

THE
OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

Oregon Sentinel



OF THE
OREGON NATIONAL GUARD

Vol.3....Issue No. 5

August 2005

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35 Years of Summer fun



One-hundred-seventy children from around Northwest Oregon enjoyed a week of fun, games, and learning on the Oregon coast at Camp Rosenbaum. See story on PAGE 4.

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1042 Medical Co. deploys to Afghanistan

Unit will spend six months working with Afghan National Army



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Nick Choy, State Public Affairs Office

Craig Campbell (l.), Governor Ted Kulongoski's Senior Policy Advisor, presents the Oregon State flag to Maj. Mark Ulvin, Commander for the 1042nd Medical Co. during the unit's mobilization ceremony.

Prepared by Oregon Sentinel Staff

SALEM, Ore. — Members of the Oregon Army National Guard's 1042nd Medical Company (Air Ambulance) mobilized for deployment to Afghanistan during a ceremony July 19 at the Army Aviation Flight Facility in Salem, Ore.

Shortly following the ceremony, attended by Craig Campbell, Governor Kulongoski's Senior Policy Advisor, six flight medics departed for Ft. Sam Houston, Texas for specialized training.

Of the remaining 29 members, 14 ferried the aircraft to Ft. Sill, Okla., for training on July 25, before heading to the middle east. The remaining 15 members departed for Ft. Sill via commercial aircraft on July 25.

The unit is expected to spend up to six months in Afghanistan.

The unit consists of pilots, crew chiefs, flight medics and maintenance personnel.

Soldiers in the unit are from La Grande, Molalla, Keizer-Salem, Eugene, Lake Oswego, Newberg, Albany, Aloha, Bend, Portland, West Linn, Corvallis and Silverton. Several members are from the towns of Vancouver, Ridgefield, and Yaoclt in Washington State.

The unit has previously deployed to Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Afghanistan. The unit was also deployed to Bosnia in March 2002.

Rees returns home

The Major General comes back to Oregon for third term as Adjutant General

Story by Maj. Mike Allegre,
142nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Officer

SALEM, Ore. — In an outdoor ceremony near his capitol office, July 1, Gov. Ted Kulongoski officially swore in Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees as Oregon's new Adjutant General.

This marked the first time an Adjutant General for Oregon has been appointed to the position for a third term. Rees' earlier tenures in the position were May 1987 to June 1991 and August 1994 to March 1999.

"General Rees has the ability to see three to five steps ahead of what's needed as we embark on a new unit organizational structure," Kulongoski said. He emphasized that Oregon's National Guard is one of the most highly trained and talented military organizations in the U.S. and Rees was needed to take the state's militia to the next step.

A crowd of several dozen supporters included members of Oregon's congressional and legislative bodies, active and retired general officers, State military leaders, and fellow West Point alumni. Rees told the crowd a big concern the Guard must deal with is the lack of equipment required to complete Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"We're meeting the test in Kabul, Kirkuk or Klamath Falls, as our citizen soldiers and airmen are responding to the war on terror and the needs of Oregon," Rees said. "And governor, when you need us, we'll be there."

Kulongoski also praised the outgoing acting Adjutant General, Brig. Gen. Ray Byrne. "We all owe a great debt of gratitude to Gen. Byrne. Thank you very much for your dedicated service as adjutant general."

Following the ceremony, more than 200 well-wishers gathered at a reception to honor the general and Mrs. Mary Len Rees at the Anderson Readiness Center in Salem.

A 1966 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and a Vietnam veteran, Rees has also served as the Vice Chief and Acting Chief of the National Guard Bureau. He returns to Oregon after serving as the Chief of Staff for U.S. Northern Command, the agency responsible for military support of Homeland Defense, and Chief of Staff for North American Air Defense Command, a bi-national agency responsible for defense of North America.

Oregon Guard members see more deployments

41st Personnel Services Co. mobilizes for duty in Kuwait

Story by Tech. Sgt. Nick Choy,
State Public Affairs Office

Fifty citizen-soldiers from the 41st Personnel Services Company mobilized for duty in Kuwait.

The August 10 ceremony was held at the Anderson Readiness Center in Salem, Ore., and was attended by Governor Ted Kulongoski, Congresswoman Darlene Hooley, and Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees, the Adjutant General for the Oregon National Guard.

"There are no words to express how proud I am of you, a pride that's shared by all the people of Oregon," said Governor Ted Kulongoski, as he addressed nearly 300 family, friends and fellow Guard members. "You are absolutely Oregon's finest citizens."

"We've got soldiers, traditional guardsmen, and family members on this deployment," said Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees, Adjutant General for the Oregon National Guard. "It's a good mix of people and I know you will be successful in your mission," Rees said.

The unit's deployment is unique in several areas. The first is the mother-daughter team of Sgt. Karissa Smith and Sgt. 1st Class Brenda Berrios (see related story on page 11).

"You hear stories about husbands and wives, brothers, and grandpas and grandmas going together, but I personally have never heard of a mother and daughter going," said Capt. Mike Braibish, Oregon National Guard Deputy State Public Affairs Officer.

The second unique fact about this deployment is its commander, 1st Lt. Ramona Treat, who is



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Nick Choy, State Public Affairs Office

Spec. Matthew Marcott, of the 41st PSC, stands in formation with the unit guidon just before commencement of their mobilization ceremony on Aug. 10.

See **41st PSC** PAGE 8

Also see related story on PAGE 11

41st Embedded Training Team returns home after a year of training Afghan troops

Story by Kay F. Fristad,
Deputy State Public Affairs Officer

SALEM, Ore. — The embedded training team of the 41st Brigade Combat Team held their demobilization ceremony on Aug. 5, 2005 at the Anderson Readiness Center in Salem, Ore. Joining the families and friends to welcome them home was Craig Campbell, Senior Policy Advisor for Oregon Governor Ted Kulongoski, Colonel Cameron Crawford, Deputy Brigade Commander, and Colonel Larry Studer, Army Chief of Staff.

During their year-long rotation into Afghanistan, the 15 soldiers of the unit worked closely with the Afghan National Army and assessed the situation in preparation for 41st Brigade's rotation into the region in 2006.

They witnessed the historic democratic presidential elections and were spread out across the country in squad-sized units, tasked with protecting the polling sites.

"The experience of working with our

coalition counterparts was very rewarding," said Sgt. Maj. Don Weber. "I hope they learned as much from us as we learned from them."

In addition to Romanian troops, the ETT also worked with French, German and Mongolian soldiers at Camp Blackhorse.

In September 2004, the Afghan National Army, Afghan Police, citizens and coalition forces faced violent conditions in Herot City from rioters and looters. They were instrumental in safeguarding over 150 United Nations personnel, and securing over 30 buildings from further damage.

Most important was the removal from power of Ishmael Khan. Following the removal of the former warlord from power, Afghanistan President, Hamid Karzai appointed a new Governor, who is open to democratic negotiation with neighboring villages.

The soldiers from the ETT will likely return to Afghanistan with the larger Brigade deployment next year.



Photo by Spec. April Dustin, State Public Affairs Office

Members of the 41st Brigade Embedded Training Team stand in formation at their demobilization ceremony held in Salem on Aug. 5.

41st Brigade Combat Team prepares for 2006 deployment to Afghanistan

Story by Capt. Michael Braibish,
Deputy State Public Affairs Officer

On the heels of annual training at Gowen Field, the 41st Brigade Combat Team continues to prepare for a deployment to Afghanistan in 2006.

Leadership in the brigade expects to mobilize about 700 soldiers next year for the mission to train and work with the Afghanistan National Army. The majority of those soldiers will come from within the brigade, though some may come from other state organizations.

According to Col. Cameron Crawford, Deputy Commander of the 41st BCT, the brigade can expect about a six month window before mobilization. He says they'll use that time to actively prepare on a number of fronts.

"We're going to use that time wisely; do things like update soldiers' dental readiness, to educate families and employers, and to conduct deployment related training tasks that would normally be done on a post mobilization basis," said Crawford.

The intent is to maximize pre-mobilization training with an eye on reducing post-mobilization training. The net effect is to mitigate the stress soldiers and the Oregon communities supporting them face during mobilization periods.

"We want to reduce to an absolute minimum the amount of time soldiers have to spend away from their families and employers," he said.

Prior mobilizations have lasted around 18 months with roughly one year boots on the ground. The hope in the brigade is that extensive preparation will minimize the overall mobilization period.

According to Crawford, the brigade will set firsts for the U.S. Army during some of their pre-mobilization training.

This is the first time since the beginning of Operation Enduring Freedom that pre-deployment brigade command and battle staff training, or BCBST, will focus on a scenario built around experiences in Afghanistan. It will also be the first time rear detachment command will be integrated during the BCBST.

The BCBST is a program focused on preparing Army National Guard Units for deployment into combat theaters.

The desired result is to streamline operations both for the deploying unit and for those supporting the brigade from Oregon.

"We're not only training soldiers that are going forward we're also training the rear detachment to be better prepared to take care of deployed soldiers and their families,"

said Crawford.

An additional benefit to the deployment will come in the form of experience from an Embedded Training Team which returned from Afghanistan this month. The fifteen soldiers of the ETT served as the eyes and ears of the brigade for a year long deployment to Afghanistan.

Those soldiers, according to Crawford, will provide training to the brigade, and many of them will deploy again when the unit is mobilized.

In addition to deploying soldiers, the brigade expects to bring along airmen from Oregon. This is the first time the state will deploy joint forces from the state to a contingency. The Air Guard contribution, said Crawford, will include specialists in the communication, contracting and weather support fields.

Oregon State Defense Force a very integral part of National Guard training



Photo courtesy of Lt. Col. (Ret.) Roberta Janssen, Commander, Oregon State Defense Force

Volunteers from the Oregon State Defense Force pose with Brig. Gen. Douglas Pritt during the 41st BCT Annual Training in June. The ORSDF provided role-players for the training.

Story by Spec. Annie Baxter,
115th MPAD

GOWEN FIELD, Idaho — The Oregon State Defense Force played an important role during the recent Operation Bayonet Thrust II, June 10-25 at the Orchard Training Area near Boise, Idaho.

Thirty-six volunteers helped to create the Afghanistan-inspired atmosphere for the 41st Brigade Combat Team's annual training.

The force was made up of nearly 100 members who volunteered their time to provide support to the Oregon Army National Guard "Wherever we can, whenever we can," according to Capt. William Quigley, a Vietnam veteran who now serves as the company commander of Delta Company, 2nd Battalion of the ORSDF.

"This year, the volunteers added realism to the training so soldiers could get the opportunity to practice skills they're going to need for the Afghanistan deployment next year," said Col. Roberta Janssen, Commander of Troops, ORSDF. The volunteers provided opposing forces and tactical op-

erations support by playing civilians on the battlefield as well as members of simulated Afghani public and political officials.

Most of the ORSDF is made up of prior-service military members who experienced many of the same kinds of training scenarios during their time in service that they are helping to create for the AT exercise, said Staff Sgt. Michael Shidler of Bravo Co., 2nd Battalion, ORSDF.

Although the youngest volunteer is 18, the older age of most members helps simulate the environment guardsmen will face in Afghanistan next year. Most public officials in Afghanistan are older aged men, so having these volunteers adds to that element, said Quigley.

"I think that adds on more element of realism to the training," commented Janssen.

The volunteers' presence provides soldiers with experience dealing with the added stress civilians can present on the battlefield. The troops are also taught target identification among crowds of people, said Capt. Melvin L. Lardy of the 2nd Battalion, ORSDF.

"We're here to help (ensure) people who

are deploying survive," said Quigley.

To many in the state defense force, the volunteer time comes at great personal loss. Some leave their families and full-time jobs to spend two weeks in the field receiving only food, board and transportation as compensation for nearly 5,000 man-hours they donate.

"If our presence can save one soldier then our volunteer time is well spent," Janssen said.

Annual training is not the only event supported by the force. They host and support community events such as parades, manning the military museum and Patriot Day in Gresham, Ore., where they guard three fields full of flags. The Colors are flown to commemorate each casualty of September 11 attacks and one for every fallen soldier in the war on terrorism, said Janssen.

The volunteers' commitment becomes even more apparent during times of deployment. Before being the ORSDF, the force was referred to as the Oregon National Guard Reserve, which is essentially how they serve. During times when the state's units are deployed, they act as the operating National Guard. Force members can be called up to serve as armory proctors who help man armories and take care of administrative and maintenance needs, said Lardy.

And since many of the members are either over the military age limit, or have some other disqualification that keeps them from serving in the Guard, the ORSDF enables them to remain involved in the military community.

"We have served and are still serving," said Quigley.

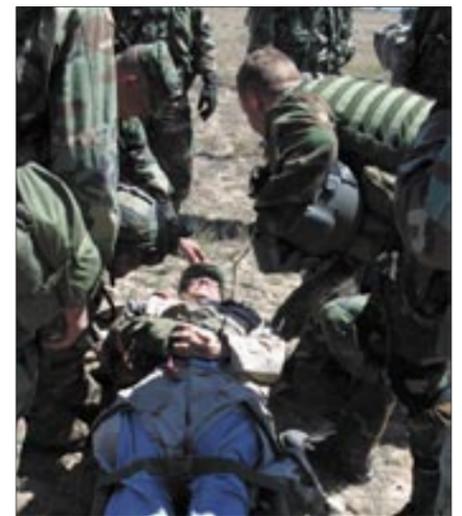


Photo by Pvt. 1st Class Michael S. Gann, 115th MPAD

An ORSDF volunteer role-plays as an injured soldier to be treated by medical evacuation teams during the 41st BCT Annual Training in the desert near Boise, Idaho.

THE SENTINEL WANTS YOU!

We want your stories

We want your pictures

Submit them to:

The Oregon Sentinel

c/o: Tech. Sgt. Nick Choy: nick.r.choy@mil.state.or.us

Stories must be submitted in Microsoft Word files, with all formatting turned off. Photos must be high-resolution color JPG files, and must have an accompanying caption (also in MS Word) explaining what is happening in the picture, as well as the rank, full name, and unit of the person(s) depicted. Submissions for *Letters to the Editor* and *Letters From The Front* are preferred.

Command Message

Message From The Adjutant General

I am delighted to be back in Oregon and assuming the duties as your Adjutant General.

The Oregon National Guard has impressively managed the myriad requirements of the post 9-11 world. Deployments, redeployments and endless stream of operational needs combined with absolute focus on soldiers, airmen and family members are truly commendable.

We have soldiers and airmen in harms way in Iraq and Afghanistan. We have soldiers and airmen in hospitals and rehabilitation facilities. We have units preparing to deploy. Make no mistake — people will remain our focus in everything we do.

Introduction by Chief Master Sgt. Rodney Smith, State Command Chief.

Recently one of our Chiefs, (CMSgt Sylvia Holmes), attended the Noncommissioned Officer Graduates Association seminar held in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Below is her report from that conference. Taking care of our folks here and abroad was a hot topic. As supervisors and leaders we have a responsibility to keep our airmen fit and educated. Thought this was worth putting into print for all to see.

I recently attended the Noncommissioned Officer Academy Graduates Association, NCOAGA, Seminar 37 in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

In 1968 NCOA graduates were so pumped up and excited about Professional Military Education, (PME), that they chartered Chapter 1, with the blessing of the NCOA Commandant and Maj. I.G. Brown.

Over the past few decades, many of the original Chapter 1 members have retired or are deceased. A lot has happened in our society and around the world since 1968 — the Vietnam Conflict came to an end, we saw the end of the Cold War, both Desert Storm and Desert Shield, and now the Global War on Terrorism. Many of those who are now in harm's way in Iraq and Afghanistan are the descendants of the original Chapter 1.

The eighties and nineties did not often see us promoting in-residence PME, and therein lies our challenge. We seem to be doing a good job of taking care of our troops back home in our National Guard units. It is when our people deploy alone or in small groups that we may be letting them down.

A good example is physical fitness. Most of the Guard "old timers" are accustomed to the three mile walk — I can attest to the fact that running, crunches and pushups are a little bit harder when you are approaching fifty — none-the-less we must lead by example to keep our airmen and soldiers motivated. "Fit-to-Fight" is here to stay. A good way for us to lead by example is to attend the Senior Noncommissioned Academy or the new Chief's Leadership Course in Montgomery, Ala. You better be fit when you attend these courses as you will be running. Keep in mind the minimum passing score is 75-percent.

AFI 36-2618, Enlisted Force Structure, paragraphs 3.1.2.3 and 3.1.2.4 reads; *Be mentally and spiritually ready to accomplish the mission. Issues that can affect and detract from mental readiness are quality of life, financial problems, sexual harassment, discrimination, stress, marital problems, and substance abuse. These types of issues can prevent individuals from focusing on*

As you know our ranks are not as robust as they need to be.

My top priority is to focus on increasing our strength and enhancing our personnel readiness status for both the Army and Air National Guard. I will work with state and national leaders to improve and enhance benefits for our returning veterans as well as our soldiers and airmen.

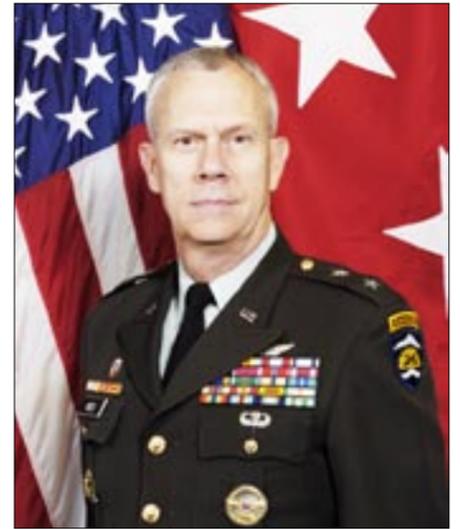
My number two goal is to bring our equipment levels back to pre Global War on Terror levels. During my trips around the state soldiers consistently expressed their frustration with the equipment shortages. These have occurred because of equipping the units in the war fight. We will continue to support equipment needs for GWOT. But, I will work with NGB and our Legislators to improve our equipment status.

Continuous improvement is a fact of life

in the Oregon National Guard. We have work ahead of us and I am confident we can meet the challenges.

I am proud of our soldiers, airmen, and civilian employees. The Oregon National Guard is the place where something is happening every day from Salem, Oregon to Kabul, Afghanistan, to Baghdad, Iraq, and numerous other locations around the world. We have the honor of being called by our state and nation in historic and demanding times.

Thank you all for being here to serve your fellow soldiers, airmen, the people of Oregon, and our nation. We will continue to work diligently so that these dedicated and patriotic citizen-soldiers, their families, and employers will receive our full attention and support. Thank you for your devotion to duty.



Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees
Adjutant General, State of Oregon



Chief Master Sgt. Sylvia Holmes,
173rd Fighter Wing, Klamath Falls, Ore.

the mission, diminish motivation, erode a positive attitude, and reduce the quality of work. All of this negatively impacts mission accomplishment.

Although we are a long way from the days of supervisors making comments such as "the military did not issue you a spouse or a baby", and, although many Senior NCOs did not receive this type of "whole person" mentoring, it behooves us to learn to deal with these issues. We need to teach our Airmen to do what has to be done in order to accomplish the mission, but they also must learn not to fall apart. They may witness or be involved in some pretty horrible things while fighting a war, but if we can help them learn how to cope when negative things like those listed above happens, we have done our job.

While at the seminar I learned that CCM (ret) Ferdinand Vega designed the Bronze Minuteman Statue we are so familiar with and distributed them at our annual Awards Banquet. He created the statue on his own time "in the Kentucky room" while he attended the NCOA at McGhee Tyson AFB, Tenn., in 1979. When I joined the Air Force there was no such thing as cellular phones, e-mail, faxes or personal computers. Our military has embraced 21st century technology — let us also embrace 21st century professional military education.

Chief Master Sergeant Sylvia Holmes is the Chief of Transportation for the 173rd Fighter Wing, Kingsley Field, Klamath Falls, Oregon. In this position, she advises the Logistics Readiness Commander on all matters dealing with the military and commercial movement of personnel and equipment.

Ten soldiers from the 1186 Military Police Company became the first females in the United States of America to act as enemy combatants, with the Op-Force at the National Training Center, Ft. Irwin CA. during May 2005. The soldier's jobs were to integrate into the Op-Force fire teams of the 211th Cavalry Scouts and "play" combative female terrorists to the 48th Brigade Combat Team, a rotation of soldiers whose next duty station is Iraq.

They also worked alongside the "Titans" — groups of first-generation Americans from places like Iraq, Lebanon, and Kuwait. They staged in towns built to resemble towns in Iraq. The female soldiers of the 1186th wore "man-dresses" as they are ironically called, berkas, and civilian clothes instead of their typical BDUs. They carried M4s, M240s, RPGs, Mortars, and Grenades. They drove VBIED's (vehicle borne improvised explosives device) into the FOB (forward operating base). They cruised the Mojave desert in civilian 4x4's set up to look like 21st century "Mad Max" terrorist rigs. They laid ambushes, set-up and delivered Mortar attacks on FOBs by sunlight and moonlight and then escaped QRF (quick reaction force) teams or lead them into ambushes. They posed in towns as weaponless innocent civilians to gain info and throw off suspicions of whom, and what they were. They acted as though they were civilians with medical problems needing help to get into FOBs. One was "pregnant" and died in "childbirth" as an innocent civilian because she could not get help at a FOB's front gate. Yet others were terrorist warriors that were chased on foot into ravines by M1-A1 tanks when they were caught en-route delivering a mortar attack. They were taken into FOBs as detainees, along with other male terrorists, where they were searched, questioned, and held. Male line unit soldiers from the infantry and the cavalry had to figure out how to deal with, and detain female terrorists — and how to determine if they were clean civilians. Everyone made some heartfelt discoveries about women in combat roles, and had some experiences in the heated training environment that taught all involved some important perspectives.

Here are some of the 1186 Military Police female soldier's thoughts on the mission:

"Change is always awkward in the beginning, but the professional attitudes and eagerness of all soldiers, both male and female, created teams of soldiers with but one mission: To train to save the lives of the soldiers being deployed to the Middle East." — Sgt. Margaret Nelson, 1186th MP Co., Salem, Ore.

"It was amazing to see how naturally we all (221st CAV males and the females) slid into battle-mode together. Were we (females) a distraction to the males? Together with the 221st CAV we caused a maximum amount of battle damage — total kills — we were respected as soldiers, and that's what we are." — Pvt. 1st Class Karen Hurst, Det. 1, 1186th MP Co., Milton-Freewater, Ore.

"There are no definitive front lines anymore. A soldier is a soldier regardless of sex, race or religion. Line units will be even more successful once they begin to utilize the capable female soldiers this great Army has — because they are just that, capable soldiers." — Pvt. 1st Class Megan Duley, 1186th MP Co., Salem, Ore.

"Units are being faced with challenges they have never trained for involving women on the battlefield." — Sgt. Gillian



Command Sergeant Major Thomas R. Moe,
State Command Sergeant Major

Nelson, — Det. 1, 1186th MP Co., Milton-Freewater, Ore.

"Not all females are capable of front line unit work. We must make sure the females placed in line units will be able to hold their own and never quit." — Pvt. 1st Class Erica Person, 1186th MP Co., Salem, Ore.

"Females add a new and unique dynamic to the battlefield, and females are capable of maintaining the strength and discipline required by Combat troops." — Pvt. Class Stacey Maynard, — Det. 1, 1186th MP Co., Milton-Freewater, Ore.

"In playing the role of a dangerous figure, by acting innocent, publicly protecting my "young" as any mother would do, yet working as an active "acting" terrorist, I saw my brother soldiers from the other side, the Op-Force side. Only a woman can understand how another woman thinks. If there are women bad guys out there — and there are — then we need women good guys out there too. I saw the look in my brother soldiers' eyes when confronted with situations involving females in which they just did not know what to do, because they were dealing with women. This is very dangerous for them, even in dealing with innocent civilian women that are protective of their families. With women attached to, or in a line unit it simplifies some of the complicated stuff in dealing with women civilians, and also female combatants, and it just might simplify it quick enough to save some soldiers' lives. If it helps accomplish the mission, and safeguards our troops, it cannot be a bad thing." — Staff Sgt. Cindy LeFore — Det. 1, 1186th MP Co., Milton-Freewater, Ore.

The combative roles our 1186 MP Co. females played at NTC did break new ground in a training environment, and the unit's females were honored as soldiers to have this opportunity, but they think the real issues and questions we need to ask ourselves are these; "Is this the first time female combative types have played these roles with our soldiers, and are our troops being trained to succeed in a battlefield staged amongst civilians with wives, and mothers, and daughters scattered across it? If not, how can we do a better job at training our troops for these situations?"

In today's battlefield of few clear lines and many different faces and places, these are questions worth serious thought. One thing is clear in the midst of all controversy though — all warriors, male and female, are professionals, and are willing to do what it takes to get the job done, even if it has never been done before.

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Camp Rosenbaum celebrates 35 years of helping Oregon's at-risk youth, July 25-29

A Dream of Hope

Take 170 kids between the ages of nine and eleven. Add 150 volunteers, support staff, camp counselors, and organizers. Marinate for one week under picturesque skies on the North Oregon coast and what do you have? A recipe for hope called Camp Rosenbaum.

Held every summer at the Rilea Training Site in Warrenton, Ore., the event — named for its founder, Retired Oregon Air National Guard Brigadier General Fred Rosenbaum — is celebrating 35 years of helping Oregon youth.

"We take them out of their situation at home, and make them the center of the universe for one week. And for a lot of these kids, becoming the center of someone else's world is pretty phenomenal."

— Aaron "Iceman" Mahoney

these children's lives. It takes all kinds of personalities to run this camp, but the bottom line is that it's all about the kids."

Although their affiliation with camp officially ends when they retire from their respective agency, people like Snavely can't seem to tear themselves away from camp.

According to Prunk, camp organizers value the participation from everyone involved. And as word spreads about the impact Camp Rosenbaum has on the children who attend the event, increasing number of new volunteers want to know how they can get involved in helping out every year.

"We're starting to develop a waiting list of people who want to participate in camp," Prunk said.

Another option being explored by camp organizers is how to expand some of the camp's activities into the rest of the year. The foundation has looked at ideas ranging from winter sports activities to additional camps held throughout the year. But according to Prunk, the foundation will continue to focus on the week-long event held every summer.

Right: Eleven-year old J'barri Mar-Shall from North Portland in the G.R.E.A.T. classroom.



This is part one of a two-part series on Camp Rosenbaum, a youth camp held every summer on the Oregon coast for at-risk children from the Portland Metro and Southwest Washington areas. Part two will appear in the September issue of the Oregon Sentinel.



Story and Photos by Tech. Sgt. Nick Choy, State Public Affairs Office

According to camp organizers, most of the children who attend Camp Rosenbaum fall into the category of "at-risk" youth. Most are in government-subsidized housing. However, regardless of their domestic situations, camp organizers hope every child can somehow benefit from the guidance and mentorship that has become a mainstay of the camp.

A Dream of Hope

"Iceman" Mahoney. "We take them out of their situation at home, and make them the center of the universe for one week. And for a lot of these kids, becoming the center of someone else's world for one week is pretty phenomenal."

According to Mahoney, a 1st Lieutenant in the Oregon Air National Guard who returned from convoy security duty in Iraq in 2004, counselors get as much out of camp — if not more, than the children do.

"I have two boys of my own, ages four and six. Being a camp counselor helps me realize my sons' need for love, attention and respect," he says. "They simply want you to love them, set boundaries for them, and show them how to be good kids with good morals and values."

According to Mahoney, the role of the counselors at camp is to not just befriend the children, but to also act as their mentor — something most of them lack in their neighborhoods and schools.

"We're here to show them they have a lot of choices in life and there's a whole world out there," says Mahoney. "We show them kindness, respect, and caring. Things they may not be getting in their neighborhoods or schools."

The attention and care given to the children attending camp is real, and according to many campers, a welcomed change.

"Some adults don't listen, but the counselors at camp listen to you," says Camp Rosenbaum attendee J'barri "Coyote" Mar-Shall of Portland. "They help you with things you need help with. But if they can't, they'll get someone else to help you."

Mar-Shall, 11, lives in subsidized housing in Portland with his mother and two younger siblings. He will likely go to either Portsmouth or George Middle School, in North Portland in September.

Children are referred to camp by Housing Authority case-workers, and after a short review process by Housing Authority employees, the child's parents are notified of their selection for camp. They receive a packet of information, in addition to an application form. Along with the usual information regarding educational background, medical history, and personal information, parents are also asked to list the children's hobbies and interests.

The camp is structured to teach attendees moral values such as sharing and caring, good citizenship, and an understanding of environmental stewardship. Along with positive role modeling, a reward system for good behavior, and counseling and guidance for those who misbehave, adults try to instill a sense of self-confidence, and, if nothing else, just let them be children and have fun.

"I think the only way you can't have fun here at camp is if you don't go," adds Mar-Shall.

While at Camp Rosenbaum, the children are able to take advantage of any number of activities offered at most summer camps. Activities include arts & crafts, leather shop, science lab, and a pine-wood race car derby. Campers also enjoy an ice-cream social, talent show, horseback riding, sand-castle building contest, and a genuine camp-out in the wooded area on the Rilea Training Facility.



Building good citizens

Portland Police Officer, Bob "Bulldog" Gorgone (r.) teaches the G.R.E.A.T. class to Camp Rosenbaum attendees. Skills learned in class help children deal with the issues and pressures faced during their transition to middle and high schools.

All the Right Tools

Along with the normal summer fare, children attending Camp Rosenbaum also receive mentorship and guidance to help them with challenges they may face as they transition from elementary school to middle, and eventually, high school.

All campers attend Gang Resistance Education and Training (GREAT) classes that have been customized to fit with the good citizenship themes promoted throughout the camp. According to Bob "Bulldog" Gorgone, a 13-year veteran and Sergeant with the Portland Police Department, the classroom instruction gives the campers an opportunity to sit in an environment they're accustomed to, but it gives them a chance to have one on one time with a real police officer. During his presentation, Gorgone uses a savvy combination of "streetTalk" and contemporary references to gangs and drugs the children can understand.

"A part of what I'm doing is giving them the tools to make the right decisions," Gorgone says. "The skills taught in the classroom can be used anywhere. They're skills that help them become good people."

Gorgone's work in the North Portland police precinct gives him intimate knowledge of the challenges a lot of the kids at Camp Rosenbaum face on a daily basis. He draws on the years of experience as a beat-cop to build and fine-tune his curriculum. The classroom instruction also gives him a chance to break down stereotypes the children have become accustomed to in their neighborhoods.

"I know this camp changes the attitudes of the kids toward police officers," Gorgone says. "If they're not anti-police, they're at least wary of the police. Their only experience with the police is watching someone in their

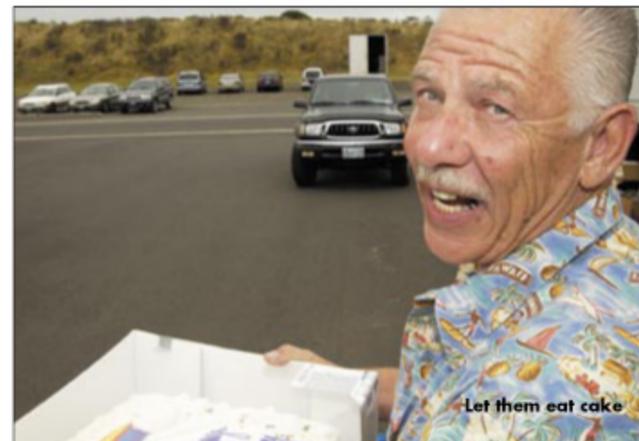
family or in their neighborhood getting arrested. They see us take away their parents for abuse or other crimes, and in their eyes, that makes us the bad guys."

A good example of the shift in attitude toward police officers came in a very typical fashion during the middle of the camp. One camper saw the uniformed Gorgone teaching in the G.R.E.A.T. classroom, and later asked him if he was a cop. When he said he was indeed a police officer, the boy remarked, "I hate cops." Two days later, the same camper was in Gorgone's class. When the class was over, Gorgone walked over to the child and asked him if he still hated cops. The boy said no, adding, "I like you — you're cool."

"I get the satisfaction of knowing that there's a chance I made a difference in some of these kids' lives, Gorgone says. "On a purely selfish level, being at camp balances out all the other stuff I do as a police officer. Normally when I meet the kids in housing, there's something bad going on. It's usually in the middle of a tragedy or a crisis. Camp gives me the opportunity to spend time with them in a positive way."

"We've always had underlying lessons on good citizenship," adds Snavely. "But the great part is that the kids don't even know they're learning something. They're having too much fun to notice."

Bud "Uncle Bud" Snavely delivers a cake intended for four children celebrating their birthdays during the week of camp. Many of camp's "hidden" casts are covered by the volunteers themselves.



Let them eat cake

In 1968, Fred Rosenbaum had a novel idea. During a vacation on the Oregon coast, he took his family to Camp Rilea to show them around the post. While he and his wife Jane sat on the grass hill watching their young children run around on the grass parade field, he envisioned a summer camp for underprivileged youth happening every year on that very spot.

Humble Beginnings

Rosenbaum, then an Oregon Air National Guard Major working as the Chief of Personnel at the Portland Air Base, was also employed by the Housing Authority of Portland. He approached Maj. Gen. Donald Anderson, who at the time was the State Adjutant General for the Oregon National Guard, and asked for permission to start a camp for underprivileged chil-

the draft was that the ratio of campers to counselors. It would guarantee three campers for every counselor — a formula that has held till today.

According to Rosenbaum, the other important piece of the puzzle was obtaining the support of Oregon's Governor at the time, Tom McCall. His theory: Gain the support of the Governor, and the entire Oregon National Guard will follow suit. With McCall's support locked in, participation by the National Guard was guaranteed.

"Gov. McCall really helped start this camp, and Gen. Miller gave it the push to keep it going," Rosenbaum adds.

Rosenbaum considers himself to have come from the "at-risk" group. While living in England, he was a foster child from 1938 to 1940. His experiences during those years, and the hardships his family faced after first moving to the United States shaped Rosenbaum's need to help children in similar situations. And after all these years, camp



Spreading the love

Above: Fred Rosenbaum (r.), then a Colonel, with the Oregon Air National Guard, shakes hands with a Camp Rosenbaum attendee on the last day of camp in the early 1970s.

Photo courtesy of the Rosenbaum Foundation.

"The kids don't even know they're learning something. They're having too much fun to notice."

— Bud "Uncle Bud" Snavely

still affects Fred Rosenbaum in a profound way.

"A few years ago, before I spoke to the children at camp during our annual visitor's day, I had to lock myself in the bathroom [of the clubhouse] because I was so overcome with emotion," Rosenbaum says.

Part two of this story will appear in the September issue of the Oregon Sentinel.

If you are interested in helping out with future camps, please contact Lt. Col. Keith Crawford at contactKC@msn.com or Jan Prunk at janicep30@comcast.net. If you would like to make a monetary donation to Camp Rosenbaum, contact the Camp Rosenbaum Fund, P.O. Box 915, Wilsonville, Ore., 97070. Your contributions are tax-deductible.



"This aircraft is capable of bearing a load of more than 20,000 pounds including bird-weight."

— Chief Warrant Officer Wayne R. Steenson, pilot, 1042 Medical Co. Air Ambulance



Photo by Spec. Nick D. Wood

"They're learning to interact with village leaders and interpreters so they can deal with low intensity negotiations."

— Sgt. 1st Class David J. Bailiff, NCO in charge of Faruq MOU site, from Bravo Co. 1-162 IN BN



Photo by Spec. April L. Dustin

"The primary goal of Charlie Company is to stabilize patients within 72 hours."

— Spec. Lacey L. Reynolds, medic, Charlie Co. 141 SPT BN



Photo by Spec. Nick D. Wood



Photo by Spec. Annie E. Baxter

"Basically what a scout does is be the eyes and ears for the battalion commander."

— 1st Lt. Daniel D. Fenton, scout platoon leader, Headquarters Co. 1-162 IN BN

Oregon National Guard units prepare for deployment to the middle east during their active duty training in Idaho

TEXT & PHOTOS
115th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment
LAYOUT
Tech. Sgt. Nick Choy

skill & art of Combat

Soldiers and airmen from five different states, and international representatives from around the world worked together at Gowen Field and the Orchard Training Area both near Boise, Idaho for Operation Bayonet Thrust II, June 11-25.

The main focus of the annual training was to prepare the 41st Brigade Combat Team for deployment to Afghanistan in 2006.

More than 2000 troops converged on the OTA for Bayonet Thrust, bringing together soldiers and airmen from Oregon, Arizona, Idaho, Oklahoma, Utah, and Washington. Even soldiers from Germany, Austria, and the United Kingdom joined the ranks of the 41st BCT, sponsored by the foreign troop exchange program.

41st BCT units spanned across the vast Idaho-desert training area and occupied four simulated Forward Operating Bases.

"We are fortunate to have access to a great training area which replicates the harsh environment we expect to encounter in Afghanistan next year," said Brig. Gen. Douglas Pritt, 41st BCT Commander, in his welcome letter to the troops during the exercise.

At 138,000 acres, the OTA is one of the largest multi-purpose range complexes capable of supporting heavy weapons, according to Lt. Col. Donald Weaver, Range Control Officer for Gowen Field's Installation Support Unit.

The many large ranges on the OTA provided a variety of training opportunities for the 41st BCT including: medical evacuation and trauma lanes, military operations in urban terrain sites, live-fire convoy lanes, scout and sniper lanes, artillery and mortar live-fire, and Soviet Weapons training.

Colonel Stephen Truesdell, who headed the Joint State Task Force, said the combined efforts of Army and Air National Guard units from all six states provided support for the FOBs, so brigade and company commanders could focus on their missions down-range and not worry about logistical issues.

Many of the training scenarios for the operation were provided by the 491st Operation Controllers from Fort Lewis, Wash., which directed the opposing forces to simulate situations the 41st BCT may experience in theater. Opposing forces were provided by the 116th Cavalry Brigade from Boise, Idaho, and E-Troop, 82nd Cavalry, from Woodburn, Ore.

Volunteers from the Oregon State Defense Force and workers from Blue Canopy provided blue forces to help create a realistic exercise environment. The two groups role-played as civilians on the battlefield. Foreign nationals from Afghanistan were employed by Blue Canopy to provide cultural awareness training by dressing in authentic clothing, speaking the Dari language, and providing language translators.

"They are the ones we really learn the customs from and what makes their culture work," Truesdell said.

Truesdell said this year's AT was different because several soldiers in the 41st BCT have already served tours of duty in Iraq and Afghanistan and have useful information that greatly enhanced the training.

"They have more current experience and more on the ground experience than some of our trainers," said Truesdell. "Everybody will learn from each other."

"Any time taken to set up the mortars in an accurate position could be the difference between life and death for soldiers the gun crews are supporting."

— 2nd Lt. Chris A. Bird, platoon leader for Delta Co. 1-186 IN BN



Photo by Sgt. John K. Glover



Photo by Pvt. 1st Class Michael S. Gann

"This is realistic training to prepare for Afghanistan."

— Capt. Robert M. Winters, Officer in Charge of the Faruq Military Operations Urban Terrain site and Commander of Delta Co. 1-162 IN BN



Photo by Spec. April L. Dustin

Left: Photo by Spec. Janelle M. Henderson

"This is one step closer to realism than anything we've done before."

— Capt. Kelby J. McCrae, Commander of Delta Co., 1-186 IN BN



Photo by Spec. Annie E. Baxter

"At 8,000 meters, just one round has the ability to destroy a car."

— 1st Lt. Eric J. Brenner, Executive Officer, Bravo Battery 2-218 FA BN



Photo by Pvt. 1st Class Michael S. Gann

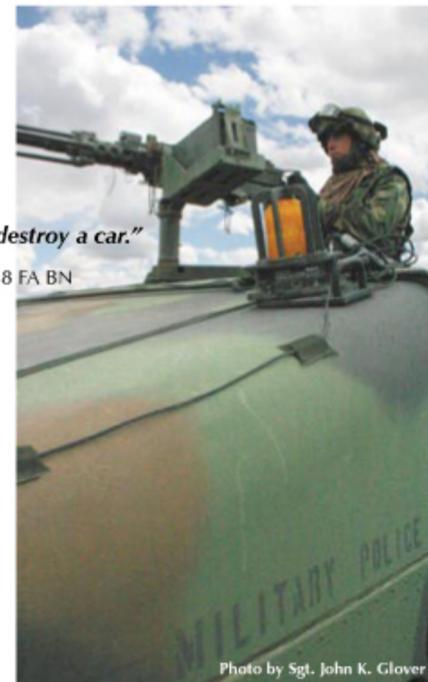


Photo by Sgt. John K. Glover

Oregon Air National Guardsman has 'flight' in his blood

Story by Maj. Donna Prigmore,
Oregon Air National Guard
HQ Public Affairs

You could say that Senior Airman John Lockheed, a 21-year-old member of the Oregon Air National Guard is in the family business.

Lockheed's great-grandfather, Allan Loughhead, started the Lockheed Corporation in the 1930s and was later recognized for his achievements in the Aviation Hall of Fame.

Lockheed's great uncle, Malcolm, invented the hydraulic brake system, his grandfather was a civil aviation pilot, and his father worked for Lockheed Martin Corporation as an engineer.

With that kind of lineage, it's no wonder Lockheed — an air traffic controller with the 270th Air Traffic Control Squadron in Klamath Falls, Ore. — is a mover and a shaker. Plain and simple... aviation is in his blood.

Lockheed realized his own success when he was recently recognized as the "Air Traffic Controller of the Year for 2004" by the U.S. Air Force, and by the National Guard Bureau for the "Airman of the Year".

In 2005, the Air Force announced Lockheed was selected for yet another elite award, this time as one of the "Outstanding Airmen of the Year" for the entire Air Force and National Guard.

"Without a doubt, Lockheed is a top-notch airman who is competent and a star performer in the air traffic control community," said Lt. Col. Tim Halderman, former commander of the 270th Air Traffic Control Squadron.

"He's a responsible and humble citizen who never toots his own horn... he just quietly gets the job done and done right," Halderman added.

Lockheed joined the 270th ATCS in June 2002 and has already seen parts of the world most of his contemporaries will never see. He served in Kirkuk, Iraq, as an air traffic controller during Operation Iraqi Freedom from May through Dec 2004, controlling air space and aircraft covering one-third of that country.

"I was controlling aircraft in a Kurdish controlled area that wasn't nearly as hostile as the Sunni Triangle near Baghdad," explained Lockheed. "We'd hear mortar attacks once in a while but it wasn't too bad."

Kirkuk's control center, which is in the northern part of Iraq, is one of three air control centers in the country. One is in Baghdad and another one is in Southern Iraq. According to Lockheed, the system worked well most of the time — that is, until one day when all hell broke loose.

"Baghdad Center lost their radar and (shortly thereafter) their radios," Lockheed explained. "It was by far the most challenging experience I've ever had in my life."

According to Lockheed, the unexpected outage caught him off guard. He and another controller on duty at the time immediately began making radio calls in an effort to locate who was in the air without ATC support.

"We had to work without radar," Lockheed said. "It was really crazy. We sent multiple pilots to multiple altitudes and asked them to radio us when they got there so we knew where everyone was — it was unbelievable."

Fortunately for all involved, the outcome was a safe one, thanks to Lockheed's quick reaction time and unwavering competence.

Working blindly without an air picture wasn't the only vivid memory Lockheed has of his Iraqi deployment. Once, a U.S. Medevac flight enroute to a hospital in Germany was refused into Turkey's airspace.

"My radar showed an aircraft repeatedly circling above a section of the Iraq/Turkish border," Lockheed said. "It seemed really strange so I tracked down the pilot on my radio after searching numerous frequencies."

"Come to find out, it was a medevac plane with critically wounded soldiers on board that was being denied entry," Lockheed said.

Lockheed says the Turkish air traffic control center in Ankara wouldn't let the pilot transcend Turkey's airspace because of a miniscule administrative error with the flight plan.

Wasting no time, Lockheed immediately called the Ankara ATC, but the lines were so bad it was impossible to communicate. He then tried calling a weapons controller in the area but had no luck there either. Not one to give up, Lockheed placed a call to Al Udid and was able to find someone to help amend the original flight plan. Within ten minutes and after multiple conversations, he had the crisis under control and resolved.

When Lockheed returned from his Iraqi deployment in December 2004, he re-enrolled at the University of North Dakota where he is currently working toward a Bachelor degree in Aeronautical Science, with a major in Air Traffic and a minor in Aviation Management. He expects to gradu-

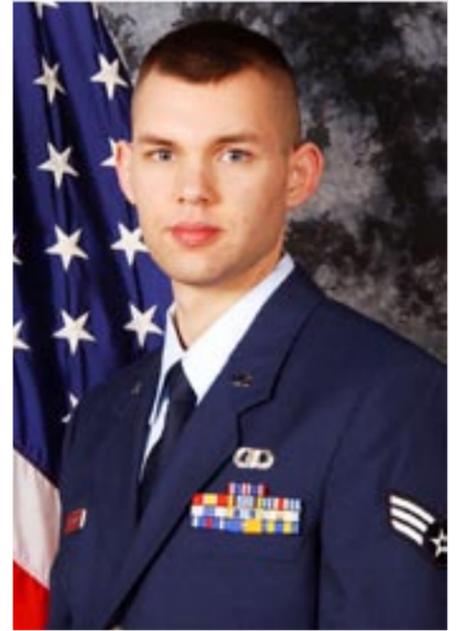


Photo courtesy of 173rd Fighter Wing Multimedia

Oregon Air Guard member, Senior Airman John Lockheed has big 'aviation' shoes to fill. Lockheed is an air traffic controller with the 270th Air Traffic Control Squadron with the 173rd Fighter Wing in Klamath Falls, Ore.

ate in two years. Lockheed has considered volunteering for duty in Iraq again, but wants to first complete his degree.

Without a doubt, Lockheed will continue to succeed and make a name for himself — just as his ancestors did.

"That's just the type of guy he is," Halderman adds. "He's great under pressure and really knows what he's doing and what he wants. For a 21 year-old airman, that's incredible."

Members of Oregon Guard's 2-162 IN BN awarded Bronze Stars



Ken B. Leisten (l.) accepts the ARCOM for Valor medal awarded to his son, Spec. Ken W. Leisten, who was killed in action while serving with the 2-162 IN BN in Iraq. Lt. Col. Dan Hendrickson and Command Sgt. Maj. Brunk Conley (foreground) present the award as Sgt. 1st Class Phillip Jacques (far center), who was in the vehicle with Leisten when he passed away, stands by to show support during an awards ceremony in Eugene on July 9.

Story and photos by
Spec. April L. Dustin,
State Public Affairs Office

During a ceremony held July 9 in the Lane County Community College gymnasium, a number of Oregon Army National Guard soldiers from the 2nd Battalion 162nd Infantry received Bronze Star awards for their service while deployed in Iraq.

Lt. Col. Dan Hendrickson, Battalion Commander, and Command Sgt. Maj. Brunk Conley presented the awards to individuals — all of whom had volunteered from other Oregon Guard units to deploy with the 2-162 IN BN — with a number of awards, including 33 Bronze Stars.

"It's nice that they are recognizing soldiers, making sure they know how much we appreciate the sacrifices they make and their families make," said Sgt. Maj. Michael Storm, Bronze Star recipient for service with Delta Company.

A Purple Heart was awarded to 2nd Lt. Peter Wood, of Bravo Co., for injuries he received in action. Sgt. Nathan Melton, of Delta Co., received an Army Commendation Medal with Valor device. Spec. Ken W. Leisten, of Bravo Co., was posthumously awarded the ARCOM for Valor. His father, Ken B. Leisten, accepted the award on his behalf. The younger Leisten was killed in Iraq on July 28, 2004 by a roadside bomb.

"These awards symbolize the loyalty, patriotism, and courage that our soldiers and family members displayed both here at home and in combat," said Hendrickson.

Members of Task Force 2-162 stood together at the awards ceremony for one last time before being released back to their parent units.

"You are outstanding men, superb soldiers, and great Americans," said Hendrickson as he addressed the assembly.

"You answered the call of your country and each of you served it with great courage, honor, and professionalism. It was truly a tremendous honor and my greatest professional privilege to serve with you," Hendrickson continued.

Their service in theater was primarily in and around the Baghdad area. Assigned to the 39th Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, the 2-162 played an integral part in maintaining the safety of coalition troops and patrolled the cities in both mounted and dismounted patrols. The battalion returned to Oregon in March 2005 after spending a year in Iraq.

"You made history and made a remarkable difference in the lives of millions of people in the Rusafa and Adhamiyah districts of Eastern Baghdad," said Hendrickson. "Each and every day in the harshest of conditions, you did your duty with exceptional discipline, bravery, resolve, and compassion." According to Maj. Michael Warrington,

Bronze Star recipient from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, it was teamwork that got them through the deployment experience. Many of the recipients of the Bronze Stars said they were honored to receive the award, but humbly accepted it on behalf of their entire team.

Sgt. 1st Class Darrin Knutson, Delta Co., said he wished he could engrave the back of his Bronze Star with the names of everyone in his platoon.

"It's the E-4s that win the war, so I have to give credit to third platoon," said Knutson. "It was because of their actions that I received this award."

In addition to the awards for service in combat, the battalion also presented awards to individuals who provided support at home for the unit during the deployment. Four members of the Rear Detachment, Maj. James Brann, Maj. Donna Brann, 1st Lt. Kevin Ressel and Sgt. 1st Class Geoffrey Miotke, received Meritorious Service Medals.

Two Family Coordinators from the battalion's Family Support Group, Laura Boggs and Darcy Woodke, were each awarded with special plaques to thank them for many months of coordinating support and assistance for the families of the forward deployed soldiers.

"Thank you again to each and every one of our families," Hendrickson said. "You bore the brunt of our deployment as you kept our homes and families running in our absence."

According to Hendrickson, there are several 2-162 members' awards that are still being processed by the 39th Brigade, and 1st CAV. Soldiers who were originally assigned to 2-162 who received awards will be recognized during a ceremony on September 11th, during a battalion change of command ceremony.



Thirty-three Bronze Stars for Meritorious Service were awarded to members of Task Force 2-162 IN BN.

41st PSC deployment unique in several ways



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Nick Choy, State Public Affairs Office

Oregon National Guard Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees, (l.) bids farewell and good luck to 41st PSC commander, 1st Lt. Ramona Treat (r.) following the unit's deployment ceremony in Salem, Ore. on Aug. 10.

Continued from **FRONT PAGE**

the first Oregon National Guard female to command a unit in a combat theater. Treat, and the rest of the soldiers of the 41st PSC will deploy to Kuwait for a year.

"I didn't set out to be the first female commander in a combat zone," Treat said. "As it turns out, I am so honored to be that, to fill that role," Treat said.

Another unique fact about this deployment is the ratio of females to males. Almost half of the soldiers in the unit are women, a rare statistic for a deployment into a combat theater.

The 41st PSC saw duty in 1996, when the unit was activated in support of Operation Joint Endeavor, and deployed to Germany.

The soldiers will train at Fort Bliss, Texas before deploying to Kuwait for a one-year tour of duty. Members of the unit come from Albany, Aurora, Beaverton, Canby, Eugene, Gresham, Lebanon, McMinnville, Monmouth, Mt. Angel, Portland, Salem, Sandy, Silverton, Tangent, Toledo, Turner, Umpqua, and Woodburn as well as Lewiston, Idaho and Naselle, Wash.

There are currently more than 700 soldiers on duty in Iraq and 100 in Afghanistan. An additional 35 soldiers are at Fort Sill, Okla., training for deployment to Afghanistan in late August.

Former Air Force Reserve Airman accomplishes life-long dream, deploys with 1042nd Medical Co.

IN THE ARMY NOW

Story by
Spec. April L. Dustin, State Public Affairs Office

Photos by Bob Pool

Thirty-five soldiers stood at attention in a formation before an audience of family members, military personnel, and a string of TV news cameras. Each of them reflected on their unique individual life journeys, which led them to this moment — a mobilization ceremony that would soon re-direct their lives on new paths — as part of an air ambulance unit deploying to Afghanistan.

For Sgt. Jonathon E. Edwards, a crew chief with the 1042nd Medical Company (Air Ambulance) based in Salem, Ore, this moment represented a second chance to finally fulfill his life-long dream.

A dream takes flight

Both of Edwards' parents were enlisted in the Air Force Reserve working with the 304th Rescue Squadron at the Oregon Air National Guard base in Portland. Growing up in the 304th gave Edwards wings for his dream to take flight.

"I grew up around helicopters all my life," Edwards said. "I would sit on the flight line at a young age and watch them take off."

Edwards' mother, Master Sgt. April Wells, began her 17-year career as a crew chief in the 304th, performing maintenance on MH-60 Pavehawk helicopters. She does the same job, but now for the 939th Air Refueling Wing, working on KC-135 Air-Refueling Tankers.

of his parents. Before he could fulfill his dream of becoming a flight engineer, unit regulations called for him to work for two years as a crew chief on the ground, performing aircraft maintenance.

In 2001, just one month before he was scheduled to attend flight engineer school, a base re-alignment grounded his dream of flight. He was notified the 304th would be shut down and he would lose his position in the unit.

"It was a huge let down, I was crushed," Edwards said. "It was hard because this was what I wanted to do all my life, I had worked so hard for it and all of that was gone."

Edwards was given a temporary Reduction-in-Force position in the 939th ARW as a crew chief for KC-135 re-fueling

When he returned from school, he found his relationship was over and the engagement was off. He continued to work as a machinist welder for four months, finishing out his career in the Air Force.

Move to Army renews hope

In October 2004, Edwards decided to give his career goals a second chance by transferring to the Army National Guard's 1042nd Medical Company.

"This was the best opportunity for me to stay close to home and fulfill my dream to rescue people," Edwards said.

Edwards also had friends in the Salem-based unit, including Sgt. Tony Trentz who also lost his position in the 304th and transferred to the Oregon Army National Guard in 2001. Edwards said having

Above: Staff Sgt. Mark Carter, hoists injured hiker, Marilyn Pool, into an Oregon Army National Guard UH-60 Blackhawk during a rescue mission near Detroit Lake on July 13, 2005.

Below Left: Sgt. Jonathon E. Edwards sits in the doorway of the UH-60 Blackhawk, guiding Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Hoggard down to the trail, where Pool awaits rescue.

Below: Hoggard prepares Pool to be hoisted into the aircraft, while ground rescue individuals and bystanders look on.

“I've always wanted to do this job, ever since I was old enough to remember.

— Sgt. Jonathon Edwards”

Edwards' father, Master Sgt. (ret.) Earl Edwards is a Vietnam veteran with four years' active duty service in the Air Force. He spent another 20 years working as a full-time flight engineer for the 304th Air Rescue Squadron, where he took part in many rescue missions, including several during the eruption of Mount St. Helens.

"I would listen to my dad tell stories about all the rescue flights he did throughout his career," Jonathon said. "I always saw my dad as a hero because he was helping people."

Jonathon said he decided early in his childhood that he would become a flight engineer, like his father.

Air turbulence

In 1999, Edwards joined the ranks of the 304th, following in the career path

tankers.

"It was boring, I hated it," Edwards said. "I lost my motivation because it felt like my dreams had vanished."

He said his unit tried to help him find other jobs, but his only choice was to go on active duty — a choice that would move him away from family.

"There were jobs all over the country, I could've gone anywhere," He said. "But I wanted to stay close to my family and those jobs couldn't fulfill my dreams of rescuing and helping people."

Deviating from his flight plan

Edwards used his RIF position to take every opportunity the Air Force Reserve had to offer during his six-year enlistment. He participated in Operation Northern Watch in Turkey and Operation Noble Eagle in Salt Lake City.

In 2003, Edwards deployed to Kuwait as a crew chief with the 301st Fighter Wing from Patrick Air Force Base, Florida, in support of Operation Northern Watch. While he was in Kuwait, Operation Iraqi Freedom began and he spent the duration of his deployment in Iraq, supporting the war.

According to Edwards, reflecting on his father's advice helped him make it through the deployment. He said the experience changed his outlook on life forever.

"In Nassiriyah I saw more death than anyone should ever see," he said. "It taught me to not take life for granted."

After returning from the deployment, Edwards wanted to settle down with his fiancé, and began looking for a steady job. He put his dreams of becoming a flight engineer on hold, and went to school at Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Md., to become a machinist welder for the 939th ARW.

friends in the unit made the transition from Air to Army a little easier.

"There are differences [between the services], but I'm content either way because the people you work with make up for it and the mission is important," Edwards said. "By far this is an outstanding unit, I have been nothing but impressed since I've been here."

Since joining the unit, Edwards has been training to perform rescue missions as a crew chief (the Army's equivalent of a flight engineer).

"I'm just trying to learn as much as I can, so I can be an asset to my unit," Edwards said.

Dream becomes reality

On July 13, 2005, Edwards' dream of helping people finally came true when the 1042nd got a call to rescue a hiker near French Creek Ridge, eight miles north of Detroit Lake.

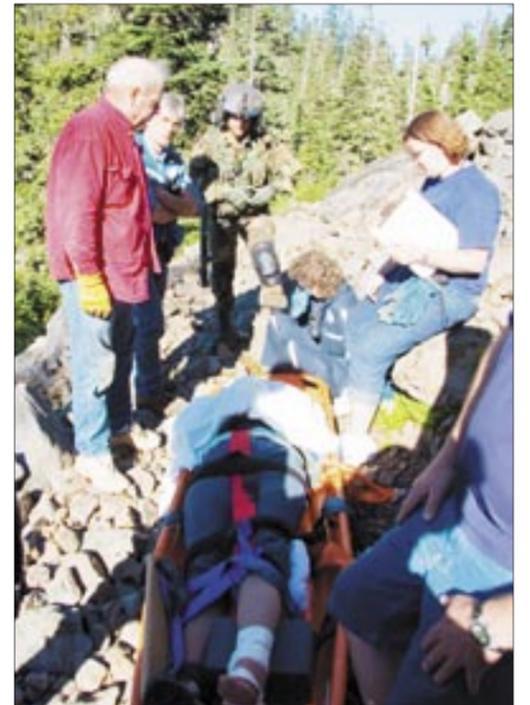
Marilyn Pool, a 60 year-old woman from Salem, had been hiking on a rocky trail that was only two-feet wide with steep slopes on either side.

"As I stepped on the trail it gave out under me and I went down with it," Pool said. "I started sliding down the slope and grabbed onto a bush to stop myself from going down further."

Pool broke three bones in her left foot during the fall. Her husband used a cell phone to call 911, and local rescuers reached her within two hours. She said the trail was too narrow for rescuers to carry her down the mountain, so the helicopter was dispatched to help evacuate her.

"When the helicopter came I was awfully glad to see them," said Pool.

The crew for this mission consisted of



pilots, Chief Warrant Officer 2 Wayne Steenson and Capt. Jerry Brennan; flight medic, Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Hoggard; and crew chief, Staff Sgt. Mark Carter. Edwards rode along with the crew to receive extra training by assisting Carter with hoist operations.

Edwards said although he was excited to experience his first rescue, he tried to relax by convincing himself it was a training mission.

"It finally hit me once we got to the location and I could see her down there," Edwards said. "I couldn't believe my first mission was actually happening."

Edwards said by remembering his father's advice to stay calm in high stress situations, he was able to concentrate on his job, which was to hoist the flight medic down to the trail so he could retrieve the injured hiker.

"Hoisting him down was hard because it was a pretty tight spot and really windy

See **Enlistment** NEXT PAGE



Letters From The Front



ORANG member shares a bit of life in Iraq while deployed with NYARNG soldiers



Above: Staff Sgt. Edward King makes his way through a dust storm in Tikrit, Iraq.

I took this picture of myself during the worst dust storm since I've been here. Visibility dropped to 100 meters and the air was so thick with dust. It permeated into everything so I figured a bandana over my face to protect my lungs wasn't a bad idea.

There is a difference between a dust and a sand storm, though I have yet to actually experience a sand storm. Dust storms are just like fog. You can see the dust, but you can't really feel it. Sand storms, from what I've been told, are similar except for the fact you can feel the sand particles actually hitting you.

I was on my way to work when I took this picture. Some of Saddam's ill placed palm trees are in the background as well as Saddam's big palace.

The palace, barely visible in the background, was bombed several times at the onset of the war as part of the decapitation strikes prior to the ground forces moving in.

Staff Sgt. Edward A. King,
123rd Weather Flight, Oregon Air National Guard

Staff Sgt. Edward A. King, is a member of the Oregon Air National Guard's 123rd Weather Flight based in Portland, Ore. King is a resident of Bend, Ore., but is originally from Woodbridge, Va.

At 29, he has spent four years in the active duty Air Force, and the last six in the National Guard. His hobbies include running and backpacking.

He is currently deployed to Iraq, supporting the 42nd Infantry Division from New York at Forward Operating Base Danger, in Tikrit, Iraq, as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom III.

Enlistment in Army Guard, rescue puts soldier's career goals back on track

Continued from **PREVIOUS PAGE**

from the rotor wash coming off the cliffs," Edwards said.

Hoggard took care of the patient on the ground and prepared her to be hoisted up. Carter performed the hoist operation to lift Pool into the aircraft.

"It was scary to look up there, especially when I got near the helicopter because the wind was so strong from the rotors," Pool said. "I was hanging on for dear life, gripping the railing so hard I probably put a dent in it."

Edwards said he could see the veins in Pool's arm because she was holding on so tight. He gave her earplugs, smiled and patted her on the shoulder to make her feel safe. Once they arrived at the hospital, he gave her a thumbs-up to let her know she would be okay, and Pool returned the gesture.

"It was the biggest rush and thrill to be a part of that rescue," Edwards said. "It's still hard to believe, because I had been thinking about it all these years and now I finally got the chance to do it."

The reunion

Pool attended the mobilization ceremony held at the Army Aviation Facility in Salem on July 19, to thank the soldiers for rescuing her and wish them well on their deployment. In return, the soldiers signed her cast.

"I know they will do a good job over there because I've seen them in action," said Pool. "I wish them all the best."

Edwards said he and his fellow soldiers



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Nick Choy, State Public Affairs Office

Sgt. Jonathan Edwards visits with Marilyn Pool at the mobilization ceremony on July 19.

were glad Pool came to the ceremony.

"Seeing Mrs. Pool almost brought tears to my eyes," Edwards said. "The smile on her face was the best feeling in the world. It gives you self-satisfaction, knowing you made a difference in someone's life."

His story is just beginning

Although the path to reaching his dream has been a turbulent journey, Edwards said he doesn't regret any part of it.

"God had a plan for me and brought me here," said Edwards. "Everything was meant to be and I'm glad it all turned out

Your Letters

Care package brings joy to guard members

I want to personally thank you for sending the care package to us here in Afghanistan. I put the items out for all to enjoy. It means so much to all of us here to hear from the people back home.

This mission has been a very demanding yet rewarding experience for everyone on the team. Our role is to mentor the Afghanistan National Army (ANA) so they can take back control of their country. I am enclosing some pictures we sent to our families. It provides a very small glimpse of some of the things we do with the ANA.

We all look forward to returning to the great state of Oregon. Again, thank you for your thoughts and support.

First Sgt. Don Weber,
41st Brigade Embedded Training Team

Sgt. Weber and the rest of the 41st Brigade Embedded Training Team held a demobilization ceremony on August 5 in Salem, Ore. See story on page 2 of this issue.

Oregon Sentinel stories: clairvoyance or simple case of coincidence?

Please run an article about the Oregon National Guard men and women who are being deployed to Afghanistan. Also, there was Active Duty Training in Idaho where seven out of 3,000 received a special honor badge!

Thank you,
Judy Standley

Guess what Judy? Not only were we able to anticipate your request, we also hit both of them on the nose! Check out our cover story and the other story on page 2 on the Afghanistan deployments, and the center-section photo layout of the Annual Training in Gowen Field, Idaho.

Corrections

In the June/July 2005 issue of the Oregon Sentinel, Sgt. 1st Class Mike Shuman was incorrectly identified as the 1186th's First Sergeant.

The unit's First Sergeant, who was also the 1st Sgt. on the unit's deployment to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, was 1st Sgt. Brian Russell.

Our sincere apologies to all who were mis-identified in this, and related stories.

— Editor

Tell us what you think!

Address your comments, feedback and ideas to:

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The Oregon Sentinel

The *Oregon Sentinel* is the official publication of the Oregon National Guard, authorized under the provisions of AR-360-1. It is designed and published monthly by the Oregon Military Department Public Affairs Office, PO Box 14350, Salem, Oregon, 97309, (503) 584-3917. The views and opinions expressed in the *Oregon Sentinel* are not necessarily those of the departments of the Army and Air Force. The *Oregon Sentinel* is distributed free to members of the Oregon Army and Air National Guard and to other interested persons at their request. Circulation: 12,500. The *Oregon Sentinel* is also distributed electronically via the Internet at <http://www.oregon.gov/OMD/AGPA/publications.shtml>.

Stories and photos from the field are gratefully accepted. We need your input to insure better coverage.

Guard members and their families are encouraged to submit any articles meant to inform, educate or entertain readers of the *Oregon Sentinel*, including stories about interesting Guard personalities and unique unit training. Letters to the editor are also welcome. All letters must include the author's name, address and daytime phone number. Names may be withheld in print upon request, but all letters must be signed, and are subject to editing prior to publication. For publication schedules, or for any other questions, please see your unit Public Affairs Representative, or contact the State Public Affairs Office or any of the *Oregon Sentinel* staff members listed below.

The *Oregon Sentinel* utilizes Times New Roman and Arial fonts, and is designed using Adobe InDesign CS. Graphics are produced using Adobe Illustrator and Adobe PhotoShop. All design and layout are accomplished on a Macintosh G5 computer. Text files are edited using Microsoft Word.

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Members' SGLI benefit to increase to \$400,000 in September

Beginning September 1, 2005, all military members eligible for Service Members' Group Life Insurance (SGLI) will become insured for the maximum coverage of \$400,000 until they make a valid election on or after the effective date to reduce or decline coverage.

Likewise, those who become newly eligible for SGLI on, or after September 1, 2005, will have \$400,000 in coverage until they make a valid election to reduce or decline coverage.

The monthly SGLI premium remains \$3.25 per \$50,000 of coverage. Therefore, \$26.00 will become the monthly premium for full coverage beginning in September 2005.

Should a member desire less than the automatic maximum coverage, that member should complete a new SGLV 8286 (September 2005 version, which will be made available in August), indicating the amount of coverage desired (including no coverage if applicable), and submit that election as soon as possible. If such a member properly completes and submits the form before September 30, 2005, the member will not be liable for the September 2005 premium associated with the reduced or declined portion of coverage. This gives members 30 days to reduce or decline unwanted coverage without charge. Units should process elections as expeditiously as possible to avoid the necessity for corrections in financial transactions.

A member who does not make an election to reduce or decline coverage from the \$400,000 level before October 1, 2005, will be charged for the full \$400,000 of coverage for September as well as for any other month in which the level of coverage remains in effect.

Members can elect to reduce or increase coverage in increments of \$50,000, up to the maximum of \$400,000.

One example is a member who chooses to reduce coverage to \$300,000 and completes a new SGLV Form 8286 on September 15, 2005, submitting the form to his/her unit on the same day. His/her September 2005 premium will be \$19.50.

Another example is a member who chooses to reduce coverage to \$300,000, but completes and submits a new SGLV Form 8286 on October 15, 2005 (after the September 15 deadline). This member is liable for full maximum coverage premiums in both September and October 2005. His/her newly elected coverage is effective November 1, 2005, and the premiums would be \$26.00 for September, \$26.00 for October and \$19.50 for November 2005.

Existing beneficiary designations remain effective in the same proportion to \$400,000 as the proportion of total benefits such beneficiary was designated to receive under the last valid SGLV 8286. Such beneficiary proportional designations remain effective until a new SGLV 8286 (September 2005 version) is properly completed on or after September 1, 2005.

These changes to SGLI do not affect coverage under the Family SGLI. Coverage and limitations under FSGLI will continue under previously existing rules.

Section 1012 of the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Defense, the Global War on Terror, and Tsunami Relief, 2005 (Public Law 109-13, May 11, 2005) allows for the revisions to SGLI.

AAFES to honor military retirees in Sept.

The Army & Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) will formally honor military retirees during its annual "Still Serving" weekend, Sept. 16-18, at Post and Base Exchanges throughout CONUS and in select stores in Europe and in the Pacific. Throughout the "Still Serving" weekend, AAFES stores will host special events such as drawings, free refreshments, free product samples, vendor demonstrations and door prizes. Retirees can learn about activities planned for their Exchange by calling their local store manager. Contact information

can be found online at the AAFES website at www.aafes.com, and click on the "store locator" link.

Family Support available online 24/7

The Multi-Component Family Support Network (MCFSN) is now available to Guard families 24-hours a day online at www.mcfns.com.

MCFSN joins forces with local civic organizations, non-profit agencies, libraries, schools and churches to ensure Guard families are cared for, kept track of and provided virtually any assistance or information before, during and after their soldiers' deployments.

Nominate fellow soldiers for safety awards

Have you seen a soldier do something proactive, which increased their safety or prevented them or another soldier from getting hurt? The JFHQ Safety Office wants to hear about it!

Safety certificates and impact awards can be presented to recognize the positive actions of a soldier or team. Send an email to either Chief Warrant Officer 3 Terry Swartwout, or Lt. Col. Marilyn Woodward with your nominations to marilyn.woodward@org.army.mil.

If you have any questions, please call 503-584-3931.

Legislation helps with cost of hunting, fishing licenses

By Karl D. Jorgenson,
JFHQ Director of Financial Administration

SALEM, Ore. — The 73rd Oregon Legislative Assembly has appropriated monies to the Oregon Military Department for reimbursing military service members and recent military retirees who have incurred costs for resident annual hunting and angling licenses.

Anyone who is actively serving in an active duty capacity, National Guard, or reserve component of the United States Armed Forces, or has retired from military service within 12 months is eligible under this program.

Disabled war veterans rated to be at least 25-percent disabled need not apply for the reimbursement program, for they already receive free licenses. They are encouraged to contact the Oregon State Fish and Wildlife Commission.

The Oregon Military Department is currently establishing the regulation, processes and forms for making the application for reimbursement. All eligible persons should keep original receipts of their incurred costs for the resident annual hunting and angling licenses starting on July 1, 2005, for these would need to be submitted with the application form. Service members would also be required to submit a copy of their current Leave and Earnings Statement (LES) for verification of service. Recent retirees would need to submit a copy of their current DD 214 verifying their retirement within the last 12 months.

Once the regulation, processing instructions and application form are published, they will be posted at www.mil.state.or.us/. We are working at getting this completed and posted as soon as possible.

This program has come into existence in recognition of the sacrifices made by members of our Armed Forces and is Oregon's way of saying "thank-you".

Did you know?

Where does the term "Whole nine yards" come from?

One explanation is this: British Frigates in the 19th Century had 27-foot masts. To achieve full speed, the "whole nine yards" was hoisted.

If you have another explanation for this term, or other military-related trivia, send it in to us!

Oregon Legislature passes several bills which benefit the Oregon National Guard

By Kim L. Lippert,
Oregon Sentinel Senior Contributing Writer

SALEM, Ore. — With more Oregon National Guard units called to active duty since World War II, it was no surprise the needs of military personnel and their families were an important topic at the Oregon Legislature this session.

When the current legislative session ended in August, \$5.4 million in funding had been given to Oregon service members, much more than the \$700,000 the Governor originally allocated. Several things may have accounted for the increase in funding including the creation of the House Committee on Veterans Affairs. The legislative package focused on a few major topics – educational benefits, emergency financial assistance funds for veterans and their families, and unemployment and reemployment rights of deployed soldiers.

House Bill 3504 increases the monthly education benefit for veterans from \$35 a month to \$150 a month for each month the veteran is enrolled in full-time study or training at an Oregon college or university. The money can also be used at an accredited school or college out of state if the desired training required is not offered at an accredited college within this state.

The Oregon Troops to Teachers program pays resident tuition costs for veterans, provided the individual agrees to teach in a high poverty area for three years, or in subject of mathematics, science or special education for four years.

Also included in the bill is the Oregon Veterans' Emergency Financial Assistance Program, which provides financial assistance to Oregon veterans and their families for expenses related to health care, housing, emergency transportation, legal assistance, and temporary income after military discharge.

Salem lawmakers also passed legislation allowing active members of the Oregon National Guard to receive free resident hunting and fishing licenses. (See related story on this page)

Other pieces of legislation passed this session which will impact educational benefits include House Bill 2862, which directs public post-secondary education institutions to award credit for education and training obtained while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States.

Senate Bill 486 extends the tuition waiver program to surviving family members of Oregon National Guard members killed while on active duty.

Senate Bill 575 gives Oregon National Guard personnel who are mobilized certain credits for fees paid when the student returns from mobilization.

Help is on the way for Oregon soldiers who may have lost a job or are away from their job for any length of time because of deployments. Senate Bill 690 permits payment of supplemental unemployment benefits to dislocated workers whose unemployment is due to being released from military duty related to a deployment in Afghanistan or Iraq. The legislation extends eligibility of dislocated workers for supplemental benefits beyond June 30, 2005.

House Bill 2192 extends provisions relating to employer sponsored health coverage for state officers and employees absent on leave to perform military duties from 12 to 24 months.

House Bill 2795, which allocates \$100,000 for the Afghan Iraq Freedom War Memorial, was signed into law late in the session. The memorial will honor all Oregon service members who lost their lives in the current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. The dedication is tentatively set for November of 2005 on the grounds of the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs on Summer Street in Salem, Ore.

All in the family: Mother-daughter team makes deployment easier on both



Photo by Tech Sgt. Nick Choy, State Public Affairs Office

Oregon National Guard members, Sgt. Karissa Smith (l.), and her mother, Sgt. 1st Class Brenda Berrios (r.) visit with well-wishers following the 41st PSC's mobilization ceremony held Aug. 10 in Salem, Ore. The mother-daughter team will head to Kuwait for a year with their unit, which will take care of soldiers' administrative needs.

By Kim L. Lippert,
Oregon Sentinel Senior Contributing Writer

Leaving family and friends can be one of the toughest parts of a deployment. However, it may be a bit easier for two soldiers in the 41st Personnel Services Co. – that's because these two soldiers are mother and daughter.

"I think it makes going much easier, it's nice to know my Mom will be there," said Sgt. Karissa Smith, 24.

"I'm excited to go together. I feel bad for all of the people with small kids — I'm lucky to have my daughter with me," added Sgt. 1st Class Brenda Berrios, 43.

It's a mother-daughter outing like the pair has never experienced before. They will be in Kuwait for at least a year. While exact duties are still unknown, Smith says she's sure of one thing, having her mother there doesn't mean she'll get preferential treatment.

"She's definitely harder on me," said Smith.

Smith volunteered for deployment and was transferred to the 41st PSC. At first Berrios didn't think she would be eligible, so she was shocked to learn not only was she going but her daughter would be with her. The news has brought out some healthy competition between the two.

"We have a race to see who can make rank first," said Smith. Competition aside, Berrios admits it will be difficult to leave loved ones at home. Her husband and son will have to learn to adjust to life without her and Smith around.



An F-15 "Eagle" from the 114th Fighter Wing, based in South Dakota, receives fuel from a KC-135 Stratotanker during Sentry Eagle 2005. The event is a biannual, two-day exercise hosted by the Oregon Air National Guard's 173rd Fighter Wing in Southern Oregon.

Photo by Pvt. 1st Class Timothy Brownlow, 115th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Oregon Sentinel

OF THE OREGON NATIONAL GUARD

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

August 2005

Vol. 3, Issue 5

Portland Air Base realignment may be blocked by Governor's lawsuit

Story by Capt. Michael Braibish,
Deputy State Public Affairs Officer

Governor Ted Kulongoski informed the Department of Defense he intends to sue if the recommendations to realign the 142nd Fighter Wing is approved.

The Base Realignment and Closure commission, which will vote whether or not to accept the DOD recommendation to realign the F-15s from the Portland Air National Guard Base, will send their assessment of DOD proposals to President George Bush no later than Sept. 8.

The proposals in the BRAC recommendations on Air National Guard facilities has drawn sharp criticism from federal and state elected officials around the nation.

Two states, Illinois and Pennsylvania, have already filed lawsuits claiming DOD trumped their governors' authority as commanders-in-chief of their Air National Guard forces.

The BRAC report, released May 13 by the DOD, recommended realigning the F-15 fighters of the 142nd Fighter Wing in Portland to bases in New Jersey and Louisiana, prompting sharp criticism from officials in Oregon.

"I do not consent to the deactivation, relocation or withdrawal of the 142nd Fighter Wing," the governor said in his letter dated Aug. 2. "It is my present intention to file a lawsuit in Oregon's federal district court seeking injunctive and declaratory relief to stop the proposed actions."

The governor cited U.S. code, Title 10 U.S.C. §18238 and Title 32 U.S.C. §104(c) as the justification for the lawsuit against the DOD. In addition to challenging the legality of the BRAC proposals, the governor reiterated concerns about homeland security if the F-15s are realigned.

"Given Oregon's geographic location and unquestionable need for air superiority in the Pacific Northwest, this recommendation places the entire region at risk if it is

accepted," the governor told Rumsfeld.

The letter to Rumsfeld follows the governor's testimony to the BRAC commission in June. Pacific Northwest Congressional leaders also sent their concerns to the BRAC commission.

Oregon Representative Peter DeFazio and Washington Representative Norm Dicks, both members of the House Homeland Security Committee, sent a letter to the BRAC commission chairman, Anthony J. Principi, urging the commission to reject the DOD proposal for the 142nd FW.

"If the Pentagon's proposal for the Portland Air National Guard base is adopted by the BRAC Commission, then the alert force structure in our region would drop below the pre-September 11th posture. That is simply unacceptable," said DeFazio and Dicks. "It would leave the Northwest unable to handle increased alert requirements or defend against multiple, nearly simultaneous attacks, such as those that occurred on September 11th."

The Congressmen cited the threat to the population and infrastructure as their chief concerns, and they also noted there are other threats, such as cruise missiles, which the F-15s can defend against.

The BRAC commission is charged with reviewing proposals from the DOD, publicly evaluating input from communities, and advising the president on the disposition of the BRAC proposals.

After receiving the recommendations from the commission, the president will have until Sept. 23 to either accept or reject them. President Bush has stated he'll stand behind the decisions made by the commission.

"I'm going to accept their recommendations, as presented to me," Bush said in interviews on Aug. 1.

The commission has given no indication of what it will recommend to the president regarding the contentious proposals for the Air National Guard, but it has listened to concerns from several states.

Soldier loses fight with cancer



Photo courtesy of Thomas family

By Kim L. Lippert,
Oregon Sentinel
Senior Contributing Writer

Oregon Army National Guardsman, Sgt. Nicholas James Thomas of Portland, Ore., died August 11, 2005 as a result of medical complications.

Thomas was deployed with the 1st Battalion, 162nd Infantry in Iraq from February 2003 to April 2004. He volunteered to return to Iraq as a replacement with the 2nd Battalion, 162nd Infantry, and had just returned in March of 2005 when he was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblast Leukemia on May 17. He died of complications on Aug. 11, at the age of 21.

Thomas graduated from the Oregon Youth Challenge Program on December 17, 2001. During his time at the OYCP, he enlisted in the Oregon National Guard. The staff remembers him as a hard worker who was determined to serve his country.

Thomas is survived by his daughter, Kaitlyn, parents, Terry and Maureen, and sister Ashley.

Retiree Service Office

Open Tuesdays, 10 am to 2 pm

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