

The Bluegrass Guard

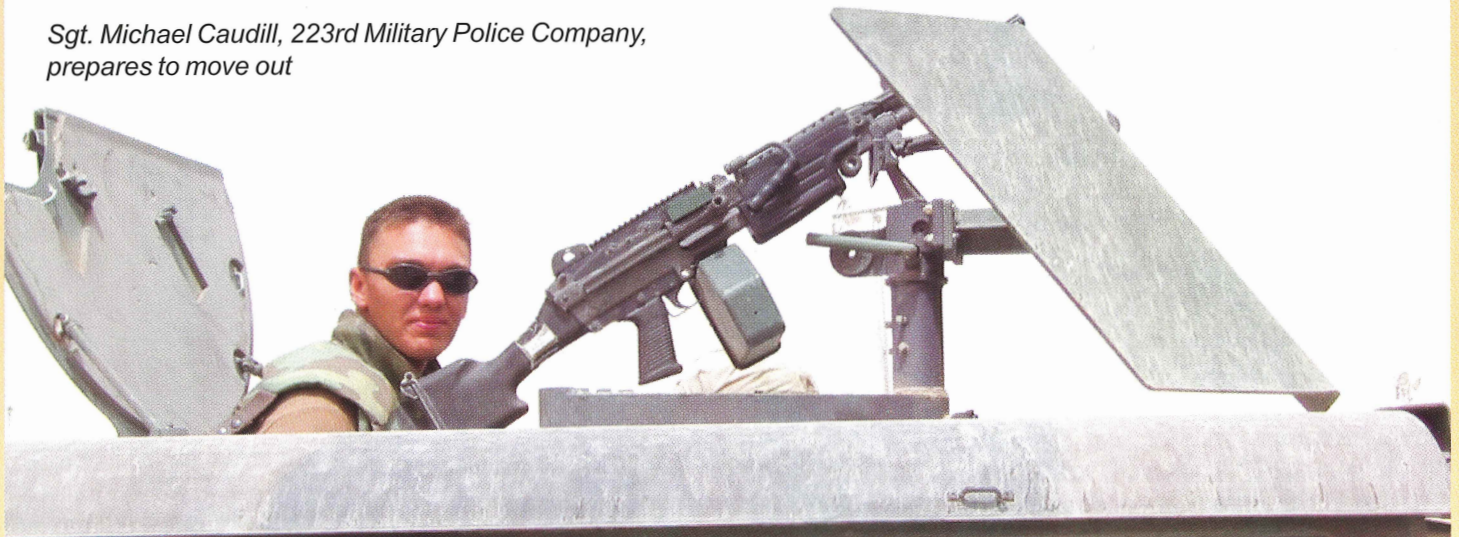
Volume Eight, Issue One

serving the men and women of Kentucky's Army and Air National Guard

Summer 2003

Operation Iraqi Freedom: *223rd MPs tackle war, post-war mission*

Sgt. Michael Caudill, 223rd Military Police Company,
prepares to move out



Also inside:
**Medics head for
Afghanistan!**

**Air Guard
returns from Iraq!**

**Kentucky Army
Guard in Bosnia!**

**20 years with
the Black Hawk!**

**Meet the newest
OCS graduates!**



OCS Class 45-03, reporting for duty!

KENTUCKY ARMY NATIONAL GUARD HONORS NEW OFFICERS

by Staff Sgt. David W. Altom

The Kentucky Army National Guard held graduation ceremonies for the Officers Candidate School graduating on Saturday, August 23rd. Twenty-five new Kentucky Guard officers received their diplomas from Kentucky Adjutant General D. Allen Youngman during the ceremony, which took place on the veranda behind the State Capitol Building.

The new officers hailed from Ashland, Bowling Green, Danville, Frankfort, Georgetown, Henderson, Lawrenceburg, Lexington, Louisville, Maysville, Murray, Philpot, Richmond, Somerset and Versailles.

The two-year Officer Candidate School program is conducted by the 238th Regiment (based at the Wendell H. Ford Regional Training Center in Greenville), which has served both the Army National Guard and the Army Reserve since 1959 by providing leadership training for more than one thousand new military officers.

The 238th Regiment is commanded by Col. John Heltzel.



CLASS 45-03

(first row) 2nd Lt. Matthew N. Krupp, 2nd Lt. Simon Huntley, 2nd Lt. Melissa D. Shaw, 2nd Lt. Noy Esan Boriboune, 2nd Lt. Brenda J. Phillips, 2nd Lt. Gary L. Barr
 (second row) 2nd Lt. Phillip Hathorn, 2nd Lt. Edwin Oyler, 2nd Lt. Douglas K. Smith, 2nd Lt. William Palmer, 2nd Lt. Kevin Massengill, 2nd Lt. Michael W. Lawson
 (third row) 2nd Lt. Benjamin Williams, 2nd Lt. Richard Huber, 2nd Lt. Benjamin Culbertson, 2nd Lt. Jacob Mayes, 2nd Lt. Richard L. Dugas, 2nd Lt. Chris Fitzwater, 2nd Lt. Jason P. Adams
 (fourth row) 2nd Lt. Robert R. Anderson, 2nd Lt. Swannie Jett, 2nd Lt. Jeffrey Fugate, 2nd Lt. James Meece Jr., 2nd Lt. Jody DeWitt, 2nd Lt. Henry Carmichael IV

The Bluegrass Guard

Commander-in-Chief Governor Paul E. Patton
 Adjutant General Maj. Gen. D. Allen Youngman
 Deputy Adjutant General Brig. Gen. Norman Arflack
 Assistant Adjutant General, Air Brig. Gen. Richard Ash
 Kentucky National Guard Public Affairs Officer Lt. Col. Phil Miller

133rd Mobile Public Affairs Det. Commander Maj. Ben Singleton
 123rd Airlift Wing Public Affairs Officer Capt. Dale Greer
 Editor Capt. David Page
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 Tech. Sgt. Amy Mundell

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Arflack named Deputy Adjutant General

by Staff Sgt. David W. Altom, STARC PAO

Adjutant Gen. D. Allen Youngman announced the selection of Brig. Gen. Norman Arflack for the position of Deputy Adjutant General of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, effective August 1st. Gen. Arflack replaces Brig. Gen. Earl L. (Jack) Doyle who has served in the position since 2000.

Gen. Arflack has been a member of the Kentucky Army National Guard since 1970, serving in a variety of leadership assignments, to include battalion- and brigade-level positions, project officer for the Kentucky Airport Security Mission and Counter Drug Coordinator. He is a graduate of the US Army War College and holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Law Enforcement from Eastern Kentucky University and a Masters of Public Administration from Shippensburg University. He is also retired from the



Brig. Gen. Norman Arflack

Kentucky State Police with more than 20 years of service.

Gen. Doyle officially retired last year from the Kentucky Army National Guard



Brig. Gen. Earl L. Doyle

with more than 36 years of service, but volunteered to extend his assignment as the Deputy Adjutant General. He has been instrumental in forging the strategic vision of the Kentucky Guard by working with directors on the state and federal levels to plan the goals and objectives of the organization for years to come. He also has worked diligently with government officials to increase the training resources available to the soldiers and airmen of the Kentucky National Guard.

"Spanning more than three decades, Gen. Doyle's career has involved mobilizations and deployments for two wars, which is unique in the Kentucky National Guard. His leadership has touched multiple generations of soldiers and officers. He has made this organization better in ways that we will benefit from for years to come" said Youngman.

Gen. Doyle joined the Kentucky Army National Guard in 1966 in Bardstown, Kentucky and received his commission in 1968. He served 13 months in Viet Nam with the 2-138th Field Artillery Battalion. In January of 1991, he deployed to Southwest Asia for service in Desert Storm. He was nominated for general officer September of 1994 and was assigned as Assistant Division Commander, 35th Division (M), where he served until June 1998. He was then assigned as Deputy Commander, Kentucky State Area Command until June 2000.

KyANG chief of staff receives star

By Tech. Sgt. Amy Mundell
Cargo Courier Editor

The Kentucky Air Guard chief of staff, Hank Morrow, was promoted to brigadier general on June 30. Morrow, who joined the unit in March of 2002, previously served in the active duty Air Force and in the Texas Air Guard.

Morrow also serves as the Air National Guard advisor to the Air Force assistant

surgeon general for expeditionary operations, science and technology and on the Department of Defense directed energy weapons collection and analysis task force for the Defense Intelligence Agency.

Morrow, a 24-year military member, has served as an F-111 Aardvark and F-16 Strike Eagle instructor pilot, with tours to Lakenheath Royal Air Force Base, United Kingdom, Hahn Air Base, Germany, and Hill Air Force Base, Utah. In 1988, he left active duty to join the Texas Air Guard where he held various other positions through the years, including wing commander of the 149th Fighter Wing.

The general is a combat veteran and command pilot with more than 3,000 flying hours in trainer and fighter aircraft.



Kentucky MPs make history in Iraq

Story by Staff Sgt. David W. Altom, STARC PAO
Photos by Staff Sgt. Jennifer McCurry, 223rd MP Co.

There are so many things to think about. Battle drills, contingencies, branches and sequels to plans ... weapons and vehicle maintenance ... and the heat.

The heat is always there, made more intolerable by the long hours and the separation from their loved ones. Still, the men and women of the Kentucky Army National Guard's 223rd Military Police Company do their job, and they do it well. They have to ... they've been through a war and now they're trying to establish a peace in one of the most volatile places on earth:

Iraq.

One of two Kentucky Army Guard units currently stationed in Iraq — the other being the 217th Quartermaster Detachment, a water purification unit that also served in the first Persian Gulf War — the 223rd MP Co. has come a long way since leaving home station of Louisville, Kentucky last December. And according to Capt. Adrian Wheeler, the unit commander, the distance cannot be measured in miles.

"One year ago, if someone would have told me that I would be directly involved in liberating Iraq from tyranny, I would have said they were crazy. But that is exactly what the 223rd MP Company is doing. We are directly involved in the success of Operation Iraqi Freedom. One element of the company is located in a region of the country that is making daily headlines."

The 223rd's mission during Operation Iraqi Freedom has been a diverse one, the kind you'd expect during wartime. Convoy escorts, force protection, criminal investigations, traffic accidents, training local nationals to take over. The 223rd has been busy since leaving home.

"We bring a lot of experience and skills to the table," said Master Sgt. John Sallee. "For instance, experience from prior deployments and skills from civilian employment. We have done things that range from building furniture for local civilians to training future corrections officers for the new Iraqi government."

And to hear Sgt. Todd Johnson tell it, the MPs work hard to get the job done and come home safe.

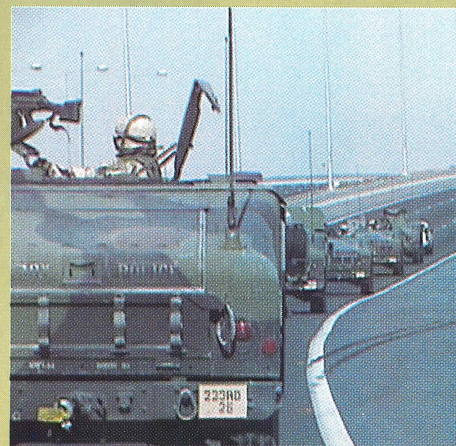
Sgt. Bruce Bloomer, Spc. Schelee Reece, Staff Sgt. Timothy Nein show off some captured armament.



223rd soldiers take a break in the triple digit heat: Sgt. Franklin Jeffcoat, Spc. Steven McNabb, Spc. Amanda Hoover, Sgt. Michael Preston, Capt. Adrian Wheeler, Sgt. Matthew Johnson, Pfc. Jeffrey Brooks (in turret)

On the Road (below): The job goes on

"Our leadership demands professionalism and the 223rd is setting the standard for others to follow," he said. "As a unit, we have come a long way since mid-December. We have formed a team that is prepared to overcome any obstacle that our mission has to offer."



This deployment is all about mission, so luxuries are rare. When the soldiers do have some down time, they play "Risk", watch DVDs on personal laptops, write letters, show pictures, and talk about home. After living in tents for five months work has started on air conditioned sleeping trailers, but construction has been slow and space is limited.

And the work goes on. There are humvee parts to scavenge, the hazards of unexploded ordnance, ambushes, irate citizens ... and the heat.

No redeployment date has been set yet for the 223rd. Rumors abound, but no one takes them seriously. Wheeler continues to be the unit's biggest advocate, expressing pride in the accomplishments and hope for the future.

"It is amazing to see the soldiers of the 223rd MP Company, a little old MP unit from Kentucky, making such a large contribution to the most significant event on the globe. We will however, continue to carry on with the mission assigned to us, and look

Kentucky Guard Peacekeepers Hit Jackpot on Illegal Weapons Raid

by Maj. Jeff Coverdale, Task Force Eagle Public Affairs

EAGLE BASE, Tuzla, Bosnia and Herzegovina -- Soldiers from the Kentucky and South Carolina Army National Guard peace keeping forces wrapped up a major weapons search and seizure operation in Bosnia and Herzegovina after finding more than five tons of illegally stored weapons, ammunition and ordnance.

Acting on intelligence reports, indicating the presence of possible illegal weapons storage facilities in the Multinational Brigade North sector, Task Force Eagle troops, to include soldiers from the Kentucky National Guard's Company C, 1st Battalion, 149th Infantry, Ravenna, and 2nd Battalion, 123rd Armor, Bowling Green, began an air and ground operation in the southeast corner of its area of responsibility, to find and seize the illegal weapons.

During the first five days of the mission, the Kentucky guardsmen and other Task Force Eagle ground forces discovered a series of hidden bunkers in the woods containing an enormous cache of indirect and direct fire weapons, missiles, and shoulder fired anti-tank weapons.

"Most of the munitions were in crates, protected from the moisture and the weather and in very good condition," stated Colonel Tom Johnson, Multinational Brigade North deputy commander of ground forces, and commander of this operation. "The weapons found had little or no rust," he said.

It took several days to move all of the weapons and munitions out of the area and have it transported to different locations to be destroyed. Johnson says the troops have been making good progress inspecting some very rough terrain, but he could not be sure when the mission would end.

Johnson praised the leadership and the professionalism of the National Guard soldiers conducting this operation and lauded



Maj. Alan Slusher with some of the 80 mm anti-tank launchers that were seized during an SFOR 13 raid. Kentucky Guard soldiers had the tedious task of removing and documenting illegal weapons seized during Operation Tornado in Bosnia.

the fact that there were no accidents or casualties throughout the entire operation.

Soldiers from the two Kentucky units are part of Task Force South, which deployed to Bosnia for a six-month peacekeeping tour in January. They are expected to conclude their tour of duty in September.

Burd takes Command of 1-75th TC

By Spc. Dionne Short,
133rd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment



Lt. Col. Wayne Burd took command of the Headquarters, 1-75th Troop Command, based at Fort Knox,

during an official ceremony held on July 12, 2003.

Stepping down is Lt. Col. John Powell, who has commanded the 1-75th since September 2001. During his next assignment, Powell will serve as the State Area Command Plans, Operations and Military Support Officer, in Frankfort. Powell is married to the former Claudia Elizabeth Bragdon of Greenville, Tenn. Together they have two children Joshua and Mary Elizabeth.

Lt. Col. Burd previously served as Plans, Operations and Military Support Officer for the State Area Command. From January 2003 to March 2003, he deployed with the Combined Joint

Special Operations Task Force in Afghanistan in support of Operations Enduring Freedom. Burd is married to the former Denise Marie Meiman of Louisville, Ky. They have two daughters Meagan and Kaitlyn.

Headquarters, 1-75th Troop Command provides administrative, command and control, training, guidance and support for the 20th Special Forces Group, 133rd MPAD, 141st PSD, 202nd Army Band, 207th and 307th Maintenance Companies, 410th Quartermaster, and the 2113th and 2123rd Transportation Companies. The command ensures unit-mobilization readiness and assists in statewide missions.

Airmen, C-130s return from desert deployment

By Tech. Sgt. Amy Mundell, Cargo Courier Editor

Hundreds of family members and friends gathered near the Kentucky Air Guard flightline Aug. 11 to welcome home the more than 120 airmen from the 123rd Airlift Wing who returned from a five-month deployment to the Persian Gulf.

The deployed troops provided C-130 airlift services for the Global War on Terror and the war against the former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein, flying troops and cargo throughout the CENTCOM area of operations, including Baghdad International Airport.

Wing commander Col. Michael Harden, who deployed with the unit, said he is extremely proud of the Kentucky Air Guard's performance during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"The professionalism of our folks really showed," Harden said. "They worked under very brutal conditions, flying and fixing aircraft around the clock.

"Our maintainers worked in the hot sun until all the aircraft were ready to go and set a standard for maintenance reliability that will be difficult to match. I continue to be proud and humble that I have the honor to command these folks and am thankful that I had the opportunity to serve with them



More than 120 Kentucky Air Guard troops and five of the unit's C-130 aircraft line the tarmac Aug. 11 after returning from a five-month deployment to the Persian Gulf. Hundreds of family members and friends were on hand to welcome home the airmen. Photo by Master Sgt. Charles Simpson/KyANG

and observe their dynamite performance."

Last month's homecoming ceremonies included appearances by U.S. Rep. Ann Northup, Lt. Gov. Steve Henry and Louisville Mayor Jerry Abramson, all of whom expressed their appreciation to the wing for a job well done.

Army Guard Medics take talents to Afghanistan, Uzbekistan

story by Staff Sgt. David Altom
photos by Lt. Col. Phil Miller



mission is to provide immediate medical care to soldiers and civilians in the theater of operation.

The 41 members of the 1163rd also took with them six tons of recycled and donated medical supplies in addition to a humvee ambulance and the unit's operational equipment.

The latest Kentucky Army National Guard unit to deploy overseas is the Louisville-based 1163rd Medical Company, which recently arrived in Afghanistan and Uzbekistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Commanded by Major Jesse Huff, the 1163rd is made up of a variety of medical professionals such as physicians, dentists and lab technicians whose



Kentucky Army National Guard Celebrates 20 Years of the UH-60 Black Hawk

story by CW5 Dean Stoops, 63rd Aviation Group
photos by Sgt. Charles Westmoreland,
133rd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

On August 9th the Kentucky Army National Guard celebrated 20 years with the UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter in a special ceremony at the Army Aviation Support Facility (AASF), Boone National Guard Center, in Frankfort, Kentucky. The guest of honor for the ceremony was Mr. Sergei Sikorsky, son of Igor Sikorsky, inventor of the helicopter. Also in attendance were several dignitaries from Sikorsky Aircraft, Inc., the Kentucky National Guard, and the local community.

Mr. Sikorsky spoke on the history of the helicopter and delighted the audience with personal memories about the early day of aviation with such pioneers as Howard Hughes, Charles Lindbergh, Orville and Wilbur Wright and his father, Igor.

Sikorsky Aircraft representatives Tom Nicolet, Joe Farrar, and Sergei Sikorsky presented a special plaque commemorating the event to Maj. Gen. D. Allen Youngman (Commanding General, KYARNG) and Maj. Gen. (Ret) Billy G. Wellman, who was Adjutant General when Kentucky received the first UH-60s.

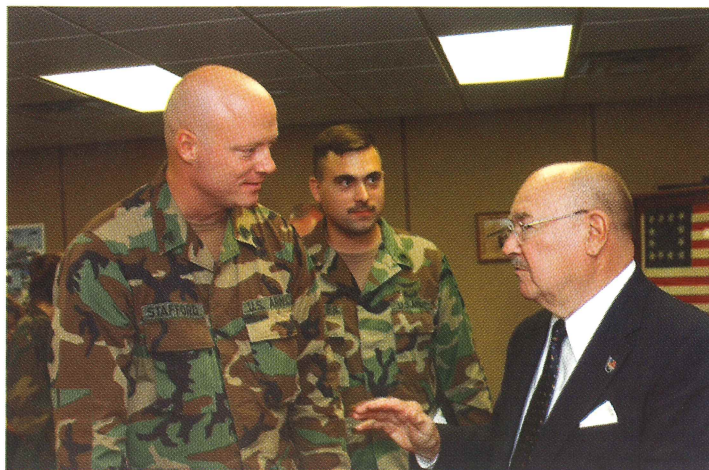
Col. Benjamin F. Adams III (State Army Aviation Officer) and Col. Ricky W. Branscum (Commander, 63rd Aviation Group) received a large flag from Sikorsky featuring the familiar Black Hawk. Also on hand was the Kentucky National Guard flight crew who flew the first UH-60 from the Sikorsky factory in Connecticut to the Kentucky Army.

"At the time it was like going from a Volkswagen to a Cadillac," said Maj. (ret.) Brad Bailey, who commanded the first Kentucky Black Hawk crew.

Sikorsky credited the military with the success of the UH-60.

"These people, the pilots, the men and women that fly and maintain these machines, they are really the heroes. We build and instruct. They make it synch."

Kentucky's first UH-60 Black Hawk crew received commemorative miniatures from Sergei Sikorsky: (left to right) Maj. (ret.) Brad Bailey, CW4 (ret.) Wallace Walker, Sergei Sikorsky, and Staff Sgt. (ret.) Larry W. Slaughter



Sgt. Ronald Stafford and Spc. Jonathan Strayer listen intently as Sergei Sikorsky shares some of his insight.

Kentucky Army Guard UH-60 crews and soldiers celebrate the anniversary with a rappel demonstration



Kentucky Army National Guard Black Hawk deployments include:

- ← Hurricane Hugo, the United States Virgin Islands (1989)
- ← Disaster Relief Support, Rhode Island (1995)
- ← Hurricane Fran, North Carolina (1996)
- ← Operation New Horizons, Ecuador (1998)
- ← Operation New Horizons, El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua (2002)
- ← Supported 7th Special Forces, JRTC, (1999); supported SEAL TEAM 4 training 1999-2002
- ← Supported Special Warfare Training Center at FT. Bragg, NC on 2003 for ROBIN SAGE Exercise (Phase IV of Special Operations Qualification Course)

Special achievements:

- ← 20 Years with over 31,000 Blackhawk hours flown
- ← 30 Year Lindbergh Award for accident free flying



FRONT RUNNER

by Capt. David Page

Sergeant Diana Mortenson, a member of the 141st Personnel Service Detachment, placed seventh in the National Guard Marathon Trails held in Lincoln, Nebraska on May 4. With a time of four hours, one minute and 41 seconds, Mortenson's top-ten finish has earned her a spot on the All National Guard Marathon Team, making her the first female from the Kentucky Army National Guard to do so.

or current resident

The Bluegrass Guard
KG-PAO
Boone National Guard Center
Frankfort, KY 40601-6168



photo courtesy The Paducah Sun

It was a red, white and blue day for the citizens of Murray, Kentucky when the 438th Military Police Company returned home after an 11-month tour at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba on Sunday, September 7, 2003. Commanded by Captain April Brown, the 124 soldiers of the 438th deployed to "GITMO" as part of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM. There they supported operations at a detention facility currently being used to confine suspected terrorists captured in the ongoing US-led global war on terror.

