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America Attacked President Tells Military 'Be Ready'



Fires from the Pentagon cast an eerie glow over the landscape of Arlington, Va. and Washington D.C. on the evening of Sept. 11, 2001. (U.S. Navy photo by Photographer's Mate 2nd Class Robert Houlihan.) See story page 3.

UP FRONT WITH THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

By MAJ. GEN. WILLIAM A. CUGNO,
ADJUTANT GENERAL



Our Resolve To Be Free

September 11, 2001 will be forever etched in the minds of Americans and most of the world for lifetimes to come. As we all went about our business that morning, no one could have imagined what was about to take place. Not only did we lose hundreds of people on commercial aircraft, hundreds more at the Pentagon and thousands at the World Trade Center, we also lost many first responders who, armed with courage and bravery, paid the ultimate sacrifice trying to save those directly affected by these events. In addition, let's not forget those soldiers of freedom aboard United Airlines flight 93 who overtook the hijackers and surely prevented additional loss of life and destruction.

These attacks may have altered the course of history but not our resolve to be free. As Americans, we are well aware that there has been a price to pay to maintain our freedom and liberties. And the price we paid on September 11 was horrific. But as we reflect on the events of that day, the words of our President will forever stand proudly: "Terrorist attacks can shake the foundations of our biggest buildings, but they cannot touch the foundation of America. These acts shatter steel, but they cannot dent the steel of American resolve."

That being said, we must remember that these events directly affected other nations around the world as well. It is estimated that 2,593

persons, out of the nearly 6,000 that are missing or dead, are citizens from 65 other countries. In addition, economies today are global and the impacts of these events have left their mark on the world – not just the United States. This is not just an American conflict; this is a world conflict.

This war on terrorism will be fought on many fronts. And one of the most important ones is here at home. Our Air National Guard's 103rd Air Control Squadron, located in Orange Connecticut, has been activated for an in place mission. They, as with many other National Guard and Reserve units, will be supporting the Homeland Security mission. Defending our borders and infrastructure here in the United States. In addition our Governor, the Honorable John G. Rowland, at the request of the President, has mobilized members of our guard to various airports throughout the state to enhance security until such time as a permanent force can be trained and deployed.

As I reflect back on what has transpired over the past three weeks, I am very proud of how America and our Guard has worked together to move forward. From our State Military employees, soldiers, airmen, and other state agencies to the media, emergency workers, federal employees, and donors of all kinds our country has come together to reflect and move forward.

Here in Connecticut, the response to the needs of others was noteworthy. Our Office of Emergency Management and National Guard Emergency Operations Center immediately reacted by establishing 24-hour operations and anticipated the needs of those affected by these tragic events. Heavy lift aircraft, provided by the 169th Aviation Regiment, was immediately pre-positioned south of our state in the event officials in New York needed them. Engineer assets were also deployed for the same reason. Medics were brought forward within hours to offer assistance. Our soldiers, in the field, had to immediately react when the President brought our country to THREATCON DELTA for the first time since World War II. Units had to implement various measures to insure the integrity of communications, the security of our facilities, awareness of their surroundings, and rapid response capabilities were in place to counter possible future threats.

I cannot over emphasize how important our role, as members of the Connecticut National Guard, is to winning this war on terrorism. Homeland Security will be vital to insure that our citizens have confidence in flying our skies again and in investing in our markets freely. The success of our missions will greatly assist our nation. Our country has called us to defend her freedom – let us lead the way!

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CHIEF MASTER SGT.
JOSEPH L. KING
STATE COMMAND CHIEF
MASTER SERGEANT

Hello everyone, I am Chief Master Sergeant Joseph L. King, State Command Chief

Master Sergeant of the Connecticut Air National Guard. My friend and counterpart, State Command Sergeant Major Stephen Primett and I will be sharing this column alternately over the upcoming months. He will provide articles and information from the Army National Guard perspective and I will do the same for the Air National Guard.

I would like to begin my first article by sharing with you how proud I was to be a part of the outstanding send-off ceremony for the men and women of the 103D Fighter Wing's to South West Asia. The support of the families and love ones was exemplary. I had the opportunity to talk with a number of the family members and they shared with me the pride that they all felt regarding the contributions that their

loved ones were making in support of our federal mission.

Our airman and their families gathered in the maintenance hangar to await the arrival of their aircraft. Upon entering that hangar they found the rope stanchions and various pieces of equipment flagged with American flags of various sizes. A waiting area had been established on the backside of the hangar and included a reviewing stand. To the left of the reviewing stand were booths and tables that were staffed by our family support team, headed by Master Sgt. Julie Janes, the USO and the VFW.

The USO supplied grinders, an assortment of sweets and gallons of coffee and soda for all to eat and drink. They even had special M&M cup cakes for the kids. These, by the way, were a big hit with the kids. Our family support team provided coffee and donuts along with deployment information for our personnel and their families.

Having deployed numerous times through

out my career, it was very apparent to me how important our family support team is to our personnel and their families. Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno also noted their importance in his speech to our departing personnel and their families. He complimented the contributions of the USO and the VFW veterans. In particular, he pointed out that our airman need to stay in contact with families by sending e-mails or by utilizing the calling card program that was set up by the Wing.

Again, I cannot tell you how proud I am of the men and women of the 103d Fighter

Wing and the support provided by our family support team. We, who remain here at home station, stand ready to assist and support our deployed personnel and their families in any way possible. I look forward to the return of our first group of personnel in two weeks.

God Bless and protect all of you and stay safe.

ENLISTED UPDATE

An Introduction and A Fairwell

Terrorists Attack America: Connecticut Guard Goes Into Action



The first tower of the World Trade Center send smoke billowing across Manhattan after a hijacked commercial airliner crashed into it on Sept. 11. (Photo by 1st Sgt. Henry Alston, 118th Medical Company)

SGT. 1st CLASS DEBBI NEWTON
STATE SENIOR PA NCO

The first sign Americans had that something was wrong on Tuesday, Sept. 11 was a commercial jetliner crashing into one of the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center in New York. Alarming? Yes. Shocking? Yes. An accident? Probably. Within minutes it became clear it was not an accident when a second commercial jetliner crashed into the second tower. Then came the additional news that the Pentagon had also been crashed into by a third plane. And then the crash of a fourth plane in an open field in rural Pennsylvania.

Three commercial jetliners, full of civilians travelling for business, travelling for pleasure, military personnel travelling from one duty to another, children travelling with parents and grandparents, hijacked by terrorists and crashed into icons of the American way of life, and a fourth bound for an unknown target whose passengers reportedly decided to fight back and save as many lives on the ground as possible.

Airports around the country were immediately closed and all planes in the air were instructed to land at the nearest airport. Reports were that there might be more aerial attacks.

Almost as quickly as the news media reported the incidents, the Connecticut National Guard (CTNG), Military Department and Office of Emergency Management (OEM) sprang into action. The Hartford Armory went on immediate lockdown at ThreatCon D, the highest state of alert, with only one door available for entry or exit. Soldiers from the 143rd Military Police Company were on site in less than an hour checking photo identification of people entering the building and checking all their bags before they were allowed to enter.

Senior level officials from the state, Red Cross, State Police, Department of Environmental Protection, the Federal

Emergency Management Agency and many others were on duty in the OEM Command Center. The Guard's Emergency Operations Center was up and running on 24-hour duty. Members of the Weapons of Mass Destruction/ Civil Support Team (WMD/ CST) were on their way to the New York's OEM in Albany to offer what assistance they could.

"The Connecticut National Guard stands poised and ready to assist New York in any way," Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno, Adjutant General, told the sea of reporters that had descended on the armory. "We have pre-positioned our engineer equipment at the Norwalk Armory and have our medical personnel on stand-by so we can respond quickly to New York City when called." Aviation assets were also in place should they be needed.

Traditional soldiers and airmen from all over the state were burning up phone lines to their units trying to find out if they should come in and what they could do. Some didn't wait for the call and went directly to their units and did whatever needed to be done, from answering phones, to helping with media escort. Many said they didn't even want to be paid. They just needed to feel

like they were doing something.

"This is a tragic day for our country," Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld told reporters that night. "Our hearts and prayers go to the injured, their families and friends. We have taken a series of measures to prevent further attacks and to determine who is responsible. We're making every effort to take care of the injured and the casualties in the building. (Referring to the Pentagon.) I'm deeply grateful for the many volunteers from the defense establishment and from the excellent units from throughout this region. They have our deep appreciation."

During the same Department of Defense briefing where Rumsfeld spoke, Gen. Hugh Shelton, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff also expressed his outrage at the tragic events of the day.

"Today, we have watched the tragedy of an outrageous act of barbaric terrorism carried out by fanatics against both civilians and military people, acts that have killed and maimed many innocent and decent citizens of our country," said Shelton. "I have no intentions of discussing today what comes

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After a second hijacked commercial airliner slammed into the second tower at the World Trade Center, a blanket of smoke and ash covers Manhattan. (Photo by 1st Sgt. Henry Alston, 118th Medical Company)

Air National Guard Unit Awaits Orders

CAPT. GEORGE H. WORRALL III
103rd FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

The 260 men and women of the 103rd Air Control Squadron were put on notice that they could be ordered to active duty for a period up to 24 months under the Presidents September 14 executive order and Title 10 United States Code.

"We notified our folks as soon as we got notice of the call-up," said Lt. Col. Richard D. Erdmann, commander, 103rd Air Control Squadron. "The difficult part now is we are just waiting for orders tasking us to perform a mission."

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld announced September 20 that 5,131 members of the Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve, from 29 units in 24 states and the District of Columbia, have been ordered to report for active duty military service as part of the partial mobilization authorized by President Bush.

The individuals and equipment of the 103rd Air Control Squadron will support tasking from the North American Aerospace Defense Command and the United States Central Command.

The unit has a 50-year history of activations when U.S. national resolve was tested, which includes Korea and the Berlin Wall crisis. The unit was last called-up for Kosovo in 1999.

"No other single action more clearly demonstrates the national resolve than to mobilize the National Guard and Reserve forces of America," said Craig Duehring, principal deputy assistant secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs. "These Guardsmen and Reservists are just the first to be put on partial mobilization orders. They're joining thousands of other Reserve forces members who immediately answered the call, either in a state active duty or federal volunteer status.

"I know I join millions of Americans in saluting them as they leave their jobs and communities to assist in the wake of last week's hideous acts of terrorism in New York, Pennsylvania and Washington."

The partial mobilization continues to demonstrate the vital role of Reserve forces in our national military strategy. The 1.3 million men and women who serve in the seven Reserve forces make up nearly one half of the U.S. armed forces, and are an integral part of the nation's military.

Terrorists Attack America

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next, but make no mistake about it, your armed forces are ready.”

Ten days later, President George W. Bush, in his address to a joint session of Congress, told the military to “Be ready.”

“Tonight, a few miles from the damaged Pentagon, I have a message for our military: Be ready. I have called the armed forces to alert, and there is a reason. The hour is coming when America will act, and you will make us proud,” said the President. “This is not, however, just America’s fight. And what is at stake is not just America’s freedom. This is the world’s fight. This is civilization’s fight. This is the fight of all who believe in progress and pluralism, tolerance and freedom.”

On Sept. 14, President Bush authorized the call-up of up to 50,000 National Guardsmen and Reservists to active duty to support national security efforts and homeland defense missions. Within days, Connecticut Air Guard’s 103rd Air Control Squadron in Orange received word that it would be called into federal duty.

“A national emergency exists by reason of the terrorist attacks at the World Trade Center, New York, New York, and the Pentagon, and the continuing and immediate threat of further attacks on the United States,” Bush stated in his proclamation authorizing the call-up.

The president later asked the governors of all 50 states to consider calling on the

military police units in their states for security duty at airports. Governor John G. Rowland immediately called upon the 143rd Military Police and on Sept. 28, 70 soldiers began providing security at Bradley International Airport in Windsor Locks, Tweed Airport in New Haven and Groton-New London Airport. The National Security missions at these airports are a 24-hour operation. Three days later, an additional 20 soldiers from the 85th Troop Command were called up to provide security at Brainard Airport in Hartford, Sikorsky Memorial Airport in Stratford and Waterbury-Oxford Airport in Oxford. The call-up of these soldiers for airport security reasons could last up to six months, whereas the call-up of the 103rd Air Control Squadron could last up to two years.

With the MPs being called to airports, members of the 1st Battalion, 102nd Infantry and other volunteers have been called on to handle security at Connecticut’s military installations around the state.

“Our facilities are taking all appropriate measures to ensure the safety and security of our people,” said Cugno. “You may notice changes in procedures at gates or entrances. At this point we are not taking any chances.

“I am very proud of the men and women in the Connecticut National Guard, Connecticut Military Department and Office of Emergency Management for the way they quickly came together to help our neighbor in need and each other.”



Firefighters work to put out a hot spot at Ground Zero in New York. (Photo by Lt. Col. Ron Welch, 85th Troop Command)



American resolve against our enemies was strong at Iwo Jima and remains strong at the World Trade Center in New York after terrorist attacks tried to destroy the American spirit.



Capt. Tim Corcoran and Master Sgt. Jack Duncan at Ground Zero. (Photo by Lt. Col. Ron Welch, 85th Troop Command)

EOC Volunteer Opportunities Available

Many people have been calling the State Headquarters of the Connecticut National Guard to ask if there’s anything they can do in the wake of the terrorist attacks in New York, Washington, D. C. and Pennsylvania.

Anyone who wants to volunteer for duty or provide assistance for the Hartford Armory Emergency Operations Center (EOC) may call (860) 524-4820.

Military Police Take Security Role After Terrorist Attacks

Sgt. 1st CLASS DEBBI NEWTON
STATE SENIOR PANCO

Within an hour after terrorists struck the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, members of the 143rd Military Police Company were on duty around the state guarding armories and other military installations.

The MPs were tasked with checking photo identification, briefcases and packages of people entering armories to ensure the safety of all.

Immediately after the attacks of Sept. 11, Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno, Adjutant General, called the MPs into action and placed the state military at ThreatCon Delta, the highest security level. The MPs went on 24 hour a day, seven days a week duty. Not only were they responsible for security, they also had to deal with a large contingent of media descending upon the Hartford Armory and an increased number of personnel entering the building to man the Office of Emergency Management Command Center and the Emergency Operations Center for the National Guard.

Eventually, after receiving a conference call from President George W. Bush, Connecticut's governor, John G. Rowland placed the military police on state active duty to assist with security at three of Connecticut's airports.

On Sept. 28, 70 military police were activated to provide additional security at Bradley International Airport in Windsor Locks, Tweed Airport in New Haven and Groton-New London Airport. Three days later, 20 additional personnel were called up to provide security at Brainard Airport in Hartford, Sikorsky Memorial Airport in Stratford and Waterbury-Oxford Airport in Oxford.

These activations are expected to last up to six months.

President Bush urged governors to call up National Guard units to protect U.S. airports while he implements a long-term plan to secure airlines from terrorist attacks.

"Without a doubt, this most tragic terrorist act in the history of our nation carried with it the unfathomable images of death, pain and destruction," said Cugno. "I am proud of the men and women of the Connecticut National Guard for the way they have stepped up to their missions and for the professionalism they are displaying while carrying out those missions."



Pfc. Tania Quinones, of Meriden, a member of the 143rd Military Police Company, checks the identification of Sgt. Jan Petrie, of Torrington at the entrance of the Brainard Armory complex, next to the civilian Brainard Airport. Security was tightened at facilities around the state, following the September 11 terrorist attacks against America. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Steve Markowski, 65th PCH)



Pfc. Tania Quinones, of Meriden, a member of the 143rd Military Police Company, searches a vehicle entering the complex of Brainard Armory, which abuts the civilian Brainard Airport. Security was tightened at facilities around the state, following the September 11 terrorist attacks against America. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Steve Markowski, 65th PCH)



Pfc. John-David Colon, of South Windsor, of the 143rd Military Police Company, cleans a .50-caliber machine gun, during a recent drill. Members of the unit were also performing guard duty at National Guard facilities following the terrorist attacks of September 11. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Steve Markowski, 65th PCH)

A Personal View of 'Ground Zero'

LT. COL. RON WELCH
85th TROOP COMMAND

I left on a Metro North train from New Haven to visit the World Trade Center early in the morning on Sunday, Sept. 16. You may ask yourself why would you travel to Ground Zero on a day off? For me, several reasons: first, when I was in high school, I was a very active volunteer firefighter and eventually became an Emergency Medical Technician and in some way could only imagine what all of the great rescue workers were dealing with. Could I be of any possible help five days after? During the first four years I spent in the regular Army with the 2nd Ranger Battalion, most of our mission focus was on counter-terrorism and the complexity associated hostage rescue, hijackings of busses, trains, ships and aircraft, airfield seizures and so on. One of the biggest challenges was always to try and understand how and why other cultures attempted such potentially horrific acts.

Enroute I began to ask myself several questions, like why was there such little security at the train terminal I just left? Why no accountability when you purchase a ticket? Are we as vulnerable as I think we are in our open society? What could military units do to assist if called upon?

I arrived at Grand Central Station (GCS) shortly after 0800 and linked up with Capt. Tim Corcoran who is an M-day soldier in Troop Command's S3 section. Tim is also a Metropolitan Transit Authority Police Officer and indicated he would be able to escort me to Ground Zero.

While we were at GCS, another M-day soldier, Master Sgt. Jack Duncan from the 2nd Battalion, 192nd Field Artillery greeted us. Jack is employed by ConEd and has specialized training in search and rescue and is certified to work in confined spaces. Jack had been working for many days as a volunteer with the "Bucket Brigade" and doing a superior job.

As we were approaching the site, you started to see emergency workers, N.Y. Army National Guard soldiers and some military equipment. The streets were stained with an ash-like substance from as far away as eight blocks. The closer we got, the more debris. Most people were wearing two-way respirators or dust masks and dumping water on their faces to cleanse congested eyes.

Upon arrival we parked a few blocks away, dismounted, put on dust masks and began to walk to the site. The smell from the burning rubble reminded me of the 1981 aftermath of the eruption of Mt. St. Helens. At the time, I was stationed at Fort Lewis, Wash., approximately 60 miles away and the ash and smell lingered for months.

Here, the military, FBI and state and local law enforcement agencies were working hard to establish a secure perimeter at the site. The ally ways and streets were lined with emergency vehicles, volunteers passing out food, water, medical supplies, work gloves, clothes and tools.

It really is impossible to completely describe the wreckage. The smoke, sporadic fires, crumbled concrete, twisted steel rebar, beams



Master Sgt. Jack Duncan and Lt. Col. Ron Welch at Ground Zero. (Photo courtesy of Lt. Col. Ron Welch, 85th Troop Command)

and broken glass will certainly take weeks, maybe months, to untangle, sort out and remove. It was incredibly difficult to get a true perspective on the size and magnitude of the site because everywhere you looked there was debris. The collateral damage to other buildings in the area was extensive. One high-rise looked like it was attacked with several artillery beehive rounds being fired directly at it. Another nearby building was being used as a temporary morgue with a makeshift lab next door.

The emotion of the workers on the site was sad but calm, most looked extremely exhausted but were continuing to push on, many were from all over the U.S. About 30 minutes before we left, several workers passed us in silence with body bags heading for the middle of the site.

The top of the debris field looked very dangerous. Small fires would flare up once an air pocket was created as rubble was removed. Large pieces of steel were cut with torches and removed with cranes. Several

pay-loaders and dump trucks worked in almost perfect synchronization. The emergency signals on site were one horn blast for everyone to stop and listen for possible tapping sounds by survivors, and three horn blasts to signal evacuation of the site because something real bad was about to happen.

As horrific as this trip to Ground Zero was, two memories remain etched in my mind. The first was that every one of the hundreds, maybe thousands of citizens from around the United States were pulling together in a unified way. I never imagined this could happen with so many events occurring simultaneously at the same site with very few spoken words.

The second, and most important, were the numbers and locations of American flags, some tattered from the destruction were still proudly being displayed at the crash site, on buildings, vehicles and workers.

This is a true testament to our complete resolve within this great nation.

Guardsmen Experiences Horrors of War From 'Ground Zero'

SGT. 1st CLASS DEBBI NEWTON
STATE SENIOR PA NCO

It started off as any normal Tuesday morning for Jack Duncan. Duncan, a master sergeant with the 192nd Field Artillery of the Connecticut Army National Guard works for Con Edison at its Millwood (N.Y.) Substation. Soon, though, that normal Tuesday morning would be shattered and would forever alter Duncan, and the world, as terrorists pulled off what is being called the worst terrorist attack in history.

"After the second plane hit the World Trade Center tower, we were put on Security Alert," said Duncan. "Our assignment was to maintain electrical service to New York City via the high voltage system. We also were aware that our substations were potential targets."

Duncan said his initial reaction to the attacks was shock, then anger.

"The master sergeant in me touched base with all my NCOs and my headquarters by email and landline," he said. "The ConEd worker in me knew that we had to prevent any more power outages in New York City. We lost seven transformers and a dozen high

voltage feeders from the World Trade Center substation. The husband and father in me made sure my family was o.k." Duncan and his fellow ConEd employees were working 12 to 16-hour shifts.

He first got to Ground Zero for a short time two days after the massive attacks, taking the Metro North train into Grand Central Station. It was there that he hooked up with fellow Connecticut Guardsman and Metropolitan Transit Authority Police Officer Tim Corcoran. (Corcoran is a captain with the 85th Troop Command in New London.)

"Tim commandeered a bus and made sure that myself, some Westport firefighters and other volunteers were transported to Ground Zero," said Duncan. "Pictures and TV do not portray the devastation. My shock and anger turned into determination. Along with thousands of volunteers, we joined the New York Fire Department and Police Department in the search. I worked the bucket brigade from 7 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. It was not easy. Empty buckets went up on one line; full buckets and pieces of debris came down the other. Body bags were filled, mostly with body parts. The smoke and smell got through

everything, including the respirators.

"When the President (George W. Bush) arrived, it was a real morale booster. There was no BS. The man was there to lead," said Duncan.

Emotions ran high all throughout the devastated area according to Duncan, but were quickly put under control in order to continue with the tasks at hand. Duncan raved about the Red Cross and Salvation Army volunteers.

"In the shadow of the threat of other buildings still collapsing, you came off the line to hot sandwiches, hot coffee and water," said Duncan. "Dry shirts, socks and gloves were right there. Those volunteers had no fear. The firefighters, medics and cops were the best. Even with their hearts torn out, they would just smile and say thanks."

When Duncan finished his shift at Ground Zero, he had been up for 40 hours with only a couple of catnaps to keep him going. He needed to catch the last train north. He walked east, then north until he came to the #6 subway line. There, he was overcome with emotion.

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Master Sgt. Jack Duncan takes a break at Ground Zero. (Photo by Lt. Col. Ron Welch, 85th Troop Command)

Soldiers' and Sailors' Relief Act Protects Those Called to Duty

WASHINGTON (AFP) — For people in the U.S. armed forces, there is no greater responsibility than providing the nation's defense. It takes precedence over all other obligations.

That fact, coupled with ongoing operations in support of President Bush's campaign against terrorism, has led Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld to institute the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act, effective Sept. 24.

Enacted by Congress in 1940, the act is designed to protect military people from certain legal obligations while providing the nation's defense.

The act provides assistance to members during legal proceedings and with meeting financial obligations. Military service often hampers peoples' ability to protect their rights, said Maj. William Youngblood, reserve judge advocate, Air Force legal assistance division at the Pentagon.

"The purpose of the SSCRA is to strengthen the defense of the United States by suspending enforcement of some civil liabilities so servicemembers can devote their entire attention to defense," he said. "It's beneficial for every servicemember to be

aware of the law's general provision so they'll know when they are involved in a situation and may be protected."

Youngblood said the law applies only to full-time active-duty people, including the activated reserve component. It provides five types of protection for financial obligations. They are:

- Postponing collection actions on any civil obligation;
- Prohibiting repossessions and foreclosures without court permission;
- Setting a maximum interest rate of six percent on all pre-service obligations;
- Allowing servicemembers to terminate leases with 30 days prior notice; and
- Permitting the Department of Veterans Affairs to guarantee life insurance premiums in order to continue coverage.

"Creditors do not have an affirmative duty to find out whether SSCRA might apply when a loan or other obligation is not repaid in a timely matter," Youngblood said. "In order to take advantage of these protections, the servicemember must advise the court or creditor that SSCRA protections are sought. It is also important to remember

that none of these protections apply if the obligation is incurred after entering active duty."

However, the relief act provides additional protection for obligations arising both before and after entering active duty.

These include the postponement of legal actions until such time as the service member is able to return and adequately protect his or her interests. To obtain this protection, the court must be advised of the active-duty commitment and find the service member's participation has been materially affected. Youngblood said it is best to contact a legal assistance attorney before asking a court to stay in a proceeding of this nature.

The act also prohibits courts from entering default judgments against active duty servicemembers unless the party filing the action follows specific guidelines set forth in the statute.

Youngblood said landlords with military tenants also have restrictions. A service member who enters a lease for less than \$1,200 a month cannot be evicted for up to three months without a court order.

Other protections include:

- The relief act extends the time when a

service member may file suit or have suit filed against them by eliminating the time served on active duty. Youngblood said because legal actions are filled with pitfalls, it's best to speak with an attorney before allowing any period of limitation to expire.

— Active-duty people cannot be taxed other than by their state of domicile. This prohibits multiple states from taxing people.

— Powers of attorney are extended for military people missing in action.

— Health insurance companies are required to reinstate any coverage in effect the day prior to active duty that was terminated during military service for both the person and their family.

Youngblood said it is important for people to know that creditors and insurance companies cannot initiate adverse credit ratings, deny credit or take any adverse financial action based solely on the fact that a military person invoked the protections of SSCRA.

For more information, contact your local legal assistance office: At the 143rd Area Support Group, call Lt. Col. Lippincott; at the 85th Troop Command, call Lt. Col. Grasso; everyone else should call Lt. Col. Tuohy at (860) 548-3208 for appointments.

CCSU Ready to Help Its Students and Staff Called to Active Duty

To All Connecticut National Guardsmen: Our University community is the academic home of more than 800 veteran students, staff and faculty. Approximately 200 of these individuals actively serve within one our Nation's military reserve organizations.

As our country responds to the national tragedy of Sept. 11, many of these reservists will be activated for state or federal emergency duty. The mobilization date or duration of service for any of these activations cannot be predicted. However, I am filled with pride because we have men and women students and colleagues who are dedicated to the preservation of democratic principles throughout the world.

Accordingly, I have instructed all relevant University offices to be prepared to expedite the release of individuals who are called to serve. I will expect timely and thoughtful processing of administrative forms, appropriate funds, future registrations, hosing assignments, book returns, financial aid assistance and payroll coordination. Counseling services and any other support function

that will facilitate an individual's transition from our campus into active military service will also be available.

I have asked the Provost, the Senior Vice President and the Vice President of Student Affairs to review relevant policies and streamline our administrative procedures as part of our effort to support the Guard and Reserve.

Please advise all students who are called to active duty to contact Mrs. Peggy Porter, Veterans' Affairs Office; telephone (860) 832-1785; email address: porterp@ccsu.edu. Since there is specific statutory, regulatory and/or collective bargaining agreement language that covers military leave, any questions regarding staff and faculty activated to unscheduled emergency duty should be immediately referred to the Personnel Office at (860) 832-1756.

Thank you for your cooperation during this time of national crisis.

Richard L. Judd

President, Central Connecticut State University
New Britain



Capt. Tim Corcoran, a member of the 85th Troop Command and a Metropolitan Transit Authority Police Officer, and Master Sgt. Jack Duncan, a member of the 192nd Field Artillery as well as an employee of ConEd, take a break from their duties at Ground Zero. (Photo by Lt. Col. Ron Welch, 85th Troop Command)

Fighter Wing Supports 'Operation Southern Watch'

CAPT. GEORGE H. WORRALL III
103rd FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

Labor Day weekend was anything but a restful holiday break for Connecticut's Air National Guard. The unit deployed hundreds to support Operation Southern Watch throughout the weekend.

The Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno, Connecticut National Guard Commander and Assistant Adjutant General, Brig. Gen. Mary Ann Epps bid a formal farewell to many of the airmen and their families at a ceremony September 2. For General Epps, there were many opportunities to say goodbye as she addressed each departing group over the long weekend.

"Our energies will be directed to all of you and your families, do not forget that," said Epps, Connecticut Air National Guard Commander. "I am so proud of each and every one of you."

Gathered with the families and other unit members for the send-offs were area military support groups.

"It is awesome to see this level of support from not just the tasked support areas of the base, but from the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Pioneer Valley USO and our own family support people," said Col. Thad Martin, vice commander, 103rd Fighter Wing who has led the base since the wing commander was among the first to deploy.

"Whenever you call we are here," said Sandy Wakefield, executive director, Pioneer Valley USO. "We do pretty much anything we can to support the military... food baskets for the holidays... holiday parties... any deployments."

As aircraft were delayed and subsequently cancelled, Martin rallied the troops and families and pressed on with the mission.

"We definitely demonstrated what we often say, that the key to air power is flexibility," said Martin. "It took 11 attempts to get the four airplanes needed to move all our people. As a result we pulled out the cots, made a few breakfasts and worked some 40-hour days that were not in the original plan. The results of the effort were what we planned - they all arrived safe and on schedule."

Families too planned and prepared themselves for the departure of their spouses, sons and daughters.

"We are used to it, he has done it before," said Lori Lusardi who came with their sons Timothy, 9, and Daniel, 6, to see off husband Master Sgt. Stephen G. Lusardi Jr., 103rd Maintenance Squadron. "The schedule is a little hectic, but you roll with it. We have local family so they help out... the kids are in school, so it will be routine."

During September, more "Flying Yankees" of the 103^d Fighter Wing rotated to their positions in various locations on the Arabian Peninsula. Following the events of

September 11, the departures took on additional significance.

"It [the world] is pretty scary right now," said Maureen Wishart who, with husband John and four other family members, came to see off her brother, Senior Airman Peter J. Rodgers, 103rd Aircraft Generation Squadron. "Peter has gone to other places before and just driven himself to the base."

"Because of the [current] situation we just want to make certain he knows we are here for him," said John Wishart. "We are here to show support and let him know we are here and praying for him to return safely."

Along with the families, many 103rd Fighter Wing members who were not deploying came to show their support at the 2a.m. send-off for the scheduled 5a.m. departure.

"It is our [he and wife Julie] first time ever coming to see the guys off," said Tech. Sgt. Mark A. Andrews, load crew chief, 103rd Aircraft Generation Squadron. "It is the least we can do to show support," added his wife.

Family members hinted at their feelings of patriotism for the country and concern for their family members as the hours of waiting wore on.

"At times you feel happy he is going to do something for his country...but you feel a little sad with everything going on," said Leola Baldwin, mother of Senior Airman Rome S. Baldwin, 103rd Maintenance Squadron, who attended with Rome's father James Baldwin and fiancé, Shawntee.

The aircrews were primarily there to perform Combat Search and Rescue missions, known as CSAR, with the A-10 Thunderbolt II aircraft.

In a CSAR mission, Flying Yankee pilots direct the recovery of friendly forces whose aircraft are damaged over Iraq. During the 1999 deployment, Connecticut pilots stood ready to launch a CSAR response on a moment's notice whenever coalition aircraft flew into Iraq.

Having celebrated its 75th year as the "Flying Yankees" in 1998, the unit has a rich tradition of faithful service to the state and nation.

In the last 10 years the Flying Yankees have deployed to many of the world's trouble spots. Four hundred members deployed to Southwest Asia in 1999 and 400 supported and flew missions over the Balkans in both 1994 and 1996.

The A-10 aircraft, affectionately known as the "Warthog," is designed to destroy tanks and other armored vehicles in close support of ground troops. The aircraft's armored cockpit and ability to fly for long periods are marked assets in the CSAR role.

The aircraft and crews may also be tasked for the anti-armor mission while deployed.



Members of the Pioneer Valley USO serve coffee and pastries to deploying airmen and their families. (103rd Fighter Wing photo)



Airmen make a final check of their gear prior to departure. (103rd Fighter Wing photo)



An airman has the chance to say one last goodbye to his family before deploying to Kuwait. (103rd Fighter Wing photo)



Members of the 103rd Fighter Wing prepare breakfast for their fellow airmen who deployed to Kuwait. (103rd Fighter Wing photo)

Air Control Squadron Plans Upgrade Project at Orange

CAPT. GEORGE H. WORRALL III
103rd FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

Connecticut's Orange Air National Guard Base facility upgrade is in the President's 2002 budget request, which was approved by the House of Representatives August 1.

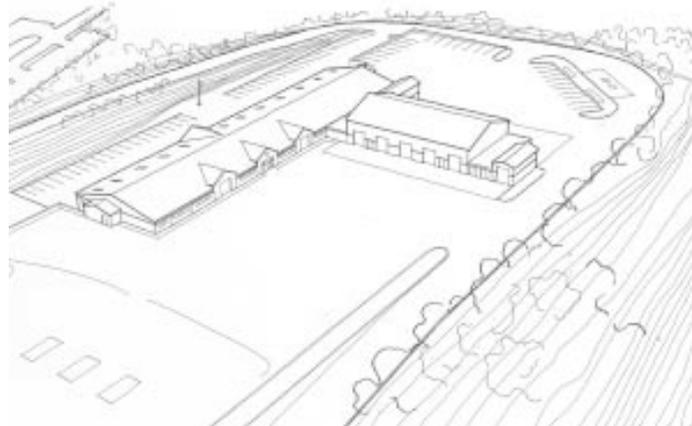
The \$12 million 103rd Air Control Squadron project and the President's budget, now needs the U.S. Senate vote and President's signature. Traditionally the President signs the final budget between October and November.

"We are excited since it has been in the works for many years," said Lt. Col. Richard D. Erdmann, commander, 103rd Air Control Squadron. "It looks like we are finally in the pipe to get a new facility. Also, it should increase morale for the old-timers and should help recruiting when the people come on base for the first time."

The new facility will replace most of the current 13 structures at the base. The core of the project involves demolishing 11 current buildings and incorporating their space and functions in a new 50,000 square foot facility.

"Basically we are building a 50,000 square foot box where everything inside will be modular," said Lt. Col. Michael F. Lilya, base civil engineer, 103rd Civil Engineer Squadron. "Since the one thing we do very well is change... we designed that into this facility. They will have the freedom to rearrange inside the building."

Originally completed in 1956, the base



Artist's rendition of how the top of the hill at Orange will look after the new facility is complete. (Photo courtesy of 103rd Air Control Squadron Archives)

housed a complex known as the Marsh Hill Compound, which supported an Army anti-aircraft missile system that once dotted the Connecticut shoreline.

"The 103rd Air Control Squadron moved to Orange in September 1961 from Milford Point when the units there and in Groton were consolidated," said Senior Master Sgt. John D. Cuomo, base historian, 103rd Air Control Squadron.

The project is in the design stage now, where it has been 35 percent complete for four years. If everything stays on track the contract will go out to bid in May with the

potential for a "first-shovel-in-the-ground" by October 2002, according to Lilya.

"The construction should take between 18 and 24 months," said Lilya. "So we will need to use office trailers so the people in Orange can still get their work done. Since the project will require the reshaping of the entire hill, all the operations will have to be moved off the top of the hill."

The 35 percent complete design was a requirement for Congress to consider adding it to previous approved budgets.

"For the past three years the Senate has

marked [voted] to add the project, but it has never been approved in the House," said Lilya. "Since it is in the President's budget we now have the money to finish the design."

"So after four years of attempting congressional adds, and after 13 years of programming, it is funded in the budget for 2002," said Lilya. He added that he is "99 and 44/100ths percent sure we will get the funding."

Finishing the design involves getting together with the end users in Orange for input.

"We will meet with the contractors, civil engineering, and our key base staff to review the original design," said Erdmann. "The only downside to the current design is the loss of some current storage space, so we will have to be creative, but it is an easily surmountable obstacle."

As with most older facilities, some environmental cleanup will need to be completed before construction can be started.

"There are two sites that need environmental remediation," said Maj. Kenneth M. Finger, base environmental manager, 103rd Fighter Wing. "Near the top of the hill fuel and oil were dumped on the ground during the late 50's, so the contaminated soil there will simply be removed before construction. Also, underground tanks were removed in 1990, and now the soil that surrounded them must also be removed."



To the left:
In this 1961 photo of what would become the Orange Air National Guard Base hilltop, a loader makes a flat area for the radar equipment, a process that will begin anew in 2002. (Photo courtesy of 103rd Air Control Squadron Archives)

To the right:
The current set-up at Orange Air National Guard Base with radar and modules that will all be removed before construction. (Photo courtesy of 103rd Air Control Squadron Archives)



Senate Panel Approves \$12.52 Million in Military Construction Funding

WASHINGTON — The Senate Appropriations Committee approved legislation that will provide \$12.52 million to upgrade and modernize Connecticut military facilities, senators Chris Dodd and Joe Lieberman announced recently. The Military Construction Appropriations bill for fiscal year 2002, which will now head to the Senate floor for consideration, allocates \$10.5 billion overall for the management and construction of military housing, offices and other facilities.

"Connecticut's National Guard personnel are second to none. It goes without saying that they deserve first-rate facilities and training, especially now in our time of national need," said Dodd. "This funding addresses a number of critically important needs that, ultimately, will improve Guard readiness and training as these men and women continue to serve our state and nation."

"At a time when military readiness is a critical national priority, I am heartened that the

Senate has approved these funds," said Lieberman. "This money will ensure that Connecticut's National Guard will be well-prepared to join our nation's war against terrorism."

Connecticut programs that will receive funding under the bill include:

Air National Guard Station in Orange: \$12 million for overdue improvements to upgrade and modernize the facility that the 103rd Air Control Squadron relies on for training activities.

Army National Guard Leadership Training Academy at Camp Rowland in Niantic: \$520,000 for designing the redevelopment of the facility to meet training needs.

In related military news, the Secretary of the Air Force last week placed 260 personnel from the 103rd Air Control Squadron on notice for active duty, pursuant to the mobilization effort. In providing for 'homeland defense' in the war against terrorism, these personnel will provide critical air control functions for military aircraft patrolling North America.

242nd Engineer Bn. Hosts 19th Annual Cannonball Run

SGT. JOSEPH CARL DeCARO
65th PCH

With the roar of 105 mm howitzer, the 19th Cannonball Run started with a bang Sept. 9.

The four-mile run is an annual event sponsored by the 242nd Engineer Combat Battalion (C) at its Norwalk Armory.

"I ran it last year and found it well-organized," said Dave Urban, president of Sound View Associates in Stratford. "I found the course nice, nice track, (and the) water stops were perfect (regarding their spacing along the race route) and the food was great," referring to the post-race pasta party in the armory drill shed.

Urban has run 18 marathons in the past four years, but said the howitzer start of this race was impressive.

"It (the howitzer shot) put a kick in my run," said Urban. "I didn't think it was that loud."

The Cannonball Run originally began in 1982 with the 192nd Field Artillery, hence its name, according to Sgt. 1st Class Anthony Rivera, logistics noncommissioned officer-in-charge, 242nd Engineers.

Rivera has participated in the run since its inception when he was a member of the 192nd. When the artillery was inactivated in '94, the ball rolled to the engineers and they and

Rivera have been running with it ever since. He said the route has always been well-marked and staffed by Connecticut Guard volunteers so that no one has either gotten lost or been injured in the 19 years that the race has been run.

One hundred participants – 75 males, 25 females — registered for this year's race. They ranged in age from 10 to 63.

The overall winner with a time of 21:56 was first-time participant Cameron Stracher, a lawyer who is also a free-lance journalist and who recently moved to Westport.

Stracher learned about the Cannonball Run while surfing the Internet for local races.

Stracher said the Run was not repetitive or boring and that it was run in a safe, shady area with no traffic to be wary of.

"I'm hot and sweaty, but happy," he said.

The Cannonball is a fast, flat certified USA Track and Field course through the scenic roads of residential New Canaan, starting and ending at the Norwalk Armory. Everyone who participated got a T-shirt and this year's race proceeds benefited the American Cancer Society.



(Photo by Spc. Jeff Austin, 65th PCH)



(Photo by Spc. Jeff Austin, 65th PCH)

NGACT Holds 4th Annual Golf Tournament: Scholarship Fund, Children's Hospital Benefit

SGT. 1st CLASS DEBBI NEWTON
STATE SENIOR PA NCO

The National Guard Association of Connecticut (NGACT) held its 4th Annual NGACT Open Golf Tournament at Keney Park Golf Course in Hartford, raising more than \$8,000 for the Connecticut Children's Hospital Pediatric Cardiac Unit and adding money to the NAGCT Scholarship Fund. NGACT presents several \$500 scholarships to members and their dependants each year.

"The tournament grows every year in terms of people participating either as golfers or volunteers and monies raised," said tournament chairman John Godburn. "The Guard community really comes out in force for this event every year."

There was some question this year as to whether the tournament would even be held because a large number of the volunteers who help organize the event were in the

process of deploying to Bosnia. Other golfers who have participated in the previous tournaments stepped up to help out and keep the event going, and it became one of the most successful tournaments to date.

The tournament is an 18-hole scramble start tournament which features a hole-in-one contest, a longest drive competition and a closest to the pin contest. There is also a

putting contest. Golfers are treated to a continental breakfast as they await their start time, receive lunch and have a social hour followed by an awards dinner where trophies are presented for all the competition winners, the top three finishing teams, and a special award that is presented to the last place team to encourage their continued support of the tournament. This year's last place team received a set of plastic horseshoes.



One foursome gets ready to shoot into the shade to get on the green during the NNGACT Golf Tournament at Keney Park Golf Course. (Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Debbi Newton, State Senior PA NCO)



Golfers take time to discuss strategy over a cup of coffee before the start of the 4th Annual NGACT Golf Tournament. (Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Debbi Newton, State Senior PA NCO)



One golfer lines up his putt on the 18th green as the rest of his foursome look on. The four were participating in the 4th Annual NGACT Open. (Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Debbi Newton, State Senior PA NCO)

Normandy Division Returns to Europe With New Mission

JIM GARAMONE
AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

As the soldiers of the 29th Infantry Division marched toward the buses that would take them to Fort Dix, N.J., the band played the theme from the movie "The Longest Day."

The division, made up of National Guardsmen from Virginia, Maryland, Connecticut (The 143rd Forward Support Battalion and Company B, 1st Battalion, 102nd Infantry) and Massachusetts, were going back to Europe for the first time since the 29th landed on Omaha Beach on June 6, 1944. The unit forms the core of Stabilization Force 10 in Bosnia.

Division Commander Army Maj. Gen. H. Steven Blum said the deployment of the reserve component division highlights the Army of One motto. While most of the personnel will come from the 29th, the division will be augmented by other service members from as far away as California and Oregon.

In all, guardsmen from 18 states, reservists from three Army Reserve Support Commands and active duty personnel from the 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum, N.Y. and the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment from Fort Polk, La., are part of the team.

Once on the ground in Bosnia, the 29th will command the Multinational Division, North. This includes all U.S. troops in the area as well as a Polish-Nordic brigade, a Turkish brigade and a Russian airborne regiment. The division will relieve the 3rd Infantry Division and will stay in Bosnia through April 2002.

Richard Whiston, assistant secretary of the Army for manpower and reserve affairs, said that all soldiers who go in harm's way must receive the same level of training. But readying a National Guard unit for this sort of mission is different from readying a comparable active duty force.

One obvious difference is National Guard units have two missions. Their state mission is the one apparent on the 6 o'clock news when guardsmen help during natural disasters and maintain order during civil disturbances. When units perform in these roles, the state governor is their commander-in-chief.

But the reserve components have become increasingly active in their second mission of national defense, and they have to pay more attention to it.

The 29th's mission to Bosnia is a national one, and all the guardsmen were "federalized" to participate. Once federalized, Guard units are like any other in the active Army: The president is the commander-in-chief, funding comes through the Pentagon and units enter the chain of command at the appropriate level.

The Pentagon identified Stabilization Force 10 units 18 months ago, but Blum did not command all the forces he would take to Bosnia until DoD mobilized the force on Aug. 29. Until then, he had no authority to direct non-division units to train.

Blum, who looks like he shares Michael Jordan's barber, quipped that he had a full head of hair at the beginning of the process. But, he said, getting the states to cooperate really "wasn't a problem. We received great support from the states, and the adjutants general." The states cooperated and followed Blum's suggestions for training.

The need to fulfill state and national missions also partially dictated which units would go, said Air Force Lt. Gen. Russell Davis, chief of the National Guard Bureau. The 29th could not take too many soldiers from one state or the various governors would not have enough personnel at home in the event of a disaster. Other

considerations in the decision to draw guardsmen from 18 states included the tempo of recent National Guard deployments and the nature of the 29th as a light infantry division — it would need tank and armored personnel carrier support from Mississippi and Texas units.

The Guard units had three levels of training: individual, unit and "theater-directed." The first two were conducted at the units' home stations or in state. Theater-directed training occurred at Fort Benning, Ga. Further, refresher training will take place at Fort Dix, Force 10's mobilization site.

Individual training includes tasks such as weapons qualification, protective mask confidence training and military occupational specialty qualification. Unit training included securing and defending positions, conducting patrols and operating checkpoints.

Four days of theater-directed training at Fort Benning included exercises in quick-reaction force missions, checkpoint operations and combat search and rescue operations. The guardsmen received the same training all deploying units receive, according to Benning spokeswoman Monica Manganero.

In addition, soldiers received briefings on force protection, mine awareness, the rules of engagement, casualty evacuation and communications procedures.

In January 2001, all the units in SFOR 10 gathered at Fort Polk for a military training exercise. This allowed the commanders to get used to working with each other and pointed to shortcomings they needed to correct.

The average soldier has spent 100 days in the past 18 months preparing for the mission, Blum said. It was his goal that "no soldier would experience in Bosnia what he has not already seen in training."

Some of the exercises come directly from previous experiences in Bosnia. They exercise with civilians posing as members of the media. They practiced entering an area, setting up a headquarters and perimeter and confronting civilians. They rehearse setting up convoys and what to do when they come across an illegal checkpoint.

A National Guard unit has other hurdles that active duty units do not confront. While performing the 100 days of training, the guardsmen also held down full-time civilian jobs, Blum said. Their families and employers had to cooperate so the guardsmen could go on this mission. Virginia Gov. Jim Gilmore specifically thanked families and employers for allowing the men and women of the 29th to be citizen-soldiers.

The division has now shipped out of the Fort Dix facility and has settled into its mission in Bosnia. While at the New Jersey post, the men and women of the division went through last-minute exercises and ensured that their personnel and medical and dental records are in order. Fort Dix officials look at their services as "a last chance" to correct problems. They look at the records and others, such as family care plans, to ensure the soldiers are ready to deploy.

Given all this, the men and women of the 29th volunteered for the mission. Army Spc. Conrad Savoury and Spc. Adam Jenks both transferred from other units to deploy with Company A, 104th Infantry. They expect the deployment to be challenging.

Blum agrees. "This is intellectual warfare," he said. "It is complicated and difficult. Our success will be measured in having thought our way out of a problem rather than fought our way out."



The Logistics Section at the Hartford Armory had a "God Bless America" banner made which was taken around the armory for all Connecticut Guardsmen and Military Department employees to sign. The six foot banner was sent to the New York National Guard by the Logistics Section as a way of showing support to the soldiers and airmen of New York. A larger banner was also sent to Ground Zero. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Steve O'Shana, Logistics.)



Brig. Gen. I.J. Zembrzowski, (back to camera), Commanding General, Connecticut Army National Guard, visits with members of the 712th Maintenance Company's Food Services Section while at the National Training Center (NTC), Fort Irwin, Calif. during their annual training. The Food Services Section won the prestigious Connelly Award for 2001, competing against active duty counterparts for the honor of being named best food services section in the country. (Photo courtesy of Brig. Gen. I.J. Zembrzowski)



Smoke and flames rose over the Pentagon at about 10 a.m., Sept. 11, 2001 following a terrorist crash of a commercial airliner into the side of the building. Part of the building hit collapsed; firefighters continue to battle the flames. The building was evacuated, as were other federal buildings in the Capitol, including the White House. (Photo by Gerry J. Gilmore.)



Smoke and flames rose over the Pentagon at about 10 a.m. Sept. 11, 2001, following a terrorist crash of a commercial airliner into the side of the building. (Photo by Jim Garamone.)



Smoke and flames rose over the Pentagon at about 10 a.m., Sept. 11, 2001, following a terrorist crash of a commercial airliner into the side of the building. (Photo by Gerry J. Gilmore.)



Local firefighters battle the blaze Sept. 11 after a terrorist attack on the World Trade center in New York City. (U.S. Army photo by Paul Disney.)

The Look



The Pentagon in flames just minutes after a hijacked jetliner crashed into the building on Sept. 11, 2001.



Fires and work lights of emergency vehicles lend an eerie glow to the evening landscape around the Pentagon on Sept. 11, 2001. The Capitol is in the background. (U.S. Navy photo by Photographer's Mate 2nd Class Robert Houlihan.)

American

By
Peggy Ryan

This is our land, t
The home of the bra
Though the cowards came to dest
America's strength was not
like the Phoeni
Through the dark gray s
it filled the New
as the people came
the towers crumble
But the brave men and w
A sign of Amer
For we love this cot
where freedom mus
this nation o
where His praises for
May our prayers for the
as He holds each on
Let us no longer tal
freedom in our pr

(Editor's Note: The author of this poem is Shawn Ryan, a Deputy Fire Marshal with the Connecticut Army National Guard.)

Book of War



Sept. 11, 2001. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Jason Ingersoll.)



Smoke bellows from the Pentagon after a hijacked commercial jetliner crashed into it, Sept. 11, 2001. The Pentagon attack followed an attack on the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Jim Varhegyi.)



A U.S. flag is set outside the Pentagon after a hijacked commercial jetliner crashed into it, Sept. 11, 2001. The Pentagon attack followed an attack on the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York in what is being called the worst terrorist attack in history. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Jim Varhegyi.)

Can Spirit

By
eggy Ryan

land, this America.
he brave and the free.
o destroy our sweet land of liberty,
as not tarnished and its spirit
Phoenix did rise.
gray smoke of our towers,
New York skies
came to the rescue,
rumbled from above.
and women kept working,
F American love.
his country we live in
om must always ring,
stion of God,
ses forever we will sing,
or the victims be answered
ach one in His hands
ger take for granted
our precious land.

author of this poem is the mother of
y Fire Marshall and member of the
tional Guard's AVCRAD in Groton.)



Military servicemembers render honors as fire and rescue workers unfurl a huge American flag over the side of the Pentagon during rescue and recovery efforts following the Sept. 11 terrorist attack. The attack came at approximately 9:40 a.m. as a hijacked commercial airliner, originating from Washington D.C.'s Dulles airport, was flown into the southern side of the building. (U.S. Navy photo by Michael W. Pendergrass.)



Aftermath from a terrorist attack on the Pentagon, Sept. 11, 2001. (U.S. Navy photo by Photographer's Mate 2nd Class Robert Houlihan.)



Staff Sgt. Irvin N. Henry Jr., E Company, Honor Guard, Fort Meyer, Va., gets some rest after putting long hours working with the casualty recovery team at the Pentagon. Recovery efforts continue in the aftermath of the disaster caused when a hijacked commercial jetliner crashed into the Pentagon on Sept. 11, 2001. The terrorist attack caused extensive damage to the Pentagon and followed similar attacks on the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York City. (Department of Defense photo by Tech. Sgt. Cedric H Rudisill.)

Phase IV of JTF Husky Complete

STAFF SGT. BOB OLDHAM
189TH AIRLIFT WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Nearly 40 airmen from the Arkansas Air National Guard's 189th Airlift Wing deployed to this Northeast United States military installation Aug. 18- Sept. 1 to help complete several infrastructure projects for the Connecticut National Guard's premier training area and to accomplish annual training requirements for traditional Guard members.

The 189th Civil Engineering Squadron sent 33 unit members in various career fields, such as plumbers, electricians and power production technicians, to participate in Phase IV of Joint Task Force Husky. The 189th Services Flight sent two people to help feed the deployed members, and the 189th Logistics Flight sent the unit's first sergeant.

Construction projects have been in progress at two locations here in Southeast Connecticut: Camp Rowland and nearby Stone's Ranch Military Reservation. Civil engineer Guard units from around the United States have come here in three previous phases to help upgrade infrastructure.

"The deployment has gone very well," said 2nd Lt. Claude Howard, deployment commander. "It was kind of slow at first, but we've really come together."

Assessing the projects and staging equipment took up much of unit members' first hours on the ground. But once the initial assessing and staging phases were complete, crews ripped through projects at a feverous pace.

Ten-hour duty days were the norm for crews as they constructed a pavilion, performed preventative maintenance on heating and air conditioning systems, repaired lighting, built a 1,120 linear-foot fence and put the finishing touches on a remote road on Stone's Ranch among other projects.

As with many CE-type deployments, some Guard members found themselves working outside their career field. For example, the logistics first sergeant spent time helping prepare meals in addition to overseeing unit morale and assisting deployed members with other issues while CE's real first sergeant worked as a heavy-equipment operator. Senior Airman Anita Young, a disaster preparedness troop, spent time as a roller operator as she helped smooth a road on Stone's Ranch.

She said she's had a lot of fun on the deployment and got to learn things about other career fields that she didn't know before.

From all indications, camp officials were pleased with the unit's ability to complete projects on time. In fact, several unit members were presented with Army Achievement Medals for their efforts.



Tech. Sgt. Rodney Reed, an electrician in the CE squadron, drives a grounding rod into the ground to ground the frame of a pavilion crews erected at Stone's Ranch Military Reservation. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Bob Oldham, 189th Airlift Wing Public Affairs)



Tech Sgt. James C. Scott uses a surveying tool to measure vertical length and horizontal distance during a phase of fence construction at Camp Rowland. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Bob Oldham, 189th Airlift Wing Public Affairs)

Camp Rowland was built March 16, 1881, and sits on about 80 acres. The camp houses a dining facility, laundry facility, warehouse, 10 classrooms, distance-learning center and a firearm training facility.

Stone's Ranch, which is located a few miles southwest of the camp, is about 2,000 acres and is a multi-use tactical training area for the Connecticut National Guard. Stone's Ranch consists of bivouac areas, a land-navigation course, 23-station confidence course, leadership reaction course, repelling tower, live-fire demolition range, bridge training facility, diesel fuel point with wash rack, ammunition storage facility and an airstrip.



Staff Sgt. Ludwig Metzger (left) and Master Sgt. James Jackson carry a 100-pound fence post to a hole. The fence crew set more than 110 posts during the fence-building project. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Bob Oldham, 189th Airlift Wing Public Affairs)



189th Civil Engineering Squadron crews spent two weeks repairing a section of a remote road on Stone's Ranch Military Reservation. Crews had to excavate tons of underground boulders to accommodate the construction. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Bob Oldham, 189th Airlift Wing Public Affairs)

The Korean War: Remembering The War That Wasn't

CPT LOU MARTINEZ
65TH PRESS CAMP

As the U.S. enters a new war, a two-war veteran remembers the forgotten war. Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Ralph Briggs remembers the call to arms 50 years ago. In 1950, Briggs was already a World War II veteran when he got word he would be going to the Korean peninsula.

In 1942, Briggs never thought after leaving the University of Connecticut and enlisting in the Army, fighting in Europe with the 4th Infantry Division, surviving D-Day, dodging shells at the Battle of the Bulge and liberating France, that he would find himself fighting another war. At the end of WWII, Staff Sgt. Briggs returned home to New London. He went back to school and finished up at UCONN. He also earned his gold bar, a commission from R.O.T.C. In 1948, 2nd Lt. Briggs took the oath for the Connecticut Army National Guard. Briggs was assigned as a platoon leader in C Battery, 745th Anti-Aircraft Artillery (triple A) Gun Battalion. Two years later Briggs became battery commander.

Soon after taking command, Briggs received orders to go on active duty. His unit was activated and deployed to Fort Stewart, Georgia en-route to the Korean conflict.

"I still remember the parade down State Street in Norwich to the railroad to get on a train to Fort Stewart," said Briggs. Once the 745th finished training in Fort Stewart it went on to Fort Devens, Mass., except for Briggs.

"I received orders to proceed to Korea. Half dozen officers received orders for Korea." Briggs was one of about 136,000 men in the



Brigadier General (Ret.) Ralph Briggs looking at a citation sent to him by the President of Korea. (Photo by Capt. Lou Martinez, 65th PCH.)

Army National Guard to set foot in the Korean peninsula.

Before arriving in South East Asia, Briggs went to Ft. Sills, Oklahoma and became a Forward Observer (FO), one of the most dangerous jobs in combat.

"I trained as an FO, but I never had to do the job. I lucked out," said Briggs. Briggs also

"The thing I think about most is the land. It's all hill and valley, except along the coast. Hills, valley and poverty."

made a stop in Japan for more schooling.

This time Briggs was learning about Chemical, Biological Radiological Warfare (CBR). Two weeks later, he was in Pusan, Korea. He was assigned to the 76th Anti-Aircraft Artillery

Battalion, stationed in Taegu and then moved to Kunsan. He still has the maps and

vividly remembers Korea's rugged terrain.

"The thing I think about most is the land. It's all hill and valley, except along the coast. Hills, valley and poverty."

Briggs spent only eight months in Korea. He commanded a platoon of triple-A guns at an airfield on the coast of Kunsan Air Force Base. His platoon never fired those guns, except for practice off the coast of Seoul. The only aircraft that ever invaded his airspace was a North Korean reconnaissance plane, known on the base as Bed Check Charlie.

"Buzzes over and went back. Never bothered shooting at him. He wasn't shooting at us. It was at night, we couldn't see anything," said Briggs.

Briggs was in an Army, and a war, that made history for integrating black soldiers with whites. "To me I didn't see anything different." Briggs remembers his first first sergeant, a black soldier. "He was one of the top first sergeants I ever ran into. He could chew them out."

For Briggs, the Korean War has never been the forgotten.

"I think just like anything it disappears in the past. Of course they are finally admitting it's a war not a conflict," said Briggs. "I feel from the very beginning it was a war - no question about it." Briggs speculates Korea was a war of inconvenience for everybody.

"Only those affected by it are those that really remember it," said Briggs.

Inside Officer Candidate School: How Troop Leading Procedures Will Improve Leadership Skills

OFFICER CANDIDATE JEFFREY WIESNER
OCS CLASS 47

(Editor's Note: This is the second installment of a year-long series that will follow the students of OCS Class 47 through their own eyes, as they work towards completing the course and becoming officers.)

I have just completed my assignment as platoon leader for the drill weekend of August 17 to 19. During the course of the weekend I was given tasks to accomplish. I instituted the troop leading procedures (TLPs) to help accomplish these tasks. I feel my overall assessment of the weekend went well, but there is still room for improvement. I will discuss how each step of the troop leading procedures could have helped me more.

Receive the mission: Many missions are handed out in the course of a drill weekend. Each mission received should be treated with equal importance. You should pool your

resources and try to the best of your ability to accomplish the mission. The difficulty level rises when assigned multiple missions to accomplish, and in turn will ask for more of your time in the planning stage.

Issue a warning order: Once the mission is received, the troops need to be informed. By issuing a warning order the troops are given a heads up as to what the situation is. I feel that I can improve on this aspect of instituting the TLPs. I tend to give out too much information during the warning order. I should keep it short and to the point. The details will come out during the operation order (OPORD).

Make a tentative plan: After receiving the mission, a plan must be made to accomplish the mission. When devising a plan its good to devise at least two or more different plans. One of my weaknesses in this stage is that I often develop a plan and stick with it instead of looking at other plans of action. I think it's very important to listen to what

subordinates have to say when developing a plan. They might see an angle that you might not.

Start necessary movement: This step is putting the plan in motion. Start making necessary troop or equipment movements for action to be taken. I tend to try and supervise too much during this stage. I should allow my chain of command to conduct their business.

Reconnoiter: One of the most important stages. Any information that is needed for your objective can be learned through reconnaissance. I failed to conduct proper reconnaissance on the meals. I also failed to inform Sgt. 1st Class Lavelle of the change in the training schedule to the meal schedule.

Complete the plan: After issuing a warning order, making a plan, setting up position of troops and equipment, and gathering intelligence, its time to complete the plan. Deciding on one plan to accomplish the

objective is crucial for the next step. One important concept to keep in mind is the one-third, two-thirds concept. You must give your subordinates enough time to carry out the plan.

Issue the complete order: All the details are hammered out and its time to issue the Operations order. During my OPORD I was a little nervous and it showed because I rifled through my OPORD. I spoke too fast and that caused some of my words to become jumbled. I knew my OPORD very well, but I relied too much on the paper and the presentation during the issuance of the OPORD. With practice and more self-confidence I will not be nervous and I will produce a much better presentation.

Supervise: This is a critical stage and the final stage of the TLPs. One must watch over his/her subordinate leaders, so that the mission is being carried out as planned. No one should micro manage their soldiers, but always supervise as needed.

TGIF – The Guard Is Family

Survival Stories & Tactics - An Invitation To Share

SGT. MAJ. BARBARA MONTIGNY
CONNECTICUT NATIONAL GUARD FAMILY PROGRAM

While the CTNG has troops deployed, many families are dealing with life without their soldier. The Family Program offers space in this column for sharing stories and tactics developed because of the separation. Here's a sample excerpt from a piece written by Cathy Riddle in the "off duty" magazine. She writes:

"He joins the National Guard. 'Don't worry, Honey, I'm only obligated to drill one weekend a month and two weeks a year.' That was in January. By May, he was gone for three months active-duty in Texas.

That's also when I entered "The Twilight Zone". My parents moved and got into a near fatal car accident, my dog was attacked by a beaver, and the air conditioning in my house began blowing hot air during a 90-plus-degree day. I remember calling my husband in Texas during each one of these episodes, hoping that some miracle would bring him home.

The truth of the matter was, I didn't need a miracle. Nor did I need my husband to hold my hand to get me through these trying times."

Yes, life can get a little harried when someone is deployed. But it does go on, and so must you. Instead of going to the phone or email

to your soldier, consider other options. Pick your brain. There's a solution for any problem you're experiencing. If you are suffering from a little "brain-lock" at the moment, maybe a call to another deployed soldier's family will help. Family Support Groups are drawn together because they are dealing with similar situations. They understand what you are going through. The Family Assistance Center personnel also have resources that can be drawn upon as needed.

Let's get back to Cathy's brainstorming. Dog vs. beaver battle...how to keep the wound clean and keep the dog from licking the wound?

"I found an old pair of nylons and a T-shirt was all I needed to keep him from licking his wound. For two straight weeks, I'd clean it in the morning before I left for work and then dress him in his "outfit" for the day, putting a new gauze bandage over the wound and dressing him in one of my T-shirts. I'd then wrap the nylons around his chest to keep the shirt in place. My 160-pound Great Dane mutt may have looked a little strange to anyone peeking through our windows, but it was the trick to keeping his wound clean."

Things that were working will stop right after a deployment. And new problems will

most likely pop up. But it's not the end of the world; it's just the beginning of a different state of mind – independence. You may have always had it, but if you are like Cathy, you never had a chance to discover it until fate forces your hand. We look forward to hearing your survival stories.

Long Distance Relationships

As you know hundreds of Connecticut Army and Air National Guard soldiers and airmen are being deployed this year. Deployments are made easier when families can stay connected. To help families accomplish this goal, the Family Program Office has four handbooks filled with activities designed to help stay connected while individuals are apart. The titles available are: Dads at a Distance, Moms over Miles, these booklets contain over 300 activities that can be used by mothers and fathers to stay in touch with their children while deployed. Long Distance Couples, contains over 350 activities can do to stay in touch and strengthen their marriages, when one of them is deployed. Grandparenting From a Distance contains 225 activities grandparents can use to provide more emotional support to their grandchildren when one of their grandchildren's parents is deployed.

Here is a sampling of activities you can find in the booklets.

· Brag about the person in a letter formatted as a newspaper article or magazine cover and feature story. Then send it to them.

· "Post Card Attack" send a card everyday for a week.

· Write about past memories. Plan future activities for when you are together again.

· Exchange letters about your favorite: food, season, band, hobby, music, book etc,etc,etc.

· Play the "Money Game" Ask what he/she would do if given a thousand dollars. Share what you would do if given that money. Talk about dreams, goals, investments, etc.

· Have a placemat made with your picture on it for your child whenever he/she wants to eat a meal with you.

· Have a clock set to each others time zone.

· Go to www.heat.net or www.sony.com to find computer games you can play together on the internet.

· Record and send a tape of songs that remind you of your child. Between each song, record the reasons why that song reminds you of him/her.

· Send A Hug: Cut a piece of material 1 yard long and 4-5 inches wide. Trace your hands onto 2 pieces of felt and cut them out. Glue a hand to each end of the material and decorate and send it!

Pentagon Donation Guidance

KIM HOFFMAN
CONNECTICUT NATIONAL GUARD FAMILY PROGRAM
MANAGER

The following guidance has been provided by the Department of Defense regarding donations for victims of the Pentagon's terrorist attack. If you wish to make a contribution, please visit one of the web sites listed below or contact them at the phone number provided.

As requested below, please do not contact the Family Assistance Center at the Pentagon as this number is for the family members of victims only. Please use only the numbers listed after each fund below.

If you are interested in making donations locally, the American Red Cross, Salvation Army and United Way are in need of financial contributions. Food and clothing are not needed at this time. We will continue to provide updates on their needs as we receive them.

Many thanks to everyone for your calls to our office offering your assistance.

The Department of Defense suggests that anyone considering making a donation contact one or more of the organizations listed below.

— Army Emergency Relief Society Pentagon

Victims Fund, (703) 325-0463, www.aerhq.org

— Navy & Marine Corps Relief Society Pentagon Assistance Fund, (703) 696-4904, www.nmcrs.org

— Federal Employee Education & Assistance Fund, (303) 933-7580, www.feea.org

Additional information regarding donations may be obtained from the Federal Emergency Management Agency at www.fema.gov

The Department of Defense asks that anyone wishing to make a donation not call the toll free number of the Pentagon Family Assistance Center. That number is reserved for families.



DRAWING FOR A BIKE

Every CTARNG members child age 7 through the age of 16 has a chance to be entered in a drawing for a Roadmaster, MT Fury 10 speed bicycle. To enter each child should draw or paint a picture of their military family on eight and a half by eleven inch paper. On the back of the sheet should be the child's name, grade, age, the military parents name, address and phone number. **TALENT NOT REQUIRED. THIS WILL BE A RANDOM DRAWING FOR THE BIKE OF ALL CHILDRENS NAMES ENTERED!!!** All entries must be received at the Family Program Office, Soldier-Airman Support Center, 555 Willard Ave., Bldg 2W, Newington, CT 06111-2693 by 31 October 2001.

In addition to the random drawing for the bike the best drawings for each grade level will be put on display during Military Family Week celebrated in November.

Visit the
*Connecticut
Guardian*
on-line at
www.ct.ngb.army.mil

Mobilized Reservists May Retain Employers' Family Healthcare

SGT. 1ST CLASS KATHLEEN T. RHEM, USA
AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

Federal law provides mobilized Guard and Reserve members the opportunity to keep their employer-sponsored healthcare coverage.

If the employee will be absent for more than 30 days, the employer may require the employee to pay the entire premium cost plus a 2 percent administrative fee.

The Uniformed Services Employment and Re-employment Rights Act of 1994 allows

mobilized reservists to keep health insurance provided through their civilian employer for up to 18 months, said Air Force Col. Kathleen Woody, director of medical readiness and programs with the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs.

"The employer could continue to provide coverage at no cost to the employee," she said. If the employer requires the reservist employee to pay the whole tab, however, coverage could be cost prohibitive for many

families, she acknowledged.

For members who elect healthcare for their families under TRICARE programs, USERRA allows them to return to their civilian employer insurance plans with no waiting period or penalty for pre-existing conditions (other than service-connected conditions, which are covered by the military)," Woody said.

"For example, if a reservist elects to get his family care under TRICARE while he's activated and his daughter subsequently is

diagnosed with diabetes, he can still go back to his employer healthcare plan under the same conditions as before he was mobilized," Woody explained. "The family would be covered as if the reservist employee had never left."

Employees with questions about their rights under this act should contact their agency's human resources department or visit the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Web site at www.esgr.org.

Guard Members Help Rescue New York Victim

MASTER SGT. RICK BURNHAM
AIR FORCE PRINT NEWS

Steve Arrigotti thinks her name was Julie, but he is not convinced that is the case. He is fairly confident that she is an African-American, although, because her body was covered with ash and soot, he is not certain. Because of her clothing — yellow shorts and a half T-shirt — he thinks she was a tourist. But he can not say for sure. But the face ... he will never forget the face. One week after horrific terrorist attacks killed thousands in New York Washington, and Pennsylvania, Arrigotti, an Air National Guard master sergeant assigned to Francis S. Gabreski Airport in Westhampton Beach, N.Y., spoke of the young woman he helped pull alive from the debris of the World Trade Center twin towers. Hers, he said, was a face full of shock and grief, but a face full of life. "Her body was completely covered in soot, and as it turns out, there was not a scratch on her," said Arrigotti, a pararescuer from the 106th Rescue Wing. "But her eyes were completely swollen shut from the heavy smoke and soot. Obviously, she was in shock, but she was alive." The rescue, one of only five successful extractions confirmed as of Sept. 19, came just a day after the attack, when New York officials were just beginning to assess the full impact of the destruction. "We sent two nine-person teams," he said. "The original intent was to have one unit work north of the 'ground zero' area and the other one south. We arrived in the city around 9 p.m. (EDT) the day of the attacks." But, upon arrival, the group learned that because so many firefighters and policemen had been lost when the towers collapsed, the

command and control element of the rescue operation was greatly affected. And many of the rescue workers were also trying to dig their comrades out from the debris on the roads leading to the towers. "The first evening, there was not a lot of attention given to trade towers themselves," Arrigotti said. "Most of search effort was on the west highway in front of trade towers. When the towers came down, there were a lot of rescue vehicles on the street below. So when we arrived, many of the firefighters and police were desperately trying to dig their people out." The next morning, however, the teams made their way to "ground zero," where they were directed to points both south and north of the debris. Arrigotti, along with Master Sgts. Robert Marx, Kevin Kelly and Jimmy Dougherty, were among those assigned to work the south area. By that time, he said, the fire had been knocked down to a point where they could get much closer to the debris. As they got closer, they immediately noticed there were many "cavities" which appeared capable of holding survivors. But that was not all they found. "There were a lot of bodies near the debris field," he said. "We took it upon ourselves to get right up into the building, climbing into the second and third floors — which were probably like the 80th or 90th floors when the buildings were standing," he said. "As we did that, it got the attention of many of the firefighters, who intuitively wanted to follow us." And that's when they heard her voice. "She was calling out for help, and I had to look twice to make sure I was not imagining what I was seeing," he said. "There was a live person in there." It took a short time for the workers to get to the young woman — several large

pieces of metal had to be cut away before they could get her out. But as soon as that was accomplished, the workers formed a human chain to move her out of the debris and to medical technicians standing by. Arrigotti said he had a brief opportunity to talk to her before she was pulled out. "She never said what floor she had been on when the building collapsed ... only that she was with a group of about 15 people touring the trade centers," he said. "Unfortunately, we never found any of those people." What the team did find, shortly after helping to rescue the woman, was a stairwell that contained the bodies of several firefighters. His voice filled with emotion, Arrigotti described the scene after leading a local fire chief into the debris to identify his fallen comrades. "Their bodies were completely intact, and their chief had a very difficult and emotional time with it," he said. "It was extremely emotional ... very sad." The memories of that scene will haunt him forever, he said, as will the images of the planes hitting the towers and their subsequent collapse. But, he said, there were also good memories. Although he never saw her again, he is confident "Julie" has survived her ordeal. And the support his unit received from others around the country was overwhelming. "We in pararescue are kind of a brotherhood," he said. "We only have about 300 people, but we're all close. So it was no surprise that we received calls from units all over the country with offers to help out. Everyone, from Florida to California to Alaska, wanted to get here and help. It's the kind of support you expect from not only pararescue and Air Force members, but from Americans in general. They just wanted to help."

Ground Zero

From p. 6

"I spotted people with candles," he said. "Hundreds of them, carrying an American flag. Wet and covered with dust, I dropped to one knee, the tears coming down my face."

Duncan is very sure of his desire to remain at Ground Zero as a volunteer for as long as he can be of assistance.

"I have friends in both the FDY and the NYPD," he said. "I have two that were part

of the FEMA rescue/recovery team at the Oklahoma City bombing in 1995. Sgt. Dennis O'Connell, Emergency Services Unit, came within a heartbeat of dying and was temporarily blinded in New York. Less than 24 hours later he was back at Ground Zero. The other friend is Sgt. Maj. Mike Curtin of the United States Marine Corps Reserve. Dennis and Mike recovered the body of Capt. Guzmans, United State Marine Corps, under

very dangerous and difficult circumstances in Oklahoma City. Mike humbly said afterward that he did what ANY Marine would do...what I would have done. Mike is also a sergeant in the NYPD Emergency Services Unit. He is one of the missing in New York.

"As the son and grandson of New York City police officers, as a former Marine, I do this. It's a selfish reason. It's my honor."

Fly Fishing Course at Camp Rowland

The Orvis Company will be sponsoring a Fly Fishing Course at Camp Rowland. The course runs for two days. This course will be at Building 54, "The Point" on Oct. 13 and 14.

There are three seats in reserve for Connecticut Army or Air National Guard members to be filled on a first call basis. There is no fee for the course. Call Capt. Matt Boski at (860) 691-4316 to reserve your seat.

HUGE TAG SALE

Saturday
October 13, 2001
8 am - 12 noon
Rain or Shine

Groton - New
London Airport

Benefits the CT
AVCRAD Family
Support Program

In Defense of Connecticut's Children

Red Ribbon Week: The Story Behind the Symbol

CAPT. ANNE-MARIE GARCIA
DRUG DEMAND REDUCTION ADMINISTRATOR

Enrique "Kiki" Camarena grew up in a dirt-floored house with hopes and dreams of making a difference. Camarena worked his way through college, served in the Marine Corp and became a police officer. When he decided to join the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, his mother tried to talk him out of it. "I can't not do this," he told her. "I'm only one person, but I want to make a difference." The DEA sent Camarena to work undercover in Mexico investigating a major drug cartel believed to include officers in the Mexican army, police and government. On Feb. 7, 1985, the 37-year-old Camarena left his office to meet his wife for lunch. Five men appeared at the agent's side and shoved him in a car. One month later,

Camarena's body was found in a shallow grave. He had been tortured to death. In honor of Camarena's memory and his battle against illegal drugs, friends and neighbors began to wear red badges of satin. Parents, sick of the destruction of alcohol and other drugs, had begun forming coalitions. Some of these new coalitions took Camarena as their model and embraced his belief that one person can make a difference. These coalitions also adopted the symbol of Camarena's memory, the red ribbon. The National Family Partnership organized the first Red Ribbon Campaign in 1988. Since that time, the campaign has reached millions of U.S. children. In 1997, the Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse began committing resources to ensure the continuation of the Red Ribbon Campaign

in Texas, as well as the hopes and beliefs behind this grassroots effort to protect children from the dangers of alcohol and other drugs. During the week of October 20-28, the Connecticut National Guard will partner with the Drug Enforcement Administration, The Capital Area Substance Abuse Council, The Central Connecticut Substance Abuse Council and over sixteen schools in the Greater Hartford Region ranging from Middletown to Simsbury. If you are interested in attending any Red Ribbon Events please consult your local newspaper or call The Connecticut National Guard Drug Demand Reduction program @860-493-2724 and ask for Capt. Anne-Marie Garcia.

Closing The Back Door

Adopt-A-School: We NEED Your Help

SENIOR MASTER SGT. BRIAN J. BAGLEY
RECRUITING AND RETENTION SUPERINTENDENT,
HEADQUARTERS CTANG

Once again with the beginning of the School year there is an increased need for additional recruiting support. In the Air National Guard we are faced with trying to manage over 172 High Schools and more than 18 colleges. This is a monumental task with only four recruiters. The difficulties we face are more than just numbers.

Many of the schools have some anti military sentiment, which is where we really need the help.

The Adopt-A-School program allows for unit members to assist us in going into the

schools within their communities and represent the Guard. The significance of this program is that you, as a member of the community, will be welcomed into the educational system. Often times when we enter the exact same school we are faced with huge barriers that prevent us from getting our message across. Younger members recently graduating or attending the school have the greatest chance for success. In these cases, they already know some of the educators and leaders within the educational system.

When you walk into the school, you are welcomed as an alumnus to the school and they WILL LISTEN to what you have to say.

They understand who you are and what you stand for since you are a byproduct or member of their educational system. There are no preconceived barriers standing in your way to prevent the message of what we have to offer.

It doesn't matter on your rank, age, sex or any other attribute other than you having the strong desire to assist the National Guard within your community. Please give us a hand and support your community and the Guard. We will provide you with all the information, training and tools necessary to be successful. If interested, please contact any one of the recruiters and we will be more than happy to explain the program.

Classified Ads On the Way

Due to popular request, the Connecticut Guardian will begin printing classified ads starting with the October issue.

Free, one-time only ads will be taken from Guard members, State Military Department employees and retirees within a limited scope.

ONLY For Sale ads and ads looking for specific items to purchase will be accepted.

Deadline for inclusion in the November issue is Friday, Oct. 12. After that, the deadline will be the first Friday of every month for the following month.

Ads may be emailed to debby.newton@ct.ngb.army.mil, or sent via postal service to Sgt. 1st Class Debby Newton, Public Affairs Office, 360 Broad Street, Hartford, CT 06105-3795. Absolutely no ads will be taken by phone.

Please keep your ads short and within good taste. We reserve the right to edit for space and to reject any questionable ads. For further information, contact Maj. John Whitford or Sgt. 1st Class Debby Newton at (860) 524-4857.

Education Essentials

Protocol for Requesting Exams

2nd LT. ELIZABETH CORDON
EDUCATION SERVICES

I have been in this position for a short time, but have seen a great deal about what information is at the soldier's level. One item that seems to have soldiers confused is how to request an exam from the Education Office. Here is a quick reference to hopefully end the confusion.

1. Fill out an Education Services Test Request Form. These are available at the Education Office, and from your Readiness NCO.
2. Include the exam name and number. For example CLEP 04910 Humanities.
3. Send the form to the Education Office.

As soon as I get the form, I will order the exam(s). It takes a couple of weeks for the orders to come in. As soon as the exam comes in, I will contact the soldier to set up a test date and time. All exams are given at the Hartford Armory.

A listing of exam names and numbers can be found at the Education Services Office. If your unit's Readiness NCO needs a copy, have him/her contact me and I will email the file to them. If there is still any confusion, please contact me at 860-524-4816.

ESGR: Employer Support of the Guard and

Briefings With The Boss – Both Very Successful!

LT. COL. (RET.) HARRY RITSON
ESGR PUBLIC AFFAIRS

More than sixty employers attended the last two "Briefings With The Boss" – one was held in Groton and the other in Middletown – and all felt it was a meaningful program that outlined both the growing responsibilities of their employee/soldiers, and also focused on how the employers can be supportive.

One of ESGR's most popular programs, the briefings bring together employers, National Guard and Reserve commanders and ESGR committees to discuss issues and problems relevant to National Guard / Reserve service.

The employers are nominated and invited by their employee(s) who serve in either National Guard or Reserve units located in or near the sponsoring unit. The Groton briefing was hosted by the 1109th AVCRAD, CT ARNG, and included a tour

of the facilities, an overview of the unit's mission by Lt. Col. Bill Shea, a ESGR briefing by Carl Venditto, and lunch for the 27 employers and their nominators. Unfortunately, low visibility precluded a planned H-60 Blackhawk airlift for the employers.

At the second briefing, 21 employers were hosted by the 1205th Transportation Railway Battalion, USAR, at its Middletown Armory. Their program included greetings by the Mayor, Dominique Thornton, an overview of the unit's mission by the Commander Lt. Col. Michael Babul, a tour of the training facilities, an address by Maj. Gen. William Keifer, CG, 94th Regional Support Command (USAR), and lunch.

At the conclusion of both "Briefings", each employer received a Certificate of Appreciation signed by the Secretary of Defense, and later received a photograph of the presentation.

These briefings are a very popular way to arouse your employer's interest and support of your military service. Many employers who have attended have professed that this has been their only association with the military, and their only knowledge of it. Remember that 94 percent of Americans under sixty-five have never served in the Active or Reserve Forces. The Connecticut ESGR Committee is planning several of these briefings over the next year. When your unit announces one, take the initiative! Invite your employer and then accompany him or her to the briefing. Let them see and hear what you do, and why your training and capabilities are becoming so important. You and your country need their support – their support is essential and is their contribution to our Nation's defense.

SGLI Expands to Include Spouses, Children

**SGT. 1ST CLASS KATHLEEN T. RHEM, USA
AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE**

The Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance plan will also cover troops' spouses and eligible children beginning Nov. 1.

The Veterans' Opportunities Act of 2001, signed by President Bush last spring, allows for up to \$100,000 coverage for military spouses and \$10,000 coverage for each child.

If the service member has SGLI coverage of \$100,000 or more, maximum coverage for the spouse will be automatic, and premiums will be deducted along with the member's premium from each month's pay. If the service member carries less than \$100,000 coverage, however, the spouse's coverage can be no higher than the member's, Navy Capt. Chris Kopang explained.

"For instance, if the member only had \$50,000 in coverage on himself, he can only get \$50,000 for his spouse," said Kopang, DoD director of compensation.

He added that spouse coverage must be elected in \$10,000 increments. Premiums will be based on amount of coverage elected and the spouse's age.

Spouse's age	Rate per \$1,000 Monthly Premium	Maximum
Under 35	\$.09	\$9
35-44	\$.13	\$13
45-49	\$.20	\$20
50-54	\$.32	\$32
55+	\$.55	\$55

Coverage for children up to age 18, or 23 if a

fulltime student, is free and automatic, so long as the member is participating in SGLI, Kopang said. Eligible Reserve component members will receive the same family-member coverage with premiums being deducted from their drill pay, he said.

Service members will be able to decline or reduce spousal coverage, but officials are still working out the details.

"Opt out" procedures and updates will be posted to the SGLI Web site at www.insurance.va.gov/sglivgli/sglifam.htm.

Kopang cautioned service members to think carefully before opting out. "Members may sometimes feel they don't need life insurance for a spouse, especially if the spouse doesn't work outside the home," he said. "However, look at the cost of providing

childcare, a nanny perhaps, or other things that contribute to maintaining the home. These are costs service members don't always realize they'll have."

Eligibility for spouse and children's coverage would end if the member terminates coverage, separates, retires, dies, or if the couple divorces. However, spouse coverage will extend 120 days past the date eligibility ends.

"That will give the spouse the opportunity to convert their policy to a commercial policy," Kopang said.

Spouse coverage can be converted to commercial policies when the service member separates from the military, but cannot be converted to the Veterans' Group Life Insurance plan.

Connecticut Military Department News

Military Dept. Recognizes Employees During Awards Ceremony

**KATHERINE LEAVITT
DATA PROCESSING, CONNECTICUT MILITARY DEPARTMENT**

The Connecticut Military Department held its annual awards ceremony at Camp Rowland, Niantic to recognize employees who have shown outstanding efforts during the past year. Also being recognized were employees who had achieved longevity milestones in their employment with the state.

Awards were presented by Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno, Adjutant General, Brig. Gen. I.J. Zembrzowski, Commanding General Army National Guard and Mr. Larry Alibozek,

Deputy Commissioner, Connecticut Military Department.

Awards were presented to the following:

Exceptional Service: Ronna Cannata

Unsung Hero: Donald Bartley

Outstanding Maintenance and Service: Clayton LaPointe and Robert Hunter

Teamwork: 1st Lt. Gregory Samuels; Maj. John Whitford and Sgt. 1st Class Debbi Newton; Bradley ANG Base Fire Fighters, Crews A&B (Kenroyn Henderson, Carl Oltsch, Matthew

Atwood, Matthew Jamieson, John Gwiazdowski, David Deskis, and Eric Clarke); Camp Hartell Maintenance Crew (James Liss, Oleksa Kowalenko, Rene Blanchette, and C.Malaikah McRae); David Hadden; and Cheryl McKenney and Raymond Stanio Longevity Awards

Ten Years: Donald Bartley, Sandra DeJesus, Donna Halligan, Cornelius Harper Jr., Clayton LaPointe, MaryRose McDonald, Cheryl McKenney, Maritza Soto, Joseph Turner

Fifteen Years: Anna Duer, Barbara Juliano, Andrew Summa, Randall Baker, Andrew Tower

Twenty Years: Deborah Ferrari, Marilyn Lennehan, Anthony Lotierzo, Anthony Scalora, Craig Novak

Twenty Five Years: Harold Todd

The Connecticut Military Department would also like to thank all those who worked at and supported the annual picnic with their attendance.

Competitive and Non-Competitive Employment Opportunities with State Military Department

**ANTHONY LEWIS
HUMAN RESOURCES, CONNECTICUT MILITARY DEPARTMENT**

The Military Department has a wide range of positions available at various armories throughout the state. These positions are divided into two categories, competitive and non-competitive positions.

Competitive positions are defined as positions that require an examination. Candidates interested in taking exams for these types of positions should contact the Department of Administrative Services at (860) 713-5205 regarding the scheduling of exams.

Non-competitive positions are positions that do not require an examination. However, interested candidates must meet the

minimum qualifications for the position.

Current listings of positions available within the Connecticut Military Department may be found on the worldwide web at www.mil.state.ct.us/employe.htm Individuals interested in pursuing these job opportunities should complete the State of Connecticut application (Form PLD-1) and forward it to the State Military Department, Personnel Office, Hartford Armory, 360 Broad Street, Hartford, CT 06105.

Vacant positions are also posted on the bulletin boards located outside Room 141 and Room 222 at the Hartford Armory. State applications (PLD-1) are available in the Human Resource Office located at the Hartford Armory in Room 141.

Rumsfeld Warns Against Leaks

(From a Sept. 12, 2001 Press Briefing by Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld)

“And it seems to me that it’s important to underline that when people deal with intelligence information and make it available to people who are not cleared for that classified information, the effect is to reduce the chances that the United States government has to track down and deal with the people who have perpetrated the attacks on the United States and killed so many Americans.

“Second, when classified information dealing with operations is provided to people who are not cleared for that classified information, the inevitable effect is that the lives of men and women in uniform are put at risk.”

Thrift Savings Plan for Uniformed Services

LT. COL. WILLIAM SOBOTA
MILITARY PERSONNEL OFFICER

Uniformed service members, both traditional and Active Guard and Reserve (AGR) soldiers, are now eligible for the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP). A similar program has been available for civilian employees of the Federal Government since 1987.

The Thrift Savings Program is a Federal Government sponsored retirement savings and investment plan to provide the soldier with retirement income. The Thrift Savings Program allows a soldier to enhance retirement income and save money on taxes at the same time by offering the same type of savings and tax benefits offered by 401(k) plans.

National Guard members may enroll in the Thrift Savings Program at their units during an initial “Open Season” beginning Oct. 9, 2001 and ending Jan. 31, 2002. There will also be regularly scheduled open seasons from May 15 to July 31 and Nov. 15 to Jan. 31 each year.

Readiness NCOs will be receiving instructions on how to enroll AGR and traditional Guard members during briefings scheduled during October, conducted jointly by the Human Resources Office and the Military Personnel Office. An informative video, information booklet and enrollment forms will be available in units to help soldiers make an informed decision about investing and participating in the Thrift Savings Program.

Visit the
*Connecticut
Guardian*
on-line at
www.ct.ngb.army.mil

169th Leadership Regiment Hosts Officers Regimental Dining-In

DATE: 8 November 2001

TIME: 1830 Hours

LOCATION: Aqua-Turf Country Club, Southington, Connecticut

COST: Forty-Eight Dollars (\$48.00)

GUESTS: Commissioned Officers and Warrant Officers of the Connecticut Army National Guard (Past and Present)

UNIFORM: Service Dress or Dress Mess Uniform, or Army Greens with White Shirt and Black Bow Tie. Retirees are welcome to attend in uniform or business suit.

HOST: The Officers of the 169th Leadership Regiment, Camp Rowland, Niantic, Conn.

Guest Speaker: Colonel Robert P. Nett, (Retired)

Medal of Honor Recipient, World War II,

Leyte, Philippine Islands, 14 December 1944

Native of New Haven, Connecticut and former member of

the 102nd Infantry Regiment, Connecticut Army National Guard

THE FAVOUR OF A REPLY IS REQUESTED BY 19 October 2001

A Brief History: Since the beginning of organized society there has existed a military establishment. Today the Armed Forces of the United States continue to observe many customs, traditions and procedures traceable to the earliest of warriors. The dining-in as a military tradition traces its roots to the shadows of antiquity. Some military scholars trace the military dining-in to the Roman Legions - as early as c. 27 B.C. Roman military commanders frequently held great banquets to honor individuals and units. Viking War Lords of the second century further stylized the format of the Roman gathering to that of a victory feast. These celebrations saw all clan members present with exception to the “look-out” or “watch”. The leader took his place at the head of the board, with all others to his right and left in descending order. From the Northlands, the custom was transplanted to the British Islands. In the sixth century, King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table practiced a form of dining-in. One author suggests that in sixth century England the tradition spread to non-military society. As educators, members of the clergy then spread the custom to academies and universities. The British officer corps, comprised mostly of those graduated from centers of learning - carried the tradition to military units. British Army and Navy units deployed to the wilderness of America brought with them the customs and traditions of their services - including the formal military dinner - referred to as the “Guest Night”. The purpose of this dinner was to gather “for an evening of good food, drinking, fellowship, and honoring feats of individuals and organizations”. American military dining-in tradition was borrowed from the English and George Washington’s Continental Army.

Despite the colonist’s aversion to anything suggesting Redcoat, continental naval and army officers recognized the value of these occasions in promoting pride of service, high morale and loyalty.

The cost of this affair includes a full course dinner (main entree: Roast Prime Ribs of Beef or Baked Scrod) and refreshments before dinner and during dinner. A cash bar will be available after dinner. A special music presentation is also planned.

Your support of the Annual Officers “Regimental Dining-In” has been tremendous in the past and is encouraged once again this year. Please submit your Response Card as soon as possible. This will greatly assist the planning committee in their efforts to make this an enjoyable evening for all.

DETACH AND MAIL

I will attend the 2001 Annual Officers Regimental Dining-In on 8 November 2001.

My check in the amount of \$48.00 is enclosed.

Name: _____ Rank: _____

Home Address: _____

Town: _____ Zip Code _____

Unit _____

Meal Selection: Prime Rib _____ Baked Scrod _____

Please make checks payable to: 169th Leadership Regiment Officers’ Association

Mail to: S-1

169th Leadership Regiment

Camp Rowland

Niantic, CT 06357

Training Opportunities Offered Through the Soldier-Airman Support Center

LT. COL. JEFFERY SABOTKA
SASC

The following training opportunities will offer in the upcoming months by the Human Resources Office, Soldier-airmen Support Center (SASC). If you are interested in attending please contact Christine Bartlett at (860) 878-6721.

Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) and TRICARE Briefings (8 hours)

15 October 2001, 0930 & 1830 hours, AASF, Windsor Locks

23 October 2001, 0930 & 1830 Hours, New London Armory

25 October 2001, 0930 & 1830 Hours, Stratford Armory

Who Should Attend: Mandatory for all AGR Soldiers. All other service members and family dependents are welcome to attend.

What You Will Learn: October begins the open season for enrollment into the MILITARY Thrift Saving Plan. Enrollments begin in January 2002. This program will explain how to enroll, the tax benefits from investing in TSP, the various investment plans offered, and annuity payments. The second part of this course is designed to explain the benefits and requirements of TRICARE, the medical insurance for active duty service members and their families. Members will learn how to handle the administrative process for medical coverage, enrollment responsibilities, etc.

Workers Compensation Training for Supervisors (8 hours)

23 & 24 October 2001, SASC, Newington

Who Should Attend: Full-time supervisors (AGR or Technician) that supervise National Guard Technicians. Mandatory training: All full-time supervisors that supervise National Guard Technicians must attend this course within 24 months of appointment as a supervisor.



What You Will Learn: Learn how to report and process a work related injury. Become familiar with the forms you must complete through practical exercises. Understand your responsibility as a supervisor and your employees' responsibility as an injured employee. Learn the leave rules when your employee is placed on Continuation of Pay (COP) or compensation.

Employee Assistance Program (1 hour)

1000 hrs & 1300 hrs, 29 October 2001
Bradley ANG Base

Who Should Attend: All National Guard Technician personnel.

What You Will Learn: Learn about the new Employee Assistance Program (EAP) offered to National Guard Technicians. This program explains how members with The Employee Assistance Program is a contracted, no-cost, confidential counseling service designed to provide technician employees, and their immediate families assistance in dealing with many life / family related problems such as alcohol abuse, drugs, stress, depression, separation, divorce adjustment, single parenting and parent-child relations to name a just a few. EAP counselors are trained and experienced to help you and your family members fix what is wrong or refer you to a professional or organization in your community that can help. This service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Learn how this program can help you, your family, and your employer.

Supervisory Development Course (32 hours)

14 - 17 January 2002, SASC, Newington

Who Should Attend: Full-time supervisors (AGR or Technician) that supervise National Guard Technicians. Mandatory training: All full-time supervisors that supervise National Guard Technicians must attend this course within 24 months of appointment as a supervisor.

What You Will Learn: Provides supervisors an understanding of the laws and regulations concerning the employment of National Guard Technicians. Course will cover the topics of adverse actions, performance management, record keeping, leave, benefits, labor agreements and how to work with unions, personnel actions, etc.

Pre-Retirement Planning (24 hours)

29 - 31 Jan 2002, SASC, Newington

Who Should Attend: Suggested audience: National Guard Technicians within 15 years of retirement.

What You Will Learn: Provides detailed information to CSRS and FERS employees which will help them transition into retirement. This program covers the topics of estate planning, wills, probate, tax planning after retirement, the thrift savings plan, IRAs, etc

Mid Career Retirement Planning (16 hours)

13 - 14 March 2002 or 8 - 9 May 2002
SASC, Newington

Who Should Attend: National Guard Technicians with at least 10 years of technician service.

What You Will Learn: Teaches technicians about the benefits they will be entitled to when they retire under the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS). Course explains the three parts of your retirement, FERS, TSP, and Social Security.

Retirees' Voice To America's Veterans

DONALD RUMSFELD
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

As the men and women who have fought America's wars, you — more than all others — understand what the September 11th attack on freedom and democracy means for the days ahead.

More than simple acts of terrorism by radical or unbalanced individuals, this was an attack on our way of life, our country, our home.

In a recent message to U.S. armed forces here and abroad, I spoke of the memorable moments that have marked all great crises throughout our history, images that live forever in our hearts and in our minds.

Not surprisingly, we've seen many such moments during this crisis as well — moments of remarkable courage and selflessness; moments of fierce patriotism and pride:

Policemen and firefighters working night and day, with no thought for themselves; men, women and children giving blood until the banks are overflowing; businesses and corporations donating coffee, food and water to sustain those who would not stop working; chaplains counseling distraught families; friends and total strangers reaching out in loving gestures of human support.

And everywhere — the American flag, on buses and taxicabs, in windows and over doorways, as armbands, on jackets and hats, and most especially, waving in glorious defiance above the smoking and twisted wreckage our enemies have wrought. One such flag, unfurled by firefighters, proudly hangs huge and proud near the gash in the Pentagon wall.

But I also warned that more — much more — will be asked of Americans in the weeks and months ahead.

We face well-organized and sophisticated enemies, made all the more powerful by the terror they are so willing to unleash. Now that terror has been brought to our door, we owe it to ourselves and — as the president has said — to all future generations, to stop it, eliminate it and destroy it at its core.

Today, all Americans are united in anguish and anger. But we must also be united in purpose and in will.

While the immediate task of vanquishing freedom's enemies will fall to our military men and women, all of us — particularly those like you who understand the price of freedom — will be called upon to strengthen our national resolve.

And so, as we ask God's tender mercies on all those who have fallen, we ask also for His guidance and protection for all of us who remain to finish the task now before us.

I thank the same God for America's veterans — those of you who made us free and kept us free. I thank God for all you have done, and for all I know you will do again, to support peace and final victory.

God bless you, and God bless America.

CHAPLAIN'S
CORNER

CHAP. (LT. COL.) DAVID FEYRER

In many ways, the fall (September/October) is the beginning of a new year. School years begin, new training cycles start, our lives are shifted, our lives are changed.

How do we maintain stability in the face of the constant change that is part of life?

Do we have a spiritual focus beyond our day-to-day quest for success and the things of life?

I remember when I was young and my father was teaching me to play baseball, his crucial teaching was "keep your eye

The Rhythms of Life / Focusing on the Eternal

on the ball". Whether you were trying to hit it or catch it, this focus was the most important part of the game. Yet how difficult it is in the face of a myriad of physical and mental distractions during a game, to keep your eyes on the ball.

Focusing on our spiritual life in the face of the distractions of our culture is equally difficult. We are constantly encouraged to strive after everything except a spiritual life. Thus to renew our spiritual life we need support and encouragement.

This is the reason that spiritually is both an individual and a group activity. Yes, we can

be spiritual individuals but being a part of a religious/spiritual group, whether it be a church, synagogue, mosque, or other spiritual grouping, is absolutely essential to our ability to keep focused on the deeper meanings of life.

As our fall, this new season of activity begins, I encourage each of you to renew your spiritual life both individually and in the community. Affiliate with a religious community, share with others and grow as a person of faith.

You and your family will be enriched by this renewed focus for your life.

Connecticut National Guard Fulltime Employment Opportunities

The following are Connecticut Army and Air Guard Technician openings. For a copy of the Technician vacancy Announcement, see your technician/military supervisor or call Master Sgt. Kevin Salsbury at (860) 878-6739

Army National Guard Technician Vacancies

Position Title	Unit	Pay Grade	Closing Date
Transportation Specialist	AVCRAD	GS-07	Oct. 12, 2001
Heavy Mobile Equipment Repairer	UTES	WG-09	Oct. 19, 2001
Aircraft Mechanic	AVCRAD	WG-10	Oct. 19, 2001
Administrative Assistant, Indefinite	HHD STARC	GS-07	Oct. 24, 2001
Maintenance Test Pilot	AASF	GS-12	Oct. 24, 2001
Aircraft Mechanic	AVCRAD	WG-10	Oct. 25, 2001

Air National Guard Technician Vacancies

Position Title	Unit	Pay Grade	Closing date
Civil Engineer	103rd FW Support	GS-11	Oct. 9, 2001
Aircraft Mechanic	103rd FW, LOG	WG-12	Oct. 12, 2001

Listed below are current openings in the Connecticut National Guard AGR program. For a copy of the Military Tour Vacancy Announcement, see your supervisor or call Sgt. 1st Class Terry Atkins at (860) 878-6729.

Army National Guard AGR Vacancies

Position Title	Unit	Rank	Area of Consideration
Force Development NCO	HQ STARC	SFC/E-7	On Board SFC/E-7
	DCSFOR, FDB		Only
Production Recruiter	R&R Cmd.	SFC/E-7	Open Statewide
Aircraft Electrician	AVCRAD	SSG/E-6	Open Statewide
Operations Officer	169 th Ldr. Reg.	CPT/O-3	Open Statewide
		MAJ/O-4	
Sr. Personnel Service Sgt.	HHD 192 ENG	SFC/E-7	Open Statewide
Supply & Services Officer	HQ 143 ASG	CW2/W-2	Open Statewide
		CPT/O-3	
Supply Officer	HQ 143rd ASG	CPT O-3/	Open Statewide
		MAJ O-4	
Personnel Services Sgt.	HHD STARC	SFC/E-7	Open Statewide
Training NCO	712th Maint. Co.	SSG/E-6	Open Statewide

Air National Guard AGR Vacancies

Position Title	Unit	Rank	Area of Consideration
Materials Handler	103rd FW, LOG	TSG	On Board AGR Only
Aircraft Mechanic	103rd FW, LOG	TSG	On Board AGR Only

The complete listing of both Technician and AGR vacancies and job descriptions can also be accessed by going to the Connecticut National Guard website at www.ct.ngb.army.mil

Coming Events

October

October 2

26th Annual Military Department Picnic & State Employees Recognition
12 Noon, Camp Rowland, Niantic

October 4

20th Annual Senior NCO Dining-In, 6:30 p.m.
Aqua Turf, Southington

October 10

Hispanic Heritage Celebration, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Connecticut Historical Society, Hartford

November

November 6

Election Day

November 8

Officer's Dining In, Hosted by the 169th Leadership Reg.
Aqua Turf, Southington

November 10

MetroHartford Veterans Day Parade, Hartford

November 11

Veteran's Day

November 22

Thanksgiving

December

December 1

Army/Navy Football Game
Philadelphia

December 7

60th Anniversary of the Bombing of Pearl Harbor

December 9

Hanukkah

December 25

Christmas

December 31

New Year's Eve

In the Next CG

Connecticut National Guard's Role in Homeland Defense

Mansfield Dedicates Soccer Field Pavilion in Memory of
Guardsmen Killed in the Line of Duty

Highlights from the Senior NCO Dining-In

Medics Return from Bosnia

Deadline for submissions is the first Friday of the month
previous to publication.

The Pledge of Allegiance

As a schoolboy, one of Red Skelton's teachers explained the words and meaning of the Pledge of Allegiance to his class. Skelton later wrote down, and eventually recorded his recollection of this lecture.

I - Me; an individual; a committee of one.

Pledge - Dedicate all of my worldly goods to give without self-pity.

Allegiance - My love and devotion.

To the Flag - Our standard; Old Glory; a symbol of Freedom; wherever she waves there is respect, because your loyalty has given her a dignity that shouts, Freedom is everybody's job.

United - That means that we have all come together.

States of America - Individual communities that have united into forty-eight great states, Forty-eight individual communities with pride and dignity and purpose. All divided with imaginary boundaries, yet united to a common purpose, and that is love for country.

And to the Republic - a state in which sovereign power is invested in representatives chosen by the people to govern. And the government is the people; and it's from the people to the leaders, not from the leaders to the people.

For which it stands

One Nation - meaning, so blessed by God.

Indivisible - Incapable of being divided.

With Liberty - Which is Freedom; the right of power to live one's own life, without threats, fear, or some sort of retaliation.

And Justice - The principle, or qualities, of dealing fairly with others.

For All - which means, boys and girls,
it's as much your country as it is mine.

(Since Red Skelton's teacher explained the meaning of the Pledge of Allegiance and he wrote the words down, two more states have been added to our country as have been two more words to the Pledge of Allegiance..." Under God.")



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