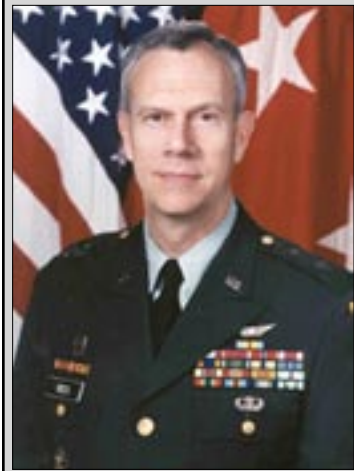


In This Issue...

Governor names new TAG



Governor Ted Kulongoski announced on Feb. 24 the appointment of Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees as Adjutant General of the Oregon National Guard. See story on PAGE 10.

Oregonians say goodbye to Warren



Sgt. 1st Class Mark Warren was laid to rest in La Grande, Ore., following a ceremony at the La Grande armory. See story on PAGE 9.

173rd FW and 142nd FW deploy for thier annual training

Story on PAGE 4

Oregon Soldier awarded Silver Star for bravery, valor

Story on PAGE 5

Governor's Initiative for National Guard

Story on PAGE 5

Family Support Program offers services to soldiers, families

Story on PAGE 7

E-Troop trains on the Oregon coast

Story on PAGE 8

PSU announces Weisenburg memorial scholarship

Story on PAGE 10

Plus...

Command messages, TAG Column, pg. 3
News briefs, pg. 10, 11
... and a whole lot more!

THE
OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

Oregon Sentinel



OF THE
OREGON NATIONAL GUARD

Vol.3...Issue No. 2

March/April 2005

IT'S GOOD TO BE HOME

Oregon's 2-162 returns home after more than a year in Iraq

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

McChord AFB, Wash., March 17, 2005 — The early-morning touch-down of a chartered airliner heralded the start of a tumultuous week of events throughout more than a hundred Oregon communities as over 700 citizen-soldiers of the 2nd Battalion, 162nd Infantry returned home from Iraq.

Many of the soldiers' families converged on the Wilson Gymnasium at Ft. Lewis, Wash., where they waited anxiously for the unit — which was divided into three groups — to arrive. As the soldiers entered the building and quickly stood in formation, they were greeted by Chaplain Terry Schrick, and Brig. Gen. Douglas Pritt, Commander of the 41st Brigade, who addressed the crowd and the soldiers.

"These soldiers have performed with absolute distinction while serving our state and our nation," Pritt said as he stood in front of the assembled crowd, waving hand-painted banners. "And we appreciate the sacrifice your families have made while you were overseas protecting our American way of life."

See Oregon's 2nd Battalion, 162nd Infantry PAGE 6



"These soldiers have performed with absolute distinction while serving our state and our nation."
— Brig. Gen. Douglas Pritt, Commander, 41st Brigade



Above: Kathy Ryland of Camas, Wash., embraces her husband, Sgt. 1st Class George A. Ryland during welcome home ceremonies held at the Wilson Gymnasium in Ft. Lewis, Wash. on March 17 and 18. The Rylands had been apart for 18 months while George was deployed to Iraq with the 2-162 IN BN.

Left: Brig. Gen. Douglas Pritt, Commander of the 41st Brigade, addresses family members of soldiers from the 2nd Battalion, 162nd Infantry at Ft. Lewis, Wash., before releasing the unit to their families. Members of the unit spent several days at Ft. Lewis out processing before heading back to Oregon for the unit's official demobilization ceremony at the Oregon State Fairgrounds in Salem on March 31.

See rest of story on page 6, and related articles on page 7.

The bittersweet taste of democracy

Oregon's 3-116 BCT helps secure Iraq's democratic future



Spec. Derek Gavin, 21, of Portland, Ore., teaches an Iraqi child a special handshake that progressed into a series of fun, free flowing motions. "I like the kids here and I like hanging out with them," Gavin said. "It makes me think of my daughter [back home]."

Story and photos by
Staff Sgt.
Rebekah-mae N. Bruns,
39th Brigade Combat Team
Public Affairs

FORWARD OPERATING BASE WARRIOR, Iraq — Soldiers of the 116th Brigade Combat Team worked together with the Iraqi Interim Government to provide security for the Iraqi citizens in their area during the country's first free elections in more than 50 years.

Working alongside soldiers from Hawaii's 2nd Brigade Combat Team, the Idaho-based unit conducted security patrols, manned checkpoints and back-

See Oregon Soldiers PAGE 9

Agencies line up to help with soldiers' transition

Story by Spec. April Dustin,
State Public Affairs Office

After the ceremonies and parties are over, after the banners are taken down, after the duffel bags are unpacked, many soldiers returning from deployments will find themselves overwhelmed with the question of, "Now what?"

With the demobilization of 700 soldiers from the 2nd Battalion, 162nd Infantry, many Oregon National Guard soldiers across the state are now contemplating how to return to their normal lives.

Returning to their family and the work force may not be easy for some soldiers, because many things change over the course of an 18-month deployment. That is why the Oregon Guard has developed a Reintegration Team with the intent to help soldiers and their families face the challenges after being released from active duty.

See Team PAGE 7

Letters From The Front



JFHQ employee settles into life in the sand box

Things are definitely going great here! I finally arrived at Forward Operating Base (FOB) Speicher, near Tikrit, on January 19th at about 1500 and went on my first combat patrol less than two hours later. It was a very exciting patrol that took us south of Samarra along the main supply route. Real close to midnight we were ambushed on our return back to the FOB with an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) and small arms fire. It sure was a sight to see as the countryside was really lit up with tracer rounds and flares. No casualties or equipment damage on our side and no confirmation of nailing any of those SOBs that didn't want to stick around very long for a fight. My second patrol was the next night and once again we were ambushed with an IED only. We could never find the guy(s) that set it off, though we searched for hours. This time it blew up one of our vehicles, though we had no injuries. Our vehicles are armored up pretty well, which gives a lot of confidence to our troops.

I've been out on patrols every day but one since I've been here, though none have been as exciting as the first two yet. I've only been on three day patrols so have only just started to see what this country looks like without the aid of night vision devices. It is definitely a filthy country with blown up buildings, blown up vehicles along the Main Supply Route, and trash everywhere. The living conditions here are definitely "third-world". Yesterday I saw one of those trucks that pump out the port-a-potties dumping raw sewage right along the MSR in the desert. What a filthy smelly mess. We need to get Col. Caldwell out here with his backhoe to start putting in some sewer systems!

Yesterday was my first day as patrol leader and I will now be leading all of the patrols from here on out. The weather has been pretty cool for the most part. We have had a few days of temperatures in the 60s, but for the most part it has been cloudy and rainy. We had sun today, although rain is in the forecast. I am staying in temporary living quarters until the unit we are replacing leaves after the first of the month. It is an old Iraqi Officers' quarters, and I'm not sharing space for the first time since I deployed. Once I get into my permanent space though, I will be sharing a room with another captain.

The FOB we are living on is huge, probably 20 miles around and has a lot of amenities from what I hear. Once I get a day off, I'll check it out and let you know more. So far, I have stayed too busy to do any sight-seeing and have only had one shower and made it to the chow hall twice since I've been here. I've been pretty much living off of MREs since I've arrived in Iraq. I expect things will stay this busy and hectic until the unit that we are transitioning with leave sometime after the first of the month. One good thing is with the crazy schedule we are running, time is flying by and at this rate, we will be home in no time.

I haven't seen any camels up here yet. Though we do have some desert, I think we are a little too far North. The area we are in seems to be a transition from the desert terrain and the nearby mountains. It is along the Tigris River and there is a lot of vegetation. Unfortunately, this provides good concealment for the bad guys. What we need is a few inches of good tracking snow!

Well, I gotta catch a few winks before I start getting ready for the next patrol. Say "Hi" to everyone. Bye for now.

Capt. Stanley Hutchison,
467th EN BN (Army Reserve)
FOB Speicher
APO AE 09393

Stan Hutchison is the Real Property Operations & Maintenance Branch Chief, working in AGI. He is a member of the Army Reserve's 467th Engineer Battalion deployed to Tikrit, Iraq.

Donated chewing tobacco well received

Bob,

Thanks for sending the chew our way, supplies over here were starting to run low. Even camel dung was starting to attract some interest! It's good to get packages and not feel forgotten. Please thank whomever provided the postage, and send me Tobacco Habit's address so I can send them a thank you card.

Thank you again,
Sgt. David Daggett
HHC/3-116/116th BCT
APO AE 09368

Oregon ESGR Executive Director, Col. Bob Elliot (ORARNG Ret.), Cols. Tim Kelley, and Charlie Yriarte, paid the postage to send just over 100 tins of chewing tobacco to Oregon Army National Guard troops stationed in Iraq. Sgt. 1st Class Rick Moore of JFHQ Recruiting, coordinated the donation of the tobacco by Habits Tobacco in Salem.

Sgt. Daggett, we will forward the address for Habits as soon as possible. By the way, by this time we would have expected that you at least tried camel dung out of pure curiosity...

Chief finds her better half in Afghanistan

I just wanted to touch base with you and let you know I made it. It is almost two weeks since my arrival and I found my husband, Jack. He can run but he can't hide.

I am now stationed at Bagram Air Field in the Office of National Guard Affairs. It has been snowing here since I arrived. And the bathrooms are two blocks from my "b-hut" (home). The chow halls are really pretty good, the gym is open 24/7 and most everything is within walking distance. I have DSN capabilities in my office, but there is a 12 hour time difference between here and Oregon, so I must venture out in the dark to call home.

Yesterday I went out on my first trip outside the wire. It had my stomach tied up in knots, but it was exciting. We went to Kabul and Pol-e-Charki. These people are just downright poor — there is no other way to describe it. On our way back we encountered a group of four men exiting a vehicle one with an AK-47, he quickly disappeared when they saw us. It was a little unnerving. The roads are pretty rough, and there are mines everywhere. I have so very much to learn.

My commander went out the other day and handed out shoes and warm clothes to people in a nearby refugee camp. Some of the children were waiting in line (in the snow) with no shoes on their feet. I am scheduled to go out on a mission in a few days, and I will take some pictures



Photo courtesy of CW3 Janet Martin

CW3 Janet Martin (r.) stands outside Camp Blackhorse, Afghanistan with her husband, Staff Sgt. Jack Martin.

for you.

My visit with Jack was wonderful, but way too short. I will steal any moments I can. Here is a picture of us at Pol-e-Charki (Camp Blackhorse, Afghanistan) taken Feb. 11, 2005.

I am also going to send you my address. Do you still have those Beanie Babies to send? And anything else you can come up with these children (and adults) need so much. I am going on several Civil Affairs missions over the next few months, and I could make great use of what ever anyone could send.

Please keep in touch, and tell everyone I said hello.

Have a great Army Day,

CW3 Janet Martin
CJTF 76 NGA
APO AE 09354

Soldier turns camel herder



Spec. Fred Casner of the 3rd Battalion, 116th Infantry, Headquarters, took time off while in Qatar, posed alongside a camel while dressed in traditional Arab clothing. Casner later was able to ride the camel.

Corrections

Soldiers' mailing address corrections and updates

In the story, Deployed Oregon Soldiers look forward to care packages sent from home, in the January/February 2005 issue, the address for G-Troop, 82nd Cavalry was incorrectly listed and the address for F-Troop, 82nd Cavalry was omitted. They are listed below:

G Troop / 1-163 IN BN
116th BCT FWD
APO AE 09359
Attn: Capt. Teruo Chinen

F Troop / 82nd CAV / 29th BCT
LSA Camp Anaconda
APO AE 09391

Correct unit designations

On page 5 of the January/February 2005 issue of the *Oregon Sentinel*, the story on the location of Oregon National Guard troops around the world incorrectly listed Alpha-Co., 249th Aviation, and Detachment 1, Delta-Co., 113th Aviation as "AVIM" units.

Vidos' name misspelled

In the Letters from the Front column in the January/February 2005 issue of the *Oregon Sentinel*, Sgt. Timothy Vidos' name was misspelled.

Your Letters

This is your chance to air your thoughts about any subject! Send your thoughts, opinions and ideas on any topic, or current affair issue via e-mail to the following address: sentinel-letters@mil.state.or.us.

For Letters to the Editor, or letters From The Front, please send them in MS Word Document format. Any correspondence sent via mail may not be returned.

Tell us what you think!

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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.

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Oregon Military Department

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Command Message



Brig. Gen. Raymond C. Byrne, Jr.
Acting Adjutant General, State of Oregon

Welcome home soldiers of the 2nd Battalion, 162nd Infantry. I'm glad you're back. Several weeks ago I had the opportunity to testify before the House Committee on Government Reform. During my testimony, I made it clear my duties and loyalties bind

I would like to cover a couple of different subjects in this article, first is the Force Development.

Over the past few years, the Air Force has been focusing on changing the way we develop and train our people to meet the challenges of the Expeditionary Air Force. Force Development takes a deliberate approach to providing Airmen the training and experience they need to succeed in delivering ground and air power now and in the future. We must make sure Airmen get the training and education required for their specialty or area of expertise.

Our focus should be on deliberate development of our Airmen and not just "square filling." The training and education must be tailored to benefit Airmen in doing their jobs. Promotions will be determined by your performance and demonstrated leadership potential to serve in the next higher grade.

All Airmen should receive some form of development to assist them in their duties in higher grades and levels of responsibility. We will provide the right development venues to meet both Airmen and Air Guard needs. The Air Guard and Air Force's emphasis is on job performance and for providing Airmen the right opportunities for training and education when it is required. The goal is clear, we need to develop professional Airmen who will collectively leverage their respective strengths to accomplish the Air Guard and Air Force missions. You make the Oregon Air National Guard the best in the nation. We owe it to you to provide the skills, training and education you need to continue to excel!

The second thing I'd like to address is Enlisted Force Structure. Clearly defining our purpose and development as an enlisted corps is more critical today than ever before. Our Airmen have been called to action in many different, and sometimes non-traditional capacities. The challenges have been great and often unfamiliar. Through your dedicated service and sacrifice we've met those challenges head on.

To keep at the top of our game, every Airman must know and understand their role in this fight and in our Air Force, today and tomorrow. It's the enlisted force structure that defines us as Airmen, rather than merely specialists.

The Enlisted Force Structure, (which can be found in AFI and ORANGI 36-2618),

me to the Citizen-Soldiers and Airmen of the Oregon National Guard regardless of their duty status, and I will do everything in my power to take care of our Soldiers, Airmen, and their families.

While before the committee, I discussed four specific items of concern that came about as a result of recent deployments: the value of the Community Based Health Care Organization (CBHCO), administrative problems experienced by wounded soldiers processing through the Power Projection Platform (PPP), the challenges of establishing disability for wounded soldiers, and the need to heal the hidden wounds experienced by our soldiers.

First, I applaud the CBHCO, which is the single greatest improvement in care for Reserve Component (RC) soldiers I have seen in my military career. For the first time we have placed the needs of soldiers in the RC on par with Active Duty Soldiers. This program is critical and should be supported, continued, and in fact, expanded to allow soldiers to return home and receive the care they need and deserve.

Second, we must look at the adminis-



Chief Master Sgt. Rodney R. Smith,
State Command Chief Master Sergeant

trative process that holds up wounded or injured soldiers at PPPs. A soldier whose medical decision making process is complete, a determination has been made, should never have to wait up to thirty days for an order releasing him or her from active duty.

Third, we must provide advocacy for RC soldiers in helping them through a foreign and often frightening process of determining disability. The Army Medical Department provides first-class care equal to any health care organization in the nation, but our RC soldiers are accustomed to a far different system, a much more consumer friendly system with choices, especially, when it comes to getting second opinions on procedures that may prove to be life-changing and the feeling on their part that your health care provider works for you. We need advocates for our RC soldiers, other than the Inspector General, who can break down the perceived and real barriers. The reality many of our soldiers are faced with after a wound or injury is that they may not be able to return to their civilian occupation, and the financial support that is available through the disability ratings determination may be inadequate to sustain them and their families while they are in the retraining environment.

lays out concise standards, expectations and opportunities for every enlisted Airman. The foundation of the profession of arms has to begin with our core values; integrity, service before self, and excellence in all we do. These values, along with the basic roles and responsibilities needed to accomplish the mission, form our foundation. This instruction establishes general Airmen responsibilities and refines both general and specific responsibilities for each level of the enlisted force. We have clearly defined enlisted knowledge and performance levels while incorporating the Tactical, Operational, and Strategic levels of leadership and development.

One of the most visible aspects of this version of AFI 36-2618 is the standardization of enlisted duty titles. We based titles on a person's primary duties, level of responsibility and rank. A consistent, standard approach gives the title universal meaning. When you reach a superintendent of a wing shop you'll know you are dealing with a Senior NCO in charge. Today's operations tempo calls for a quick understanding of a person's role. We are facing new challenges everyday and we have to maintain our edge for every angle.

I urge all Airmen to read and understand the Enlisted Force Structure. This is your blueprint for success in the guard. Embrace your role and responsibility as an Airman - Junior Airman, NCO or Senior NCO, and we'll continue to be the outstanding enlisted force our state and nation values.

Questions I get asked a lot are; "How do I get promoted?" or "Why didn't I get promoted?"

The bottom line is that every soldier is responsible for their own career. That being said, there are things that soldiers can do, and should do, that will enable them to advance their career. I could fill this article and several more with all the technical details. The areas I talk about here are those I see consistently as being common reasons for a soldier's problem with getting promoted.

Private through Specialist: Do you have the time in grade (TIG) and time in service (TIS)? These are things you can't change, you either have them or you don't and they apply to all grades.

Are you MOSQ? Did you qualify with you assigned weapon? Did you pass your APFT? Are you medically qualified? Is your physical current? Are you free of legal or attendance issues?

If you can answer those questions with a yes, you have a very good chance of being promoted.

If you are looking at being promoted to sergeant or advancing in the NCO ranks, all of the above apply. However there are some other things that future and present NCOs need to be aware of.

Did you review and sign your NGB Form 4100-1-R-E, Enlisted Promotion Point Worksheet? Was it turned in on time? The 4100 is supposed to show all your education, awards, and qualifications. If it did not, did you forward the documents to make the corrections?

Was your NCOER done on time and turned in? Keep in mind that this document is only for NCOs.

Their lives and the lives of their families are forever changed. The stress and turmoil an RC soldier faces, not knowing if they will be able to support their family, or return to their job is a clear impediment to the healing process. We must do a much better job of bridging the gap from AC to RC or to VA when our soldiers are injured or wounded.

Finally we need to help heal the hidden wounds of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and post deployment re-adjustment. A recent New England Journal of Medicine Study on four battalions of Active Duty Soldiers and Marines provides valuable insight into future problems and issues. This study was done on Active Duty personnel, and I urge a study to be conducted on Reserve Component personnel who face far different circumstances as they return to their communities and not AD posts that provide services and support not found in many remote areas of Oregon.

It's imperative that we serve those who have served the nation. I take these concerns very seriously, and our organization has worked and will continue to work diligently with federal, state, and local agencies to ensure we serve the citizen-Soldiers and Airmen who serve our nation.



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

Do you have, or have you applied for a security clearance? Most NCO positions require some level of a security clearance.

Is your NCOES current for the grade you could be considered for? The rules on that have changed. The bottom line is that you must be qualified at your present grade or you will not be considered for promotion. The details are contained in the new AR 600-8-9, Chapter 7. (old NGB 600-200, chapter 11).

What I have listed here are the most common disconnects, the most basic things that soldiers need to pay attention to when they are wondering why they have not been promoted. In future issues I intend to address other issues of how you make yourself competitive and get the most out of your career in the Army National Guard.

TAG releases 'Top Ten' initiatives for command

- 1) **Personnel Readiness:** Recruiting, PMP, SRP, Medical, and Deployability.
- 2) **Mobilization:** State Support, Operation Iraqi Freedom Transition, and ANA Mission.
- 3) **Safety:** Safety Campaign Plan.
- 4) **Rear Detachment Operation:** Commander and Family Coordination linkage
- 5) **Post-Mobilization Plan:** Re-integration, Medical Support, and Veterans.
- 6) **JFHQ's/ Force Integration:** Transformation of HLS Operation.
- 7) **Logistics Management.**
- 8) **Sustaining Quality Volunteer Force:** Accession, Recruiting, Retention, Schooling and Promotion.
- 9) **Management Control Program.**
- 10) **Database Accuracy/ Security.**

Senior Non-Commissioned Officer moves

- CSM Kevin Swogger transferred to the 82nd Rear Operations Center.
- CSM Jeff Waldien transferred to 41st Brigade Combat Team.
- CSM Striley transferred to 1-186 IN BN.
- SGM Lyle Wold transferred to U.S. Army.
- SGM Michael Settels transferred to U.S. Army.
- MSG John Yost promoted to SGM, transferred to recruiting command.
- MSG (P) Steve Gates selected for CSM 141st Support Battalion.
- MSG (P) Garry Black selected for CSM for the 1249th Engineer Battalion.
- MSG (P) Ward selected for CSM 641st Medical Battalion.
- CSM Kalberg transferred to Camp Rilea Post CSM.
- CSM Neal transferred to 206th Quartermaster Battalion.
- MSG (P) Hammerlync selected for CSM 2-218.
- MSG (P) Storm selected for CSM 2-162 Infantry.
- MSG (P) Jungling selected for CSM 1-162 Infantry.

THE SENTINEL WANTS YOU!

We want your stories and 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 encouraged.

Sentry Buffett: Oregon's 173rd Fighter Wing heads to Florida for DACT training

Story by Maj. Megan Erickson,
173rd FW Public Affairs Officer

Eighty-nine members of the 173rd Fighter Wing recently participated in Operation Sentry Buffett in Key West, Fla. The operation, a nine-day training exercise which began in early January, provided three Flight Training Unit B-Course students and ten flight instructors training in Dissimilar Air Combat maneuvers.



Photo by Senior Airman Trenton L. Demaris, 173rd FW Multimedia
Tech. Sgt. Tangie Lueb inspects the vertical stabilizer of an F-15 after it returned from a training mission.

Advance party members left Kingsley Field on Jan. 3, 2005, with the remainder of the party leaving shortly thereafter. The wing sent six F-15 Eagles to Florida for the training with en-route refueling provided by KC-135s from Fairchild Air National Guard base in Washington State.

The training provided practical application of skills learned at Kingsley Field to students flying against both F-16 Falcons and F-18 Hornets, and an opportunity for instructors to brush up on their skills through continuation training.

"It's important for pilots to fly against aircraft different from their own in order to better understand air combat and what they might face in real world contingencies," said Project/Detachment Officer, Maj. Matt Andrews.

"This operation was great, we didn't miss any sorties, maintenance was great and the weather was awesome," Andrews said. "Everyone performed very well, I was very pleased with our performance."

The pilots were able to utilize Airborne Radar tracking capabilities provided by AWACS during their training.

"This was a great opportunity for the pilots, considering we don't have that type of capability at Kingsley" Andrews continued.

Training flights consisted of a fifty-fifty



Photo by Senior Airman Trenton L. Demaris, 173rd FW Multimedia

Two F-15 fighters await instructions after returning from a sortie. The constant flow of jets in and out of the area made sure that the crew chiefs and maintenance members were at the top of their game.

split between pilots from Kingsley Field and Tucson, Ariz. "Pilots took turns in Red Air and Blue Air simulation," said Chief of Airfield Management, Chief Master Sgt. James Witt.

According to Witt, deployment didn't just offer a chance for pilots to demonstrate their skills. Members of maintenance, finance, medical and even a photographer were able to deploy to Florida with the detachment and participate in operations.

"It's always a great opportunity to be able to take operations on the road," Witt said. "It's an awesome morale builder and helps to be able to work with other units to gain better training that can then be brought back home and shared with everyone."

Most attendees agreed the deployment was an overall success, and all deployed personnel and aircraft safely returned to Kingsley Field in mid-January.

142nd Fighter Wing's Redhawks deploy to Singapore for training



Maintenance personnel from the Oregon Air National Guard's 142nd Fighter Wing prepare to launch an F-15A Eagle at Paya Lebar Air Base, Republic of Singapore, during Commando Sling 05-2. Commando Sling exercises pitting U.S. aircraft against the Republic of Singapore Air Force, help to ensure stability in the region by providing training to the RSAF, and an ongoing U.S. military presence in the region.

Story and Photo by
Tech. Sgt. Todd Enlund,
Multimedia NCOIC, 142nd Fighter Wing

PAYA LEBAR AIR BASE, Republic of Singapore — The 142nd Fighter Wing deployed six F-15A Eagles and 74 personnel to train with the Republic of Singapore Air Force (RSAF) Feb. 6 - Mar. 10.

The 'Commando Sling' exercise is the result of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the United States and the Republic of Singapore, signed on Nov. 13, 1990. With four million people living in a country only 26 miles long and 14 miles wide, and possessing few natural resources, economic stability is of the utmost importance to Singapore. The MOU and U.S. military presence in the area helps to ensure their stability.

The Redhawks hit the ground running with eight sorties per day against the RSAF, despite the hot and humid weather, and logistical issues that delayed and divided the main body of maintenance personnel. Overall, Commando Sling provided a valuable training experience for the men and women of the Oregon Air National Guard, and a continuing U.S. military presence in the region.

The 497th Combat Training Squadron based at Paya Lebar Air Base in Singapore, hosts approximately six Commando Sling exercises per year. Originally a small bilateral training scenario, the exercise reached a peak in 1998 when 28 F-15s and ten support aircraft represented the U.S. Air Force.

1-162 IN BN trains at Rilea using real-world deployment experiences

Story by 115th MPAD Staff
Photo by Spec. Timothy Bemrose,
115th MPAD

CAMP RILEA, Ore. (Feb. 12, 2005) — Against the misty green backdrop of Rilea Training Site, a network of olive drab tents became a temporary home for members of the 1st Battalion, 162nd Infantry, while the unit trained in tactical operations in an urban setting.

Referred to as a Forward Operating Base, the tent city, along with the rumbling of vehicles and generators, and the crunch of tires grinding over gravel roads, set the tone for an authentic military operation.

Battalion Commander, Lt. Col. David A. Stuckey, and his staff planned the training since the unit's return from Iraq last spring. The intent was to re-focus training on individual tasks that soldiers may encounter during future deployments to the Middle East.

"Squads are the cornerstone in team building," Stuckey said. "They are the lowest echelon in the structure of a unit. It is a requirement of them to be proficient in continuity when team training."

The soldiers trained in four validation lanes — reacting to improvised explosive devices, tactical movement skills, clearing

buildings in an urban setting, and traffic control points.

Sgt. 1st Class Frank J. Tallman, Operations Sergeant Major believes the training is a chance for soldiers to excel.

"This operation gives the squad leaders a chance to prove that their group is capable of skillfully executing maneuvers in a tactical environment," Tallman said.

The training began with a convoy from the FOB to a fictional city. Along the way, the convoy was prepared to encounter a number of scenarios including sniper fire, IEDs and unexploded ordnance. Once they reached the city, soldiers dismounted and cleared buildings. A few of the difficulties they encountered involved separating civilians from combatants while searching for weapons caches, dealing with IEDs, identifying counterfeit money, and a number of other threats. Once the buildings were clear, scouts transported enemy prisoners of war to confinement and evacuated both friendly and enemy casualties.

At the traffic control point, soldiers searched drivers and vehicles for contraband, while a checkpoint commander kept in contact with headquarters.

"This is real world training, this is what we need to be doing," said Staff Sgt. Peter

B. Seaberg, B Co. 1-162 IN BN.

During the training, opposing forces consisted of soldiers that portrayed Middle Eastern civilians and combatants. Many of the Training Evaluators had been to Iraq, including a few soldiers from 2-162 IN BN Infantry, who have returned early from Iraq due to injuries. Each of them added their personal deployment experiences to the scenarios, providing a realistic feel to the training.

"It's as realistic as you can get to [actual] deployment," said Sgt. Jonathon Buck, C-Company 1-162 IN BN, who returned from Iraq last spring.

"You have to take this training seriously, in your mind you have to think that these could be live rounds." He said.

Another aspect of the training that utilized experience gained on actual deployments was the use of a Tube Launched, Optically Tracked, Wire Command Link or 'TOW' missile. Delta Company used the TOW equipment to provide security for the squads during the exercise. Delta shadowed the squads into the target town to deal with any threats small arms fire couldn't handle.

"This is the first time for this Battalion, since the soldiers returned from deploy-

ment, that we've done a joint operation involving the TOW element," said Capt. Scot Caughran, B Co. Commander.



A squad comprised of members from the 1-162 IN BN prepares to enter a building during the urban operation segment of their training at the Rilea Training Site on Feb. 12.

Oregon's Governor proposes state help for deployed guardmembers and their families



Photo courtesy of the Governor's Office

Oregon State Governor, Ted Kulongoski

Prepared by the office of Governor Kulongoski

SALEM, ORE. — (Feb. 22, 2005) — Governor Ted Kulongoski set forth a series of measures designed to support Oregonians who are on overseas active duty deployment. Kulongoski identified six ways to help the National Guard and their families, and to honor veterans. He welcomed legislation to accomplish the objectives he proposed.

“This is about Oregon taking care of the Oregonians who have sacrificed so much for our country,” said Kulongoski, standing with Senate President Peter Courtney, House Speaker Karen Minnis, Representative Jeff Kropf and other legislators.

“It is a bipartisan effort to relieve the bur-

den on our deployed service members and their families,” the governor continued.

Some of the measures proposed by the governor include:

- All seven of Oregon's public universities have pledged to waive all tuition costs not already covered by federal government tuition benefits.

- The Fish and Wildlife Commission is establishing a rule so that deployed guardsmen and women who cannot apply for fishing and hunting tags will not lose their place in the lottery for such tags. Also, men and women in the Oregon National Guard will not have to pay for the hunting and fishing licenses for which they apply.

- The Parks Department will give free snow passes or park passes to families of the Oregon National Guard.

- The Oregon Department of Transportation will provide vehicle registration for the families of soldiers deployed to Iraq, Afghanistan and the Middle East free of charge for the duration of that deployment.

- The Governor has recommended that the State of Oregon use a portion of the funds set aside in the Governor's budget to acquire \$250,000 life insurance policies for National Guard soldiers deploying to Iraq, Afghanistan and the Middle East through Servicemen's Group Life Insurance, a program made available through the Federal Government.

“The least we can do for our brave veterans is to help their families and honor them upon their return. I look forward to working on this package with the legislature,” Kulongoski said.

Oregon National Guard helps raise money for the Governor's Food Drive

Story by Spec. April Dustin, State Public Affairs Office

“Good morning, can I see your ID?” said Lt. Col. Mark Rathburn.

Rathburn received many puzzled looks and questions as drivers pulled up to the front gate at the Oregon Military Department in Salem on February 18. They were all wondering what the Deputy Director of Operations was doing checking identification at the gate.

“I'm just doing the job I was purchased for on the auction block,” Rathburn explained. “I'm completing my obligation in support of a great cause.”

Rathburn was one of fifteen officers auctioned off by Maj. Kevin Dial, Executive Officer for the 1249th Battalion, on Feb. 17 as “helpers for a day” to raise donations for the Governor's Annual Food Drive. Joint Force Headquarters employees gathered on the drill floor to purchase chili dogs and bid on their favorite lieutenant colonels and “full-birds.” The officers were then indebted to perform manual labor tasks for the highest bidder.

“How often do you see a colonel working for a sergeant, it's a beautiful thing,” said Sgt. Raymond Barrientos, a gate guard at the Military Department.

Barrientos said the Security Forces soldiers pooled their money together to afford

three of the officers, Col. Larry Studer, Army Chief of Staff, Col. Bruce Marshall, Joint Chief of Staff, and Rathburn.

“He [Rathburn] is doing a great job — he has a great attitude about it,” said Barrientos.

Capt. Kim York, Transportation Officer for DOL, said the idea for the auction came about through focusing on the desires and needs of the audience and then formulating a plan.

“Every soldier or technician would love to be in charge for a day,” said York. “What better way to do that than ask the colonels or bosses to be their helpers.”

Capt. Brandy Kloock, Fiscal Analyst for USPFO, said she purchased many of the officers to teach them the complexities of contracting procedures. She walked away from the auction with three helpers: Col. Gale Sears, Director of Logistics; Lt. Col. Raymond Meyer, Active Guard Reserve Manager; and Chief Warrant Officer 4 Floyd Bard, Information Technology Supervisor.

Many other helpers were also auctioned, including Col. Cameron Crawford, Deputy Commander 41st Brigade; Col. Simsundareth Tan, Deputy Commander 82nd Brigade; Col. Charles Yriarte, Director of Personnel; Col. Robert Rhen, USPFO; and Mr. Dennis Gately, Accounting Officer for USPFO.

Initially, the luncheon and auction raised just over \$2,000. A few of those who were

auctioned off matched their bid amounts with cash donations bringing the amount raised by the auction to just over \$2,700. According to Tracy Ann Gill, Executive Assistant to the Adjutant General's Office, the dollar amount is equal to 16,200 pounds of food.

“The response has been tremendous,” Gill said.

“I hope the results from this year's drive encourage departments to challenge each other next year,” she continued.

“As war-fighter logisticians we can ill afford to lose in ‘support’ of the Governor's Food Drive,” said York. “We never imagined it going this far and we are happy to have raised the bar.”

York said she hopes that the success of this year will foster enthusiasm for future Governor's Food Drives amongst the JFHQ and separate brigades.

Other events were held to support the Food Drive throughout the month of Feb-



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

Lt. Col. Mark Rathburn surprised more than a few Military Department employees arriving for work, as he pulled duty as a gate guard at the JFHQ building on Feb. 18. Several Directorates, including Rathburn were auctioned to JFHQ employees, with proceeds going toward the Governor's Food Drive.

ruary, including a silent auction of items donated by the USPFO staff, donations of food items, jerky and candy sales, and cash donations from Military Department staff.

The total amount of food and donations from the Oregon Military Department was over 38,000 pounds — more than double of last year's contribution to the Oregon Food Banks.

Pendleton aviation maintenance unit returns home to Oregon

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

PENDLETON, ORE — About 50 guests welcomed home the L-Co., 151st Aviation Maintenance Unit to Pendleton's Army National Guard Aviation Facility in Pendleton, Ore., on Feb. 24, 2005.

Guest speakers included Craig Campbell, Senior Policy Advisor to Governor Ted Kulongoski, Brig. Gen. Raymond C. Byrne, Jr., Acting Adjutant General for the Oregon National Guard, Col. George Lanning, Commander of the 82nd Brigade Troop Command, and Philip Houk, Mayor of Pendleton.

“Because of your efforts, you made sure that other soldiers could return home safely.” Said Craig Campbell.

Byrne called the day ‘truly blessed’ welcoming the unit back to Oregon.

“You have continued the legacy of the citizen-soldier, performing in an outstanding manner.” Byrne said. “America and the world are much safer.”

Of the 14 soldiers who were originally deployed to Iraq, two are still on medical hold at Ft. Sill, Okla., and will return to Oregon when they have been cleared by Army Medical personnel.

In order to achieve 80-percent manning, the unit gathered soldiers from Oregon, Montana, South Carolina, Texas, Ohio, and Iowa. Soldiers traveled to Ft. Knox, Ky., for mobilization training before forward deploying to Kuwait.

The unit arrived at Camp Anaconda, Iraq on Feb. 29, 2004, falling under the 1-142nd AVIM Battalion from New York, the 185th Aviation Group from Mississippi, and the



Capt. Donald Benson, Company Commander, Det.-2 L-Co., 151st Aviation, accepts a plaque from Craig Campbell, Senior Policy Advisor for Gov. Ted Kulongoski, at the unit's demobilization ceremony in Pendleton, Ore., on Feb. 24.

Third Corps.

The unit provided maintenance support for every type of Army rotary-wing aircraft in theater, including UH-60 Blackhawk, CH-47 Chinook, OH-84 Kiowa, and AH-64 Apache helicopters. The unit also retrieved and repaired three UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters damaged in battle.

In all, Detachment 2 completed over 20,000 work orders, dispatching repair teams to Mosul, Babylon, Baghdad, and Talil to support other detachments and complete repairs and maintenance.

ORARNG soldier awarded Silver Star for heroic efforts following attack

Story by Maj. Arnold V. Strong, State Public Affairs Officer

BAGHDAD, IRAQ — Sgt. Matthew Zedwick of Bend, Ore., was awarded the Silver Star on Feb. 9, for heroic actions under hostile enemy fire during an incident June 13, 2004.

Maj. Gen. Pete Chiarelli, Commander of the 1st Cavalry Division presented the medal to Zedwick during an award ceremony. While it is customary for the recipient to salute the officer presenting the award, Chiarelli instead raised his hand in salute to Zedwick.

“My father won the Silver Star in World War II, and he was my hero. I am so very honored to be in your presence. I salute you.”

Zedwick was the driver of the third vehicle in a four-vehicle convoy on patrol North of Camp Taji, Iraq when a car bomb detonated nearby, destroying his HMMWV. The blast killed his gunner and severely wounded the vehicle's commander. Despite sustaining extensive wounds himself, Zedwick pulled the commander from the burning vehicle, and dragged him to safety.

Ignoring a volley of small arms fire coming from nearby insurgents, Zedwick ran back to the burning HMMWV to try to retrieve the gunner's body. With the vehicle engulfed in flames, and insurgents' bullets ricocheting all around him, Zedwick managed to retrieve weapons and the radio before spare ammunition in the vehicle began to explode.

Zedwick returned to safety with the sensitive items, and continued to administer first aid to his injured commander. In spite of his own wounds, Zedwick defended their position against enemy fire until assistance arrived and they were both evacuated to a nearby medical facility.

The Silver Star is awarded to persons cited for bravery during action against hostile forces. It is the highest award a soldier can receive after the Medal of Honor.



Photo by Maj. Arnold V. Strong, State Public Affairs Officer

Maj. Gen. Pete Chiarelli (l.), presents the Silver Star to Sgt. Matthew Zedwick at a ceremony on Feb. 9.

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Oregon's 2nd Battalion, 162nd Infantry:

Over 18 months, soldiers make a huge impact on Iraqi people and the world



Children holding hand-painted signs await the order that will release their family member from formation. Approximately 1,500 people packed the Wilson Gymnasium at Ft. Lewis, Wash. over two days to welcome home members of the 2nd Battalion, 162nd Infantry from duty in Iraq.

Continued from FRONT PAGE

"I'm going to call them to attention, then I'm going to dismiss them," Pritt continued. "And the first person that runs me over is in big trouble."

What followed could easily be described as pandemonium as loved ones rushed down out of the bleachers to find their soldiers. There were more than enough hugs and kisses to go around, as spouses searched for each other, and fathers and mothers found sons. The 18-month wait for loved ones to return from overseas was overwhelming for some.

"When I was finally able to put my arms around him, I didn't want to let go." Said Kathy Ryland of Camas, Wash., as she embraced her husband, Sgt. 1st Class George Ryland. "I didn't sleep very well last night, and I had trouble concentrating at work today."

The soldiers who comprise this unit come from more than 140 communities throughout Oregon, Southwest Washington, and northern California. The mobilization of just over 700 soldiers makes this the largest deployment of Oregon soldiers since World War II. Many in the unit actually volunteered for duty in the Middle East, further strengthening the unit's motto of the "Volunteers".

The unit was mobilized in Oct. 2003, and after training and integration into the 1st Cavalry in Ft. Hood, Texas, they were forward deployed to areas in and around Baghdad. Over the course of the next year, the unit would help neutralize enemy fighters and Iraqi insurgents, as well as locating tons of cached weapons used to make im-



Photo by Spec. Matthew Marcott, 115th MPAD

Chartered busses make their way through town on their way to the Eugene Army. Eugene Police Officers and several local Harley-Davidson motorcycle riders provided the escort.

proved explosive devices (IEDs).

Members of the unit also saw some of the fiercest fighting during the war — in the towns of Fallujah and Najaf — names which conjure images of street-level fighting and still photos bathed in the green glow of night-vision goggles. Their accomplishments would grace the covers of numerous national and international publications ranging from USA Today and the New York Times to Time Magazine and The Army Times. The now-famous and readily recognizable "Sunset patch" would be seen countless times on the nightly television news, and in a myriad reports coming out of Iraq.

However, the unit would have to balance its accomplishments in Iraq with the highest number of casualties of any of the Oregon National Guard units. In all, nine individuals would perish at the hand of the insurgents' bullets and bombs — 1st Lt. Erik McCrae, Sgt. Justin Eyerly, Spec. Justin Linden, Spec. Eric McKinley, Spec. Ken Leisten, Staff Sgt. David Weisenberg, Sgt. Ben Isenberg, Sgt. David Johnson, and Sgt. David Roustum from the 42nd Brigade, New York Army National Guard.

After the returning soldiers spent several



Scott Gallagher (l.), Director of Marketing, and Russ Menegat (r.), Regional Manager of Rogue Ales, show off their Sunset Ale, commemorating the 2-162 IN BN.

days out-processing at Ft. Lewis, Wash., where they received medical checkups, turned in their weapons, and attended debriefings, they loaded onto chartered buses and made their way to their respective armories to be reunited with awaiting family members. They were escorted by members of various local Harley-Davidson motorcycle clubs, and the Oregon State Police.

As news spread about the unit's return to Oregon, community support began to pour in — literally.

"Rogue has always supported the military in the past," said Scott Gallagher, Director of Marketing for Rogue Ales. "We're an Oregon company and these are returning Oregon soldiers, and this was our way to say thank you for their time and effort."

Rogue Ales, a local microbrewery based in Newport, Ore., produced a limited production run (only 90 cases, according to Gallagher), of an ale which commemorates the 2-162 IN BN. The "Sunset Ale" features a commemorative bottle design featuring two soldiers, and unit patches of the 41st Brigade, the 1st Cavalry, the 39th Brigade Combat Team and the Combat Infantry Badge.

"We wanted to do something that the soldiers could hold onto and be proud of," Gallagher said. "Something to show their kids and their family — to say I was there, I did my part. And we make beer, so we did what we do best."

Representatives from Rogue then distributed one free bottle of beer, and a collector's edition pint glass to each of the returning soldiers at the demobilization ceremony held March 31 in Salem.

"They did what their country asked of them, and we did this to say thank you. We wanted to buy them their first beer upon their return," Gallagher continued.

Approximately four thousand family and friends packed into the new pavilion at



Governor Ted Kulongoski addresses the soldiers, and a crowd of almost 4,000 family and friends, at the 2-162 demobilization ceremony March 31.

the Oregon State Fairgrounds to officially demobilize members of the unit. Governor Ted Kulongoski, U.S. Representative Peter DeFazio (D-Ore.), Oregon Secretary of State Bill Bradbury, Brig. Gen. Raymond C. Byrne, Jr., Acting Adjutant General for the Oregon National Guard, and Lt. Col. Daniel Hendrickson, commander of the 2-162 IN BN spoke to the crowd.

The Red Lion Hotel of Salem, hosted a buffet dinner the night before, complete with live entertainment. The hotel also set aside a number of rooms for soldiers who were from outlying areas.

Bob Okeson, Director of Sales and Marketing for the Salem Red Lion Hotel, contacted a number of local vendors who turned out to be enthusiastic about lending their support for the event. He and his staff spent most of the preceding week organizing the event.

"The support we received was overwhelming," Okeson said. "Once we explained what we were doing, most of them simply asked, 'What do you need?'"

"Personally, the whole thing was overwhelming," Okeson continued. "I'm a Vietnam veteran, and when I came back there wasn't much of a welcome at all. I promised myself it would never happen again. This whole thing has been a personal healing for me."

There have been many questions about how to transition the returning soldiers back into their families, communities and jobs. A team was recently formed with the intent of helping to make that transition as smooth as possible. One part of this transition is dedicated to employment.

The Career Transition Assistance Program (CTAP), is chartered to help connect local employers and returning soldiers eager to find work. The team is headed by Capt. Jeff Croy, and J.D. Baucom is the program specialist.

"There has been a tremendous amount of interest from Oregon businesses, especially the small 'mom and pop' operations," said Baucom. "The program is progressing much

faster than we originally anticipated."

According to Baucom, the program is currently targeted at soldiers who are returning from deployment, but stresses the resources are available to all Oregon National Guard members.

"All guardsmen are subject to deployment, so we want to try to help everyone we can," Baucom said.

The team is currently working on a web site in conjunction with the Reintegration Team, which will list available jobs, and will be open to review by prospective employers and employees. Several non-commissioned officers on the team have been trained to assist soldiers with building a resume, or with interviewing techniques. Further support is provided by representatives from the Department of Veteran's Affairs, and the Department of Labor.

Another area where the Reintegration Team and the Family Support Groups can help is when soldiers transition back into their personal relationships with family members. After being in a war-zone for any length of time, many soldiers may find the 'quiet' of family life a bit disconcerting.

"We've done this before when he returned from the Sinai with the 1-186," Ryland said, still in her husband's embrace. "Our family is very excited to get back to the business of living."

If you have questions regarding the Career Transition Assistance Program, contact either Capt. Jeff Croy at 503-584-2389, or J.D. Baucom at 503-584-2393.

If you would like to take advantage of the reintegration and transition resources available to soldiers and their families, contact any member of the Family Support Program, listed on the next page.

Rogue Ales is planning a community party to again say thank you to the Oregon National Guard and their families. It will be held at the Eugene City Brewery in Eugene, Ore. sometime in early July. Look for details in upcoming issues of the **Oregon Sentinel**.



Lt. Col. Dan Hendrickson, Commander of the 2-162 IN BN addresses the crowd and the assembled soldiers at the demobilization ceremony at the Salem Fairgrounds, March 31.

Team formed to help returning soldiers reintegrate 'back into' thier lives

Continued from FRONT PAGE

"Our soldiers have done a great job of serving our country, now we need to do the right thing and provide our services to them," said Col. (Ret.) Scott McCrae, Reintegration Team Director.

Developed in February, the Reintegration Team is designed specifically to help Oregon Guardsmen. The team consists of the Director, Executive Officer Lt. Kevin Ressel, and Legislative Liason Lt. Peter Wood. Rounding out the team are 1st. Sgt. (Ret.) Ray Lewallen and Sgt. 1st Class Phillip "Vince" Jacques.

"We will do whatever it takes to assist commanders and soldiers in transitioning back to their families, jobs, school and communities," said McCrae.

The team has been working with legislative offices and civilian and military agencies on local, state and federal levels, to gather resources that will assist the soldiers adjust to life back home. These resources have been compiled into a Resource Manual that commanders and soldiers can access through a web site or 24 hour help-line.

"We want to provide them with the specific assistance they need in the easiest possible manner," McCrae said.

The Reintegration Resource Manual fulfills almost every need a soldier may have, including housing, finance, family issues, childcare, unemployment, legal topics,

and tax assistance. The manual provides information on Veterans Affairs benefits, hospitals, health facilities and procedures for filing VA claims, as well as Tricare/ Triwest eligibility and enrollment. It also contains education information for the Montgomery GI Bill and the Tuition Assistance Program, with contact information for a VA Representative at every college and university in the state.

"We can refer them to the right people who can answer their questions and assist them with their specific needs without a lot of hassle," said McCrae.

According to McCrae, the Reintegration Team doesn't replace the chain of command or assistance agencies that are already in place. It is a help desk to point commanders and soldiers in the right direction. One of the team's charters is to actively work with unit commanders to bring subject matter experts from appropriate assistance agencies into the armories to conduct workshops and seminars.

"It is the job of the unit commanders to take care of their soldiers and we want to help them do that," McCrae said. "All they have to do is give us the time, the place, and the soldiers."

McCrae said one issue soldiers and their families will have to face is mental health. He said recent national statistics show just under 20 percent of Iraq veterans who have been in combat seek help for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. Soldiers seeking counseling can consult with their unit chaplain, Army One Source, or VA health facilities.

"Every one of the 2-162 soldiers are going to exhibit some mental stress because they have been in the most dangerous combat situations in Baghdad and the Sunni Triangle, where they saw combat daily," McCrae said. "We put them in harms way, so we need to be responsible for helping them resolve any issues they might have."

The Reintegration Team has been working closely with the Family Support Program to ensure soldiers and their families are receiving the same assistance information.

"Our first task is to catch up with what the Family Program has already been providing for family members while the soldiers have been gone," said McCrae.

The team will also be working with the new Career Transition Assistance Program, established by Recruiting and Retention Command to help soldiers find jobs. CTAP is coordinating with the Oregon Department of Labor, and the Oregon State Employ-



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

ment Office to offer employment assistance through job fairs, resume writing, and job searches. There are eight recruiters focused on guiding soldiers through retention, career management, and job networking.

"The Career Transition Assistance Program is the first in the nation of it's kind," said Lt. Col. Leah Sundquist, Recruiting and Retention Commander.

The program has two full time personnel, Capt. Jeffrey Croy and Mr. J.D. Baucom, who are gathering information on businesses with job vacancies for veterans. They will also soon create a web site where employers can link up with soldiers looking for employment opportunities.

"Soldiers have skill sets that translate into civilian jobs because there's no place that teaches responsibility and leadership better than the military," McCrae said. "Employers have been stepping up to the plate and offering jobs to our vets."

Employers are not the only members of the community that have been offering to help the reintegration process. Team mem-

ber, Sgt. 1st Class Phillip Vince Jacques said chambers of commerce, city mayors, congressmen, senators, community groups, clubs, and businesses have generously offered to help. He started working on reintegration issues shortly after returning home from Iraq due to injuries. He and many of his fellow injured soldiers, know as the Blasted Brothers, have been networking with people all over the state to ensure their comrades would have every chance to be successful upon their return.

"Our main effort was to ensure soldiers returning from combat would have housing, employment and counseling. Then it ballooned into whatever else they might need — you name it, we've covered it," said Jacques. "The people of our communities have been nothing short of outstanding."

To contact the Reintegration Team for assistance visit www.org-vets.org or call the 24-hour Helpline at 1-888-688-2264. For employment assistance contact the Career Transition Assistance Program at 503-584-2389.



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

Flags planted along the route near the Jackson Armory in north Portland show community support for returning soldiers.

Family Program ready to assist with returning soldiers' transition

Contributed by Diane Gooding, State Family Program Director

The vision of the Oregon National Guard Family Program is: "Oregon National Guard Families are Ready, Resilient, and Self-Reliant".

In order to support this vision, the Program has several Family Assistance Centers available throughout the state to assist families of deployed military members. These "FACs" provide information and referral services to military families, and can direct individuals to resources for pay problems, legal issues, emergency assistance, financial assistance, childcare, and counseling information. Family Assistance Centers are not limited to Guard use only — they are all joint service operations and will assist all military members or their families.

Listed below are the Family Assistance Centers and the personnel available to help:

Location	Family Assistance Specialist	Phone Number
Eugene	Darcy Woodke	541-686-0415
Florence	Laura Boggs	541-997-2008
Hermiston	Tanna Bales	541-567-9175
LaGrande	Susie Sheehy	541-963-4221
Salem	Donna Duquette (ID Cards Only)	503-584-3679
Bend/Redmond	Meredith Browning	541-383-0970
Portland	Victoria Armpriest	503-740-2974
Klamath Falls	Barbara McClenathan	541-882-4182
Clackamas	Jill Graves	503-557-5339

There are also three permanent members of the Family Program:

Location	Name	Phone Number
Salem	Diane Gooding (Director)	503-584-3543
142 FW (PANG-B)	Mary Bell	503-335-4193
173 FW (K-Falls)	Tami Narramore	541-885-6112

The Family Program acts as a liaison between the military and the family, helping to ease the strain of deployment, to answer questions that families have regarding the military and to provide a support network for family members.

Retired BG welcomes home troops in person

On March 17th and 18th, I was honored to represent each of you in greeting the members of Oregon's 2nd Battalion, 162nd Infantry as they arrived from combat duty in Iraq.

They came into McChord AFB in three flights over a two-day period. They arrived to the kind of fanfare and welcome ceremony befitting the occasion. The news media had made coverage of the Battalion's return a priority and did an excellent job of turning out in force.

The Battalion, a group of approximately 700 soldiers, distinguished themselves in accomplishing every mission assigned to them in an exemplary manner. They keep their heads down and their spirits up. They watched each other's backs and they displayed great teamwork. In myriad missions that included training Iraqi soldiers, serving as the 1st Cavalry Division's Immediate Reaction Force, and in patrolling and in combat, they established a record equaled by very few. They also went beyond what was expected of them to make life better for Iraqi children and families.

Following a 16- to 18-hour flight, the aircraft circled in preparation for the McChord landing. Military leaders, deployment personnel, wounded unit soldiers, and VIP's formed a reception line to render them the honors that were due. As the ramp rolled into place and the aircraft doors opened, the soldiers were first greeted by Customs and Agriculture inspectors, and then by a quick meeting with Brigadier General Doug Pritt, the 41st Brigade Commander. Then the moment arrived that they were waiting for. They started down the ramp with M-4 carbines slung over one shoulder and Combat Infantry Badges stitched on their desert camo uniforms. Handshakes and hugs were punctuated with shouts of "Welcome Home!" and "Thank you for your Service!"

It seemed very appropriate that Congresswoman Darlene Hooley took her place next to the ramp in welcoming soldiers, because she did so much to support them during the deployment.

The soldiers were tired but polite, and very, very glad to be close to home. They were driven to North Fort Lewis and marched into the gym to the strains of the 1st Corps Band. The Band played "I'm proud to be an American" as they entered, and the audience went wild with cheering and applause. They were soon released to their families and the excited reunions began. I am sure that the tears in our eyes were simply a result of standing for so long in the cold on the tarmac at McChord.

By the way, after we greeted one group of soldiers, we checked to ensure that all had departed the aircraft. The crew advised that all of the Oregon Guardsmen were off the plane, but that other soldiers were still aboard. No one had to say anything, we all remembered the way our military members were treated during Viet Nam. So, we swung back into line and heartily welcomed Reservists from Indiana, Wisconsin, Oregon, and other states...much to their surprise.

Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Norm Hoffman,
Chairperson, Retiree Council

E-Troop, 82nd CAV gains valuable training while 'playing' in the sand

Dunes on Oregon coast provide perfect backdrop for training in a desert environment



Spec. Michael Siebold (driving), Spec. Brian Tarvin (standing in the turret), and Spec. Justin Pickett (right passenger) from E-Troop, 82nd Cavalry crest a sand dune in their HMMWV during an exercise at the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area in Florence, Ore. on March 12.

Story and photos by Spec. April Dustin, 115th MPAD

"Red Three this is Red Two... we're moving," Spec. Justin Pickett said into the radio.

A scout and HMMWV Tank Commander for E-Troop, 82nd Cavalry, Pickett then looked over at his driver. "Ok, Siebold, you better gun it this time or we won't get over that hill."

The hill was a large sand dune with an almost vertical incline. To make it over the crest would require all the horsepower the HMMWV could muster, and a fair amount

of intestinal fortitude from the soldiers on board.

The scenario could have easily been taking place in the deserts of the Middle East, but today's operation was being conducted a little closer to home. Members of E-Troop, 82nd Cavalry were conducting mounted maneuvers at the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area in Florence, Ore. on March 12. Training at the Oregon Dunes allowed the soldiers to experience an environment much like the terrain they could expect to encounter on a deployment.

"The real world application of the training is preparation for Iraq or Afghanistan," said

Capt. Doug Bragg, E-Troop Commander. "The troops need to get accustomed to driving in the sand, navigating sand dunes and conducting reconnaissance on a very large open area," Bragg continued.

"Here we go," Pickett said to Spec. Brian Tarvin who was standing in the open turret of the HMMWV scanning the horizon with binoculars. "Hold on."

Tarvin set down the binoculars and braced himself against the metal frame of the turret.

Spec. Michael Siebold put the vehicle in gear, stepped on the gas and revved up the engine. The HMMWV seemed to defy gravity as it accelerated up the steep hill, with nothing but blue sky through the view of the front windshield. Once they reached the top, the soldiers burst into laughter releasing their adrenaline rush as they celebrated their accomplishment.

"Ok guys, we can't stay up here on the skyline, let's get down in that valley over there," said Pickett.

The mission required scouts to search for enemy activity while bounding from dune to dune and trying to avoid giving away their position. They used land navigation and radio communication to send reports to each element of the operation.

Siebold took his foot off the brake and the vehicle charged down the other side of the sand dune. It plowed through a rift of soft sand and came to a stop at the base of the hill, sending a plume of dust lingering through the air like a cloud of smoke.

"Red Three this is Red Two, we're set," Pickett radioed.

During the maneuvers, scouts were able to practice reconnaissance tactics while navigating the dunes in their HMMWVs.

"It's good to see new terrain," Pickett said. "It was tough to maneuver, but we made it through."

"We're teaching them the skills they need to stay alive in a mounted combat environment," said Lt. Jonathan West, Executive Officer.

"It's important for every cavalryman to know how to get around on the battlefield and the humvee is how we do that, so they need to be 100 percent proficient on that vehicle," West said.

According to West, the sand dunes also provide an opportunity for the soldiers to learn the capabilities of their vehicles. Most importantly, the exercise tests their driving skills.

"For drivers, this was the best training scenario they could ever have," Pickett said. "I think the experience gave them a feel for the humvees and what they can do."



Spec. Michael Siebold, of E-Troop 82nd Cavalry, is caught during a 'reflective moment' during maneuver operations at the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area in Florence, Ore. on March 12.

3-116 Soldiers deliver toys in goodwill gesture

Story by Capt. Monte C. Hibbert, 116th Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs

TOBZAWA, Iraq - Iraqi and coalition forces delivered stuffed animals donated by Americans to disadvantaged children in the small village of Tobzawa, Iraq, March 9.

The combined force, including soldiers of the 116th Brigade Combat Team's Task Force 3-116 Armor, headquartered in La Grande, Oregon, delivered over 150 toys in an effort to improve relationships between themselves and community members in this small community southwest of Kirkuk.

"The children in the village of Tobzawa are extremely poor and have very little to play with," said 2nd Lt. Joshua McLaughlin, a fire support officer with B Co., TF 3-116 Armor who helped deliver the toys. "The children were very excited to receive the new toys and these efforts continue to strengthen the relationship between the Iraqi Army, coalition forces, and local citizens."

The stuffed animals were donated by Americans through Operation Crayon, a program through which individuals and organizations donate school supplies, toys and other items for distribution by military personnel to children. According to TF 3-116 soldiers, toys are not the only things being delivered.

"We make it a point to hit every village in our operations area with something like this," said McLaughlin. "We have also distributed water, candy and other items. We just built 125 packets of school supplies for giving out."

Besides the 3rd Armor Battalion, the 116th Brigade Combat Team is also comprised of headquarters and staff sections, the 2nd Armor Battalion, the 1-148th Field Artillery Battalion, the 1-163rd Mechanized Infantry Battalion, the 145th Support Battalion, the 116th Engineer Battalion, and various intelligence, signal, and specialized units. The 116th BCT is one of several Army National Guard units deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom III.



2nd Lt. Joshua McLaughlin, a fire support officer with the 116th Brigade Combat Team's Task Force 3-116 Armor, hands a stuffed animal to the Tobzawa village leader's daughter during a visit March 9.

Hundreds of Beanie Babies will deploy to Iraq



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

Kay Fristad of JFHQ's Public Affairs Office, (background), sorts through hundreds of Beanie Babies donated by Jean Dively of Salem, Ore. The toys will soon be boxed up and shipped to Iraq for distribution among Iraqi children.

Prepared by Sentinel Staff

SALEM, Ore. - As it turns out, soldiers and airmen are not the only ones pulling duty overseas.

As part of an effort to help Iraqi children regain a bit of their childhood after years of political and social turmoil, hundreds of Beanie Babies and other stuffed animals are being donated to the Oregon National Guard.

The toys will be sorted, boxed up, and sent to Oregon National Guard troops for distribution to Iraqi children living in and around Baghdad, according to Kay Fristad, Joint Forces Headquarters Public Affairs spokesperson.

"This is one of those great things the community does to help us and the Iraqi people," Fristad said. "It shows that no matter what political or social beliefs people have, they still want to reach out and help."

Jean Dively, of Salem, Ore., and her husband had been collecting the toys for decades as a hobby. After her husband's death in 2003, she decided to donate the collection to a worthy cause, with some of them going to a local church group, and the rest to the Oregon National Guard.

"I'm truly glad the toys are going to [the] Iraqi children. They're brand new — no one has ever played with them. I couldn't think of a better place for them to go," Dively said.

"They [the soldiers] will use these toys to help establish a relationship with the Iraqi children," Fristad said. "Then hopefully they will trust our soldiers enough to pass along information about insurgents and IEDs. That little bit of trust can save a lot of lives. And to think it all started with a toy."

"Sometimes the smallest of things will put a smile on someone's face," Dively added.

Warren: 'A heroic son of La Grande'



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

Brig. Gen. Raymond C. Byrne, Jr. (r.) presents Sgt. 1st Class Warren's sons with his awards. From l to r: 1st Lt. Christopher Warren, Michael, and Ryan (center).

Prepared by Sentinel Staff

LA GRANDE, Ore. — Sgt. 1st Class Mark C. Warren died Jan. 31 from non-combat related causes while on duty in Iraq with Eastern Oregon's 3rd Battalion, 116th Cavalry Armored. His son, 1st Lt. Christopher Warren, was also on duty with the 3rd Battalion in Kirkuk, Iraq, and he escorted his father home to render full military honors and bid a final farewell with his family.

Nearly four hundred friends, family, and military and civilian coworkers attended a late-morning memorial service held at the Oregon National Guard Armory in La Grande on Feb. 11. Warren, 44, who joined the Marines and served a four-year active duty tour starting in 1981, joined the Oregon National Guard in 1990. Warren worked as a conductor for the Union Pacific Railroad before his unit was activated.

Oregon Governor Ted Kulongoski, a fellow Marine, said Warren was, "...a shining star of the Oregon National Guard and heroic son of La Grande."

The governor also noted that Warren will be remembered for his hard work, loyalty, leadership, patriotism, and for taking care of his soldiers and coworkers.

"Although he is gone, his good deeds remain" said Kulongoski.

Also attending the service were Maj. Gen. Lawrence F. Lafrenz, Adjutant General of the Idaho National Guard, and Brig. Gen. Raymond C. Byrne, Jr., acting Adjutant General of the Oregon National Guard. The 3rd Battalion, 116th Cavalry is assigned to the Idaho National Guard's 116th Brigade Combat Team in Iraq.

Warren is survived by his sons 1st Lt. Christopher Warren, Michael Warren, and Ryan Warren, his former wife Carol Anne Warren, and his mother Wanda Davies, all of La Grande, Ore.

Oregon Soldiers now part of Iraq's history

Continued from FRONT PAGE

filled Iraqi police and army posts during Sunday's historic vote.

Iraqi police and Iraqi army personnel provided the primary security at polling locations, while coalition soldiers filled in the security gaps left behind and aided in augmenting the beefed-up security plan for the occasion.

The soldiers here were well aware that they were part of history. Just days before the election, the area's top Army leaders encouraged the 116th and 2nd BCT soldiers to take pride in the role they were to play in securing the election for all Iraqis.

"I remind my soldiers that they are part of history, and everything they see or do during these times, they will carry with them forever," said Brig. Gen. Alan Gayhart, 116th BCT commander. "They are part of the birth of a new, democratic nation."

The commander of the Hawaii-based 2nd BCT, Col. Lloyd Miles, recently distributed a letter to all U.S. Army troops in Area of Operations (AO) Warrior, which includes Kirkuk and Sulaymaniyah Provinces.

"The vast majority of Iraqis want to vote and to exercise a power they have never known before," Miles wrote in the letter.

Miles, who commanded AO Warrior until he officially passed the torch to Brig. Gen. Alan Gayhart in February, cited the U.S. Constitution as well as President John F. Kennedy in support of standing by the Iraqis on election day.

"So, on Election Day, we will stand with the Iraqis who are willing to risk the bullets and bombs to vote, and we will protect them as much as we can," said Miles in the concluding paragraph of his letter. "We cannot and will not let the Iraqis take this walk alone."

The months of preparation on the part of election officials, the interim Iraqi government and coalition forces paid off on Sunday, when voter turnout was higher and the number of terrorist attacks was lower than some expected. Iraqi nationals who participated in the process were happy to finally have the freedom to vote their

conscience.

"The election was a very good victory for all Iraqi nationals," said Iraqi National Waseem Ramiz by phone after casting his vote. "I would say at least 60-percent of Iraqis participated in the election."

Ramiz, an Iraqi Assyrian Christian who lives in Kirkuk, was also impressed by how smoothly the process went.

"The process was very normal and easy. Each person was only there from five to ten minutes, depending on the polling site," said Ramiz. "Everyone that didn't participate is a loser—he lost his rights."

Karso Awat, a voter from the largely Kurdish province of Sulaymaniyah, gave his aging grandmother a ride to the polls so she could exercise her new right.

"My emotion is very big. I see people walking toward the polls. I hear celebrations, music—some people are dancing, painting faces," said Awat. "Even my grandmother, who has difficulty walking, voted."

For the Kurds, who suffered unimaginable oppression under the hand of Saddam Hussein — including being attacked by chemical weapons — the opportunity to vote was especially sweet.

"I can't describe it, because there are no words to describe it. For all the people this is like a holiday or holy day—we've never been able to vote before," said Awat. "This is a very historical day for all of the people—especially the Kurdish people."

Haji Kirkuki, an Iraqi journalist from Kirkuk, described the enthusiasm surrounding the election to him and his family.

"I was very happy. My father went out at five o'clock in the morning to wait for the polls to open and he was the first man to vote," Kirkuki said. "Then he went to see friends in the area to get them to vote."

According to the published time line, the National Assembly will write a draft of the permanent constitution by mid-August. This draft will be presented to the Iraqi people for approval in a general referendum to be held on or before October 15.

If the constitution is approved, elections for the permanent government will be held on or before Dec. 15.

Enlisted Leadership Conference a success

Story and photos by Spec. Nicholas Wood, 115th MPAD



Staff Sgt. Greg A. Olson explains the layout at Ft. Clatsop, the wintering quarters of Lewis and Clark's Corps of Discovery during a class at the Senior Enlisted Leaders Conference.

RILEA TRAINING SITE, WARRENTON, Ore. — The upper echelon of Oregon's enlisted soldiers met at Rilea Training Site on Feb. 17 - 19 for the annual Senior Enlisted Leaders Conference.

The conference included sergeants majors, first sergeants and detachment sergeants from across the state. The group discussed the Oregon Guard's priority issues, ranging from deployments and equipment shortages to non-commissioned officer career management.

Lewis and Clark's Corps of Discovery was the theme for this year's conference and included a short trip to Ft. Clatsop, where Meriwether Lewis and William Clark wintered before returning to the east coast.

Staff Sgt. Gary A. Olson, training NCO for Bravo Co., 1-186th Infantry Brigade, and expert on the Lewis & Clark Corps of Discovery, gave a guided tour of the recreated fort.

State Command Sgt. Major Thomas R. Moe said that the Army's mission has transitioned from units deployed on large scales toward smaller, semi-independent forces, much like Lewis and Clark's Corps of Discovery, where a leader's action or inaction can make a very real difference.

Although the conference is an annual event, Moe said this year was different. In the past, the process had been mostly PowerPoint presentations and speakers, with very little interaction with the audience. This year, topics were discussed in open forums where attendees could share common problems and give possible solutions.

"We've changed the entire format," Moe said. "We needed to invigorate the process."

"There wasn't any finger-pointing," said Staff Sgt. Brian T. Loop, Readiness NCO for 2-162 Headquarters, Headquarters Co., Rear Detachment, from Eugene, Ore.

"There was a positive atmosphere," Loop continued.

Moe said another goal of the SELC was team-building. Battalions and brigades were divided into small groups which rotated through six stations, each with a different focus. Before each rotation the group were given a team-building exercise, proceeding through the stations round-robin style.

The first station was the leaders' forum, where attendees were given the chance to bring up issues on a wide variety of topics to seniors officers and enlistees in the brigades.

Another forum focused on Forward Operating Base logistics and setup. Another included a class about the transformation of the Army into a more cellular structure where brigade-level units could be deployed without mobilizing the entire battalion.

Yet another forum addressed deployed soldier's issues. Participants were able to pose questions to soldiers who had been deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq about pre-deployment training and overseas operations.

The final station helped attendees understand subordinate career management.

"I thought it was well organized," Loop said, "It presents the big picture and how things.

142nd FW unit, member wins ANG award

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

PORTLAND, Ore. — The National Guard Bureau has honored the 142nd Mission Support Flight at Portland Air Base with two awards by naming them unit and their executive officer the best of the best in 2004. The unit was notified that they were selected as the 2004 Outstanding ANG Military Personnel Flight and Capt. Jenifer Parady has been selected the Outstanding Personnel Manager of the Year.

The unit's team of personnel and training professionals is credited with providing quality support and service that exceeded the customer's

needs while maintaining the readiness of over 1,500 Oregon Air National Guard members. The NGB noted that positive customer satisfaction ratings, as reported on customer service surveys rose in just one year from 50 to 98 percent. Working side-by-side with their active duty counterparts, the 142nd MSF was lauded by senior leadership and Joint Force personnel for their outstanding knowledge and professionalism.

"Our customer service has far exceeded expectations," said Chief Master Sgt. Donna Kirkpatrick, the unit's superintendent.

"From the front counter to the back offices, our subject matter experts are motivated full-time and part-time Airmen dedicated to providing what our customers need."

Parady's leadership and organizational skills were praised by Guard Bureau personnel leaders in part for her unit's response to needs. During a period of unprecedented austere manning, Parady is credited with "expertly guiding the MSF in the accomplishment of all tasks" even while short-staffed by five airmen for a five month time frame due to convalescent leaves and deployments. While working with a 30 percent turnover rate within the Fighter Wing due to retirements, assignments to other units and separations, "Parady recognized opportunities to excel and refuses to be satisfied with anything less than full effort."

Lieutenant Col. Nancy Seets, 142nd MSF commander, gave her junior officer high marks for all aspects of mission accomplishment. "The results achieved over the past two years represent extraordinary team work by each and every member of the organization, under the sound leadership of Capt. Parady," Seets said. "Capt. Parady has set the example for superior customer service and instills enthusiasm in others to achieve those standards. She and her team have dramatically improved the Fighter Wing's ability to prepare our troops for movement."

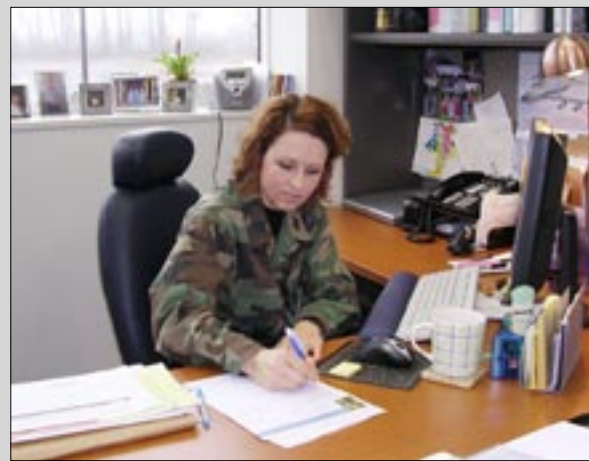


Photo by Master Sgt. Kimber Wright, JFHQ

Capt. Jenifer Parady manages personnel issues for Joint Forces Headquarters and both wings.

Letters to the Editor

Wife of soldier upset by Cole's letter

Dear Sentinel Editorial Staff:

I must admit that ordinarily, I simply skim through the paper, feeling like it is more for my husband, (home base is HHC/1-162 but is one of the few out of Forest Grove attached to the 2-162 IN BN in Iraq.) I feel compelled, however, to give you an additional response to Maj. Cole's letter as a spouse and friend of the Guard.

I am very proud of ALL of our men in the guard, whether they have gone to Iraq or not. The men that are in the states right now are just as important as the guys over there, as Oregon runs on a 'skeleton crew' while troops are deployed. Having said this, I am very disappointed that someone of Maj. Cole's rank and position would both write a letter without checking his facts first, and put ANYTHING associated with the Guard in a negative light in such a public manner. Complaining about circumstances is not the same as *taking action* and rarely results in change. Maj. Cole's letter served no purpose other than to be divisive and create hard feelings amongst the men serving under his command in Iraq. We are a team — all of us — from the soldiers to the spouses to the family coordinators; we ARE a family, each of us playing an important role but none of us more important than the other. We are parts of a whole and we MUST not spread this poisonous philosophy that we are "owed" recognition, or that one group is more important than the other. I agree whole-heartedly with the editorial staff. If you don't see your unit in the paper, then by all means, submit something — this is YOUR paper. Take some responsibility.

As a spouse of a deployed soldier, I think I can speak for most of the families when I say this has been a very long journey, but I think what I can say, that perhaps many of the wives cannot, is that I would not change a thing. I refuse to let this bump in the road of life rob me of my joy. Terrorists are NOT going to rob me of my marriage, my family, or my happiness and if this type of attitude festers, then they win and I simply refuse to let that happen. Do I have bad days? Yes. Do I feel angry and frustrated with the Guard and this deployment sometimes? Of course! But I am proud of my husband and the Guard regardless of whether the 20 guys that are serving out of Forest Grove are featured in the paper or not. That is not what this is about.

For those soldiers who are perhaps new readers to the *Sentinel*, we want to hear from you! We want to know what is happening on your side of the planet. Don't complain — write, journal, document the experience. I can assure you that we DO care and are very interested in receiving first hand accounts of those serving in Iraq. Please keep the faith: 18 months out of a lifetime is not very long and you are not forgotten.

Sincerely,
Melina Finke
Wife of Sgt. Christ Finke
1st Cav Div/39th BCT
HHC 2-162

Airline travelers thank soldiers for their service

Yesterday I shared a plane ride from Dallas to Portland with a couple of enlisted troops from the 3-116 (they were on 15 days leave).

The airline boarded these uniformed troops first. Then when we got to Portland, the pilot asked everyone to remain seated so the soldiers could get off first and meet their families. Everyone did so, and as the troops walked down the aisle they gave them a long and enthusiastic round of applause. I never thought I'd witness that kind of voluntary discipline in a plane full of travelers.

In Dallas one of the soldiers said he was impressed by the friendliness of Texans. I think they also experienced the friendliness of Oregonians, as did I.

Warren Aney,
Portland, Ore.

PSU announces Weisenburg scholarship

P O R T - L A N D, Ore. — Portland State University recently announced a new scholarship in honor of Staff Sgt. David Weisenburg.

The \$1,500 memorial scholarship will be awarded to full-time, undergraduate Portland State University students who are members of either the active duty, Reserve, or National Guard component. Dependents and immediate family members of military personnel involved in Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, or Homeland Defense are also eligible. Applicants must be Oregon residents progressing toward completion of a baccalaureate degree at Portland State University, and must be able to demonstrate a financial need.

Weisenburg died in Taji, Iraq on Sept. 13, 2004 while serving with Oregon National Guard's Bravo Company, 2nd Battalion, 162nd Infantry. He was from Portland, and attended Portland State University before his unit was activated for deployment to Iraq.

The David Weisenburg Memorial Endowed Scholarship Fund was created and endowed by Star Park Company/The Schlesinger Family, the parent company of Star Park, where he was employed as a manager.

If you are interested in applying for the scholarship, call Jo Lucke at 503-725-5445 for an application or download an application from the PSU web site at: www.pdx.edu/finaid/scholarships.html.

Donations to the scholarship fund can be sent to the Portland State University Foundation — David Weisenburg Endowed Scholarship at P. O. Box 243, Portland, Oregon 97204.

Oregon Guard to hold annual Earth Day event

The Oregon Army National Guard will sponsor their third Annual Earth Day event at Shaver Elementary School in Portland on Friday, Apr. 22.

Approximately 190 elementary school students will spend the day learning about environmental awareness. The event runs from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The school is located at 3701 NE 131st Place.

During the event, students will participate in nine different interactive educational booths with themes ranging from Global Warming and Disaster Clean-up to Environmental Brain Teaser trivia games. Each student will receive a packet containing information and earth-friendly tips, and ideas for projects students can complete at home.

Along with hands-on exhibits, the Oregon Army National Guard will also have several educational displays about the guard's Environmental Program.

Soldiers and volunteers will also be on hand to answer any questions the students may have about the role of the Oregon National Guard in local environmental preservation and stewardship.

ESGR visits Tualatin Valley Shrine

Three representatives from the Oregon National Guard spoke at the Tualatin Valley Shrine Club on Feb. 16.

Mr. Bob Elliott, Executive Director of the Oregon Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, spoke to members and guests about how the ESGR helps protect employment rights of Reservists and National Guard members. Elliot also outlined the employer recognition program for their support of employees and family members of deployed soldiers and airmen.

Brig. Gen. Douglas Pritt, Commander of the 41st Separate Infantry Brigade, briefed the group on a plan to deploy almost 900 Oregon National Guard members to Afghanistan in 2006 to help train the Afghan National Army. Nearly 3,000 U.S. forces from the Army, Air Force, and Marine Corps from 20 states will assist the Afghans in self-governance and setting up an army to



Staff Sgt. Weisenburg

Governor taps Rees for Oregon TAG

Appointment will be third term for the Maj. General

Prepared by Sentinel Staff

SALEM, ORE. — Governor Ted Kulongoski announced on Feb. 24 the appointment of U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees to the position of Adjutant General of the Oregon National Guard. Acting Adjutant General, Brig. Gen. Raymond C. Byrne, Jr. will continue to serve in his current role during the interim as Rees completes his duties as the Chief of Staff at the United States Northern Command in Colorado Springs, Colo.

"Oregon's National Guard continues to play a critical role in our nation's fight against terrorism — both globally and here at home," Kulongoski said. "Maj. Gen. Rees brings the depth of experience and leadership — as a soldier and as a commander — that we need during this time of increased dependence on Oregon's soldiers. I am honored that the General has accepted this new assignment and am confident that under his direction, the Oregon National Guard will solidify its reputation as one of the most highly qualified and skilled corps of citizen-soldiers in our country."

After the Governor's announcement, Byrne said he is pleased to see General Rees return to Oregon.

"Having worked with General Rees for a number of years, all of us in the Oregon National Guard know his tremendous ability and commitment to this institution," Byrne said. "His return to the position of Adjutant General is a plus for Oregon given his vast experience at the national level."

Byrne has been serving as the Acting Adjutant General for 17 months, as the replacement for Maj. Gen. Alexander H. Burgin who retired in Oct. 2003. Byrne, who commanded the 41st Separate Infantry Brigade for more than five years, has served as the Acting Adjutant General during some of the Oregon National Guards most trying times since World War II. Since the events of Sept. 11, 2001, the Oregon National Guard has deployed more than 8,000 soldiers and airmen in support of the Global War on Terror, and has lost eleven soldiers, in some of the fiercest fighting in Iraq.

General Byrne will remain as Acting Adjutant General until the transition is complete. General Rees will return to Oregon as soon as his replacement at Northern Command is appointed. The Military Department is estimating this transition will be complete later this spring.

defend their own nation.

Finally, Lt. Peter Wood, who recently returned from combat operations in Iraq where he was part of Oregon National Guard's Bravo-Co., 2nd Platoon of the 2-162 IN BN, painted a realistic yet interesting picture of life in combat. Wood was wounded while deployed in Iraq, receiving the Purple Heart.

Guard, Reservists families to get child care assistance

The Defense Department has joined forces with national agencies to help Guard and Reserve families in finding and affording childcare while Mom or Dad is deployed in support of the global war on terrorism.

"Child care, as you know, is one of the top (concerns) voiced by families as well as by commands on what's needed," said Jan Witte, director of the Pentagon's Office of Children and Youth. Her office monitors the new program, dubbed Operation Military Child Care.

The DoD, in partnership with the National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies, which administers the program, designed this initiative to benefit those who do not live near military installations, Witte said.

"We have a contract with NACCRA to assist us in finding spaces outside the military community for those Guard and Reserve (members) who are deployed and active duty (people) who are not near a military installation," Witte said. "We also hope to assist in reducing the out-of-pocket expense to the service member."

When a parent is deployed, she said, the remaining parent may discover that child care is something the couple hadn't had to think of before. And need is not the only consideration. The extra expense can be shocking.

While OMCC doesn't fully subsidize childcare, it does work to reduce the financial burden, Witte said. The fees are based on a sliding scale that takes into consideration total family income and the care provider's actual cost, among other things.

To take part in the program, a family member would apply through NACCRA via a special Web site or by a toll-free call to (800) 424-2246. The child-care provider also must apply — an important step because of how the subsidy, which comes through the Children and Youth office, is paid out, Witte noted.

Legislature introduces bill to increase benefits

SALEM, Ore. — A bill currently before the Oregon State Legislature proposes creation of a fund which will provide additional death benefits for survivors of Oregon National Guard members who are killed while

on federal active duty.

The proposed Oregon National Guard Memorial Fund provides an additional \$5,000 death benefit to survivors of Oregon Guardsmen killed while on active duty.

"[The bill] is a significant benefit to the Oregon National Guard members." Said Col. Mike Caldwell, Deputy Director of the Oregon Military Department.

"It occurred to us that perhaps the state could utilize a program where our Officer and Enlisted Association offers additional life insurance to our members if they elect to purchase it," Caldwell said.

The fund will be established in the State Treasury, using money appropriated to the Oregon Military Department for death and injury benefits. The fund will be kept separate and distinct from the state's general fund.

According to Art Liss, a representative with Oregon State Sponsored Life Insurance, the cost to guard members for the additional coverage will be \$20. Currently, a death benefit of \$1,000 is offered to all members of the Oregon National Guard free of charge.

The bill, introduced by Senate President Peter Courtney, is currently before the Senate Ways and Means Committee. It will go before the House of Representatives before being forwarded to the Governor's office.

The insurance coverage underwriter is ReliaStar Life Insurance Company of Minneapolis, MN.

myPay.com offers military members 'paperless' route

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. — The first of January was the deadline for Air Force reservists to start using myPay, the Internet method for managing pay.

If they didn't sign up, they may find it difficult to know how much they are getting paid. The Feb. 1 leave and earning statement is the last paper copy reservists will receive through the mail. The change for Air Force Reserve Command civilian employees depends on local bargaining obligations at their units, but eventually they too are to use myPay.

Under the myPay program, people view their LES online. If they don't have access to the Web at home or at work, they should contact their respective reserve or civilian pay offices.

To use their myPay account, reservists were supposed to activate their personal identification number by Dec. 31.

If reservists don't have a PIN or need a new one, they can obtain a temporary PIN through their reserve pay office or the local Air Force finance office, said Mike Bilbrey, chief of the management and finance branch

Continued on NEXT PAGE

at Headquarters AFRC.

"These offices have 'trusted agent' access and can assign a PIN," he said. Another way to obtain a temporary PIN is by going to the myPay Web site located at <https://mypay.dfas.mil> and selecting the "new pin" button on the home page. It may take 10 business days from the date of the request for mail delivery of the new PIN.

In addition, reservists can ask for a new PIN by fax or mail. They need to sign their request and give their full name, social security account number, a copy of their military photo identification and a daytime telephone number. The fax number is (216) 522-5800 or DSN 580-5800. The mailing address is: DFAS-Cleveland/Code PMMCCA, Attn: myPay, 1240 East 9th Street, Cleveland OH 44199-2055.

The new temporary PIN will contain the last five digits of the person's social security account number.

People should wait at least two business days before using their PIN if they got it by fax and four days if by mail. They will not receive confirmation that their PIN has changed.

Air Force Assistance campaign runs through May 6

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFP) — The Air Force Assistance Fund "Commitment to Caring" campaign runs through May 6.

Program officials invite Airmen to contribute to any of the Air Force's four official charitable organizations.

The charities benefit active-duty, Reserve, Guard, retired service members, surviving spouses and families. This is the 32nd year of the fund drive, where the four charities receive 100 percent of designated contributions.

"The need for (Air Force Aid Society) assistance remains strong," said retired Lt. Gen. Mike McGinty, Air Force Aid Society chief executive officer. "Last year, the Air Force Aid Society helped more than 30,000 Airmen with \$21.1 million in assistance -- that is a lot of help.

"Contributions are vital for the society to sustain this kind of help; it is truly an Airmen-helping-Airmen program," General McGinty said.

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper recently announced a \$5.4 million goal. Last year, Airmen gave \$6.7 million to the fund.

People can contribute through cash, check, money order or payroll deduction to the following charities:

— The Air Force Aid Society. AFAS provides Airmen and their families worldwide emergency financial assistance, education assistance and an array of base-level community-enhancement programs. Information is available online at www.afas.org.

— The Air Force Enlisted Village Indigent Widow's Fund. The Air Force Enlisted Village, located in Fort Walton Beach, Fla. near Eglin Air Force Base, provides rent subsidy and other support to indigent widows and widowers of retired enlisted Airmen 55 and older. More information is available online at www.afenlistedwidows.org.

— The Air Force Village Indigent Widow's Fund. Air Force Village is a life-care community in San Antonio for retired officers, spouses, widows or widowers and family members. The Air Force Village Web site is www.airforcevillages.com.

— The General and Mrs. Curtis E. LeMay Foundation. The foundation provides rent and financial assistance to indigent widows and widowers of officers and enlisted Airmen in their own homes and communities. The LeMay Foundation Web site is www.info@lemayfoundation.org.

Contributions to the AFAS are tax-deductible. For more information, visit afasistancefund.org or the Air Force Personnel Center's Voting and Fundraising Web site at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/votefund.

New ID cards won't discriminate between active duty, reserve, guard

The Department of Defense has begun issuing new military ID cards that do not distinguish between active-duty and reserve members.

In the past, military ID cards identified an individual as "Active," "Reserve" or "Guard." The distinction was made to limit commissary privileges for guard members who were authorized for only 24 shopping days at the commissary per year. The 2004 Defense Authorization Act did away with

the commissary restriction, eliminating a need for separate and distinct ID cards. The old ID cards will be phased out over the next 2 years.

Phone number changes at Oregon armories

As part of an ongoing process to minimize operating costs in the state, effective March 1, the Eugene and Corvallis Armory will have new phone numbers, and on March 28, the Bend Armory will change their phone numbers.

Corvallis Armory

Recruiting and Retention: 541-752-2273; Bravo Co., 2-162: 541-752-2272; Family Assistance: 541-752-2271; Armory AOT: 541-752-2270; Building FAX: 541-753-1779.

Eugene Armory

Recruiting and Retention: 541-686-3542, 541-686-3531 (voice mail); Alpha Co. 2-162: 541-686-9050, 541-686-9049 (voice mail); Charlie Co. 2-162: 541-686-9051, 541-686-9048 (voice mail); HHC 2-162: 541-686-9052, 541-686-9047 (voice mail); Family Assistance: 541-686-0415; Det 1 HHC 141 SPT Bn: 541-686-0416; Armory AOT: 541-686-0414; Building FAX: 541-686-9053.

Bend Armory

HQ 1-82nd CAV: 541-383-0971, 541-383-0972, 541-383-0954 (voice mail); HHD 1-82d CAV, 541-383-0955 (voice mail); RTD 1-82d CAV: 541-383-0956 (voice mail); Co. A(-) 1249th ENG: 541-383-0973, 541-383-0957 (voice mail); Family Program Coordinator: 541-383-0970 (voice mail); Recruiting and Retention: 541-614-1342, 541-617-1341 (voice mail).

The Bend Armory's AOT's number will remain the same: 541-312-4309. The unit fax number will also not change from 541-389-1946. The unit's Distance Learning system will not be affected by this change.

Voice mail handbooks will be provided the first week in March. If you have any questions or concerns, call the help desk at 503-584-3918.

Amusement parks offer military discounts

SeaWorld and Busch Gardens owner Anheuser-Busch is offering free single-day admissions to members of the military. A 60-second television ad saluting our nation's service members aired during the 39th Annual Super Bowl on Feb. 6.

From Feb. 7 through Dec. 31, SeaWorld and Busch Gardens parks will be open to active military, active reservists, U.S. Coast Guard, National Guardsmen and as many as three dependents per family.

Anheuser-Busch President August A. Busch IV said the company is giving back to "the brave men and women and their families, who make sacrifices every day for our country," by offering "a message of thanks and an invitation."

To obtain the free one-day admissions, eligible participants can register online at www.herosalute.com or at the entrance plaza of participating parks, company representatives said Thursday. A military photo ID is required.

Dependents may take advantage of the offer if their service-member relative is unable to attend, but an adult must accompany minor dependents.

Pentagon proposing pay, allowance increases

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7, 2005 — A 3.1 percent military basic pay hike, higher housing allowances and more health care and educational benefits for the National Guard and Reserve are all part of the president's proposed fiscal 2006 defense budget unveiled here today.

The package of expanded benefits is part of what a senior defense official called a top priority in the president's \$419.3 billion budget request: "taking care of our forces."

"People are our most important asset. We can't do anything without our folks," the official told Pentagon reporters. "Our forces are the best-trained and best-organized on the globe, and we maintain our commitment to them."

The proposed military pay raise reflects a continued trend in better compensation for service members. Incorporating the 3.1 percent military increase, basic pay will be up 25 percent since fiscal 2001.

In terms of actual money in troops' pockets, the official told reporters the 3.1 percent

increase would raise basic pay for members in the lowest enlisted grade from \$12,000 in fiscal 2005 to \$15,000 next year, and that of a second lieutenant or ensign from \$23,000 to \$28,000. Similarly, an E-5 who was earning \$30,000 in base pay in fiscal 2001 will be making \$39,000 under the new budget, she said.

Federal civilian workers would receive a 2.3 percent pay hike.

The proposed budget provides a 4 percent increase in the basic housing allowance to reduce and, ideally, eliminate out-of-pocket costs for service members living in private housing. "In the past, there was as much as an 18 percent out-of-pocket cost for our military," the defense official said. "And this budget sustains our no-out-of-pocket cost commitment."

The budget also keeps DoD on track in its effort to eliminate all inadequate military family housing units in the United States by fiscal 2007, and worldwide by fiscal 2009. "We are on track" with that effort, the defense official told reporters.

The proposed budget continues to extend privatization to improve military housing and to maximize DoD housing budgets. By the end of fiscal 2006, the official said, this effort is expected to have produced nearly 172,000 new high-quality family housing units during the past 10 years.

In terms of health care, the proposed budget increases funding for the Defense Health Program, with \$20 billion in direct funding and \$7 billion for military personnel supporting the program. Officials said this funding level will ensure continuing good health care for service members and their families.

Guard and Reserve members will receive additional benefits as well, including expanded Tricare eligibility that provides health coverage up to 90 days before activation and 180 days after mobilization for most members. "This is a significant new benefit," the defense official said.

The budget also includes the GI Bill for Reservists, passed by Congress last year, to provide educational benefits for Guard and Reserve members who have been mobilized. These troops would qualify for up to 36 months of payments, from \$400 to \$800 a month, depending on the length of active service in support of a contingency operation.

Provisions for quality facilities also are included in the budget package. The proposed budget funds 92 percent of maintenance requirements.

"So I think what we have here is a healthy benefit package," the official summarized. "We want to maintain our commitment to the forces of the United States."

AG Match set for May

Registration is now open for 2005 Adjutant General's Combat Marksmanship Championship being held May 21-22 at the Rilea Training Site in Warrenton, Ore.

The competition is open to all members of the Oregon National Guard. Pistol and rifle matches include individual and team competition.

Entry forms, the official match program, courses of fire and additional instructions are located at www.mil.state.or.us/SARTS.

For more information, contact Master Sgt. Jeff Arnst at 541-664-1950, or via e-mail at jeff.arnst@us.army.mil.

Tickets to 16th annual Military Ball now on sale

Tickets are now on sale for the 16th annual Oregon National Guard Military Ball. The event will be held on Saturday, April 30, 2005 at the Evergreen Aviation Museum in McMinnville, Ore.

Tickets are \$30 each, or \$50 if purchased after April 18. Ticket sales are limited to 700.

Tables can be reserved for a \$20 fee. Reserved tables require a minimum of ten people.

Hotel/ticket/wine tour packages are also available, with two packages to choose from.

Both white and red wine featuring commemorative Military Ball labels will also be on sale at the event. The wine was purchased from Willamette Valley Vineyards specifically for the event.

For more information on packages and wine tour, contact Tracy Ann Gill at 503-584-3991, or via e-mail at tracyann.gill@or.ngb.army.mil.

Entry form and additional information is located on the back cover of this issue.

Women's Emphasis Program needs new manager

SALEM, Ore. — The Women's Emphasis Program is currently looking for a new program manager.

The Women's Emphasis Program's goal is to promote, advocate and be an ambassador for women both in the community and in the military. Some of the program's charters include annual events, employee training regarding women's issues, and marketing and recruiting specifically targeted for women, according to Capt. Lori Paltridge, State Equal Employment Manager.

Each year the month of March is designated as Women's Emphasis Month, with several events marking the occasion. The program highlights, emphasizes and celebrates the successes and contributions of women both in the community and in the military. The theme for 2005 is "Women Changing America".

The outgoing program manager, Lt. Col. Sandra D. Murray, is credited with promoting advocacy for women both inside and outside the Oregon National Guard. Murray coordinated several community venues throughout her tenure as the program manager over the past two years, focusing on women's issues, leadership and diversity concerns.

The program's manager position is a voluntary additional duty, open to any member of the Oregon National Guard or its civilian contractors. For more program information, contact Capt. Lori Paltridge at 503-584-3841, or via e-mail at lori.paltridge@orport.ang.af.mil.

Civilians will be required to use myPay.com

WASHINGTON (AFP) — Civilian employees of the Air Force will be required to use the myPay system to access their leave and earning statements beginning March 31.

The change brings Air Force civilians in line with active duty-and reserve-component Airmen who are already required to access their pay data online, officials said. Hard-copy statements will no longer be mailed.

Printing and mailing costs are some reasons for the change, officials said. But the primary goal is to provide people with more services and quicker access in an online format.

There are numerous advantages to using myPay, officials said. Civilian users can view and print their last 26 pay statements; change allotments, direct deposit or tax withholding information; and buy savings bonds. Users may also view and print their W-2 tax forms.

The myPay system can be found at www.dfas.mil/mypay. New users will need to establish a personal identification number.

March Safety Issue: Risk Management

By Lt. Col. Marilyn K. Woodward,
ORARNG Safety Manager

A good safety program is a mission multiplier and is part of the Commander's overall force protection.

There are many facets to establishing a comprehensive safety program. Using Composite Risk Management, Operation Risk Management is one of the best ways to mitigate risk whether in garrison, in the field, or during combat. It is one of the first things that you as an individual or unit should do when planning any mission or activity. Risk management should not be an afterthought, or a one-time process.

There are many avenues to obtain training and assistance in risk management. The Army can conduct training with the use of pre-programmed applications or formal training by contacting the State Safety Office. Information and samples of RM are available on the Army Safety webpage, located at <https://safety.army.mil>.

Members in the Air National Guard may contact their Wing Safety Office, or visit the United States Air Force Safety web site at <http://afsafety.af.mil>, under the ORM link. Both sites have information in risk management databases that can be accessed by primary unit personnel with a password.

Help make RM/ORM your primary weapon against risk.

Oregon Sentinel

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER



Photo by Spec. April Dustin, 115th MPAD.

Three soldiers, Spec. Michael Siebold (driving), Spec. Brian Tarvin (standing in the turret), and Spec. Justin Pickett (right passenger), from E-Troop, 82nd Cavalry charge through some standing water in their HMMWV during mounted maneuver operations at the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area in Florence, Ore., on March 12. See story on page 8.

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Recruiting and Retention News

Oregon National Guard shines at the Rose Garden

Story and Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Gower D. Talley,
Marketing NCO, Oregon Army National Guard

In early March, over 150 people enjoyed the annual “Guard Night at the Blazers. Current and future members of the Oregon National Guard had an opportunity to share a little of the Guard experience with over 17,000 blazer fans — all of whom seemed to be very receptive and supportive of our presence at the Rose Garden.

Blazer fans that entered through the main entrance were greeted by Sgt. True North, Spec. Jeff Willison and Private 1st Class Micaiah Strong (of the Oregon City recruiting Station), who were handing out red, white and blue clappers to the kids, and National Guard literature to most of the adults.

At the beginning of the game, Staff Sgt. Steven Wing, Sgt. Werner Buxton, Spec. Charles Feldmen and Private 1st Class Jake Riese — collectively the 2-218 Field Artillery Color Guard — posted the colors on the floor of the stadium. Sgt. 1st Class Mark Browning of the Portland State University Gold Program sang the national anthem.

That night the Blazers were playing the Detroit Pistons — the defending world champions — and although the Blazers never held a lead, we all still had a good time. Any time soldiers can take a little time away from the pressures of the uniform is a good thing.

In my opinion, however, the highlight of the evening came just before the end of half time. At two minutes before the start of the 3rd quarter, Staff Sergeant Joe Tumbaga and Corporal Taylor Letsis (both of whom had just returned from Iraq only days earlier), were escorted to center court and introduced to the crowd. The two soldiers were there to represent their comrades in arms who were still serving in the Middle East and in harms way. They received an extended standing ovation from the entire audience in the Rose Garden.

On a personal note – I would like to thank Michelle McGee with the Portland Trail Blazers organization. There is more to putting together an event like this than you might imagine: floor passes, escorting people through a crowd of thousands, sound checks, rehearsals, getting color guard weapons through security, loading equipment, and so on. Michelle seemed to be everywhere all the time.



Sgt. 1st Class Mark Browning is captured on the massive Sony Jumbotron as he sings the national anthem before the game at the Rose Garden, March 1.

Retiree Service Office

Open Tuesdays, 10 am to 2 pm

(503) 584-3804
1-800-452-7500, ext. 3804

E-mail:
RSO@or.ngb.army.mil

US Mail:
Retiree Service Office
PO Box 14350
Salem, OR 97309

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The Oregon National Guard's 16th Annual Military Ball April 30, 2005

Evergreen Aviation Museum,
McMinnville, Ore.
Tickets: \$30 each, \$50 after April 18
Cash or checks are preferred. VISA and Mastercard also accepted. Make checks payable to “ORNGERF Military Ball”.
For credit card payments, fill out the order form to the right, and fax it to 503-584-3987. For more information or questions, e-mail Tracy Ann Gill at:
tracyann.gill@or.ngb.army.mil

Name: _____

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Month / Year

Signature: _____ Date: _____