

THE

# BLUEGRASS GUARD

Vol. 29, No. 1

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## WHEELWRIGHT

### 103rd FSB Lends Helping Hand

20 Years  
Later  
Page 4

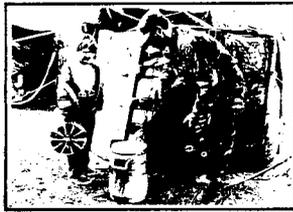


• Last Flight  
of the Phantom  
Page 6



• Storm Gets  
MacArthur Award  
Page 6





**OUR COVER**

Adam Knight of Wheelwright watches as PFC Chris Record of the 217th Quartermaster Co., of Danville, fills his family's water cooler on December 6. Wheelwright's water supply ran dry, and the Floyd County City asked for National Guard help. Members of the 217th purified water from several streams in the area to supply residents' needs while a pipeline to a new water source was constructed. (Photo by LT Phil Miller, I33rd PAD)

**AT EASE**

Another year of training, qualifying and community assistance has passed for the Kentucky Army and Air National Guard. In the pages of this first edition of *The Bluegrass Guard* for 1989 you'll find a story about the Guard helping yet another community in need and recollections of Guardsmen about their service in Vietnam. We begin another year dedicating ourselves to continue to be among the best in the nation at preparing ourselves to serve our community and our nation.

Call us at: (502) 564-5779  
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**THE BLUEGRASS GUARD**  
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**THE BLUEGRASS GUARD**

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# Bonus for Vietnam Veterans Gets Legislative Nod, Governor's Signature

By Mike Lynch  
Kentucky Department of Military Affairs

As many as 108,000 Kentucky veterans of the Vietnam conflict are eligible for a bonus of up to \$500, as a result of action by the special session of the state legislature in December. The money for the payments will come from the proceeds of the new state lottery, approved by the voters in November and enacted by the legislators.

Gov. Wallace Wilkinson signed the bonus bill into law in the Capitol rotunda at Frankfort on December 20.

The law says, in part that "the citizens of the Commonwealth who served in the armed forces during the Vietnam conflict performed a public service for the United States of America and the Commonwealth and that the payment of the Vietnam veterans' bonus . . . promotes the public good by rewarding the public service rendered by such individuals and by encouraging future public service by citizens of the Commonwealth."

Kentucky Veterans Affairs Director Larry Arnett, himself a Vietnam veteran, says applications for the bonus will be available beginning March 1. He expects the applications to be located at some government offices, including post offices and human resources offices, as well as through veterans organizations.

## *Bonuses will amount to a maximum of \$500.*

"Vietnam-era veterans will be able to apply for the bonus during a one-year window," Arnett says. "I believe the first payments will be made in March, 1990, and it will take until about the end of June of the same year to finish making the payments."

The bonus is based on \$25 per month for veterans who actually served in the combat zone, up to a maximum of \$500, and \$15 per month for service members who were stationed outside the theater, with a maximum of \$300. The service must have occurred between July 1, 1958 and May 15, 1975.



Gov. Wallace Wilkinson signs the Vietnam veterans bonus bill into law at the Capitol as Adjutant General Michael W. Davidson watches. Applications for the bonuses of up to \$500 will be taken beginning March 1. (Photo by LT Phil Miller, I33rd PAD)

While the applications won't be available until March, Arnett says veterans can prepare for the process by making sure they have the necessary certification form -- DD 214 -- on hand. If a veteran doesn't have the form, he or she should contact the Military Records and Research Library in Frankfort at (502) 564-4873 to get a copy.

Information on obtaining corrections to the DD 214 may be available at the Kentucky Center for Veterans Affairs in Louisville. The toll-free number there is 800-752-6094.

"If a veteran of the Vietnam conflict is no longer living, the "first surviving beneficiary," defined in order of priority in the new law, is eligible to receive the bonus.

Veterans cannot qualify for the Vietnam bonus if they have already been paid a bonus by another state or received any previous service bonus, such as the Korean War bonus.



## “The Year of the NCO”

1989 will be the "Year of the NCO." Secretary of the Army John O. Marsh, Jr., Army Chief of Staff Gen. Carl E. Vuono, and Sergeant Major of the Army Julius W. Gates announced the successor to the "Year of Training" in a December 29 joint proclamation lauding the accomplishments of NCOs and outlining the role of today's enlisted leadership.

The following is from the text of the proclamation announcing 1989's Army theme:

"The NCO is the Army theme for 1989. "Soldiers who wear NCO's chevrons on their sleeves represent a unique Army strength upon which this year's theme will focus. The previous yearly themes of Spirit of Victory, Physical Fitness, Excellence, Families, Leadership, Values, The Constitution, and Training all have a special bearing on NCOs, who have key responsibilities in accomplishing the Army's missions.

"Throughout the history of our Army, the NCO has played an indispensable role in the warfighting readiness of our force. Baron Von Steuben, in writing our first Army manual, known as the "Blue Book," acknowledged the importance of selecting the right soldiers as NCOs: "The order and discipline of a regiment depends so much upon their behavior, that too much care cannot be taken in preferring none to that trust but those who by their merit and good conduct are entitled to it." Today, we continue to expect of our NCOs the highest professional standards and a diversity of knowledge in order to lead their soldiers

in ensuring our Army is trained and ready. Tomorrow we shall expect no less.

"NCOs provide the day-to-day leadership to our soldiers. They ensure individual soldiers attain and maintain the required standards of proficiency and link soldier performance to unit missions. It is the NCO who must be certain of the soldier's ability to succeed in combat. With their officers, NCOs are responsible for the planning, execution, and assessment of training.

"The NCO is both a leader and a role model. The process which develops NCOs as leaders has three components: institutional schooling at every level according to the Noncommissioned Officer Education System, operational experience in their respective military occupational specialties, and self-development which relies on the initiative an NCO takes to improve through reading, correspondence courses, and similar efforts. NCOs earn and retain the respect and confidence of their superiors and subordinates through demonstrated tactical and technical competence, and knowing how to lead and care for soldiers. As leaders, NCOs must satisfy the imperatives of mission accomplishment and the needs of their soldiers, and place both ahead of their own personal welfare.

"NCOs have a long history of dedicated service to soldiers, units, the Army, and our Nation. We acknowledge their unique contributions, past, present, and future, in declaring this special Army strength the 1989 Army Theme, "The Year of the NCO."

# KyARNG Quenches Wheelwright Water Shortage

Story and Photos by LT Phil Miller  
133rd PAD

**WHEELWRIGHT** -- When the 1,000 residents of this Eastern Kentucky mountain town ran out of water early on the morning of November 29th, there was only one thing to do -- call out the National Guard.

A pool located in an abandoned coal mine had served as the town's chief water source, but when the level suddenly dropped without warning, Wheelwright found itself depending on soldiers of the Danville-based 103rd Forward Support Battalion to supply potable water until a new source could be found.

While city utility workers and a private contracting crew began laying a new pipeline inside the mine, Guardsmen from the 217th Quartermaster Detachment set up a mobile water purification plant and began drawing water from nearby Otter Creek.

On a daily basis, however, the early-morning mountain chill of southern Floyd County offered an immediate obstacle for members of the 217th as they began performing their mission.

"We had to break the ice out of the creek and thaw out our "water buffaloes" every morning before we could put in the hoses and start pumping," said 2LT Michael Harness, OIC for the Wheelwright operation, "we even had to keep a kerosene heater going in the water purification truck all night just to keep it from freezing up too."

Once water from the stream had been purified, it was pumped into 1,500 gallon water bladders, then transferred into a 1,200 gallon tank truck used to fill up the three 400 gallon "water buffaloes" positioned around the town for citizens to fill their own containers.

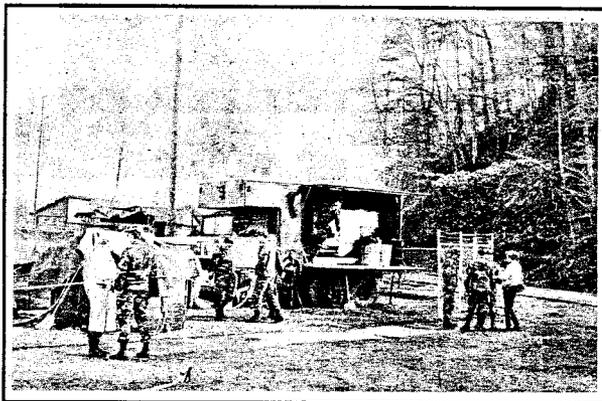
In all, 103rd FSB soldiers produced 90,000 gallons of potable water from the Otter Creek operation, and hauled into Wheelwright an additional 34,000 gallons obtained from other sources.

Throughout the 11-day water emergency, Wheelwright's community center served as operations center and sleeping quarters for the Guardsmen. There a team of local residents volunteered to take turns cooking meals for the troops, while others stopped by around the clock, dropping off a steady stream of sandwiches, soft drinks and baked goods.

"The people of Wheelwright were really great to us," said the 217th QM DET's PFC James "Chris" Record, grinning as he added, "why, I'll bet they would have fed us six times a day if we'd let them."

"The Guard definitely saved the day in Wheelwright," commented Kentucky Disaster and Emergency Services director, BG James H. (Mike) Molloy following an on-site inspection of the water purification operation.

"They worked long hours and they worked hard, some of them even missed their final exams at the University of Kentucky to take on this mission, but they came anyway ... once again it's neighbors helping neighbors and that's the Kentucky National Guard!"



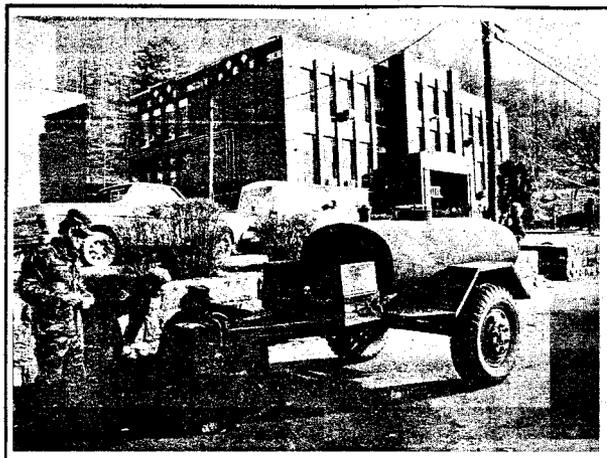
**MOBILE WATER PLANT** -- The 217th QM DET's purification system set up at the Wheelwright community pool produced 90,000 gallons of potable water.



**MEET THE MAYOR** -- Wheelwright Mayor Larry Mullins (right) confers with DES chief BG James H. (Mike) Molloy (left) and 103rd FSB commander, LTC Jack Williams about Guard assistance during the water emergency.



**OTTER CREEK** -- PFC Chris Record (left) and SSG James Bandy adjust the nozzle on a hose used to draw water for the purification operation.



**WATER BUFFALO** -- This water trailer parked in front of Wheelwright High School was one of three positioned throughout the town for public use.

# 20 YEARS AGO

## 2/138th FIELD ARTILLERY IN VIETNAM



1968 — An M109 self-propelled howitzer from Bardstown's Battery C, 2/138th Field Artillery, moves into position on a fire base in Vietnam. (Photo by ISG Pat Simpson)

By MAJ Keith Kappes  
KySTARC PAO

As they had done exactly 20 years earlier from mountain fire bases in South Vietnam, men of the 2nd Battalion, 138th Field Artillery, Kentucky Army National Guard, were proficient and professional as they conducted a special fire mission from a Frankfort hillside overlooking the State Capitol and the Kentucky River.

But this time it was different as the howitzers fired 21 blank rounds, each precisely five seconds apart, as the artillerymen offered a 21-gun salute to themselves and to their fellow Kentuckians who had served, and to the 1,045 who had died, in Southeast Asia.

It was the recent dedication of the Kentucky Vietnam Veterans Memorial and appropriately, the "salute battery" was comprised mostly of men who had served with the 2/138th between October, 1968, and October, 1969, when it became the first and only Kentucky National Guard unit to be mobilized for federal active duty and deployed to South Vietnam.

"We were pleased and honored to have a part in such a beautiful and moving ceremony," said SFC Eddie Satchwell, who organized the salute detail on behalf of Carrollton's Battery A. Joining them by special invitation was ISG Pat Simpson of Bardstown's Battery C, the Kentucky unit which paid the highest price for its combat tour.

Of the 537 men who deployed to South Vietnam as members of the 2/138th, only eight remain in the battalion today and seven are in the Carrollton unit. Several others are still in the Kentucky Guard and the senior enlisted member of that group is CSM Robert E. Derman of the 138th FA Brigade.

"I wouldn't take a million dollars for the experience of serving in Vietnam but I wouldn't give a dime to do it again," said Derman, a former first sergeant at Carrollton, who said he was "deeply touched" at the dedication ceremony.



SFC Eddie Satchwell



ISG James Supplee

Like his former comrades at Carrollton, CSM Dermon said he was drawn to the engraved name of ISG Luther M. Chappell, formerly of Carrollton, who was killed in action in the early hours of June 19, 1969, when enemy sappers overran Fire Base Tomahawk. Chappell and six other members of the Bardstown unit died during the fierce, two-hour battle. Chappell had been first sergeant for only a few weeks after being promoted from "chief of smoke" in the Carrollton unit.

Like the memorial at the Nelson County Courthouse in Bardstown, the new state memorial also lists the names of the others who died, including SSG Harold Brown, SP4 David Collins, SSG James Moore, SP4 Joseph McIlvoy, SGT Ronald Simpson and SP4 James Wray.

A highlight of the ceremony in Frankfort for the men of the 2/138th was Gov. Wallace Wilkinson's presentation of the National Guard Meritorious Service Award to the battalion for its tour of duty in South Vietnam. Accepting on behalf of the 2/138th was its former commander who led the unit to and from the war zone, BG (Retired) Robert W. Cundiff and the present battalion commander, LTC Roger Green.

"It was great to have General Cundiff there to accept the award," said Satchwell. "Some didn't appreciate him when he trained us so hard for combat duty but we later realized that his objective was to bring as many of us home alive as possible."

General Cundiff and many of his troops left the 2/138th during the year in South Vietnam as part of the "infusion" process which rotated the Guardsmen to active component units.

One of those transferred out of the battalion was SSG Ray Collier of Carrollton who went to the Americal Division and came home with the Bronze Star with "V" device. When asked the circumstances of his heroism, Collier's eyes brimmed with tears and he looked away, his emotional pain still there after almost 20 years. Official records show that Collier was decorated for trying to save the life of a fellow GI who was trapped in a burning ammunition truck during a highway ambush.

ISG James Supplee of Carrollton was an E4 when the 2/138th went to Vietnam following several months of intensive training with new equipment at Fort Hood, Texas.

"After those six-day weeks and 15-hour training days, we felt we were as good as any artillery unit in the world," he recalled. "We fired in support of the 101st Airborne Division and they always asked for us. That says a lot about our performance."

Satchwell, now a full-time Guardsman, was 19 when the battalion went to Fort Hood and celebrated his 21st birthday at a fire base near Pleiku. "Several of us had to grow up fast if we wanted to live through the experience," he said. "After living underground in those bunkers for a year, I will always appreciate sunshine and blue skies."

CSM Dermon feels that being National Guardsmen was an advantage in combat. "Many of us were in our early to mid-20's and that maturity helped us deal with the physical and mental pressures," he remembered. "There aren't many Vietnam vets left in the Guard but hopefully we can impress upon today's soldiers that mobilization can happen, it has happened in Kentucky and could happen again. But the next time we will have to be ready to fight immediately because of today's Total Force structure."

To a man, the Vietnam veterans of the 2/138th are proud that they served in South Vietnam and today are even prouder that their home state has recognized them and their comrades in arms.

"The Vietnam Memorial and the new bonus program will go a long way in healing old wounds," Satchwell concluded.

ISG Supplee says he will always cherish the memories of the battalion's homecoming at Standiford Field in Louisville when total strangers hugged him and thanked him for serving his country. Today, nearly 20 years later, he has added the Kentucky Vietnam Veterans Memorial to that warm feeling.



1988 -- BG (Retired) Robert W. Cundiff, second from left, wartime commander of the 2nd Battalion, 138th Field Artillery, accepts the National Guard Meritorious Service Award from Gov. Wallace Wilkinson on behalf of the battalion during the dedication of the Kentucky Vietnam Veterans Memorial. (Photo by CW2 James D. Pope Jr., 133rd PAD)



COL James Daniel, left, Assistant Division Commander of the 35th ID (M), presents Joseph E. Keeling, Jr., former member of Battery C, with a Purple Heart for wounds received during the Vietnam War.

## Vietnam Vet Receives Belated Purple Heart in Bardstown

By SGT Robert Pillow  
133rd PAD

BARDSTOWN -- When Joseph E. Keeling, Jr. went to a Christmas dinner with his son last month, he got more than just a meal.

Keeling, formerly of Bardstown's Battery C, 2/138th Field Artillery, was decorated with a Purple Heart for wounds sustained during the Vietnam War.

Battery C was activated and sent to Vietnam during the latter part of the war. On June 19, 1969, the unit was attacked at Fire Base Tomahawk, between Danang and Hue. "They breached our perimeter and from there several NVAs moved to our bunkers and threw satchel charges," Keeling said of the attack. "They threw one into our bunker and it fell behind us and went off."

Few survived the attack and Keeling, then a 25-year-old Specialist Four, received a Bronze Star with an oak leaf cluster for his part in defending the fire base. Though wounded in the attack, he did not receive a Purple Heart.

And he probably would not have received it if his son, SGT Joseph S. Keeling of the 223rd Military Police in Louisville, had not taken such an interest in the battle that wounded his father.

Nearly two years ago, SGT Keeling asked the 223rd's recruiter, SFC Ron Harris for his help in getting the decoration to his father. The military police officer never mentioned to his father what he was doing, right up to the day the award was presented, December 4, 1988, at the Bardstown Armory.

"I just told him there was going to be a get-together here and I wanted him to come," the sergeant said. "He said he would if he had time."

So the son, who had written the Army about the decoration, made sure his father would attend without knowing why he needed to be there. Had it been necessary, the son said, church would have been dismissed early to get his father to the armory on time.

COL James Daniel, Assistant Division Commander of the 35th ID (M), pinned the decoration on Keeling's coat and commended the former Guardsman for his service.

After the ceremony, Keeling said he was surprised to get the decoration after nearly 20 years and talked about how his son became interested in the medal.

"My son saw my orders and a copy of the citation for the Bronze Star," Keeling Jr. said. "He asked why I didn't get a Purple Heart. I told him 'it's not important; it doesn't matter.'"

The former Guardsman said he played down the significance of being wounded because his wounds were superficial.

"I was only out of action for four days," he said. "You got to remember that some of our guys didn't make it."

"Some were more seriously wounded and they are the ones who should have this," Keeling Jr. said as he pointed to his Purple Heart.

# Phantom-Flying Governor Wilkinson

By LT Phil Miller  
133rd PAD

LOUISVILLE -- Strapping on a G-Suit, flight jacket, helmet, boots and nomex gloves early on the morning of December 10, Governor Wallace G. Wilkinson became the first and last Commander-in-Chief of the Kentucky Guard to fly the skies of the Commonwealth in the back seat of an Air Guard RF-4C Phantom jet.

Seated behind COL Joseph Kottak, Vice Commander of the 123rd Tactical Reconnaissance Wing, Gov. Wilkinson gave the "thumbs up" to the RF-4's crew chief as spooled-up twin J-79 engines began moving the flight of three jets along the parking apron, maneuvering them around the first two of eight C-130 transports that would soon replace the Phantoms on the Standiford Air Base ramp.

Then, with a steadily increasing roar of power, the trio lifted off of the runway and into the chilly, gray sky over Louisville.

An hour later, after the flight of three Phantoms had taxied back onto the air base ramp and shut down their screaming engines, an elated Gov. Wilkinson climbed out of his plane's cockpit, slapped COL Kottak on the back and shouted one word over the roar of the wind whipping across the tarmac . . . "MAGNIFICENT!"



SSGT Jeff Sansbury, 123rd TRW

## Pre-Flight Brief



SFC Tom Murphy, 133rd PAD

"Magnificent!"



SFC Tom Murphy, 133rd PAD

## Formation Takeoff

# CPT Storm Receives State MacArthur Award

By Jason LeMay  
HHC 1/149th Inf (M)

BARBOURVILLE -- CPT Donald C. Storm, S-1 for the 1st Bn/149th INF (M), has been awarded the General Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award and will represent the state as he moves on to regional competition later this month against the 2nd Army and 10-12 other state winners.

The Douglas MacArthur Foundation, in accordance with HQDA, has established a leadership award. The award is to be presented in Washington D.C. in April to Army lieutenants and/or captains who demonstrate the ideals of "Duty, Honor, Country" that Gen. MacArthur stood for.

Candidates are judged on many factors including: 3 years of NG service, AT and

MUTA attendance, weapon qualification, APFT, height and weight standards, proven leadership excellence, military education, civilian education and many other additional factors such as community involvement and major accomplishments.

Storm has been an active member of the Kentucky Army National Guard since 20 May 1972. He previously enlisted into the Army on 2 June 1970, and served a 13-month tour in Vietnam.

"CPT Storm has made positive contributions in each and every assignment. He is respected and admired by superiors, peers and subordinates," said battalion commander LTC Larry Arnett.

"I feel honored and privileged to represent the battalion and the KyARNG in competition for the award," said Storm.



CPT Donald Storm

# Winter Weather Means Greater Hypothermia Danger

With the arrival of typically cold weather, it's time to think about winter safety. One of the most prevalent dangers linked with winter weather is hypothermia, a life threatening condition that can kill quickly. Without warning, a person's metabolic rate can fall to 50 percent of its normal level. One minute a person can appear to be recovering, the next he can die.

Since most cases develop in temperatures between 30 and 50 degrees, people in warmer areas must be just as aware of hypothermia as those in Alaska.

There is a danger of assuming that only outdoor enthusiasts exposed to the weather for hours or soldiers in the field for long periods of time are in danger. But people who are outdoors and are wet, improperly dressed or using drugs or alcohol are at risk after just a short time. Children who aren't bundled up properly can be especially susceptible.

Hypothermia affects the brain, heart, lungs, limbs and nervous and cardiovascular systems. As a person's core temperature drops below the normal range, these signs of hypothermia may appear:

- A cold sensation, goose bumps, numbness, followed by intense shivering,

stumbling pace and mild confusion.

- Violent shivering, sluggish movement and thinking, inability to use hands and mental depression.

- Later, more serious signs include blue skin, shivering stops, poor coordination and irrational behavior.

Once hypothermia sets in, emergency treatment can make the difference between life and death. The key action is rewarming the victim.

Get the victim out of the wind and under cover. Remove all wet clothes or cover with rain gear to stop evaporation. Never rub hands, arms, feet or legs because it can damage tissue. Give the victim warm—not hot—drinks and no alcohol. Tying a scarf



loosely over the victims mouth will warm the air breathed in.

If possible, place the victim in a car and turn the heat on high. In extreme cases, CPR may be necessary. But it must be continued until the body is heated up. CPR is effective because it doesn't traumatize a cold heart, and the movement of cold blood is augmented. A cold heart will not respond readily to electric shock ad-

ministered at a hospital. A good water survival technique is the HELP position. HELP stands for Heat Escape Lessening Position. The victim should float in the water in a tucked position with his head out of the water. Decreasing the exposed body surface area

decreases heat loss. When the water temperature is below 70 degrees, an immersed person loses body heat at a rate of 20 times faster than a dry person in the same air temperature.

Another point concerning hypothermia that should be considered is the treatment of a victim who falls into cold water and appears to be dead. There have been many stories recently in the news about people who have been trapped in frozen water for more than 30 minutes and have completely recovered.

The best treatment for apparent drowning victims is to administer CPR and mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. Prevent the victim from losing more body heat, but don't try to rewarm him. Improper rewarming can do more harm than good in this case. CPR should be continued until medical treatment can be given.

By learning how to recognize and treat hypothermia, soldiers can make the difference between life and death for a family member, friend or unit member who falls victim. Although the best line of defense is to avoid exposure, soldiers sometime can't because training goes on rain or shine, hot or cold.

## Army Guard Had a Safer 1988, Sets Safety Strategy for New Year

An aggressive, command supported safety program for the Army National Guard reaped significant benefits based on results nationwide during Fiscal Year '88, and the Kentucky Army Guard Safety Office says proper reporting of accidents is apparently increasing.

Nationally, there was a 26 percent reduction in Class A through C ground accidents, a 41 percent reduction in fatalities and a record-setting Class A aviation accident rate of 1 per 100,000 flying hours.

In Kentucky, there were 356 accidents reported in FY '88, compared to 366 of the previous year. No fatalities related to National Guard duty occurred last year, compared to one for FY '87.

State Safety Manager CPT Beth Roach says, while the decline in reported accidents is not especially significant, she is pleased with the better reporting.

"Accidents were more accurately reported. It gives us better accident data to follow trends and come up with better prevention programs," she says.

In recent years, the number of reported accidents had varied from 243 in FY '83 to 507 in FY '85.

CPT Roach says 98 percent of the accidents are considered preventable.

"Failure to follow proper procedures is the biggest cause of accidents," she adds.

Despite the favorable national showing in FY '88, MG Donald Burdick, Army National Guard director, stresses the need for continued safety efforts throughout FY '89

as the Army unveils its safety program for the year. The central safety issue for this year is the prevention of human error.

Studies show that, for those accidents where human error is the root cause, 49 percent could be traced to self-generated mistakes arising from such factors as a lack of confidence, inattention or improper attitudes or motivation.

An overall safety strategy for FY '89 includes safety awareness, training for safety, sound safety philosophy, accident counter measures, risk management and the interface of all staff elements to be effective.

In a memorandum to all Kentucky commanders, CPT Roach noted that in this state the same people are having the same accidents for the same reasons. She urged commanders to instill three characteristics in their soldiers:

- Discipline -- the capacity to understand and accept the need for rules and standards aimed at minimizing the potential for accidents.

- Accepting responsibility for one's own safety and the safety of others as well as the protection of property.

- A "sixth sense" of safety -- an ability to spot accidents about to happen, consciousness of the tragic results of unsafe actions and an appreciation of the value of protective equipment.

## KPUP Opportunities Include NTC at Ft. Irwin, CA and Ft. Stewart, GA

The 2nd Brigade, 5th Infantry Division (Mech) from Ft. Polk, will deploy to the National Training Center (NTC) at Ft. Irwin, California, from February 22 to March 17 and has made soldier positions available to Reserve Component personnel under the Key Personnel Upgrade Program (KPUP). All applications will be considered, with emphasis on infantry MOS's and certain support MOS's.

The MOS's involved include infantryman (11B10, 11B20, 11B30), Abrams armor crewman (19K10, 19K20) and others.

NTC experience is highly valued by the Army National Guard. Not only does the NTC offer the most realistic training available in the world today, but it instills in each soldier a realization of the urgency and quality of training necessary to fight and survive on the modern battlefield.

All soldiers must have valid identification cards and current ID tags upon arrival at Ft. Polk. It is also Army policy that all personnel involved in any training exercise must have a Panographic Radiograph on file at their unit. Personnel must have a copy of a DF, signed by the unit commander or his designated representative, certifying that a Panorex is on file.

All Reserve Component personnel must have a working knowledge of AR 670-1 and ensure that they meet uniform and appearance standards, specifically that they have a proper military haircut and mustaches within Army standards.

Another KPUP training opportunity will be offered by the 260th Quartermaster Battalion, 24th ID (M) at Ft. Stewart, Georgia.

MOS's involved are: 88M-E2/E7, 63B-E2/E7 and 63S-E2/E7. The training opportunity window goes from January 3 through June 30. The 24th ID (M) will deploy for several exercises during that timeframe. Training opportunities exist in both a field environment and shop environment.

Soldiers must be MOS qualified to participate in KPUP. See your training NCO for more information about these opportunities.

## BRIEFLY NOTED

## Government Hotel Rates Available

Army people travelling on personal matters are being extended special room rates by several national hotel chains -- provided the traveler reserves the room in advance through an office of Information, Ticketing and Registration (ITR). This benefit of receiving the same room rates as those offered official government travelers includes active- and reserve-component soldiers, Army Department civilians and their family members.

ITR offices are located throughout the U.S. and overseas: Hotel chains which have agreed to the reduced rates include: Holiday Inns, Quality Inns, Clarion Hotels and Resorts, Days Inns, Howard Johnson's (selected locations) and several independent hotels.

Contact the nearest ITR office for more information.

## NGB Biathlon Set for February

The 1989 Chief, National Guard Bureau Biathlon Championships will be held February 8-19 at Camp Ripley, Minnesota. Schools for novice competitors, coaches and officials will be conducted February 9-11, with competition starting on February 13.

Each state may send a five-member competing team and one non-racing team leader/coach.

For more information, contact LTC Elmo Head in Frankfort at (502) 564-8578.

## Bonds Approved for Veterans Nursing Home

Kentucky's Property and Building Commission last month approved a bond sale, which included bonds for the construction of a nursing home for Kentucky veterans. The planned site of the home is Wilmore, in Jessamine County.

A study conducted for the state in 1987 determined that Kentucky needs a 300-bed nursing home for its increasing number of veterans over the age of 65. The state legislature approved the construction of the home in its last regular session in 1988.

The feasibility study concluded that the total number of veterans in the state would actually decline from 411,000 in 1980 to 306,680 by 2000. But it also determined the number of war veterans over 65 would increase from 43,300 to 106,900 during the same time period.

## Kentucky Guard Updates List of Units, Positions Open to Women

Early in December, the updated list of units and positions in the Kentucky Army National Guard open to women was released by the office of Adjutant General Michael Davidson.

These units are open to women:

HQs STARC	973rd Med Det (Dental)
Det 1 STARC	HHB 138th FA Bde
133rd PAD	130th Maintenance Co.
202nd Army Band	Det 1 105th PSC
2123rd TC	1149th Ord Det
615th MP Det (CID)	103rd Fwd Spt Bn
HHD 198th MP Bn	217th QM Det
223rd MP Co.	137th Trans Det
438th MP Co.	Co. B 735th MSB
614th MP Co.	Det 1 HHC 140th Sig Bn
307th Maintenance Co.	Co. F 135th Avn
475th MASH	Co. E 135th Avn

The following units are open to females, though certain designated positions are listed as closed to them:

141st Chemical Co.	HHC Avn Bde
441st Med Det	103rd Fwd Spt Bn

All other units are closed to females, and their positions cannot be assigned to women except in the augmented sections assigned to HQs STARC.

For additional information, contact CW4 Harold Reynolds at (502) 564-8571 or SGT Christie Wethington at (502) 564-8573 in Frankfort.



Larry Arnett

## LTC Arnett Takes Veterans Affairs Job at Boone Center

By Mike Lynch  
Department of Military Affairs

When LTC Larry Arnett rejoined the Department of Military Affairs in December, he barely had time to reorient himself to the state agency he had left a decade ago. Returning to take the job of Veterans Affairs Director, he found two major tasks awaiting him: development of the veterans nursing home for Kentucky and administering the new Vietnam veterans bonus (see story page 2).

"The adjutant general and Gov. Wilkinson have now seen that since those are two major projects, we need a more consolidated, organized approach to the veterans affairs for Kentucky," Arnett says.

As division director, Arnett will also oversee the operation of the Kentucky Center for Veterans Affairs in Louisville and the Military Records and Research Library in Frankfort.

A Vietnam veteran and commander of the 1/149th Infantry, headquartered in Barbourville, Arnett believes the visibility of veterans affairs is bound to increase as a result of the nursing home, the bonus and other recent developments.

Arnett adds that the Wilkinson administration in Frankfort is "very open" to suggestions from veterans and for veterans. He urges Kentucky's veterans to provide him information and look to his office to be a liaison with government agencies.

"By being a veteran, I think I understand the problems associated with veterans pro-

grams," he adds. "I can also relate a little bit better with the veterans in regards to getting benefits which they are due."

Arnett believes that with his location in Frankfort, he'll be able to provide veterans services a little more effectively, becoming what he terms a "one-source focal point" for getting government help.

Arnett served for a year with the 176th Assault Helicopter Company in Vietnam, flying combat aerial support for the 25th Infantry Division, the "Americal." In 1973, he started his first job with the Military Affairs Department, serving as chief of operations in the old Division of Civil Defense, which became the Disaster and Emergency Services Division the next year.

Now a resident of Frankfort, Arnett has spent 15 years working for state government.

"The veterans of Kentucky make up an extremely critical segment of society and of the state of Kentucky," Arnett says of his new job. "This change is only going to enhance the good work that the veterans organizations have been doing to this point. What we see now are some opportunities for the state, this administration and this adjutant general to significantly and dramatically impact the lives of the veterans."

"I expect that the creation of the cabinet-level posture for the Veterans Administration at the national level will put a great deal more emphasis on the states to provide one voice with the Veterans Administration in regards to veterans affairs."

## Commission Recommends Base Closures

The Lexington Bluegrass Army Depot is among 86 defense installations which has been recommended for closure by the Commission on Base Realignment and Closure. The commission made its recommendations public December 29, after visits to 44 installations and five public hearings.

Also among the installations recommended for closure is the Jefferson Proving Ground in Indiana, used by the Kentucky Army Guard for night-vision and aerial gunnery training. The commission recommended consolidations at a number of installations. Ft. Knox is one of five Army posts which would see a significant increase in personnel.

The recommendations reflect a review of over 4,200 defense properties and would reportedly save an estimated \$693.6 million a year in base operating costs. Congress must decide whether to accept the list of recommendations.