

AG reviews highlights of past year

"Can I take this unit into the battlefield and survive?"

That's the question posed by Maj. Gen. Richard L. Frymire, the Adjutant General, to the nearly 400 officers assembled at the 46th annual general conference of the National Guard Association recently.

The general emphasized improved readiness and meaningful training as the most important needs of the Kentucky Guard.

Noting that commanders need to get full utilization of weekend and annual training time, General Frymire said, "One of the greatest problems we have is whether we are appropriately and efficiently

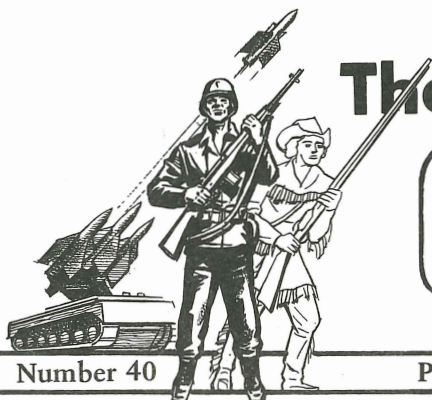
managing our training program."

He said that commanders must come to drill with full plans for training. "You cannot be content with last year's plan!" he emphasized.

The general also commended several units and individuals for their contributions during the past year.

He praised the Army aviators for another accident-free year, stating that they have logged 22,500 safe hours since 1971.

The 201st Engineer Battalion was honored for winning the Reckord Trophy (see "AG reviews" on page 3)



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Association conferees hear Guard leaders

By SP5 Maurice Denton

Retention, combat readiness and recruiting were three areas of major concern at the recent 46th Annual General Conference of the National Guard Association of Kentucky. The meeting, held Feb 25-27 at Executive West in Louisville, was attended by nearly 400 officers.

The 1976-77 President of the Association, Lt. Col. Armando J. Alfaro, gave the

opening address at the business session on Saturday morning.

He outlined the progress of the Association during his tenure and challenged the members to continue their leadership role.

Officers of the Association were elected and later installed during an evening banquet and military ball. Lt. Col. Jack Crouner, of the Air National Guard, will serve the organization as President. Assist-

ing him will be Vice President for Army, Capt. Charles Clark and Vice President for Air, Maj. Bill Hayes.

In one of the major speeches of the conference, Maj. Gen. William B. Caldwell, III, head of Army Readiness Region VI, pointed out the next war will probably be one where "you come as you are" and stressed the need for a high level of combat readiness. To alleviate nation-wide Guard retention problems, he urged the officers to make their drills interesting and challenging and to use every opportunity to discuss with each individual his future with the Guard. General Caldwell said legislative packages to boost recruiting provide academic assistance and provide more liberal benefits for spouses from the Reserves retirement program which are currently being developed in Washington should also assist.

Maj. Gen. LaVern E. Weber, Chief of the National Guard Bureau, praised the group for the support they have given Maj. Gen. Richard L. Frymire in his work to improve the Kentucky Guard fringe benefits package, which he said "ranks among the top anywhere in the United States."

General Weber reported last year was the second best recruiting year for the Guard with 108,000 new additions. In order for commanders to spend more time on training and less on recruiting, plans are now underway for more full-time recruiters.

Urging the group to stay abreast of the development concerning the current Reserve Compensation System Study, General Weber also pointed out that the Carter (see "Conference" on page 3)



DEMONSTRATION -- A member of the Kentucky National Guard parachute team descends from the clouds during a recent demonstration at the Lexington Armory open house. Several hundred people turned out for the event. (Photo by 1st Lt. Tom Little)

Guard... at a glance

Easter Seals

The Army Guard's annual Easter Seal fund campaign is set for March 26-27 throughout the state, in conjunction with the national telethon. More than \$111,000 was collected last year to assist crippled children and adults in Kentucky. Col. Harold Milburn, project officer for the drive, said that, as always, money collected will be used to help people in the collection areas. Each unit will cover the same area it covered last year.

Track Star

Jeff Hickman, a recent recruit into the Bardstown unit, won the triple jump at the Mason-Dixon Track and Field Games in Louisville recently as a member of the Bardstown High squad. He defeated 36 other high school athletes with a jump of 44 feet, three inches.

Guard Association

Many communities received volunteer help from Guard members during the cold weather of January and February. Harrison County was one such area and County Judge Russell Stephens recently wrote to express his thanks. He noted that "it is nice to know that our county has such an organization on which we may depend."

New Publication

The Enlisted Association, National Guard of Kentucky has a new publication, the "Citizen Soldier." The first issue of the newsletter, edited by SP5 Etta Withrow, was published this month and has been distributed to each unit. Anyone with items for consideration should send them to Specialist Withrow, Boone Center, Frankfort, KY 40601.

NCO Academy

Applications for the third class of the NCO Academy must be submitted by May 1. Kentucky NGR 350-4 explains the procedures. The class will begin with annual training June 18.

Air Guard Photos

The Kentucky Air Guard is still looking for old photos to be used in a book now being prepared for the unit's 30th anniversary.



TEST GROUP—Members of the 1st Bn. 149th Inf. (Mech) head out with gas masks as part of their Skill Qualification Test (SQT) evaluation. The unit was recently one of two Guard units in the country to take part in the pilot program. (Photo by 2nd Lt. Scotty McFadden)

Proposals aim for plate, tuition changes

Legislative proposals that would affect the National Guard license plate law, the tuition assistance program, and credit for high school students were among those presented by Col. Joseph R. Craft, chairman of the Legislation Committee, to the annual conference of the National Guard Association of Kentucky.

Colonel Craft discussed several proposals that had been made that were deemed impractical at present, and he presented one item that did not gain the support of the membership. That proposal would have sought free hunting and fishing licenses for Guard members.

A recommendation that the Guard seek expansion of the tuition assistance program to help Guard members attending privately-financed schools was part of the report gaining approval, as was a proposal to develop a program giving male high school seniors credit toward graduation for completing basic and advanced individual

training. Federal law currently restricts participation by females.

The committee also proposed to ask that the license plate law be amended to permit Guardsmen to put the Guard plate on pick-up trucks and other passenger vehicles.

A final proposal would guarantee teachers and other employees of political subdivisions paid military leave to attend annual training.

Colonel Craft emphasized that the legislative program is not complete and that the committee will continue to work to develop a comprehensive package for consideration by the 1978 Kentucky General Assembly. He also noted that even though a proposal is made, Guard members should not assume that it will become law.

He said that, as proposals are made to the legislators, support from each unit will be essential.

Marion firms offer benefit package

Seventeen businesses in Marion have proven that they strongly support the Guard by offering Guard members a comprehensive package of benefits within the community.

Benefits granted in Paducah and Frankfort were noted in the last edition of the GUARDSMAN.

According to Capt. Barry Gilbert, commander of Company A, 1st Battalion, 123d Armor, a discount program was established in December and he hopes that it will eventually expand to 25-30 firms.

SP5 Gareth Hardin is given credit for convincing the Crittenden County Cham-

ber of Commerce to endorse the program, which the commander feels will be a significant recruiting incentive. Captain Gilbert particularly noted that the wives of Guardsmen readily recognize these benefits and will, hopefully, support retention.

A review of the specific benefits reveals discounts of as much as 45 per cent below retail price at an auto parts store, and average discounts of 10 per cent on any item in groceries, department stores, jewelry stores, barber shops, and restaurants.

The GUARDSMAN would welcome information about similar benefits from any unit.

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School aid earns support

Expansion of the newly-created tuition assistance program for the Kentucky National Guard was the subject of two resolutions passed by the National Guard Association of Kentucky at its annual General Conference held Feb. 25-27 in Louisville.

Citing the tremendous success of the tuition plan since its implementation last year, the conferees voted to ask their group's Legislative Committee to request legislation to the Commonwealth's General Assembly to amend the existing law and provide 100 per cent reimbursement of tuition for Guard members in good standing at qualifying institutions of learning. The group also passed a resolution asking to amend the law to extend tuition benefits to those Guardsmen who attend

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and the winners of the Eisenhower and Armor awards were also congratulated.

Brig. Gen. Fred Bradley was commended for becoming the first Air Guard wing commander in Kentucky to reach general officer status since the early 1960's.

Also on the Air Guard side, Col. John B. Conaway, deputy wing commander, was recognized for becoming one of the finalists being considered for the post of Deputy Director of the Air National Guard.

"Roundout" was the topic as General Frymire congratulated the 1st Battalion, 149th Infantry (Mech), and the 441st Medical Detachment was commended for participating in the "Gallant Crew" exercise.

The Air Guard earned praise for the rapid and successful conversion to the sophisticated RF-4C.

Col. Eugene Kinnaird and his Technician Personnel Office staff earned high marks for upgrading the technician program and eliminating many of the problems faced in the other states.

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Jim Daniel received plaudits for revitalizing the chaplaincy program in the state.

General Frymire also praised the GUARDSMAN, noting that the content has made it an important information tool that each person should read.

The general also discussed the construction program, noting that a new property management building in Frankfort will go under construction soon. He also told of progress with armory planning in Walton, Harlan, Williamsburg, and Springfield.

He also reported that each Army Guard commander has projected a time-table for reaching 100 per cent strength and that the Air Guard has committed itself to full strength by annual training time this year.

"We've had many challenges and demands in the past," General Frymire concluded, "and 1977 probably won't be any easier."

privately financed colleges, universities and vocational schools.

Other resolutions passed dealt with providing point preference to members of the Guard on state personnel examinations, requesting state funds to hire administrative personnel for company and battery-size units, and expansion of the recently enacted special license plate program to include Guard members who utilize privately-owned pick-up trucks and vans as their primary mode of transportation. The Association also voted to request the General Assembly to change the current law concerning military leave for employees of political subdivisions to read that such leave "will be" granted rather than the current wording of "may be." This proposal is designed to alleviate alleged discrimination for Guard members employed by city or county government, schools and other government bodies.

One proposed resolution, asking for free hunting and fishing licenses, was defeated.

The group also agreed to vote affirmatively on 14 resolutions which the state group will co-sponsor at the national level with National Guard Association of Alabama.

Conference

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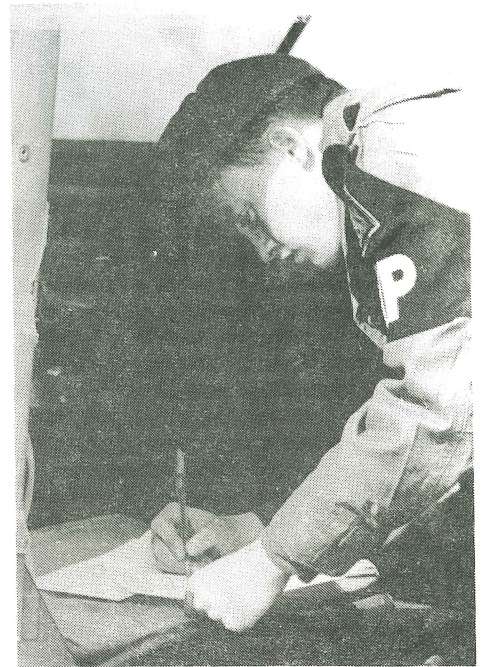
administration is now involved in a study of the role and mission of the Reserves. He connected both of these developments to the fact that the Reserves have never been more visible and responsible to the citizenry. He concluded his comments by urging the officers to accept this responsibility by performance at maximum levels with an eye for economic prudence.

Two major unit awards were made during the conference.

The Eisenhower Trophy, awarded to the most outstanding federally-recognized company/battery size unit in the Kentucky Army Guard, went to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 103d Supply and Service Battalion in Richmond. Capt. Kenneth R. Nelson commands the unit.

Company A, 2nd Battalion, 123d Armor in Livermore earned the Armor Leadership Award. That honor goes annually to the most outstanding tank company in the Kentucky Army Guard. The unit is commanded by Capt. George H. Welch.

Other highlights of the three-day conference were speeches by General Frymire, reports on insurance and legislation programs, individual and unit awards presentations and a memorial service to honor those who have died while serving as members of the Kentucky National Guard.



LOGGING--Pvt. Sylvan Middleton records the action of the 198th MP Bn. "Courtesy Patrol" after changing a tire for a motorist. The patrol lends a "helping hand" in Jefferson County three weekends each month. (Photo by SP5 Don Wainscott)

Courtesy Patrol aids motorists

By PFC Doris Harrigan

The Military Police "courtesy patrol" is still on Jefferson County interstate highways three weekends each month and, according to SFC James A. Kersey, the founder of the project, it's still rendering service and creating good will.

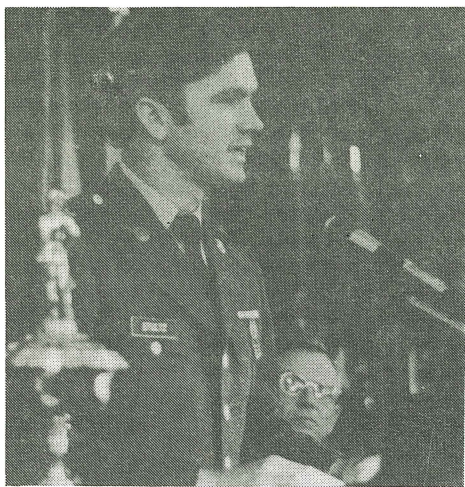
The patrol consists of a jeep, manned by a military policeman and a mechanic, and equipped with fuel, water, jumper cables, a reflector kit, portable air tanks, brooms, a mechanic's tool kit, safety equipment, first aid materials and flares. The team patrols the roads, with the permission of city and county police, to assist stranded motorists, identify abandoned vehicles to the police, and, if necessary, clear up traffic jams.

The project began in January of 1976 and 440 travelers were assisted in the first five months.

"We've done everything from putting on a fuel pump to . . . well, you name it, and we've done it," Sergeant Kersey said.

The patrol also remains in radio contact with the armory and relays requests for assistance as the motorists request. A citizens band radio group also works with the patrol, advising them of motorists who call for help over channel 9.

Military police officials see the project as an excellent way to serve the community while providing practical training for members of the patrol.



SP5 David R. Stulz

Stultz earns EM award

By SP5 Maurice Denton

Specialist 5 David R. Stulz, of Worthington, was honored as the Outstanding Enlisted Guardsman of the Year Feb. 26 at the annual general conference of the National Guard Association of Kentucky in Louisville. He is a member of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 201st Engineer Battalion, Ashland.

He received a large trophy, the Kentucky Commendation Ribbon, and the Kentucky Merit Ribbon for his efforts.

Other finalists were Sgt. Joseph M. Fowler of the 614th Infantry in Barbourville; and TSgt. J. P. Lowe of the Air Guard's 123d Combat Support Group.

Stultz received the award for outstanding work in the 201st Engineer Battalion in Ashland and for his activity in community affairs. He enlisted in the Kentucky National Guard in 1972 and is an honor graduate of the U. S. Army Administration School.

He is currently superintendent of Sunday School and a deacon with the Greenup Christian Church and serves as scoutmaster of Troop 96. He also coaches Little League baseball and basketball teams.

A graduate of Morehead State University with a bachelor's degree in chemistry,

Foundation tells contest theme

The 1977 Freedoms Foundation letter-writing contest for Armed Forces members is now open and Guardsmen are invited to address the theme "My Responsibilities in Keeping My Country Free."

Individuals have until Nov. 1, 1977 to submit 100 to 500-word essays, poems or articles on the 1977 theme to the Awards Administration, Freedoms Foundation, Valley Forge, PA 19481.

Entries must be accompanied by the entrant's name, rank, social security number, service designation, military address and permanent address.

Principal winners will receive the Honor Medal and a \$100 U.S. Savings Bond, with other winners earning Savings Bonds.

Stultz is also a graduate of the University of Kentucky School of Pharmacy. He is a registered pharmacist and manages the South Point Pharmacy in South Point, Ohio.

In his acceptance speech before the nearly 400 officers attending the conference, Stultz said that "you cannot substitute quantity for quality in recruiting members for the Guard." He further said, "Belonging to the Guard carries with it a certain amount of responsibility. . . because the 'Guard belongs.' "

Youth Council appoints officers

The Kentucky National Guard Youth Council appointed a new slate of officers at a recent meeting and reemphasized the need for unit support if the organization's projects are to continue to progress.

Capt. Larry Arnett was selected to serve as President, with Sgt. Georgia Andrews named as Secretary. SSgt. Carole Crawley was picked to serve as chairman of the Board of Directors. Other members of that Board are MSgt. V. S. VanArsdale, 2nd Lt. Dave Robertson, and 2nd Lt. James I. Terry.

The annual youth camp was a major topic at the membership meeting and Capt. Willoughby Goin was reappointed as camp project officer. He announced that tentative camp dates are July 17-23 and 24-30.

Captain Arnett said that he hopes units will undertake many projects in the coming months to support the council's activities. He noted that there are many ways to raise money while serving the needs of the community and he urged every Guardsman to take an active role.

He said, "I encourage every member of the Kentucky National Guard to become interested in this vitally important project. We want every unit to participate in funding projects and we want every available space at our youth camps to be filled."

In a related matter, the Air Guard presented the council with a check for \$2,000.

Good ole days?

How good were the "good ole days?"

Recently, the Army Times published a monthly pay chart for military personnel dating back to 1908.

At least for the privates, the "good ole days" weren't very good. What the buck private made in an entire month in 1908 wouldn't buy a good Sunday shirt today. His starting pay then was \$15 per month as compared with more than \$361 today.

Admittedly, you could buy a cup of coffee for a nickel in those days and a loaf of bread was only a dime. Coffee has gone up 500 per cent and bread 600 per cent. But the private's pay has increased 2,400 per cent.

Most of the substantial military pay increases have come during the past five years, paralleling the advent of the all volunteer Army.

For example, today's private earns more than did the second lieutenant eight years ago.

In January of 1971 the private still earned only \$134 per month but in November of 1971 that was almost doubled to \$269.

Although the recent military pay raises appear generous, the average soldier fared better at the turn of the century when you consider what inflation has done to the purchasing power of the dollar.

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