



The **Bluegrass Guard**

Volume Nine, Issue Four

serving the Soldiers and Airmen of the Kentucky National Guard

January 2005

Aviation conducts safety course



Reduce accidents by 50 percent!

That is the directive to the Army and the National Guard by the Secretary of Defense

Reducing accidents by 50 percent won't be easy, but we can do it! We have many tools at our finger tips.

1. The Defensive Driver Course- The number one killer of Soldiers is motor vehicle accidents. This program is designed to give the student the tools to understand and recognize how to avoid motor vehicle accidents. This is a requirement for every Soldier in the Guard. For enrollment information see your Readiness NCO...the course is free!!!

2. Mandatory Motorcycle Safety Training- In order to operate a motorcycle or moped on KYARNG facilities, military personnel and DOD (technician and DMA) civilian employees are required to satisfactorily complete an Army-approved motorcycle safety course.

This required training will be provided at no cost to KYARNG military personnel, technician and DMA civilian employees. Personnel will not be charged leave to attend this training. M-Day personnel will be allowed to split train to attend this training. The Safety and Occupational Health Office will provide and coordinate the motorcycle training.

Effective June 1, 2005, all motorcycle operators will be required to present their motorcycle safety course completion card to gate guards for



admission to KYARNG facilities.

3. Risk Assessment- This is an excellent tool. We have used this tool for years in the Guard. Remember there are five steps:

a. Identify Hazards: A hazard is an actual or potential condition where injury, illness, death damage to or loss of equipment and property, and mission degradation.

b. Assess Hazards: The Hazard must be credible in that it must have a reasonable expectation of happening. For example: Hydroplaning on a wet road.

c. Develop Controls and Make Risk Decisions: Controls are methods that either eliminate the hazard or reduce the risk of an incident. These controls come in many forms, but fall into three categories: educational controls, physical controls and avoidance. These are explained in detail in FM 100-14.

d. Implement Controls: Simply putting those controls to work. The critical item here is to ensure that controls are converted into a clear, simple execution orders understood by all.

e. Supervise and Evaluate: Manage the process and evaluate the effort to see if your controls were effective.

These are just some of the ways we can reduce accidents and injuries to ALL of our Soldiers. The Safety and Occupational Health Office is committed to help keep all of our Soldiers safe.....on and off duty.

If you need any assistance, or have any questions, you may call the Safety and Occupational Health Office at (502) 607- 1281, 1570 or 1249.

Marion Peterson Jr
MAJ EN KYARNG
Safety Specialist

The Bluegrass Guard

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|--|-------------------------|---|------------------|
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Cover photo: Two Guardsmen play the role of casualties during an aviation training exercise.

Photo by SSG David Altom



Gearlds named new State CSM

FRANKFORT – Major General Donald C. Storm, Adjutant General for Kentucky, announced on Jan. 18, the selection of Phillip D. Gearlds as the Kentucky Army National Guard's newest State Command Sergeant Major.

Gearlds will assume his new duties on the first of February, replacing former State Command Sergeant Major John D. Gipe, who has been selected to serve as Command Sergeant Major for the Army National Guard of the United States in Washington, D.C.

"Command Sergeant Major Gearlds is the prime choice for this job," said Maj. Gen. Storm. "His dedication to the welfare and readiness of Kentucky's Soldiers is unparalleled. I am confident that the Kentucky Army National Guard is in good hands with Command Sergeant Major Gearlds."

A member of the Kentucky Army Guard since 1981, Gearlds is a veteran of the Persian Gulf War. His most recent assignment was as command sergeant major for 1st Battalion, 623rd Field Artillery (Multiple Launch Rocket System). He and his wife, Pamela, are residents of Glasgow, Ky., where they are the parents of three children, Kristy, Jonathan and Jennifer.



Soldiers provide support during snow emergency

Story by SSG David Altom

Photo courtesy Paducah Sun

Within a couple of hours of getting the call, SFC Jack Evans had his soldiers on the road, responding to a powerful winter storm that shut down much of western Kentucky just in time for Christmas.

On December 23, Governor Ernie Fletcher declared a state of emergency to support the more than forty counties and sixteen cities that were affected by the storm. Heavy snow shut down power to tens of thousands of residents, stranded motorists and in some cases put lives at risk.

"This was the biggest snow storm in more than 20 years," said Evans, who supervised Soldiers put on state active duty for the mission. "We had troops in graders, humvees, two and a half ton trucks and hemmet wreckers. Our main mission was clearing abandoned vehicles blocking traffic along I-24 in Logan, Caldwell and Trigg counties. But they went beyond the call of duty in many cases."

Indeed, Kentucky Guard Soldiers delivered baby formula and diapers to families in stranded vehicles desperate for relief, this in addition to transporting nurses to hospitals in rural areas. In one instance troops rescued a family with an expectant mother along I-24.

Soldiers also responded to lives at risk by the winter storm, most notably in the case where troops in a humvee transported a paramedic to a reported heart attack victim

stranded on I-24. The patient was then transported to Calloway County hospital for further treatment.

The Kentucky Army Guard mission peaked with 137 Soldiers on duty on the 23rd of December. The mission ended on December 30th.

"The only problem I had was my Soldiers didn't want to stop the mission," said Evans. "They were pulling stuck cars up until the last minute. They just didn't want to go home until the job was done."



Ky sharpshooters join USAF team

Johnson and Tallman are the first reservists ever to compete on squad

By Capt. Dale Greer
123AW Public Affairs Officer
Kentucky Air National Guard

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Two Kentucky Air Guardsmen have been selected as the newest members of the the U.S. Air Force Rifle Team, marking the first time in history that reservists have competed as part of the blue-suit squad.

Master Sgt. James Johnson and Tech Sgt. Frank Tallman, both members of the Louisville-based 123rd Special Tactics Squadron, were invited to join the team this summer after posting top scores in the 2004 National Rifle and Pistol Championships held at Camp Perry, Ohio, in July.

Using only the iron sights on his .22-caliber rifle as a guide, Sergeant Johnson placed first in the Sharpshooter Civilian/Service division and second place in the "Made in America" match, which is restricted to shooters with exclusively American gear.

Sergeant Tallman scored two first-place honors, winning the "Any Sight" category of the Sharpshooter Civilian/Service division with his scoped .22 rifle and taking first place overall in the same smallbore division.

Their achievements are especially remarkable because of bad weather during the iron sight matches.

Sergeants Johnson and Tallman had to fend off a deluge of rain and gale-force winds while trying to zero their rifles with fogged-up sighting scopes and hit targets whose bull's eyes are smaller than a dime at 50 yards, squeezing off 40 rounds of ammunition during each 40-minute match.

The rain was so heavy that Sergeant Johnson had to break his shooting position twice to tilt the muzzle of his rifle and clear rain water from the sights.

"After breaking position, I had to trust that everything was back in the right place when I resumed shooting because I couldn't see through my sighting scope anymore," Sergeant Johnson recalled.



Master Sgt. James Johnson and Tech. Sgt. Frank Tallman are the newest members of the U.S. Air Force Rifle Team.

"I was really firing blind for the last eight rounds, but it all worked out OK," the combat controller added. "Every one of those shots was right in the 10-ring."

Sergeant Tallman, a radio equipment technician and former Army Ranger, said many longtime shooters decided to skip the competition rather than shoot under such austere conditions.

"But we just did the military thing," he said. "We drove on and made the best we could out of a bad situation."

Members of the Air Force Rifle Team, whom Sergeant Johnson subsequently contacted via e-mail, were duly impressed.

"Sergeant Johnson and Sergeant Tallman's scores were quite good," said Maj. Doug Clark, a member of the USAF team who stepped down as squad captain earlier this year.

"They clearly have a lot of ability and the potential for even more in the future, especially if they're practicing every week."

In fact, Sergeants Johnson and Tallman

practice each Tuesday night at a local gun club populated with smallbore aficionados.

Those practice sessions are now considerably less expensive, thanks to ammunition supplied by the Air Force — one of the perks of Rifle Team membership.

Sergeants Johnson and Tallman each had been spending about \$100 a month of their own money on lower-grade ammo. Now the Air Force has committed to supplying each of them up to 10,000 rounds per year of competition-grade shells worth about \$2,000, Major Clark said.

Sergeants Johnson and Tallman first became interested in smallbore shooting — typically .22-caliber — about a year ago.

Previously both had participated in military matches, which usually feature high-powered, largebore rifles like the M-16. Johnson also had participated in two combat-rifle matches — a kind of obstacle course with shooting — while serving as an active duty security forces troop in the late 1980s.



Master Sgt. James Johnson sights a target from the kneeling position.

But international competition is based on smallbore (and air rifle) shooting, which requires an incredible amount of precision.

"We're measuring wins and losses by thousandths of an inch at 50 meters or 100 yards," Johnson said.

Smallbore rifles also happen to be the primary weapons used by competitors with Olympic aspirations.

In fact, the reason Sergeants Johnson and Tallman have ready access to smallbore rifles now is because of Maj. Don Durbin, a former chief of base supply for the 123rd Airlift Wing here.

Durbin, a member of the U.S. Rifle Team in the 1984 Olympics, acquired the 1960s-vintage rifles — bolt-action Winchester Model 52Es — from the U.S. Army Rifle Team, which was upgrading its equipment and planned to destroy them. They've been on base ever since and have gone largely unused for more than 10 years — until 2003 when Sergeants Johnson and Tallman returned from a deployment to Southwest Asia and picked up a new passion.

Access to such fine-quality rifles played an important role in helping the two land spots on the USAF team, Major Clark said.

"We get a lot of inquiries from folks who want to join the team," he said. "But you have to be sufficiently equipped for international-style competition, which carries a price tag of \$5,000 for the rifles and the clothing. A .22 from Wal-Mart doesn't cut it."

It was, of course, their shooting skills that ultimately earned Sergeants Johnson and Tallman a spot among the Air Force's best marksmen. Remarkably, both have competed in only two smallbore contests to date: a regional event held in May and the National Championships held in July.

Next on their agenda is the Rocky Mountain Championships, which will be held at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo., in February.

The event serves as the first match of the year for the Air Force team and will be used to establish a pecking order among the squad's eight members.

After that, they can expect to travel on TDY status to as many

as seven competitions a year as part of the USAF team, depending on their availability.

Unlike Army shooters, who are part of a standing team of full-time marksmen, the Air Force shooters must hold down regular service jobs and are permitted to practice or travel for competitions only when their schedules permit.

This handicap actually works to the advantage of Sergeants Johnson and Tallman, who, as full-time Air Guardsmen, would not be able to participate in a USAF team staffed with full-time, dedicated shooters.

As it is, their availability is not much different from that of any other team member, Major Clark said.

While Sergeants Johnson and Tallman hone their skills as part of the Air Force Rifle Team over the next year, they also will be setting their sights on an even loftier target: the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing.

Major Clark said such aspirations are certainly within reach.

"Sergeants Johnson and Tallman are replacing two former world champions who left the team this summer," he said. "One of them was a member of the 1988 Olympic team and finished third in the selection for this year's Olympic team.

"It's some big shoes to fill, but the Olympics are certainly within anyone's grasp on our team."

For now, however, both airmen are pleased to represent the Air National Guard as the first reservists ever to compete on the U.S. Air Force Rifle Team. (Apparently, no one had ever asked before, Major Clark said.)

"I'm quite excited and very hopeful that this will pan out for us," Sergeant Johnson said.

"There hasn't been anyone competing at this level from the Air Guard since Major Durbin in the 1980s."

He also is especially grateful for the support he and Sergeant Tallman have received from people across the base.

"We now have new spotting scopes that won't fog up, and the base rifle team got together with our squadron to buy us new shooting jackets that meet international standards," Sergeant Johnson said.

"That was \$200 we thought we were going to have to pay out of our own pockets, so we're very appreciative of that support."

Sergeant Tallman is equally enthusiastic.

"I'm quite happy and surprised to be where we are right now," he said. "I feel very fortunate to have the opportunity to do this."



Tech Sgt. Frank Tallman demonstrates the prone shooting position with his Winchester Model 52E.

This poem, which was inspired by a lieutenant's philosophy of "drive on, no matter what," recognizes not only his dedication but also that of all of the drivers who risk their lives to ensure that the soldiers on the front line have the supplies they need.

The Driving Force

By Sergeant Jennifer D. Payne, USAR

I'm a soldier prepared to ride. Mission ahead, rifle by my side.
Get in line and get in gear, leave behind all your fears.
Combat checked, secured my load. Now it's time I face the road.
And if this time I don't survive, don't you stop. Finish the drive.
For I know to stop would be a sin. Drive on, or the enemy will win.
I'm on the road, in the driver's seat. Eating dust and breathing heat.
Get in line and get in gear, leave behind all your fears.
No time to waste, I was told. The boys up north need this load.
And if it's my life the enemy should take, you better drive on, for the front line's sake.
For I know to stop would be a sin. Drive on, or the enemy will win.
I'm a soldier prepared to fight. Pedal to the floor, enemy in sight.
Get in line and get in gear, leave behind all your fears.
Combat ready, shoot to kill. Nothing can stop a soldier's will.
And if this time my life should cease, drive on so I may rest in peace.
For I know to stop would be a sin. Drive on, or the enemy will win.
I'm a road warrior, and a boundless rider. I'm a dedicated combat truck driver.
Get in line and get in gear, leave behind all your fears.
I know the danger of my task. I know my life may not last.
And if you should hear my final heart beat, drive on 'til the mission's complete.
I know you won't stop, you know it's a sin. I know you won't let the enemy win
Drive on soldiers, let those trucks roar!
And with your help we'll win this war!
Through enemy fire and harsh desert heat,
The opposition we will defeat!
And when we pass, remember this. Our selfless deeds led us to bliss.
We ride through terror, our guard never drops.
When the mission's complete is when we'll stop.
And when we finish we'll go home with pride.
And never forget this war's long ride.

Sergeant Jennifer D. Payne, USAR, is assigned to the 210th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment in Garner, North Carolina. She wrote this poem as a memorial to First Lieutenant Robert L. Henderson of the 2123d Transportation Company from Richmond, Kentucky, who was killed in the line of duty in Iraq.

Briefly News

National Guard Soldiers aid in Inaugural festivities

Courtesy ARNG News

ARLINGTON, Va. -- A couple of hundred Army and Air National Guard troops will march in the 55th Inaugural Parade. Several hundred more are prepared to help the United States Secret Service screen people attending the festivities. And many more will be standing by, hoping their services will not be needed, when George W. Bush is inaugurated for his second term as President of the United States in Washington, D.C., on Jan. 20.

Approximately 2,200 Guard members will participate in one way or another in the quadrennial rite of passage that salutes and celebrates this country's chief executive for the next four years.

Guard members from the District of Columbia and five states -- Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts -- are expected to take part in some capacity in the inaugural festivities on the 19th and 20th.

Virginia and West Virginia are prepared to provide 500 screeners if the Secret Service needs that kind of help to handle the hundreds of thousands of people expected to flock to the nation's capital. The Massachusetts Army Guard is geared up to send a couple of medevac helicopters and crews to Washington, ready to assist the DC Guard.

Two National Guard units -- one Army, one Air Force -- from the District of Columbia will perhaps be the most visible as they march in the inaugural parade from the U.S. Capitol to the White House along historic Pennsylvania Avenue on the afternoon of Jan 20.

Meanwhile, Guard members in all 54 states and territories will maintain 24-hour joint operation centers to support the homeland security effort.

"America Supports You" launched

Courtesy ARNG News

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- On Nov. 19, 2004, the Department of Defense launched a nationwide program, "America Supports You," and new Web site to showcase the many activities taking place across the nation in support of the troops. The Web site, which highlights organizations and individuals coordinating local and national support efforts, has logged nearly a million hits since its inception.

Individual citizens, businesses, schools, veterans groups and others have visited the site <http://www.AmericaSupportsYou.mil> to register their activities, send a message to the troops and identify programs of support in their own communities.

Allison Barber, deputy assistant secretary of defense for internal communications and public liaison, said that while the Department of Defense knew that many of these programs existed, "the 'America Supports You' Web site has proven to be a useful tool in helping to link people and programs, and more importantly, to share these stories of support with the people who need to hear them most -- the men and women serving overseas. The feedback from our troops has been tremendous, just as the outpouring of support from the American people has been overwhelming."

Americans can join "America Supports You" by visiting the site and registering their activities, large or small, in support of the troops.

DoD announces new Sexual Assault Policy

Courtesy DefenseLink

The Department of Defense announced today that Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness David S.C. Chu delivered the department's new sexual assault policy to Congress. The policy provides a foundation through which the department will improve prevention of sexual assault, significantly enhance support to victims and increase accountability.

"The department is moving forward to make real changes and to make those changes stick," Chu said. "Sexual assault is a crime, and is not tolerated."

Over the past year, the department has been working collaboratively with the services, members of Congress, and national experts to address the crime of sexual assault within the armed forces. As a result, the Joint Task Force for Sexual Assault Prevention and Response was established in October 2004 as the single point of accountability for the department's sexual assault policy. Its initial task was to develop policy incorporating the criteria set forth in Public Law 108-375, the Ronald W. Reagan National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal 2005, which directed the department to have a sexual assault policy in place by Jan. 1, 2005.

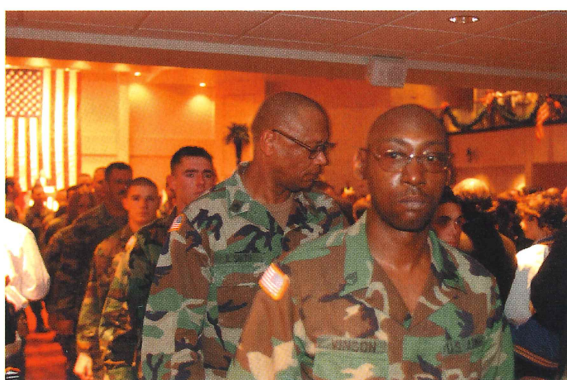
The department needs consistent sexual assault prevention education across the services to create a greater understanding of what constitutes a sexual assault, risk factors, and preventive measures. Service implementation of these policies will have a substantial impact on creating a culture of prevention and an environment that protects the health and well being of our uniformed service members. The sexual assault policy will ensure that there is uniformity in the standards of care and the same support systems are standard throughout the services.

Until we meet again ...



(Clockwise from top) A mother consoles her son during the departure ceremony for 231st Military Intelligence Company, Kentucky Army National Guard, Jan. 5. SSG Michael Ochs, along with his wife Karey, pose for a family photo with their seven children. MG Donald Storm, the Adjutant General of the Kentucky National Guard shakes hands with members of the 231st during their departure ceremony. The unit, slated for Operation Iraqi Freedom, is currently conducting training operations in Camp Shelby, Miss.

photos by CPT David Page



SSG Ray Smith and SSG James Vinson were among the Soldiers of the 2113th Transportation Company who were given an emotional departure ceremony at the Heartland Worship Center in Paducah just prior to deploying in support of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM. The 2113th is now at Camp Shelby, Miss., for several weeks of additional training before heading to Iraq.

Heather Powell (left) receives her sergeant's stripes from BG Michael Curtin and State CSM John Gipe.

photos by SSG David Altom



Honing the edge of aviation safety

Story by CW4 Mark Grapin, State Aviation Safety Officer

Photo by SSG David Altom

In each of the last several years, the Kentucky Army Aviation Support Facility conducted an in-house, week-long refresher course for Aviation Safety Officers (ASOs) and NCOs assigned to one of its several supported units. Last spring this training expanded to include Operations personnel, Commanders, Aviation Life Support Equipment Technicians, Maintainers, and a wide variety of other affected and interested personnel.

"During the last two courses, we extended the invitation to aviation units outside the state, and have been very pleased with the reception and participation," says COL Benjamin F. Adams III, State Army Aviation Officer (SAAO) for the Kentucky Army National Guard. Indeed, during this years' course, the number of personnel from outside the state more than doubled – and even included participants from the active component.

COL Adams is quick to point out, though, that the structure and content of the training has outgrown the "refresher" label. "And," he adds, "the U.S. Army Safety Center (USASC) Training Division has been very supportive in sharing information that they use in the formal ASO Refresher course," offered at Ft. Rucker, AL.

Both teams – at the KY ARNG in Frankfort, KY, and the Training Division at USASC – worked hard to ensure the workshop wasn't merely a duplicate of a course already offered at Ft. Rucker. As a result, the workshop is clearly structured as a unique event, and the USASC Training Division benefited from shared research that was updated and forwarded back to them.

Interest in the Aviation Safety Workshop, as it's officially known, also garnered a request from the U.S. Army Aviation Research Laboratory, at Ft. Rucker, to present a block of instruction on the Aviation Life Support Equipment Retrieval Program. The workshop takes the participant from understanding why they're there – actually doing aviation safety – to very practical and logically-ordered subjects that they'll use every day. Participants were expected to show up with their unit or facility safety files, and two of the blocks of instruction deal with organization of those for current year, in addition to setting up files for the next. The Frankfort City Fire Department Crash and Rescue Team joined the class during the third day for a dry-run of the pre-accident plan rehearsal conducted the next day. The dry-run was

conducted over a specially-constructed, three-dimensional terrain board in the classroom, during which several scenarios were examined.

The following day had the class in the field, participating in a very realistic rehearsal of the Facility pre-accident plan.

"We hand-receipted a crashed and de-mil'd OH-58D, and laid it out as it appeared in the original crash," said CW2 Matt Willey, ASO for the Army Aviation Support Facility at Boone National Guard Center. "The Frankfort Fire department brought out a smoke-generator, and we placed it in the aircraft. When the firefighters pulled up in response to our having activated the crash alarm, they see a smoking aircraft, and two pilots posing as injured air crewmembers in the front seats."



A crashed OH-58D makes a perfect training aid as local civilian first-responders show what they know during a full rehearsal of the pre-accident plan.

Simply by following the pre-accident plan, this portion of the workshop gave a very "come-as-you-are" look at strengths and shortcomings in the critical steps of pre-accident planning. During the full rehearsal in the last workshop, firefighters and Army aircrewmembers weren't the only ones in attendance: both City and County Fire agencies were on hand, the Frankfort City Emergency Management office, two local newspapers – and even the Frankfort Mayor turned out – to learn what they could about pre-accident planning.

The workshop also included a discussion of the newly-developed family safety pamphlet for the Kentucky National Guard. As an Interservice Publication, it is likely the first of its kind developed as a joint effort between the Air Guard and Army Guard teams at the State-level. The pamphlet included such timely subjects as Privately-Owned Vehicle Safety, and Unexploded Ordinance – in addition to dozens of other off-duty factors that affect those in uniform, civilian employees, and their families.

New project teaches Soldiers to operate SINCGAR radio

by CPT David Page
Deputy State PAO

Frequency hopping... sounds like a sadistic exercise your drill sergeant used to make you do! But, it is just one of the features discussed in a new DVD production about the Single Channel Ground and Airborne Radio.

The SINCGAR DVD project was commissioned by the Director of Information Operations, or J-6, COL John Heltzel.

"Though the funding help of 1SG Stinson and the J-3 (Training), we were able to take a one-time funding arrangement and create a comprehensive training video that hopefully will provide a legacy to train Soldiers on this communications task," said Heltzel. "From a war fighter perspective, communications is how we do business, therefore, it a critical skill."

The DVD is constructed into six vignettes that walk users from the basics of the SINCGAR system to the more complex skills a Soldier needs to know to maximize the effectiveness of the radio on the battlefield, such as frequency hopping and entering a net.

The script for the DVD was developed by CPT Scott L. Blevins, a telecommunication manager with the J-6.

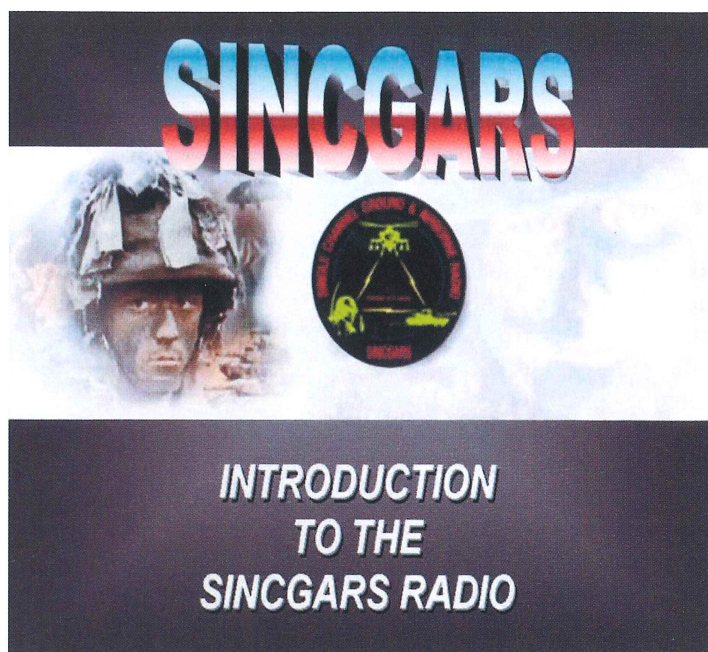
Blevins, a former signal officer with the 2/138th Field Artillery, used his expertise, along with help of his former signal chief MSG (ret.) Jim Akers, to construct a step-by-step method to teach Soldiers the basics of how to operate the SINCGAR system.

"I pulled out my old manuals and worked MSG Akers to verify the script," said Blevins.

COL Heltzel also enlisted the help of CW4 Dewey Pope, a visual information specialist with the J-6, to shoot the video.



Shown here is a screen capture from the SINCGARS video featuring CPT Scott L. Blevin, the narrator of the project.



Mr. Pope said he and Blevins worked hard to ensure that everything from the lighting and audio for the project was set up so each element of the video was easy for viewers to follow.

"The main challenge was to capture on camera what was being said through the radio," said Pope. "Also, because the SINCGAR is small, we had to do multiple takes to ensure hands were not in the way of the camera."

Blevin said the Frankfort-based Combined Support Maintenance Shop helped construct a longer than usually cable to run the SINCGAR system from outside of the studio to keep the noise down for the cameras.

When the project was complete, Pope and Blevins had constructed a 35-minute video that familiarizes Soldiers with employing the complex SINCGARS system.

But Pope and Blevins add on final touch to the project, they include a CD-ROM to along with the DVD that contains all the manuals needed to operate the SINCGARS system.

"My hope is that Soldiers can take this DVD, CD-ROM, and SINCGAR radio, and put it into operations all the way through frequency hop," said Blevins.

The J-6 has produced a number of copies of this project and is forwarding them to every unit in the Kentucky Army National Guard, as well as to signal officer, so that each unit can use the video to train its personnel.

COL Heltzel said to call the J-6 operations desk at 502-607-1561 if any unit would like to request additional copies of the DVD.

COL Heltzel also said the J-6 is planning to more projects like this in the future so if anyone has any ideas they should contract the J-6 operations desk.

Culver selected for general officer

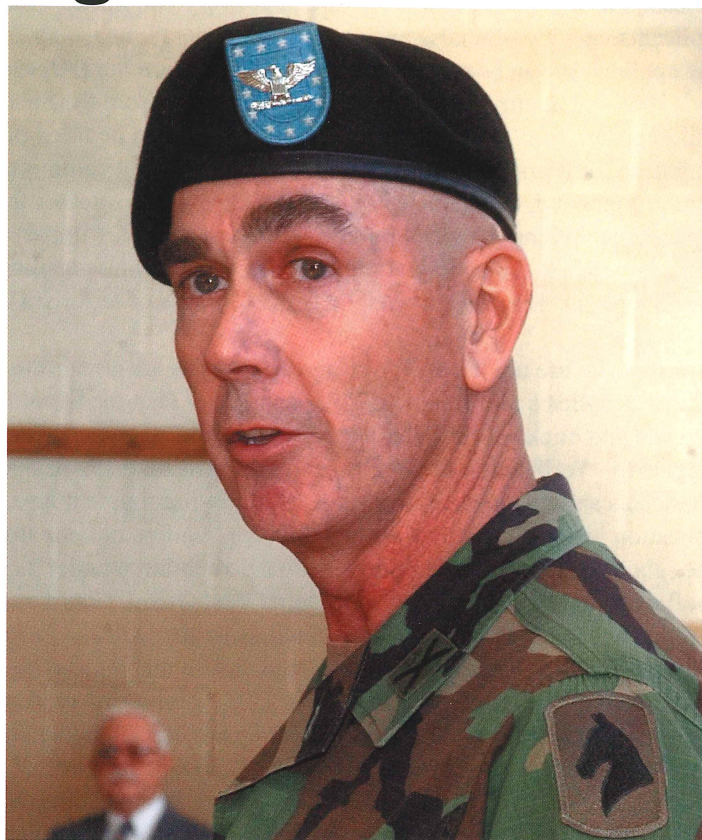
Army National Guard Col. Joseph L. Culver has been nominated for appointment to the rank of brigadier general.

Culver is currently serving as Assistant Division Commander, Division Troops, 38th Infantry Division (Mechanized), based in Indianapolis, Indiana.

In this position, Culver serves as the principal military advisor to the Division commander on issues pertaining to training and readiness of the Division.

The units of the Division encompass nine states, with maneuver Brigades in Indiana, Ohio, and Kentucky. Units under the 38th Division in Kentucky include the 149th Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Battalion 123rd Armor, 231st Military Intelligence Company, 206th Engineer Battalion, and the 2nd Battalion, 138th Battalion Field Artillery.

A member of the military for more than 30 years, Culver is a veteran of the Persian Gulf War and a Bronze Star medal recipient. His previous assignments with the Kentucky Army National Guard have included: commander of the 2nd Battalion 138th Field Artillery, executive officer of the 138th Field Artillery Brigade and commander of the 138th Field Artillery Brigade.



Kentucky's Adjutant General, MG Donald C. Storm, visits troops from Co C 206th EN from Prestonsburg, Ky. in Kosovo Dec 18-20. The TAG, being a huge UK fan, is shown here dancing at the end of the second half of the UofL/UK game as the Wildcats made their storybook comeback to beat the Cardinals at the last second.

Scholarships Deadline Approaches

Courtesy American Forces Press Service

FORT LEE, Va., Jan. 7, 2005 - The deadline to apply for \$1,500 scholarships from the "Scholarships for Military Children" program is Feb. 16, and all applications must be delivered to a Defense Commissary Agency store by the close of business that day.

At least one scholarship will be awarded at every commissary location with qualified applicants, agency officials said.

The application can be downloaded through a link on the Defense Commissary Agency's Web site at <http://www.commissaries.com>, or from the Scholarships for Military Children site, <http://www.militaryscholar.org>, and can be filled out by hand or on the computer. Copies of the application also are available at commissaries worldwide.

Edna Hoogewind, the agency's liaison to the program, stresses that students should put emphasis on writing the essay portion of the application. "In past years, the essay has been a key factor in deciding among the many outstanding applicants," she said. This year's topic is "How has the heightened awareness of terrorism impacted your life?"

Students who are not hand-delivering applications are advised to use a delivery method that supplies a return receipt. Applicants may visit the Scholarships for Military Children site and click on the "Verification of Receipt" section. Scholarship managers will respond to "Verification of Receipt" e-mails until June 15, officials said.

Applicants should check all materials carefully for simple things, like making sure the application is signed and that it's the 2005 application, not one from previous years.

The scholarship program is open to unmarried children under 21 (23 if enrolled in school) of active duty personnel, including Coast Guard, Guard and Reserve, and retired military. Eligibility will be determined using the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System database. Applicants should ensure that they, as well as their sponsor, are enrolled in the DEERS database and have a current ID card, officials said.

Applicants must be planning to attend, or be already attending, an accredited college or university full-time in the fall term of 2005, or be enrolled in a program of study designed to transfer directly into a four-year program. Additional instructions can be found on the application or at the Scholarships for Military Children Web site.

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

or current resident

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New bonus and retention incentives

Do you have friends debating whether to join the Guard or are you trying to decide whether to re-enlist?

New enlistees can receive as much as a \$10,000 bonus for enlisting and up to \$20,000 for student loan repayment.

The deal is even better for prior service members. Now, prior service members can receive as much as \$15,000 for re-enlisting and \$18,000 for student loan repayment.

Stipulations do apply. Please consult your unit's recruiter for specific information about these new incentives.

