

THE BLUEGRASS GUARD

FILE

Vol. 29, No. 3

Frankfort, Kentucky

March 1989

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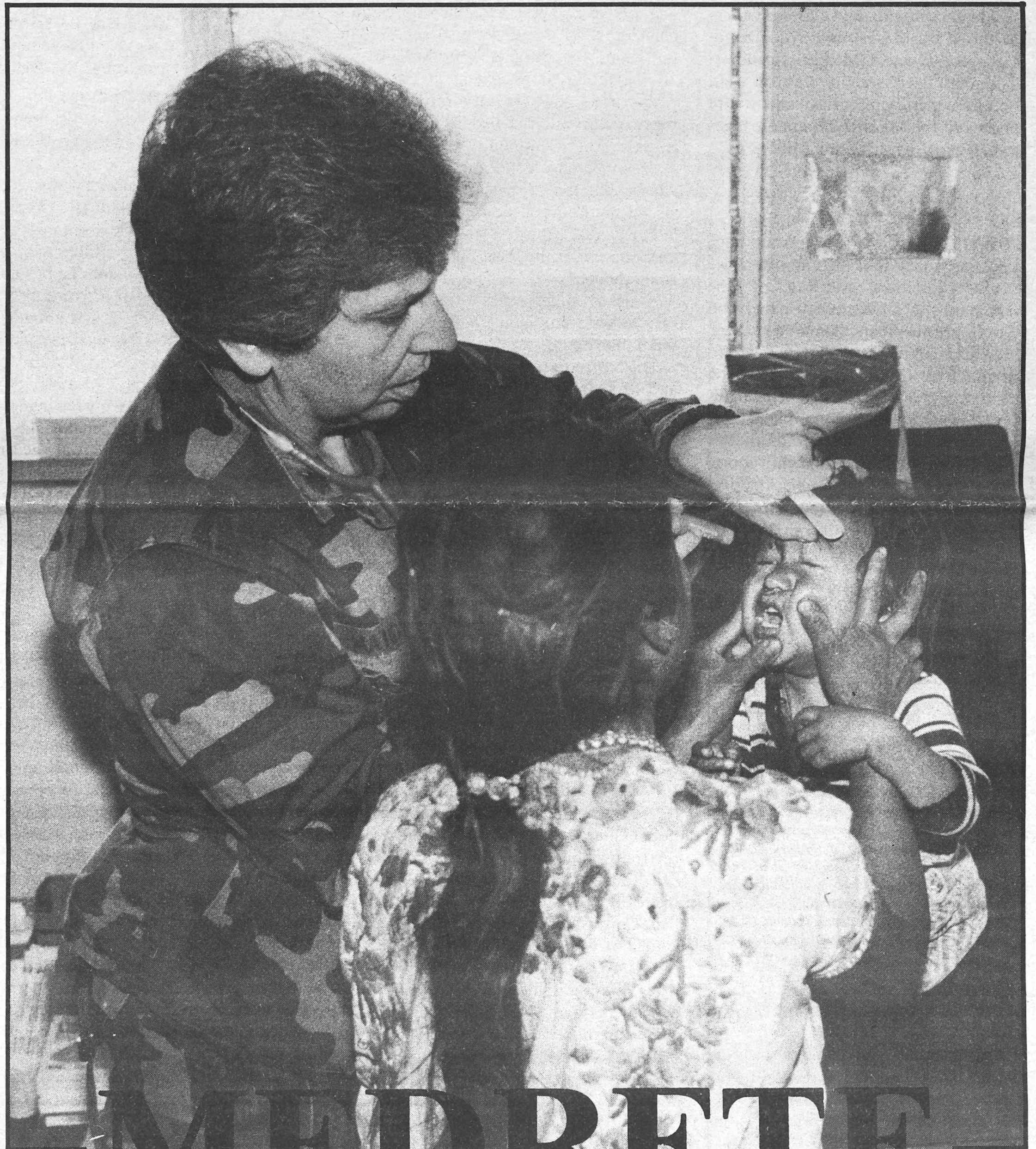
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MEDRETE

KyARNG Medics in Guatemala and Bolivia



OUR COVER

LTC Paula Maionchi, assistant State Surgeon, examines a Mayan Indian child at a clinic in Xepatan, Guatemala. Kentucky Guard members of the 475th MASH and 973d Dental Det. recently held Medical Readiness Training Exercises in Central and South America. Stories and more photos of the MEDRETE are on pages 4-6. (Photo by LT Phil Miller, 133d PAD)

AT EASE

The Bluegrass Guard's front page takes on a new look this month as we begin individual mailing of the newspaper to all Kentucky Army and Air Guard members. The new mailing system required a re-design of page 1 to accomodate the mailing label. Inside this month, you will find more recognition for your fellow Guard members helping other people in need, both during floods at home and in poorer regions of Central and South America.

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THE BLUEGRASS GUARD

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Guard Doctor Returns from Alaska

By MAJ Keith Kappes
KySTARC PAO

Who wouldn't welcome a return to Kentucky after four years in Alaska?

The answer is COL Clyde A. Burgess of Ashland, a member of the Kentucky Army National Guard currently on an active duty tour as chief of primary care and community medicine at Ireland Army Community Hospital at Fort Knox.

"In my opinion, Alaska has to be the finest duty station in the Army," said Dr. Burgess, a trauma specialist whose only complaint about Alaska was that he did not have enough time for hunting and fishing.

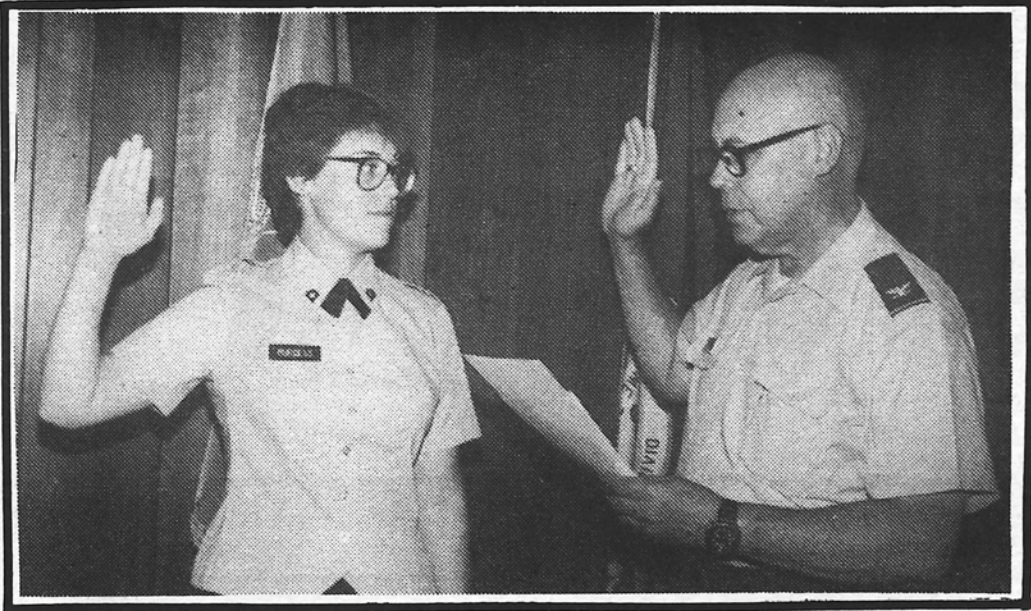
A native of West Virginia who came to the Kentucky Guard in 1981 as battalion surgeon of the 201st Engineer Battalion, Dr. Burgess came back to Kentucky last fall after a four-year assignment at Forts Greeley and Wainwright in Alaska. He ran a medical clinic at Fort Greeley for two years and finished his tour as acting commander of Bassett Army Community Hospital at Fort Wainwright.

"Some of my colleagues chided me about requesting Alaska but they did not know that my wife and I have visited there several times because our son, Andrew, lives in Fairbanks," Burgess stated. "I have a deep and abiding appreciation of the great outdoors and that is what Alaska is all about."

Andrew Burgess edits a trappers magazine and his dad says he enjoyed helping with the outdoor "research" for the publication.

The return to the "lower 48" wasn't all negative for Dr. and Mrs. Burgess. The colonel had the pleasure of commissioning his daughter, Kimberly Ann, as a second lieutenant in the 475th MASH last fall. She is a medical student at Marshall University and had served as an enlisted member of the 973rd Dental Detachment.

"That was my greatest thrill as an officer," he said of the oath ceremony and the pinning of Kimberly's gold bars. "I was proud and humble at the same time."



COL Clyde Burgess swears in his daughter Kimberly Ann, as a second lieutenant in the 475th MASH. (Photo by Don Armstrong, Ky. Dept. of Military Affairs)

He finds the Fort Knox assignment "very challenging" for a 58-year-old man who has had two heart attacks and bypass surgery. With 300 beds, Ireland is among the larger Army hospitals and Dr. Burgess is responsible for the emergency rooms, general and troop medical clinics, central examination and three satellite facilities away from the post. He estimates the job is "90 percent administration" and would like to spend more time with patients.

How does he feel about Army medicine after nearly five years of active duty?

"First, it is abundantly clear that the Guard and Army Reserve medical units will be the backbone of Army medicine in a national emergency and they have gained the respect of active duty personnel," Dr. Burgess stated. "The Army has a good medical program in the active force and the challenging training our Guard and Reserve medical units are getting in Cental and South America will make Army medicine even better."

How does he feel about this active duty tour?

"It is hard work but I am proud to be a physician and proud to be a soldier in the United States Army."

New Commissary Policies Take Effect

Access to the U.S. Armed Forces Commissaries is one benefit that comes with membership in the Kentucky National Guard. By shopping at the commissaries your grocery expenditure can be reduced tremendously.

Effective 1 July 1989, access to the U.S. Armed Forces Commissaries will be controlled by the new Commissary Privilege Card, DD Form 2529. This new card will be issued to each member of the Kentucky Army and Air National Guard. In the interim period, access will be based on the following:

- a. Identification Card, DD 2A Reserve, for the service member.
- b. Copy of an order placing the service member on some type of active duty for 1988 or 1989; i.e. FTTD/ADSW/AT.
- c. Photographic identification of spouse and/or dependents age 10 or older. During this interim period, some commissaries may accept spouse's drivers license as proof of identification. To ensure entrance to the commissaries, dependents are recommended to have Identification CARD, DA 5431 for Army National Guard; AF 449 for Air National Guard.

d. If the use of the commissaries is to be based on attendance of Annual Training 1988, in addition to the above, individuals should have a copy of the Permanent Order showing the unit and one of the following stapled to it:

- (1) Roster of personnel that attended AT-88, or
- (2) A certificate showing attendance at AT-88 signed by the unit commander indicating the service member's name, grade and SSN, or
- (3) A copy of DA Form 1379 (KyARNG) or NGB Form 338 (KyANG) for the AT period, or
- (4) The service member's Leave and Earning Statement for the AT-88 period.

During the period to 30 June 1989, Reserve Component members have unlimited access to the commissaries.

NOTE — All commissaries are closed on holidays. At Fort Knox if the holiday is on Monday the store will be closed Tuesday.

Hours of operation for commissaries within Kentucky are:			
DAY	FORT CAMPBELL	FORT KNOX	LEXINGTON-BLUEGRASS DEPOT
Sunday	1000 - 1600	1100 - 1600	Closed
Monday	1000 - 1700	Closed	Closed
Tuesday	1000 - 1900	1000 - 1800	1100 - 1700
Wednesday	0900 - 1700	1000 - 1800	1000 - 1800
Thursday	1000 - 1900	1000 - 2000	1000 - 2000
Friday	1000 - 1700	1000 - 1800	1000 - 1800
Saturday	0800 - 1700	0900 - 1600	0900 - 1600

Kentucky Guard Responds



FRANKFORT — KyARNG 5-ton trucks proved to be a valuable asset during flood assistance operations throughout the state, as they were one of the very few types of vehicle capable of navigating submerged roadways. (Photo by SGT Rick Baker, 133d PAD)

The Flood of '89

By SGT Rick Baker
133d PAD

When disaster strikes in Kentucky, the National Guard is among the first units called on for help. That was the case during the recent flooding caused when as much as 10 inches of rain was dumped on parts of the state.

As in past disasters, the Guard again came to the rescue on more than one occasion.

On February 15, emergency workers SGT Kenny Moore of Frankfort and SPC Carlene Howell of Shelbyville ventured into the flood waters across Frankfort's Steele Street to see if any residents needed help. As they began to quickly back their 2½-ton truck from the water, Howell heard a cry for help.

"This little boy called out from a car that was just sitting in the water," she recalled. "Apparently, the woman saw some friends on the other side of the flooded street and thought her car could make it across, but it died out about halfway there."

Moore and Howell waded over to the car, but the doors wouldn't open because of pressure from the rising water. The woman and her son crawled out through a window.

"The water was rising fast and you could feel the car move from the force of the current," said Howell. "If the little boy had tried to wade out, it would have carried him off."

The two members of the 475th M.A.S.H. carried mother and son to the truck, then drove them to the emergency operations center at the Frankfort City Hall. A tow truck went back and pulled the woman's car from the water.

The next day, Howell and Moore answered a call in the Holmes Street area of Frankfort when she noticed a nearby house which had smoke billowing from it. The woman standing on said flood waters had shorted out the furnace, setting the house ablaze.

Howell tried to get the woman to leave, but she kept running back in the house. The owner finally explained she had three dogs and three bird cages in the house she wanted to take with her, so Howell searched the house and rescued the woman's pets.

"It was so smoky in the house you could barely see, but she told me where all the animals were so I found them pretty easily," Howell said. "The fire department came and put out the furnace fire before it burnt the house down."

That evening, SGT Jeff Oliver and SGT John Spicer of E Co., 135th Aviation Brigade, were evacuating a family from a mobile home near Elkhorn when a campground owner warned them a 6-foot dam was about to break. A family caught in the campground was trying to cross the creek in a small

pickup, but the waters were already hitting the 6-foot mark on Oliver's five-ton truck.

Oliver talked the people into riding with the Guardsmen and the family that had just been evacuated, so the truck emerged from the creek with a houseful of furniture and 14 people on board.

The National Guard members who worked during the flood dedicated themselves to whatever mission they were assigned, said LTC Elmo C. Head, operations officer and coordinator of Guard efforts during the disaster.

"More than 200 Guard members daily helped evacuate flood victims, move belongings, build flood breaks and provide security for several communities across the state," reported Head. "Even though they were scheduled for 12-hour shifts, many worked 18-20 hours at a time to ensure residents were safely out of the flood waters."

Guard members provided a water trailer for the Anderson County community of Tyrone, pumped water from hundreds of basements, then pitched in with the cleanup once the waters receded.

"When disaster strikes, our mission is to help the people of Kentucky," Head explained, "whenever and wherever we're needed."

201st Engineers Rescue Cynthiana

By SSG Ron Bayes
133d PAD

With flood waters whirling at the front door and water pushing hard at the back of house, SGT Toby Ritchie approached the home cautiously. As he opened the door, a waist-high wall of water rushed to meet him, clobbering him with a refrigerator floating in the debris.

Ritchie was one of 30 members of Company C, 201st Engineer Battalion who volunteered to help Cynthiana residents during the recent flooding of the Licking River, which crested at seven feet above flood stage.

Rising rapidly at more than a foot per hour, the river caught many Harrison County residents by surprise.

"There were a few people that refused to leave for any reason," he said, "even after floodwaters were pouring through the windows and doors."

Ritchie said the first rescue took thirty minutes and two five ton trucks to move all the furniture from the house to a tobacco warehouse where it would be stored and security would be provided. It was pitch dark with pouring rain and the Guard members had to wade waist-high icy waters to get the job done.

With no experience in such disasters, driving through the ever deepening water was new and scary to many of the volunteers.

"With the strong current pushing you sideways, not knowing whether you were on or off the road was frightening," said Ritchie. "You never knew if at any time the truck might get stuck in some hole hidden by the black waters."

There were dangers in addition to the flood waters, however.

"We were told that all utilities to the affected houses had been turned off, but we entered one house where it was still on," said Ritchie. "The water had risen almost to the electrical outlets. It was a very dangerous situation."

As flood waters continued to rise and desperation began gripping the community, homeowners began flagging down guardsmen for additional rescues. Since few people had flood insurance, residents wanted everything they owned removed from their homes.

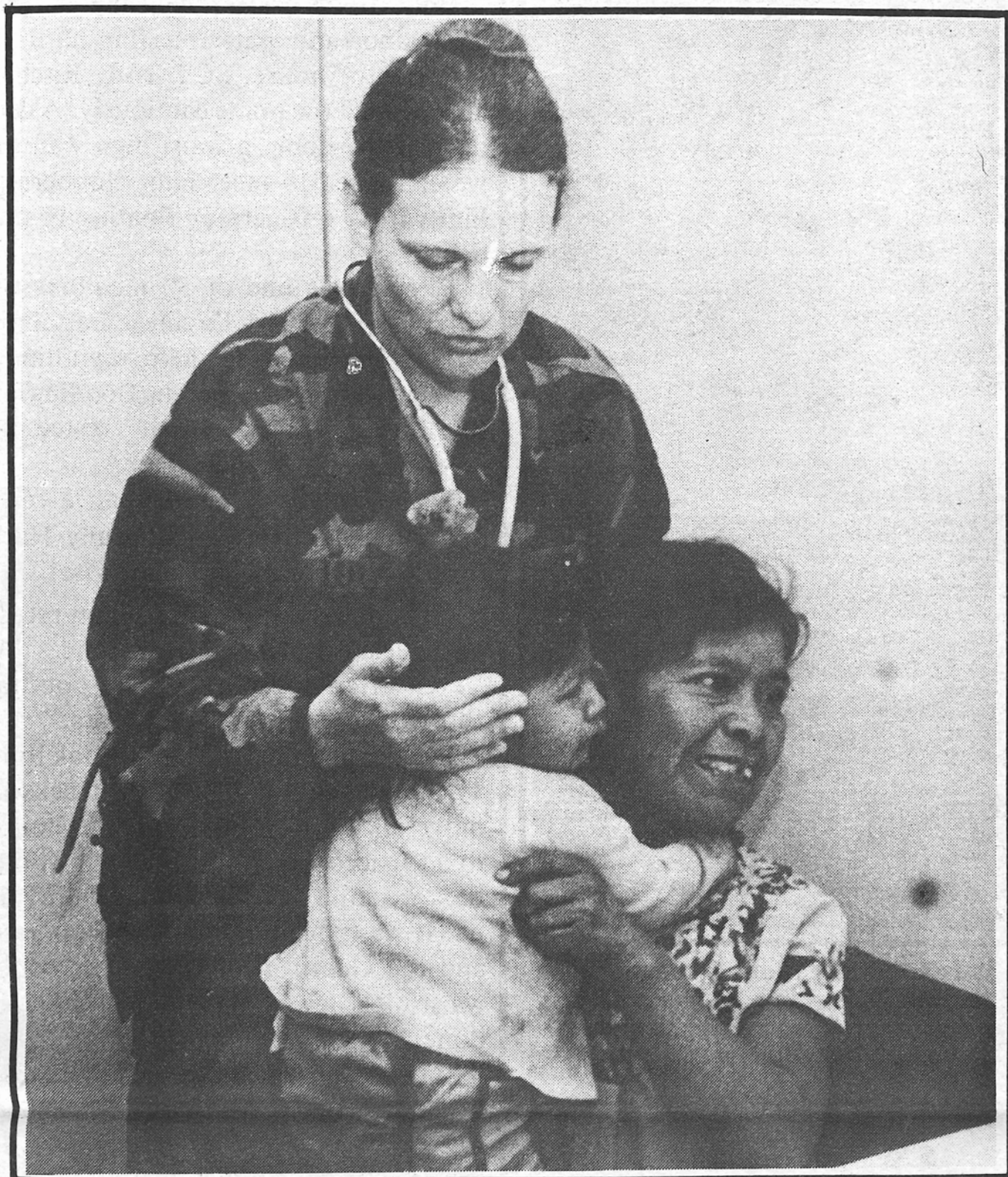
Ritchie said many houses were full of floating, waterlogged furniture. One woman asked them to take her soggy couch up a narrow stairs. "It was like holding a couple of hundred pounds of water," he said, "and it wouldn't have fit through if the couch had been dry."

One elderly lady calling for help was saved as the water crept over the floor of her porch.

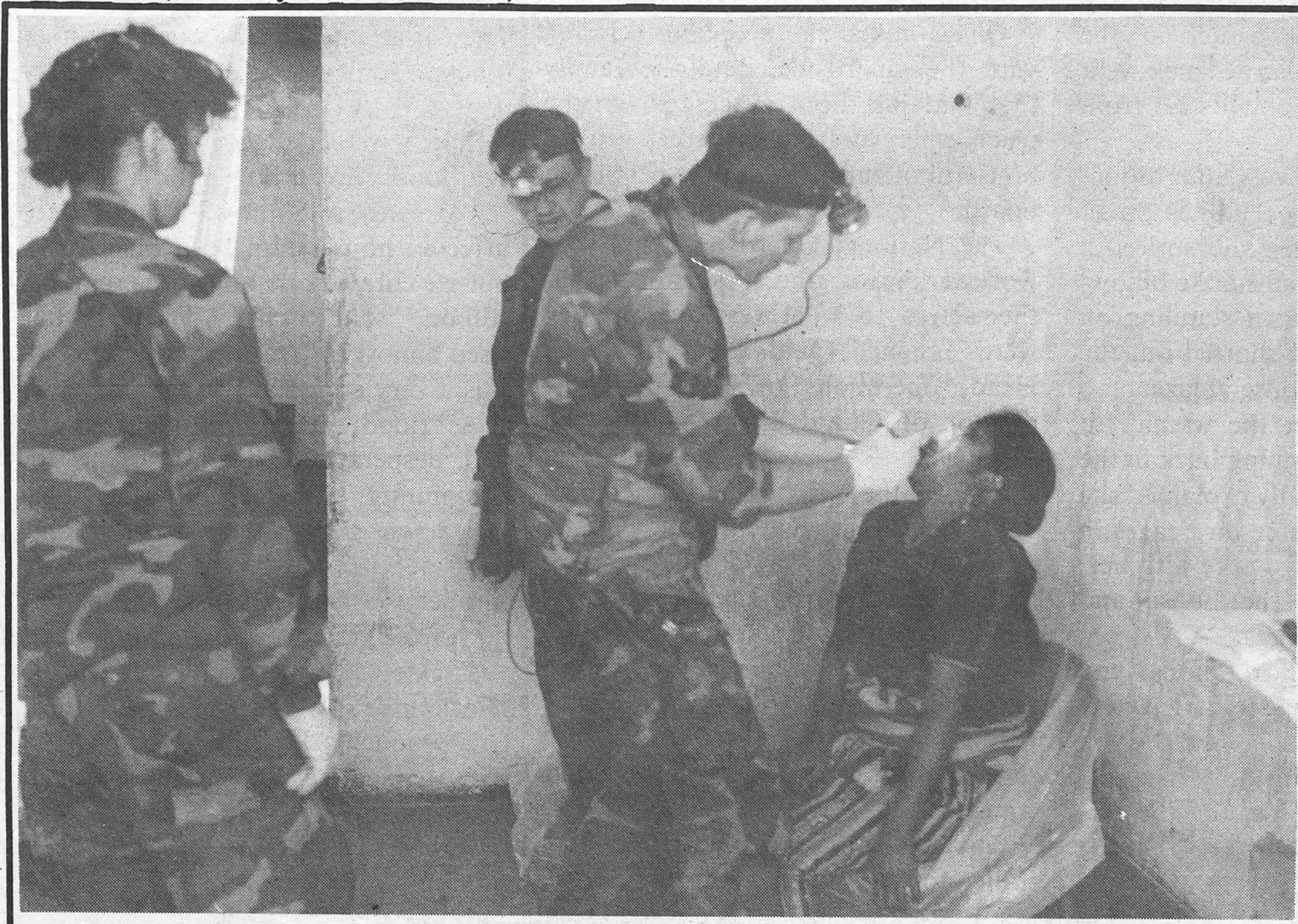
"We drove our truck right up to the porch and she and her dog climbed up over our hood to the cab and into the truck," Ritchie recalled.

Central America —

Guatemala Challenges



GRINGO DOCTORS — 1LT Pam Lear comforts a frightened Mayan Indian child who is about to be examined at the Xepatan clinic. For many of the patients treated by the guardsmen, it was the first time they had ever been seen by a doctor. (Photo by 1LT Phil Miller, 133d PAD)



STANDUP DENTISTRY — Working by the light of a miners headlamp, CPT David O'Banion prepares to pull one of the more than 1500 teeth KyARNG dentists extracted during their mission to Guatemala. Observing, at O'Banion's immediate left, is LTC Charles Bradshaw, commander of the 973d Dental Det., and SGT Charisse Newton. (Photo by MAJ Allen Youngman, KY-STARC)

By 1LT Phil Miller
133d PAD

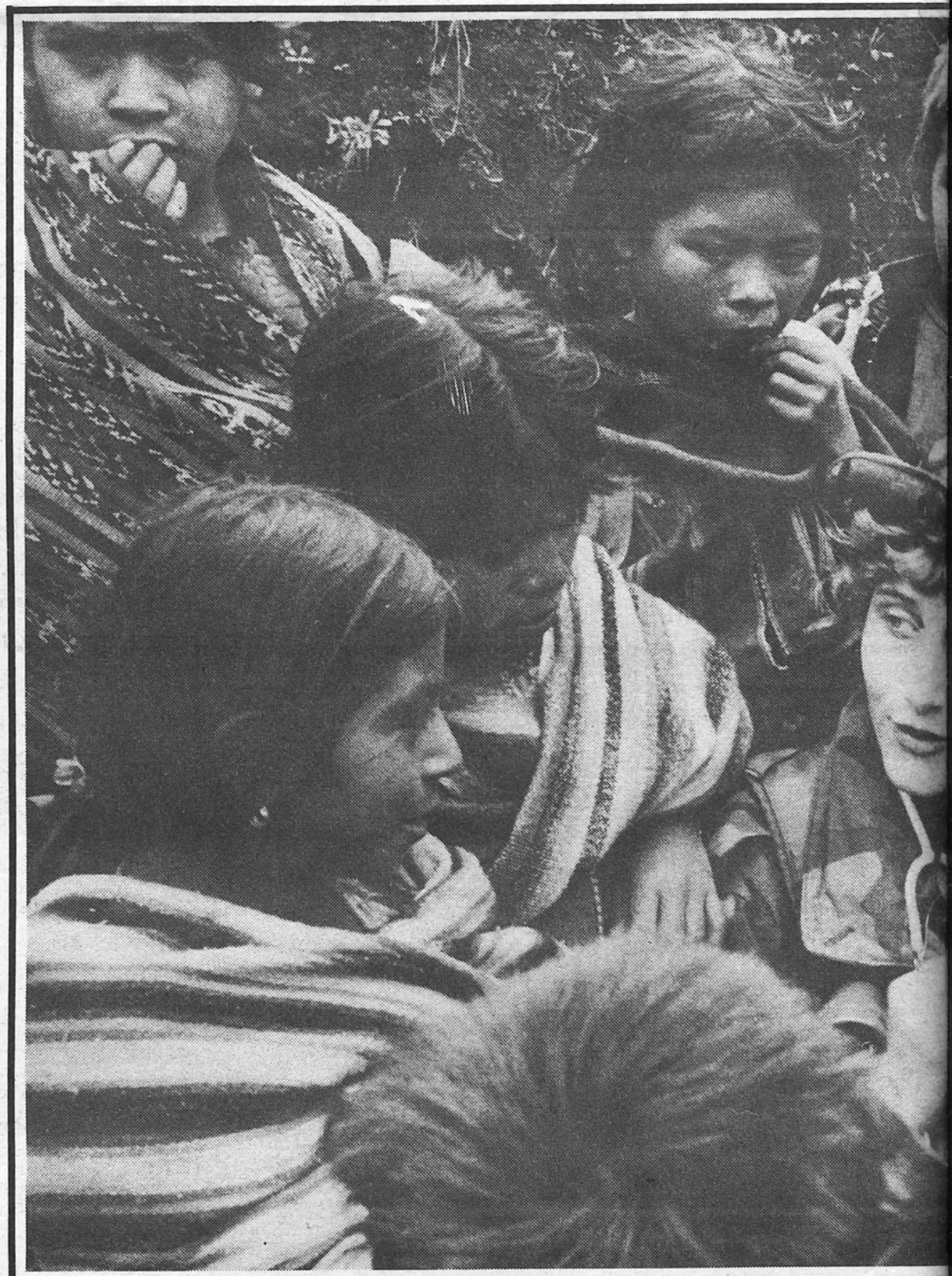
As the sandblast and roar of the departing UH-60 helicopter subsided, camouflaged soldiers of a Guatemalan army infantry platoon rose up from the bush and motioned us to follow them down a trail running between a collection of mud and stick huts. Along the way, small children wearing brightly colored clothing waved from behind wood fences where pigs rooted in makeshift pens and scrawny dogs and chickens poked through piles of corn drying in the sun. Smiling back at the murmured greetings of "Buenas Dias," we neared the small concrete building that served as the village clinic. Already, a crowd was there shuffling about in the Sierra Madre morning chill. It was no secret, the "gringo doctors from Kentucky" were back.

That was the scenery viewed daily by the 45 Kentucky Army Guard doctors, dentists, veterinarians, nurses and medics of the 475th MASH and 973d Medical Detachment during an eight day Medical Readiness Training Exercise or MEDRETE conducted in Guatemala February 2-16.

Each morning they arrived by helicopter or bus at clinics set up in the villages of Xepatan, Choatalum and Chirijuyu situated high up in Guatemala's Sierra Madre mountains.

Humping rucksacks filled with medical gear, food, water and extra clothing (in case the unpredictable mountain weather kept the helicopters from picking them up in the evening and taking them back to base camp in Chimaltenango), the Kentucky medics found the trek to the Puesto de Salud or "Place of Health" in each of the villages breathtaking, partly due to the mountain scenery, but also due to the altitude — 7,300 feet above sea level at Xepatan.

Ailments ranging from worms, bronchitis, head lice and pneumonia to severe malnutrition, parasitic infections, diarrhea and "estomago" — chronic stomach pain — were common among the Indians who came to see the "gringo doctors."



XEPATAN — SSG Nicole Englehardt leads one of her daily singing clinic. She, teaching them the songs of Kentucky schoolchildren. 1LT Phil Miller, 133d PAD)

Kentucky Medics

"When you compare Choatalum to my practice back in Frankfort, I was a high tech doc in a low tech environment," said LTC Joseph Dobner, an orthopedic surgeon who is commander of the 475th. "I found I had to be extremely innovative to see that the mission was accomplished," Dobner continued, "the shortages of supplies were frustrating, it was something we had to constantly deal with...but all in all, I felt like we were really making a positive impact on those people...they just don't have anybody else to take care of them."

For the medical team's dentists, tooth extractions were a common procedure during the mission.

"Altogether we had to pull more than 1500 teeth at our three clinics," said CPT David O'Banion, a Louisville dentist. "It's a combination of too much sugar in the diet and zero dental care, their teeth are in terrible shape. Because of the short amount of time we were there and the lack of equipment and supplies, all we could really do for them was pull the rotten ones and teach them how to save the rest."

"I've never seen anything like it before," commented SSG James Gilreath, 475th MASH. "You just don't realize what you've got back home in the USA until you see how those people live...things like hot water and shoes are a luxury to them."

SSG Gilreath, who helped operate the pharmacy at the clinic in Choatalum added he felt the MEDRETE in Guatemala was a "terrific training opportunity...we worked under adverse conditions and we worked super close as a team, the unit really pulled together to accomplish the mission."

At the end of those eight days in February, more than 5000 Guatemalans had received treatment at the three MEDRETE sites operated by the Kentuckians. And, in return, the 45 men and women who participated in the Kentucky Guard's first OCONUS medical mission had received the experience of a lifetime.



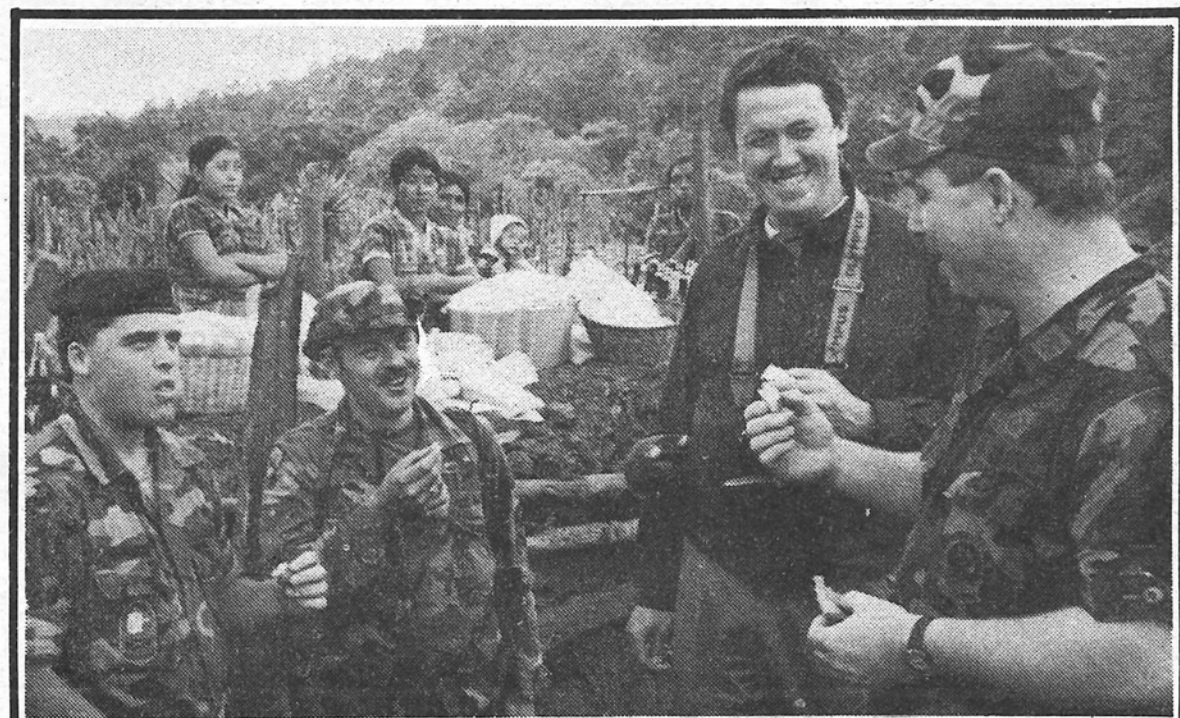
AMIGOS ESPECIALES — SSG James Gilreath and one of the new friends he made during the MEDRETE in Choatalum. Special attention was given to small children by the Kentucky medics due to rural Guatemala's extremely high infant mortality rate. (Photo by MAJ Allen Youngman, KY-STARC)



long sessions with children from a school near the Xepatan They, in return, teaching her Guatemalan songs. (Photo by



CHOATALUM — Veterinary specialists administer worm medicine to one of the many farm animals brought to the Guatemala MEDRETE sites. Besides promoting better animal health, veterinarians were also attempting to reduce the number of diseases that could possibly be passed on to humans. (Photo by 1LT Phil Miller, 133d PAD)



NATIVE FARE — "What is this, really?" KyANG MAJ Howard Hunt (right) asks PVT Mickey Standiford (left) as he and Tom Dorman of Governor Wilkinson's staff prepare to sample a "chuchita", a meat-filled pastry made of corn meal. (Photo by 1LT Phil Miller, 133d PAD)

South America — 973d Dentists in Bolivia

By Rick Baker
133d PAD

A trip to the mountains of Bolivia became an eye-opening experience for some Kentucky National Guard members better known for opening other people's mouths.

The 15 members of the 973d Medical Detachment (Dental Service) recently spent two weeks in the mountains of the South American country providing dental services in two remote villages — Juarina and Copacabana.

"It was a good, educational experience," said MAJ Jerry Brewster of Morehead, the unit's dental officer, "but it was like spending two weeks up in the sky."

Both villages are 12,500 feet up in the Andes Mountains near Lake Titicaca on the Bolivia-Peru border. The altitude left some members of the unit weak and dizzy at first, even after spending a few days in La Paz to become acclimated to the thin mountain air.

Once both locations were set up and operational, business was brisk, according to detachment commander LTC William Blevins of Ft. Thomas, whose section worked in Copacabana.

"There would be as many as 80 people lined up waiting for us when we opened at 8 a.m.," said Blevins. "Some of the patients got there as early as 6 in the morning to get in line for treatment."

The unit would work until 6:30 or 7 in the evening before calling it a day, because the demand was more than they could handle, according to Brewster, one of the Kentuckians stationed at Juarina. Many of the Bolivians came from 30-40 miles away to be treated, he added.

"There was a lot more dental disease there than you would see in private practice in Kentucky," Brewster remarked. "Some of the children had more decay than their parents, mainly

because of the popularity of soft drinks and candy, which the older people didn't have in their younger days."

The absence of good dental hygiene and lack of fluoridized drinking water also contribute to prevalence of tooth decay and gum disease, Blevins added. Many of the people live much the same as their ancestors, tribes once controlled by the Inca Indians.

"Most of our time was spent on extractions — sometimes we had to take 16-18 teeth from one person," Blevins said. "Some of the teeth were decayed down to the gum. We did very little restoration work."

Both dentists say the equipment used in Bolivia was the same as the unit has at home and enabled them to provide the same services there they could in Kentucky.

The equipment in Juarina was set up in the town meeting hall, while the section in Copacabana used the headquarters building of the local Bolivian Navy unit, according to SFC Jim Barber of Frankfort, the detachment's training NCO.

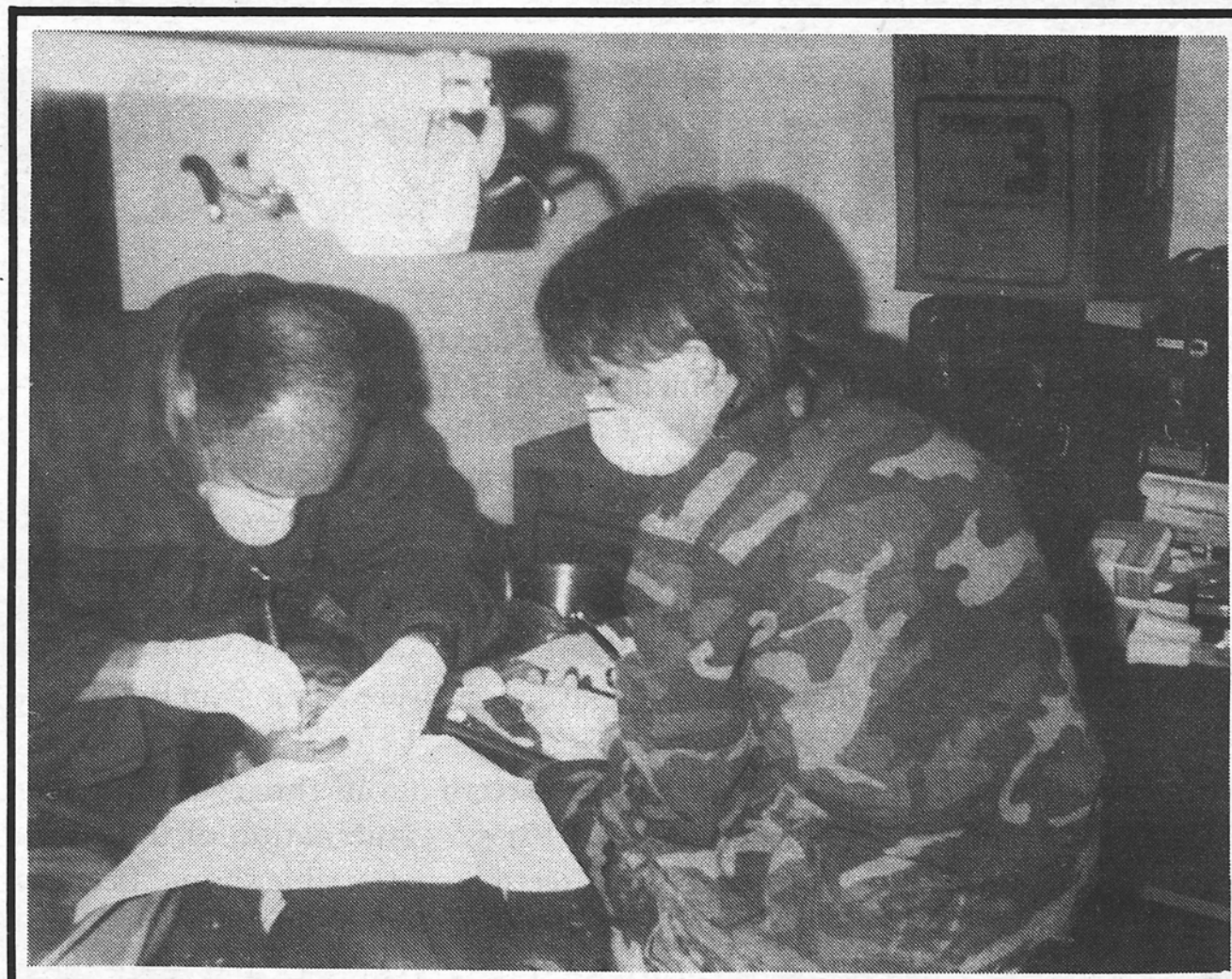
"The Navy and local health officers were in charge of the mission and we got a lot of support from them," said Barber.

The patients were very appreciative of the treatment provided by the Kentucky unit, said Barber.

"We would walk through the town and people would smile and say 'Hi, Doc,' or 'gracias,'" he said. "One Sunday afternoon the Navy took us out to the Island of the Soul, an Inca village in the middle of the lake. There was a lot of history there — it was very interesting."

Helping the Bolivians not only provided valuable experience and training, but helped foster good feelings as well.

"You knew you were making a difference," said Barber. "We just wish we could have done more."



ORAL SURGERY — CPT John Embry and PVT Erin Munn at work in the dental clinic set up by the 973d in a Bolivian Navy Headquarters building in Copacabana. (Photo by SFC James Barber, 973d Med Det)



SENTRY — A Bolivian Marine stands guard near the entrance of the Chua Navy Base. (Photo by 2LT Samuel Haliburton, 475th MASH)



PRESENTATION — The flag of the Commonwealth of Kentucky is presented to LTC Mario Gutierrez Rea, Commando General de la Armada Boliviana (Bolivian Marines), by MAJ Jerry Brewster in ceremonies marking the end of the DENRETE. (Photo by 2LT Samuel Haliburton, 475th MASH)



ON THE ROAD — a combined herd of cattle, pigs, sheep and donkeys being led to grazing lands near the Bolivian Navy base at Chua was a common sight during the Kentucky Guardsmen's two-week stay in Bolivia. (Photo by 2LT Samuel Haliburton, 475th MASH)

Hail and Farewell —



Flanked by his wife, Bunnie, COL Bob Carter receives the Legion of Merit from Second Army Deputy Commander Gerald H. Bethke. The medal was awarded to Carter upon his retirement after 30 years of military service. (Photo by LT Phil Miller, 133d PAD)

Carter Retires as Army Advisor

By Mike Lynch

Ky. Dept. of Military Affairs

COL (Ret.) Bob Carter won't need his parachutist and tank commander qualifications for his new job as facilities director for the Kentucky Military Affairs Department. But he believes other parts of his Army career probably will come in handy.

"In the 30 years that I served in the military, I occupied a lot of leadership and management positions," he says. "I think that experience will serve me well in this capacity."

Carter retired as Senior Army Advisor for Kentucky early this year then took the facilities position on Feb. 6. He quickly got a taste of the dimensions of the new job, as he travelled to Russellville within just a few days. With armories and other facilities statewide, he'll be spending quite a bit of time on the road.

Originally from Texas, Bob and his wife Bunnie have been living in

Shelbyville for the past four years during his service in the SAA position. He has two children: a daughter, Cathy, living in Texas and a son Brian, of Louisville.

His military career included two tours of Vietnam, command of the 4th Battalion, 64th Armor, 3d Infantry Division in Europe and service as Chief of the War Games Division, Combined Arms Center, Ft. Leavenworth.

His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star with oak leaf cluster, Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters and Army Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster.

To Carter, the biggest task now is learning about the Facilities Division and its almost innumerable ongoing projects.

"The way the military does business and the way the state does business and the political changes make it certainly an opportunity that I have not had. I look forward to that challenge."

Former Guardsman Returns as New State Army Advisor

By MAJ Keith Kappes
STARC PAD

When COL John M. (Mike) Weaver reported for duty a few weeks ago as senior Army advisor to Adjutant General Michael W. Davidson, it was a homecoming of sorts for the 50-year-old armor officer.

Weaver, a native of Livia in Daviess County, began his military career 34 years ago in the Owensboro unit of the Kentucky Army National Guard. He served under a platoon leader who later would become better known as governor and now U.S. Sen. Wendell Ford. As a 16-year-old infantry trooper, Weaver vividly remembers his first annual training period at Camp Breckinridge, Ky.

"When camp was over, I knew that I never wanted to see another recoilless rifle for the rest of my life," he recalled. "I helped carry that heavy contraption all over the post."

His Guard career ended the next year when he enlisted in the Navy and spent more than three years as a crewman on a destroyer escort. He returned to the Owensboro area and completed a year at Brescia College before climbing back into uniform, this time in Army green again as he found himself in Korea. He came back to Ft. Riley, Kansas, before going to OCS at Ft. Benning, Ga.

Commissioned as an armor officer in 1965, Weaver served two tours in Vietnam during which a bout with malaria almost claimed his life. After his return from the second tour, his career climb included Command and General Staff College, serving as an ex-



COL John M. Weaver

change instructor for the royal Armor Corps in England and helping test the M-1 tank at Ft. Hood.

In late 1986, he became inspector general at Redstone Arsenal, Ala., the post he left to come to the Kentucky Guard.

He and his wife, the former Lois Morris, also of Daviess County, live in Elizabethtown. They have four daughters and a granddaughter.

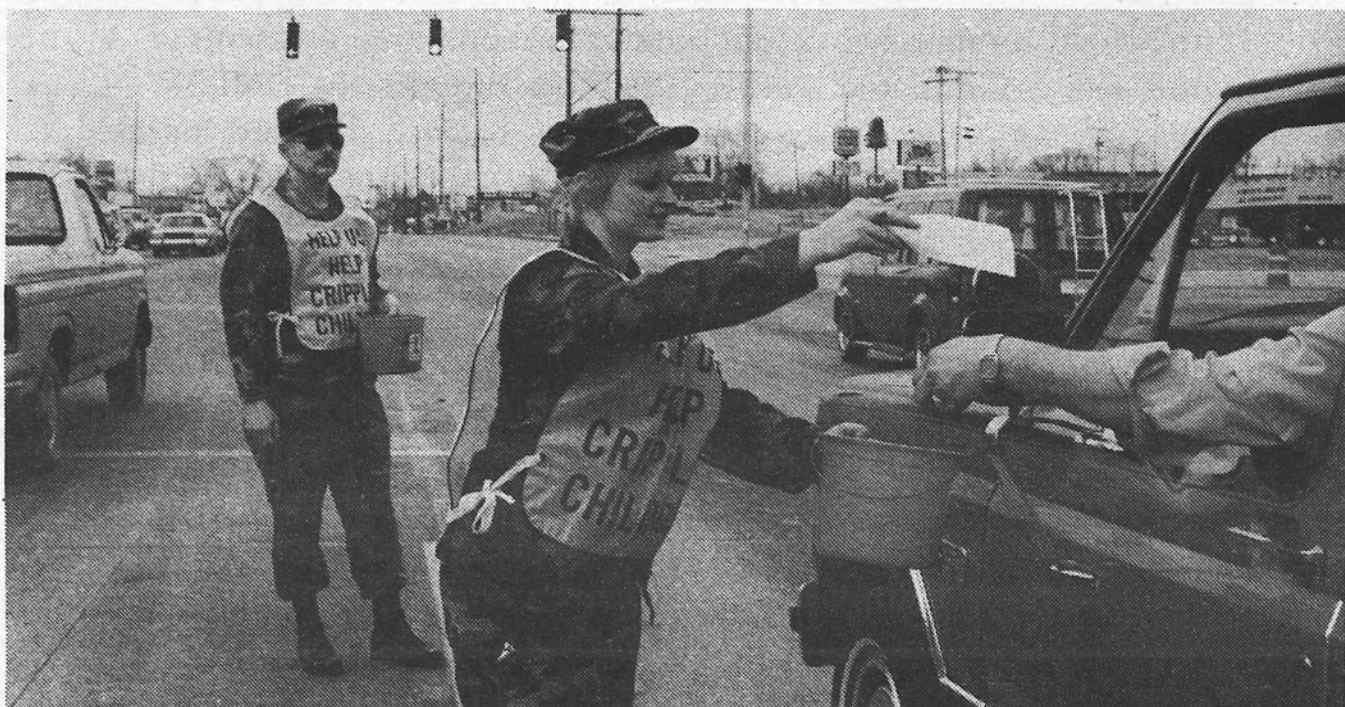
Why did the well-travelled career officer want to return to Kentucky?

"We had decided that there would be no more moves for the Weaver family, and this assignment offered me another opportunity to rub elbows with soldiers," Weaver stated.

Why come back to the National Guard?

"The Kentucky Guard has an excellent reputation, and I hope to lend my experiences to the realistic training program General Davidson has initiated," he added.

Easter Seal Collection Begins



Orange vests became part of the Kentucky Army National Guard uniform the weekend of March 4-5 for volunteers from KyARNG units across the state. The Guard members began collecting for the annual fund-raising drive of the Kentucky Easter Seal Society.

This is the seventeenth year the Kentucky Army National Guard has supported the society's fund raiser.

Above, SP4 Alice Lewis accepts a donation at a busy Frankfort intersection which she and CW3 Ronald Wise worked the morning of March 4. Both are members of Company F, 135th Aviation Brigade.

KPUP Positions Available

Members of the Kentucky Army National Guard who want to participate in the Key Personnel Upgrade Program (KPUP) have the following opportunities in Panama and others available in the near future.

U.S. Southern Command is looking for security officers, intelligence/operations officers and others to work within divisions of the USSOUTHCOM Directorate of Intelligence at Quarry Heights, Panama. Top Secret security clearance is required.

This is a continuous opportunity, but nominations for the positions should be made no less than 21 days prior to start date.

The 536th Engineer Battalion, Ft. Kobbe, Panama, is looking for soldiers to work on a road construction project to connect the Interamerican Highway with the town of Vera Cruz. The 536th has established a 30-day minimum rotation duration for personnel for this opportunity, which lasts until June 1, 1989. Training NCO's will have a list of the various MOS's and duty positions open.

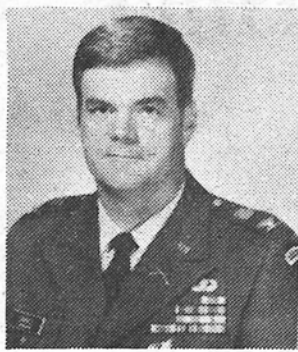
The 536th EN BN is also looking for soldiers, grade E-5 and E-6, with MOS 82B for another road project at Howard Air Force Base in Panama.

U.S. SOUTHCOM, Quarry Heights, Panama, is also looking for E-5 through E-7 clerks with MOS 71/75 to work with the Chief of Staff's office, Protocol Section, Theater Clearance Office. The training will include many tasks relating to theater clearance procedures for visiting military and civilian dignitaries. Applying soldiers need experience in word processing, preferably Multimate, and an ability to deal tactfully with joint staff and component command representatives.

BRIEFLY NOTED

COL Daniel to Attend
Harvard Program

Assistant Division Commander for the 35th Infantry Division (M) COL James R. Daniel will attend Harvard's Program for Senior Officials in National Security.



A combination of classroom study, guest speakers and informal faculty-participant interaction, the program is designed to further develop skills for effective leadership in developing national security policies and programs. It is intended to meet the needs of people advancing into more senior positions with broader responsibilities in their organizations.

COL Daniel was nominated by the National Guard Bureau and selected by the Department of Defense to attend the program from April 2 to May 26.

Four Complete Air Assault School

Four members of the Kentucky Army National Guard completed the grueling Air Assault School at Camp Gruber, Oklahoma, in February. The three-phase school qualifies graduates to plan and conduct air assault missions.

Receiving their Air Assault Wings were: LT Patrick Evans, HHC, 1/149th INF (Mech), SP4 James Howard and PV2 Edward Duffield, both of Co. D, 1/149th INF (Mech), and LT Wes Johnson of Co. E. 135th AVN.

The four members were among 33 who graduated from the school. Sixty-two soldiers had reported on the first day, demonstrating how difficult the course is.

Members of Co. D, 1/149th INF, Train at NTC

Nine member of Middlesboro's Co. D, 1/149th Infantry (Mech) travelled to the National Training Center at Ft. Irwin, California, early this year. Taking part in exercises with the 2/136th Infantry of the Minnesota Army National Guard, they served as part of the Blue Forces at the NTC.

The Blue Forces are challenged at the Mojave Desert training center by an opposing force which dresses in Soviet-style uniforms, uses equipment modified to look like Russian equipment and fights as the Red Army would be expected to fight.

Survivor Benefit Offered to Some Guardsmen

Members of the National Guard and Army Reserve who have 20 years of qualifying service have a limited chance to elect coverage under the Reserve Component Survivor Benefit Plan. But soldiers receiving the benefit package must act promptly to choose one of three options.

The options are: deferring a decision on enrolling until applying for retired pay at age 60, choosing to have survivors receive benefits on what would have been his or her 60th birthday (if the soldier dies before 60) or providing survivors with coverage effective after his or her death.

Guard members should talk to their unit personnel offices for more information or write to Commander, ARPERCEN, ATTN: DARP-PAR-SCB, 9700 Page Blvd., St. Louis MO 63132-5200.

Guard Can Fly Space-A

Every year thousands of U.S. armed forces personnel fly "space available" or Space-A on Military Airlift Command (MAC) aircraft. M-day Guardsmen can use the service, for \$10 per person, to fly inside the continental U.S. and to Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands on MAC flights where Space-A is authorized.

Active Guard/Reserve (AGR) personnel and qualifying retired Guard members may fly worldwide using the service, and in many instances are allowed to take family members with them.

For more information on Space-A MAC flights, you can send a self-addressed stamped envelope to Military World News, Space-A, P.O. Box 10808, Dept. 9SP-902, Arlington, VA 22210-1808.



LOW LEVEL — This composite photo of a KyANG C-130 over a smoke-marked drop zone is typical of the low-level type of approach 123d TAW aircrews must fly when making tactical airdrops of equipment and troops. (Photo by SSGT Charles R. Simpson, 123d TAW)

KyANG Performs First
C-130 Drop and Recovery

By MAJ Toby Harrell
123d TRW Public Affairs Office

The 123d Tactical Airlift Wing celebrated a milestone Sunday, Feb. 5 when one of the unit's C-130's dropped a parachute training bundle into the waiting arms of personnel from the 123d Mobile Aerial Ports Squadron. This was the first "in house" drop and recovery for the Wing since the C-130 conversion.

Sunday's mission provided initial training to aircrew members from the 165th Tactical Airlift Squadron as Drop Control Zone Officers and to troops of the 123d MAPS as drop zone recovery personnel.

At first glance, air drops look simple — just fly over the drop zone and push the parachute-rigged bag out the door. However, without proper inputs from the ground, and proper operation of the parachute, even the most experienced aircrew would be lucky to come anywhere close to putting the bundle where it is needed. The aircrew needs to know the velocity and direction of the wind between the drop altitude and the surface so corrections to the aircraft's course can be made.

On training missions, the DZCO is one of the first people on the scene. It is his initial duty to check on the DZ and make sure the conditions there (weather, surface and ground equipment) are sufficient for a safe drop to be made. On training missions, the DZCO will set up points of impact markers, which are brightly colored panels, in the form of 35 foot square letters of the alphabet. The DZCO will also set up smoke markers adjacent to and downwind from the target letter. The DZCO will then determine the wind direction and velocity between the ground and the drop altitude — the Mean Effective Wind. He does this by launching a 57-inch diameter helium balloon. By using a compass/transit-like device, he can track the balloon for a specific amount of time. Using the measurements he obtains by tracking the balloon, the DZCO is able to determine the Mean Effective Wind and pass this information to the aircrew.

Prior to the flight though, the actual bundles are prepared by members of the 123d MAPS. These Simulated Airlift Training Bundles — SATB's — are 15-pound bags of sand that are let down under a 68-inch diameter parachute. The drop ballistics of the SATB's are similar to actual heavy loads and provide safe, realistic air drop training. Besides preparing the bundles, the 123d MAPS personnel recover the bundles and measure the distance from the point-of-impact to the actual target. This information is passed to the aircrew so appropriate corrections can be made on the next pass.

Having completed their briefings and testing, 50 members of the 165th TAS and 123d MAPS went to Fort Knox to check their effectiveness. The drop zone was marked, the smoke grenades were set, and after some discussion, a committee of pilots and navigators determined the Mean Effective Wind. All the information was passed to Lt. Col. Michael Harden, 165th TAS commander, who was navigator on board the aircraft and the man who would decide when to actually drop the bundle. Based on the results of the drops, the training had worked well. All of the parachutes opened properly and the bundles dropped safely and softly, right on target. One drop was so accurate, the troops huddled on the "bulls-eye" letter had to scatter to avoid getting hit.

The mission went well. Not only was it successful in that accurate drops were made, but successful in that personnel in the 123d TAW have learned new and different jobs and are doing these jobs every bit as professionally as they did in the past. The Tactical Air Command's loss is indeed the Military Airlift Command's gain.