

THE BLUEGRASS GUARD



PFC James R. Cadle, of Carlisle, aims his M60 machine gun while standing guard duty during winter exercises conducted at Camp Ripley, Minn. Cadle and other members of his unit, Company D, 201st Engineer Battalion, were on their annual two weeks of training with the Kentucky Army National Guard. (Photo by Capt. Frank Mattingly)

Shooters hit the mark in championships

The Kentucky Army National Guard Machine Gun Team took the first place trophy in the team competition at 1985 First and Second Army Rifle, Pistol and Machine Gun Championships held at Fort Benning, Ga.

The team, made up of SSgt. Ray Patterson, Somerset, SSgt. Steve Cowan, Science Hill, SP4 William Lear, Broadhead, and Sgt. Kenneth Paul, Corbin, are members of Support Company, 149th Infantry from Somerset.

According to MSgt. Fred Schleifer,

Marksmanship Program Non-Commissioned Officer, the team first participated in a two-mile run with full field gear and weapon firing 20 rounds in 10 seconds at ten targets at 100 yard intervals.

The team competed with eight National Guard units and two Army Reserve units from around the United States.

Patterson took first place in the individual over all with Cowan taking second. Lear placed second and Paul fourth in the novice class.

The "Bear" fights "Eagle" in Western Ky.

By Sgt. J.C. Newton

Platoon Sergeant James "Ivan" Stofer eyed the rolling Western Kentucky terrain below him. Along with Master Sergeant Dick "Bruno" Owen and PFC Paul "Vladimar" Allen, they manned the lead tank of four firmly entrenched T-72's in a hilltop position.

In the distance a small puff of smoke appeared and the barely audible sound of approaching tracks alerted Ivan and his comrades to prepare for the impending onslaught.

Expecting a frontal assault, just left of Ivan's lead tank, Vladimar eased the massive machine forward into firing position.

Suddenly, a platoon of charging M-60/A3 Battletanks crested a small knoll on the right flank, and fired unmercifully on the surprised Soviet invaders. The quick and decisive victory removed the "Bear" from the hill and the "Eagle" once again reigned supreme in Western Kentucky.

This scenario was repeated many times during the weekend, as members of Company B, 2nd Battalion, 123d Armor practiced for their upcoming ARTEP, which will occur during annual training.

The training was enhanced through the use of American tanks disguised as Soviet T-62's. Columbia Pictures designed the disguises during filming of the movie "Stripes" at Fort Knox and Bardstown in 1981. The equipment had been stored, awaiting disposal, until unit members arranged its use as training aids.

According to First Sergeant George Shackelford, the added realism of mock soviet tanks put "more enthusiasm into otherwise normal training."



Reenlistment has big bonus for Guardsmen

Kentucky National Guardsmen who reenlist through the Selected Reserve Incentive Program are eligible for up to \$1,800 in bonus money for a six-year term.

The bonus money is available to qualified Guardsmen who reenlist in a designated Military Occupational Speciality (MOS) or a designated unit. Guardsmen must have nine years or less of military service at the time of their current expiration of Term of Service (ETS) date. Upon reenlistment for three to six years, the member will receive half the money. The rest of the money will be paid in yearly installments of \$150. Guardsmen who have eight years of service but less than nine have a maximum bonus limit of \$900.

Another financial benefit is the Student Loan Repayment Program. Guardsmen who reenlist in a designated bonus unit could qualify for the Army to pay back a part of their student loans. Guaranteed Student Loans insured or guaranteed under part B of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and National Student Loans made under Part E of the act qualify for repayment.

The Army pays the lending institution a percentage of the outstanding loan at the end of each satisfactory year of Guard service. Fifteen percent of the balance or \$500, whichever is greater, can be paid on balances up to \$10,000.

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Pointing out areas of interest University of Louisville ROTC Cadet James D. Jones (right) explains the field testing stations to Kentucky Senator Mitch McConnell. McConnell made a surprise visit to the Headquarters of the 149th Separate Armored Brigade in Louisville. Looking on are Ms. Robin Cleveland, Intelligence Committee Legislative Aid, (left) and Capt. Terry L. Stone, Commander of Headquarters Company. (Photo by Capt. Frank Mattingly)

Scouts and Guard work together

A marriage was recently performed in Henderson, Kentucky, between two of the United States' oldest and proudest traditions.

The Boy Scouts of America, a leader in developing the youth of our country, and the National Guard, a mold of men, have been combined for one of only two programs of its type in the nation called the "Junior Guard."

Started in January of this year by George Fambrough, a member of Company B 1/123d Armor based in Henderson, the Junior Guard is actually a charter member of the Explorer Scouts for young men and women between the ages of 14-18.

The program combines the wilderness training that both organizations offer with the discipline of military customs and courtesies.

Every Wednesday night at 5 p.m. the meetings are called to order with a military formation. There, company commander Capt. Jess Shackelford, the son of another National Guard unit member, James Shackelford, takes roll call and outlines the itinerary for the night's activities.

Classes taught by other adult volunteers will include first-aid, map reading, camping, military

courtesy, knife sharpening and other basic skills that the young "soldier" will be able to use in upcoming unit events.

Among other activities they have enjoyed was an overnight camping trip to The Garden of the Gods in Illinois. There they put to use the skills they have been learning and perfecting.

According to Fambrough, the trip provided "a lot of enthusiasm for the program that we are trying to develop and showed the boys that the things we are teaching them can be put to practical use."

"Also," he continued, "while we were there some members of Company B put on a rappelling demonstration that they enjoyed very much."

The main concern for the unit at this time is to provide camouflage fatigues for everyone. A few of the members have already purchased their own and Company B members have donated some old sets, but the emphasis now is on raising funds so they can be a uniformed unit.

The 35-member group, up from the original

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133d PAD's return from Panama peninsula brings praise

The 133d Public Affairs Detachment has returned after receiving high praise for its work in a remote peninsula of Panama.

The Frankfort-based unit was selected to participate in the Exercise Blazing Trails, which is a U.S.-Panamanian project to build a 26-mile road in an area that has previously been served only by a primitive cattle path. During much

of the year, thousands of residents of the Azuero Peninsula have been completely isolated from the rest of the country, because of frequent heavy rains.

The 12-member Kentucky unit produced two newspapers for exercise troops and more than 85 news releases and photos for newspapers in 12 states. Five separate video news stories

were also produced and two were used on the Southern Command Network of the Armed Forces Radio and Television Service.

Maj. John Smith, Public Affairs Officer for the National Guard Bureau, said, "The Kentucky PAD was simply outstanding. They excelled in every aspect of the job, from photography to news-writing, to video production, to community relations. They were by far the best of the PAD's here."

During the course of the five-month exercise, public affairs units from eight states participated.

While in Panama, the unit operated totally in the field, in an austere "tent city." A photo darkroom was even constructed from plywood, but work could only be done at night and in the early morning, because of the intense heat. Temperatures exceeded 115 degrees nearly every day.

"The mission was exciting," said Maj. Tom Little, the unit commander, "but it was also extraordinarily difficult. 'The dirt and heat made photography operations nearly impossible and we had no transportation assets assigned at all. We had to beg, borrow, or steal everything we got.'"

In spite of the difficulties, Little said he was very proud of the unit's performance.

"Every person there really used initiative, talent and resourcefulness to get the job done," he said, "and the results were simply outstanding."

The unit helped support several visiting groups, including one lead by Kentucky Adjutant General Billy Wellman. That visit included State Senator Joe Prather, Rep. Virgil Pearman, Rep. Pete Worthington, Secretary of the Cabinet Larry Hayes, and four news media representatives.



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Scouts and Guard working together

16, is going to apply for a grant from the government and also plans newspaper and aluminum can drives early this summer, according to Fambrough.

They assisted the senior guard members in the recent Easter Seals collections and plan other community activities to show Henderson residents the type program they have initiated and to gain public support for the program.

Henderson residents who wish to learn more about the Junior Guard program can call SSgt. Dan Rodgers at the Armory for more details.



SP4 Steve Collier, a broadcast specialist with the 133d Public Affairs Detachment, shows a Panamanian youngster how to use a video camera. (Photo by SP5 Hugh Smith)



Receiving the flag of command from Maj. Gen. Billy G. Wellman, The Adjutant General of Kentucky, Col. William I. Fox, Jr. becomes the Commandant of the Kentucky Military Academy during ceremonies held at Fort Knox. (Photo by Capt. Frank Mattingly)

Guard at a glance

AIR GUARD AWARD

The Kentucky Air Guard's 123d Tactical Reconnaissance Wing has again received the Distinguished Flying Unit plaque from the National Guard Bureau. It was the second time the unit had received the prestigious honor.

The award is based upon overall combat readiness and the 123d was in competition with more than 90 Air Guard flying units. Only five awards are given annually.

Brig. Gen. John L. Smith, wing commander, accepted the award from Maj. Gen. John B. Conaway, Director of the Air National Guard.

AIRWAYS TO GERMANY

National Guard service members and their families may now take advantage of special leave fares offered by Pan American World Airways to and from Germany, according to Second Army Public Affairs Office.

To receive the discount fare, Guardsmen and their family members must be travelling from the United States to Germany within seven days of being called for annual training, or back to the United States within 21 days of being released from annual training.

SPACE MILESTONES

Feb. 20, 1962 FRIENDSHIP 7 Mercury Space Capsule (US) John H. Glenn becomes first American to orbit Earth. Three orbits.

Feb. 11, 1970 OSUMI (Japan) First Japanese satellite and Japan becomes fourth nation to send satellite into space.

Feb. 3, 1984 STS-10 (US) Shuttle Challenger

launched from Kennedy Space Center, Fla. with crew of five (Vance Brand, Robert Gibson, Ronald McNair, Bruce McCandless and Robert Stewart). On Feb. 7 two astronauts became first to fly freely (propelled by their backpack jets) in space, untethered to any craft.

NEW HAND GUN

The Army has announced that the Beretta U.S.A. Corporation of Accokeek, Md., has won the competition to produce a new 9mm military sidearm to replace the .45-caliber pistol throughout the Department of Defense, according to Capt. Keith Throske, Army News Service.

The Beretta will be the first new standard military sidearm since 1911 and the last large purchase of .45-caliber pistols was made before 1950 and many of these are nearing the end of their service life, stated Throske.

The weapon, which can be quickly field-stripped into four parts, weighs 40.9 oz. with a magazine fully loaded and a round in the chamber. This can be safely carried because the safety mechanism secures the firing pin in place.

It can fire the first round by releasing the safety and pulling the trigger.

The safety can be operated either left or right handed and the magazine catch can also be reversed.

Sights are similar to those on the .45. The front sight is fixed and rear sight is adjustable for windage.

The initial contract will be for five years and calls for more than 315,000 handguns to be produced.

PHOTO AWARD

SFC Michael James of HHD, 198th MP Bn. (Louisville) was the Kentucky winner of the NGB Unit Marksmanship Support Center's annual

"Shoot the Shooters" photo contest, according to Capt. Carl Ward, Public Affairs Officer for UMSC.

"Sergeant James' photograph was in the top twenty entries from across the nation, and was in contention until the very end," stated Ward.

James received a handsome certificate denoting his accomplishment. His photo had several competitors firing service pistols from the prone position.

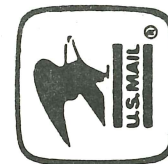
Fitness course available through school and mail

PT doesn't just mean physical training, it also stands for professional training, a vital aspect of preparedness for the Kentucky Army National Guard.

This professional training is provided by Army Service Schools, or by contract with civilian institutions. These schools can offer resident or non-resident courses, provide MOS instruction, NCO training and officer education programs.

Correspondence courses are also available. The general volume of DA pamphlet 351-20, Correspondence Courses Catalog, will tell you how to enroll and explain the options and services available. To enroll, a DA Form 145 must be submitted to your commander or immediate commissioned supervisor.

A Kentucky Guard member shouldn't be just physically fit. He should also be professional-fit fit.



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