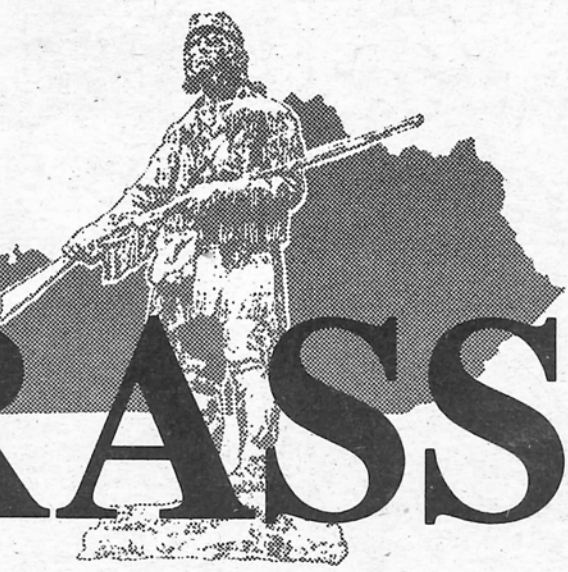


THE BLUEGRASS GUARD



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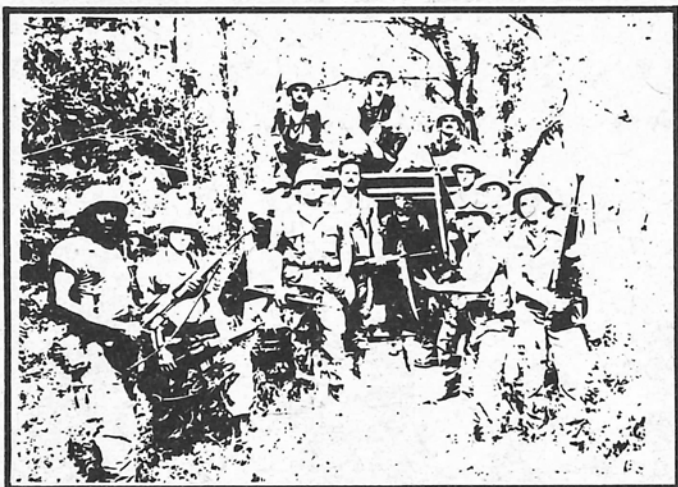
June 1987



Soldiers First! 206th Engineers in the Field

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OUR COVER

Members of Co B, 206th EN Bn take time from lunch to pose for a group photo during Annual Training at the West Kentucky Training Site located at Central City. Blistering heat and no rain produced heat condition three but operations continued until thunderstorms caused a temporary halt in heat and training. (Photo by CPT Frank Mattingly)

THIS IS FOR YOU

This month, we hope our readers throughout the Kentucky Army National Guard will find some interesting features in the pages of the BLUEGRASS GUARD, from stories about specialized programs (like the Boone Raider course, page 3) to recollections by interesting people (Martha Penn, page 7).

Many of you are preparing to head to Annual Training. We hope to fill the July issue with AT photos and stories.

Call us at: (502) 564-6368
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THE BLUEGRASS GUARD
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Boone National Guard Center
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601-6168



The National Guard A Family Affair

By COL (Ret) Harold O. Loy

It has been said, jokingly, that if the Army had wanted you to have a wife it would have issued you one.

In the old days, military leadership's approach to service members' families was that they were the responsibility of the soldier, and as long as they didn't interfere with the performance of duty they were tolerated.

Today, that philosophy is as out of place as horse-drawn artillery and propeller-driven fighters. Today's leaders have recognized the importance of the military family to the readiness of the country's armed forces in facing its adversaries.

The ability of the soldier or airman to perform his or her duty efficiently and effectively is directly related to the quality of life and relationships that exist within the family.

Sensitivity to family problems is not only of concern to the active military forces but also is being addressed by the National Guard as a critical factor impacting both individual and unit readiness. As a result of this concern for family issues the National Guard Family Program has been instituted.

The objectives of the program are to involve the family in unit activities, to ease the stress of Guard service on the family through information and com-

munication and to develop a family support system in each unit that will serve the families in times of hardship, stress or personal problems. A good family program will improve retention of trained Guardsmen, because a better understanding of the Guard program will exist.

An additional benefit will be improved mobilization readiness of the unit since family members will better understand their benefits and entitlements when mobilized. A part of the program involves briefings for family members to include mobilization procedures and the issuing of dependent I.D. cards.

The National Guard Bureau, recognizing the need for addressing family issues that impact Guard unit readiness, has directed that all commanders develop family assistance programs (NGR 600-12/ANGR 211-1). Assistance and coordination in developing unit programs will be provided by a Family Assistance Coordinator. I have been appointed to coordinate the program in the Kentucky Army and Air National Guard. You can contact me by calling the Kentucky National Guard Hotline toll-free, 1-800-372-7601, or commercial 502-564-8519. The Guard is a family affair!

TAG LINES

By MG BILLY G. WELLMAN



This is the year in which we celebrate the 200th Anniversary of our Constitution. This document establishes freedom and opportunities for its citizens. America was the first nation to have a constitution. On July 4, 1987, we will celebrate 211 years of freedom. America has become known as the, "Land of the free and the Home of the brave" because our citizens love freedom and they have defended it many times at all costs. Each generation inherits an obligation to protect its freedom, its heritage and tradition.

As part of the Total Force, the National Guard plays a major role in providing for the common defense. The mission of the National Guard is more important today than at any time in the history of our country. We are no longer considered a backup, a reserve, or a filler for the active components. The defense plans for this nation establish our responsibility equal to that of the active forces. Our mission dictates that we must achieve and maintain a state of readiness to ensure rapid deployment and the capability to perform our mission as an integral part of this nation's defense.



As we begin the major element of our annual training, and we pause to think of our responsibility as National Guardsmen and the obligation that we have to the millions of Americans who have served and those who have given their lives for a just cause, we must then understand how important this training period is to our readiness position. Annual training is a climax to our yearly training program. It identifies our weaknesses and our strengths, and is a resource to commanders in developing future training programs. It is essential that we train for tomorrow's mobilization. We hope and pray that it will never be necessary to mobilize, but we have no guarantee. We must be ready to respond to any act of aggression upon the freedom of this nation, training as a unit in the same manner that we would be employed during combat. We must train to operate under sustained conditions, accepting the same stress and demands of war.

Our training must be realistic and demanding. We must take advantage of the opportunities during this training period because of the availability of terrain, equipment and assistance. These valuable resources are sometimes not available at our home station. We must not be offended by constructive criticism or evaluations by our active counterparts. If we have a weakness which requires additional training, it is best that we know now rather than later. When we fail we must continue to compete until we gain proficiency. Leadership at all levels should take corrective action, on-the-spot, to ensure that we are training to the same standards of the Total Force.

Each and every one of you is important to this nation, its defense, your family and the Kentucky National Guard. I ask that you give maximum effort to this most important training period. Our focus should be on training for tomorrow's battle. This responsibility should weigh heavily on the conscience of every officer, NCO, and Guardsman to the point that we will demand from ourselves total dedication.

I look forward to visiting with you during your annual training period and to observing the excellent training and performance which you are capable of. WE MUST PLAN TO WIN; WE MUST NEVER ACCEPT ANYTHING LESS THAN OUR BEST.

THE BLUEGRASS GUARD

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Boone Raider Course Challenges, Trains Participants

By WO1 James P. Pope, Jr.

Walking along the barely visible path, trying to keep a five meter interval from the shadowy figure in front of you, develops into quite a struggle as the night grows longer. It's 0200 hours and you have been on patrol since 1830 hours the previous day. The terrain is rugged, dangerous and does not conform to the map in many areas. Add to this the constant possibility of ambush by the enemy, the growing fatigue with hardly any sleep or rest, and the enemy objective that has to be taken and secured by 0600 hours.

What has just been described is only one part of the gruelling three day Boone Raider Course held during May. The exercise is conducted twice yearly by the 1st Battalion, 149th Infantry (Mech) in Barbourville, Kentucky. The Spring course is open to all with the fall reserved for ROTC candidates. There were 43 out of 196 applicants from 18 different units selected for this Spring open course.

The course was founded in 1976 by CSM Harold Disney also of the 1st Battalion, 149th Infantry (Mech). Disney, after reading a magazine about the jungle warfare course in Panama, decided that the rugged mountainous terrain in the Barbourville area would be ideal for a similiar type

exercise. The idea was later approved, and since that time over 640 people have graduated as Boone Raiders from the course. Disney is very proud of his ac-



complishment. "It's difficult and strenuous, but if it wasn't you wouldn't appreciate it. What I enjoy most is seeing the confidence gained by the participants who have a severe physical and mental strain placed

upon them over a 48-hour period." Disney also stated that this was the first open class to go through the new obstacle course.

The exercise itself consists of training

crossing. The exercise starts on Friday night with classes and a recon patrol. The Saturday schedule includes rappelling and the obstacle course. The night raid patrol prepares and departs late Saturday afternoon. The river crossing, over the Cumberland River, is the last event of the exercise held early Sunday morning. The exercise is strenuous and requires endurance and dedication to complete. Each soldier completing the course receives a diploma and is authorized to wear a Boone Raider patch on the BDU uniform. SGT Darryl Tolle, of the 201st Engineers in Cynthiana, Kentucky stated, "I tried for five years to get here. I wanted to go through the course for the challenge."

Karen Likens, nurse with the 475th MASH, and also the only woman participant this Spring added, "I just wanted to see if I could do it and maybe apply what I learn here towards the EFMB testing later this year."

So the next time you see the Boone Raider patch, rest assured that the bearer has demonstrated his or her ability to withstand some of the most rugged physical and mental training in their Army careers. There is no doubt that each Boone Raider wears the patch with a tremendous amount of pride.

On Guard at the Downs Guardsmen have been at the Derby More than 50 Years

By CPT Frank Mattingly

The music of "My Old Kentucky Home" filled the air; the Call to the Post put the 113th "Run for the Roses" into the history books in just over two minutes, and the Kentucky National Guard was there.

For over 50 years the Kentucky National Guard has been providing support to one of the most important horse races in

the nation. The exact year this assistance began has been lost. However the Guard was at Churchill Downs for the Derby on May 4, 1935 when, according to an article in the Louisville Courier-Journal, a crowd of "at least a thousand strong had broken down the rear gate of the Downs, and charged straight toward the grandstand. A fence junction was breached and Guards-

men concentrated on the gap before a single infielder got through. Jeers and taunts mingled with a hail of mudballs, the guards ducked, but stood firm, and none came through." That was the first year that "nobody spent the night inside the grounds." Guardsmen from Carlisle arrived in state trucks at 4:45 a.m. to provide support to Downs officials.

In 1936 the oldest known recorded state active duty orders for the Derby were issued by Acting Adjutant General G.L.

on Derby Day."

In 1947 COL Arthur C. Bonnycastle, Commanding Officer of the 149th Infantry Regiment, was Commander of Troops at the Derby. COL Bonnycastle (Ret.), now in his 80's, said in an interview that in '47 we had "strippers, streakers and flag pole sitters. The Derby hasn't changed much."

This May over 300 Guardsmen from HQs KySTARC, 149th Bde and 138th Bde, 198th MP Bn, 223rd MP Co., 438th MP Co., the Air National Guard and 441st Med

"There were strippers, streakers and flag pole sitters. The Derby hasn't changed much"

McClain under orders of then Governor A.B. "Happy" Chandler, according to Ms. Virginia Keene, Senior Archivist at Military Records.

Over 600 Guardsmen of the 123rd Cavalry from Springfield, Frankfort, and Louisville were ordered to active duty for May 2nd, 1936, to help with maintaining order and preventing rioting, according to Special Order No. 63. The officers and men were reminded that "they were on duty not only to assist in handling a large crowd, but were uniformed representatives of Kentucky, the official host of America

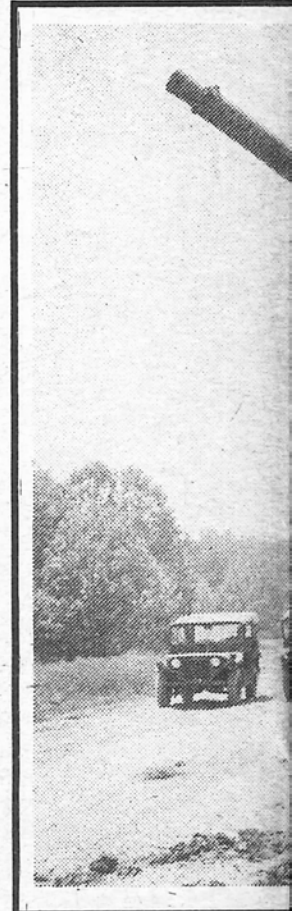
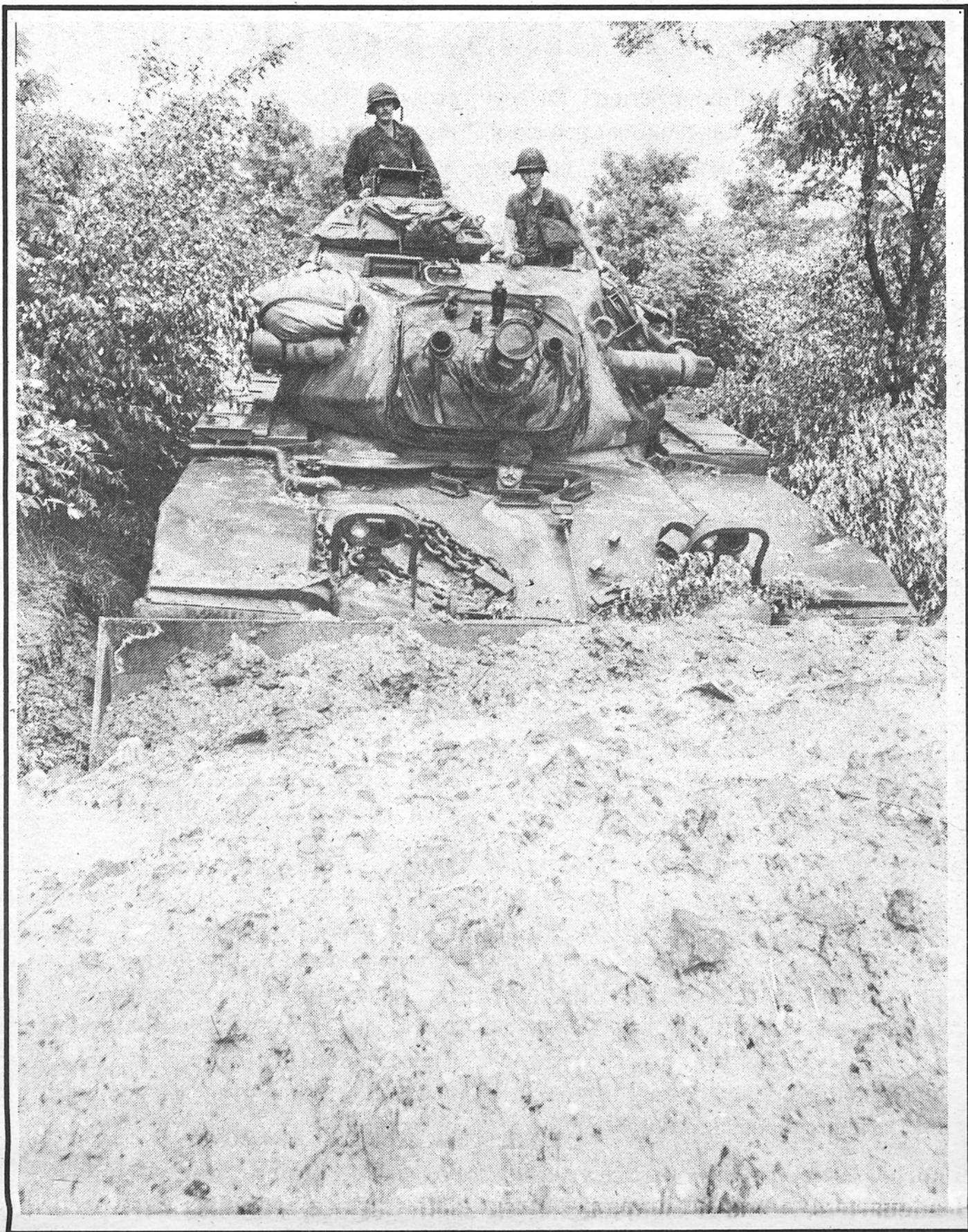
Det. provided support.

The Guardsmen participated in the Color Guard for the Derby, provided security for the presentation stand, crowd control at various locations and medical assistance and evacuation support. According to Maj. Elmo C. Head, Jr. Commander 198th MP Bn, who has participated in Derby activities for 10 years, "This was the best year ever for cooperation between local officials and the National Guard."

As in years past, the Guard arrived early and stayed late.



WHOA...Momentary confusion erupted between news media, owners and friends of Alysheba as members of the 223rd and 438th MP Companies prevented them from entering the Winner's Circle after the winner of the 113th "Run for the Roses" entered the presentation area at Churchill Downs following the Derby. (Photo by CPT Frank Mattingly)



PREPARE TO FIRE

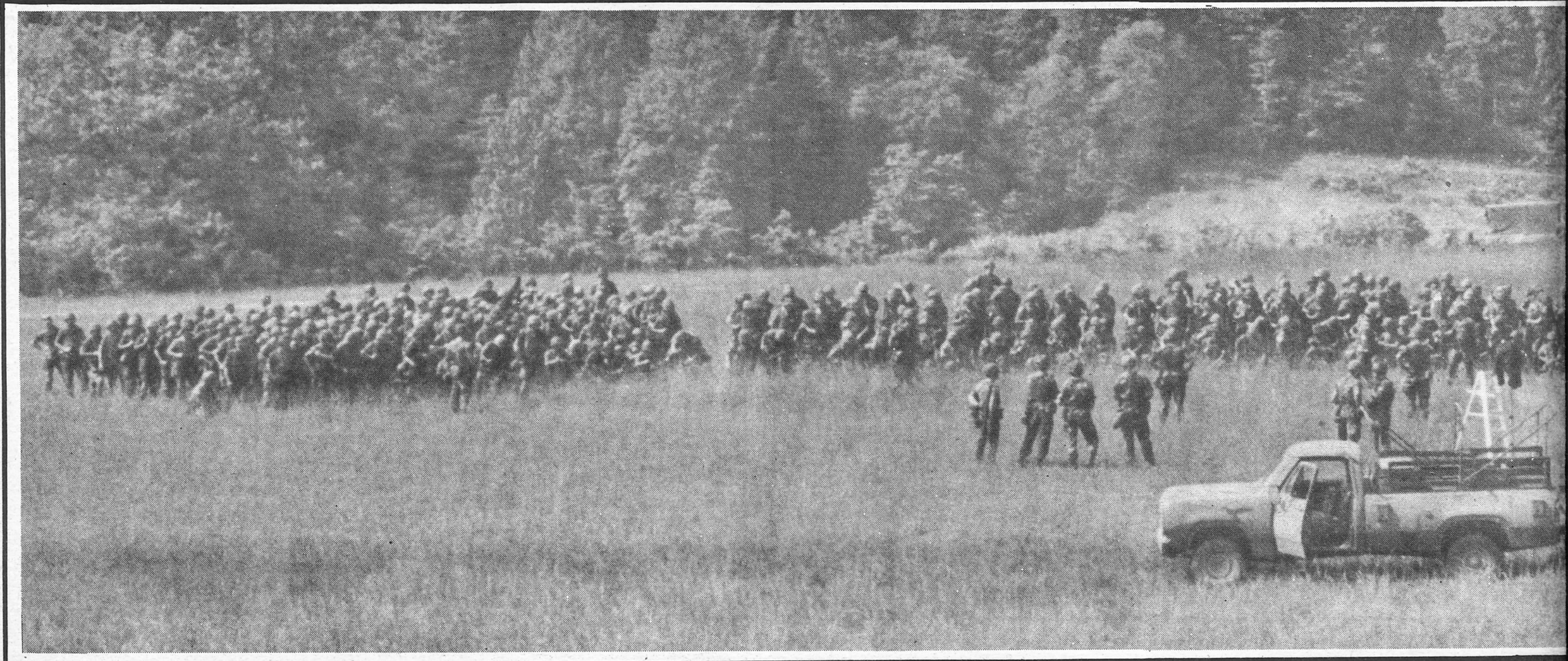
SSG David Woolridge inspects the bolt to SGT Ronald Parkhurst's M-16 rifle prior to firing on the qualification range at Ft. Knox. Both Woolridge, of Glasgow, and Parkhurst, of Scottsville, are members of the Air Defense section, Headquarters, 1/623rd Artillery, Glasgow.

RIGHT OF WAY
The jeep drivers wait while TC SC a road at the W were part of an Armor. (Photo b

OUTSTAND IN THEIR F

HALT...

Occupying a fortified position in their Combat Engineer Vehical (CEV) SGT Joey Stephens, tank commander (left), PV2 Mike Thompson, loader and PFC Charley Guess, driver, members of Co. B, 206th EN Bn., participate in field maneuvers during annual training at Western Kentucky Training Site in Central City. (Photo by CPT Frank Mattingly)



ON THE COUNT OF THREE

Nearly 700 members of the 1st Battalion, 149th Infantry (M) line up at the Artemus Photographer for the event was William R. Blackwell of Louisville who used a 1902



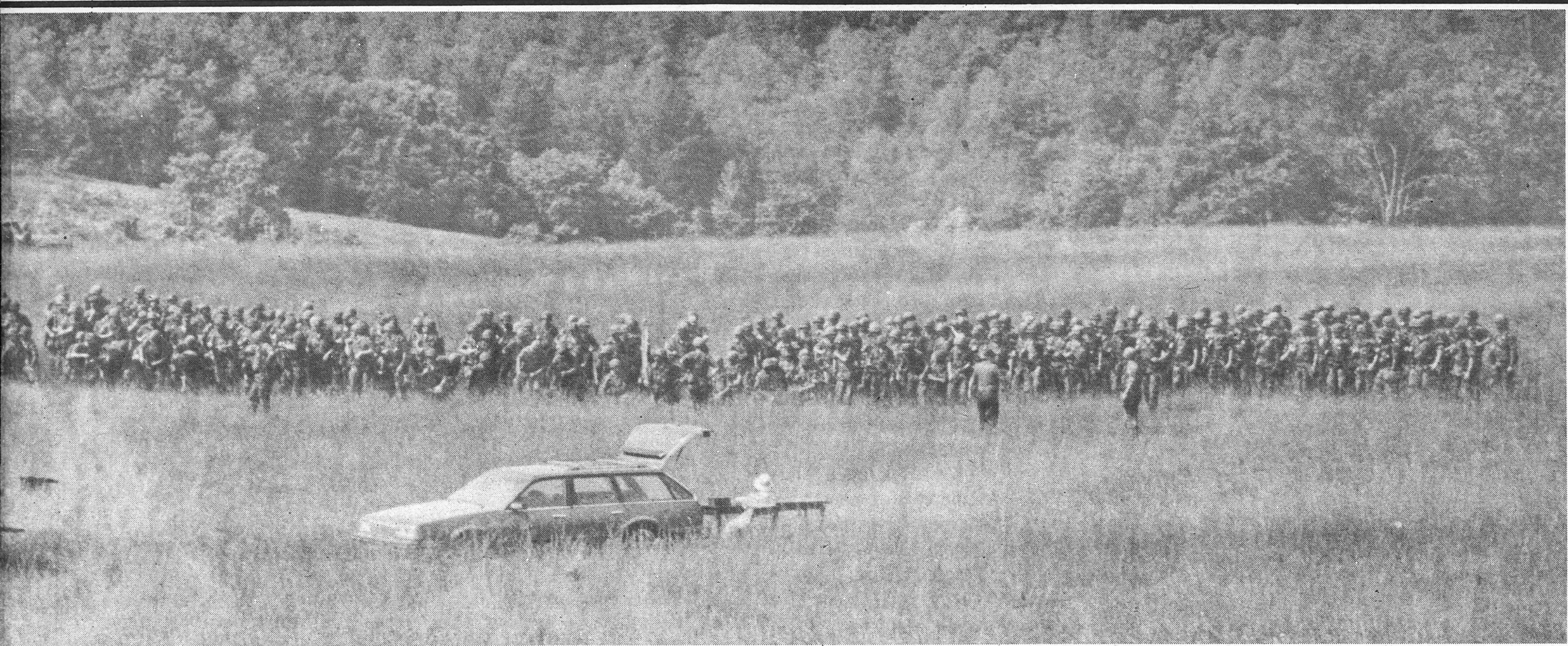
...
 pictured above didn't seem to mind at all having to
 T John Dixon led a procession of M60A3 tanks across
 est Kentucky Weekend Training site. The maneuvers
 FTX conducted in May by members of Co B, 2/123d
 y SGT Rick Baker, 133rd PAD)

ING ELDS



OVER THE RIVER...

Crossing an Armored Vehicle Launched Bridge (AVLB) in an Armored Personnel Carrier (APC) members of the 206th Engineer Battalion attempt to outrun a thunderstorm that turned the bridge crossing from a dry land creek into a raging torrent in less than 30 minutes. Members of Headquarters, A and B Companies of the 206th Engineer Battalion were participating in their two weeks of Annual Training at the Western Kentucky Training Site. According to SGM Samuel C. Reynolds, Battalion Sergeant Major, this was the first wet weather they had during two weeks training. (Photo by CPT Frank Mattingly)



TVA field training site near Barbourville for a panorama photo of the entire battalion.
 Circuit camera to capture the 1/149th on film. (Photo by SGT Bob Walters, 133rd PAD)

1/149th Gets It All Together at Artemus

By SGT Bob Walters

ARTEMUS, Ky.—For the first time in the history of the 1st Battalion, 149th Infantry, the Battalion was able to train together at the same location during weekend training in Kentucky.

The opportunity became available because of the recent completion of a 750-acre training site near here which is being leased from the Tennessee Valley Authority for training purposes. The Battalion took full advantage of the opportunity to conduct individual skills training, unit competition in land navigation, weapons, obstacle course and mess hall operation. Stations were set up for those members needing physicals, shots, driver's tests and licenses, or ID cards issued. There was also an opportunity for those working on their GED to take the pre-test.

The mess hall operation com-

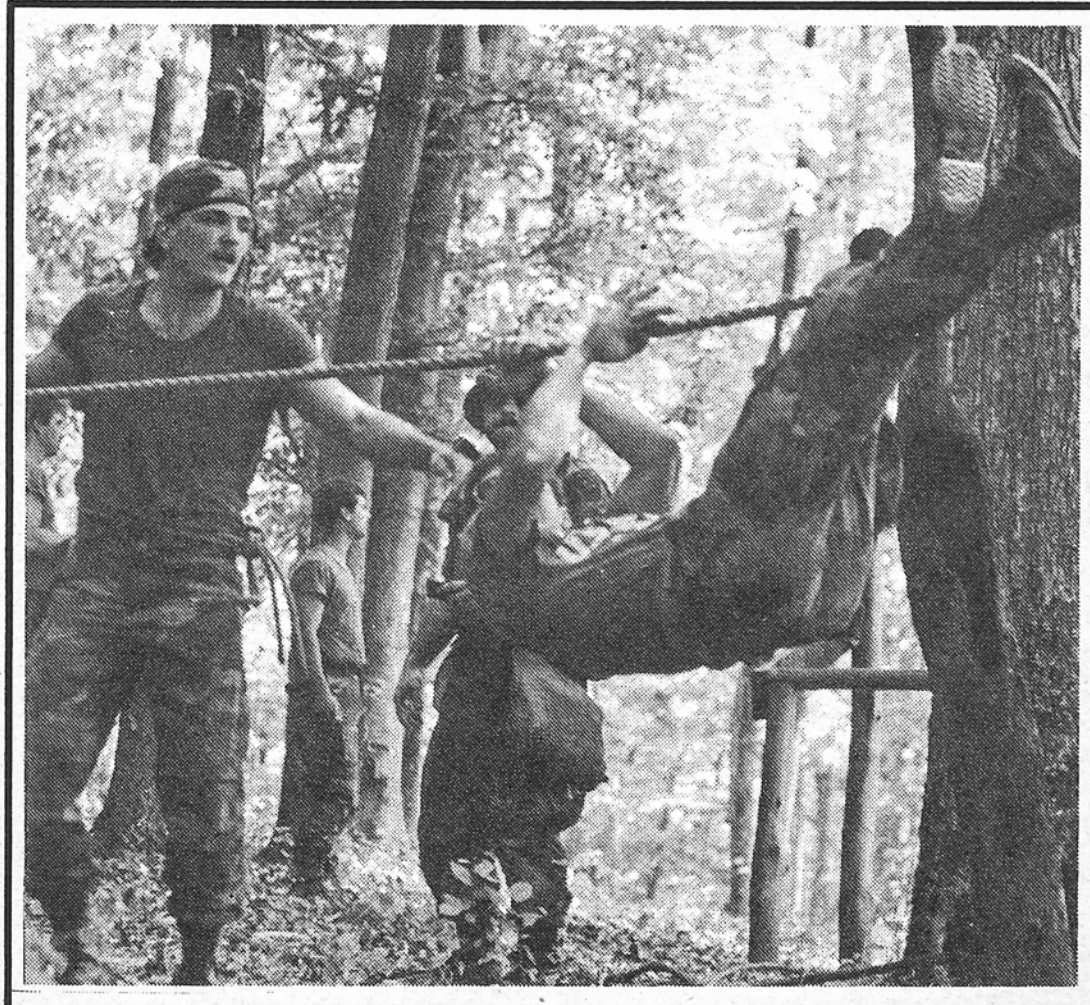
petition was won by Sergeant First Class Donald G. Calhoun, SGT Ronald E. Hawk and Private First Class Robert A. Gaines of Company E, Somerset.

The Weapons Competition consisted of field-stripping an M-16 rifle and an M-60 Machine Gun and placing the parts of both weapons together in a box. The competitors were timed as they sorted the parts, assembled the weapons and assured that they were operational. The team of Staff Sergeant Cecil Matlock and Staff Sergeant Bobby P. Middleton, Headquarters Company, Barbourville, won the event.

The Obstacle Course competition contained two classes, open and squad. Each class consisted of several teams which had ten members. The squad class teams consisted of members from the same squad, and was won by the

2nd squad, 2nd platoon, Company C, Ravenna. The team members were SGT Billy W. Bowen, SGT James R. Flynn, SGT William Stone, SP4 James E. Lawson, SP4 Frank Sutter, SP4 Merrell Robinson, PFC Shannon W. Napier, PFC Kelly D. Ewen, PFC William R. Hall and PVT James P. Lowe. The open class consisted of members from the same unit. This class was won by the team from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Barbourville.

The final activity of the weekend was the taking of the Battalion picture. All the members of the battalion were positioned by William R. Blackwell of Louisville who used a 1902 vintage panoramic, "The Cirket Camera", to record the event. (See related picture, pages 4 and 5).



Members of the 1st Battalion, 149th Infantry go through the confidence course during the battalion-wide training and competition held at Artemus last month. It was the first time in the 1/149th Infantry's history that the entire Battalion was gathered in the same place for the exercises. (Photo by SGT Bob Walters).

Come and Get It! 2/123rd Tries Log Pac Meal

By CDT Sally Boward

The 2nd Battalion of the 123rd Armor of Bowling Green threw a little meal together for supper one night.

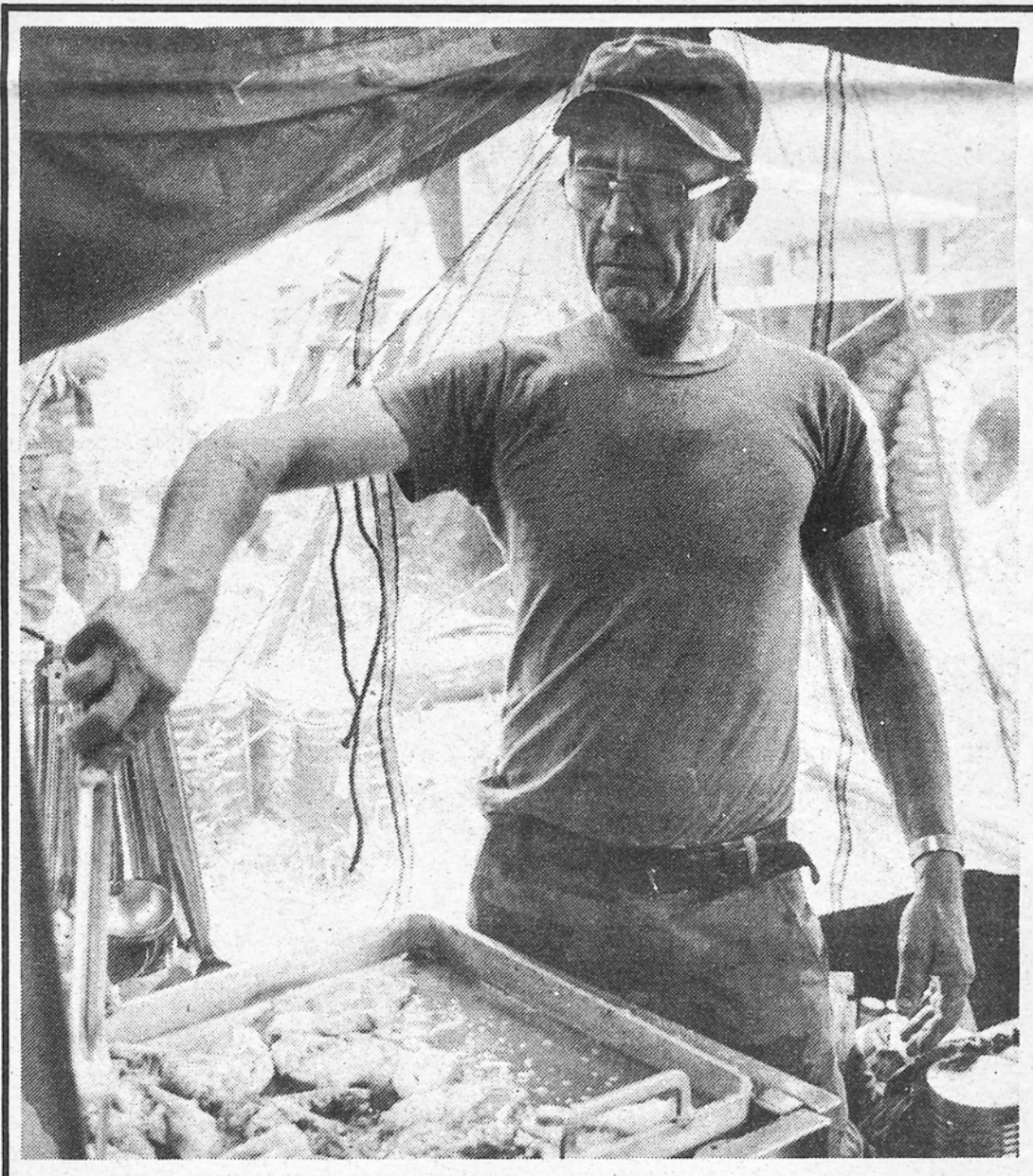
It consisted of 150 chickens, 72 heads of lettuce, 193 pounds of potatoes, 190 pounds of asparagus, 54 loaves of bread, 450 apples, 1,350 cookies and 32 gallons of milk.

It took 18 cooks, six mess sergeants, six kitchen police and four hours to prepare the meal for the 450 members.

The evening meal was prepared under the Army National Guard's new Log Pac Process. In this process, each company within the battalion concentrates on preparing only one item for the specified meal. In this case, Co. A was in charge of cooking the chicken, Co. B prepared the salad, Co. C concentrated on the potatoes, Co. D took care of the asparagus and HHC was in charge of the milk, apples and bread.

"In the past each company was required to prepare their company's entire meal," said SGT Eldon Eaton, Battalion Mess Sergeant. "By using the new method each company will have an easier job as they concentrate only on one item."

Eaton continued by saying that this was the 123rd's first experience with the new process. "We will be using the Log Pac

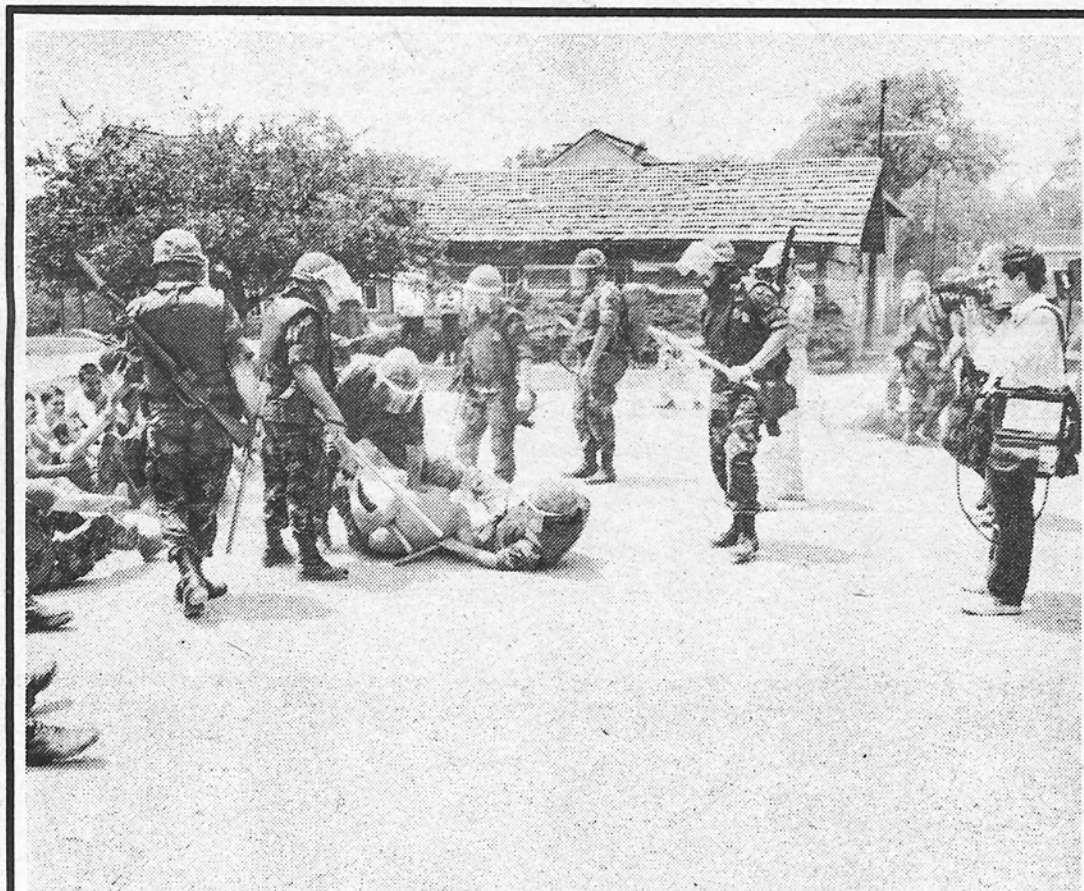


FRYING TIME-SGT Bobby Elamon, Co C, 2/123d Armor, fries chicken for the Battalion's supper during exercises at WK WETS. Elamon is from Smyrna, Tenn. (Photo by SGT Rick Baker, 133rd PAD)

during annual training this summer," continued Eaton. "We decided to use it this weekend to work out any complications we might have with it."

Once each company has prepared their particular item they separate it according to the

number of soldiers in each company. They receive this number from the company's mess sergeant. At this point, the company takes the specified amount of food to a transfer point where it is picked up by the company cooks who deliver it to the soldiers in the field.



3rd FSB IN CIVIL DISTURBANCE TRAINING

About 150 members of the 3rd Forward Support Battalion from Harrodsburg, Danville and Richmond participated in their annual civil disturbance training last month at the Pioneer Playhouse in Danville. Some of the members played the part of demonstrators and looters, while the others practiced keeping them under control or removing them. The training is considered important due to the 3rd FSB's location near the Northpoint Training Center minimum security prison. (Photos by WO1 James D. Pope, Jr.)



614th MP's find friendly people, 'wild' driving in Europe

By SGT Robert W. Pillow

When the 121 members of the 614th Military Police Company of Murray visited England in April, there was little trouble with the language.

"We talked to them about the different terms they used," said Spec 4 Michael Young of Murray as he prepared to go through customs at Fort Campbell when the unit returned May 3. "They say taps for water faucets, pavement for sidewalks and roundabout for traffic circles."

Getting to know the language was just one of the ways military police became acquainted with the United Kingdom while providing physical security for operations at the Royal Air Force Base at Sculthorpe.

Sgt. Jacqueline Lear of Mayfield and other Guard members made a brief tour of Great Britain when off duty.

"We went to London, Wales, Kingsland and Hunstanton," she said. In London, they saw Big Ben, Tower of London, St. Paul's Cathedral, the House of Parliament and the "changing of the guard" at Buckingham Palace.

"They drive wild over there," she added. "On the wrong side of the road. You drive more defensively than anything else."

England was just one of three countries members of the unit saw while the company was on annual training in Europe for 21 days. The unit left Fort Campbell April 11 and after arrival in England, some left



Upon completion of overseas deployment training, 5 members of the 614th MP Company were awarded the Army Achievement Medal by the commander of the 10th Special Forces Group at Royal Air Force Base Sculthorpe, England. 46 members also received Certificates of Achievement for outstanding support. The are, Left to right, 1LT Larry D. Nixon, SGT Jimmie E. Tubbs, SGT Randy D. Wood, SGT Jackie J. Lear and SP4 Joe Boswell. (U.S. Army Photo)

"Going over there really makes you appreciate the U.S."

for Spain and Italy. All were training with U.S. and foreign troops, in a joint exercise designated FLINTLOCK 87.

In Spain and Italy, the military police performed the same kind of mission that their friends in England did during the annual training.

PFC Brad Haley and SP4 Marie B. Stout of Bowling Green were among those who went to Spain.

They recalled how friendly and helpful they found the Spaniards. "If you didn't know Spanish, all you had to do was say 'Inglesia,' and they would find somebody

who spoke English," Stout explained.

While in Spain, some of the troops got to see the Easter festival in Seville.

A company clerk with a Spanish unit became very attached to the Kentucky MP's, the two said. "When he heard we were leaving, he started crying," Stout said.

The MPs who went to Pisa, Italy, got to work with members of the Italian Military State Police known as Carabinieri, said SGT Stan Hargrove of Murray and SSG Michael Riley of Cuba.

Italians are friendly also, said Hargrove and Riley. "If you needed information about where to eat, visit and drink, you could ask just about any teenager, because 75 percent of the country's school students study English as an elective.

"They would tell you if the wine was good," Hargrove quipped. "And who to leave alone," Riley added.

They got to see Florence, The Leaning Tower of Pisa, St. Peter's Square, the Coliseum and other landmarks while there.

The Italian military appreciate the presence of United States troops in their country, according to Hargrove and Riley. "They still look for us to save the world," Hargrove said. "Those carabinieri would tell you that."

Riley said, "Going over there really makes you appreciate the United States." He explained that bottled water had to be bought there because local drinking water was not the quality seen here. "You just don't realize how good you got it ... They'd give anything to be here."

Martha Penn Recalls WWII at Nurse Corps Gathering

"Every night, I fell into a different mud hole"

By SGT Robert W. Pillow

One of Martha Ueltschi Penn's earliest memories of the Army is being seasick as the Queen Mary zig-zagged its way across the Atlantic in 1944.

Mrs. Penn, now of Frankfort, served in World War II for two years as an Army nurse. She made the Queen Mary trip with 15,000 other troops who were on their way to England, from where she would make another sea journey to the European continent.

On June 23, 1944, 17 days after the Allies invaded Normandy and began to push the Germans back, Nurse Penn and her hospital colleagues landed on the beach in a DUKW amphibious vehicle.

From there they convoyed through Normandy.

"We had to stop the convoy twice and hit the dirt because of the German planes flying over and strafing us," Mrs. Penn recounted to a group of Kentucky Army National Guard nurses celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Army Nurse Corps May 3.

At the hospital's first site, a few miles from the front, GI's dug foxholes for the nurses. "They were really nice," she said

of the soldiers who helped them.

World War II was her first experience in a field environment. Her hospital, the 35th Evacuation Hospital, served in the Third Army and treated thousands of casualties. She started her duty day in the dark and got off when it was dark.

"And every night I fell into a different mudhole," she said.

The hospital received the Meritorious Service Medal and two inspections from General George S. Patton.

"He was as tall as a doorway to me," Mrs. Penn told the nurses, doctors and officers of the Guard's 475th MASH. "One time (after an inspection) he told somebody it was a damn good outfit, but there wasn't a soldier in it."

Although the hospital staff worked long hours during World War II, after VE Day the doctors, nurses and other staff did get time to go on leave, she said. She received a seven-day leave on the French Riviera which took 17 days to complete because she was transported to the Mediterranean beach in a two and a half ton truck.

When some of the 475th nurses groaned about the truck, Mrs. Penn replied, "We thought it was nice." The trip back to the

hospital was on a train, but it wasn't enjoyable because their train was involved in an accident which killed some U.S. servicemen who were to return home soon.

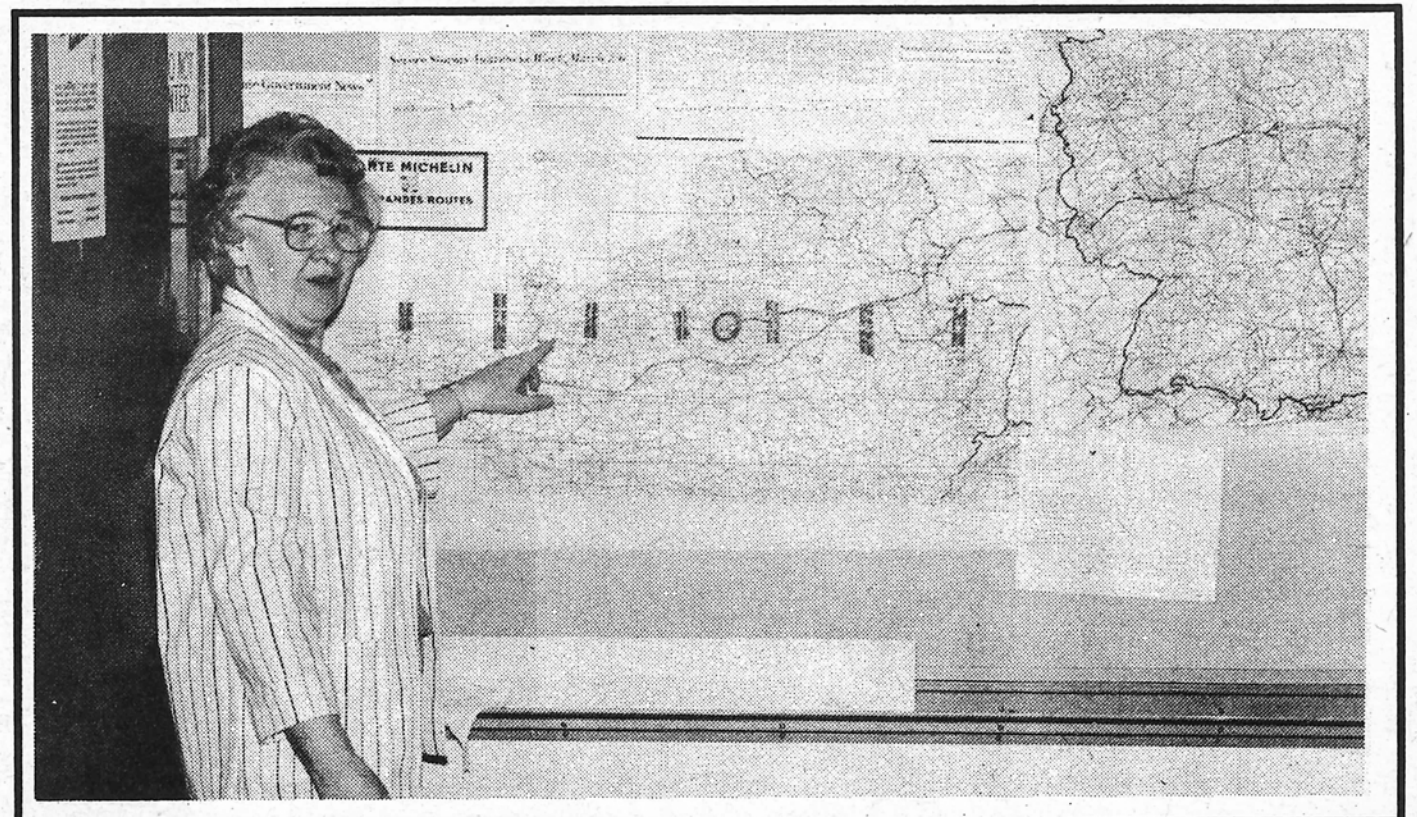
Though the hospital treated and admitted many casualties in France, Luxemburg and Germany, the medical unit sustained none.

"We were strafed and shot at, but nobody

was hurt," she said.

The 475th's nurses were quite taken by Mrs. Penn, who was discharged from the Army in 1945 and went on to work a total of 41 years as a nurse in Frankfort and Lexington. They even invited her to go to the field with them.

She agreed, but added, "I don't think I have a uniform that fits."



Martha Penn shows on a map of France some of the places her hospital was stationed in World War II. Penn was the keynote speaker at a reception for the 50th anniversary of the Army Nurse Corps. (Photo by SGT Robert W. Pillow, 133rd PAD)

NEWS BRIEFS

LTC GREEN IS KyARNG's FIRST AIR WAR COLLEGE GRAD

LTC Roger C. Green, Jr. became the first Kentucky Army National Guard officer to graduate from the Air Force War College during commencement ceremonies May 19 at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama.

One of only 15 Army Guard officers selected nationwide to attend senior colleges during the 1986-87 term, LTC Green is only the eleventh Army Guard officer selected to attend the Air War College in the school's 40-year history.

Green is a rated aviator and served in Viet Nam as an assault helicopter pilot prior to joining the Kentucky Guard in 1972.

Currently assigned as Executive Officer, 35th Aviation Brigade Headquarters, LTC Green previously served as commander of Company C, 42nd Aviation Battalion and the 470th Medical Detachment (Helicopter Ambulance), in addition to serving as Chief, Plans Division, Ky STARC.



BDU's: THE HIDDEN ENEMY

The modern materials used in today's Battle Dress Uniform (BDU) are designed to take the wear and tear of combat environments, but an unexpected enemy has arrived on the scene: the steam iron.

According to CSM Robert L. Bailey, Command Sergeant Major of the Kentucky Army National Guard, many soldiers are having problems with the new hot-weather BDU's in the form of burn holes in the flaps covering buttons.

Soldiers should know that "button burns" most commonly occur when BDU's are commercially pressed, CSM Bailey says. He adds that in accordance with AR 670-1 BDU's may not be starched. They can be pressed in accordance with a commander's requirements.

MARATHON TEAM GOES WEST

The seven members of the Kentucky National Guard Marathon Team competed May 3 in the National Guard Marathon in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Coming in first among the Kentucky runners was Officer Candidate Brian Cole, who ran the marathon in 3 hours 32 minutes and 24 seconds.

This is the fourth year the NGB has sponsored the marathon, hosted by the Nebraska National Guard.



Top Row: James Carr, Andy Mahan, Bryan Cole, Tom Hanna. Bottom Row: Bob Price, Donny Ray, Mike Dawson.

CAREER COUNSELLING AVAILABLE

Kentucky is one of 12 states participating in a pilot computerized career-counseling program open to all members of the National Guard. Through the program, Guard members can fill out a workbook of questions on their interests, abilities, education level and other areas. The answers are run through a computer program which produces a list of career alternatives open to the member.

Education Services Officer CPT John Roth says the program can help a Guard member in choosing a career field or tailoring educational courses to his or her interests and aspirations.

"It can also help people chose an MOS to better-coincide with their interests and full-time job," CPT Roth says. "It can be a great retention factor."

The aim of the pilot program is to help the Army chose which of three computer software packages to adopt for a permanent program.

For more information, contact CPT Roth at (502) 564-8550.

New Enlistment Rules Aim For Quality, Make Recruitment Tougher

By Mike Lynch

On March 31, the Army National Guard strength nationwide was just 125 short of its goal for the entire fiscal year. That good news means the Guard can be more selective--and aim for higher quality--in recruiting new members.

So on May 15, new enlistment rules took effect. They raise the required threshold score on the Armed Forces Qualifying Test (AFQT) for certain categories of recruits to get into the Guard.

For example, the minimum AFQT score for a male high school senior or diploma holder with no prior military service has been raised from 21 to 31; the score for men without prior service, a diploma or a GED rose from 31 to 50 as did the minimum score for a non-prior service female who is still a junior in high school.

The new rules will also eliminate the "Try One in the Guard" option for the rest of the Fiscal Year. That option allowed prior-service people to enlist for one year and to keep their current rank even if they were assigned to a lower-ranking job.

Exceptions to the new rules can be granted, but only on an individual basis by personal waiver from the Adjutant General.

In a message to Adjutants General, Director of the Army Guard Brigadier General Donald Burdick recently noted that "This change is critical to improving ARNG NPS (Non Prior Service) enlisted accession (increase in strength) quality and

to ensuring that the necessary funding is available to pay for the higher than programmed strength being enjoyed by the ARNG.

"It is no exaggeration to say that the rapid and successful implementation of the revised FY 87 ARNG enlistment criteria," BG Burdick went on to say "is vital to the future of the ARNG."

The rules, however, will make recruitment tougher. The three score-categories which will no longer be eligible for recruitment into the Guard make up 49% of the people currently in the Kentucky Army National Guard.

"You're cutting the recruiting market in half," according to Enlisted Personnel Manager CW3 Harold Reynolds, who adds the change will make recruiters work harder to enlist higher-quality recruits the National Guard Bureau seeks.

"The purpose of the change is to go out for a better quality person," says Reynolds, "like the high school graduate and the college student."

The new enlistment rules will double the challenge to recruiters and commanders who have already been encouraged to help meet the goals of the current recruitment campaign, "Catch the Spirit."

The goal of that campaign is to increase the total Kentucky Army National Guard strength, including officers, from its current level of about 8,200 people to 8,600.

Montgomery G.I. Bill Becomes Law

WASHINGTON--Speaker of the House of Representatives James C. Wright, in a formal signing ceremony held May 19 in Statuary Hall of the Capitol, completed House action on the Montgomery GI Bill as permanent legislation.

The two-year-old education assistance program, previously known as the New GI Bill and scheduled for termination in 1988, was developed as a readjustment benefit for veterans and as a recruitment and retention tool for the armed forces.

Statistics show that, since its implementation, there have been marked increases

in both numbers and quality of recruits.

More than 293,000 active-duty recruits of the armed services are participating in the program and 52,000 members of the Guard and Reserve are already using their benefits at colleges throughout the country.

"The very best financial investment this country ever made was the GI Bill of Rights at the end of the World War II," said Wright. "It sent an entire generation of Americans to college, and our country has been reaping the dividends ever since."

--ARNEWS



DOING IT THE RIGHT WAY--CSM Harold Disney of the 1/149th Infantry, demonstrates the proper way to lean back into the "Swiss Saddle" and the correct hand positions for rappelling. Disney gave the demonstration during the Boone Raider Course Last Month. (Photo by SGT Keith Monroe, 2223rd Trans Co.)