



# THE BLUEGRASS GUARD



Watching Governor Collins sign NG-370, giving Guardsmen five points on classified service exams, are, from left, Rep. Jim Yates (Louisville), Rep. Sam Thomas (Lebanon), Adjutant General Billy G. Wellman, Rep. Walter Blevins (Morehead) and Sen. Fred Bradley (Frankfort).

## State legislation impacts on Guard

By Capt. J. GORDON NICHOLS

Four pieces of legislation passed both houses of the state legislature during the recently-concluded session that have impact on the members of the Kentucky National Guard. The budget document for the coming biennium was approved, and funding was included for a new armory in Murray.

One bill approved this session will award members five preference points when being tested for classified positions with state government. The bill was sponsored by Representatives Jim Yates, Walter Blevins and Sam Thomas.

The second bill approved will make retired members of the Guard with 25 years' service eligible for the National Guard license plate. This bill was sponsored by Representatives Adrian Arnold, Jerry Lundergan and Pete Worthington.

The last two pieces of legislation were sponsored by Senator Fred Bradley, who also serves as Assistant Adjutant General for Air, and involved amending two state laws.

In one, the "Kentucky Militia" was renamed the "Kentucky State Defense Force." This is being done across the nation to make states eligible for possible future funding of such a force, now that the military priority of the Guard is increased. (See "STATE" on page 4)

## G.I. Bill for Guard among priorities set by NGAUS

A G.I. Bill that provides educational assistance for Guardsmen will be sought by the National Guard Association of the U.S. (NGAUS), according to a recent Association newsletter. Two bills now in the U.S. Congress, H.R. 1400 and S. 691, would provide such benefits.

NGAUS will also oppose actions which would remove several existing incentives and benefits, such as Basic Allowance for Quarters (BAQ) and the end of tax exempt status for Variable Housing Allowance and

BAQ.

Full and modern equipping of the Guard will remain a top priority, as will efforts to increase the full-time support force.

Bills currently under consideration, H.R. 2798 and S. 204, would permit a Service Secretary to retain any Guard officer until age 60. NGAUS suggests that states should also have to approve such retention actions.

Under H.R. 3079 and H.R. 4282, military retirees would be eligible to serve

on local Selective Service Boards. Under H.R. 4211, voluntary withholding of state income tax on retirement pay would be authorized.

A Senate Bill, S. 1474, would grant exchange and commissary privileges to Guardsmen who have retired but not reached age 60.

In a budget item, Pentagon officials have indicated they will seek a 5.5 percent pay raise in FY 85.

# HELLO! This is the National Guard calling.

The next weekend you don't drill could be the one you run through a mobilization exercise.

The exercises are Kentucky's portion of a program developed by the National Guard Bureau designed to test the level of mobilization preparation units have achieved and improve readiness of all units in the Kentucky Guard. The intent is to test a unit's ability to respond on an unannounced basis, should they be ordered to Federal Active Duty in response to actual wartime mission.

By regulation, each unit is required to plan and train to accomplish its wartime mission. This encompasses the unit's ability to meet mobilization and deployment schedules designed to assure that units will arrive at the mission location on time.

If the "balloon goes up," units have a scheduled number of days to stay at their home station prior to departing for the mobilization station. Many requirements which affect the unit's combat efficiency must be accomplished during this time. The personal welfare of the Guardsman and his family can be affected if these requirements aren't met.

The exercise is conducted on a Guardsman's free weekend - that is, one which is not scheduled for normal training. It's done this way so it won't interfere with normally scheduled training. Troops are ordered to duty in a full-time training status for pay and benefits.

The exercise runs for three to four days, depending on the actual mission assigned to the unit. During the course of the exercise, the unit will go through the same tasks and procedures it's really scheduled to perform. The practice exercise is done with 100 percent of the unit's strength and all authorized equipment. If the unit is supposed to load equipment on rail cars, the cars will be available at a specific location for practice loading.

If the unit's equipment is to be moved by convoy, the unit will load its equipment on its organic vehicles. Equipment issued to each unit member is brought to the armory, checked for condition, fitted, and shortages are identified. Personnel records are completely redone to meet Federal Active Duty requirements. Medical actions are accomplished to include obtaining physicals and shots. The troops are fed and housed as they would be during the real thing.

"Normally in the exercise, we alert the unit on Friday afternoon and we expect them to have 100 percent of the unit available first thing Saturday morning," Maj. Elmo Head said. "On Friday the unit is to have 20 percent of its strength on duty to prepare for the arrival of the other troops."

"With less than 24 hours notice, you'd be surprised at how many troops participate," he said. "Even though you catch a unit when they don't expect it, we've consistently had 90 percent participation."

The exercise instructions allow the commander, at his discretion, to excuse unit members from the exercise.

Units run through the exercise every three to five years, depending on which priority category they fall under in the mobilization system. With the exception of two, Kentucky Guard units have been ranked in the top six categories.

The 201st Engineer Battalion is in the first category, which is the Rapid Deployment Force. Units in category two are those essential for North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) reinforcement. Those in the third category are units which have immediate assignments in the Continental United States.

The program has been in effect in Kentucky since August 1982. Since then, about eight units have been through the exercise.

The biggest problem has been that Guardsmen have lost a free weekend and there's been a little conflict with employers, but most have been cooperative and appreciative when they see the units doing something like this, according to Head, who serves in the Plans Division of the State Area Command.

Besides preparing units for mobilization, the exercise serves another purpose, he said.

"The shock treatment will get Guard members and families to get their personal affairs in order now rather than waiting for something to happen," Head concluded.

## Guard at a glance

### SPECIAL MARRIOTT RATES

Active and retired military personnel, along with federal, state and local government employees, are eligible for Marriott Hotel and Resorts' Government and Military Business Travel Program. The program offers discounts of 50 percent and more off regular rates at more than 135 hotels and resorts throughout the world. Children staying in the same room can stay free. To make reservations, call toll free 1-800-228-9290. In order to keep rates low, only a limited number of rooms are available.

### FOUR TOP GRADUATES

Four members of the Kentucky Army National Guard were among the top graduates of a recent Armor Officer Basic Course at Fort Knox. Second Lieutenants Dennis Gibbs and Gary Tyree, Company C, 2nd Battalion, 123d Armor, and Darrel Knight and Bill Welcher, Company B, 1st Battalion, 123d Armor were among 53 graduates of the course, who were from

National Guard and Army Reserve units throughout the United States. Gibbs, Knight and Tyree were all designated Honor Graduates and were tied for second place in their class standings. Welcher was named to the Commandant's List.

Gibbs and Tyree are residents of Russellville, Knight is from Hopkinsville and Welcher is from Henderson.

### EASTERN DISCOUNTS

Eastern Airlines is offering military spouse and dependent fares on most of the airline's domestic routes through Nov. 15, 1984. The program, which is on a test basis, will offer discounts from 25 to 50 percent, with no minimum stay or advance purchase requirements. Dependents must travel with their active-duty sponsors and must have dependent identification if 10 years or older. Dependents age 2 through 9 with a different surname must present legal proof of dependency. Children two years and under travel free. For reservations and information, contact the nearest Eastern Airlines ticket office or a travel agent.

### TACFIRE

Seven members of the 138th Field Artillery Brigade, located in Lexington, returned recently from a five day course at Fort Sill, Okla. The officers attended a "TAC-FIRE" Command and Staff Course, where they received training on a new computerized fire direction system.

Attending were Col. Julius Berthold brigade commander, Lt. Col. Samuel McClure, Maj. Thomas Rickerd, Maj. Joe Warren, Maj. David Roederer, Maj. James Turner and Capt. James Cook.

According to McClure, TACFIRE ties together the technical, tactical, and communications activities in the fire direction center in a computerized system. This speeds up the delivery of artillery fire and reduces the chance of human error.

Classes included development of the system, hardware used, programming, and use of the system. Each individual received practical training in the operation of the equipment.

## THE BLUEGRASS GUARD

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## FY85 Budget Bill to benefit National Guard

Three important pieces of legislation which would benefit the National Guard have been included in the House Armed Services Committee mark-up of the FY85 Defense Authorization Bill.

Included are a G.I. Bill which extends benefits to all active, Guardsmen and Reservists; legislation clarifying state control of active Guard and Reserve (AGR) personnel; and medical care legislation which would provide coverage for National Guard or Reserve members who contract illness or disease during drill. All three are National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) priorities.

The G.I. Bill would provide \$140 per month for up to 36 months of full-time schooling and \$70 per month for one-half time schooling for all Guardsmen and

Reservists who enlist, reenlist or are appointed for six years after Oct. 1, 1984. It would provide a basic benefit of \$300 a month for up to 36 months for military personnel who serve for three years on active duty or two years on active duty and four years in the selected reserve.

NGAUS Executive Council members during their midwinter meeting said an across-the-board entitlement program like the G.I. Bill will be required if the Army Guard in particular is to meet its FY89 end strength goal of almost 500,000.

Legislation clarifying state control of active Guard and Reserve (AGR) personnel is also included in the committee markup. The legislation is the result of a congressional directive to DoD to provide permanent legislation specifying that AGR personnel serve under state authorities except when explicitly ordered to federal duty.

The medical care legislation specifies that "each member of a uniformed service who contracts a disease or becomes ill in line of duty while on inactive duty training (IADT) under circumstances in which it is determined that the disease or illness was incurred or aggravated as an incident of that inactive duty training ... (will be entitled to) the medical and dental care appropriate for the treatment of his injury, disease or illness until the resulting disability cannot be materially improved by further hospitalization or treatment; and subsistence during hospitalization." (NGAUS)

## Letter on NTV's urges awareness

By Spec. 5 Rick Baker

A recent letter from the Adjutant General's office urged all Kentucky National Guard Commanders to be aware of the policy surrounding the use and care of non-tactical vehicles (NTV's).

The letter pointed out that NTV's are not for the exclusive use of any individual, but to support the Guard as a whole. The vehicles may be used only by drivers with official military business and not for personal convenience.

Drivers are required to use the restraint system provided in the vehicle and may not

drive the vehicle off the road or on any unimproved road.

NTV's will not be used to transport family members except under the guidelines of AR 28-19 and other special instructions. The letter also noted that drivers are responsible for performing maintenance and service checks and keeping the vehicles clean.

The Adjutant General also warned against excessive speeding, since this is an area that is always under public scrutiny.

Failure to comply with the established policy regarding NTV's could result in loss of the NTV by the unit, revocation of government driver's license or other punitive action.

## Fund continues to face money problems

The Kentucky National Guard Educational Encouragement Fund continues to face serious financial problems, prompting Maj. Gen. Billy G. Wellman, the Adjutant General, to approve several cost-cutting measures.

The Department of Military Affairs had sought additional funding from the General Assembly for the next two fiscal years, but the budget item was eliminated when the governor's tax package was withdrawn. That leaves an allocation of \$150,000 for each of the next two years.

Nearly half of that amount has already been committed from Fiscal Year 1985 funds, so only \$75,000 will be available for students submitting applications for

summer and fall terms 1984, and for the spring 1985 term.

The Board that administers the program will continue to accept applications from enlisted members in grades E-5 and below; officer candidates at the Kentucky Military Academy; warrant officers in the Physician Assistant Program; and second lieutenants.

All summer term applications, with receipts, must be in Frankfort by Aug. 15 and fall term documents have a Dec. 31 deadline. The spring 1985 date is June 1.

After the submission date, a standard percentage will be applied to all eligible applications to stay within available funding. Therefore, the reimbursement will probably be well below the 50 percent legal limit. Board members are estimating a 25 to 35 percent reimbursement rate.

While this will lower payments, it will permit participation by more Guardsmen than any other approach.

The program is for eligible Guard members attending state universities, colleges, vocational schools, and proprietary institutions.

THE BLUEGRASS Guard accepts material submitted from the field by writing to the Editor, Bluegrass Guard, Boone NG Center, Frankfort, Ky, 40601.

(cut on line)

KENTUCKY  
 NATIONAL GUARD  
 "LEADERSHIP IS THE  
 PROCESS OF INFLUENCING  
 MEN IN SUCH A WAY AS TO  
 ACCOMPLISH THE MISSION."

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

Adj. Gen: \_\_\_\_\_

Drill Schedule: FY \_\_\_\_\_

Oct: \_\_\_ Feb: \_\_\_ Jun: \_\_\_

Nov: \_\_\_ Mar: \_\_\_ Jul: \_\_\_

Dec: \_\_\_ Apr: \_\_\_ Aug: \_\_\_

Jan: \_\_\_ May: \_\_\_ Sep: \_\_\_

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## Guardsmen provide assistance to traffic victims

Kentucky Guard members provided emergency assistance to traffic accident victims in two separate incidents recently.

In the first, MSgt James Charbonneau and TSgt Mike Moore, both of the Air Guard's 123d Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, were first on the scene of an accident at Standiford Lane and Preston Highway, in Louisville.

Charbonneau said he was following one of the two vehicles and saw the accident. He stopped and signalled to Moore. "I knew Mike was an EMT (emergency medical technician)," Charbonneau said,

Moore works as a volunteer with the Taylorsville-Spencer County Fire Department.

The driver of the car Charbonneau followed wasn't hurt, he said. But the couple in the other vehicle were both injured.

The man was unconscious and had facial cuts, Moore said. The woman had a fractured left leg, cuts and a fractured shoulder.

Moore used his "jump kit"—a large first aid kit—to treat the two while Charbonneau kept bystanders out of the way. "There

was some smoke coming from the car, and some people wanted to get the couple out," Charbonneau said. "But they were in pretty bad shape," and could have become worse if they'd been moved.

CMSgt. George Finck Jr., TSgt. James O'Mahoney and Capt. Dewey Cook also stopped to help until civilian authorities arrived.

When the Louisville Emergency Medical Services team got there, Moore worked with them to get the victims out of their truck. "We had to force the door," he said. The Guard members stayed at the scene until the ambulance left.

Four Army Guardsmen helped three Michigan college students in the second accident.

SSgt. David Cobb, of the 133d Public Affairs Detachment, and Spec. 5 William Fredrickson, Spec. 5 Tom Witten, and Warrant Officer David Smith, all of the 441st Medical Detachment, came upon the scene on I-64, east of Middletown.

The students' car had crashed into a Guard rail, pinning one person in the car with lacerations and possible fractures.

The Guardsmen rendered first aid and called for assistance. They remained until the Middletown Fire Department arrived to remove the victim with the "Jaws of Life."

## Obligation changes for new members

Effective June 1, 1984, the minimum enlistment obligation for all non-prior service members joining the Kentucky Army

National Guard will be eight years.

This enlistment can be fulfilled in one of four different ways. The 8x0 involves the complete eight years served in active status. The 6x2 package includes six active years and the remaining two years spent in a Ready Reserve capacity. Also available is a 4x4 and 3x5 commitment, which is split the same way.

An enlistment extension is required to remain active in any of the three active/inactive options.

Split Training arrangements will still be available.



## State session impacts on new armory

(continued from page 1)

The other bill directs that oaths of Guard officers and enlisted persons can be taken before any officer of any branch of the armed services authorized to administer oaths.

A resolution passed in the last days of the session is discussed elsewhere in this issue.

The most difficult problem facing the Guard and the Department of Military Affairs involved the budget bill. After

making several appearances before budget committees in both houses, Adjutant General Billy G. Wellman realized that with the state facing a huge revenue shortfall, all departments were facing budget reductions.

In his testimonies Wellman stated that the budget prepared by his department had been reduced several times and was basically just a continuation budget from the past two years. The only major requests for additional funds covered a new armory in Murray at a cost to the state of \$500,000 and design monies for several other projects in London, Frankfort, Ashland and Danville. The approved budget included the Murray project, which ended up as one of the few capital construction projects in the entire budget, but did not fund the design request.

Wellman's assessment of this year's session was that the Guard was very fortunate to receive the additional funding for Murray. He said, "The support that we enjoy in the legislature is unparalleled, I hope that each soldier will tell his senator or representative how much we appreciate the support."

Wellman said he understood how limited the budget for the coming two years has to be and that every effort must be made to trim and save funds wherever possible. He added that it is particularly unfortunate that the federal funds are available now and that state money may come later when these funds will not be available.

### EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS

Commander: \_\_\_\_\_

1st Sergeant: \_\_\_\_\_

PLT Leader: \_\_\_\_\_

PLT SGT: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit Adm: \_\_\_\_\_

Ret. Hot Line: 1-800-372-7601

Ret. NCO: \_\_\_\_\_

Recruiter: \_\_\_\_\_

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