



# The BLUEGRASS GUARD

Vol. 22, No. 1

Published by the 133rd Public Affairs Detachment

January 1982

## Guard gets ready for Zimmer

By Spec. 4 Sparky Goodman

The near disaster of Three Mile Island may be a thing of the past, but the implications of such an emergency were foremost in the minds of over 100 Kentucky Army National Guardmembers who participated in a radiological exercise Nov. 18. In conjunction with other local, state and federal agencies, the Kentucky National Guard demonstrated its ability to provide communication support, transportation, security, traffic control and a host of other services that would be necessary in the event of a radiation emergency at a nuclear power facility.

This exercise has been in the works for about a year, spurred by the scheduled

opening of the William H. Zimmer Nuclear Power Plant in 1982. This power plant has been of concern to Kentucky government officials and residents alike because of its proximity. The Zimmer Plant is located in Moscow, Ohio, 28 miles east of Cincinnati on the Ohio River. About 29,000 Kentuckians live within ten miles of the plant. The safety of these residents in the event of a radiation leak culminated in the recent exercise.

The exercise simulated an emergency at the Zimmer Power Plant requiring the evacuation of some residents in Campbell, Pendleton and Bracken counties. Had this been a real emergency, the Kentucky Army National Guard would have been responsible for assisting in securing the conta-

minated areas as the evacuation occurred. Residents would have been evacuated by various forms of transportation to the surrounding host counties of Boone, Mason, Harrison and Grant.

The exercise was deemed a success by the participants and, according to Maj. Elmo C. Head, the Guard project officer, "The Guard performed their portion of the exercise in an orderly and efficient manner."

Guard units involved in the exercise included the 130th Maintenance Company from Walton, the 198th Military Police Battalion and 223rd Military Police Co., headquartered in Louisville. Units from Frankfort included Headquarters and Head-

(continued on page 2)

## NGAKy plans 51st meeting

By Capt. Gordon Nichols

The 51st annual conference of the National Guard Association of Kentucky will be a compact, exciting program, providing a one-day meeting and holding the cost to the same level as last year.

The meeting, scheduled for Feb. 13 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Lexington, will be highlighted with speakers such as Lt. Gov. Martha Layne Collins, Maj. Gen. Emmitt H. Walker, Maj. Gen. John B. Conaway, Command Sgt. Maj. Jim Garritson and Maj. Gen. Billy G. Wellman.

Two business sessions will be conducted by Association President Charles Hillard. The first will begin at 9:15 a.m. and the spouses and guests are invited to attend the colorful opening session. The second business session will begin at 1 p.m. with break-out session so the Director of the Army National Guard will address the

(continued on page 3)



DAVE ADKINSON, training officer for Kentucky Disaster and Emergency Services, instructs Pfc. Gloria Hammond, of the 130th Maintenance Company, in the use of a CD V-700 survey meter which measures gamma radiation. More than 100 Guardmembers participated in a radiological exercise conducted in anticipation of the opening of the William H. Zimmer Nuclear Power Plant (see story). (Photo by Staff Sgt. Ron Bayes)



# 123rd TRW earns 'excellent' rating

A long-sought goal of the Air National Guard was realized recently when the 123rd TAC Reconnaissance Wing was rated "excellent" on a management effectiveness inspection (MEI).

The inspection was conducted by a team of 30 experts from the 12th Air

Force, headquartered at Bergstrom AFB, Texas.

Wing sources said that it is extremely difficult for an element of the reserve forces to achieve the excellent rating, and that while there is a "superior" rating, it is almost never awarded even to active duty

units.

"Please extend my personal congratulations to all wing personnel for their dedication and professionalism demonstrated while achieving an overall excellent rating during the MEI," said Maj. Gen. Billy G. Wellman, Kentucky's Adjutant General.

## 'Buddy Platoon' creates training togetherness

Under a new "Buddy Platoon" program recently approved by the National Guard Bureau and the Training and Doctrine Command, the Kentucky Army National Guard is developing plans for eight basic training platoons to be composed entirely of Kentucky Guardmembers.

Under the program, groups of basic trainees from a single area or state will be allowed to complete basic and, in some cases, advanced training together. Training officials feel this will enhance recruiting possibilities, decrease attrition during training, reduce administrative problems and reduce travel costs.

Five platoons will be designated as "Kentucky Long Rifle" platoons and will be open to most occupational specialties. The first 50-member platoon will report Feb. 1, and each group will train at Fort

Knox.

A Kentucky Infantry Platoon is scheduled for basic training only in June, while a Kentucky Artillery Platoon will report for basic training at Fort Sill, Okla. the

same month.

The Kentucky Armor Platoon will begin basic training at Fort Knox in June and the Kentucky Engineer Platoon will report to Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. in June.

## Black promoted to brigadier general

Carl D. Black, commander of the Kentucky Air Guard, headquartered 123rd Tactical Reconnaissance Wing, has been promoted to brigadier general. Black is also Air Commander as a technician.

The general began his military career in 1955 after graduating from the University of Kentucky. He has held many active duty and Guard positions in operational areas, including flight trainer, in-

structor pilot, wing operations officer, and group deputy commander for operations.

His military education includes Air Command and Staff College, Air War College and the ground safety school.

Black has earned the Air Force Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Combat Readiness Medal and the Kentucky Distinguished Service Medal.

## Guard involved

(continued from page 1)

quarters Company of the Kentucky Army National Guard, the 1155th Transportation Company and Company C of the 42nd Aviation Battalion.

This exercise was part of the requirements necessary for the licensing of the Zimmer Power Plant by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The funding for this exercise was provided by the Cincinnati Gas and Electric Company, which owns the facility.

### THE BLUEGRASS GUARD

is published using the offset method by the 133rd Public Affairs Detachment, Boone Center, Frankfort, Kentucky, in cooperation with the National Guard Association of Kentucky and in accordance with AR 360-81. It is distributed free of charge to members of the Kentucky National Guard and to other persons upon request.

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COMMAND SGT. MAJ. JAMES GARRITSON, president of the Enlisted Association National Guard of the United States, discusses a newspaper article with Gov. John Y. Brown, Jr., of Kentucky, during a recent meeting of the Enlisted Association National Guard of Kentucky, in Louisville. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Tom Murphy)



# New policy ups units' strength

Many Kentucky Army National Guard units have recently received approval to recruit up to 25 percent above their authorized enlisted strength in paid drill positions. While this change in policy is not designed to create new recruiting goals, it does give affected units considerable more flexibility in recruiting, according to state officials.

Those units with the new authorization are: 1st Battalion, 149th Infantry; 1st and 2nd Battalions, 123rd Armor; Troop A, 240th Armored Cavalry; 2nd Battalion, 138th Field Artillery; 1st Battalion, 623rd Field Artillery; 207th Engineer Company; 201st Engineer Battalion; 475th Combat Support Hospital; 441st Medical Detachment; 223rd Military Police Company; 438th Military Police Company; and 614th Military Police Company.

Units in a second category may now recruit to wartime strength, which is generally above the normal authorization. Those units include Headquarters, 138th Field Artillery Brigade; 2123rd Transportation Company, and 307th Maintenance Company.

All other units remain restricted to the authorized strength level. However, when those units achieve 100 percent strength or if they are already at that level, they may request permission to exceed the authorization.

## Former AG gets award

Maj. Gen. Richard L. Frymire, former Adjutant General of Kentucky and current Air National Guard Special Assistant to the Commander, Tactical Air Command, recently was afforded national recognition for his distinctive service in many assignments of importance to the National Guard and to the National Guard Association of the United States.

Frymire was recognized with the presentation of the Distinguished Service Medal by the Association at its annual general conference in Biloxi, Miss.

Frymire was particularly cited for his work as chairman of the NGAUS Committee on Constitution and By-laws, thereby increasing the effectiveness in working to upgrade the readiness of the armed forces of the United States.



SPEC. 4 BILL LAHA (top) and Pfc. Dennis Scott maneuver their Command Post Carrier into position for an overnight stay at Fort Knox during a recent cold drill. Both are members of Headquarters Company, 149th Separate Armored Brigade. (Photo by Staff Sgt. D.C. Reed)

## NGAKy

(continued from page 1)

Army officers, and the Director of the Air National Guard will address the Air officers. Wellman will have some important announcements which will concern every Guardmember.

The ladies' activities will begin at approximately 10 a.m. followed by coffee and quiche at the Magic Pan Restaurant, and shopping in the 40 specialty stores within the Mall at Lexington Center. At 1:30 p.m., a short orientation meeting will be held to brief spouses on the benefits available to them through the Guard.

Wellman will also address the ladies.

The evening activities will begin at 6 p.m. with the President's Reception. The banquet and ball will follow, with the lieutenant governor as the main guest. There will be dancing, with music by Muddi Creek.

The green or blue Class A uniforms will be appropriate for the business session. For the reception, banquet and ball, the Dress Blue or Mess Dress is appropriate for the Army and Black Mess Dress is appropriate for the Air; ladies should wear formal or semi-formal attire.

## Battle uniforms will change

New camouflage uniforms are on the way for the Kentucky Guard, according to Col. Ralph L. Palmore, Director of Personnel.

The uniforms have been ordered and all Guardmembers should have one set of the new battle dress uniforms by October 1982 and a second set by October 1983, Palmore said.

According to Palmore, it is Guard policy to allow members of the Guard to wear the uniforms now if they buy them. However, he warns that there is no approved commercial source for these uniforms other than the Post Exchange or a military clothing store on a military post.

The uniforms sold commercially are not

of the same quality as the uniforms sold on post or issued, says Palmore, and the purchaser can tell the approved uniforms by the Army tag attached to them.

The problem with the new uniforms is that they tend to shrink. A shrinkage factor of two percent is considered normal and was anticipated, but varying degrees of shrinkage above that has been experienced. This has led officials to start efforts to identify the cause.

To minimize shrinkage during the washing and drying cycles, the lowest temperature possible should be used and at no time should the garment be exposed to temperatures above 130 degrees Fahrenheit.



# Adventure Training: some work, a lot of fun

Officially, it was called "adventure training," but to nearly 200 Kentucky Army National Guardmembers who converged on Grayson Lake State Park recently, it was some work and a lot of fun.

Members of Ashland and Olive Hill units of the 201st Engineer Battalion spent two days learning and practicing survival skills, including rappelling, rope bridge river crossing, "slide for life" and poncho rafting.

"It was a break from our normal training routine and the enthusiasm was tremendous," said Capt. Paul Melvin of Ashland, commander of Company B of the 201st. His comments were echoed by Capt. Roger Gillum of Grayson, commander of Headquarters Company of the Ashland-based battalion.

Lt. Col. Harold G. Robinson of Wurtland, battalion commander, described the weekend as "outstanding training from a military standpoint and a great morale builder."

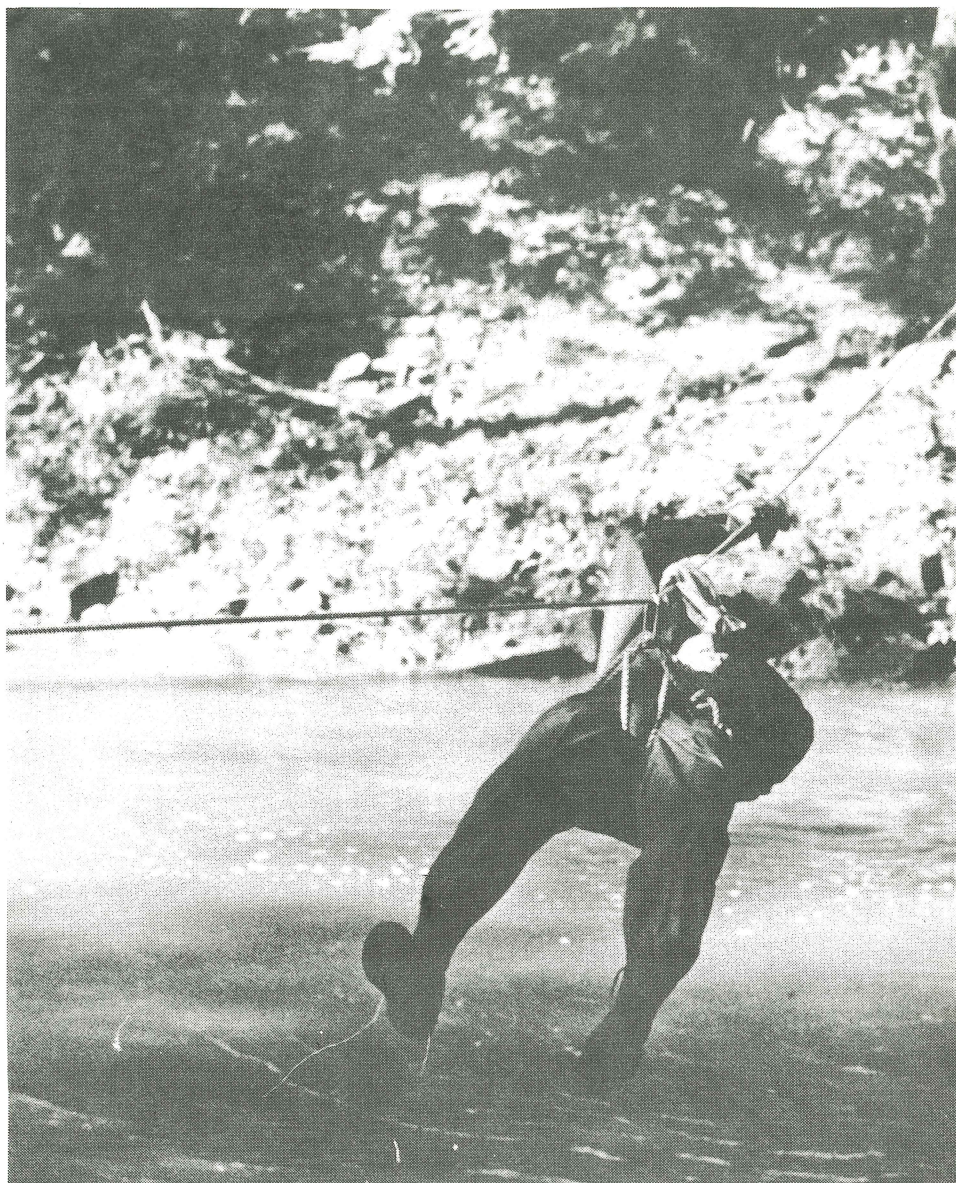
Sliding 200 feet down a rope and tumbling into the brisk waters of Grayson Lake or dropping 60 feet down a sheer rock wall to the banks of the Little Sandy River is a far cry from the normal training of the engineers, whose primary mission is to build the way with roads, airfields, fortifications and other facilities for combat units.

"Our people also have to be proficient in basic infantry tactics and this weekend gave them a different view of the soldier in a hostile environment," Melvin added.

Specialized instruction in the survival skills was provided by members of the 19th Special Forces Group, West Virginia Army National Guard, based at Tri-State Airport near Huntington.

"The Green Berets do this type of training on a regular basis and they are excellent teachers," Melvin added. "We are most appreciative of their support and encouragement."

Spec. 4 Mike Williams of Olive Hill summed up the weekend with one statement: "We learned some important new things and had fun doing it."



**ON THE ROPE** – Spec. 4 Mike Williams of Olive Hill, a member of Company B, 201st Engineer Battalion, Kentucky Army National Guard, pulls himself across the Little Sandy River on a rope bridge during recent "adventure training" at Grayson Lake by local Guard units. Once across, Williams climbed a 60-foot rock cliff and descended to the ground by rappelling. (Photo by Capt. Keith Kappes)

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NATIONAL GUARD OF KENTUCKY  
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL  
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