

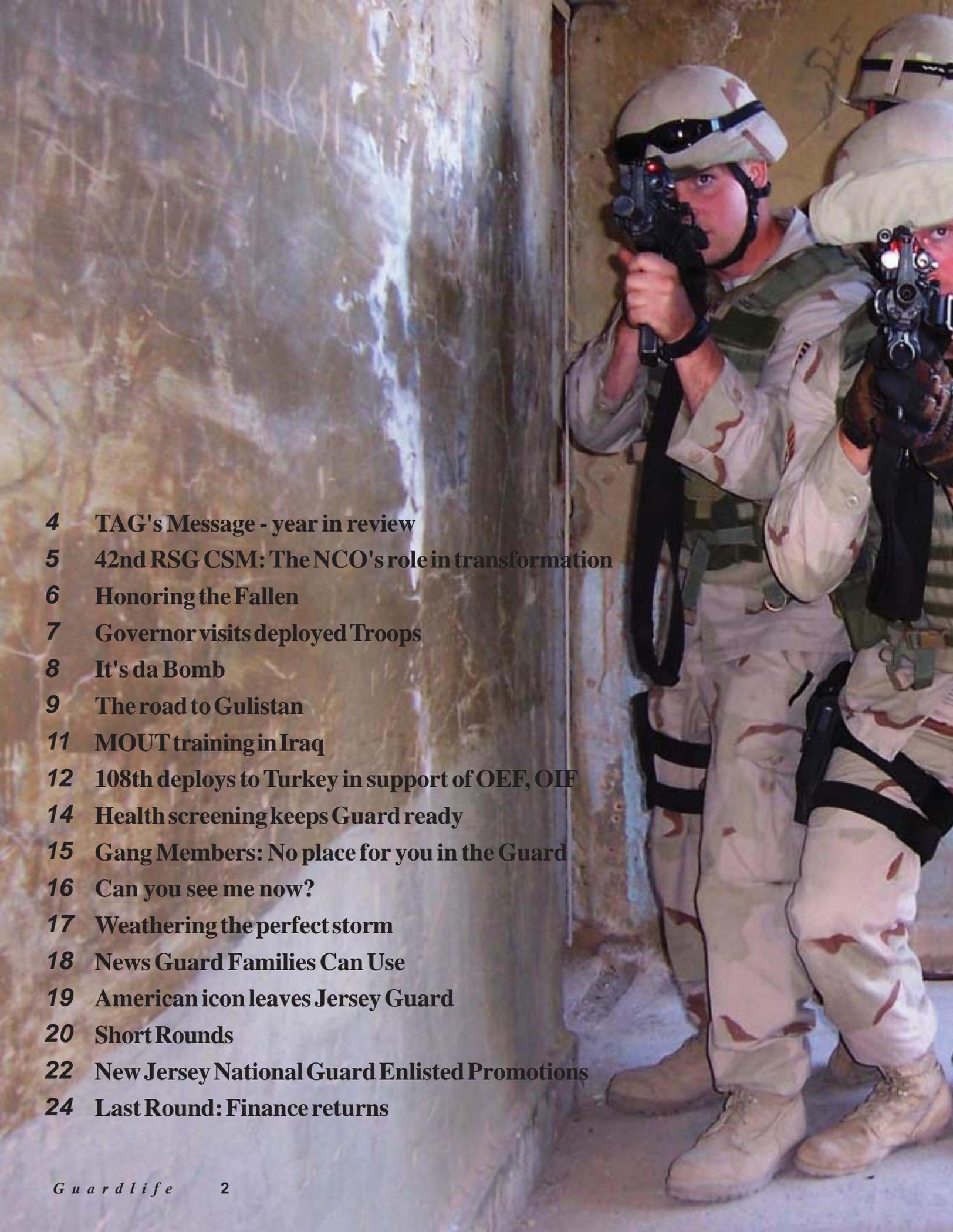
Guardlife

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2007

THE MAGAZINE OF THE NEW JERSEY NATIONAL GUARD



Honoring the Fallen

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Cover: Honoring The Fallen

An honor guard takes the portraits and plaques of New Jersey's fallen to be installed at the Timmerman Center. Pictured are (front to back) Sgt. 1st Class Tracey Cianfrano, Master Sgt. Martin Sotomayer and Sgt. 1st Class Josephine Grey. Turn to page 6 for the story and more photos. Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, NJDMAVA/PA.

Inside Cover: Diamond Formation

Staff Sergeants' Patrick Donohoe (front), Gabriel Armstrong (right), Kevin Allmann (left), and Jeff Tafrow (rear), all Quick Reaction Force members, form a diamond formation during Military Operations Urban Terrain training at Kirkuk Regional Air Base, Iraq. For the rest of the story turn to page 11. Photo by Master Sgt. Joseph Iacovone Jr., 177FW/SF.

TAG's MESSAGE - YEAR IN REVIEW

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

Looking back on 2006 there were two events that mark either a new era or completed a chapter in the history of the New Jersey Army and Air National Guard.

Even before his inauguration Governor Jon S. Corzine was standing in our corner working to ensure that every Soldier and Airmen is properly trained and equipped to handle the variety of missions now tasked to the New Jersey National Guard.

Since taking the oath of office, the Commander-in-Chief has attended Welcome Home or Freedom Salute events; visited with Guard members in Iraq and Afghanistan; and opened the doors of the official residence, Drumthwacket, for a Super Bowl party along with a holiday party for the families of deployed Soldiers and Airmen.

As a former Marine Corps Reserve member, the Governor most importantly understands the sacrifices that you and your families make every day to defend this great state and nation.

This unprecedented level of support from the Governor has benefited every Soldier and Airmen, our families, the employees of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs and of course all the veterans from across the state.

The Governor's actions on behalf of all members of our armed services or those who had worn a uniform are just a starting point for the coming years.

Even though most of the more than 1,600 Citizen-Soldiers of the 42nd Infantry Division had returned home before 2005 closed out, we officially Welcomed Home those units and our newest veterans in the spring of last year.

This historic mobilization, the largest since World War II, confirmed there is no turning back to the days when the National Guard was considered a Strategic Reserve. We are now an Operational Force that the nation depends on today and tomorrow.

We laid the groundwork in 2006 for this shift of roles, as we prepare for the changes that lie ahead. The Guard's transformation will literally affect everyone in our organization whether it is a change in equipment, jobs or drilling location.

One example is how the Field Artillery Soldiers trained to be military police for their deployment to Europe. As these MPs came off their mobilization last year, they will now assume many of the military police positions that will be part of 50th Brigade Combat Team.

We asked to be in the forefront of the transformation process and I want to thank everyone in the organization for stepping up and supporting our vision to be the leaders nationally. Being trail blazers means there are no lessons learned to help guide you. You have worked to get past those



Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth (second from left) poses with (l-r) Col. Michael Shute, Lt. Col. William Heineman and Maj. Thomas McGhee - members of Joint Task Force Phoenix, which provides embedded trainers for the Afghan National Army and Command Sgt. Maj. David Kenna. Photo courtesy Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth.

obstacles and because of our efforts we will be receiving new missions for the Army and Air Guard.

We want to stay in front and that is why New Jersey accepted one of the first rotations to the southwest border as part of Operation Jump Start. Our Soldiers and Airmen did outstanding job in a joint environment, setting the standard for other states to follow.

I reflect back on the tremendous support both the Army and Air Guard have given to the country of Albania with the "Partnership for Peace" program in 2006. Your efforts have gone a long way to prepare Albania to reach the goal of becoming a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Another highlight from 2006 was the performance of the 108th Air Refueling Wing on their Operational Readiness Inspection. The inspectors praised the New Jersey Airmen after the inspection that happens every five years. The ORI was culmination of countless hours of dedicated preparation that made the 108th shine.

Lastly, I want to mention how well we did with my first priority, which is recruiting. Due to the outstanding efforts of our Army Guard recruiting team we closed out 2006 with the second highest total in our history with 1,494 new members. Our recruiters would not have succeeded without each Soldier and Airman showing personal pride in wearing the uniform, doing a good job and representing all the values that makes America great.

I look forward to another year of great challenges and even greater achievements. 🇺🇸

42nd RSG CSM: The NCO's role in transformation

By Command Sgt. Maj. David P. Kenna, 42nd Regional Support Group

The United States Army and Army National Guard are in a period of transformation that will continue for many years. Decisions continue to be made regarding organizations and operations and will continue to evolve toward the Army's Objective Force.

The Army and Army Guard cannot transform without the guidance, support and leadership of its Noncommissioned Officer Corps. Throughout this period, NCOs must maintain fundamental soldiering at the forefront of everything we do. That means we must focus on the basics and maintain Army values to facilitate the transformation.

The best way to lead in a period of fast-paced change is to focus on the basics. NCOs need to focus on individual Soldier readiness and spend more time conducting in-ranks inspections, ensuring Soldiers are properly equipped, fed, paid, and teach Soldiers how to properly wear the uniform we currently have. We as NCOs set the standards.

Senior NCOs need to spend more time with squad, section, and platoon leaders, teaching them the importance of counseling, and communicating with their Soldiers. With this ongoing transformation, some units will close down and new units will stand up. We must ensure that all Soldiers know that they will have a position in the New Jersey Army National Guard. This may require Soldiers to change their current MOS, travel to a different location for weekend drills or both. Communicating means more than just talking to Soldiers, it is also listening to Soldier concerns and doing something to solve their problems. Soldiers do have serious concerns regarding transformation. Bottom line, NCOs need to train, mentor and make sure Soldiers have all the necessary information needed to make the right decision regarding their career.

Whether on active duty for training, unit training assem-



blies, or deployments, NCOs need to spend the necessary time with young Soldiers to ensure they have all the information and receive the required training to be successful. We need to supervise and develop Soldiers so they too may become NCOs one day. NCOs need to spend more time enforcing physical training and weight control standards and be a driving force to help Soldiers meet the standard. Enforcing physical standards here will give Soldiers the physical resources to draw on when they need them the most - in combat. We take care of Soldiers.

NCOs remain the Army's backbone and promote readiness during transformation. I have given just a few

examples of setting standards, training, mentoring, supervising, and taking care of Soldiers, the basics NCOs provide for Soldier readiness today and tomorrow.

Our common values will sustain us. NCOs are the first line of contact for young Soldiers who must learn, embrace, and live by the Army's values: loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage. We model Army values so we can credibly train Soldiers, lead Soldiers, set and enforce standards.

Change (transformation) is going to happen regardless of your own personal opinions and thoughts. Change will present both opportunities and significant challenges for the future.

The Army and Army Guard are in the midst of some of the most dramatic changes in their history (fighting a battle while transforming). Never before has the Army undergone such a profound transition and yet remained trained and ready as exhibited in current operations overseas. It is our duty as NCOs to ensure the welfare of all Soldiers and their families during this transforma-

tion remains our first, last and primary priority.

To be successful, transformation needs the support and action of the Noncommissioned Officer Corps.

Communicating means more than just talking to Soldiers, it is also listening to Soldier concerns and doing something to solve their problems.

Honoring the Fallen

Photos and story by Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, NJDMAVA/PA



Family members, Soldiers and Airmen filled the Timmerman Center auditorium at Fort Dix to capacity. In front of them covered in black drapery and lined across the base of the stage were the portraits of the fallen Soldiers and the plaques dedicated to them. Behind them was an honor guard comprised of New Jersey Army National Guard Soldiers.

On Nov. 15, four conference rooms at the Timmerman Center were named in honor of Staff Sgt. Frank T. Carvill, Staff Sgt. Humberto F. Timoteo, Sgt. Ryan E. Doltz and Spc. Christopher M. Duffy. All four were members B Battery, 3rd Battalion, 112th Field Artillery.

“This is personal to us. We lost four members of our extended family,” observed Maj. Gen. Glen K. Rieth, The Adjutant General of New Jersey. “We are here to honor their lives and service to the nation.”

The unit deployed from McGuire Air Force Base Feb. 21, 2004 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Six months later on June 4, Carvill and Duffy died when their vehicle was struck by an improvised explosive device. The following day, Timoteo and Doltz were killed by another IED.

Following the closing remarks, the portraits and the plaques were carried by the honor guard to the classrooms where they were installed.



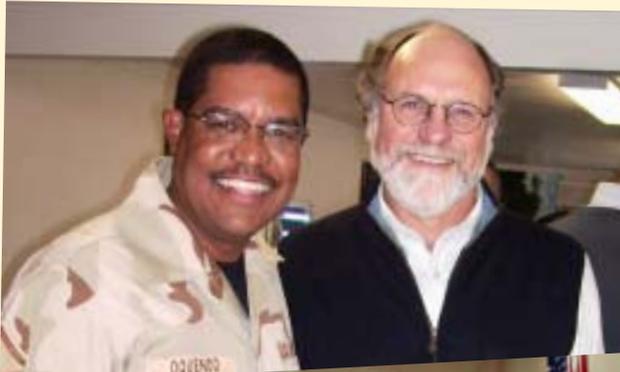
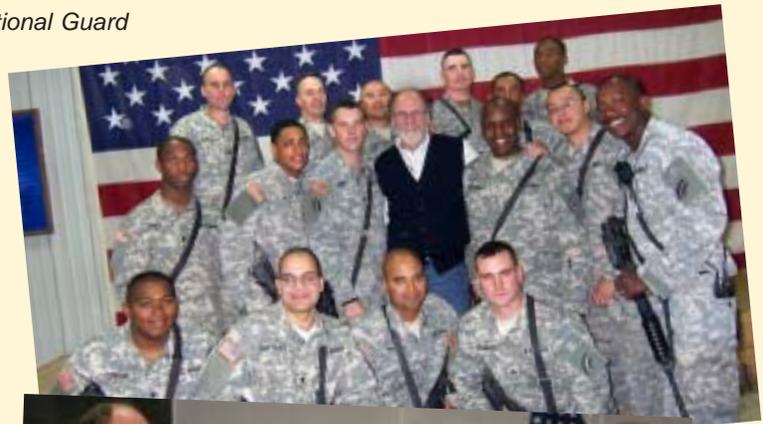
GOVERNOR VISITS DEPLOYED TROOPS

Photos supplied by the Soldiers and Airmen of the New Jersey National Guard

Governor Jon S. Corzine, in his role as Commander-in-Chief of the New Jersey National Guard completed a surprise visit to New Jersey troops serving in Iraq, Kuwait and Afghanistan Nov. 28 through Dec. 1.

The Governor arrived in Kuwait Nov. 28. While there, he ate lunch with 81 Soldiers of the 102nd Reconnaissance, Surveillance, Targeting, Acquisition; promoted several Soldiers; was briefed by the U.S. Army Central Command; met with General George Casey; and Ambassador Zalmay Khalilzad, the U.S. Ambassador to Iraq. The next day, Governor Corzine traveled to Iraq to visit with Soldiers of the New Jersey Army National Guard's 250th Brigade Support Battalion stationed near Baghdad. On Dec. 1 the Governor visited with 50th Personnel Support Battalion in Afghanistan.

"I am so proud of the men and women of our Armed Forces who are doing a tremendous job in extraordinarily difficult circumstances," Governor Corzine said. "They are putting their lives on the line every day to serve our country and help the Iraqis build their future. It was an honor to meet and spend time with so many of them."



Special thanks to all the Soldiers, Airmen and their families for getting these photos to Guardlife. This page is dedicated to you.

It's da Bomb

By Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, NJDMAVA/PA



inside the live shell. Staff Sgt. Carlos Morales (left in bottom right photo) of the 108th CES and Senior Master Sgt. Pete Nestor (right) of the 109th CES, New York Air National Guard were tasked to go down range and perform chemical reconnaissance.

After donning their protective equipment (photo top right MOPP 4 in 100 plus degree heat) and performing operations checks on their detection equipment, they journeyed downrange (photo bottom left) to confirm that the shell did not contain any life-threatening chemicals.

The shell was subsequently destroyed by EOD. Photos courtesy 108ARW/CES.

The Ali Air Base Emergency Management section of the Civil Engineering Squadron (CES) got to put to use some equipment that they had been training with for many years.

A leaking explosive shell (photo top left) was brought to the Explosive Ordnance Disposal unit (EOD) at the base. Before EOD could dispose of the item, a determination had to be made that there were no dangerous chemicals

The road to Gulistan

Story and photos by Lt. Col. William Heineman

(Editor's note: this story and the accompanying photos were provided by Lt. Col. Heineman. Heineman is attached to Combined Joint Task Force Phoenix, which provides Embedded Training Teams to serve as mentors to the Afghan National Army. The story has been edited for length and content.)

The International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) recently conducted a mission called Wyconda Pincer II. Our Afghan National Army (ANA) unit participated which meant that we could go along as well.

I went with two U.S. soldiers, a gunner and a driver, in an uparmored HMMWV to act as a liaison officer between the Italian Brigade team and the U.S. Embedded Training Teams (ETTs) participating with their ANA Kandaks (battalions). We traveled to a village named Gulistan or Golistan, depending on which map you look at.

The trip began with a five-hour trek through an uncharted portion of the desert. It made every trip I have been on to date seemed like a walk in the park. The dirt was incredible; we spent much of the time trying to find the vehicle in front of us through the dust cloud. I have pictures that show the Italian soldiers traveling in front of us in an open vehicle. They were



Italian soldiers prepare dinner over a campfire on the return trip from Gulistan.

literally covered with about a half inch of dust, and were all one solid color - tan. We at least have a vehicle with doors and windows closed which kept out a lot of dirt.

The mission was a "Taliban" hunt that came up empty, but that was no real surprise since the elements that oppose the Afghanistan government rarely enter into pitched battles with large forces. Although not a huge force, we had enough men and firepower to discourage the average terrorist. Also I doubt that our coming was much of a surprise to anyone there. The village elders told us that the "Taliban" left 10 days before we arrived which is interesting, because we had not even planned the mission 10 days prior to execution. But there are very few secrets here, so someone knew we'd be along eventually. I also hesitate to call them "Taliban," because every criminal in the country seems to be referred to as Taliban. If a goat is stolen, it was Taliban. Drive-by shootings are the result of Taliban. Attacks on police are Taliban. We have noticed a shift in terminology recently, which makes reference to "AGE" (Anti-Government Elements), and "ACM" (Anti-Coalition Militia) instead of referring to everything as Taliban.

Upon our arrival at Gulistan the ISAF flew a couple of air sorties up the valley and over our heads to further discourage any attacks on us. Just as it was beginning to get dark, a B-1 bomber screamed low over our position, dropping flares and chaff. I just wish I knew that it was coming and had my camera out; it would have made a great picture. At the time we were still establishing our position and setting up a defensive perimeter, so I guess it is just as well that I wasn't using valuable time taking photos.

The village itself was inside walls and we did not enter it. We stayed outside the village with the ANA and let the Afghan police, approximately 50-70 of them - go into the village. Part of the mission was to try to establish the police in some of these villages in an attempt to have them do their job of providing security to the people of Afghanistan.

Looking at the village from a high vantage point, it looked very neat and orderly; a change from the many villages that we

Continued on page 10

"I also hesitate to call them "Taliban," Because every criminal in the country seems to be referred to as Taliban. If a goat is stolen, it was Taliban. Drive-by shootings are the result of Taliban. Attacks on police are Taliban."

Continued from page 9

go through along the main roads which are really a mess. The night passed without incident, except for the noise of jackals and dogs which reached a crescendo at about 1:30 a.m. I mean, it was LOUD and long. I guess the jackals try to get the sheep and goats, and the dogs are there to keep that from happening. It was really spooky, and sleeping on the ground, I was slightly worried about what would happen if they decided to come in our direction. They didn't, and we were able to get back to sleep eventually.

The next day we moved closer to the village and set up a new position. We were set upon by tons of children that were very curious about us, but even more interested in what we would give them in terms of food and water. These kids were merciless. We (the Americans) have become pretty used to the begging and have learned how to say no, and how to keep the kids far enough away that they don't get inside our vehicles or area of operations. The Italians had not experienced it yet and they were giving out water and food, which drew larger and more aggressive crowds of kids. We warned them, but they didn't listen. Eventually they got the message and strung up concertina (barbed) wire to keep them back away from our operation.

That evening, our Italian hosts managed to get some fresh tomatoes and onions from the village, and prepared a meal of pasta. They carried sacks of ziti and gallons of olive oil in a trailer for the mission. One guy acted as the cook and made an unbelievably delicious meal for all of us. They had a generator and a hot plate for the sauce, and built a fire to cook the pasta. They also got na'an (Afghan bread) from the village, and taught us just how good na'an with olive oil and coarse salt

can be. Afghan cuisine blended with Italian, now there's a new restaurant idea to consider!

Early on the fourth day, at 2:20 a.m. to be precise, the dogs and jackals started up again. This time, a pack of about six jackals came within about 30 meters of us. We were watching them without night vision goggles, trying to decide whether we should shoot them with our M4s or use the MK-19 grenade launcher when they finally ambled off down the road looking for something less alert. I am glad we didn't have to engage them because we weren't really sure what the ANA around us might do.

Later that day we left Gulistan, returned through the desert, and stayed in a place called Deh Tut. It was a place that was used to help build the road around Afghanistan, and was basically a large quarry with piles of unused stones, gravel and dirt everywhere. The Italian troops made dinner again that night and we prepared for our return to Herat the next day.

Our return to Herat was uneventful except for the part where my HMMWV (for the record, I was not driving) smacked into the trailer of the Italian vehicle in front of us when the convoy suddenly and unexpectedly halted along the road. Unfortunately there was no where to go, and my driver must have not realized that they were stopping. He locked up the brakes, and we skidded into the trailer. A 12,000 pound HMMWV hitting a small trailer is an unfair competition, and we bent it up pretty badly. The HMMWV was fine.

After some hammer and rock work on the trailer we managed to get it rolling again and made it back to Herat without further incident. The Italians took it pretty well though, but I have been the target for some well placed cartoons over the past week. It's all in fun. 🐾

SCHOOL VISITS IN AFGHANISTAN



I have been on four missions over the past two weeks. Twice we went to schools to distribute school supplies and clothing, and we conducted two presence patrols. At the schools we gave away LOTS of donated school supplies and clothing. Today's school visit was in the town of Jabril. The school looked like a cross between a stable with stalls for classrooms and a jail; it used to be a row of stores. The conditions were pretty depressing, but they were packed with kids learning, and they were among the friendliest we have encountered to date. It rained during a large part of this visit, yet after the morning session was out, the kids stood around wanting to talk to us even though they were all soaked and muddy. The town of Jabril is a Hazara town. Hazara's are the most persecuted minority in Afghanistan. In part, this is why they were so friendly to us. The Hazara's know that U.S./Coalition presence in Afghanistan gives them a better chance for success and prosperity. 🐾

MOUT TRAINING IN IRAQ

By Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, 177FW/PA

Photo by Master Sgt. Joseph Iacovone Jr., 177FW/SF



Staff Sergeants' Patrick Donohoe (facing right), Kevin Allmann (front), Gabriel Armstrong (left wall), and Senior Airman Tara Cullen (facing the door) practice room entry techniques.

MOUT (Military Operations Urban Terrain) Training In Iraq.

At first glance it seems a bit like overkill—knocking down doors, diving through windows, searching and clearing buildings utilizing heavily armed fire teams. But when you think about it, it only makes sense that when you are not actually performing security forces duties; you train in the same way in the same environment and conditions.

The security forces personnel assigned to the Quick Reaction Force spend a great deal of time training and preparing for various types of operations.

Master Sgt. Joseph Iacovone Jr., a member of the 177th Fighter Wing Security Forces Squadron and QRF team leader at Kirkuk Regional Air Base, Iraq, came up with the idea for a MOUT site at the base.

“The lesson plans and courses were developed based on the training we received at Creech Air Force Base, Nev., and our civilian law enforcement training and experience,” says Iacovone. “I had plenty of assistance implementing this training from my squad members with special tactics experience.”

The course includes classroom lectures and practical applications on topics such as urban assault, active shooter, barricaded subjects and building clearing.

“After running our entire QRF team through the training, we invited other security force members to participate,” adds Iacovone. “The unit leadership responded to our offer and we are currently training additional members of our squadron.”

That training is critical; some of the QRF’s responsibilities include performing unexploded ordnance sweeps after rocket and mortar attacks, security sweeps, casualty evacuations and serving as a blocking force in the event of an attack to the base or other threat situations. They also provide protection for civil engineer and other base personnel during base projects ensuring the safe completion of these missions, as well as providing protection for visiting U.S. and Iraqi dignitaries.

The individuals who attended the training, comprised of active duty, Guard and Reserves, provided positive feedback about the course and everyone who attended the course come away with some new ideas and tactics to be used in the future. ■

108TH DEPLOYS TO TURKEY



Photos and story by Senior Airman Robbie Finley, 108ARW/PA

The 108th Air Refueling Wing deployed to Incirlik Air Base, Turkey, in support of Operations' Enduring and Iraqi Freedom Sept. 27 through Nov. 4.

More than one hundred service members from McGuire's "super tanker wing" took over the 90th Expeditionary Air

Refueling Squadron (EARS) and the 90th Expeditionary Maintenance Squadron (both of which belong to the 385th Air Expeditionary Group) to support Air Mobility Command operations by providing aerial refuelings via the 108th's KC-135E Stratotankers.



Senior Master Sgt. John Tamar II (left), Production Superintendent, and Chief Master Sgt. Christopher Koratzanis (right), Maintenance Superintendent, inspect the paperwork for a KC-135E Stratotanker engine.

Almost every member who initially deployed to Incirlik was replaced by other 108th members halfway through the deployment, with only 28 people in place from beginning to end, according to Lt. Col. Daniel J. Rutkoski, the 385th AEG deployed logistics plans officer.

Six 90th EARS flying crews conducted an average of three refuelings a day, according to Lt. Col. Thomas P. Coppinger, the 385th AEG's deployed director of operations. A majority of these were C-17 Globemaster IIIs, although they did occasionally refuel C-5 Galaxys.

The 385th AEG's operations personnel plugged away day and night to coordinate the aerial refuelings assigned to them through the Tanker Airlift Control Center, which dictates where and when an aerial refueling is going to be required.

Although many of the 108th's KC-135s date back to the late 1950s, there weren't any major

Y IN SUPPORT OF OEF, OIF



Boom Operator Staff Sgt. Gregory M. White (front) and Life Support Specialist Airman 1st Class Monique Pindell (back), lay in the boom area in wait of a C-5 Galaxy.

mechanical complications.

"We only lost one mission to date due to a hydraulics problem. Other than that, everything (was) 100 percent," said Col. Kevin J. Keehn, the 385 AEG deployed deputy commander.

Members of the 385th EMXS had an extra duty on their hands once they arrived – to care for KC, the official mascot

of the squadron. KC, an Anatolian Sheppard dog, mysteriously appeared four years ago, and has been lazily walking around the maintenance facilities ever since. The 108th crew left behind for KC a large barrel of food, paid for by donations.

After a successful deployment, the last group of 108th personnel packed up and left Incirlik Nov. 4.



A C-5A Galaxy approaches the boom on one of the 108th Air Refueling Wing's KC-135E Stratotankers.

Health screening keeps Guard ready

Photos and story by Staff Sgt. Joseph Donnelly, 444MPAD



Chief Warrant Officer 4 Jeffrey Angle, 1-150th Aviation is evaluated by Dr. Lester Sawicki, part of the traveling team supporting the Post Deployment Health Re-assessment program.

As Soldiers or Airmen enter their final days of active duty from a mobilization, they are thinking about two things, getting back home to their loved ones and resuming a normal life.

Guard members are sometimes reluctant to report a medical condition during out-processing fearing that it will delay their release from active duty.

Other times troops “minimize symptoms...when they demobilize,” said Todd Botcher, a part time employee of Federal Strategic Health Alliance (FED HEAL). Botcher, who is a full time nurse at Fort McCoy, travels at least two weekends a month with a Post Deployment Health Re-Assessment (PDHRA) team. As time passes some Soldiers and Airmen may begin to experience problems.

This dilemma has not gone unnoticed. In 2005, the Department of Defense created the PDHRA, which utilizes clinicians to re-evaluate service members to ensure that all post deployment issues are evaluated and treated properly.

More than 180 post-deployed troops from the 1st Battalion, 150th Aviation (Air Assault) were screened and evaluated

at a recent drill at home station in West Trenton.

Spc. Phillip Fitzpatrick, of the 150th who recently came off deployment saw the benefit of PDHRA. “No one knows the effect on the human mind of being in a combat zone.”

The PDHRA enables Guard members to take control of their health by identifying health and readjustment concerns early. If left untreated, these issues could have a negative affect on Guard members. With the help of the PDHRA the proper channels can address physical or behavioral issues.

Demobilized troops are screened about three to six months after they return from combat by a team made up of physician assistants, nurses and therapists. “We are not here to diagnose or treat, but listen and come up with a plan for service members that have concerns not previously recognized,” stated Karen Moran, an employee of FED HEAL.

After being evaluated in person, Soldiers receive vouchers that permit them to obtain additional medical services.

Deployed Guard members can use the six-months of TRICARE benefits or Veteran’s Administration benefits for up to two-years after returning from deployment. If it is Post Traumatic Stress Disorder concern, the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs has a counseling hotline available at 1-866-838-7654.

The Post Deployment Health Re-Assessment is a program that developed because of the numerous National Guard and Reserve members being deployed in the military today. Its effect will be long term and appreciated by the many troops that may have overlooked serious conditions that developed while serving their country. 🇺🇸



During a post demobilization medical screening, Sgt. 1st Class William Bovik, of the 150th, electronically files information that will potentially qualify him for medical assistance.

Gang Members: No place for you in the Guard

By Tech. Sgt. Paul Connors, 177 FW/PA; Illustration by Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, 177FW/PA

Club scene: the music is booming to the accompaniment of lights, men and women are dancing; some of the guys are flashing gang hand signs. A bar in Los Angeles or Miami? Not quite. The scene is from a video taken in the enlisted club at Fort Bragg, N.C.

Gangs! You've read about them, heard about them and seen the results of their activities on the nightly news. Viewing their activities from the outside and the comfort of your reasonably safe community generally results with statements of denial, the kind where people say, "not in my community."

The fact is gangs exist just about everywhere in New Jersey and they have become an increasing problem for law enforcement and other state agencies.

On the basis of information provided by the Attorney General's Office of the Juvenile Justice Commission to Capt. Diana Brown, 177th Fighter Wing Director of Personnel, and after receiving information from local law enforcement that the 177th could be a potential target for gangs to infiltrate, it was decided to hold a conference on gang activities at the 177th.

Commanders, First Sergeants and recruiters from both the 177th and the 108th Air Refueling Wing attended to better be able to understand gang behavior, their recruiting methods and some of the tell-tale signs of gang membership.

One of the strategies employed by gangs is their "grooming" of members to join the military. Gangs do this to obtain crucial combat arms skills to further advance their criminal activities. They do this by selecting members from within their ranks with no criminal record and none of the gang tattoos that immediately identify members. The individuals are then actively encouraged to approach military recruiters, especially Army and Marine Corps (although Air Force is a target as well), where infantry and other combat tactics are taught. The planning stage is based on the assumption that the gang member's first loyalty is to the gang and that after leaving military service, will return to the gang where his/her military skills will then be put to work.

While gang membership is not illegal in and of itself, it is

not consistent with the good order and discipline required within the armed forces where unit cohesion is necessary for mission accomplishment.

Surprisingly, gangs have identified affluent rural and suburban communities as prime territories for the expansion of their illicit drug sales activities. During the conference, Juvenile Justice Commission representatives provided information that gangs are plentiful in Pleasantville and Atlantic City and in fact, every gang that has been identified, to include The Bloods and the Crips are represented within the two cities. Furthermore the Bloods in New Jersey have about 4,064 members of ALL races.

While the workshop was held primarily for the benefit of senior leaders in both of New Jersey's ANG units, participation by local and state law enforcement agencies was robust and contributed to the session's success. Several of the civilian law enforcement members, among them Detective Chris Taggart - a member of the Pleasantville Police Department and also a technical sergeant with the 177th Security Forces provided in depth details on gang activities, infiltration and recruiting practices providing timely and relevant information for the ANG leaders in attendance.

One issue that civilian law enforcement has no control over is the ability of military organizations to 'weed out' gang members from within its own ranks. Several Air Force Instructions and Department of Defense directives govern gang related and other unacceptable conduct. Those individuals found to be members of gangs, whether they have engaged in criminal activity or not can be processed for separation.

Whether or not the member receives an honorable discharge is based on individual circumstances, but the outcome will be the same, once identified the gang member will very quickly become a "former" member of the Air National Guard.

Can you see me now?

By Sgt. 1st Class David Moore, JFHQ-NJ/PA; photo by Kryn Westhoven, NJDMAVA/PA

The emotional distance was lessened for family members of Soldiers serving in Afghanistan when the New Jersey National Guard Distributed Learning leaders recently beamed their video teleconference signal from the Lawrenceville Armory to Afghanistan.

More than 30 family members of Soldiers from the 50th Personnel Services Battalion and 250th Personnel Services Detachment saw dads, wives, children and grandparents that included ranging from news from home to how's life in Afghanistan.

When Capt. Lowell Jenkins saw his seven-month-old daughter, Sidney, his emotion spilled over to happiness as the baby seemed to recognize him when she reached for the monitor screen.

Sidney was a premature baby born just before her father departed for his Global War on Terrorism duty. But the family had stressful times as their newborn had to undergo two surgeries.

The Guard's Family Readiness Group partnered with the Guard's Distance Learning Center team for the video reunions in October.

"We can't lessen the physical distance, but we can shorten the emotional distance between the Soldier and the family," said Lt. Col. (Ret.) John Guarascio, area coordinator for the Distance Learning.

The ability to use the distributive learning center's technology is a way of bringing the homefront closer to the Soldier, Guarascio said.

For the captain's wife, Tangies, the chance for mother and



With the image from Afghanistan of her sister Sgt. Katherine Bendel in the background Angela Duiring shares a laugh with their dad Gary Hartman, grandfather John Diviny and mom Karen Hartman. The families participated in a Video Tele-Conference with the Soldiers of the 50th Personnel Services Battalion and 250th Personnel Services Detachment at the new Distributed Learning Center at the Lawrenceville Armory on Oct. 8.

daughter to see their loved one was equally as emotional.

"While, you can here his voice over the telephone and e-mail pictures back and forth, you get to see him and he looks so happy when he saw us. It really is an added comfort to see him and have all the interaction with each other," she said.

Developing a new generation of leaders

Photo and story by Sgt. Shawn Morris, 444MPAD

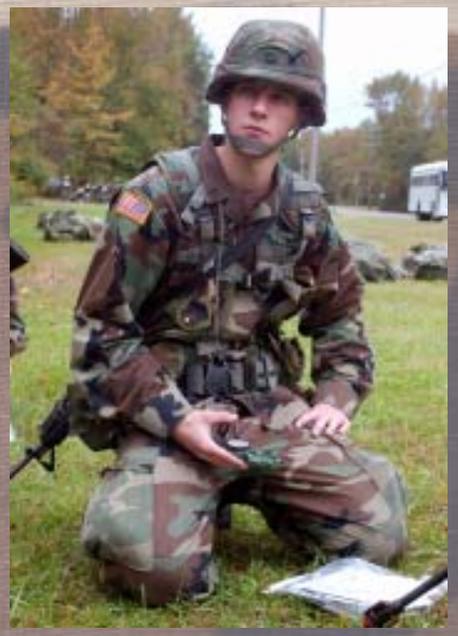
Pfc. Alexander Mulqueen of the 1st Battalion, 150th Aviation (Air Assault) has the honor of being the first private first class to attend Warrior Leader Course (WLC) at the Fort Dix NCO Academy.

Alexander, the son of Lt. Col. Matthew J. Mulqueen, joined the Army in February 2005 with hopes of attending flight school and becoming a warrant officer. WLC is part of the equation to make his hopes a reality.

"I've learned a lot," observed Mulqueen. Having classmates and instructors who have more rank and experience — including overseas deployments — has given Mulqueen a healthy respect for his senior Soldiers.

Those who are training Mulqueen had equal praise for their young student. "Mulqueen has demonstrated potential and done a good job," stated Sgt. 1st Class Steve Cooper, one of Mulqueen's WLC squad leaders.

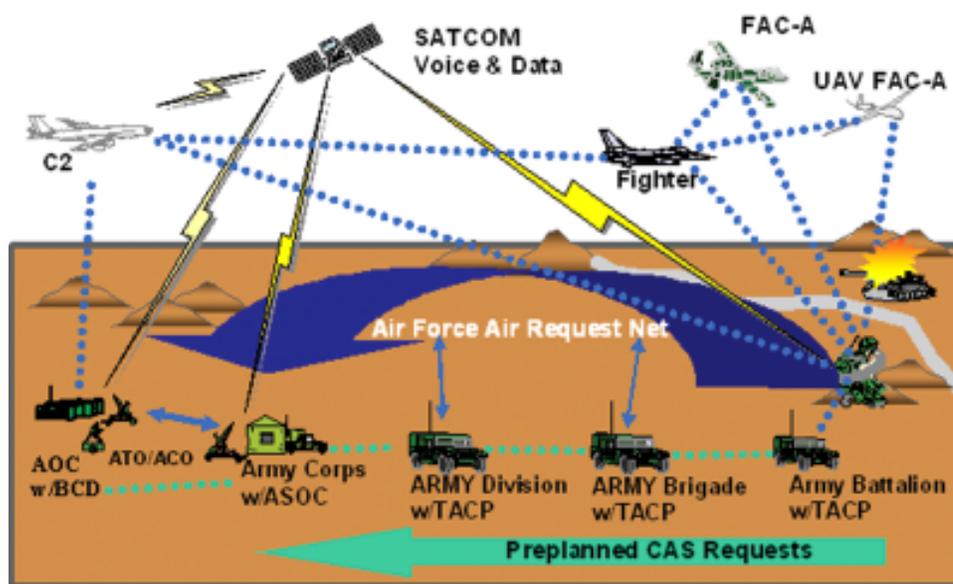
The change to allow PFCs to attend WLC was made because a trained NCO corps will be necessary to fight the ongoing Global War on Terrorism.



Weathering the 'Perfect Storm'

Transforming the New Jersey Air National Guard

By Brig. Gen. Lawrence S. Thomas III, Commander, New Jersey Air National Guard



The shape of things to come: interaction between the Air Support Operations Squadron, Army units, air support and their targets.

Winds of change are making their presence felt throughout the New Jersey Army and Air National Guard. In light of this, each Air and Army Guard member needs to be familiar with our Total Force Initiatives (TFI), and the new opportunities which lie ahead.

The Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC), Quadrennial Defense Review, Program Budget Decision 720 and Vanguard are several of the outside forces which led up to creating our current TFIs. These programs culminated together in June to create a "Perfect Storm" in terms of missions, manpower and budget across the entire Air National Guard. For New Jersey, however, the storm broke in May 2005 when BRAC announced the loss of 16 KC-135E aircraft from the 108th Air Refueling Wing.

Everyday since then our leadership, the New Jersey Congressional Delegation and the National Guard Association of the United States tenaciously and skillfully maneuvered the NJANG through the storm. And in the end we are not only keeping our flying missions, but we brought two new exciting missions requiring an additional 160 positions to New Jersey as well as an opportunity to augment the Air Mobility Warfare Center with an Intel Fighter Training Unit.

The first mission is an Air Support Operations Squadron (ASOS). This unit's mission is to provide air liaison to ground

forces and Tactical Air Attack Control parties. The New Jersey ASOS will link up with the 1st and 3rd Brigade Combat Teams of the 29th Infantry Division, an Army National Guard unit with elements in Virginia, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey and Connecticut.

This joint mission completely embodies the battlefield Airman concept. It will bring more than 60 positions to New Jersey. The ASOS is scheduled to be located at the 177th Fighter Wing at Atlantic City International Airport with its air to ground missions to be performed primarily at the Warren Grove Range.

The second mission is a Contingency Response Group (CRG). This unit is the leading edge of USAF global mobility operations. The CRG provides

the Air Force with a rapid entry force designed to assess and open an airbase. The CRG bridges the gap between airfield seizure forces and expeditionary combat support units. Due to the mobility orientation of this emerging mission the unit will be assigned to the 108th Air Refueling Wing at McGuire. It will associate with the active duty 621st Contingency Response Wing with a structure and concept of operations that are still

being designed. The first installment of manpower positions for the CRG, which consists of more than 100 positions, is programmed to begin in FY08. Additionally a large part of our TFI/BRAC directed changes are the conversions which upgrade both the KC-135 and the F-16. The NJANG will continue to pursue additional TFI missions including a follow-on Air Sovereignty Alert aircraft for the 177th, possible associations with the Air Mobility Warfare Center and follow-on Replacement Tanker Aircraft at the 108th.

We are no longer the strategic reserve of years gone by. Our missions and airmen are relevant and actively engaged in supporting combatant commanders all around the world. I need each of you to take the attitude of the battlefield Airman to heart as we pursue excellence in our current missions and stand up these new Total Force Initiatives. 🇺🇸

In the end we are not only keeping all three of our flying missions, but we brought two new exciting missions requiring an additional 160 positions to New Jersey as well as an opportunity to augment the Air Mobility Warfare Center with an Intel FTU.

News Guard Families Can Use

Compiled by the Guardlife Staff

Council Expands Grant Program

The New Jersey National Guard State Family Readiness Council has expanded its Family Grants Program to include an additional grant.

There are now two levels of Family Grants; TIER I is the \$2,500 Grant that has been in place for the past couple of years. The TIER II opens family grants to New Jersey Army and Air National Guard non-deployed service members who were on State Active Duty or State Missions (e.g., hurricanes, floods, border missions) for more than 20 consecutive days. Servicemembers meeting these criteria are eligible to apply for a financial hardship grant up to \$1,500. Applications are available at all New Jersey Army and Air National Guard Family Assistance Centers. Those interested should contact Family Assistance through the hotline at 1-888-859-0352.

More information is available by e-mail at help@njguardfamilies.com or through the Family Assistance Centers (FACs) or the Family Readiness Groups (FRGs). For a complete list of the FACs and the FRGs, turn to page 23 to find the one closest to you.

Free SAT/ACT Offer Extended

A group of NFL, NFL Europe, AFL, and CFL football players have announced they are extending their sponsorship of the SAT/ACT training to all military families.

The sponsorship allows any military person (active, Guard, Reserve, or retired) to request as many programs as they need for the students in their lives. There is a secure website to confirm a person's military status before directing the user to the software order site. Instructions for ordering the software are available at: www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil/portal/page/itc/MHF/MHF_DETAIL_0?current_id=20.20.100.30.0.0.0.0.0. Programs are shipped to domestic U.S. addresses and APO addresses.

The sponsorship covers the purchase price of \$199 and the family pays only the shipping and handling of \$9.95. To view a flyer that has been made to assist in the effort, go to: <http://sat.eknowledge.com/military.asp>.

Guardlife Subscriptions

If you would like to receive Guardlife send your name and full address to:

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Lawrenceville, NJ 08648-2805

Active Guardmembers: Guardlife gets your address from your units, so no notification is required.

Also if you would like to have extra copies of past issues of Guardlife, please e-mail Staff Sgt. Barbara Harbison at barbara.harbison@njdmava.state.nj.us. Please specify the issue number, number of copies and your full rank, name and address.

Youth Camp Forms Available

The thirteenth Annual New Jersey National Guard Youth Camp will be held July 29 to Aug. 4 at the New Jersey National Guard Training Center, Sea Girt.

All applications are available online at: www.state.nj.us/military/familysupport/youth_camp.html. Children, ages 9-13 are invited to apply. The camp fee is still \$100.

Campers must be children, grandchildren or legal dependents of an active or retired member of the New Jersey National Guard. A variety of volunteer positions are available.

For more information, call the Family Programs Office at (609) 562-0668.

Gift Card Fraud

Criminals are now jotting down gift card numbers in the store, wait a few days-then call the company and ask how what the card's balance is. Once they find a card that has been activated they go online and start shopping.

If you want to purchase gift cards it is suggested that you obtain them at the customer service desk where the public has not had access to the cards.

INCENTIVE FLIGHTS AVAILABLE

**CONTACT THE 108TH ARW PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE AT (609) 754-4173
OR BY EMAIL AT PA.108ARW@NJMCGU.ANG.AF.MIL. OPEN TO ALL NJNG
GUARDMEMBERS AND THEIR SPOUSES.**



AMERICAN ICON LEAVES JERSEY GUARD

Chief Warrant Officer Raymond Ferrante, Spc. Dave Debran and Col. Jorge Martinez on the UH-1's final flight. Photo by Sgt. Salvatore Gagliano, 1-150th Aviation (Air Assault).

By Col. Jorge Martinez, State Army Aviation Officer

After more than 36 years of legendary service, the New Jersey Army National Guard bid farewell to its last UH-1 Huey helicopter. On the morning of

Sept. 6, Col. Jorge Martinez, Chief Warrant Officer Raymond Ferrante and Spc. Dave Debran, departed the Trenton-Mercer Airport en route to Groton Conn., where the aircraft was to be handed over to the Connecticut Army National Guard.

On the way to its new home, the last Huey flew over the Statue of Liberty, Ground Zero and all of the Metropolitan area's major landmarks, as it had done during many flights for pilots and crewchiefs, young and old.

Since its arrival in New Jersey in early 1971, the Vietnam era UH-1 Iroquois has been a dynamic presence in military operations, domestic emer-

gencies and community functions. The aircraft and its crews amassed an outstanding safety and performance record, with only a handful of serious mishaps over tens of thousands of flight hours. The most serious mishap occurred in May of 1978, when four crewmembers died during an aerial gunnery exercise in Fort Drum, N.Y.

UH-1 helicopters were present in every major NJARNG operation as far back as our Nation's Bicentennial, Operation OPSAIL, the Statue of Liberty re-opening celebration, tropical storm Floyd, 9-11 emergency operations and as recent as the Republican National Convention and the Delaware river floods.

Hueys also supported innumerable

static displays, gubernatorial flights and orientation flights for military and civic leaders and elected officials.

Since the early 1970s, the UH-1 fleet supported units in North and South New Jersey, mainly the 150th Combat Aviation Battalion the National Guard Armory in West Trenton and Troop D (Air), 5th Squadron, 117th Cavalry out of Linden Airport and eventually from Picatinny Arsenal.

During the past few years, the UH-1 helicopters assigned to the NJARNG gave way to the newer, more powerful and technologically advanced UH-60 Blackhawks. However, the aircraft leaving New Jersey did not go into retirement. Instead, the last three helicopters went to Mississippi, New Mexico and Connecticut to support missions such as Katrina relief, Operation Jump Start and Homeland Security.

The last flight had special significance to its pilots. For Ferrante, the flight would bring closure to an aviation career that covered four decades and more than 12,000 flight hours in every continent but Antarctica. For me, the flight would be the last in the machine that helped me rise through the ranks during the last 31 years, first as a crewchief and eventually as an instructor pilot.

In the end, the honorable UH-1 left New Jersey the same way it arrived: with little fanfare, humble, reliable, dignified and ready to serve our nation.

SHORT ROUNDS: AVIATION CHANGE OF COMMAND, JUMP START, OSACOM PARTY AND 9-11 PAINTING



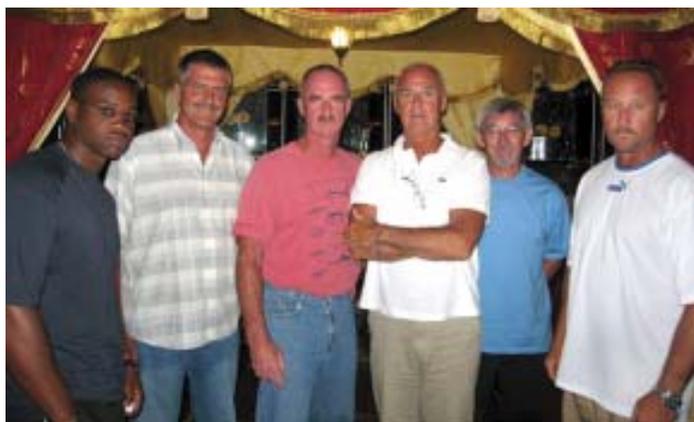
Aviation gets new commander

Lt. Col. Daniel J. Dreher (right) receives the 1st Battalion, 150th Aviation (Air Assault) colors from Col. John Dinapoli (right), Commander, 57th Troop Command, during the Change of Command ceremony at the National Guard Armory at West Trenton on Dec. 9. Outgoing commander, Lt. Col. Mark Preston can be seen standing to Col. Dinapoli's left. Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, 177FW/PA.



CE repairs at Jump Start

(left to right) Tech. Sgt. Delroy Wallace, Senior Airman Joshua Carvajal and Master Sgt. William Ericksen, all members of the 177th Fighter Wing Civil Engineer Squadron, prepare to pour concrete at Santa Teresa N.M. near U.S. Border Patrol Monument 3. Seven unit members were sent to Deming, N.M. in support of Operation Jump Start from Oct. 31 to Dec. 1. Photo by Master Sgt. Steven Gaskill, 177FW/CE.



OSACOM welcomed home

Soldiers of the Operation Support Aviation Command (OSACOM, left to right) Staff Sgt. Fende Fenelon, Chief Warrant Officers Glenn Malin and Nicholas Brady, James Tobin, Earl Jones, and Bret Berlinger pose for a photo during their welcome home dinner Nov. 15. The unit, which was based at Bagram Air Base in Afghanistan from February to September 2006, flew approximately 850 hours in two C12R aircraft. They flew passenger, cargo and VIP missions to Afghanistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Oman, United Arab Emirates, Kuwait and Qatar. Photo by Marie Durling, Family Programs.



Painting dedicated to 9-11 units

*The National Guard Bureau commissioned a painting highlighting the Air Guard's role in responding to the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001. The text accompanying the painting, titled *The Pentagon, September 11 2001* reads in part: "Launched from bases all over the United States, Air National Guard fighter and tankers moved quickly to protect America from further attacks on September 11, 2001...F-16s from the District of Columbia's 113th Wing, New Jersey's 177th Fighter Wing from Atlantic City, as well as active duty Air Force and Navy fighters."*

SHORT ROUNDS: GOVERNOR HOLDS PARTY, GALA RAISES MONEY, McMURDO BOUND AND NEW CSMs



Governor honors families

Governor Jon S. Corzine, Commander-in-Chief of the New Jersey National Guard held a party for the families of deployed Soldiers and Airmen at the Governor's mansion Drumthwacket Dec. 9. The governor recently returned from a trip to Kuwait, Iraq and Afghanistan was able to report firsthand to the families about their loved ones. There are 351 members of the New Jersey Army and Air National Guard serving in Iraq, Kuwait and Afghanistan. Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, 177FW/PA.



Family check

Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth, The Adjutant General accepts a check for \$15,000 for the New Jersey State Family Readiness Council from Eric S. Spevak, master of ceremonies of the 5th Annual Veterans Gala held at the Cherry Hill armory on Nov. 4. To date, the Council has raised more than \$463,953 to support the Soldiers and Airmen serving in the Global War on Terrorism. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class David Moore, NJ-JFHQ/PA.



Antarctica Airman

Senior Master Sgt. Marie Reavis of the 108th Air Refueling Wing Civil Engineer Squadron, is currently on a 60-day Air Expeditionary Force tour as the First Sergeant, supporting Operation Deep Freeze at McMurdo Station, Antarctica. Deep Freeze is the term for Antarctica operations, and specifically for the regular resupply missions, which are run by the 109th Airlift Wing at Stratton Air National Guard Base in Scotia, N.Y. As of yet, she has not seen any dancing penguins. Photo courtesy 108ARW/CES.



New CSMs across the state

Lt. Col. Robert J. Jarvis, (left) Commander, 1st Battalion, 114th Infantry passes the colors to incoming Command Sgt. Maj. Keith Stokley during a Change of Responsibility ceremony held at Fort Dix on Nov. 19. Stokley was one of six E-8's who took the leap to the top of the NCO ranks, they included: Joseph K. Brennan, Timothy D. Marvian, Christopher P. Sheridan, Keith A. Stokley, Konrad Uldschmidt and Matthew V. Valente III. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class David Moore, NJ-JFHQ/PA.

New Jersey National Guard

NEW JERSEY ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

To Command Sergeants Major (E-9)

Joseph K. Brennan
Timothy D. Marvian
Christopher P. Sheridan
Keith A. Stokley
Konrad Uldschmidt
Matthew V. Valente III

To First Sergeant (E-8):

Mark A. Leonard

To Master Sergeant (E-8):

James L. Prus
Richard G. Rosell

To Sergeant First Class (E-7):

Alva E. Brown
Daniel J. Coleman Jr.
Miguel A. Colondres-
Rivera
Stephen R. Cosmanic
Jaime A. Cosme
George A. Richnavsky
Daniel Rosas
Wilfredo Ruiz
Alvin D. Sylvester

To Staff Sergeant (E-6):

Junior A. Anglon
Dallas M. Bohn Jr.
Brando Colom
Lyndon P. Cueto
Steve E. Daigle
Richard A. Dipalma

Scott E. Dromgoole
Joseph F. Graham
Ronnie Joseph
Matthew J. Kryscnski
Edward J. Layton Jr.
Dennis J. Mahon
John A. Mayenzet
Trygve Myklebust III
David Orozco
Edwin J. Pagan
Michael E. Ruzicka
Michael J. Scuzzese
Andre K. Stevenson
Frederic M. Stiner
Joseph C. Wolf
David J. Woody

To Sergeant (E-5):

Thomas M. Billy
Mark E. Byers
Eric W. Cheeseman
Eric D. Cooley
Kenneth R. Cordero
Aracelis Costa
Ryan J. Dill
Steven A. Fabbri
John M. Facchini
James L. Ferguson
Bert J. Frullo
Jason R. Gilsenan
Francisco M. Gonzalez
Paul J. Greenberg
Thomas M. Johnston
Jin H. Jung
Karl G. Kelly II
Joseph M. Kern
Julian Londono
Daniel E. Mehmel
Connor J. Mullanaphy
Luis M. Negrón
Nicholas G. Ochipinti
Joel Reyes
Jose A. Rivera Jr.

Robin Ruiz
Robert R. Scott
Brian J. Smith
Ryan A. Sova
Eric R. Symonds
Marjorie Terilus
Eric P. Vivino

To Specialist (E-4):

James B. Bertolet
Lia C. Cater
Irving M. Durham III
Luis A. Gomez
Joseph M. Hess Jr.
Christopher E.
Jonassaint
Michael R. Lahn
Nick A. Lombardi
Randy W. Matthews
Giovanni R. Pineda
Edward J. Ross
Brett W. Russell
Luis A. Sanchez
Jesus J. Serrano
Andrew Sobolewski
Ali Tanveer
Celso Torres
Phillip S. Watson

To Private First Class (E-3):

Carlos Abreu-Rodriguez
Keith K. Adams
Ivan E. Addu
Russell C. Atkinson
Steven P. Baezarias
Fatmata Bangura
Frances J. Banks
Geraldo A. Bedoya
Walter A. Bielecki
James A. Bush
Randolph M. Camp Jr.
Matthew D. Carley

Antonio C. Cesar
William F. Cody III
Patrick M. Cornely
Latashia M. Edwards
Brian O. Florez
Chaz D. Godlewski
Malik R. Goldman
Gina M. Gornetski
Gregory M. Graham
David P. Jules
Justin Koo
Steven S. Martinez
Patricia A. May
Derrick L. McLean
Justin R. Miller
Deborah C. Navedo
Idianeth Ortiz
Kenny O. Oxenade
Saidu Y. Samura
Alba F. Sanchez
Alexsander M. Sanchez
Terrill A. Scott
Sasha T. Sherard
Nelson Suriel
Paul F. Tomanek Jr.
Carl R. Vitiello Jr.
Keith J. White
Jonathan T. Wood

To Private (E-2):

Christopher R. Atkinson
Jon W. Beagle
William J. Berneck III
Kevin P. Bradley
Dashan J. Brown
Samuel Cintron Jr.
David C. Cook
Speedy Guareno
Brian D. Jacques Jr.
Samuel G. Johnson
Timothy P. Keefe
Gary A. Mitana
Jennifer L. Peters

Guard Enlisted Promotions

Shawn R. Pickarski
James B. Prall III
Henry Rodriguez
Elizabeth M. Roslak
Hector L. Sanchez II
Craig J. Smith
James J. Urcinole II

NEW JERSEY AIR NATIONAL GUARD

To Chief Master Sergeant (E-9):

Richard F. Bouffard Jr.
Demetrius E. Jones

To Senior Master Sergeant (E-8):

Lawrence J. Malone Jr.
Edgar F. Newell
Kate S. Urie
Charles T. Wintling

To Master Sergeant (E-7):

Michelle R. Farrell
Steven R. Gaskill
Roy C. Kempf
Mark A. Ramos
Dante F. Rosini Sr.

To Technical Sergeant (E-6):

Nacer Abreu
Deangelo O. Berkeley
Matthew D. Dever

Floyd Henry
Douglas M. Herner
Shannon T. Judson
Jeffrey K. Lee
Kenneth J. McCay
Christopher P. Simon
Donald W. Smith III
Nathan D. J. Young

To Staff Sergeant (E-5):

Mayra I. Aviles
Jason W. Brown
Jill R. Burke
Suzanne M. Capuano
Seon J. Carew
Michele L. Didomenico
Mary C. Dimaggio
John W. Harris
Christopher P. Kovach
Brian G. McDevitt
Jorge Pineda
Adam R. Santiago
Gerard P. Sheehan

To Senior Airman (E-4):

Christopher D. Berget
Joshua P. Bronson
Christina M. Butler
Jonathan R. Cameron
Kelly A. Geant
Lamarr L. Hillman
Juliette E. McGhee
Sergio Ortiz
Christopher N. Palm
David F. Spaeth

To Airman First Class (E-3):

Brian P. Bush
Jeffrey M. Campbell
Edwin Cintron II
Sean P. Cleary
Adam A. Gavin
Ada A. Grafals
Jeffrey K. Lee
Jamen A. Lomonaco
Mattahew C. Milcarek
Nikima M. Porter
Anthony Rodriguez
Michael Saglimbene
Gregory C. Spezzano
Michael P. Walsh Jr.
Jeremy B. Williams

Congratulations To All!

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

Correction

In the promotions list of the November 2006 issue of *Guardlife*, Pfc. Wilson Taylor Utman's name was misprinted.

Family Assistance Centers

108th Air Refueling Wing
3327 Charles Blvd.
McGuire AFB, NJ 08641
POC: Tiffany Colby
Tiffany.Colby@njmcgu.af.mil

Jersey City Armory
678 Montgomery Street
Jersey City, NJ 07306-2208
POC: Janis Shaw
Janis.m.shaw@us.army.mil

Lawrenceville Armory
151 Eggert Crossing Road
Lawrenceville, NJ 08648-2897
POC: Jane Hackbarth
Jane.hackbarth@nj.ngb.army.mil

Morristown Armory
430 Jockey Hollow Road
Morristown, NJ 07960-0499
POC: Sheilah Kelley
Sjk3care@aol.com

Pomona NJNG FAC
400 Langley Road
Egg Harbor Twp, NJ 08234
POC (Air): Joan Searfoss
joan.searfoss@njatla.af.mil
POC (Army): Michael Hughes
michael.hughes@njatla.af.mil

Somerset Armory
1060 Hamilton Street
Somerset, NJ 08873
POC: John Hales
john.hales@nj.ngb.army.mil

Teaneck Armory
Teaneck & Liberty Roads
Teaneck NJ 07666-0687
POC: SSG Joe Coltery
joe.coltery@us.army.mil

Toms River Armory
1200 Whitesville Road
Toms River, NJ 08753
POC: Maria Morro
maria.morro@nj.ngb.army.mil

Woodbury Armory
658 North Evergreen Avenue
Woodbury, NJ 08096
POC: Michele Daisey
Michele.daisey1@us.army.mil

Our Toll Free Number 1-888-859-0352 Reaches All Family Assistance Centers



Guardmembers, become A Recruiting Assistant and for every person you recruit into the New Jersey Army or Air National Guard you earn \$2,000. Logon to <http://guardrecruitingassistant.com/> pick your branch of service, fill out the application and you are on your way to helping someone make a great career choice and some serious cash for yourself.





Photo and story by Kryn Westhoven, NJDMAVA/PA

Spc. Robin Johnson holds a small American flag mirroring the backdrop of the Stars and Stripes along the Flemington Armory wall during the 250th Finance Detachment's Welcome Home ceremony on Nov. 13.

Once again the community came out in force to welcome the nineteen Soldiers, who were mobilized in August 2005 and spent a year 'Boots on the Ground' in Iraq. The 250th Finance is the fourth of the four 50th Finance Battalion detachments to be mobilized since 2003 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) in support of the Global War on Terrorism.

The 250th Finance Detachment was located at Camp Liberty and three Forward Operating Bases (FOB), Scania, Kalsu and Echo. Finance Support Teams (FST) logged more than 2,000 miles on the road before the mandating of air travel

as the unit supported 6,000 Soldiers at two additional FOB's, Delta and Duke.

Through the year the New Jersey Soldiers handled pay advances and check cashing totaling \$22.8 million dollars and \$75 million dollars in payments to 100 U.S. Government contracts.

Statistically the 250th Finance Detachment serviced a total of 95,000 customers to include military personnel, government civilians, and civilian contractors, disbursing an average of nearly \$1.1 million dollars every week; all this was accomplished without a loss of funds.

The 250th Finance handled pay inquiries for more than 3,400 Soldiers and achieved a 94 percent first-time success in MILPAY Database Inputs. 🇺🇸

State of New Jersey
Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
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