

GUARDLIFE

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GUARDLIFE

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Cover

Water, Water Everywhere

Master Sergeants' Jeff Redrup (left), 108th Air Refueling Wing and Pedro Rodriguez (right), 177th Fighter Wing, prepare donated water for shipment from 108th ARW, McGuire Air Force Base to Belle Chasse Naval Air Station New Orleans. Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, NJDMAVA/PA.

Inside Cover

Security Arrives

Members of the 108th Air Refueling Wing Security Forces arrive at Belle Chasse Naval Air Station New Orleans as part of New Jersey's response to Hurricane Katrina. For more on New Jersey's aid to New Orleans turn to page 5. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Robert Stephenson, NJDMAVA/PA.

TAG's Message - The Tradition Continues

By Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth, The Adjutant General - New Jersey



Acting Governor Richard J. Codey (right) and Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth address New Jersey National Guard members prior to deployment to New Orleans in support of Hurricane Katrina relief efforts. Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, NJDMAVA/PA.

Our National Guard is derived from the Colonial militias of the new world colonies. The first small units were comprised of Citizen-Soldiers ready and willing to put down their plows, grab their muskets and band together in the common defense of their community. During the War for Independence, these “minutemen” formed an important part of the American Army and despite adversity, poor supplies, and no pay, time and again, proved themselves in battle against much better equipped mercenaries and the professional soldiers in the British Army.

Our original purpose was to defend and protect against hostile natives, renegades, an occasional attack from the French (in the days long before the Revolutionary War), and in 1812, an attempt by the British to reclaim their lost colony. The threat often changed, but the response was always the same ... do whatever was necessary to protect families and neighbors and, after independence, to preserve the fledgling democracy. Due in no small part to the contributions of the National Guard, America grew and prospered and soon established itself as a beacon of hope to oppressed peoples around the world.

Unlike the military in many other countries so often used to oppress and control civilian populations, our heritage reflects only the highest ideals of service-

before-self. From WWI, WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm to today - we have returned to our traditional mission of defending the homeland. Today's focus has been defending against the terrorist threat.

The Minutemen of our National Guard, however, were not content just to save the world from disaster. We responded to local emergencies within the Garden State and as we now are doing in the Gulf Coast region, assisting our fellow citizens devastated by natural disasters. We mobilized Soldiers and Airmen to New Orleans to assist local law enforcement in patrolling the grief-stricken areas. We collected 3.5 million bottles of water for the residents of the impacted areas. Our Soldiers operated a Movement Control Cell at Naval Air Station New Orleans – one of the busiest transportation hubs in the area following the hurricane. And our Civil Engineers from the 108th ARW and 177th FW are providing much needed support in Gulfport. These are New Jersey's finest citizens!

Here in New Jersey we assist local communities by bringing drinking water to areas where supply may be interrupted; we transport patients with medical emergencies to hospitals for dialysis and other life-saving treatment; assist in the rescue and recovery efforts; install temporary bridges over key roadways; provide emergency generators during power outages; help fight forest fires in the Pinelands; evacuate people stranded by floods; open our armories for various community events; provide our young people with recreation facilities; support drug education/prevention programs; work with various law enforcement agencies in the ongoing war on drugs; helped plan and conduct the Statue of Liberty Centennial Celebrations, World Cup Soccer, Op Sail, and the Inaugural ceremonies for our Governor every four years.

Like the many unique challenges that faced our predecessors, the threat keeps changing. From Homeland Defense to Homeland Security; from Emergency Operations to Community Assistance...in the glorious tradition of our forefathers...we keep responding. **Thank you for your service. Thank you for your continued sacrifice. Thank you for keeping alive the indomitable spirit of the Citizen-Soldier.**



It's The New Jersey Cavalry

By retired Warrant Officer Roman M. Martyniuk, NJDMAVA/PA

While tens of thousands of National Guardsmen are deployed overseas to fight the Global War On Terrorism, thousands more Citizen-Soldiers are responding to the threats to citizens here at home.

Once again, it's the Cavalry to the rescue with equal support from Field Artillery, Armor and Infantry units and a big assist from the Air National Guard. The New Jersey National Guard has deployed hundreds of personnel, vehicles and equipment in response to the unprecedented devastation and destruction left in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita to assist victims of the two worst storms to hit the United States in the last century.

Following the announcement by LTG H. Steven Blum, Chief, National Guard Bureau on Aug. 31 authorizing respective state National Guards to provide whatever manpower or equipment support they had to assist in the monumental relief effort, New Jersey Air National Guard crews and their KC-135E Stratotanker aircraft from the 108th Air Refueling Wing were mobilized to deliver desperately needed bottled drinking water to the areas affected by the ravages of Katrina's 135 mph winds and 20-foot storm surge.

New Jersey citizens, corporations and private organizations donated 3.5 million 16-ounce bottles of water over a five-day period. New Jersey Army National Guard personnel from the 250th Forward Support Battalion headquartered in Sea Girt and other personnel at National Guard armories throughout the state also were called into service to package and provide ground transportation for the donated water.

Thirty-five Security Forces Airmen of the 108th Air Refueling Wing, New Jersey Air National Guard, spent two

weeks assisting local law enforcement personnel restore and maintain order. Twenty-five soldiers of the 3rd Battalion, 112th Field Artillery spent three days setting up a Life Support Area for a Law Enforcement Task Force from New Jersey that sent State Police and other emergency services personnel to the devastated region (also as part of the state's EMAC agreement with Louisiana.)

On Sept. 21, a contingent of 12 New Jersey Army National Guard Soldiers from the 3rd Battalion, 112th Field Artillery, 50th Main Support Battalion, and Joint Force Headquarters departed from McGuire Air Force Base destined for Belle Chasse Naval Air Station New Orleans to relieve their counterparts in the Louisiana National Guard who have been on duty at the military flight facility since Hurricane Katrina struck the Gulf Coast more than three weeks prior.

The Garden State Guardsmen, who all volunteered to answer the call to fulfill this latest mission, served as a "movement control cell" directing the hundreds of aircraft and vehicles bringing desperately needed relief supplies to the storm stricken area. The Jersey troops were tasked for this special mission as part of the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) that provides authority for Guard units from other than their home state to provide personnel and equipment in the event of an emergency. The troops were stationed at Belle Chasse where they helped coordinate arrivals and departures of the numerous daily flights of military and other relief aircraft that are bringing additional troops, equipment, and supplies to aid in the ongoing national relief and recovery effort.

Lt. Col. Eric Anderson, Joint Force Headquarters-New Jersey, commanded this group of Guardsmen. "As a



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class David Moore, JFHQ-NJ/PA

avalry To The Rescue

Guardsman I'm happy to be able to help our fellow Americans in the aftermath of this terrible disaster. As a husband and father, I can only imagine what these families have had to endure these past weeks."

The current relief effort differs somewhat from previous emergency assistance missions in the Garden State following Hurricanes' Floyd and Andrew and the local flood emergencies in Somerset County a few years back. The areas of the Gulf Coast have been so severely damaged that numerous new challenges have been introduced. The virtual absence of communications, electricity, housing, fuel, food, and potable water required rescue personnel not only to bring relief supplies to assist the victims of the Hurricane, but also to be completely self supporting.

Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth, The Adjutant General of New Jersey, who along with Acting Governor Richard J. Codey, Commander-in-Chief of the New Jersey National Guard accompanied the troops during their flight to New Orleans, described the Guard's role in emergencies. "These Guardsmen all volunteered. Their willingness to put service to state and nation before service to self has always been the hallmark of the Citizen-Soldier."

On Sept. 28, an additional 300 troops from the New Jersey National Guard began their 30-day mission of providing security, bringing supplies, equipment and additional personnel to support Task Force Santa Fe. The Soldiers were drawn from a variety of units to include the 1st Battalion, 114th Infantry; the 2nd Battalion 102nd Armor; the 2nd Battalion, 113th Infantry; a beefed-up Transportation Platoon from the 250th Forward Support Battalion; the 50th Main Support Battalion; the 253rd Transportation Company; members of the 3rd Battalion, 112th Field

Artillery; 110th Engineer Detachment; 50th Personnel Services Battalion; Joint Force Headquarters - New Jersey and a command and control element from Joint Training and Training Development Center. Medics, mechanics, drivers, and fuel handlers formed the 53-vehicle convoy, which included HUMMV's, tractor-trailers, pallet loading systems, HMMT cargo, wreckers, and tankers, and an ambulance for the three-day motor march to Louisiana while the bulk of the infantry troops traveled by commercial bus.

"My intent was to provide a professional military unit to the city of New Orleans, that was able to assist with security and stabilization operations," said Col. James Grant, Commander, Task Force Garden State. "Preparedness, perception and professionalism have been the focus of this command since day one. I can report today that my intent was met and expectations exceeded. I am proud of each and every Soldiers' performance on this mission."

Katrina support didn't stop there. In addition to the numerous Soldiers and Airmen mentioned earlier, 20 members of the 177th Medical Group deployed to both New Orleans and Gulfport, Miss., for anywhere from two to four weeks to provide aid. On Oct. 14, 43 civil engineers and other support personnel for the 108th ARW and the 177th FW deployed to Gulfport to help maintain and improve a life support area for volunteers.

"The Guard is family," said General Rieth. "Whatever resources we have...whatever resources we can muster now will be directed to assisting our extended National Guard family and other storm victims in the Gulf Coast region." 🇺🇸

NJNG's Response To Hurricane Katrina In Pictures





108th ARW Command Chief: Teamwork

By Command Chief Master Sgt. Joe Ortu

In any organization, effective Teamwork allows goals and objectives to be accomplished successfully. In the Profession of Arms, these goals and objectives equate to mission accomplishment.

As the National Guard evolves, our military relationships have expanded and Teamwork crosses unit and service lines more frequently than ever before.

Hurricanes Katrina and Rita impacted Americans in several states. The New Jersey National Guard's response to these disasters has been exceptional, unselfish and a great example of Teamwork. Soon after Katrina, it was determined that our mission would be to bring emergency shipments of water to the New Orleans area. Basically, the plan was to accept donations of bottled water from businesses and private citizens throughout the state. We would then transport that water, utilizing airlift to the New Orleans area. The positive Teamwork that was displayed by citizens, commercial establishments and, most of all, the members of the New Jersey National Guard in the days that followed was exemplary.

The Joint Operations Center in Lawrenceville coordinated the activities of both Army and Air components. The plan moved forward rapidly and encompassed many areas. It took teamwork to execute the plan and make things happen. While the basic plan sounds simple, it was not an easy task. Teamwork was required to execute each phase of the plan. Labor Day weekend proved not to be an obstacle as volunteers sacrificed their personal and family time to meet the needs of the mission. For this mission, like all others, the Guard stepped up to the challenge. Volunteers from the 177th Fighter Wing in



Atlantic City joined the team at the 108th, while Soldiers were busy manning the collection sites.

Local radio stations advertised the initiative and the water started flowing in. The Army National Guard utilized its community-based armories to accept donated bottled water. The armories are easily accessible to the general public and our generous citizens brought thousands of cases to these armories. Soldiers collected water, palletized it and loaded it into trucks for delivery to a cargo staging area at McGuire AFB. Commercial establishments delivered tractor-trailer loads of water directly to the 108th. I met a passenger in a tractor-trailer loaded with water and as I thanked him for his delivery, he thanked us for our efforts. He was the president of the company supplying the water and just wanted to do his part to help his fellow Americans.

At the marshalling area, the water was downloaded from the trucks and palletized. The aircraft pallets must be "built" according to the aircraft they will be loaded on.

The first aircraft departing McGuire transported members of the 108th Security Forces Squadron. As always, they were prepared to do whatever was required, although unsure of their final destination or assignment.

The Naval Air Station New Orleans ramp was packed with Air Guard aircraft from the 108th, Kansas, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, California, Utah and Wisconsin. All had the same mission objective and shared the sense of urgency. Get in with the cargo, get it downloaded safely and get off the ground as soon as possible.

Over the course of the 10-day operation at the 108th, the morale, esprit de corps and Teamwork was fantastic. During the entire time, Guardsmen could be seen pitching in to help the Team in any way possible. Recurring comments included: "Glad to help out", "Happy to pitch in" "Wish I could do more to help", and "It's the least we can do".

Rest assured, that teamwork will continue, as it always has. While writing this article, Army and Air units were deploying to the Gulf region to further assist in operations. The 108th and 177th Civil Engineers have deployed to Gulfport, Miss., where they will work restoring base facilities.

Whatever your role in this task may have been, you made a valuable contribution. Vehicle operators, mechanics, logisticians, aircrew and supervisors all worked as one Team.

New Jersey Guardsmen can and should be proud of their accomplishments in response to Katrina. Our Teamwork enabled us to deliver millions of bottles of water where it was needed and we know once again the New Jersey National Guard has made a difference. Great job! 🇺🇸

Brigade Holds Combined Annual Training

By Spc. Marimer Navarrete, 444 MPAD

A smaller but much more experienced group of citizen Soldiers successfully completed Annual Training (AT) at Fort Indiantown Gap, Pa.

This year's AT was the first time in recent memory where members of the 1st Battalion, 113th Infantry; 1st Battalion, 114th Infantry; 2nd Battalion, 102nd Armor; 3rd Battalion, 112th Field Artillery and the 5th Squadron, 117th Cavalry had the opportunity to train with each other simultaneously.

Many of these units' members recently returned from active duty tours in the Sinai, Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, and Iraq, where some obtained valuable combat experience and others new skills and training techniques that they were able to share with each other.

Even though Soldiers returning from recent deployments were not required to attend this year's AT, Brigade Commander, Col. Frank Caruso, said that the ones who did come had the opportunity to do combined training with soldiers of other units.

"All of our ranges and some of the exercises were open to more than one battalion. So for instance, if one battalion was running a range, that range was open and everybody participated, they just had the responsibility to run it. Some of the lanes we interchanged, too," explained Caruso.

Of those who benefited from the combined training were 13 Soldiers from the 3rd Battalion, 112th Field Artillery who



Pfc. Jeffrey Avetria, 1st Battalion, 113th Infantry, descends from the rappelling tower. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Robert Stephenson, NJDMAVA/PA.

were deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"We've never really experienced being associated with the Infantry firing mortars," said the battalion's Command Sgt. Mayor Tom Slowenski. "We sent some guys to the rappel tower who would never have had the opportunity to do that and the Infantry had it laid on and invited us to come out and train with them. We haven't fired cannons in two and a half years, so just to get out here and do something different was real good experience."

Besides the live mortar fire exercises, the Brigade trained with various weapons, such as the M-9 pistol, M-16A4/A2 rifle, M249-SAW, M250, threw hand grenades, and fired anti-tank AT-4 rockets.

They also had the opportunity to conduct Infantry maneuver lanes, mounted route reconnaissance across several wooded miles of FIG terrain, and conducted counter insurgency weapons training.

Reflecting on all their accomplishments, Caruso said that this AT helped the Brigade to grow stronger as redeployed Soldiers brought their real-life experiences to the training.

"As these units deployed to different locations they brought a little piece of that (knowledge) back with them. They've used that knowledge to make the units stronger. We are looking forward to building a great force and I think this was the first step to building a solid, energetic, trained force." 🇺🇸



Pvt. Daniel Botero, Pfc. John Law, and Spc. Phillip Purnell (L-R), of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 50th Brigade, operate communication equipment. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Kryn Westhoven, 444 MPAD.

177th Med Group Deploys To Alpena

Story by Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, 177FW/PA; photo by Tech. Sgt. Kelly Deitloff, 161ARW/CF



Lt. Col. Albert Assad (right) and 1st Lt. Jason Winterbottom (left) operate on a patient.

From August 1 through 5, Airmen from the 177th Medical Group along with 177th Services Flight combined forces with 110th, 115th, 161st and the 162nd Medical Groups for annual training at the Combat Readiness Training Center at Alpena, Mich.

The training was geared toward deployment under bare base conditions anywhere in the world. The Guardsmen, who spent their entire deployment in a tent city at Camp Collins, represented a complete cross-section of medical skills present during the deployment. Everyone from physicians and flight surgeons to optometrists, nurses and medical service corps officers joined forces with administrative, medical equipment repair and public health person-

nel for training in a variety of combat and emergency scenarios.

The Airmen received specialized training in the operation of Expeditionary Medical Support (EMEDS) – the Air Force’s new medical and dental field hospital - which replaces air transportable clinics. EMEDS includes an emergency and operating rooms, x-ray capability and a 25-bed ward. The Airmen trained in disease prevention, combat stress, self aid and buddy care/wound management, litter loading for ambulance and C-130 Hercules aircraft. They also trained with a human patient simulator - a training device that looks like and responds in the same way a person does when a doctor and staff works on it.

The training scenarios included emergency and operating rooms, a mass casualty exercise, and a “bug out” - a term many will recognize from the TV series MASH - which means to pull up stakes and relocate operations. The 177th Services Flight Airmen received special recognition in the final report. “The Food Services personnel were considered outstanding by everyone,” stated Col. Patrick D. Aiello, Commander, 161st Medical Group, 161st Air Refueling Wing, Phoenix, Ariz. “They were on time every day, had outstanding attitudes and served great food.”

“We truly didn’t have a weak link,” summarized Lt. Col. Gerald Iulucci, 177th Medical Services Corps. “The patient retrieval team members’ response was highly focused. The ER team accomplished the most rapid and efficient throughput of patients. The OR team did more procedures than ever before for this type of exercise. All personnel consistently showed high levels of enthusiasm and professionalism.”

Air Show Highlights Wing And Air Guard

Chief Master Sgt. Donald Martenz, 177th Fighter Wing Maintenance Operations Flight, coordinates maintenance support during the 2005 Atlantic City Air Show Aug. 30. The 177th provided everything from flightline maintenance and fuel, to ramp space and traffic control. Planning for next year’s has already begun. Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, 177FW/PA.



50th MSB Members Rack Up The Miles

Photo and story by Sgt. 1st Class Robert Stephenson, NJDMAVA/PA

When the National Guard's 42nd Infantry Division was tasked with commanding Task Force Liberty by replacing the 1st Infantry Division in Iraq, the Department of Defense was well aware that history was in the making.

When the Rainbow Division replaced the Big Red One, it was the first National Guard division to command Active Duty troops in Iraq. Two Active Duty brigades from the 3rd Infantry Division would be part of the more than 18,000 active and reserve component Soldiers commanded by the 42nd in an Area of Operation that stretched from Baghdad in the south to Kirkûk in the north.

Keeping those units combat-ready is the primary mission of the Rainbow Division's 50th Main Support Battalion, New Jersey National Guard, and their commander, Lt. Col. Roch Switlik.

"Being the primary logistics unit for the division, we provide all aspects of multi-functional logistics support, ranging from supply and services, maintenance, medical and transportation," says Switlik. "We handle all classes of supply, from food and fuel, water and ammunition, major end items, new vehicles, supplies of all aspects, all the way through to repair parts for tanks and major equipment."

All these items come through the MSB. The unit receives, inventories, stores and distributes them to their customers, and they have a very large clientele, according to Switlik.

"We support about 240 units on roughly 25 different Forward Operating Bases (FOB's), and we deliver to 10 of those FOB's. The Main Support Battalion to date [as of June 2005] has produced and distributed approximately four million gallons of water, we've delivered roughly one and a half million gallons of fuel, completed 3,800 maintenance work orders and treated more than 7,900 patients — not all combat related, so it's been a very, very busy 110 days."

It's been a long-held belief that for every "combat" Soldier on the front lines, there are several Soldiers in the rear providing support, but for some members of the 50th MSB, providing support in this asymmetrical war of no boundaries means leaving the relative safety of FOB Speicher in order to deliver supplies to customers.

"Being a logistical unit, you're not typically expected to be put in harm's way," says the 50th MSB's executive officer, Maj. Michael Lyons. "But this being an insurgency, and not a doctrinal battlefield, we find ourselves more of a target than the brigade combat teams, when we're out there, we do our own security for our own convoys, which we call Combat Logistics Patrols here, to emphasize to the Soldiers that every time you step out the gate you have to



Maj. Michael Lyons (L) and Lt. Col. Roch Switlik (R), brief Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth during his visit to Iraq in May, 2005.

have your game face on, and you've got to be ready."

"We run 10-15 [CLP's] a week, and so far we have logged over 600,000 miles in theater in the last 110 days or so," notes Switlik. That's more than half a million miles in three and a half months. And while those miles were not all accident-free, there were no combat injuries or fatalities to members of the 50th MSB.

A major reason why the unit has been so successful is due to the dedication of the battalion S2 and S3, who have worked to make sure that when the Soldiers leave the FOB, they have the best information and training available.

"We have a very good Intel and Operations section," says Lyons. "They do a good job of keeping the Soldiers aware of what's going on in the AO, because this province is very hot — a lot of action in this area — but I think the Soldiers when they leave the gate, are prepared for the mission, they have the latest Intel and they know the AO."

"It boils down to the deliberate planning and the discipline of the Soldiers," notes Switlik. "We have a very methodical process that the Soldiers go through every day prior to leaving the FOB, and I think the training and the discipline of the Soldiers is what led to no significant accidents and no loss of life due to enemy contact."

The commander proffers another reason why his Guardsmen have been so successful outside the wire. "From a decision-making perspective, the leadership in the Guard tends to be a little bit older, with a little more maturity and life experiences, and I think that is what makes them equal to, or in some cases, better than active duty Soldiers," notes Switlik. "I would put this National Guard unit up against any of them."

NJARNG Says Farewell To Units

Story by Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, NJDMAVA/PA

Farewell Ceremonies were held in Flemington on Aug. 27 for the 250th Finance Detachment and in Vineland for Company D, 250th Brigade Support Battalion on Sept. 28 and C Troop, 117th Reconnaissance, Surveillance, Targeting, Acquisition (RSTA) on Oct. 13.

Each of the ceremonies were attended by families, friends and legislators who wished the Soldiers safety and success as they prepared to deploy in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.





The NJNG's Role In Homeland Security

By Maj. Jeff Brownlee, Homeland Security Center of Excellence
Photos by Sgt. 1st Class Robert Stephenson, NJDMAVA/PA



It's Jan. 11, 2006 and, National Weather Service has predicted a Nor'Easter to hit the State of New Jersey. The storm will produce blizzard conditions across the entire state starting on the 13th of January.

The storm is expected to cause power outages, a storm surge along the southern coast, close roads and shut the state down for a few days.

If this had been a real event, the following would take place: having been apprised of the above information, the New Jersey National Guard Command Group would reach out to the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management (NJOEM) which is run by the New Jersey State Police, to coordinate any possible involvement of Guard resources. Because the New Jersey National Guard is not the lead agency in Emergency Management, it is the responsibility of the State Police and NJOEM to determine if any National Guard assets will be needed during the upcoming emergency. In the event that they are needed, the Command Group prepares a proposed Course of Action.

Once the plans are finalized, they are integrated into a Warning Order which is given to the Guard Force Commanders and their staff. The Guard Force Commanders then develop their Operations Orders and activate their Task Forces to support potential missions based on the storm. One of the first to be called into action would be members of the Quick Reaction Force (QRF), which is a contingent of traditional drilling National Guard Soldiers who are on standby status throughout the state and are available to muster and report for duty in the event of an emergency. While this is occurring, the State and County Offices of Emergency Management are being activated, the New Jersey National Guard Joint Operations Center (JOC) is being activated, the Liaison Officers (LNO) of the New Jersey National Guard Joint Force Headquarters report to

the NJOEM and potentially County LNO's are reporting to County OEM's.

As mentioned earlier, the National Guard receives all of its Military Support to Civil Authorities (MSCA) missions from the NJOEM. Missions originate at the local level and are fed to the County OEMs. If the county can support the mission it ends there. If they cannot support the mission it is elevated to the state OEM. The state OEM is staffed by every state agency to include the National Guard. If the mission requires Guard assets the LNO contacts the JOC. Once the JOC receives a mission from the OEM it is then tasked to a Guard Force to action the mission. This process is repeated throughout the duration of the event. This process is the same for both Natural Disasters and Man-Made disasters. Recent events in New Orleans and Mississippi illustrate how important the National Guard role is when faced with a massive natural disaster. The key component to the success of any MSCA mission is the individual Soldiers and Airmen dedicated to the New Jersey National Guard. 🇺🇸



Specialists Ryan Dillon (left) and Dan Tinkler, HSCOE Members monitor the Guard's response.

108th SF Help Katrina Victims

By Senior Airman Robbie Finley, 108 ARW/PA



Members of the 108th Air Refueling Wing Security Forces gather up their gear on the tarmac at Belle Chasse Naval Air Station New Orleans. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Robert Stephenson, NJDMAVA/PA.

Security Forces personnel deployed to Louisiana Sept. 2-16 to support law enforcement after the devastation of Hurricane Katrina.

Lt. Col. Ronald Turk headed up the flight of 35 security forces personnel that took a KC-135E Stratotanker down to Belle Chasse Naval Air Station New Orleans, La., to help secure some of the hardest hit areas of the state.

"The first two nights we were there, we stayed in a hangar on the air station," said Master Sgt. Dave Beun, the standardizations and evaluations non-commissioned officer in charge for the SFS.

The SP's supplemented the Saint John The Baptist Parish Sheriff's department, where they helped process the displaced citizens to be transported out of the dangerous areas, such as the eastern part of New Orleans. They also performed residential patrols. Throughout the first few days in Louisiana, there was non-stop traffic of citizens, he added. The SFS split into two teams that worked 12-hour shifts the entire time they were there.

They worked with the New Orleans Special Weapons and Tactics personnel as they investigated a homicide, enforced the midnight curfew, and arrested looters in the area. The SFS also re-supplied the SWAT team, who was housed up in a makeshift location inside a school, whenever they needed supplies. This school also operated as a temporary armory.

The SFS and local police never ran into problems as they worked together.

"We got along great," Beun said. 🇺🇸

NGB Chief Presents Vision During Visit To Air Wings



Tech. Sgt. Patrick Applegate (left) greets Chief Master Sgt. Richard A. Smith (right), the ninth Command Chief Master Sergeant of the Air National Guard, during the Chief's visit to the 108th. The Chief visited both wing's on Aug. 29-31 and met with the chiefs to discuss his the vision for the Air National Guard and the enlisted challenges facing the Guard. Photo by Senior Airman Robbie Finley, 108 ARW/PA. 🇺🇸



Eagles High

Vincent Sabato, son of Master Sgt. Steve Sabato, 108th Air Refueling Wing, gives Hank Fraley, center for the Philadelphia Eagles, a "high five" during an autograph session held at the Cherry Hill armory on Oct. 15. Sponsored by the New Jersey Jewish War Veterans, Fraley, Eagles tackle Jon Runyan, former Eagle and current Philadelphia sportscaster, Garry Cobb, and Jill Horner, CN8 Newsmakers, autographed pictures, shirts, helmets, hats, posed for photos and spoke to the many New Jersey Guard Eagle fans and their family members who lined up to for this special event. Photo by Staff Sgt. Barbara Harbison, NJDMAVA/PA. 🇺🇸

News Guard Families Can Use

Compiled by the Guardlife Staff

Commissary, Fisher House Offer Scholarships

By Gerry J. Gilmore, American Forces Press Service

The Defense Commissary Agency and the Fisher House Foundation have teamed up again to offer educational scholarships to children of military families and retirees.

The Scholarships for Military Children Program is marking its sixth year, DeCA spokesman Kevin Robinson said. The goal, he said, is to provide at least one \$1,500 scholarship for each of DeCA's 268 commissaries worldwide. "It's important for us to give back to the military community that we serve," Robinson said. "This is one of the ways we do that, in addition to providing a commissary benefit to our customers." He added, "Helping the children of military families get an education" is a very worthy cause.

Authorized applicants include unmarried children under age 21 of active duty, Guard or Reserve, or military retiree families, Robinson said. Applicants may also range up to 23 years in age if they are enrolled in school. The application period for this year's DeCA-Fisher House scholarship program starts Nov. 1 and closes Feb. 22, Robinson said. Application forms for the program will become available in November for pick-up at commissaries worldwide and for download via the Internet at www.commissaries.com or at www.militaryscholar.org.

Robinson said applicants are required to write and submit an essay on why they admire a great past or present military leader. More than one scholarship per commissary may be awarded, Robinson said. In 2004-05, he said, 500 scholarships were awarded. The Fisher House Foundation administers the scholarship program, which is funded by manufacturers and suppliers of groceries and services in the commissary system, Robinson said. Last year, the DeCA-Fisher House program awarded around \$750,000 in scholarships, said David Coker, the Fisher House Foundation's executive director. More than \$3.2 million in scholarships have been awarded since the program began, Coker said. An outside review panel selects scholarship recipients, he noted. The annual DeCA-Fisher House scholarship program is conducted "to honor those that serve," Coker said.

Fisher House also builds and runs living quarters on the grounds of major military installations and Veterans Affairs medical centers so family members can be close to hospitalized loved ones. 📍



Gala Nets More than 29K

Jon Runyan (left), Eagles Tackle and Hank Fraley (second from left), center for the Philadelphia Eagles, pose with Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth (right) - The Adjutant General of New Jersey and his wife Linda Rieth (second from right) during a check presentation Oct. 15. The presentation was held during the 4th Annual Gala Dinner Dance at the Cherry Hill Armory. The 4th Annual Gala Dinner Dance Committee presented a check for \$5,000 to the New Jersey World War II Memorial Fund and \$24,018 to the New Jersey State Family Readiness Council. Photo courtesy of Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth. 📍

FRC Offers Grants

The State Family Readiness Council has established a Grant Program that will provide both Family and Business Grants to deserving New Jersey National Guard families impacted by deployment.

Business grants are up to \$5,000 and family grants \$2,500. Those interested should contact Family Assistance through the hotline at 1-888-859-0352. More information is available at the Council's website help@njguardfamilies.com or through FACs or FRGs.

Energy Saving Tips

With cold weather and winter winds just around the corner, everyone's home heating bill will start to climb. With the recent hurricanes, the costs of heating fuels are sure to hit the bank balance this winter. Energy saving ideas can be found at www.eere.energy.gov/consumer/tips/ 📍

Guardsmen To The Rescue

By the Guardlife Staff, photo by Sgt. 1st Class Kryn Westhoven, 444 MPAD

Nine members of the 50th Main Support Battalion, Rear Detachment, had a day of kayaking turn into a rescue of two New Jerseyans from the Manasquan River Reservoir in Howell Township.

The Soldiers were spending the day celebrating a first place win in a volleyball tournament they participated in during training with the 250th Forward Support Battalion at Sea Girt.

While kayaking on the river, Maj. John N. Tumino and his volleyball teammates, 2nd Lt. James Verrengia, Staff Sgt. Joseph F. Quiles, Sgt. Herminio Sanchez, and Specialists Tyehimba Ames, Trevor Crovitz, Nick Dumortier, Keiry Martiniz and Pvt. Chukwuemaka Chiazor saw trouble.

Michael Griffith and his father William, were out fishing for the day when their boat overturned off a dock on the river. Although both wore lifejackets, neither can swim well. William was also trapped under the overturned boat.

The nine Soldiers were able to pull both of the Griffiths to safety from the water.

"It was totally a natural reaction of the Citizen-Soldier," said Tumino. "When Soldiers see someone in danger, whether from natural disaster, war or like this-physical danger, they are going to help."

"I want to thank those guys any way I can," Michael Griffith stated. "Thanking those guys is important to me."



The eight members of the 50th Main Support Battalion consisted of Staff Sgt. Joseph Quiles, Spc. Tyehimba Ames, Spc. Keiry Martinez and Sgt. Herminio Snachez in the front row, with Pvt. Chukwuemaka Chiazor, Spc. Trevor Crovitz, 2nd Lt. James Verrengia and Spc. Nick Du Mortier.

Remember To Donate Blood.



Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth, The Adjutant General of New Jersey, took time out from the Officer's Call on Sept. 10 to swear in members of OCS Class Number

48 at the Trenton War Memorial. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Robert Stephenson, NJDMAVA/PA.

Freedom Salutes Around The State

Photos by the 444th MPAD



Four Freedom Salutes were held at armories around the state in September. The campaign is designed to recognize a Soldier's services, as well as the support of family members, friends, veterans and employers. Photos, clockwise starting above: Spc. William Clavell, C Company, 1st Battalion, 114th Infantry, Burlington, pins his wife, Luz, with the Freedom Salute pin that recognizes his wife's support when the unit was deployed to the Sinai. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class David Moore. Next, Staff Sgt. James Curran, a squad leader in Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 114 Infantry, and his wife, Agatha, participate in the lapel pinning ceremony at the Mt. Holly armory on Sept. 17. Photo by Maj. Carl Palmer. Bottom right, Spc. Edward Molina, Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 5th Squadron, 117th Cavalry, Vineland, pins his wife, Lisa with the spouse Freedom Salute pin on August 26. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Kryn Westhoven. Lt. Col. James Rosenberg, left back, 5th Troop, 117th Cavalry commander watches as Spec. Ruffin Kairo pins his son Zarie during at Freedom Salute ceremony at the West Orange armory. Photo by Spc. Nick Young.



Events-Based Recruiting

From the Recruiting And Retention Command

On Oct. 1, Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth announced the State's initiative to increase the strength of all units in the New Jersey Army National Guard. The Adjutant General's Events-Based Recruiting Program establishes an unprecedented partnership between unit and recruiting personnel.

Unit personnel from across the state are attending community based events such as parades, fairs, car shows, airshows, high school football games, college football games, concerts, and numerous other venues to find citizens who want to be part of their unit. Unit members explain what they do in the National Guard and where they drill in the community, in an effort to generate leads for the recruiters. Sgt. Maj. Albert Zarro, of the Recruiting Command, stated that the best leads we get are from Soldiers who are happy with their unit and are able to speak first hand with potential members. Recruiters strive to put new members in units close to their home. The best spokesperson for the Guard is a unit member.

The Recruiting Command Operations Section, under

the leadership of Maj. William Heineman, gathers information from unit personnel, Recruiting personnel, newspapers, websites and the New Jersey Department of Tourism. Maj. Heineman stated, "I look for events with the most bang for the buck. Having unit personnel attend events allows us to expand our coverage across the state. The more people we talk to about the Guard the more recruits we get. It's that simple."

Lt. Col. Dennis Devery, the Commander of the Recruiting and Retention force stated, "The Adjutant General's Events based Recruiting program is increasing leads across the state and has directly contributed to the success we have seen in Recruiting in the past few months."

"Unit members can sell the Guard better than my Recruiters because they live and operate in that unit on a day-to-day basis. I am confident that this partnership between the great units and my great Recruiters is going to allow us to increase strength in every unit of the New Jersey Army National Guard this year!"

Valenzuela-Bradley Wins Recruiting's Top Awards

By Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, NJDMAVA/PA; Photo by Maj. Jerry Minchin, RRC

Sgt. 1st Class Arthur J. Valenzuela-Bradley III received both the Chief's 54 and the Recruiting Rookie of the Year Awards, Recruiting and Retention Command's (RRC) two top awards, during a ceremony at the Joint Training and Training Development Center at Fort Dix on Oct. 12.

The Chief's 54 Award recognizes the Recruiting and Retention NCO (RRNCO) whose strength maintenance skills, knowledge, abilities and soldiering have resulted in being selected as the top RRNCO for her or his State/Territory/District. The award consists of a Chief's 54 ring and a plaque or trophy presented at the Chief's Strength Maintenance Award Ceremony, which will be held in Washington, D.C. this month. Valenzuela recruits in South Jersey on the Rowan University Campus, and led the New Jersey Army National Guard recruiting force in enlistments this year.



Sgt. 1st Class Arthur J. Valenzuela-Bradley III (center) stands with left to right, Lt. Col. Dennis Devery, Commander, RRC; Sgt. Maj. Frank Sippel, Brig. Gen. Maria Falca-Dodson, the Deputy Adjutant General and Sgt. Maj. Albert Zarro after receiving his awards.

The Recruiting Rookie of the Year Award recognizes the RRNCO who gains the most enlistments in his or her first full year of recruiting for the NJARNG. This award marks the first time in New Jersey Army National Guard history that the top Rookie also led all recruiting NCOs in enlistment production.

Short Rounds: New CSM, Katrina SRP, New Tank Commander And Award Recipients



Vander Clute New CSM

Command Sgt. Maj. Richard Vander Clute, left, and his wife Debbie share a light moment following his promotion at Fort Dix. Vander Clute was with the 63rd Army Band for 20 years, before he accepted the challenge to serve as the CSM for the 50th Personnel Services Battalion. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Kryn P. Westhoven, 444 MPAD.



2nd Tank Gets New Leader

Outgoing commander of the 2nd Battalion, 102nd Armor, Lt. Col. John M. Manfre, left, shows the mounted unit flag given to him by the Soldiers to incoming commander, Lt. Col. Kenneth S. Schechter, right, during the change of command ceremony at the West Orange armory on Oct. 23. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Kryn P. Westhoven, 444 MPAD.



SRP Processes Katrina Bound

On Sept. 30 and Oct. 1, medical personnel from the New Jersey National Guard Medical Command, Sea Girt, screened more than 350 Soldiers for a 300-member Task Force deployed to New Orleans in support of Hurricane Katrina relief. Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, NJDMAVA/PA.

Award Recipients Announced

On Oct. 8, the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of New Jersey announced its 2005 award winners at their 32nd Annual Conference held in.

The Command Sgt. Maj. Wilford Z. Lea Outstanding First Sergeant Award was presented to Master Sgt. Michael Edmiston, 108th Air Refueling Wing and 1st Sgt. George L. Thomas, 150th General Support Aviation Battalion. Receiving the Sgt. Maj. Harry Arbeitman Outstanding CEO Award were Senior Master Sgt. Michael R. Francis, 177th Fighter Wing and Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Alexander, B Company, 2nd Battalion, 113th Infantry.

The Sgt. 1st Class Robert Vuinovich Jr. Outstanding Soldier Award—Army was awarded to Spc. Albert C. Araujo, 150th General Support Aviation Battalion, while the Master Sgt. John E. Bodine Outstanding Airman Award—Air was given to Senior Airman Gordan A. Hill, 177th FW.

The Command Sgt. Maj. Vincent Baldassari Memorial Scholarships were awarded to Command Sgt. Maj. Richard Vander Clute, Jessica T. Enloe, daughter of Tech. Sgt. Steven S. Enloe; Kevin S. Hughes, son of Command Sgt. Maj. (Ret) Michael Hughes; Amanda J. Wachter, daughter of Senior Master Sgt. Michael Wachter; and Thomas P. Kripinski, Jr., son of Capt. Thomas P. Kripinski, Sr.

The USAA Scholarship was presented to Pv2. Stephen J. Love, while the Nicholas A. Caruso Memorial Scholarship went to Camille C. Carlucci, daughter of Col. Anthony and Master Sgt. Cynthia Carlucci.

The Association announced that its office located at the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs has been named "The Steinman Room" in honor of retired Master Sgt. Lynn H. Steinman in recognition of his 30 years of dedicated service to the Association.

Short Rounds: Stand Downs Help Homeless Vets And Army 10-Miler



Stand Downs 05

Above: Master Sgt. James McCloskey (right), 177th Fighter Wing Medical Group takes a veteran's blood pressure during Stand Down 2005. On Sept. 23, the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMAVA) and Stand Down of South Jersey, Inc., hosted Stand Down 2005 at the National Guard Armory in Cherry Hill. Photo by Staff Sgt. Barbara Harbison, NJDMAVA/PA. Right, Spc. Marco Carrillo, Headquarters, 250th Signal Battalion sorts through raincoats during the North Jersey Stand Down, held Sept. 17 at Essex County Community College in Newark. The New Jersey National Guard worked with volunteers to hand out clothing and conduct medical screenings for hundreds of veterans who attended the one-day event. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Kryn P. Westhoven, 444th MPAD. DMAVA, along with many volunteer organizations conducted both Stand Downs to provide homeless veter-



ans with access to healthcare, mental health screening, substance abuse counseling, social services availability, religious counseling, a hot meal, a haircut and winter clothing. Stand Down's goal is to show the disenfranchised veterans that someone still cares for them and assist them in bringing their homelessness to a close. 🇺🇸

Fifteen New Jersey Guardsmen Participate In 10-Miler

New Jersey National Guardsmen and their family members gather in Washington, D.C., the night before the Army 10-Miler. The race, which was held on Oct. 2, became the Army 11-Plus-Mile Fun Run, due to a suspicious package left on the course forcing race officials and police to change the course. The package was found to be harmless. This year's team included Col. Ed Slavin, Lt. Col. Matthew Mulqueen, Lt. Col. Dennis Devery, Maj. Jemal Beale, Master Sgt. Alex Estrada, Sgt. 1st Class Don Brandinelli, Sgt. 1st Class Luis Gonzalez, Sgt. 1st Class Josephine Grey, Sgt. 1st Class Joseph Prieto, Staff Sgt. Michael Hutchinson, Staff Sgt. Sean Chapman, Staff Sgt. Barb Harbison, Sgt. Tony Christy, retired Chief Warrant Officer 4 Chris Perron and retired Sgt. 1st Class Yvonne McGuire. Photo by Staff Sgt. Barb Harbison, NJDMAVA/PA. 🇺🇸



Short Rounds: Job Fair BossLift, WGR And Dance



Mega Job Fair

Recruiting and Retention manned one of 115 booths at the Mega Job Fair at the National Guard Armory in Somerset Oct. 11. Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, NJDMAVA/PA.



Bosses Receive Lift

Bergen County Sheriff Leo P. McGuire (C), is flanked by 250th FSB Commander Lt. Col. Joseph Sarama (L) and Sgt. 1st Class Al Roberts of the 50th MSB, during Boss Lift activities at the New Jersey National Guard Training Center at Sea Girt. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Robert Stephenson, NJDMAVA/PA.



Range Hosts Vineland Vets

Veterans and members of the 177th Fighter Wing and 108th Air Refueling Wing shield their eyes as they watch a mini-air show at the Warren Grove Training Range Sept. 22. The 177th and 108th hosted veterans from the Vineland Veterans Memorial Home at an annual barbecue. The program was organized by Range personnel, Senior Master Sergeants Tom Dunn and Tim Donovan from the 177th and Master Sgt. Steve Sabato from the 108th. Photo by Master Sgt. Anthony Christmas, 177FW.



Hangar Dance

Once again, the 177th Fighter Wing Family Support Program Manager, in conjunction with the Services Squadron, and the Wing Commander pulled off another exciting Hangar Dance. This year's event was well attended by wing personnel. Some attendees really got into the spirit of things by dressing in authentic World War II uniforms courtesy of Wing Commander Col. Brian Webster. Still others dressed in civilian attire from all eras to include leisure suits from the 70's, and formal attire from the 40's. Everyone had a great time. Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, 177FW/PA.

Army And Air Enlisted Promotions

Provided by Master Sgt. Daniel J. Calderale (Army) and Master Sgt. Paul B. Thompson, Jr. (Air)

NEW JERSEY ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

To Sergeant Major (E-9):

Thomas J. Clark
Rodger A. Miller

To Master Sergeant (E-8):

Frank A. Cumberland
Clinton A. Drummond
Daniel S. McCracken
Terence O'Connor
John A. Payan
Michael J. Pressey
Harry N. Streets

To Sergeant First Class (E-7):

Kenneth Boudreau
Michael L. Burnette
John Coulter
Nelson S. Deoliveira
Norris H. Fletcher
Richard W. Heisler
William A. Jacobs
Victor M. Lopez
Larry S. Rosenthal

To Staff Sergeant (E-6):

Christopher D. Braine
Michael H. Brown
Peter J. Colombo
Brian D. Elg
Joseph J. Emma
Michael J. Graham
Thomas J. Hart, Jr.
Christopher E.
Hoenge
Carlos J. Madera
Kevin J. Makin
Raymond L.
Ostrowski
Anthony Padin
Miguel A. Salles, III
Donald P. Sullivan
Robert L. Surgick
Marc D. Winans

To Sergeant (E-5):

Kurt A. Allen

Zachary H. D.
Appleton
Antonella G. Cataliotti
Gregory E. Cranmer,
Jr.
Emely C. Crespo
Glenn T. Cunningham
Terry L. Darr, Jr.
Daniel E. Gonzalez
John S. Guevara
Jeffrey M. Hiles
Frederick J. Hornig
Kevin C. Martin
Jeffrey J. McNeel, Jr.
Rosalind M.
Merkerson
Brian L. Mills
Jacqueline F.
Murnane
Sean C. Murphy
Yvonne P. Paden
Joseph J. Rios, III
Paul A. Rodesky
Luis A. Roman
Thomas C. Samuels
Stefanie S. Smith
Daniel R. Tinkler
Belinsky Toussaint
Adam M. Wecht
Michael J. Welch
Michael J. Zerr
Juliana Zifovski

To Specialist (E-4):

Achal N. Amin
Bryan R. Ascher
Madeleine R. Avent
Bilal Bajwa
Kuan I. Bowleg
Charles Brack III
Marvin H. Cadet
James F. Cerveny
Nelson R. Cespedes
Carlos Correa Jr.
Felicia F. Davis
James H. Dennis III
Sean S. Fisher
John F. Gontarski III
William D. Harpe
John P. Hartley
John J. Howard, Jr.
Eric J. Johnson
Robin A. Johnson
Adam R. Jones

Rafal Kaminski
John C. King
Luis R. Maldonado
Brian V. Mayhue
Bryan J. Mulvihill
Mary C. Nunez
Aaron J. Oliver
Akinwande A.
Oshodi
Gabriela L. Pereira
Brian D. Pio
Steven B. Porter, Jr.
Eric M. Rue
Konstantin D.
Smirnov
Rachel R. Sturtevant
Paul W. Summerfield
Terrill Walker
Janet M. Wyka
Raymond R. Young

To Private First Class (E-3):

Michael J. Barreca
Robert J. Boehm
Daniel E. Botero
Brian M. Burd
Abreu Y. Caba
Nicholas C. Carrubba
Donald H. Corrigan
Joseph P. Defelice
Antonio D. Dejesus
Manuel J. Gomez, III
Meji G. L. Gomez
Maria E. Guerra
Jeffrey A. Howard
Christon R. Lackie
Oscar A. Llerena
Jonathan M. Long
Timothy R. Long
Maria H. Luna
Timothy J. Majzer
Robert C. McClintock
Jamil D. Miller
Martin Obando
Kori M. Oshall
Wisley E. Rivero
Ashleigh R. Rodgers
Leonilda Rodriguez-
Batista
Preux D. Saint
Edwin Santiago
Juan P. Solano-Salas
Andrew J. Steffens
Alyssa R. Stokes

Lindsy A. Weatherby

To Private (E-2):

Christopher A.
Dobson
Gabriela Dureckova
Luis A. Echavarria-
Sarmiento
Joshua A. Graham
Anthony E. Green
Matthew S. Miczulski
Joseph L. Ripa
Edward J. Ross
Raheem J. Rowell
Reginald Small

NEW JERSEY AIR NATIONAL GUARD

To Chief Master Sergeant (E-9):

John P. Sullivan

To Senior Master Sergeant (E-8):

Donald E. Taggart

To Master Sergeant (E-7):

Gary J. Barron
Nino Dottavio
Kevin M. Moore

To Technical Sergeant (E-6):

Alex Cadavid
Crystal M.
Chinqueesmith
Stephen L.
Diambrosio
Kevin L.
Dickinson, Sr.
Thomas R. Halle
Ferdinand D.
Kabigting
William V. Lanehart
Richard P. Miller
Andrew J. Moseley
Brian C. Murray
Rodger C. Neumann
Mark W. Ney
Jeffrey A. Pilgrim

Julius E. Simmons
Timothy B. Thornton

To Staff Sergeant (E-5):

Carlos R. Acosta
Lia C. Barnes
Caroline A. Chin
Dean R. Esposito
Bridget M.
Fitzsimmons
Gordon A. Hill
Stephen J.
Kubanovich, III
Ramon Marquez
Correa
James P. McNally
Michael R. Mimler
Lauren M. Paul
Elizabeth S. Pritchard
Jason C. Roskam
Richard A. Ryan, III
Jonathan R. Schohl
Kevin A. Stoddard
Benjamin D. Tyler
Tracy L. Williams

To Senior Airman (E-4):

John E. Allen
Suzanne K. Defillippi
Adnardo Garcia, Jr.
Anthony R. Guddo
Diorca Hernandez
Kara L. Kauffman
Thomas W. Mabey, II
Muhammad H.
Maudarbocus

Dominique A.
Mehnert
Juan M. Ortega-
Hernandez
Nestor B. Rivas, Jr.
Jose I. Rodriguez
Michele L. Sharp
David C. Sigwart
Alex A. Swenda

To Airman First Class (E-3):

Joseph M. Bartlett
Joshua C. Bone
Samantha
N. Carnevale
Melissa Cortez
James M. Gerety, Jr.
Kimberly M. Gift
Michael J.
Hendrickson
Stephen W. Hillmann
Dianna L. Jenkins
Brandon M. Johnson
Christina M. Kenny
Daniel S. Larson
Nicholas J. Ligameri
David Molina
Rick T. Robinson
Edgar A. Rodriguez
Byron Romero
Melissa D. Santiago
Colleen M. Shea
Joshua W. Travis
Michelle R. Williams

CONGRATULATIONS

**Remember,
Everyone
Is A
Recruiter.**

Last Round: School Days

Story and photos courtesy of Chaplain (Maj.) Jan Koczera, HHD, 119 CSB

Today (Sept. 15) we visited a local elementary school loaded down with school supplies to the Al Hakeka (The Truth) Elementary School in southern Iraq.

When the soldiers from the Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 119th Corps Support Battalion came to Iraq in December 2004 we immediately noticed the poverty in our area and found out that the schools were operating with little or no supplies. We asked our Family Readiness Group for donations of school supplies. In addition, the people of Hammonton, N.J., and Chaplain Jan Koczera's home church, the First Presbyterian Church of Hamilton Square, N.J., gave very generously. The supplies included notebooks, paper, pens, pencils, crayons, colored markers, construction paper, folders, teaching supplies and sports equipment for the children.

We decided to wait to donate these supplies to a school close to our camp, in southern Iraq, at the beginning of the new school year, which started on the morning of the Sept. 15. The students share one desk and daily bring all their supplies in a school bag.

Pictured top to bottom: Maj. William Peace and Capt. John Perez with school children; Maj. Peace is showing them his ranger beads—a type of pace counter used in land navigation. Center photo is of local school students. Bottom photo, Maj. John Simms, Capt. Perez, Maj. Peace, Capt. Margaret Brescio, Spc. Charles Cornell and Chaplain Jan Koczera (hidden by students) are thanked by the student during final assembly.

Additional Soldiers participating in the humanitarian effort were Master Sgt. James Hubert, 119th CSB; Capt. Hilldebrand of the 254th Quartermaster Company, Army Reserve, and Spc. Charles Cornell of A Company, 753rd Main Support Battalion, Missouri National Guard. 



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