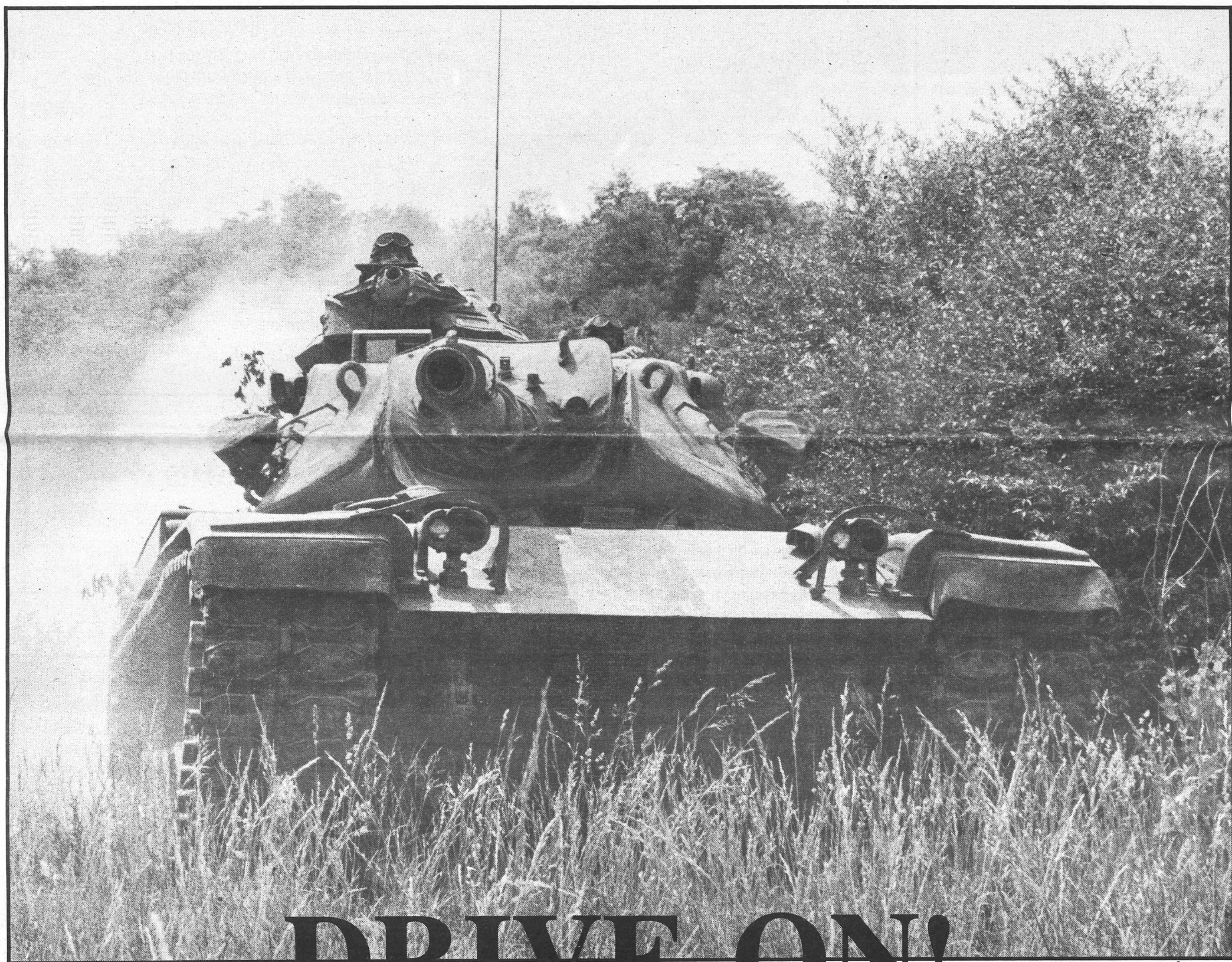

THE BLUEGRASS GUARD

Vol. 28, No. 6

Frankfort, Kentucky

June 1988



DRIVE ON!

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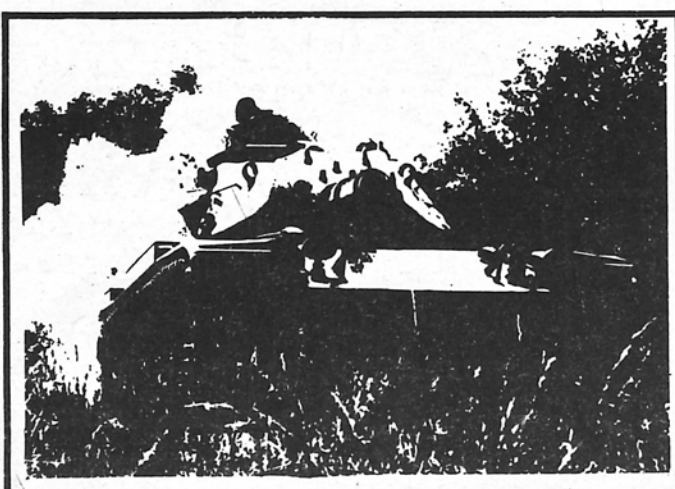


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OUR COVER

Tank Commander, SSG Emmett Howard of Co. D, 1/123rd AR leads an offensive maneuver during a training exercise at the West Kentucky WETSITE during the weekend of May 21-22 in preparation for annual training at Ft. Hood, Texas. More photos and a story on the training are on page 5. (Photo by CW2 James D. Pope Jr., 133rd PAD)

AT EASE

May, 1988 will be remembered in Kentucky for several events: the annual running of the Derby, a vicious tornado which ripped through downtown Middlesboro, killing one person and a fiery accident on I-71 near Carrollton which took 27 lives. The Kentucky Army National Guard got involved in all three. This month, we've printed stories about these and other Guard activities proving once again the Kentucky Guard is ready and willing when its country or its commonwealth calls.

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THE BLUEGRASS GUARD

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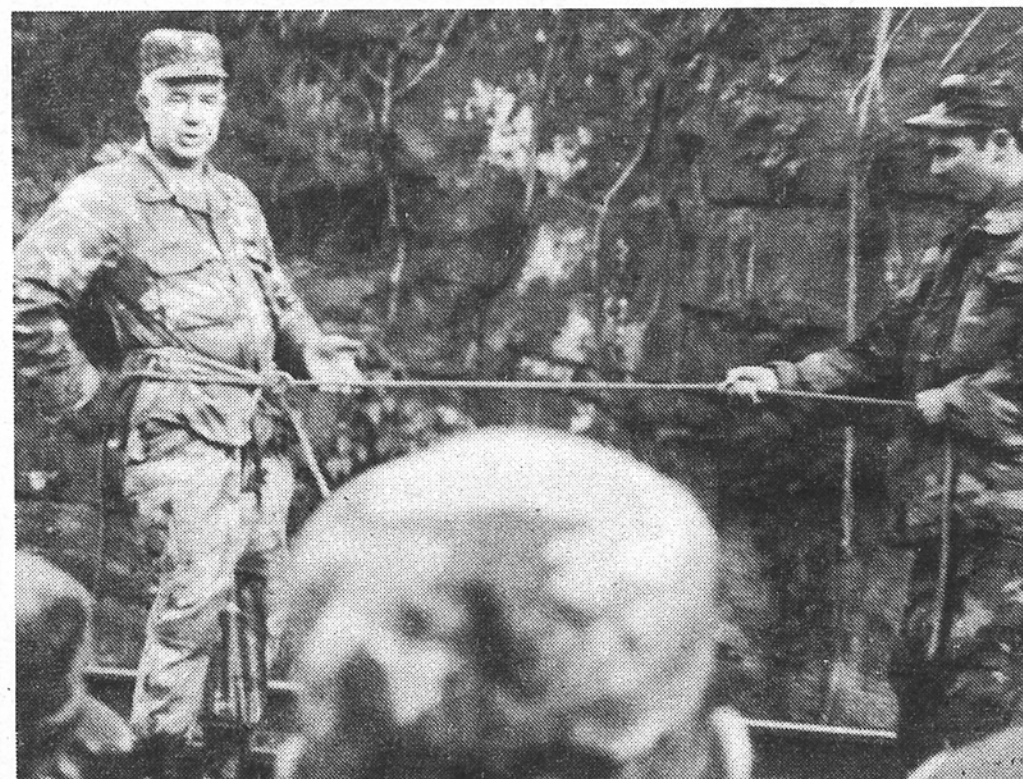
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Taking Up The Challenge: Leadership -- A Personal Observation

By COL(P) James R. Daniel
Deputy Adjutant General

Known throughout the Kentucky Guard as the 'Chief' Boone Raider, CSM Harold Disney plays an active role in the preparation and instruction of virtually every participant in the course, from teaching the ropes and knots of rappelling, to offering firm words of encouragement at the legendary dawn river crossing.



CSM Harold Disney demonstrates rappelling technique to Boone Raider students. (Photo by SGT Keith Monroe, 2123rd Trans. Co.)

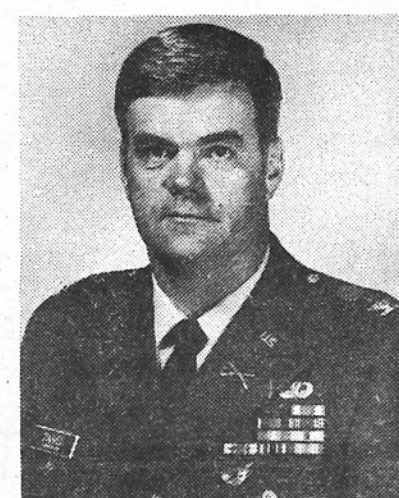
Boone Raider Spring 1988 was no exception to this tradition of leadership, for as I sat on the riverbank, shivering at the thought of those making their way through the 40 degree water swirling past our position, I noticed a soldier on the opposite shore who apparently was having some second thoughts about making the crossing.

"Come on, you can do it!" CSM Disney shouted across to him. The soldier shouted back "No, I can't . . . I can't swim!" "Alright then," Disney replied, "I'll come back over and we'll cross it together."

As CSM Disney reached the soldier on the other bank and the two began fighting the current to make the crossing, a young soldier sitting beside me turned away from the scene with moistened eyes.

"You know, I'd do anything for that man," he said. "How's that?" I asked. He looked back at his Sergeant Major crossing the stream for the third time and replied softly, "Because he would do anything for me."

" . . . learning to carry each other's burdens, for that is the essence of teamwork. . . "



July Fourth Message For the Armed Forces From Defense Secretary Frank C. Carlucci

As the American people prepare to celebrate 212 years of uninterrupted freedom on this July 4th, I am very proud to salute you -- the men and women of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard. It is through your dedication to duty and country that the hard-won independence our forefathers struggled so valiantly to obtain has endured.

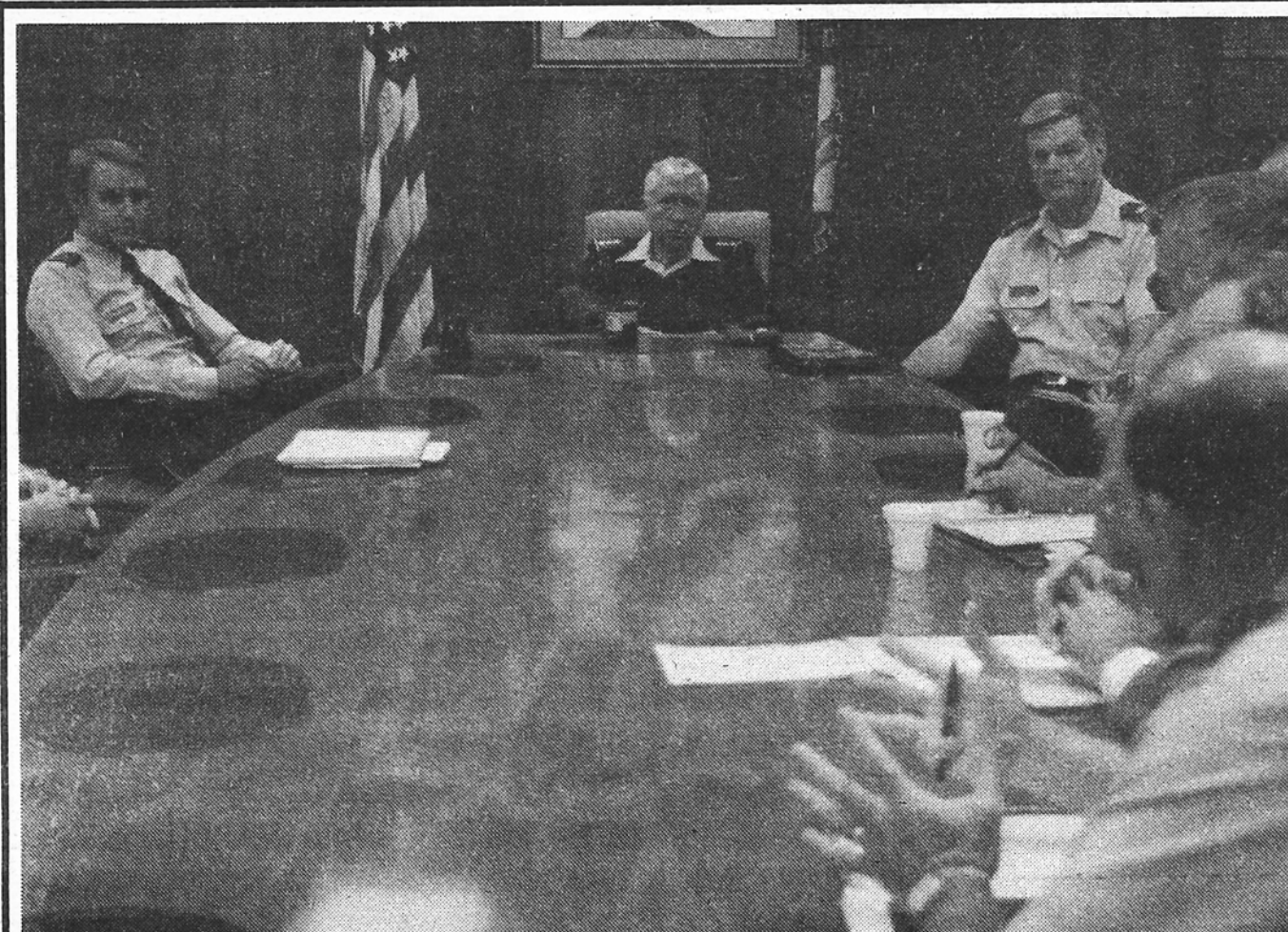
Americans across this great nation are also proud. They will celebrate in hundreds of cities, towns, and rural communities, march in parades, and light up the skies to honor this great day in American history.

This day continues to symbolize our freedom to all the oppressed nations of the world. It is a day the men and women

of the Armed Forces who serve so diligently around the world send an important message: The United States is a country of free people and will protect that freedom at all costs.

That which is valuable does not always come easily. Over the course of history, Americans have always heeded the call -- and many have died -- to protect a nation that stands for liberty and justice for all.

I am proud to serve with the men and women of the Defense team. You are valiant guardians of freedom and worthy successors to the preceding generations of Americans who gave reality to the reasons we celebrate our Declaration of Independence.



View from the Top

National Guard Bureau director, LTG Herbert Temple (head of table) received a briefing from members of the Kentucky Army and Air National Guard staff shortly after arriving at Boone Center, Friday, May 6th.

LTG Temple was the Derby weekend guest of Adjutant General Michael W. Davidson.

BG Davidson (left) and Deputy Adjutant General James R. Daniel (right) flank LTG Temple during a discussion with LTC O. P. Morris concerning the Kentucky Guard's training goals. (Photo by 1LT Phil Miller, 133rd PAD)

Tragedies Call the Guard to Duty in May

Tornado Hits Middlesboro

The touchdown of a tornado in Middlesboro on the night of Monday, May 9 brought about the six-day activation of 90 Guardsmen from Middlesboro, Harlan and Barbourville units of the 1/149th Infantry (MECH) to assist law enforcement officers with security and traffic control in and around the southeast Kentucky city.

In the photo below, Deputy Adjutant General COL(P) James R. Daniel (left) greets Governor Wallace Wilkinson on his arrival by Blackhawk helicopter at the Middlesboro airport where he began his tour of the tornado-damaged area.



Scattered concrete blocks mark the former site of this overturned double-wide mobile home. The debris to the right of the overturned home is what remained of an adjacent mobile home that was completely destroyed when the storm hit, killing one of its occupants and severely injuring two others.



Two Guardsmen from Company D, 1/149th IN (MECH) assist a Kentucky State Trooper with traffic control in a restricted area near downtown Middlesboro. (Photos by 1LT Phil Miller, 133rd PAD)



The church bus in which 27 people died last month sits in the Carrollton armory, where it was brought following the tragedy. (Photo courtesy Kentucky State Police)

Members of Btry A, 2/138th FA, Help After Carroll County Bus Crash

By MAJ Keith Kappes, KyARNG
PAO and Mike Lynch, Dept. of
Military Affairs

"I saw death in Vietnam, but nothing could have prepared me for what happened when that bus burned."

SFC Eddie Satchwell, the training NCO for Battery A, 2nd Battalion, 138th Field Artillery, was describing his reaction to last month's tragic accident on I-71 near Carrollton which claimed 27 lives, including 24 children. Witnesses said a truck was going the wrong way in the southbound lanes when the fiery accident occurred. The bus, still carrying the bodies, was placed on a flatbed trailer and taken to the Carrollton armory.

Satchwell and several other members of the Carrollton unit volunteered to assist civilian authorities in the handling and identification of the victims. The armory was used as a temporary morgue where each body was autopsied and prepared for burial before being released to the families.

It happened on a Saturday night when about 80 of the battery's members were on IDT at Ft. Knox. On Sunday, when the bus was inside the armory, several members volunteered to help with the grisly task of removing the bodies from the bus and helping as other agencies began the investigation of one of the nation's worst bus accidents.

SSG Chris Brock, the unit's supply sergeant, said the age of the victims made the unusual mission much more difficult.

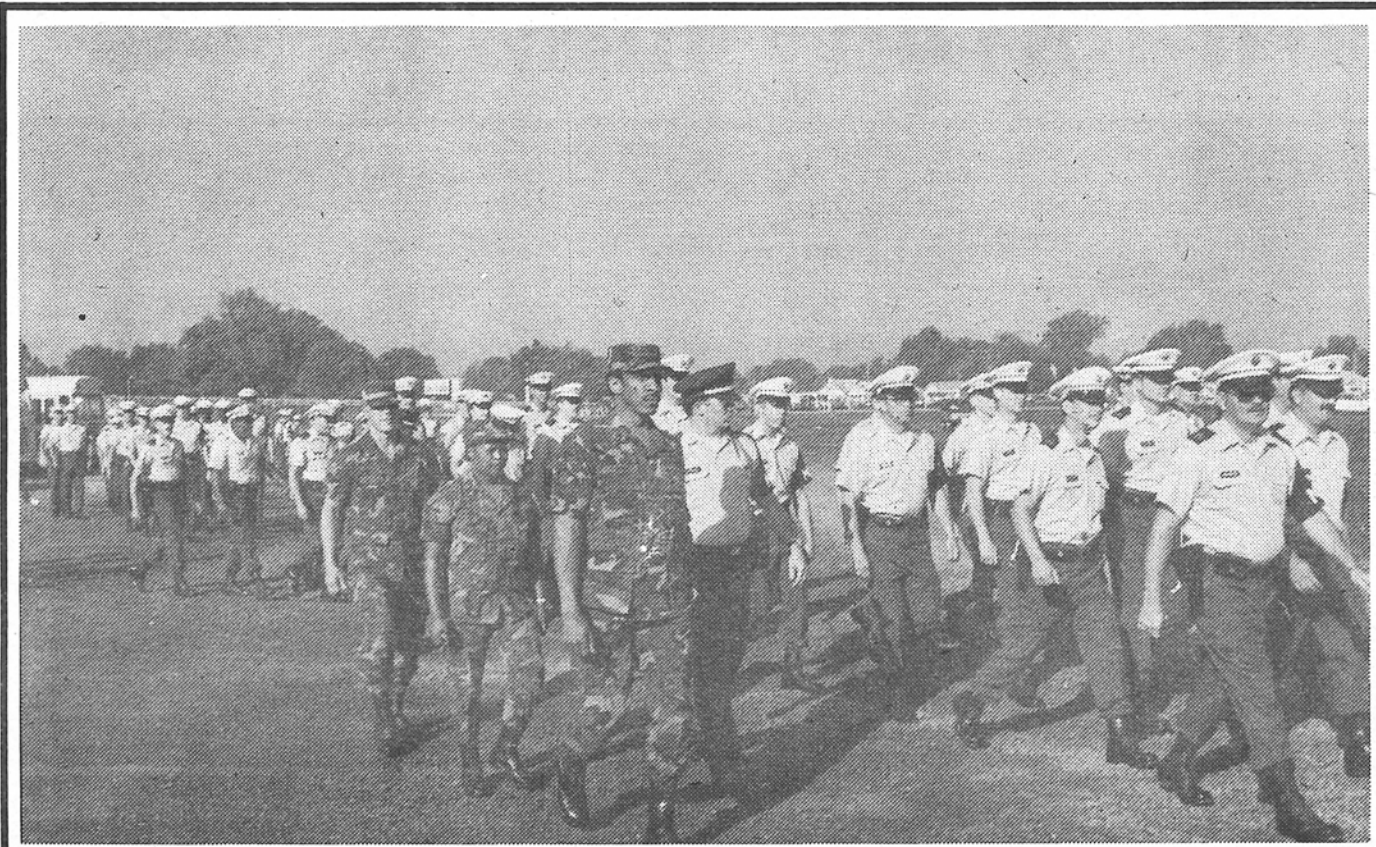
"Most of us are fathers with sons and daughters in that age group, and you couldn't help but wonder what you might do if that happened in your family."

Other unit members with key roles in the mission included CPT Mike Figgins, the battery commander; SGT Butch Burns, the unit administrator; SGT Tim Gividen and SSG Tim Harrison, motor sergeants; SFC James Supplee; and ISG Robert Dermon. State Chaplain (MAJ) Roger Dill also assisted at the armory and helped conduct a stress debriefing for

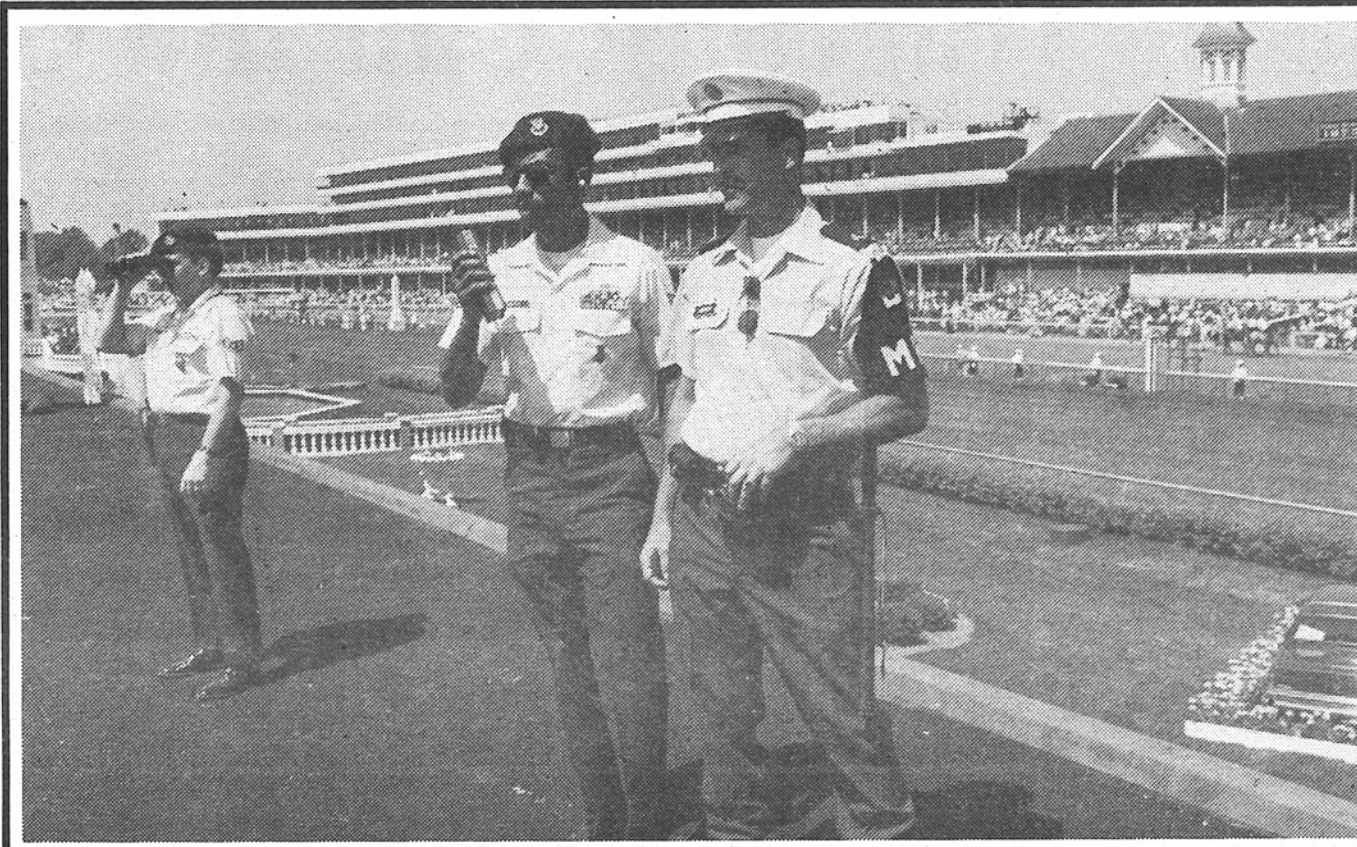
(continued on pg. 8)



The Carrollton armory became the focus of national attention when the bus in which 27 people died was brought here. This was the scene outside the armory during the ordeal. (Photo courtesy Carrollton News-Democrat)



Members of the 614th MP Company, Murray, Kentucky, move out in formation to set up their guard positions prior to the Kentucky Derby.



Providing a teamwork approach, SSG William E. Smith, 123rd WSSF, Kentucky Air National Guard, and SGT Mike L. Hayden, 223rd MP Co., Louisville, kept watch over the infield.

1988 Derby Guarding the Run for the Roses

Story and Photos By CW2 James D. Pope Jr., 133rd PAD

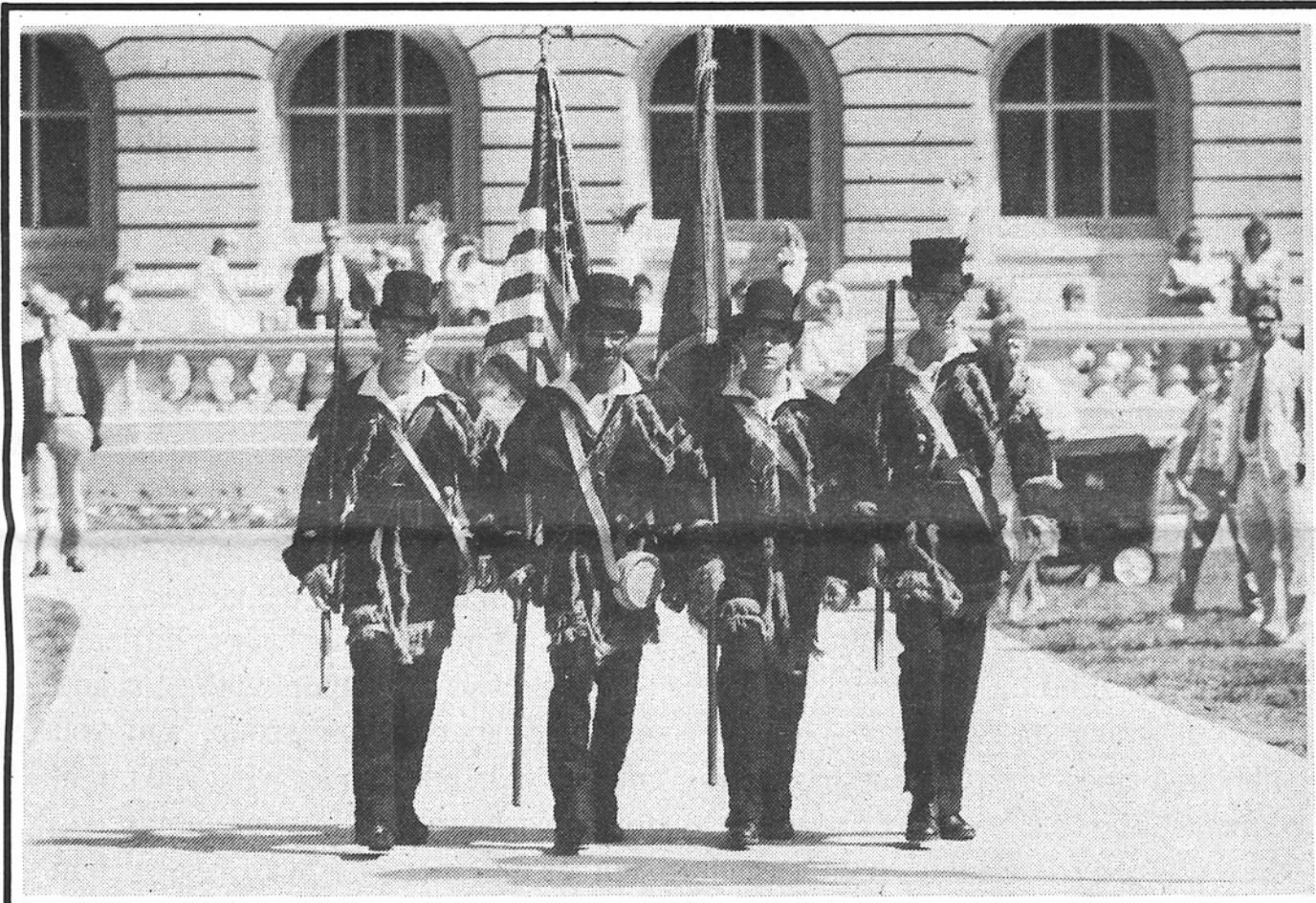
The annual running of the Kentucky Derby again commanded the special teamwork that could only be provided by members of the Kentucky Army and Air National Guard.

Upholding a long tradition of law enforcement support, the 614th MP Company of Murray, the 223rd MP Company of Louisville and 198th MP Battalion staff joined forces with members of the Kentucky Air Guard's 123rd Weapons Systems Security Flight to provide physical security and crowd control for the 114th running of the world's greatest horse race.

Joining Kentucky State Troopers and officers of the Louisville City and Jefferson County Police Departments, the Army and Air Guard MP's arrived at Churchill Downs early on the morning of the Derby and began splitting up into teams.

The Jefferson County Police drew duty in the Infield and the City police handled the Grandstand area, with Guardsmen working alongside KSP troopers to provide overall support, including on-track security during THE race, and afterward in the Winners' Circle.

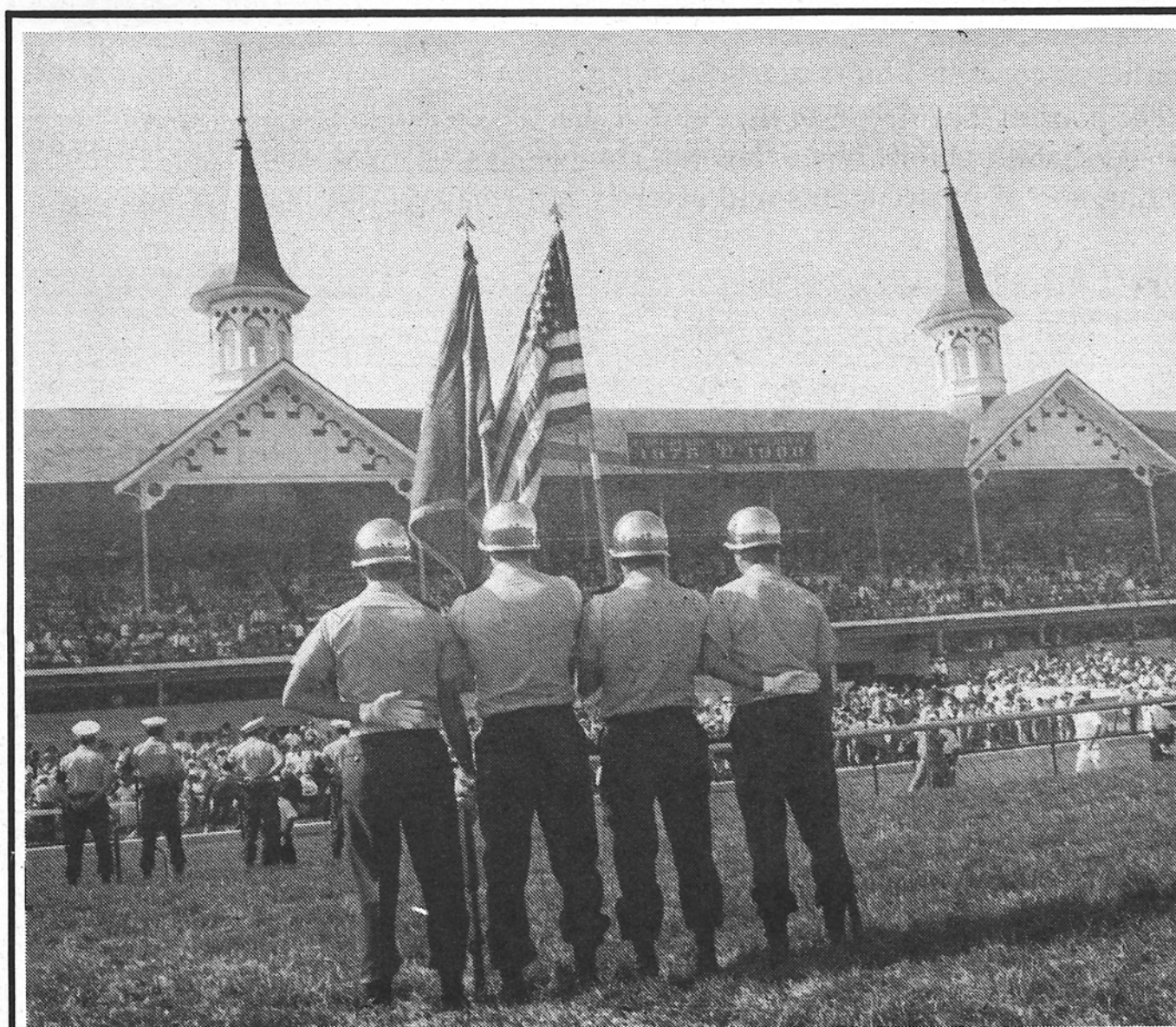
While the MP's were the most visible Guard element at the Derby, additional essential support was provided by soldiers from HQS, 149th AR Bde; HQS, 138th FA Bde; 441st Med Det (HEL AMB); Det. 1, 105th PSC; 141st Chem. Co.; and airmen from the Kentucky Air Guard Security Platoon and Medical Team.



Posting the colors for Governor Wilkinson's pre-Derby breakfast at the Capitol were SFC Don Cable, SFC Jim Barbour, SGT Jim Woolums and SFC Chuck Toler of the KyARNG ceremonial colorguard. (Photo by 1LT Phil Miller, 133rd PAD)



THE MAIN EVENT -- Members of the combined KyARNG - KyANG security force ringed the Churchill Downs track and winner's circle during THE big race.



The spires of Churchill Downs provide a majestic background for the official color guard just prior to the 114th Run for the Roses.



MOVING OUT -- Pushing forward in a "bounding overwatch maneuver" the tank commander communicates both with his crew and platoon as enemy contact has been made.

1/123rd Tankers Polish Fighting Skills at West Ky. WETSITE

Story By SGT Robert W. Pillow,
Photos By CW2 James D. Pope Jr., 133rd PAD

GREENVILLE -- The hot mid-May sun bore down on SSG Joe Martinez as he watched for smoke and dust signatures of tanks about to attack.

"I guess the hardest part about battle is the waiting," said Martinez, a tank commander in Charlie Co., 1/123rd Armor. For Martinez and his platoon the waiting in their defensive positions at the WETSITE (Western Kentucky Weekend Training Site) would last right up until the battle was over.

"I'm going to stay right here until I die, instead of pulling back," he said as puffs of smoke and dust appeared just over a ridge.

Tankers in a defensive position usually engage the enemy and then pull back to another position and re-engage the opposing forces, Martinez said. The idea is wear the enemy down, he explained.

But the reason Martinez's platoon was staying in one position until the bitter end was that the battle was part of an exercise his Western Kentucky armor battalion was conducting in preparation for annual training.

The 1/123rd Armor Bn., with units in Benton, Hopkinsville, Madisonville, Marion, Paducah and Hickman, had worked on battle skills on sand tables during previous drills. But while the sand table skirmishes were instructive, getting in the tanks and fighting mock battles is better training, the sergeant said.

"In a classroom a lot of guys don't give as much attention to tactics," he said. "Here, you've got to work together. But here you've also got to put up with the heat and cold, dust and the enemy and chiggers and mosquitos."

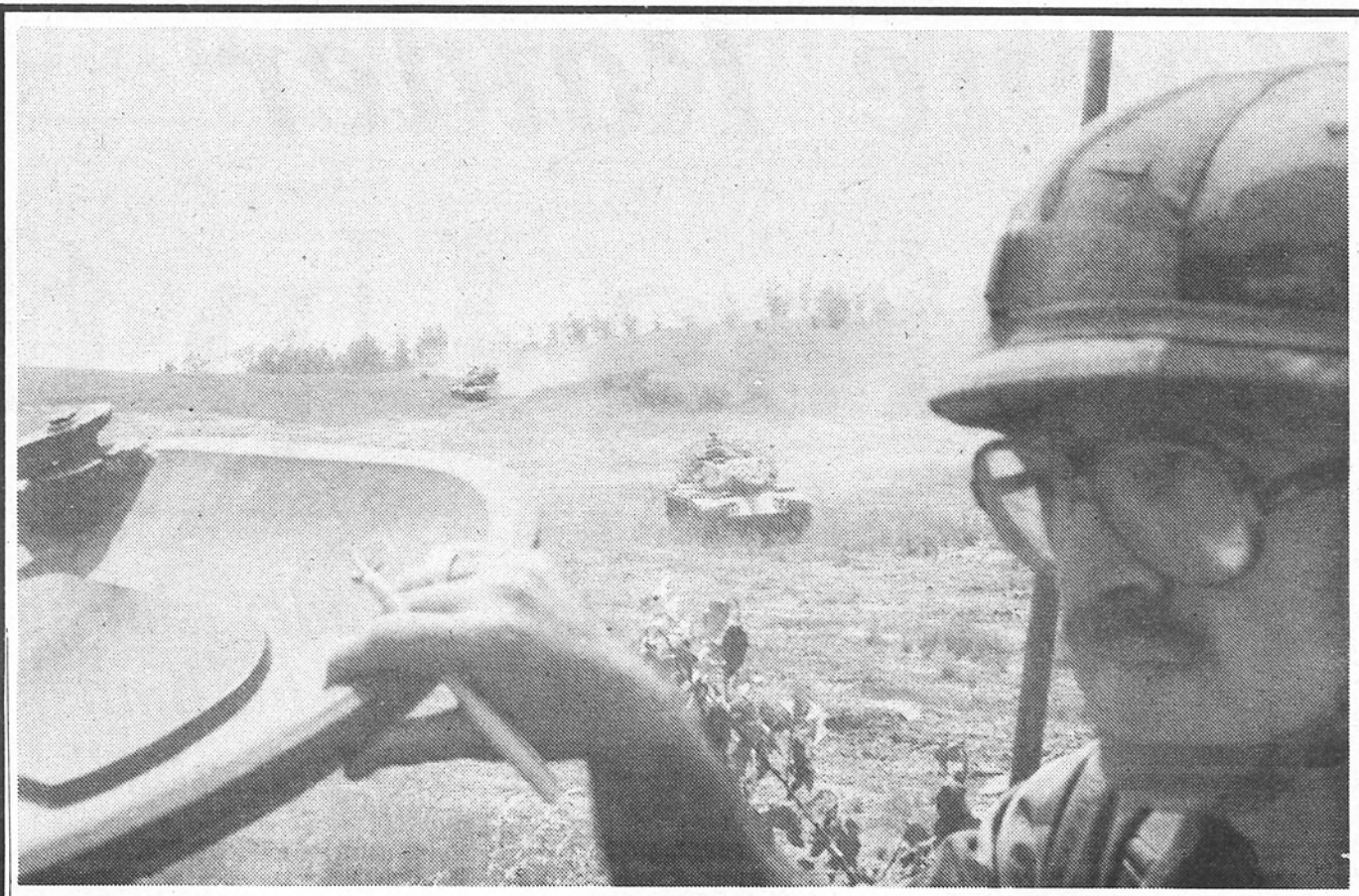
The mock battles didn't involve the firing of even simulated rounds, according to 1LT Clayton Kennedy, Headquarters Company Commander and the battalion's training officer. The point of the drill was to conduct an internal evaluation of the battalion's platoon leaders' ability to maneuver, control and communicate with their tank crews.

In addition, platoons were evaluated on their Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Warfare skills and decontamination, Kennedy said.

Platoon battle skills were tested by placing one platoon in a defensive position while another platoon attacked. NBC skills were tested in the assembly areas where the platoons waited before being called into battle.

The May exercise was the last chance members of the 1/123rd would have to work on their fighting skills before travelling to Fort Hood, Texas, to participate in the annual training division exercise.

"There are other ways you can do this," he said, referring to sand table and map exercises. "But until you actually try to command four tanks you can't really be evaluated."



KEEPING TRACK -- 1LT Phil Brummet, Co. D., 1/123rd AR, scorer and observer for the mock battle exercise, rides atop the lead tank in an offensive maneuver into the battle lane.



MOVE TO CONTACT -- A tank crew prepares to engage the "enemy" while operating in the open during pre-AT training at the West Kentucky WETSITE.



AFTER ACTION -- 1LT Brummet conducts a "critique session" after one of the battles. During this session the tank crews received an after-action review of their abilities to maneuver, communicate, and control the battle areas.



Boone Raider

Taking Up the Challenge

By SGT Robert Ham, 133rd PAD

... it had been over a day since they last slept, with a six kilometer patrol the night before, individual instruction in rappelling skills that morning and a grueling afternoon run through the obstacle course.

As the sun set low over the mountains of eastern Kentucky, members of the Red team used the last of the fading light to squint at maps and secure their gear as they began receiving final patrol orders.

The objective: a staging area for an enemy tank platoon located 12 rugged kilometers to the west.

Then, under the cover of darkness, two Boone Raider teams began moving independently to the rally point where they would link up and assault the objective in a tightly orchestrated combined-arms raid...

The Boone Raider course is a three-day "mini" Ranger school run by the 1/149th Infantry (MECH) in mountainous Artemus, Kentucky.

According to 1/149th Command Sergeant Major Harold Disney, Boone Raider was designed to provide extraordinarily challenging training for members of the Kentucky Army National Guard, "You can train hard, if the training itself is challenging and interesting." Those feelings were echoed by MSG Frank Major, Senior Army enlisted advisor to the 1/149th, "Boone Raider is designed to show the individual Guardsman his limits, then show him how to rise above those limits."

Teamwork is stressed throughout the course, reminding Guardsmen that individuals become stronger when they pull together as a team. The teamwork concept was further illustrated by Deputy Adjutant General COL(P) James Daniel who challenged Boone Raider participants and the Kentucky National Guard as a whole to "learn to carry each other's burdens, for that in itself is the essence of teamwork."

Nowhere was the challenge more evident than the rappelling site where a 40-foot rock wall intimidated even the experienced. After instruction on safety and technique, even the novices were eager to "take up the challenge".

Under the watchful eyes of the course instructors, students became accustomed to

"Boone Raider is designed to show the individual Guardsman his limits, then show him how to rise above those limits."



the feel of the rope, and, as their confidence grew, so did the courage displayed by many who had never rappelled before.

Backing down a cliff is one thing, running face first at full speed down a 40-foot cliff, using the 'Aussie' or Australian style of rappelling is something else.

SP4 Sharon Oster, a helicopter crew chief from Det. 1, 140th Signal Bn., started the day as a 'rookie', but by noon, as she completed her first 'Aussie' descent, yelled out "Where's the next

mountain to climb?"

All Boone Raider soldiers are volunteers who have been intensely screened by their individual units, as well as by the school staff.

The 40 men and women enrolled in the course this spring represented 34 individual units, and while each had a unique background of civilian and military experience, all gave the same answer when asked why they had worked so hard to become a Boone Raider... they came "for the challenge!"

... Now under a full moon, the patrol quickly made its way over the top of the ridgeline. In the valley below was the objective, still six kilometers distant. The patrol leader called a halt and a hasty perimeter quickly formed in the shadow of the ridge. This was the time of danger... the climb to the top had been hard and each soldier fought sleep to stay alert.

In the center of the group, fireteam leaders and the pointman hovered over a map, determining the best approach to the objective. Each knew the mission depended on their ability to lead under stress of fatigue. Within minutes after the halt, a silent hand signal passed through the ranks of the patrol, a sign to saddle up and carry on...

Boone Raider training is run twice a year. In the spring the course is open to all Guardsmen in the state. In the fall, cadets from the Kentucky Military Academy go through Boone Raider as a part of their OCS curriculum.

There are an average of 40 slots available for the spring course, according to CSM Disney, usually selected from more than 200 applications received. "We try to include every major command each year, but space is severely limited," said Disney, adding "we try to give preference to those who have applied before, but were not accepted."

But expansion of the program could soon become a reality. Deputy Adjutant General Daniel, expressing great satisfaction with the quality of training offered by the course, also indicated that programs like Boone Raider will be seeing more attention and funding in the future to coincide with the Adjutant General's emphasis on realistic field training for every soldier in the Kentucky Army National Guard.

Silently the two teams made contact at the rally point and were now in position to begin the final assault. The assault leader rose from cover, firing a single shot that began the attack. The sounds of high explosive artillery simulators tore through the tall grass surrounding the enemy position and with renewed strength the raiding soldiers scrambled over the enemy position, immediately establishing their own defensive perimeter... their mission accomplished, each member of the team began mentally preparing themselves for the last phase of the operation... the dawn river crossing to their extraction point.

Master Fitness Course: Training the Trainers

By SP4 Charles Pendleton
133rd PAD

FRANKFORT -- The Army wants soldiers that are lean, mean fighting machines. But it realizes that it takes more than muscle to be in good shape.

We have to be taught what fitness is about. What can I do to better my physical self? The perfect start may be the Army's "Master Fitness Course", which is offered also to Guard members.

The course, offered at several Army posts, and available in two-week sessions or 30-day sessions, budget permitting, seven times a year, is designed to teach the individual soldier skills required to ultimately assist the unit commander in organizing a unit wide physical fitness program, or instruct their fellow guardsmen on the steps to begin, and maintain their own personal regimen of physical fitness.

The course covers all areas of fitness; anatomy and physiology, proper diet, and nutrition, stretching, exercise equipment use, work outs, and cool down.

The course also tests the participants' physical condition with a rigorous mandatory P.T. period that starts every morning for two hours before classes.

In addition to the normal P.T. type exercises, each student is also exposed to "Mission Training". For example, soldiers will be given a map and grid coordinates located throughout the post. The object is for the soldier to run from location to location and gather points along the way, all based on his speed and accuracy. This makes the soldier use his mind as well as his body.

"It was pretty tough," said SGT Joan Kivior, of the 475th M.A.S.H. unit in Frankfort, who recently returned from the course. "You must be in good physical con-



SGT Joan Kivior

dition at least 30 days prior to the training, and pass the P.T. test with a score of 250 or better."

SP4 Phillip McIntosh also attended the two week reserve component version of the course. "I was taught how to use the

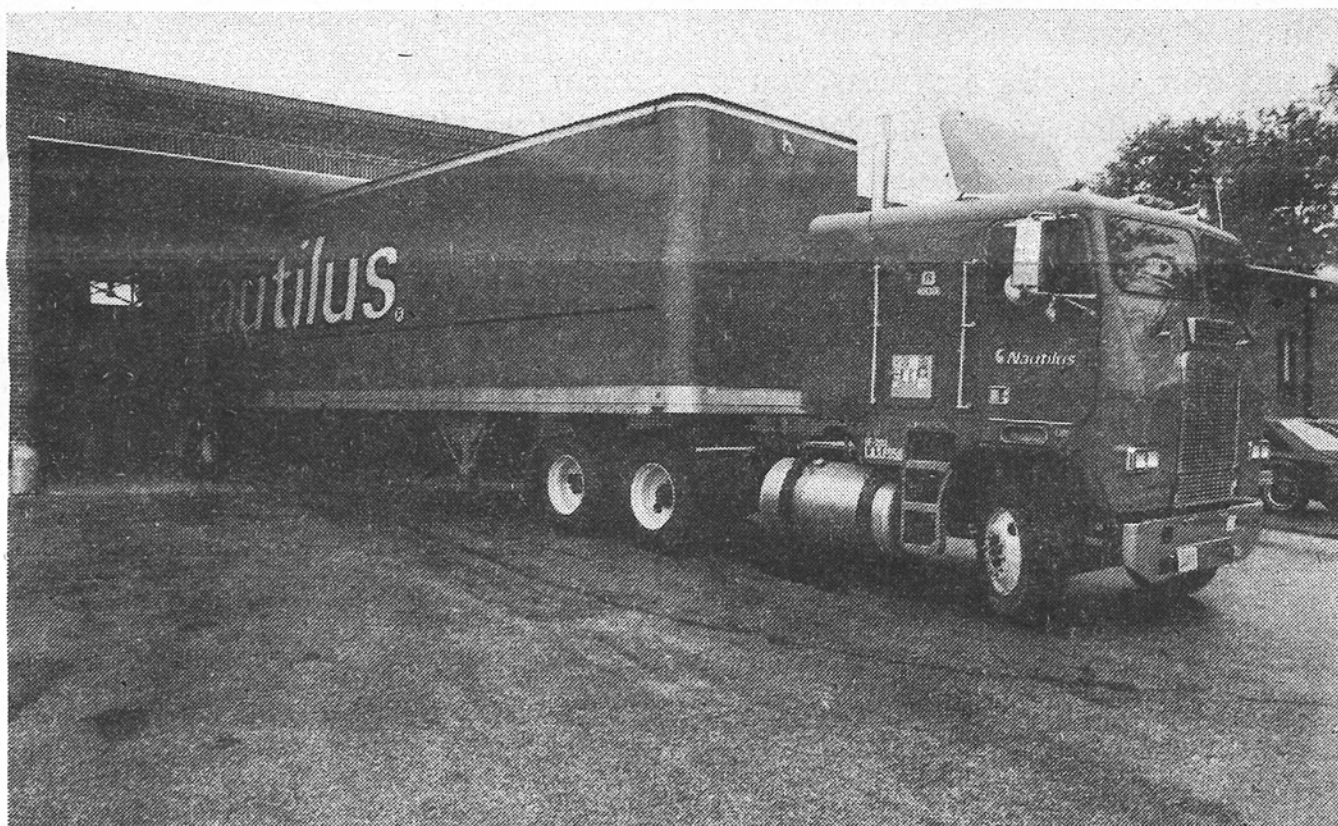
Nautilus equipment correctly," said McIntosh. "I learned how to show other people how to use the equipment, and also how to read their bodies' signs and effects of their training."

For those interested in attending the course, the following pre-requisites must be met:

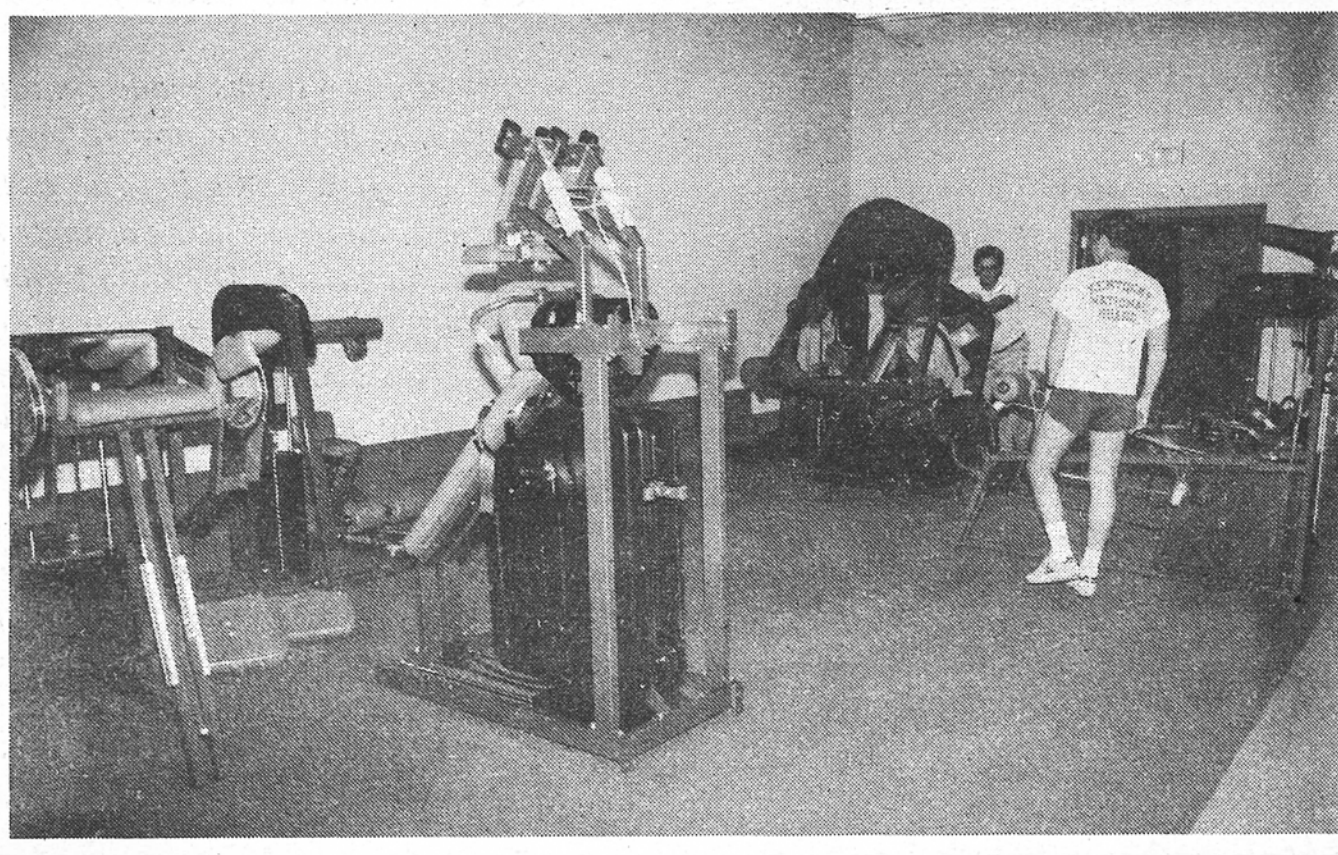
1. All must meet the A.R.-600-9, (height and weight standards).
2. All must be designated as the unit's "Master Fitness Trainer".
3. All must pass the Army's physical requirements test with a score of at least 250 within 30 days of the course date.
4. All interested personnel must fill out an N.G.B. Form 64 (school application).
5. All must complete an N.G.B. Form 102-10 (request for orders form).

Dates for the class, held at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana, are: June 12-24, July 10-22 and September 11-23.

Nautilus Equipment Arrives at Boone Center



FRANKFORT -- Boone National Guard Center's fitness program got a big boost on May 24 with the delivery of a 12-station Nautilus exercise system. According to LTC Elmo 'Rock' Head, fitness program coordinator, training sessions are now being conducted for Master Fitness Trainers, and all Boone Center employees to familiarize them with using the system in individual fitness programs. (Photos by 1LT Phil Miller, 133rd PAD)



Air Guard Runner Tops Kentucky Team at National Guard Marathon

By SSG Jenny Montgomery
KyANG PAO

A member of the Kentucky Air National Guard placed first among the 7-man Kentucky National Guard team at the Fifth Annual National Guard Bureau Marathon May 1 in Lincoln, Nebraska.

MSG David M. Orange, Sr., NCOIC fuel cell maintenance, 123rd Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, ran the 26-mile marathon in three hours and 17 minutes. MSG Orange said he ran this marathon for the Air Guard -- next year he may return to try and better his score.

MSG James (Mike) Dawson, team captain, said this is the first time that he knows of that an Air Guard member has run in the marathon with the Kentucky National Guard team.

SGT Orange started preparing himself for the strenuous run months before the marathon. Along with running, he biked two to three times a week. "It saves the legs and exercises the same muscles, but doesn't hurt the knees and ankles," he said.

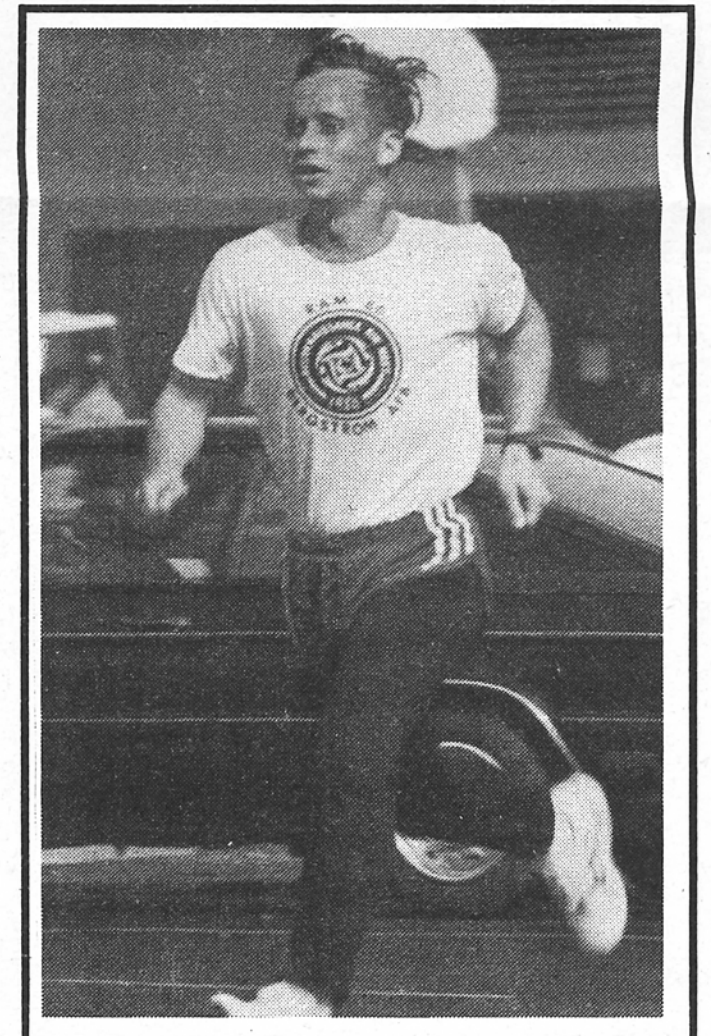
His philosophy in running is "I always go out to do better, not to just do good."

Other members of the Kentucky team were: SGT Mark L. Barnett, 2LT Charles B. Cole, SP4 Patrick G. Eaton, BG Edward L. Gill, MSG Donald G. Ray and SSG John White.

SP4 Rudy Robinson, of Washington, DC, won the race with a record performance of 2:28:44 and the Guard's best-ever finish of second in the Lincoln Marathon of which the Guard race is a part.

Robinson, a combat medic with the District of Columbia Guard's 115th Medical Hospital, beat all 400 other Guard runners and outdistanced all but one of the 1,537 Lincoln Marathon competitors.

Those who attended the 1986 Lincoln



MSG David M. Orange, Sr., prepares for the NGB Marathon by running at Standiford Field. (KyANG Photo by TSGT Jerry Becker)

Marathon will remember the tremendous winds which later convinced the Lincoln Track Club to change the course in 1987 to take advantage of the city's trees for shelter from the winds. However, the gusting winds again created problems along portions of the new scenic route this year.

The top 25 male finishers, the top 16 masters finishers, and the top 10 female finishers qualified for the All-Guard Marathon Team. The 51-member team will represent the National Guard Bureau at the Marine Corps Marathon in Washington, DC, the Navy's Blue Angel Marathon in Pensacola, Florida, and the Army's Infantry Marathon in Ft. Benning, Georgia.

BRIEFLY NOTED

Montgomery Amendment Upheld Again

The Montgomery Amendment, which prevents state governors from blocking overseas training by National Guard units, was upheld by yet another federal judge last month. A Boston judge ruled that National Guard troops can be ordered to training despite a governor's objections.

Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis, the front-runner for the Democratic nomination for president, had challenged plans to send 13 National Guard members from his state to Honduras and Panama. U.S. District Court Judge Robert Keeton, however, ruled the federal government can send the National Guard wherever it chooses to because the members are sworn to federal duty as well as state duty.

Dukakis has said he plans an appeal. A similar challenge to federal authority over the National Guard in Minnesota has also been overruled by a federal judge.

Army Keeps CPL and SP4 Ranks; SP4 Becomes SPC

WASHINGTON (ARNEWS) -- The Army leadership has decided to keep the rank of specialist rather than convert all E4's to corporal but will eliminate the numerical grade designator, an Army personnel official said.

Army officials have discussed eliminating the specialist four rank since all E5's and E6's converted to sergeant and staff sergeant in 1985.

According to a personnel NCO in the Pentagon, retaining the separate ranks is needed to preserve the relationship between the NCO rank and positions of leadership while continuing to be selective in allowing soldiers to attain NCO status at that level of experience. The average time in service a soldier has when advanced to the E4 grade is 18 months. That's not a lot of time to develop the skills and experience expected of an NCO, he said. There are over 180,000 E4s in the Army; about 3,000 are corporals, mainly in combat arms units. "If all specialists were appointed to corporal, about 70 percent of the enlisted force would be NCOs leading 30 percent of the force," he said.

Redesignating specialist 4 to specialist, abbreviated as "SPC," became effective with the fielding of AR600-20, "Army Command Policy and Procedures," dated March 30, 1988. Eliminating the numerical designator was a matter of logic, he said. "There's only one specialist rank so we saw no need to keep the pay grade attached to it," he said.

Nineteen Take GED Test in Guard Program

On Saturday, May 21, 19 members of the National Guard from the Jackson and Hazard areas took the test to earn their GED (General Education Diploma). The test was administered at Lee's Junior College in Jackson.

Through a program begun last year by CPT John Roth, the Kentucky Guard's education officer, the students viewed a series of videotapes produced by Kentucky Educational Television (KET) and complemented their viewing sessions with workbooks provided without charge. When they had finished the self-paced lessons, they were ready to take the GED test at one of Kentucky's regional testing centers.

Others interested in earning their GED through the program should contact CPT Roth in Frankfort at (502) 564-8550.

Chaplain Candidates Needed

If you or someone you know is a young, seminary-trained minister with an interest in the military, the Kentucky Army National Guard may have a part-time job for you.

The Guard is seeking candidates for chaplain in six of its battalions across the state, according to Chaplain (MAJ) Roger Dill of Louisville.

Interested persons are asked to contact Chaplain Dill at (502) 368-9552 during business hours or (502) 366-3734 at night. He is pastor of Kenwood United Methodist Church, 7032 South Side Drive, Louisville.

Ft. Knox PX Opens Annex in Louisville

In January 1988, the Fort Knox Post Exchange opened an Annex Exchange at the Kentucky Air National Guard Base, Standiford Field, Louisville. The AAFES facility is located in Building 18, the remodeled building that formerly housed the KyANG Club.

The facility carries a large line of soft goods and some small appliances, as well as many snack items, soft drinks and beer. Shoppers can also order any item from the AAFES catalogue located in the store. The store is open from 1000 through 1700 hours, Monday through Friday and on UTA weekends. It is closed Monday and Tuesday after UTA weekends. The BX phone number is (502) 361-2392.

Guard Members Help After Carroll County Bus Tragedy

(continued from pg. 3)

more than 100 people who were involved.

"It was a gruesome job," CPT Figgins said several days later, still clearly shaken by the experience. "The major effect came because of the ages of the victims."

Two members of the 475th MASH were also sent from Frankfort with a large air conditioning unit to keep the drill floor cooled during the task. The training NCO's office, meanwhile, was turned into a makeshift news media room, as dozens of reporters and photographers from Kentucky and elsewhere arrived on the scene. Families of the victims were taken to the classroom. An extra eight telephones were installed in the building for the reporters, families and Kentucky State Police.

"Everyone involved, including the members of the National Guard, went above and beyond the call of duty during this incident," according to KSP Trooper Jim Mudd, a spokesman for the LaGrange post.

"I'm proud of the Guardsmen who were involved because we did what we had to do, and everyone was a professional in every sense of the word," said Satchwell, one of the five remaining unit members who were mobilized for duty in Vietnam.

Among the ironies of the situation for the Guardsmen was the fact that 17 of the victims were military dependents of active Army soldiers at Ft. Knox.

"Knowing that so many of them were connected with the military made it even more personal for us," added Brock. "I would never want to go through it again, and I hope it never happens again to anyone, anywhere."

The media, the emergency crews and the shocked, grieving families have gone their separate ways and the armory has been restored to its primary purpose. On the armory lawn, though, a small cross stands as a reminder of the tragic event.

"I can't believe it happened but I know that it did and I'll probably never get it completely out of my mind," Satchwell concluded.

Figgins, who works full-time as a patrolman with the Owenton Police Department, said, "It makes you want to go home and hug your kids."

TACTICAL ERRORS

A newsbrief in last month's issue contained the wrong telephone number to contact the NGAKy regarding home loans. The number should have read 1-800-251-2333.



2/138th CHANGE OF COMMAND -- LTC Roger C. Green, Jr. (left-facing flag), incoming commander of the 2/138th FA Bn, joins COL Thomas Ice (center), 138th Brigade commander, and outgoing 2/138th commander LTC Earl L. Doyle, Jr. (right) in saluting the colors during change of command ceremonies at Ft. Knox on May 14. LTC Green's return to the Artillery follows several Aviation unit command assignments. LTC Doyle will now serve as XO of the 138th Bde. (Photo by SFC Thomas J. Murphy, 133rd PAD)