

# GUARDLIFE



# TAG's Column

By Brig. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth, The Adjutant General

I am deeply honored and proud that Governor McGreevey, our Commander-in-Chief, has selected me to be his Adjutant General. Let it be clear that I fully recognize the importance of sitting in this position in terms of today's unprecedented threat to our state and nation. I want to assure you, that as your commander, I have the utmost confidence leading DMAVA to meet its awesome responsibilities and challenges.



**Brig. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth**  
**The Adjutant General**

You have the right to expect me to lead by example and to set and enforce high standards. I promise to do that. It follows that I in turn will expect my senior leadership at all levels to emulate me. Together we must work hard to provide adequate resources and to train our soldiers and airmen to the best of our abilities in these very trying times. In future Guardlife issues, I will address several significant and critical concerns including Homeland Security and Homeland Defense, troop strength, employer support, budget and our responsibilities as caretakers of our veteran community.

I have a vision of where the New Jersey National Guard will be in the future. I cannot do it alone, so I ask for your cooperation, understanding and support. Together, I have no doubt that we can make this vision a reality.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Glenn K. Rieth".

**GLENN K. RIETH**  
Brigadier General, NJARNG  
The Adjutant General



## **GUARDLIFE**

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### *About The Cover*

#### **Bridges And Tunnels**

Pfc. John Stires, Detachment 1, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 3-112th Field Artillery, on guard at the George Washington Bridge, Palisades Park. Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, NJDMAVA/PA.

# Brig. Gen. Rieth Confirmed As TAG

By the Guardlife Staff

**B**rig. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth was confirmed by the Senate as the 30th Adjutant General of New Jersey on March 4, 2002.

General Rieth commands more than 9,000 soldiers and airmen of the New Jersey Army and Air National Guard. He directs, controls, and manages the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs in the execution of federal and state missions. In addition, he oversees all state veterans' programs, commissions, and facilities in New Jersey.

General Rieth was born on November 27, 1957, in Livingston, N.J. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration from The Citadel - Military College of South Carolina in 1980 where he was a Distinguished Military Graduate. His military education includes Armor Officer Basic Course, United States Army Rotary Wing and Fixed Wing Flight Schools, Aviation Officer Advanced Course, United States Army Safety Officer Course, United States Air Force Joint Air/Ground Operations School, United States Army Command and General Staff College, and the United States Army War College.

General Rieth received his commission as a Second Lieutenant through the Army Reserve Officer Training Corps on May 17, 1980. He earned his pilot's wings at Fort Rucker, Ala., on July 24, 1981, and was subsequently assigned to the Aero Recon, Air Cavalry Troop, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment, Fort Bliss, Texas, as a Platoon Leader and Assistant S-3. After being promoted to captain, he was assigned as Commander of the Aero Recon, Air Cavalry Troop, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment, Fort Bliss, Texas, from June 1984 to June 1985. In June 1985, General Rieth left active duty and joined the New Jersey Army National Guard as the Aviation Brigade Safety Officer and Flight Instructor for the 50th Armored Division. In November 1987, he became the Operations Officer for the 1st Battalion, 150th Aviation, at Trenton-Mercer Airport.



*Gov. James E. McGreevey (left) watches as Chief Justice Deborah Poritz (2nd from left) swears in Brig. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth (center) while his daughter Erika (3rd from right), his wife Linda (right) and his son, Craig (2nd from right) assist. Photo by Roman Martyniuk, NJDMAVA/PA.*

In September 1988, he was promoted to major. From March 1990 to October 1992, General Rieth was the Air Operations Officer, Headquarters, 50th Armored Division, in Somerset. In November 1992, he became the Commander of the 1st Battalion, 150th Aviation and the Army Aviation Support Facility No. 1 at Trenton-Mercer Airport. He was promoted to lieutenant colonel in November 1993. In October 1995, General Rieth was assigned as the Recruiting and Retention Commander for the New Jersey Army National Guard. On February 17, 1999, he was promoted to full colonel and assigned as the Director of the State Army Aviation Office. He was promoted to brigadier general on March 5, 2002.

His awards and decorations include: Meritorious Service Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Army Aviation Order of Saint Michael, Master Army Aviator Badge Parachutist Badge (Airborne), New Jersey Distinguished Service Medal, New Jersey Medal of Honor, New Jersey Merit Award, and the New Jersey Desert Storm Ribbon. ✎

# On Guard In New Jersey

*Story by 1st Lt. Jon Powers, 444th MPAD*



**T**roops file into their operational area with stoic expressions on their faces. Their boots echo a cadence throughout airport concourses and security checkpoints at bridges, tunnels and nuclear reactors. Loaded assault rifles are slung over their shoulders as they take up positions at each of the security points.

Some people stop and stare. Some people openly express their approval and wave, while others simply avoid the military formations. Not so long ago, this would more likely describe a military coup or an exercise in martial law in another country. But today it happens frequently in the United States.

It has been 60 years since the Guard's mission has been so relevant, extensive and for many

Guardsmen here in N.J., personal. They watched from office windows in Jersey City and Hoboken. One waited for a phone call from a brother-in-law who worked for Cantor-Fitzgerald. Another is a pilot who flew with the crew of the hijacked American Airlines flight. Now the same people stand guard in the name of Homeland Defense. The operations here are the most extensive use of National Guard troops since the Gulf War, totaling, in N.J. alone, 1,600 soldiers, airmen and sailors.

"I never expected to be guarding things in my own state," stated Spc. Alejandro Corachan of the 112th Field Artillery on duty at the Lincoln Tunnel. "I feel good doing something for my country."

"By the time the second airplane hit we had activated the emergency

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*"I hear every week from people who tell me about seeing soldiers in airports... My friends in the Marines ask me how much the Army paid for that advertising... Having the Guard in the airports. I tell them that I don't think we could have afforded it if we had to pay for it."*  
*Gen. Eric Shinseki*  
*Army Chief of Staff*

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system, we started our log and contacted the State Office of Emergency Management run by the State Police," said Maj. Robert Schofield, Plans, Operations and Military Support Officer. "We sent a representative team within the hour to be the liaison between our office and theirs." During emergencies the chain of information goes from the governor to the State Police Office of Emergency Management. Then the National Guard liaisons immediately relay the relevant information back to the National Guard Operation Centers. This process may seem time consuming but in reality it takes minutes for the concerned parties to get the information they need.

Three days after the attack, NJNG soldiers, airmen and Naval Militia mobilized for every aspect of the rescue and recovery mission. At the Liberty State Park Command Center in Jersey City, the Guard had set up air, ground and waterway transportation. Liberty State Park is

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*Pfc. Julio Diaz (left) and Spc. John Diangelo, both of the 1-114th Infantry Battalion, search a truck outside the Port Authority Trans Hudson facility in Jersey City. Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, NJDMAVA/PA.*



## On Guard In New Jersey

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directly across the Hudson River from lower Manhattan. This became a launch point for thousands of support personnel and tons of supplies going to Ground Zero. They also had medical and security units in place.

"Mobile command posts were rolling in from all over the state," said Staff Sgt. Robert Stephenson, New Jersey Counter Drug Task Force based in Jersey City.

Less than five miles from Ground Zero, National Guard members were called into service at the Jersey City Armory. Company D, 2-113th Infantry provided security for the perimeter of the building, a block long edifice overlooking the Manhattan skyline, while E Company soldiers, 50th Main Support Battalion set up a makeshift hospital on the drill floor.

The 1-150th Army Aviation Squadron, based at Trenton-Mercer Airport, provided immediate transportation to and from the site. The 1-



*A 108th Air Refueling Wing KC-135E Stratotanker refuels an F-15 Fighting Eagle from the 174th Fighter Wing during a Combat Air Patrol over the East Coast. Photo by Staff Sgt. Dan O'Hagen, 108th Air Refueling Wing Multimedia Center.*

150th pilots and their UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters flew more than 100 missions in the first week. They also provided aerial support

and transportation to the FBI, FEMA and other federal agencies that were assisting with the emergency.

Within hours of the attack, Na-



*New Jersey Army National Guardsman observes the New York city skyline from Union City. Photo by 1st Lt. Jon Powers, 444th MPAD.*

val Militiamen were staffing the Emergency Operations Center along with the Army Guard. Rear Adm. Timothy R. Beard, III, Commander, New Jersey Naval Militia, was one of the first officers in the EOC. 115 of the 140 members in the Militia were activated for this crisis.

Almost immediately, the Militia's 23-foot Fast Pursuit Boats were patrolling the Hudson. By the next morning these boats were serving as the primary means of access to lower Manhattan for the first two weeks for police, fire, and military personnel. The militia also provided a Disaster Medical Assistance Team to Chelsea Pier and Naval Militia Chaplains worked at every site, from Ground Zero to Fort Steward, N.Y. They provided counseling and pastoral services 24/7 for rescue workers and support personnel. "The intense

pressure of this made the unit more cohesive," said Rear Adm. Beard. The militia is still involved in security with the Navy at Earle Weapons Depot as an ocean patrol unit.

Simultaneously, the New Jersey Air National Guard was mobilized. The 177th Fighter Wing had the first F-16 loaded with ordinance and flying within 90 minutes. Since Sept. 11, 177th Fighters have since been flying as part of the North American Aerospace Defense Command air sovereignty mission.

Operation Noble Eagle pilots fly combat-air patrols over the eastern seaboard around the clock. Geographically speaking, Atlantic City is situated almost half way between New York and Washington, D.C. This means that 177th pilots are some of the busiest in the Air Force. "We are currently the 'hours leader' (fly-

ing hours) in the entire Air Force for a single squadron," stated Lt. Col. Roger Pharo, Support Group Commander, 177th Fighter Wing.

The 108th Air Refueling Wing stationed at McGuire Air Force Base took on three separate missions. The unit has provided support both on the ground and in the air. Additionally, the 108th also supported the rescue effort at Ground Zero. About a dozen wing members volunteered to operate several massive "Light-Alls" lighting equipment the wing deployed to Ground Zero. Light-Alls are normally used to provide mobile lighting to ground crews during nighttime operations. Once the lighting units were installed, the airmen assisted the rescue workers as they sifted through the debris.

The Fresh Kills Landfill, located in Staten Island, N.Y., was the site for the collection and examination of the wreckage removed from Ground Zero. 100 Guardsmen from the 57th Troop Command, based in Atlantic City, provided food and shelter to the FBI and others who continued the crime scene evidence investigation. More than 250,000 tons were sorted and examined for human remains during the first few weeks.

Within three days of the attack, soldiers from the Troop Command and their commander, Col. Carlo Accardi, were pitching tents and setting up a mobile kitchen to provide hot meals at the very top of the landfill. The tents would provide shelter and to serve as a mess area.

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*Master Sgt. Franklin Buzby (left), Tech. Sgt. Wendell Hunte (center), and Senior Airman Tina Chaffins (right) from the 177th Fighter Wing Aircraft Generation Squadron use a Universal Ammunition Loader to load 20mm rounds on an F-16C Fighting Eagle. Photo by Master Sgt. Tom Louis, 177th Fighter Wing MultiMedia Support Center.*



## On Guard In New Jersey

Also, the soldiers set up “rest and relaxation areas” where the civilians could gather themselves after picking through the World Trade Center rubble for hours on end.

The mental toll on the Guardsmen, civilians and federal workers was unimaginable. “As a minister, I have performed similar (last rights and blessings) but the enormity of this left me without words,” said Chaplain (Col.) William Schadebeck. To aid the healing and recovery, NJNG Chaplains were sent to all the sites. They provided counseling and religious services to the workers day and night.

“We performed service for anyone, for five to 300 people at a time,” Col. Schadebeck said. “We went out to the rubble piles to talk to the workers and try to keep them sane.” Throughout the tragedy, New Jersey National Guard Chaplains were available to the workers.

Across the Bayonne Bridge at what was once the site of the Military Ocean Terminal in Bayonne, members of the 42nd Infantry Division’s 50th Main Support Battalion (MSB) were busy filling once empty warehouses to the rafters. The warehouse operation was a joint effort between the Salvation Army and the National Guard. Through the following weeks it was filled to overflowing with all kinds of food, water, clothing and household items which were donated from concerned citizens across the country. Some donations were anonymous, while others were accompanied with notes of

encouragement and support. A card the size of a mini-van signed by hundreds of citizens of Cleveland stood at the entrance of the warehouse.



*The first contingent of Guardsmen deploy to Newark International Airport. Photo by 1st Lt. Jon Powers, 444th MPAD.*

“Look inside these gloves,” said Captain Tracy Norman, 50th MSB, standing next to a cargo box with thousand of pairs of gloves, “every single one has a note in it.”

The donations reflected what the country perceived was needed based on what they saw on television. When the handlers of the search and rescue dogs asked for dog food, the nation responded with 50 tons of it. In another part of the

warehouse hundreds of shovels are stacked next to dozens of wheelbarrows against a wall. Elsewhere, refrigerator sized boxes of T-shirts compete with thousands of stuffed animals for what little floor space remains. An estimated million gallons of bottled water was unloaded, processed, stored and distributed during the operation.

The 50th was there to support the Salvation Army, which was directing the collection of the donations. The Guard provided logistical expertise, forklift operators and other personnel to help unload the seemingly endless number of tractor-trailers which started arriving just one week after the tragedy. “We were getting 40 tractor-trailers a day,” said 2nd Lt. Nguyen Tran, 50th MSB. “We were running 24/7.”

Airport security became an area of concern in the aftermath of the attack. New Jersey’s three commercial airports were identified as requiring a military presence. Newark International Airport, the origin of the hijacked plane which crashed in Pennsylvania, the Atlantic City International Airport and the Trenton-Mercer County Airport. In total, more than 250 soldiers were required.

The call for volunteers went out to N.J.’s 50th Brigade. More than 500 soldiers immediately responded. During the next three days the volunteers were put through a screening regimen similar to a war mobilization. Soldiers with civilian law enforcement training were chosen first.

All the volunteers were given a background investigation and their current medical status checked. They were also given a drug and HIV test and had a new DNA sample taken. Soldiers were then brought to the rifle range to re-qualify with the M-16A2 Rifle.

The intense screening produced the first 152 soldiers for Operation Vigilant Hawk. They were briefed by the Judge Advocate General, the Public Affairs Officer and given a nine-hour block of instruction by the Federal Aviation Authority. Their mission was to provide a highly visible armed presence to enhance the current security until the FAA could put into effect its new security plan at the nations airports.

The retaliation of the United States on Afghanistan brought an increased threat to New Jersey's



*Troops from 2-102nd Armor bed down for the night at Teaneck Armory after pulling a 12-hour shift guarding bridges and tunnels. Photo by Col. John Dwyer, 42nd DISCOM.*

nuclear power facilities. New Jersey was the first state to assign National Guard troops to nuclear power plants. At the Oyster Creek Nuclear Power Facility and the Salem County Hope Creek Power Plant,

the New Jersey Army National Guard have integrated with the existing Plant Security. The Guardsmen are providing armed support at the entrance gates and tactical operations around the grounds of the facilities.

"The security guys are more than helpful," stated Pfc. Michael Mahler, D Company, 1-114th Infantry, stationed at Oyster Creek. "We are getting a very positive reaction from the people too, they wave and honk their horns as they drive by."

"The public support and the motivation of the troops has made these missions go smoothly," said Capt. Grant Marks, 5-117th Cavalry Squadron.

Homeland Defense falls not only on the shoulders of Guardsmen but on their employers as well. Traditional Guardsmen have full time civilian jobs and the "no advance notice" call to active duty service has had

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*Chaplain (Lt.) Dennis Rabineau, New Jersey Naval Militia, and Chaplain (Lt. Col.) William Schladebeck, 42nd Divisional Support Command, confer at Fresh Kills Landfill, Staten Island, N.Y. Photo by Staff Sgt. Robert Stephenson, 444th MPAD.*



## On Guard In New Jersey

direct and dramatic effects on their employers.

The Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Committee (ESGR) reports unprecedented cooperation from civilian employers of those called to both state and federal active duty service. Many corporations, small companies, and "mom & pop" operations have gone well beyond the Federal regulations (USC Title 38 & USERRA, or the Uniformed Services Employment Re-employment Rights Act) to take care of their employees and their families during active duty service. State active duty and federal mobilizations are taking

some of these soldiers, Marines, sailors, and airmen away from their civilian jobs for six months or longer. Having a key employee absent for an extended period of time, no matter how noble or worthy the cause, still can put a big dent in production and operational efficiency.

ESGR however, has been active for more than 20 years as an arbitrator between civilian employers and the National Guard members and reservists they employ. "Our State ESGR Committee is comprised of

more than 100 volunteers representing virtually every sector of New Jersey's diverse geographic and business communities," observed Col (ret) Carmen Venticinque, New Jersey State ESGR chairman. "We have corporate, small business, retired military, elected officials at the



*Pfc. Johnny Ortega and Pfc. Jason Payor, Charlie Company, 3-112th Field Artillery, on guard duty at the George Washington Bridge. Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, NJDMAVA/PA.*

state, county, and municipal levels, civic leaders, members of service organizations, and concerned citizens from each of the 21 counties. Our members have credibility within their business communities and understand the full impact military training have on employers."

Federal Law protects those mobilized for federal military service. Laws regarding "state" active duty service are not as clear. "We rely heavily on the patriotism and sense of community spirit in many cases of

conflict involving Guardsmen activated for state emergencies. Although periods of state active duty usually last only a few days following storm, flood, or other natural disasters, the events of Sept. 11 and the unprecedented call-up of Guardsmen for security missions both here

and elsewhere are expected to last longer."

The Guard is making today's headlines that will become tomorrow's history. By deploying in their home states with state and federal agencies to protect various assets from the threat of terrorism they have made an endnote on the chapter in false security we wrote. A new

chapter however is being written. The level of cooperation between agencies has eliminated the barriers and enabled the total commitment of personnel to the defense of our state. The magnitude of the Sept. 11 tragedy forced all the emergency reaction forces to rely heavily on complete cooperation.

"When the sun rises behind the skyline, it's still the most beautiful city in world," said 2nd Lt. Hashim Bennett while on duty at the Lincoln Tunnel. *✍*

# Col. Morgan Chosen As Deputy Adjutant General

*By the Guardlife Staff*

**G**overnor James E. McGreevey appointed Col. Maria Morgan Deputy Adjutant General of New Jersey on Mar. 1. She previously served as the 108th Medical Squadron Commander, McGuire Air Force Base.

The colonel was born in Trenton and graduated from Hamilton High School West. She attended The College of New Jersey where she received a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing in 1975. She earned a Master of Arts in Administration from Central Michigan University in 1982, and her certification in Community Health Nursing from the American Nurses Credentialing Center in 1990.

Col. Morgan began her military career in 1980 when she was commissioned as a first lieutenant in the 108th Tactical Fighter Wing. She received her Senior Nurse Badge in 1984. In 1993, Col. Morgan became the Chief Nurse Executive, received her Chief Nurse Badge and was part of the senior management team in the newly merged 108th Medical Squadron. In 1997, she was appointed to the position of Air Transportable Hospital Commander and in 1998, assumed command of the 108th Air Refueling Wing Medical Squadron. Col. Morgan has participated in numerous overseas deployments.

Col. Morgan started her nursing career in medical surgical nursing at Rancocas Valley Hospital, moving quickly into home health care at Community Nursing Services in Burlington County. In 1979, she joined the New Jersey State Department of Health where her positions over an 18-year career varied from Director of Maternal and Child Health to Assistant Commissioner of the Division of Health Care Systems Analysis.

She is a member of the American Association of Healthcare Consultants, the New Jersey State Nurses Association, the Association of Air National Guard Nurses, the Association of Military Surgeons of the U.S. (AMSUS), Sigma Theta Tau, Inc. (International Honor Society of Nursing) and the American Public Health Association. Col. Morgan is a frequent lecturer at the state and national level on various health issues such as bio-terrorism, health care reform, healthcare policy development, restructuring maternal and child health services, hospital reimbursement and charity care, strategic plan-



*Col. Maria Morgan, the Deputy Adjutant General of New Jersey.*

ning for New Jersey hospitals, and certificate of need reform in New Jersey. She has participated in a variety of panel presentations including the Annual Meeting of the New Jersey State Nurses Association and the Association of Air National Guard Nurses. She has also made numerous presentations on Bio-Terrorism, Nursing Administration, Immunizations, Nursing Staff Development, Standardized Medical Readiness Training Systems, and Managing Health Care in a Deployed Field Location (Fuertes Caminos/Joint Task Force Rushmore, Panama).

Col. Morgan is a primary author of Healthy New Jersey 2000, Update: Healthy New Jersey 2000 and has published several articles in New Jersey Medicine primarily on anthrax and bio-terrorism. She initiated annual participation of the 108th Medical Squadron in Operation Stand Down for homeless veterans in 1993 and in 1996 she organized the Careforce Trauma Training Program at two New Jersey Level I Regional Trauma Centers. In 1997, Col. Morgan was selected as the Outstanding Air National Guard Nurse Corps Officer. ✍

# 177th Dedicates "Let's Roll" Nose Art

By the Guardlife Staff

On March 25, Lisa Beamer, the widow of Todd Beamer, and Col. Mike Cosby, Commander, 177th Fighter Wing unveiled the "Let's Roll" emblem on an F-16C.

The nose art features Todd Beamer's words, "Let's Roll" with the motto "Spirit of 9-11" superimposed on a sword, an American eagle, and a U.S. flag. Todd Beamer, along with 44 passengers and crew was killed Sept. 11, when hijacked Flight 93 crashed into Shanksville, Pa. The words, "Let's Roll" were Todd Beamer's last words before he and other passengers rushed the cockpit to thwart the terrorists' plans.

"It is a great honor to have Todd's words remembered in this way," stated Beamer. "I know that he would be honored to have you all rally around his words." More than 200 unit members attended the ceremony. †



Col. Mike Cosby (left), Commander, 177th Fighter Wing, and Lisa Beamer, the widow of Todd Beamer, admire the "Let's Roll" nose art on a 177th F-16C Fighting Falcon. Photo by Senior Airman Andrew Merlock, Jr., 177th Fighter Wing Multimedia Support Center.



## Eagles Land At 1-150th

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Jim denHartog delivers a safety briefing to (l-r) Philadelphia Eagles' defensive tackle Hollis Thomas and fullback Cecil Martin, Michael Steinberg, and Eagles cheerleader Meredith. The Eagles visited the 1-150th Aviation Battalion, Army Aviation Support Facility at Trenton-Mercer Airport Mar. 26 to show their support to some of the troops involved in OPERATION NOBLE EAGLE. Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, NJDMAVA/PA. †



## Kandahar Sheriffs

Several members of the 108th Air Refueling Wing Security Forces pose in front of the Kandahar International Airport, outside of Kandahar, Afghanistan, with members of other Air Force security forces units. The 108th Guardsmen deployed to Afghanistan to perform aircraft security, air base defense missions, and prisoner security duties. Photo courtesy of Maj. Ron Turk, Commander, 108th Air Refueling Wing Security Forces.

# Col. Philibosian Confirmed As DCVA

*By the Guardlife Staff*

**C**ol. Emil H. Philibosian was confirmed on May 16 as the Deputy Commissioner for Veterans Affairs for New Jersey.

He will be responsible for providing support to New Jersey's 650,000 veterans and their families, management of a \$55 million budget, operation of three 300-bed nursing homes, and the nation's busiest state veterans' cemetery.

Col. Philibosian was born on June 20, 1943, in Brosov, Romania. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in English from Rutgers University, New Brunswick in 1967. He received his Juris Doctorate from Fordham University Law School, New York City in 1975. His military education includes the Infantry School, Airborne Course, the J.F.K. Special Warfare Program, the Special Forces Officer Course, where he was on the Commandant's List; MACV Recondo School, Infantry Officer Advanced Course, Military Police Advanced Course, United States Army Command and General Staff College, and the United States Army War College.

Col. Philibosian enlisted in the United States Army in 1968 and rose to the rank of Specialist 5. He received his commission as a second lieutenant through Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, Ga., in 1969. His first assignment was as Commander, 52nd Pathfinder Detachment, Republic of Vietnam, from 1969 to 1970. Upon his return to the United States Col. Philibosian served



*Col. Emil H. Philibosian addresses the NJDMAVA staff.  
Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, NJDMAVA/PA.*

as the Assistant Operations and Training Officer at Fort Hamilton, N.Y. After being honorably discharged in 1971, Col. Philibosian served in the Army Reserve from 1971 to 1980. In 1980, he became the C Company Training Officer, 2-78th Regiment, 78th Training and Support Division, headquartered at the Sergeant Joyce Kilmer United States Army Reserve Center, Edison, N.J. In 1982, he became the Headquarters Supply Officer, 2-78 Regiment, 78th Training and Support Division. In 1984, he became the C Company Commander, 78th Division. From 1986 through 1990, Col. Philibosian served as the Infantry Team Project Officer, 78th Maneuver Training Command, 78th Division. From 1993 to 1995, he served

as the Battalion Commander, 1-309th, 2nd Brigade, 78th Division. In 1995, Col. Philibosian became the Deputy Brigade Operations and Training Officer, 78th Division. Col. Philibosian served from 1998 to 2002 as the commander, 1079th Garrison Support Unit, Fort Dix.

His awards and decorations include: the Silver Star, Soldiers Medal, Bronze Star with one V device and one Oak Leaf Cluster, Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, Air Medal with one V device, Army Commendation Medal with one V device and one Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Achievement Medal, Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal with four awards, National Defense Service Medal with two devices, Vietnam Service Medal, Campaign Star, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Army Reserve Components Overseas Ribbon, Humanitarian Service Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge, Parachutist Badge, Pathfinder Badge, Recondo Badge, Special Forces TAB, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Silver Star, Republic of Vietnam Honor Medal First Class, Republic of Vietnam Staff Service Medal First Class, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, and the Republic of Vietnam Airborne Badge. 🇺🇸

# Another Swapout: 108th Returns From Southwest Asia

Photo and story by Staff Sgt. Barbara Harbison, NJDMAVA/PA

**A** Guardsman (right) of the 108th Air Refueling Wing, located at McGuire Air Force Base, comforts her daughter after returning from a 45-day deployment to Oman.

On Jan. 21, approximately 30 Air National Guard members returned from Southwest Asia. These airmen were the first to return of the more than 200 who were deployed in December to provide air refueling support in the ongoing war against terrorism. To date there are still more than 150 Guardsmen in Oman.

Since the Sept. 11 attacks, the 108th, based at McGuire Air Force Base, has mobilized approximately 600 of its 1,400 citizen-airmen to support Operation's Enduring Freedom and Noble Eagle. Providing air refueling support and strategic airlift, the 108th has 20 KC-135E Stratotankers, making it one of only three "super tanker wings" in the Air National Guard. ✍



## NJANG Receives Governor's Air And Space Award

On May 3, the New Jersey Air National Guard was awarded the 2002 Governor's Air and Space Medal in Wood Ridge. Col. Mike Cosby, Commander, 177th Fighter Wing, and Col. Craig Widen, Commander, 108th Air Refueling Wing, joined Col. Larry Thomas, the Inspector General, who accepted the award on behalf of Maj. Gen. Craig Cosgrave, Commander of the NJANG.

The Award Committee, comprised of six members of the civil aviation community, decided that a special presentation of this annual award would be made to the 108th and the 177th in recognition of their outstanding contributions to national defense and Homeland Security following Sept. 11.

The Governor's Air and Space Medal was created on January 10, 1996 replacing an earlier award that had not been given since 1946. ✍



(L-R) Col. Craig Widen, Commander, 108th Air Refueling Wing, Theodore Matthews, Executive Director, Aeronautics and Freight Systems, N.J. Dept. of Trans., representing Gov. James E. McGreevey; Col. Larry Thomas representing Maj. Gen. Craig Cosgrave, Commander New Jersey Air National Guard, and Col. Mike Cosby, Commander, 177th Fighter Wing. Photo by Roman Martyniuk, NJDMAVA/PA.

# Governor Hosts Army Day Celebration

Photo and story by Roman Martyniuk, NJDMAVA/PA.

**O**n April 6, Gov. James E. McGreevey (center), the Commander-in-Chief of the New Jersey National Guard assisted by Brig. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth (left), The Adjutant General, raised the Army Flag at Drumthwacket in celebration of Army Day.

More than 400 people attended the event. The day's events included Governor McGreevey presenting the state's highest military honor, the New Jersey Distinguished Service Medal to several members of the New Jersey Army National Guard. Also recognized for their contributions to state and nation were several Army Guardsmen recently returned from participation in NATO peacekeeping missions in the Balkans, as well as Guardsmen currently involved in Homeland Security missions.

The Governor praised New Jersey's citizen-soldiers, "In the wake



of Sept. 11, the New Jersey Army National Guard have guarded the Lincoln Tunnel, Newark Airport, our bridges, and our power plants in an effort to protect the safety and security of our state and our nation. I would like to personally thank the

men and women who have served our state - not just here at home, but abroad as well - for their continued bravery, dedication and heroism." Army Day was created by an act of Congress in 1937. ✪

## Summer Youth Camp 2002

The New Jersey National Guard Youth Camp New Jersey Family Foundation Inc. will be held July 28 through Aug. 3 at Sea Girt. The one week in-residence program for children, ages 9-13 costs \$100. They must be a child, grandchild, or a legal dependent of a New Jersey National Guard or NJDMAVA member/retired member. Activities include sports, arts and crafts, and teamwork building. Camper and volunteer applications are now available at the units, or at: [www.state.nj.us/military/familysupport/](http://www.state.nj.us/military/familysupport/). For more information call Chief Warrant Officer 4 Ralph Cwieka, Family Program Coordinator at (609) 562-0668. ✪



# Sgt. Maj. Adkins Chosen As State Command Sergeant Major

By the Guardlife Staff

**T**he Adjutant General, Brig. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth, has chosen Sgt. Maj. Richard S. Adkins, Jr. as the New Jersey State Command Sergeant Major.

Prior to his appointment, Command Sgt. Maj. Adkins served as the Operations/Maintenance Sergeant Major, at Headquarters State Area Command, Fort Dix. Command Sgt. Maj. Adkins was born on Nov. 4 1949, in Trenton. After graduating from Trenton Central High School he continued his education at Mercer County Community College. He is currently attending Excelsior College.

Command Sgt. Maj. Adkins entered the military in July 1968. He completed his basic military training at Fort Knox, Ky, and advanced individual training at Fort Sill, Okla. as a field artillery crewmember. He has served in various positions including Motor Sergeant, Chief of Survey and Chief of Detail, Battery A, 4-112th Field Artillery; Chief of Firing Battery and



*New Jersey State Command Sgt. Maj. Richard S. Adkins, Jr.*

First Sergeant, Battery C, 4-112th Field Artillery; Tactical Communications Chief, HQ 4-112th Field Artillery; Section Chief Mechanical Maintenance Sergeant, Maintenance Operations Sergeant and First Sergeant, 117th Maintenance Company; Operations Sergeant and Command

Sergeant Major, 119th Maintenance Battalion.

Command Sgt. Maj. Adkins has received the following awards during his military career: The Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Army Commendation Medal with six oak leaf clusters, the Army Achievement Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the National Defense Service Medal, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Army Service Ribbon, NCO Professional Development Ribbon with three oak leaf clusters, Army Reserve Component Overseas Training Ribbon, Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal with four oak leaf clusters,

New Jersey Commendation Medal, New Jersey Ribbon of Honor with four devices, the New Jersey Good Conduct Ribbon with eight devices, New Jersey Merit Award with 31 devices, New Jersey Desert Storm Ribbon, New Jersey State Service Award, and the New Jersey Governors Unit Award. 🇺🇸

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**Department of Military and Veterans Affairs**  
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