

The Educational Encouragement Fund was increased to \$150,000 for the next fiscal year and the program was expanded to include many private schools throughout the state.

A spokesman for the Board that administers the fund said that the new regulations have not been finalized, but information will be sent to all units in the near future. The expanded program will be effective June 17.

The spokesman said that the complete

list of schools eligible to participate is not yet available, but general guidelines might prove useful. Generally, all accredited two and four-year schools will be eligible. These would include such schools as Berea, Brescia, Kentucky Wesleyan, Centre, and Cumberland. Business schools, such as Kentucky Business College, Draughns, and Fugazzi Business College, will also be eligible. All other schools accredited by the State Board of Proprietary Education will also be accepted.

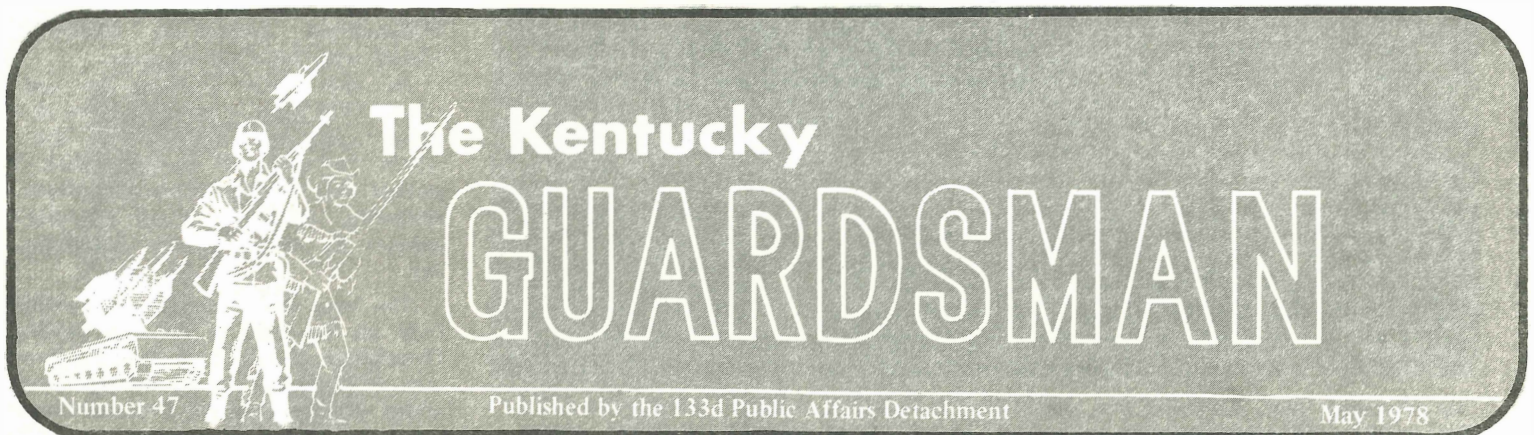
The procedure for applying will be changed to insure that all applications receive equal consideration. A deadline for making application will be imposed

during each term and only those submitted by the deadline will be considered.

The new law limits benefits to a maximum of \$250 per term or \$500 per year. In no case may the benefit exceed 50 per cent of the tuition cost and fees are no longer eligible for reimbursement.

A change to the National Guard license plate program will become effective about July 1, according to A.A. Flatt, of the state Bureau of Vehicle Regulation.

Under the new program, Guardsmen may put the Guard plate on vehicles that would normally be licensed for 6,000 pounds or less. This includes most pick-up (see "New laws," page 2)



## Armor Bn commander heads Association slate

By SP5 Maurice Denton

Maj. Maurice D. Farmer, commander of the 2nd Battalion, 123d Armor in Owensboro, was elected president of the National Guard Association of Kentucky at the annual meeting in Louisville recently.

A write-in candidate, CW4 John Flowers, was named vice-president for Army, while Maj. Joseph Kottak was selected vice-president for Air.

After Louisville Mayor William Stansbury and Jefferson County Judge Executive Mitch McConnell welcomed the group, Lt. Col. Jack Crouner, Association president, spoke of the benefits the Kentucky General Assembly had granted the Guard.

An address by Maj. Gen. Carl D. Wallace, Adjutant General of Tennessee and president of the Adjutants General Association of the U.S., highlighted the morning

session. General Wallace noted that the Guard now faces one of the most crucial periods in its history and he cited the need for improved equipment within the Guard to heighten the training program. He stressed that the Guard must be ready, well-trained, and show an increased productivity if it is to meet the challenges of the future.

Several major awards were presented during the afternoon session. The Eisenhower Trophy, given annually to the outstanding company or battery-size unit, went to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 103d Supply and Service Battalion, in Richmond. Capt. Larry D. Hitchner commands the unit.

Company C, 2nd Battalion, 123d Armor, located in Russellville, earned the Armor Leadership Award as the outstanding tank company in the Kentucky Guard. Capt. Joe W. Matlock heads that company.

The Guardsman of the Year Award was presented to SP4 Paula T. Click, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 201st Engineer Battalion, in Ashland. Other nominees for Guardsman of the Year were: XXIII Corps Artillery winner SP6 Robert L. Russell, Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment 198th Bn.; 149th Armor Brigade winner Sgt. Michael H. Carden, HHC 1st Battalion Military Police 123 Armor; and Kentucky Air Guard winner SSgt. William T. Smith.



Kentucky Air Guardsmen prepare for assignments during the "CORONET SNIPE" exercise in Sola, Norway. (Story and more photos inside)



# Wellman outlines program, sets annual goals

In a speech designed to challenge listeners, Maj. Gen. Billy G. Wellman, the Adjutant General, outlined for those attending the annual conference of the National Guard Association of Kentucky his objectives for the Kentucky Guard during 1978.

From the Air Guard, he asked three things: to achieve authorized strength, maintain a C-1 readiness rating, and win the coveted Spaatz trophy.

He challenged the Army Guard to achieve 100 per cent strength and to improve the readiness of all units.

General Wellman also called upon each officer in the Guard to actively recruit during the coming months so that the 100 per cent goal can be reached.

The general said that he would announce a reorganization of the Army Guard following annual training, and he warned that units that have failed to

show significant improvement in strength should expect changes or possible relocation.

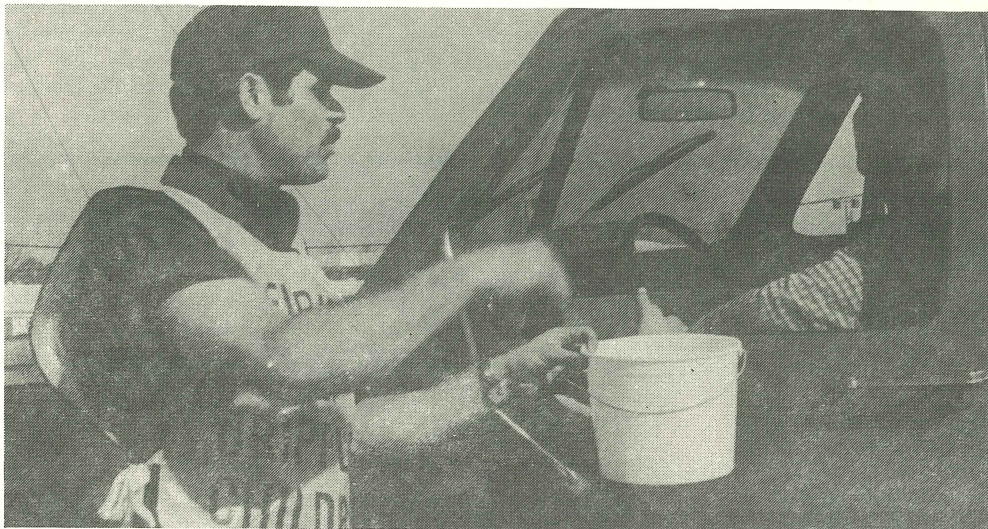
He noted the economic impact of the Guard upon communities in the state by explaining, "In 1977 the Guard contributed \$34,500,000 to the economy of the Commonwealth. These monies are stretched further when we see the federal government contributing \$15 for each Guard tax dollar invested by the state."

General Wellman praised Gov. Julian Carroll and the General Assembly for their strong support.

"Increased budgets have allowed expansion of the armory building program," he said, noting that new armories are set for Williamsburg, Springfield, Hazard and Murray over the next two years.

He also stated that by the end of spring 1978 more than \$2 million in new construction and expansion at the Air Guard facilities will be completed. The general also thanked those responsible for allocating enough money to provide janitors in every armory, beginning in July.

The tone of the speech was optimistic, built on the faith in the high quality of Guardsmen at all levels. But the message was clear: recruit to full strength and go about the business of implementing the best possible training program.



Sgt. Howard Clay, 223d MP Co., of Louisville, accepts a donation during the 1978 Easter Seal fund drive. Guardsmen across the state collected \$100,911 to aid the society for crippled children.

## Chief issues state challenge

The Chief of National Guard, Maj. Gen. LaVern Weber, has challenged each state to obtain a net gain in strength of two persons for each remaining month of the fiscal year (Oct. 1978). All Kentucky Guard units, including those units currently at 100 per cent strength, have been challenged.

Net gain is calculated by subtracting the number of enlistments from the number of discharges and extensions.

State Recruiting and Retention Officer, Capt. Elmo Head, said that the recruiting effort for March was very good and resulted in a net gain of 76 people.

"It has been several months since we have had a net gain of this magnitude," Capt. Head explained. He also noted that 40 units contributed a gain of at least one individual.

Twenty-four units either made no progress or lost members. Capt. Head said, "Many of the units are totally depending on recruiters and our goal will not be achieved unless everyone, including the commander, AST, and line troops, thinks about recruiting every day."

## New laws

(continued from page 1)

trucks and vans. Guardsmen who share joint ownership of a vehicle may now license the vehicle under the program. Previously, unclear language had prevented some from licensing vehicles unless the Guardsman's name appeared alone on the registration.

The law removed one benefit that caused considerable confusion, because the Guard plate was unique. Effective about July 1, Guardsmen trading cars will have to pay the normal pro-rated registration fee for a regular license. For example, the Guardsman trading in a car with a Guard plate will have to pay a portion of the normal \$12.50 fee to obtain a regular plate for that car. For an additional \$1, however, he will be issued a new Guard plate.

Flatt said that all Guard plates will expire at the end of the year, as they have done in the past. New plates, based on the 1977 design, will be issued each year.

## ANG deployment termed huge success

Kentucky Air Guard officials have termed the unit's participation in "Coronet Snipe" a huge success following the return of 17 RF-4 Phantoms and support crews from the Norwegian exercise.

Crews flew from early morning until late in the night, while support teams performed maintenance and the photo processing unit was kept busy. The photo missions, which were assigned by the NATO command in Oslo, were about 75 per cent successful. Almost all of the "missed" targets were attributed to the problems caused by severe weather.

The Kentuckians developed an excellent rapport with the local officials, as resolutions of appreciation from the Kentucky General Assembly and City of Louisville were presented. Additionally, the mayor of Stavanger, chairman of the city's executive council, and the base commander at Sola Air Station were appointed Kentucky Colonels.

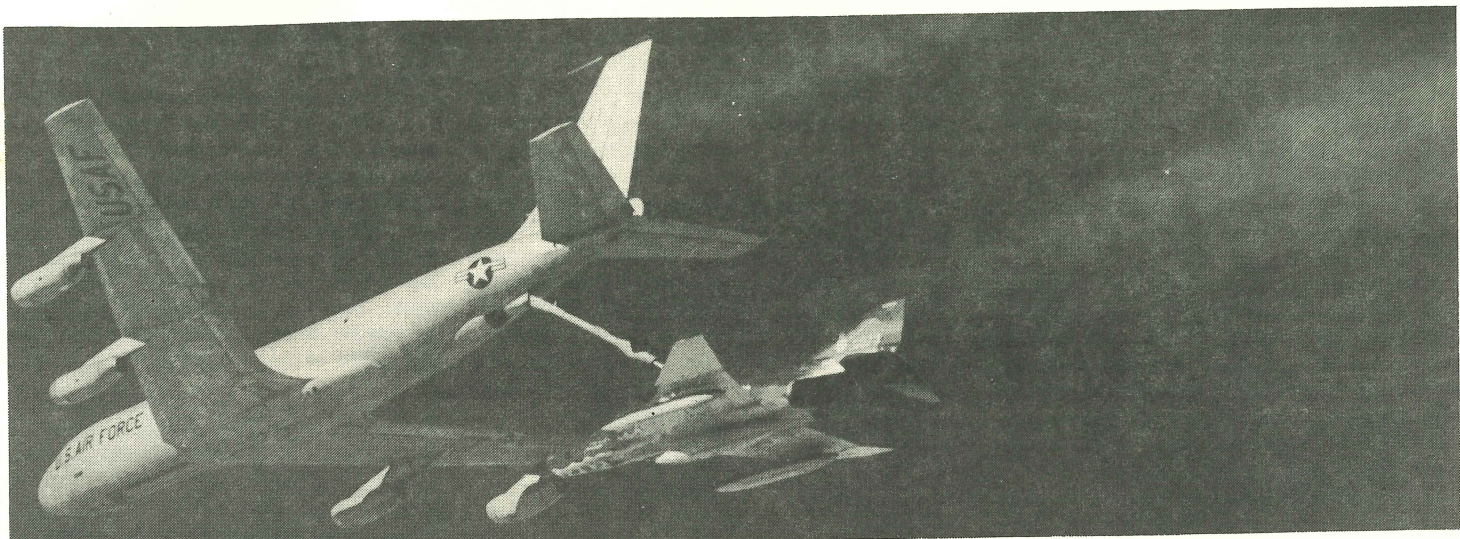
After the second week of operations, the unit returned, with seven mid-air fuel transfers.

Brigadier Alf Granviken, the Norwegian base commander, complimented the 123d Tactical Reconnaissance Wing by saying, "I think you have done a splendid job. You are as professional as any unit can be. . . . It was an eye-opener for me, and I know it was an eye-opener for my people."

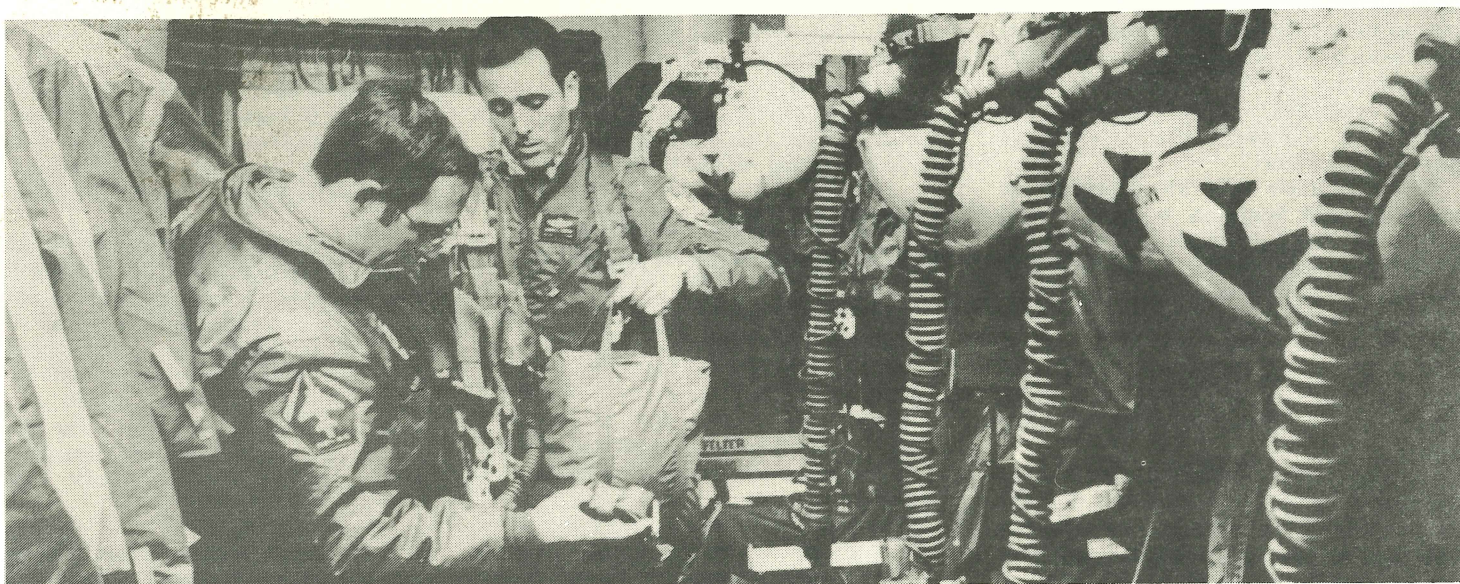
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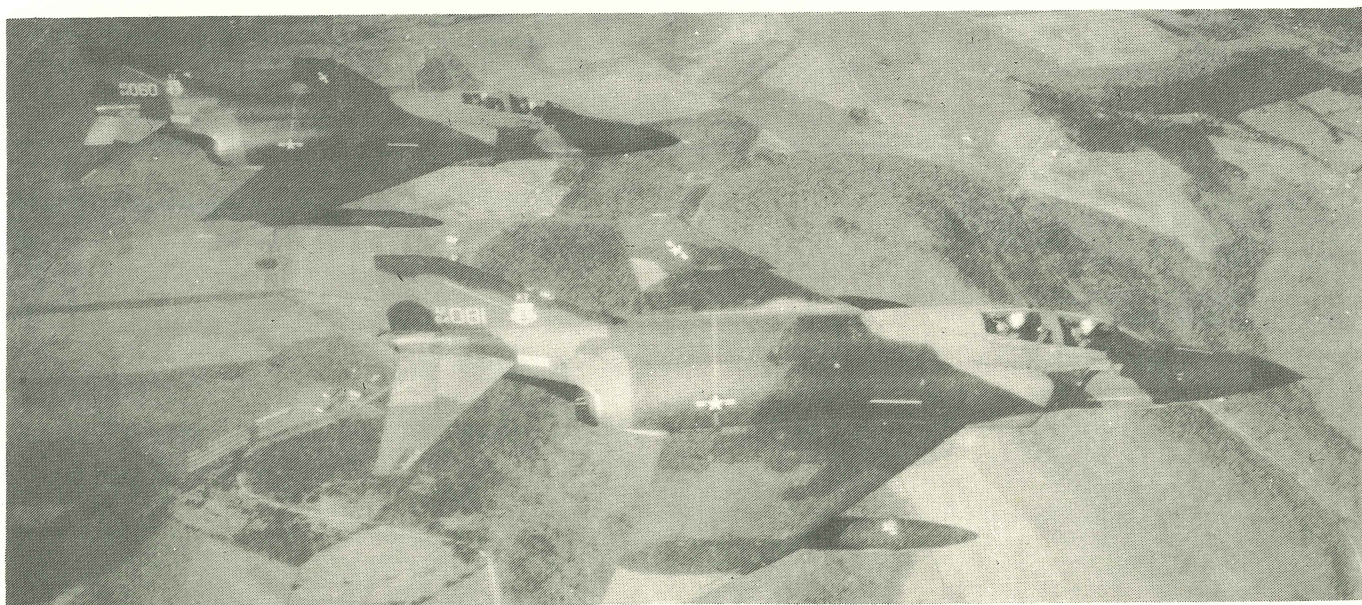




Kentucky Phantoms were air-to-air refueled seven times en route to Sola, Norway for a 15-day exercise called "Coronet Snipe."



Maj. Joe Kottak, right, prepares for a reconnaissance sortie with Maj. Ray Petroviak, left, of the Idaho Air National Guard.



Kentucky Air Guard pilots in their RF-4C Phantoms arrive over Norway after a 3600 mile non-stop journey.



# 207th develops successful recruiting formula

By SP5 Maurice L. Denton

Total personal involvement on the part of nearly every member of the unit is the primary reason given by the unit commander of the 207th Engineer Company for the highly successful recruiting drive now underway in Louisville.

Citing poor results from the typical high school recruiting visits and dismal responses from classified ads, the 207th decided to take a more assertive posture in kicking off their recruiting drive in mid-February. Maj. James O'Keefe, unit commander, spoke to the Guardsmen about the strong need for quality recruiting and asked each member to do his part by referring names of prospects to the recruiting office. About 70 per cent of the unit responded to this special request. Six enlisted members then began to work Tuesday and Wednesday nights, making calls to prospects, setting up appointments and testing dates and even providing transportation to the armory. Transportation availability, according to Major O'Keefe, is extremely important in the recruiting program.

Major O'Keefe says his philosophy of recruiting and retention is built around the "total man" approach. He personally interviews nearly all of the applicants to determine their needs, what motivates them and then sells the Guard based on how its elements can meet some of the individual's needs. Of all the Guard benefits, the commander feels pay and educational opportunities are the strongest selling points.

On this latter point, the unit has developed a program in the 207th that the commanders feels will result in higher retention of Guardsmen. Dr. James Moore, Special Programs Director of Jefferson Community College, serves in the Operations section of the unit. He will be setting up and operating an education program designed to meet the customized needs of the unit members. Each Guardsman has been asked to fill out a form outlining all completed military and civilian education.

Following a counseling session, the

Education Progress Program Officer will assist the Guardsman in one of several directions. For those who have not finished high school, GED classes are being set up to meet after drill hours twice a month. This schedule is supplemented by classes at JCC's downtown Louisville campus. For high school graduates, a wide variety of secondary education degree programs are available through various schools. Financial assistance for the programs can come from VA or the Kentucky National Guard Educational Encouragement Fund. Apparently this unique approach is working. Seventy per cent of the unit members have expressed a strong interest in the program.

Contributing to the community betterment also ranks high on the list of advantages of joining the 207th Engineer Company. Along this line, the 207th has had broad experience in periods of recent Guard activation. The unit provided valuable assistance during several weekends following the devastating 1974 tornado which crippled Brandenburg.

In the spring of 1977, when widespread

## Medical unit offers CPR training course

Members of the 475th Combat General Support Hospital, based in Frankfort, recently completed a basic life support course in the Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Modular System and, according to Maj. Claudia Dupuis, the unit's chief nurse, the course can be given to other units in the state.

The training was provided by the Jefferson Vocation Educational Region and consisted of both a written test and practical work. Those successfully passing the 12-hour course were certified by the American National Red Cross.

Major Dupuis said that the training is required yearly for continued certification and they hope to expand this program into many Guard units. Anyone interested in the program can contact her through the hospital unit.

flooding occurred in eastern Kentucky, the unit spent 23 days in South Williamson, cleaning streets, schools, hauling food and purifying water. Because there was so much cleanup work left to do, a special request was made for the unit to pull annual training in South Williamson in lieu of scheduled AT at Camp Shelby, Miss. The 207th was also one of several Louisville units activated to assist during the 1978 severe winter crisis in Louisville.

Major O'Keefe says AWOLs, low unit strength (45%), and retention (10%) were the primary problems he was faced with when he arrived on the scene. The unit's retention rate is now 90 per cent and the commander realistically expects to exceed the goal of 100 per cent unit strength by July 7, the date of AT at Camp Shelby. With the gain of 15 people in March, the unit now has 163 members toward an ultimate goal of 224.

Major O'Keefe says that the caliber of members is higher than ever before. He says the profiles of new recruits indicate that 50 per cent have prior service, and possess a high school or GED certificate.

What is the motivating force which caused 70 per cent of the unit members to supply quality name referrals in answer to the unit commander's request? What type of dedication and commitment to the cause does it take on behalf of the unit officers and NCOs (three of the former and six of the latter have left the unit in the last 12 months) in order to make reaching such ambitious goals a reality?

When this reporter asked the commander these questions, Major O'Keefe responded, "I feel, for the most part, people in the Guard want to soldier. They want discipline and they want to have pride in their appearance which carries over in job performance, and if they are given meaningful duties and are shown a concern for their total well-being, the Guard members will be your most effective recruiters."

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