



The BLUEGRASS GUARD

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NGAKy holds 50th conference

By Capt. Thomas E. Little

The announcement of major staff assignments in the Kentucky Air National Guard highlighted Adjutant General Billy G. Wellman's annual "State of the Guard" address during the 50th conference of the National Guard Association of Kentucky recently in Louisville. Lt. Col. Don Waldner was also selected as President-elect of the group during the business session.

Wellman announced the appointment of Col. (Dr.) John Karibo as Assistant Adjutant General, Air. The appointment carries with it the rank of brigadier general.

Col. Carl Black was picked as the new commander of the 123rd Tactical Reconnaissance Wing. Black is also the senior Air Guard technician at the Standiford Field base.

During his remarks, Wellman praised the

Air Guard for its performance in 1980. He cited compliments from U.S. Air Force General Lew Allen and noted outstanding ratings from inspections and 14 exercises with active-duty forces.

As goals for the Air Guard, Wellman identified a need to reach 100 percent of authorized strength by June 30. He also urged retention of the C-1 readiness rating and he encouraged commanders to better utilize the talents of NCO's by exercising the chain of command.

Wellman also suggested increased attention to the awards and recognition program and told the Air Guard to set its sights on the Spaatz Trophy.

The general noted that the Army Guard had reached eighth place nationally in the composite performance rating and set first place as a 1981 goal.

He enumerated many 1980 achieve-

ments, including formation of the separate brigade and the continuation of the accident-free flying record past 38,000 hours. In April, the Army Guard will complete 10 years without an accident.

Wellman also praised the aviators for helping to save lives on more than 100 neonatal missions in Eastern Kentucky.

Progress in construction was cited, with work under contract for armories in Springfield and Williamsburg. A new London armory has been approved and land has been acquired for a maintenance shop in Ashland.

Recruiting and retention were singled out for emphasis in the coming year. The addition of the brigade reduced strength below 100 percent and Wellman set return to full strength as a 1981 goal. He also

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Springfield Armory dedicated March 21

By Pfc. Ed Armstrong

The new Springfield National Guard Armory was dedicated March 21 by Maj. Gen. Billy G. Wellman, the Adjutant General. The new facility replaces an armory built 39 years ago.

Present at the ceremonies were Springfield Mayor Glenn Salmon, Washington County Judge Executive Bourbon Elliott and State Senator Edward O'Daniel.

A crowd of approximately 300 people attended the dedication which included the 202nd Army National Guard Band playing the National Anthem and My Old Kentucky Home. Several of the guests then presented brief comments on the dedication and the National Guard. After the formal ceremony, refreshments were served and various weapons and equipment used by the unit were displayed.

The men of the Service Battery, 1st

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PFC TOMMY JOHNSON (left) and Spec. 5 Joe Hardy, of the Service Battery, 1st Battalion, 623rd Field Artillery, Springfield, demonstrate the self-propelled howitzer during dedication ceremonies at the new Springfield Armory.

NGAKy conference

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stated the need for improved retention.

During another portion of the business session, the membership elected CW4 Edwin Birdwhistell to serve as Vice-President, Army, while Maj. Jacquelyn Reid was picked for the same post on the Air side.

Announcements continued as Maj. Gen. Francis Greenlief (ret.), executive vice-president of the National Guard Association of the U.S. told the group that Wellman had been appointed to the Executive Council of that association. He also noted the appointment of Command Sgt. Maj. James Garritson to serve on the Board of the National Society of the Militia and National Guard.

Team marksmanship awards were presented to the 198th Military Police Battalion, Louisville; the 1155th Transportation Company, Frankfort; and the 1st Battalion, 149th Infantry (Mechanized).

The prestigious Eisenhower Trophy went to Headquarters and Headquarters Co., 103rd Supply and Service Battalion, Richmond. Company C, 2nd Battalion, 123rd Armor in Russellville earned the Armor Leadership Award.

Sgt. Matt L. Vaughn, of the 438th Military Police Company, was honored as the "Outstanding Guardsman" of 1980. In his acceptance remarks, he urged commanders and recruiters to seek quality members rather than quantity.

After those attending the conference

had an opportunity to hear Greenlief; Lt. Gen. William R. Nelson, commander of 12th Air Force; and Lt. Gen. John McGiffert, commander of 5th Army, they adopted 14 of 15 proposed resolutions.

Among the most broad-based were resolutions relating to the lifting of the annual 60-point ceiling for retirement points; a recommendation to increase Servicemen's Group Life Insurance coverage to \$40,000; extending commissary privileges to the Guard, and legislation to provide federal financial support to state military academies.

The members also resolved to support registration, classification and examination of draft-age males.

AT will be tougher, thanks to new Army guidelines

Get ready for a gruelling summer. If Annual Training's been a shock to a usually sedentary schedule, new Army guidelines that the Kentucky National Guard will be implementing this summer will prove even more trying and/or tiring.

The purpose of the Army's new Physical Readiness Test (APRT) is to insure that soldiers are truly "Fit to Fight," with new-style push-ups, tougher sit-ups and faster two-mile runs.

Push-ups will still start from the "front leaning rest" position, but it is no longer mandatory for the chest to touch the ground.

The body will be lowered, bending the elbows until the top of the upper arms, shoulders and lower back are straight and parallel to the ground.

A full push-up is counted when the individual returns to the front leaning rest position with elbows locked.

Sit-ups will be performed with knees bent at 90-degree angles, fingers clasped behind the head and feet held to the ground by another person.

The sit-up standards require that only the hands and back must touch the ground.

For persons under 40, the two-mile run must be accomplished in a minimum of 25:34 to 17:55 minutes, depending on age and sex. Top scorers must make the two-mile distance in 20:30 to 13:05 minutes.

Individuals over 40 participate only in the two-mile run. Minimum time for

accomplishing this test is from 29 to 26 minutes, depending on age category over 40. For a maximum score, the time is reduced to 23 to 20 minutes.

People over 40 participating in the APRT must have a medical clearance before taking part in the program. In addition, a six-month conditioning program must be completed before the two-mile run test will be scored.

New PT Standards

The first figure shown in each column is the minimum number needed to pass the test. The second figure is the number needed to score the maximum 100 points in each event.

MEN UNDER 40

Age	Push-ups	Sit-ups	Two-mile run
17-25	40/68	40/69	17:55/13:05
26-30	38/66	38/67	18:30/13:40
31-35	33/61	36/65	19:10/14:20
36-39	32/60	34/63	19:35/15:05

WOMEN UNDER 40

Age	Push-ups	Sit-ups	Two-mile run
17-25	16/40	27/61	22:14/17:10
26-30	15/38	25/51	22:29/17:25
31-35	14/34	23/41	24:04/19:00
36-39	13/30	21/31	25:34/20:30

PERSONS OVER 40

Individuals over 40 will only be tested in the two-mile run. They will be graded on a go/no-go basis. The standards are as follows:

40-45	20 minutes	26 minutes
46-50	21 minutes	27 minutes
51-55	22 minutes	28 minutes
56-60	23 minutes	29 minutes

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'DEERS' not always animals

"DEERS" is not just the occasional plural form of "deer." It is also an acronym for the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System, already underway in parts of the country.

DEERS calls for the sign-up of all active duty and retired service members and dependents for medical benefits.

The program began in the Norfolk, Va. area in Nov. 1979. From there, it has expanded and, by 1982, officials expect to have all service members and their nine million dependents enrolled in the new system.

Under DEERS, when an active duty or retired service member or dependent goes to a military hospital or clinic for treatment, the clerk will check for eligibility through a direct hook-up with a DEERS computer.

Although active duty and retired members will be enrolled automatically, their dependents need to be enrolled for such benefits as medical, exchange, commissary or theater privileges. This includes all age groups, even those who aren't old enough for an ID card.

Applications and information on enrolling dependents will be available at personnel offices in Feb. 1982, when the DEERS program begins in the Kentucky area.

Ready-to-eat rations will mean the end of P-38 can opener

New lightweight combat rations that eventually will replace C-ration meals should make their first appearance in about a year, according to supply officials at the Defense Personnel Support Center, Philadelphia.

The new rations, called "meal ready-to-eat," come in pouches, not cans, and will mean the end of the venerable P-38 can opener.

About 200,000 cases of the new meals are already in prepositioned war reserve stocks. About 100,000 cases of meals will be distributed to units this year so that soldiers can sample them. The new meals are expected to replace C-rations in FY '83.

There are 12 different meals, including chicken and rice, pork patties, beef stew and frankfurters. Desserts include strawberries, fruit cocktail and cakes.



THE RUSSIANS are coming? One of the props used in filming the movie, "Stripes," in Ft. Knox is this Kentucky National Guard-turned-Soviet tank. The buildings along this street were also altered to depict an Eastern European setting.

Stars in 'Stripes' showing this summer

Stripes are items that all enlisted Guardpersons are familiar with and striving to gain. Recently, though, a number of Kentucky Guardpersons had the opportunity to become "stars" in a motion picture of the same name.

"Stripes," a comedy film about military life, was shot on location near Bardstown and Ft. Knox in December. Basically, it is the story of the capture of Americans in Eastern Europe and their rescue.

The Kentucky National Guard's liaison with the film company, Columbia Pictures, was Command Sgt. Maj. Marion "Willie" Williams. Williams coordinated the Guard personnel, tanks, armored personnel carriers, jeeps and trucks used in the film.

Olivia Maggard, executive director of the state's film commission, praised Williams for what she called invaluable experience and knowledge of how to solve the many special problems that came up during the movie production.

Columbia entered into a contract with the USFPO, agreeing to pay "fair-market value" for the use and transportation of Guard equipment.

The motion picture company modified four Guard tanks to resemble Soviet equipment by painting the exterior and placing squared fenders on the front of the vehicles.

The altered tanks will not be changed back to their standard military form, but will be used as "threat vehicles" in training exercises.

The area around Bernheim Forest in Nelson County resembles the mountainous land of Czechoslovakia, providing the setting for much of the Kentucky filming.

Also contributing to the film's authenticity were 25 Russian refugees from Louisville who had trained in the Soviet armed forces.

Kentuckians who had roles in the film can expect to see themselves in local theaters sometime this summer.

Springfield Armory

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Battalion, 623rd Field Artillery unit are members of one of the most historic units in the state.

Wellman made the principal address and dedicated the new armory to "those who have served and those who will serve to protect America."

In his address, Wellman praised the community for its support by donating the land on which the armory was built and Senator O'Daniel for his efforts in getting

the state's share of the \$830,000 appropriated for the armory.

The Adjutant General also said that although he is "pleased with the recent rebirth of patriotism," we cannot depend on an all-volunteer force to defend the nation. He explained that the Soviet Union has not changed its direction since the 1920s.

"The cost of a strong defense is high, but the cost of war is higher," said Wellman.



THREE MEMBERS of the 198th Military Police Battalion survey an automobile damaged during the Feb. 13 sewer explosion in Old Louisville. Thirty-four Guard personnel were activated over a 13-day period to provide security in the blast area.

Guard activated twice to provide security

Since the first of the year, the Kentucky National Guard has been activated twice to provide security in evacuated communities.

A fire at the Stokes Oil Company bulk plant in Hickman Jan. 27 resulted in the evacuation of 200-300 people in a portion of Hickman.

Twenty National Guard members from the Support Company, 1/123rd Armor in Hickman, responded to the security need by guarding the evacuated area and providing traffic control throughout the day and night.

"We had Guardsmen out on the streets in less than an hour and we're very pleased with the quick response of the Hickman unit," Maj. Gen. Billy G. Wellman, the Adjutant General, said.

Gov. John Y. Brown Jr. activated the Guard again when a sewer explosion in downtown Louisville Feb. 13 caused the evacuation of about 2,000 people.

Over a 13-day period, 34 Guard members from the 198th Military Police Battalion in Louisville provided security in the blast area, not only protecting the area against looters but helping to insure the safety of those authorized individuals allowed in the area.

"As always, the Military Police were very professional in their response," Gen. Wellman said. "This is one of many situations during which the Military Police responded to the needs of the people of Louisville and Jefferson County."

VA may share burial expenses

The burden of a veteran's burial expenses may be shared by the Veterans Administration.

VA burial benefits can range from \$450 to \$1,100, depending upon whether the death was a result of a service-connected condition and whether the veteran is buried in a national cemetery.

The VA provides up to \$300 toward the burial expenses of eligible veterans and an additional \$150 as a plot or interment allowance if the veteran is not buried in a national cemetery or other government cemetery.

If the veteran's death is service-connected, the VA will pay up to \$1,100, in lieu of the usual burial allowances.

Veterans discharged under other than dishonorable conditions who served in the Spanish-American War, during the Mexican border period, in World War I and II, in the Korean conflict or during the Vietnam Era are eligible for VA plot and burial allowances and for burial in a national cemetery.

Peacetime veterans with other than dishonorable discharges are eligible for burial in a national cemetery and for a headstone or grave marker. But peacetime veterans are not entitled to the burial or plot allowance unless they were receiving compensation payments or were discharged for disability reasons.

An American Flag will also be provided upon request by the next of kin for use in covering the casket.

With the exception of the Arlington National Cemetery, burial is available to eligible veterans at all national cemeteries having space and may also be authorized for an eligible veteran's wife or husband, minor children and, under certain circumstances, unmarried adult children.

Eligibility requirements for burial at Arlington National Cemetery may be obtained from the Superintendent, Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA 22211.

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