

A ZUWUR

Oregon National Guard

Horror on Hood: Rescuers become rescuees as unthinkable happens

By COLLEEN BREEDEN
AZUWUR STAFF

A beautiful late-spring morning turned tragic as nine climbers scaling the heights of Mt. Hood in Oregon fell into a crevasse 800 feet from the summit on May 30.

One of the members of the climbing party, who was not careened into the crevasse, called for help on his cell phone.

At 10:30 a.m., word came through to the Oregon Army National Guard in Salem.

Oregon Emergency Management and the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office were requesting the assistance of two Blackhawk helicopters and crews from the 1042nd Medical Company (Air Ambulance) to help in the rescue.

The soldiers of the 1042nd were at the Army Aviation Support Facility in Salem, participating in pre-deployment training.

They will soon be mobilized in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Ten soldiers, five for each Blackhawk, were dismissed from training to assist in the real-world mission.

The crews were gathered and ready to go in five minutes. The equipment was loaded and the Blackhawks were ready to take off within 30 minutes.

When the helicopters and crews reached the command center set up at Timberline Lodge, they were instructed up the side of the mountain by the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office.

The status of the climbers was three dead and six injured, several critically.

The first Blackhawk to the crevasse, piloted by Chief Warrant Officer 4 Mike Cataldo, lowered flight medic Sgt. Frayne Fowler to help evaluate, stabilize and rescue the injured climbers.

Fowler spent the entire afternoon, until 5 p.m., on the side of the mountain to assist in the rescue.

The rescue was progressing smoothly, with injured climbers being airlifted smoothly to local hospitals, until about 1:50 p.m. That's when the tragedy turned into a horrific Hollywood-style movie plot.

On the final climber extraction, a Pavehawk helicopter, from the Air Force Reserve's 939th Rescue Wing, suddenly crashed into the side of the mountain while trying to airlift the injured climber.

"I heard 'chopper's going down, chopper's going down. Blackhawk down,'" Sgt. Alan Alderman, monitoring helicopter radio transmissions for the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office, said.

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Oregon YCP awarded national best all-around ChalleNGe program



Maj. Gen. Alexander Burgin and Oregon Youth ChalleNGe Cadets Torey Wakeland and Meghan DeHority represented the program at an awards ceremony in Washington, D.C., on May 1, 2002.

WASHINGTON—On May 1, 2002, the Oregon Youth ChalleNGe Program was awarded number one in the nation for meeting or exceeding all mandatory core components.

Maj. Gen. Alexander Burgin, the adjutant general; Col. Mike Caldwell, deputy director for state affairs; and Congressman Ron Wyden accepted the award on behalf of the state of Oregon.

Two cadets from the YCP also traveled to Washington to participate in the ceremony. Cadets Torey Wakeland and Meghan DeHority will graduate this month from the program.

Each year, one program is recognized for outstanding achievement resulting from on-site visits and independent contract auditors providing oversight for the National Guard Bureau.

Burgin and Caldwell administratively took Oregon's program from the bottom to the top in the nation in just over two years.

Oregon's program excelled in all eight core-component areas. Corpsmembers performed an average of 166 hours of community service that included work in local conservation projects.

Additionally, 70 percent of the eligible graduates received either presidential or national physical fitness awards in the president's council on physical fitness program.

TABE scores demonstrated two

grade-level increases in reading and mathematics and the GED attainment rate was 99 percent.

The program matched 98 percent of its graduates with mentors by week 13 of the residential phase and 100 percent by graduation.

Within 30 days of graduation, 87 percent of the graduates were reported to be involved in positive placement activities. At the conclusion of the post-residential phase, 82 percent of the graduates were reported in positive placement activities.

The National Guard ChalleNGe Program focuses on youth at greatest risk with the highest potential for re-direction toward education and employment. There are 31 programs currently established in 27 states and one territory.

The ChalleNGe program is a preventive intervention for "youth at risk." This program targets unemployed drug-free and law-free high school dropouts, 16 to 18 years of age.

Core components are citizenship; academic excellence; life-coping skills; community service; health; hygiene and nutrition; skills training; leadership and followership; and physical fitness.

The five-month residential phase is followed by a year-long mentoring relationship with a specially-trained mentor from each corpsmember's community.

Legislation introduced to provide retirement benefits at 20 years

With more vocal debate over a benefits package that has been basically untouched for National Guardsmen and Reservists for decades, Rep. Joe Wilson, R-SC, has introduced HR 4676 to provide immediate retirement benefits to those members who complete 20 years of service.

Wilson is also a colonel in the South Carolina National Guard.

"With the increasing reliance on the National Guard and Reserve since 1990, and especially since the horrific events of Sept. 11, it's time to recognize the considerable contributions of these citizen-soldiers," Wilson said.

This reliance upon the National Guard over the past decade warrants an overall review of how benefits are provided.

The reserve retirement system has remained largely unchanged for more than 50 years.

Increased deployments and higher operations tempo driven by the total force integration have resulted in greater personal sacrifices by Guardsmen and their families.

This is an important step in ensuring Guardsmen and Reservists receive their earned military retirement upon completion of their military career, rather than waiting for as long as 22 years before receiving retirement benefits.

HR 4676 has been referred to the House Armed Services Committee for consideration.

Oregon's Representative Darlene Hooley is a supporter of this bill.

Military department opened new security check-point on June 17

As of June 17, 2002, the Oregon Military Department guard shack became operational as part of the force protection program.

The procedures are as follows.

Employees

All employees will be required to stop at the guard shack and show a current military department ID badge.

Employees who do not have their military department ID badge will be required to show current photo identification.

Acceptable forms of photo ID are military ID cards, civilian driver's license, or an Oregon state military department ID card.

The employee will then be directed to the reception desk inside the north entrance for a temporary badge.

At no time will employees park in a parking space marked "visitor."

Employees who park in visitors spots will be told to move their vehicles immediately.

If an employee arrives at the guard shack without a form of acceptable ID, their directorate will be contacted.

A representative of their directorate will go to the guard shack to positively identify the employee.

It will be then up to the directorate to

decide what to do with the employee.

Visitors and guests

All military and civilian visitors and guests will stop at the guard shack and show current photo identification.

Acceptable forms of ID will be a current military ID card, or current driver's license. They will then be asked to state the reason for their visit to the building.

At the guard shack, only the driver will be positively identified, but the driver and any other vehicle occupants will still be required to receive visitor badges at the north entrance reception desk.

While at the guard shack, visitors and guests will be given a visitor parking card to put in the windshield of their vehicle.

Only vehicles with these visitor cards will be allowed to park in the spaces marked "visitor."

Visitors or guests who arrive without any acceptable form of ID will not be allowed into the building.

They will be turned around at the guard shack, and told to return once they have an acceptable piece of ID.

Questions regarding the procedure may be directed to the emergency operations center at (503) 584-3625.

Command Focus

Maj. Gen. Alexander H. Burgin

Throughout the world, operations are being conducted to suppress international terrorism.

This effort includes not only our military forces, but it is also represented by our state department, the CIA, the FBI, numerous law enforcement agencies, and our various intelligence-gathering assets.

In addition, other nations are actively engaged.

Progress is being made, and the National Guard certainly plays a key role in our country's response capability.

There are approximately 50,000 National Guard members on duty currently to answer the call.

This is significant, and each of you can be proud of the role our citizen soldiers and airmen are playing to enhance the security of our homeland.

As we prepare for the unknown, we still have the responsibility to maintain readiness at all levels, the most important of which lies with our people.

Annual training season is upon us, and everyone is committed to completing all training events in a safe and productive manner.

I look forward to visiting as many sites as possible as this busy summer unfolds.

In the midst of mobilizing the remainder of the 1042nd Medical Company, a tragedy struck on Mount Hood.

The deaths of three mountain climbers was compounded by the near-tragedy that occurred when a Pavehawk rescue helicopter from the 939th Rescue Wing of the Air Force Reserve crashed.

By the grace of God, none of the crew members were killed.

The 1042nd responded immediately to the request to rescue the climbers, and they were on the scene when the Pavehawk crashed.

Ultimately, the Army Guard had four helicopters working the rescue, and as usual, the 1042nd performed their mission in an exceptional manner.

What a magnificent resource our air ambulance company represents to the citizens of Oregon.

You can all be proud of the professionalism they consistently display in the course of executing very hazardous missions.

Deployment requests continue to mount.

The task force from the 1st Battalion, 186th Infantry, is currently at Fort Carson, preparing for a July ship date to the Sinai Peninsula.

The 116th Air Control Squadron is still on duty in support of Operation Noble Eagle, as well as numerous other Or-

egon Air Guard members.

The National Command Authority has now requested that the majority of our 1042nd Medical Company be mobilized, and we are in the final stages of certifying that unit on a home-station basis.

I do not think we have seen the end of our participation, but we all must remember the real threat that exists today regarding our way of life and the security of the citizens who comprise our great nation.

As I write this, an exercise called Tiger Balm is concluding at Camp Rilea.

The 41st Separate Infantry Brigade hosted members from the Singapore Army in a highly-visible command post exercise.

This has significant international implications, and the results have been outstanding.

I want to extend my personal thank you to all those who worked so hard to make this possible.

Diversity is one of the challenges the Oregon National Guard faces in transforming into a fighting team that will remain superior for decades to come.

To achieve success in equal opportunity strategic objectives, the Oregon National Guard is:

- Expanding specialized cross-cultural training to equip recruiters as ambassadors of education and industry groups.
- Establishing and maintaining strong coalition partnerships with community, education and industry groups.
- Analyzing studies and data on the scope and effectiveness of mentoring activities.
- Improving educational programs, tools and guidelines for mentoring.
- Ensuring it has robust and flexible equal opportunity training programs.
- Eliminating barriers to a level playing field for accessions early in individual careers.
- Refining its message of inclusiveness while capitalizing on successes and communicating Oregon National Guard contributions to society.

Senior leaders are saying...

These critical actions are part of the National Guard's commitment to building true diversity and developing a culture that understands equal opportunity is crucial to mission readiness and enables us as guardians of our nation's freedoms.

With all the distractions, the Oregon Guard continues to lead the way and set the example.

We also had the opportunity to thank the members of the Army and Air Guard who secured our airports for eight months.

The Port of Portland hosted a recognition ceremony that rendered the appropriate honors to those who served, as well as their families and employers.

Job well done!

Currently, our legislature is meeting in special session to address a one-billion-dollar shortfall in the current state budget.

The results will not be positive for any agency, but we will survive, and we will continue to serve with pride.

I wish to express my sincere appre-



ciation to all of you who serve, or who have served, our great state and nation. Of course, I include in that patriotic group all those families and employers that continue to support us. You do make a difference.

State Command Sgt. Maj. Donald F. Newman

On May 4, 2002, we completed the enlisted promotion management system process for 2002. From this process, the order of merit list for promotions for the grades of E-5 through E-9 are established through April 2003, when our next EPMS cycle takes place.

Without a doubt, the boards conducted in May were the best for quality control, highly qualified board members and appropriate gender mix.

The one area that we need continued focus on is the writing and timely turn-in of NCOERs. The NCOER is a critical document in the EPMS process, especially when judging one's performance.

Tips for successful counseling when soldiers are not meeting expectations:

Assure privacy and protect the soldier's dignity by meeting in a quiet office with no interruptions.

Open with a positive statement about the soldier's progress or abilities.

Let the soldier know that you are unsatisfied with some aspects of his or her work, limiting yourself to the three most critical problems.

Discuss these problems in depth and give the soldier specific examples of errors in judgement, miscalculations, etc.

Ask the soldier to explain why he or she thinks these problems are occurring. Give him or her an opportunity to vent feelings, but insist upon your right to set standards of performances and to decide if they are being met.

Ask the soldier to come up with a plan for improvement and agree on a timetable for measuring success.

Offer a referral to a counselor to ad-



dress possible underlying issues.

Spell out the consequences of failing to meet objectives.

Consider putting the problems and corrections in writing, giving the original to the soldier and keeping a copy for your records.

If the soldier gets upset or hostile, keep calm. Inform him or her that you can reschedule the session, but the issues need to be addressed because of the negative impact on the organization.

Follow up with another meeting. Congratulate the soldier on improvements, and make sure the progress is sustained.

Assure the soldier that performance problems are confidential and ask him or her not to speak to others about them. Advise the soldier that you will only discuss the situation with his or her chain of command if appropriate.

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Guard members and their families are encouraged to submit any articles meant to inform, educate or entertain **Azuwur** readers, 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. Letters may also be edited prior to use. Submission deadlines are the 1st of each month.

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National Guardsmen leave airport duty



Many Army National Guard troops are returning to life as they knew it before the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks now that they are no longer helping to safeguard the nation's airports.

In May, Guard troops left more than 400 airports where they have steadfastly stood watch in their camouflage uniforms at security checkpoints since President George Bush asked the governors for the Guard's help late last September.

The mission for all Guard troops who have become familiar figures to millions of airline passengers from coast to coast ended May 31.

All told, nearly 9,000 Army and Air Guard troops were assigned to 444 airports by last December after President Bush asked for additional personnel through the holiday season, said Greg Funk of the National Guard Bureau's homeland security staff in Arlington, Va.

Many of them continued to hold down civilian jobs while pulling regular shifts at airports from Boston to Los Angeles. Others put their civilian jobs and college on hold.

The Guard's numbers were reduced to 5,071 troops at 341 airports by May 10 and then to 2,182 personnel at 223

on the Monday after Mother's Day, Funk added.

"The Transportation Security Administration, being committed to creating a workforce that commands the respect of the traveling public, is in the process of hiring security screeners and supervisors at over 400 airports who are taking and will take the place of our Guard members," stated the National Guard Bureau.

"This has gone extremely well. There was a lot of competition to do this mission, so we were able to select the best National Guard soldiers and airmen," explained Lt. Col. David Green, who coordinated a force of about 50 Army and Air Guard troops for four airports in New Mexico. "It has certainly boosted the National Guard's image."

The fact that the vast majority of passengers accepted the additional security measures made the duty pretty mundane most of the time, said Kysar.

"Hey, boring is good," he added before recalling some less than boring moments.

One man, for example, intentionally dropped his trousers after being asked by a civilian screener to open his belt buckle, Kysar said, because he felt his

personal rights were being violated.

Another man threw his shoes at a screener when asked to remove them so they could be checked for wires. The shoes did not hit the screener, Kysar added.

And there was the occasional government official or diplomat who, Kysar said, would try to cut through the security process by impatiently asking the tired old question "Do you know who I am?"

"Usually we could defuse a situation by walking up and making our presence known," he explained.

"Your mere presence at the checkpoints no doubt averted would-be criminals and terrorists who have, presumably, chosen other paths of less resistance," Christopher Browne, Reagan National's vice president and manager, told the departing Guard soldiers.

"You have been absolutely instrumental in restoring the nation's confidence in this critical mode of transportation," Browne added, "I truly hope we can maintain that confidence in your absence."

Others echoed Browne's praise as the mission winds down.

"They did a good job," said a Harbor Police officer in San Diego about the troops who ended the mission at that international airport on May 5.

"I want to express my appreciation to the National Guard men and women in the airports," said Margot Cranford of Little Rock, Ark., about the troops she encountered at half a dozen airports in California, Texas, Florida and Georgia.

"Their presence should be intimidating to the wrong people, but they have been so friendly and helpful to the general public," she added. "It makes me feel that I am part of them instead of apart from them."

Sling load operations have real-world applications

By Master Sgt. JONATHAN CARLISLE
115TH MOBILE PUBLIC AFFAIRS DET.

Today we're going to sling load. "Sling what?" is the common response. However, the soldiers of the 141st Support Battalion and 1/E/168th Aviation understand and anticipate the challenge with excitement.

"Sling loading is great! It gives me the opportunity to work with soldiers I haven't worked with before," said Spc. Thomas Lucas, Co. B (Ord), 141 Spt Bn.

"I look forward to the drills we have sling loading. It's a rush," said Spc. Kristine Greer, Det. 1, Co. A, 141 Spt Bn.

Sling loading is moving equipment or supplies with the use of hitches or slings, and transported by helicopter.

An example is when time and equipment is vital to the mission, and terrain is an obstacle. A helicopter comes in, mission-critical equipment is strapped, hitched, or slung, and the helicopter takes off in minutes.

"There are different procedures for the individual equipment being lifted and each use various sling equipment. Once everything is hooked up and the aircraft comes in, everything moves at a high speed," said Lucas.

So what makes sling loading so interesting and exciting?

It's the contact with risk and the



combination of teamwork that keeps these soldiers motivated.

"The first time I did sling loading it was a total adrenaline rush. Just imagining a Chinook helicopter landing on my head made me scared and nervous," said Greer. "I have successfully sling loaded about 10 times in my career of 11 years. Now I mentor soldiers who are experiencing this excitement for the first time. When I coach soldiers, I emphasize safety. Be conscious about your surroundings. I warn them about the hazards that can happen like getting electrocuted, or being hit by the equipment. Sling loading is something I have looked forward to when getting ready for drill. Sling loading is a fun and exciting experience of my Guard life."

Military operations became a real-world scenario as soldiers of Det. 1/E/168 Aviation, Pendleton, were called to sling load a crashed Air Force Pavehawk helicopter from the slopes of Mount Hood in June.



Sling loading has been in use for over 45 years in a variety of ways in the military and the civilian world. The most publicized would be the medic evacuation: helicopters lowering gurneys for rescuers to hoist injured people off cliffs or out of treacherous waters.

Like most military occupational skills (MOS), sling loading is used in the civilian job market. Logging, fire fighting, construction, and oil

Personnel on active duty after Sept. 11 eligible for National Defense Service Medal

All service members, including Coast Guardsmen, who were on active duty on or after Sept. 11, 2001, are eligible to wear the National Defense Service Medal, defense officials announced May 1.

"The sacrifices and contributions made by the armed forces in direct response to the terrorist attacks on the United States and to the long-term resolution of terrorism merit special recognition," said Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz.

Members of the National Guard and Reserve may also be awarded the medal if they were on federal active duty on or after Sept. 11.

Exceptions are if they were on active duty for training, on short tours of active duty to serve on boards, courts, commissions and the like, or on active duty solely to get a physical exam.

Service members previously have worn the National Defense Service Medal for duty in three distinct periods, starting with the Korean War era, defined as June 27, 1950, to July 27, 1954.

Executive Order 11265 authorized the secretary of defense to establish periods of eligibility after Dec. 31, 1960. The second period of eligibility was a loosely termed "Vietnam War era" of Jan. 1, 1961, to Aug. 14, 1974.

The medal was again authorized by a memorandum from the secretary of defense dated Feb. 20, 1991, for active service on or after Aug. 2, 1990—the beginning of Operation Desert Shield.

The termination date was later set as Nov. 30, 1995.

No closing date has been established for this newest period. Eligible service members can receive and wear the award immediately.

Those already awarded the medal for an earlier period will receive a bronze service star device to attach to the ribbon.

Established by President Eisenhower on April 22, 1953, the National Defense Service Medal indicates military service during a time of war or conflict regardless of the service member's station of duty.

Images, a description and history of the National Defense Service Medal are on the web at www-perscom.army.mil/tagd/tioh/medals/ndsm.htm.

exploration are just a few of the career fields in which sling loading is used.

Logging on a steep hill, cliffs on either side, inaccessible to logging trucks, is one example of sling loading. With sling load procedures, you can perform the mission in a timely fashion.

"It's a challenging skill that requires time to become proficient," Jim Coates, chief pilot for Columbia Helicopters in Aurora, Ore., said. "It requires much more skill than just flying a helicopter." He has been doing sling loading for 23 years at Columbia Helicopters.

A skilled sling loader is valuable to the military mission and is marketable in the civilian work place.

D/1-162 Infantry TOW qualifications at Camp Biak



Sgt. 1st Class Loren Sturm

In April, Co. D, 1-162 Infantry traveled to Camp Biak in Central Oregon for TOW training.

TOW is a tube launched, optically tracked, wire guided missile system. Has a range of 3,750 meters and has a hit probability of 99 percent. Co. D is the anti-armor company for the 1-162 Infantry Battalion.

They have 20 TOW systems, 10 MK19 grenade launchers, and 10 .50-cal machine guns in the company.

TOW tables are a requirement out of the TOW FM 23-34 that each delta company must accomplish to have qualified squads.

TOW tables one through four are individual tasks that are conducted with the indoor trainer.

TOW tables five through eight are conducted at the squad level, a three man crew. Each squad has an NCO, gunner and driver.

TOW tables nine and 10 are section level (two trucks in a section) and TOW tables 11 and 12 are platoon level (four trucks to a platoon).

All eight squads of the 1-162 Infantry qualified at tables five and six.

Oregon commander honored with Gen. MacArthur Leadership award

Duty. Honor. Country.

While those three words may have long been the motto of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., they are also deeply held values of every Army leader who genuinely cares about soldiers, Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric K. Shinseki told the newest winners of the General Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award.

Shinseki handed a 15-pound bronze bust of MacArthur to 27 company-grade officers who earned the award for demonstrated exceptional leadership in 2001 during a Pentagon ceremony on May 22.

"Look after (your soldiers)—their training, their tools, their spirit—so that they are ready to do what is necessary when called upon," Shinseki said. "For it is in the courageous actions of our soldiers that continues the drumbeat of duty, honor, country."

The chief said he was present at West Point as a young cadet when MacArthur gave his well-known farewell address and spoke about "duty, Honor, Country. Those three hallowed words."

He said he was also present just a couple of months ago when Sen. Daniel Inouye, chairman of the appropriations

defense subcommittee and a World War II veteran from Hawaii who was awarded the Medal of Honor, received the academy's Sylvanus Thayer Award.

Inouye is not a West Point graduate, but duty, honor, country have been a part of his life as a soldier and throughout 43 years of public service in Congress, Shinseki said.

"Two great soldiers. Each took a different path, but follow the values of duty, honor, country," Shinseki said.

The MacArthur award is given annually to 13 active-Army, seven National Guard and seven Reserve officers who exhibit extraordinary leadership abilities and embody the ideals embraced by MacArthur.

Criteria for the award include the ability to motivate others, understand fellow soldiers and inspire commitment, teamwork and esprit de corps.

The MacArthur Leadership Award program is jointly sponsored by the Army and the General Douglas MacArthur Foundation.

Capt. William J. Prendergast IV, Oregon Army National Guard; commander, Co. D, 1st Battalion, 186th Infantry Regiment, was among the 2001 MacArthur awardees.

Military personnel subcommittee issues report on strength accounting

Military personnel subcommittee chairman John M. McHugh (R-NY) and ranking member Vic Snyder (D-AR) have led an inquiry into charges of misconduct and mismanagement among the highest ranks in the National Guard.

McHugh and Snyder released a report on April 18, 2002, based upon information obtained from the Department of Defense and the General Accounting Office, containing the preliminary findings of the military personnel subcommittee staff regarding a number of issues about Army National Guard strength accounting, senior National Guard leadership selection and oversight, and whistleblower protections.

HASC's preliminary report, in large measure, is an independent validation of the effectiveness of the Army National Guard's personnel reporting system, and the steps they have taken in conjunction with the GAO to further improve the process.

HASC's report recognizes that "...the Army National Guard (drill attendance and accountability rate) has improved significantly over the last several years" and that "widespread, systematic inflation of unit strengths...is not evident..."

HASC's report acknowledges that GAO confirms DoD reported data that "indicates a 97 per cent (unit training assembly and drill) participation rate throughout the Army National Guard."

It further demonstrates, as the National Guard and DoD have stated repeatedly, that USA Today's allegations are, for the most part, dated, anecdotal, and taken out of context.

A separate Defense Department report also concluded that the number of what some refer to as "ghost soldiers"—inactive guard members left on rosters to protect funding and troop allocation—isn't as great as suggested in media reports.

The 41-page House report also echoed positive findings from the previous GAO and Defense findings, including that "strength accounting in the Army National Guard has improved significantly over the last several years."

In regard to adjutant general oversight, HASC reinforces "...a central reality... that the National Guard is both a state and federal entity, a separation that has its roots in both the Constitution and the law."

HASC further reinforces that "data suggests that the IG system is an effective mechanism for identifying and substantiating misconduct..."

Finally, the report calls on GAO to continue to review and assess these processes.

While DoD welcomes any oversight and assessment, it should be pointed out that DoD has provided thorough oversight before and during these allegations, and will continue to provide strong oversight not only for the Army National Guard, but also for the other six reserve components and five active components.

The report and related information are available on the House Armed Services Committee website at: www.house.gov/hasc/reports/02-04-18mchugh file:///H:/Webpage/reports/02-04-18mchugh.pdf

Rollin' with the wing kings: "Let's Roll" art adorns Oregon aircraft in tribute to Sept. 11 attacks



Tech Sgt. Todd Enlund

Cols. Garry Dean and Rusty Moen, commanders of the 142nd Fighter Wing and 939th Rescue Wing respectively, join forces to unveil the "Let's Roll" nose art displayed on Portland-based F-15s, HC-130s and HH-60Gs.

Bases Air Force wide are displaying the "Let's Roll" nose art on their aircraft of choice to pay tribute to the heroes and victims of the Sept. 11th terrorist attack.

Personalizing military aircraft with custom artwork began a few years before WWI used as unit identification and to build esprit de corps.

The "Let's Roll" artwork was designed by Senior Airman Duane White at Air Combat Command's multimedia center at Langley AFB VA.

The inspiration came from the first heroes in the fight against terrorism when 32 year old Todd Beamer led other passengers to fight the terrorist on United Airline Flight 93.

It was believed the flight was headed for the White House or Capitol Building before crashing into a field in western Pennsylvania.

"Let's Roll" has served as a rally cry for our nation as we continue our war on terrorism.

The nose art decal will stay on Oregon's F-15 aircraft #142 until Sept 12, 2002.

Horror: 1042nd Med Co rescues downed Air Force crew and injured hikers

Continued from Page ONE

"We heard a big bang," Dave Mull, a member of American Medical Response, said. "It was silent, as if it was all happening in slow-motion. The next thing, everyone was on radios, yelling that a bird went down."

The crash was transmitted live by Portland-area television stations while viewers watched in horror.

"Oh my goodness," one of the announcers said. "Oh, that's horrible. You're watching this live, folks. Oh, if only this were a movie. You saw the tail go into the mountain and it just blew apart, rolling down the hillside, oh, good Lord!"

The Pavehawk hit the snow, shattering the rotors, as the fuselage rolled about 1,000 feet down the mountain. The helicopter came to rest upside down on a snow field.

"The Air Force pilots sensed something went seriously wrong," Staff Sgt. Frayne Fowler, a flight medic with the 1042nd Med. Co., said. "They cut the cable holding the litter with the injured climber, and steered the faltering helicopter away from the ground crews at the site."

Fowler was on the side of the mountain, assisting an injured climber, about 25 to 30 feet away from the Pavehawk when the disaster happened.

"As we were giving (the pilot) the windup signal for the cable, we were hunched over, protecting our patient," Jeff Livick, from the Timberline Ski Patrol and one of the ground rescuers, said. "I felt the rotor wash kind of dissipate, at which point I looked up and the cable was falling out of the helicopter

and the helicopter's rotors started hitting the wall. Things flew everywhere, started rolling down the hill, bodies flying out. Basically the most incredible thing I've witnessed in my life."

The quick thinking of the pilots saved the lives of the rescuers on the ground above the crevasse.

"At that high of an altitude, pilots can lose lift capabilities," Maj. Gen. Alexander H. Burgin, Oregon National Guard adjutant general, said. "Wind gusts or a sudden draft could also have contributed."

Authorities believe that extremely thin air at the summit and occasional wind gusts contributed to the crash.

Col. Scott Neilsen, from the 939th Rescue Wing, was watching the television coverage with the rest of the unit at headquarters when the helicopter crashed.

Neilsen said that the Reservists know the risks involved in their jobs, but their motto, "These things we do so that others may live," sums up their attitude.

One of the 1042nd Med. Co. helicopters had just offloaded a climber at Legacy Emanuel Hospital in Portland when they received the news about the Pavehawk going down. The crew made sure their patient was taken care of, and sprinted back to their Blackhawk to race back up the mountain and help their Air Force comrades.

"Each consecutive roll (of the helicopter) left one more person sitting in the snow," Livick said. "So this helicopter finally came to rest upside down, with just five people sitting in the snow, wondering what the heck just happened."

According to Maj. Kris Kraiger, of the 304th Rescue Squadron, Air Force Reserve, all six airmen on the Pavehawk are safe and in fair condition.

The investigation process will be a long one, as authorities go



Courtesy of Storm Smith, Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue

Rescuing injured climbers.

through the maintenance and flight records of the equipment and the personnel, according to Karole Scott, a spokeswoman for the rescue wing.

Officials are not sure how long it will take to recover the wreckage. The helicopter's fuel tanks have to be emptied in order to protect the environment.

The Pavehawk, an HH-60G Sikorsky helicopter, is built to provide search and rescue operations. It's typical crew includes two pilots, one flight engineer, and one gunner. The Pavehawk's primary mission is to rescue stranded personnel in combat. Because of this mission, and the equipment necessary to support it, including internal auxiliary fuel tanks, weapons and a refueling port, the Pavehawk weighs in at more than 4,000 pounds heavier than the UH-60L Blackhawk.

The UH-60L Blackhawk, also built by Sikorsky, has better high altitude and hot weather performance, greater lifting capacity, and improved corrosion protection. The highest altitude a Blackhawk can perform in is 19,151 feet, according to Sikorsky specifications.

After the Pavehawk crash, the 1042nd Med. Co. sent two more Blackhawks and crews to Mt. Hood.

"We have a lot of pride in our unit," Chief Warrant Officer 4 Al Jung said.

Chief Warrant Officer 4 John Trotter agreed.

"Everyone makes (rescues like this) happen—the mechanics, the crew, everyone. It's a team thing," Trotter said.

At the height of the crisis, there were four of the 1042nd's Blackhawks, two Air Force Reserve Pavehawks, and

LifeFlight on the mountain. They all rotated to assist with the injured.

The deep bergchundur-classified crevasse is located about 800 feet below Mt. Hood's summit, near the last pitch to the top. It is a well-known hazard on the mountain, and usually grows as the glacier recedes in warmer temperatures.

The distance from the bergchundur to the point where the terrain gets steep is about 250 feet and a 65-degree slope. The bergchundur is between 10 and 45 feet deep at this time of the year, according to Mike Christy, of the American Medical Response.

Twelve of the Blackhawks and their crews are preparing to deploy to Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.



Courtesy of kgw.com

Flight crew Staff Sgt. John Phelps, Sgt. Patrick Casha, Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Hoggard, Spc. Tony Quesada, and Sgt. Dan Bobo are assisted by a LifeFlight medic while off loading an injured climber at Emanuel Hospital in Portland.



Courtesy of kgw.com

Staff Sgt. Frayne Fowler, 1042nd Medical Company (Air Ambulance), is lowered to the ground next to the crevasse on Mount Hood to begin the rescue of injured climbers.

Hood's Heroes

- Pilot Chief Warrant Officer 4 Mike Cataldo
- Co-pilot Chief Warrant Officer 4 Al Jung
- Crew chief Sgt. James Tourney
- Flight medics Staff Sgt. Frayne Fowler and Sgt. Patrick Casha
- *~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*
- Pilot Chief Warrant Officer 4 Rodney Comstock
- Co-pilot Capt. Tom Lingle
- Crew chief Sgt. 1st Class John Esch
- Flight medics Sgt. Dan Bobo and Spc. Tony Quesada

- Pilot Chief Warrant Officer 4 Rick Chagnon
- Co-pilot Chief Warrant Officer 4 John Trotter
- Crew chief Sgt. Scott Dye
- Flight medics Staff Sgt. John Phelps and Sgt. Jason Johnson
- Pilot Chief Warrant Officer 5 Marco Frye
- Co-pilot Maj. Dan Hokanson
- Crew chief Sgt. Floyd Petterson
- Flight medics Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Hoggard and Spc. Randy DeFord



Courtesy of Storm Smith, Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue

The fallen Air Force Reserve Pavehawk.



M married to the

They say that marriage is a 50-50 proposition, but you will find that if you are truly concerned, marriage is a full thirty-three and a third share. We're talking about the words used at a soldier's wedding.

"Wilt thou, Soldier, take this woman as thy lawful wedded wife, to have and to hold as long as my allotment cometh, will allow? Wilt thou love her, take her to me?"

"Ho"

"Wilt thou, Civilian, take this soldier as thy lawful wedded husband, to have and to hold as long as my allotment cometh, sudden orders, uncertain mail and all other problems of military life, wash and fold uniforms and keep the house?"

"I v"

"I, Soldier, take thee as my wedded wife from 1630 to 0700 as far as my allotment cometh, change without notice, for better or worse, for earlier or later."

"I, Civilian, take thee, Soldier, as my wedded husband, subject to the whims of military life, to have and to hold as long as my allotment cometh."

"By virtue of the authority vested in Army Regs, subject to regulations, I do hereby take thee, you man and you woman."

Active duty benefits

At a glance

Active duty identification card

Authorizes appropriate medical; commissary; exchange; and morale, welfare and recreation (MWR) benefits and privileges for the period of active duty specified on the members' orders.

Medical care

Family coverage available through Tricare, the military health care system similar to civilian HMOs.

Dental coverage

If the service member is on orders for active duty for more than two years, the family may enroll in the Tricare family member dental program.

Commissary

Supermarkets usually located on military installations that sell food, sundry and cleaning products for cost plus a five percent surcharge.

Exchange

The military department and drug store. All Guard and Reserve personnel and their dependents have unlimited shopping privileges at any exchange. A military ID is required.

MWR

Activities include arts and crafts facilities, bowling centers, golf courses, libraries, outdoor recreation, and youth services activities. Guard and Reserve members and their dependents are entitled to use all class "C" facilities on the same basis as active duty personnel.

Legal assistance

All military services have legal assistance officers available to assist families with legal problems during periods of active duty. Typical legal services include wills, powers of attorney, child support, income tax returns, and contractual disputes.

Basic pay

An active-duty member is entitled to basic pay. Basic pay is based on a 30-day monthly rate with pay periods twice each month—the 15th and the 30th.

Basic Allowance for Subsistence (BAS)

This allowance is intended to provide a partial subsidy for the cost of food. It is generally paid only when the member serves on active duty. The number of dependents does not affect BAS, and it is not subject to income tax.

Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH)

This allowance is intended to provide partial compensation for the cost of housing while the member serves on active duty. The housing allowance for members serving on active duty for more than 139 days, or those serving any length of time in conjunction with a contingency operation such as the Kosovo conflict, is paid according to the member's rank, dependent status (with or without dependents) and location of the duty station.

Travel on military aircraft

Dependent family members may travel space available with their sponsor only outside of the continental United States or to and from the continental United States when the member is serving on active duty. No other space-a travel is offered to Guard and Reserve family members.

Government quarters

Members and their families may use government quarters while on vacation on an "as available" basis.

Mobilization. An art form to bring reserve component members to active duty.

The challenge, according to the mobilization process motto, is placing "the right unit and reservist...at the right time...in the right place...with the right training."

Reservists, about 1.5 million strong, represent about half of the service members in the Department of Defense.

The reserve components are comprised of: the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, Army National Guard and Air National Guard.

Volunteer reservists are always the first ones called for military service.

Selected reservists (those drilling regularly and getting paid) are the first to be recalled, followed by individual ready reservists (those who do not drill with a specific unit).

After that, standby reservists and retiree reservists (those who are not on disability) are called.

After the voluntary recall, there are four levels of mobilization.

Presidential reserve call I up The President has the authority to call up to 200,000 members of the selected reserve to involuntary duty from the seven reserve components for as long

as 270 days.

This could occur before the next level of mobilization, or to support any operational missions.

Partial mobilization

The President and Congress mobilize as many as one million members of the ready reserve forces in response to threats to national security, for up to 24 months.

Full mobilization

Authorized by Congress and the President, full mobilization includes all reserve units in response to a declaration of war or national emergency.

These would include all members of the ready reserve, standby reserve, and retired reserve, as well as National Guard units.

Congress must declare a state of emergency, and can hold forces in uniform for the duration of the emergency plus six months.

Total mobilization

When forces beyond the existing force are needed, total mobilization is authorized, meaning additional units would be organized and activated.

Total mobilization involves bringing the industrial base of the country to full capacity to provide resources and equipment capable of supporting a full-scale war, such as in World War II.

And you thought y

When Dad's away, Mom's the commanding officer.

When Dad's home, Mom's the executive officer, coordinating and executing actions for the command team.

Keeping track of the kids, she's the S-1.

Collecting the neighborhood news, and relaying it to Dad, she's the S-2.

Making plans for the entire family and training the kids, she's the S-3.

Stocking food and supplies for the family, she's the S-4.

She answers all the family correspondence and makes appointments for Dad, that makes her the adjutant.

Worrying about the family budget makes her the comptroller.

e Military



and that a military spouse will disagree with you. As far as she's
bet there is many a brown bagger's wife who sometimes wishes
reading read something like this:

to live together insofar as the US Total Army Personnel Command
ovies and return home promptly after leave?"

oah."

husband, bearing in mind liberty hours, unit schedules, watches,
y life? Wilt thou serve him, love, honor and wait for him, learn to
e smoking lamp lit for him at home?"

will."

r as permitted by my commanding officer, liberty hours subject to
r or later, and I promise to write at least once a week."

o orders of the Army, changing residence whenever the Army says,
es through regularly, and there is given my troth."

lations of PERSCOM and latest PERSCOM notices, I pronounce
nd wife!!!!"

With the mobilization of Guard and Reserve soldiers comes additional benefits for their families.

However, because of the geographic locations of Guard and Reserve families, it is often difficult to obtain information about your benefits, and in some cases to use them.

When a Guard or Reserve member is called to active duty for more than 30 days, part of the processing for entry on active duty should be the completion of a DD Form 1172, Application for Uniformed Services Identification Card—DEERS enrollment for each eligible family member and legal dependent.

This application will allow family members and dependents to receive the tan active-duty-dependent ID card.

These cards authorize appropriate medical, commissary, exchange and MWR privileges for the period of active duty on the soldier's orders.

Family members and eligible dependents need to go to an ID card issuing site in order to be issued the appropriate ID card. Ask your command or unit family program coordinator for a list of ID card issuing locations closest to you. Be sure to call ahead to confirm specific requirements, documents, and hours of operation.

When Guard members are on active

duty for more than 30 days, medical care is available for family members and dependents. Eligibility begins the day the soldier starts active duty.

Eligible family members may be treated on a space-available basis at any military medical treatment facility. The availability is often very limited, so a desirable option is to enroll in Tricare.

Tricare is the military health care system. It is similar to civilian health maintenance organizations (HMO).

It is organized by regions. Each region is composed of military and civilian companies to help provide care. Tricare offers three plans: Prime, Standard and Extra.

Contact the Northwest Tricare region at (800) 404-0110.

If the Guard member is on orders for active duty for more than two years, family members are eligible for the Tricare family member dental program.

While a Guard member is on active duty, his or her dependents can utilize commissaries, exchanges, family service programs, legal assistance, MWR facilities, and more.

For comprehensive information on all family benefits, service pay scale, and helpful web links, check out the military's Lifelines web site at:

www.lifelines2000.org

you were a civilian...

Paying the bills, and accounting to Dad for the paychecks makes her disbursing.

Looking for a new place to live when we move, she's like billeting.

Assigning us chores to do, getting us fed, bathed, and put to bed, she's our first sergeant.

Serving the food and doing dishes, she's the mess hall.

Carrying small children, she's ammunition handler.

Driving the family to all our appointments, she's the duty driver.

Looking like a queen when she goes out with Dad, she's a military man's lady.

Gosh, Mom's the whole darn military.

Helpful links

Army Family Liaison home page
www.hqda.army.mil/accsim/family/family.htm

Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS)
www.asafm.army.mil/DFAS

Department of Defense
www.defenselink.mil

Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve
www.ncesgr.osd.mil

Lifelines
www.lifelines2000.org

Military Assistance Program "MAPsite"
Helpful information on family services, finances and more
dticaw.dtic.mil/mapsite

National Guard
www.ngb.dtic.mil

Reserve Affairs (Office of Assistant Secretary of Defense)
raweb.osd.mil

Tricare
www.tricare.osd.mil

US Army Community and Family Support Center
Morale, Welfare and Recreation
trol.redstone.army.mil/mwr/index.html

American Red Cross
www.redcross.org

Defense Department Teen Site
dticaw.dtic.mil/mtom/

Morale, Welfare and Recreation
www.armymwr.com

Military Spouse Support Network
members.aol.com/widowclub/index.html

National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS)
www.ngaus.org

SpouseNet
www.spousenet.com

Income tax changes mean more military qualify for EIC

Tax changes affecting reportable income for this year will mean more service members qualify for the earned income tax credit, said Defense Department officials.

Congress has changed the way income is figured and the way the credit is paid. Uniformed military members will be the chief beneficiaries, according to Army Lt. Col. Tom Emswiler, executive director of the Armed Forces Tax Council.

In the past, the basic allowances for housing and subsistence and pay excluded from income due to combat zone service was included in calculating whether a person qualified for the earned income tax credit. The credit was "paid" with the filing of one's annual income tax return.

"This year Congress is only going to make you include the money in your taxable income," Emswiler said. The allowances and tax exclusion won't count as earned income when computing the credit, he noted. In addition, Thrift Savings Program contributions also will be excluded.

"What this means is that more members are going to qualify for earned income credit this year than ever did previously," he said.

The earned income credit is for employees who don't make a lot of money. Income limits this year are \$29,201 (\$30,201 if married filing jointly) if you have one qualifying child; \$33,178 (\$34,178 if married filing jointly) if you have more than one qualifying child and \$11,060 (\$12,060 if married filing jointly) if you do not have a qualifying child. Other rules also apply.

Refundable credits, like the earned income tax credit, are worth more than deductions because they reduce income taxes dollar for dollar and the government pays the taxpayer any credit remaining after the tax due falls to zero. For most persons claiming the credit, deductions would reduce taxes by 28 cents or less on the dollar and then only to zero.

Instead of waiting for a lump-sum annual credit payment, taxpayers can request advance monthly installments now if they expect both their annual earned income and adjusted gross income to be less than \$29,201 (\$30,201 if married filing jointly); they have or expect to have at least one qualifying child; and they expect to qualify for the credit in tax year 2002.

Service members with questions about the credit should visit their installation Defense Finance and Accounting Service office or legal assistance office. The Internal Revenue Service web site www.irs.gov, can provide full details, forms and guidance. Click on "Earned Income Credit," Publication 596; or "Your Income Tax," IRS Publication 17; or enter "Earned Income Credit" into the site's search engine box.

Members who believe they qualify for advance monthly credit payments this year should fill out IRS Form W-5, available at installation DFAS offices or on the IRS Web site, Emswiler said.

PERSCOM web page updated with user-friendly information

Users logging on to the Personnel Command Home page, www.perscom.army.mil, will see a new look beginning May 6.

"Step one is to provide our users with a better organized and more user-

friendly site," said Col. Chuck Triplett, PERSCOM chief information officer.

The front page will still have popular links to promotions and school lists, Army Knowledge online, assignment satisfaction key and official military personnel file. The big changes will be in how we have organized the page, Triplett added.

"It's like reading a newspaper," Triplett said. "We want the most important information to be up front and above the fold. We know the Army depends on PERSCOM to have promotion and school information available at all times."

The page will be broken down into officer, enlisted, and soldier, family and veteran information.

Officers can browse directly into branch newsletters, career field designation, colonels division, evaluations, schools and training. Enlisted surfers similarly can find newsletters, drill sergeant information, evaluations and promotions, recruiting information, and schools and training.

Soldier, family and veterans information will link to information such as PERSCOM's awards and casualty branches, Army education, personnel records, and retiree services.

Some of the big improvements to the site will be a better and more friendly search feature, a PERSCOM guide for visitors and newcomers, and an A to Z listing, officials said.

All of the links into PERSCOM directorates will remain unchanged for the present, PERSCOM officials said. They have established a work group to continue to improve the web site and said future versions will incorporate features such as a MyPERSCOM feature which will allow a soldier to customize and access personnel information in a way that best meets their needs.

In addition, the TAGD online site for the adjutant general was just redesigned about six weeks ago. It can be accessed at www.perscom.army.mil/tagd/index.htm or through PERSCOM Online by clicking on The Adjutant General Directorate.

Powers of attorney benefit families during deployments

There are many occasions during the course of a military career that a power of attorney might be necessary. But, legal experts caution, do your homework before granting one to somebody.

"Typically, service members will need a power of attorney when they may be deploying or going overseas and leaving their loved ones behind to handle the affairs of the household," Navy Lt. Joan Malik said. Malik is a legal assistance attorney in the Pentagon's Joint Service Legal Assistance Office.

There are two basic types of power of attorney, special and general. A general power of attorney basically gives the person who holds it the power to conduct business in your name, Malik said.

Service members can grant a special power of attorney, which spells out the specific ways it can be used. She said the more specific a power of attorney is the better. This prevents people from using it for purposes other than those the service member intended.

"Don't give a general power of attorney to someone you don't trust wholeheartedly," she said. Base legal assistance attorneys can help service members determine which type of

power of attorney will best meet their needs.

Service members commonly need to issue powers of attorney when they change assignments. They often leave their spouses behind to sell cars, move out of government quarters and a myriad of other things. Those spouses often need legal authorization to conduct the necessary business.

Service members may also need a power of attorney to provide the person caring for their dependent children during a deployment or exercise. Caregivers may need a power of attorney to enroll children in school or other activities, Malik said. Caregivers would particularly need a power of attorney to authorize medical treatment if a child needs it, she said.

Medical powers of attorney are used if a person becomes incapacitated and someone else needs to make medical decisions. "This document designates who you want to speak on your behalf regarding your care," Malik said. She suggested sitting down with the person who holds your power of attorney to make sure they understand your wishes in different circumstances.

Generally, Malik explained, powers of attorney are granted for one year. She said a member can revoke a power of attorney in two ways if circumstances change.

The first and simpler is to physically destroy the original document, Malik said.

The second is to write a letter of revocation, have it notarized and send a copy to the person holding the power of attorney. It's best to also send a copy of the revocation to places where the person is likely to use the power of attorney, such as banks or moving companies.

Military service members and their families can have powers of attorney drawn up and notarized at most base legal assistance offices. Malik recommended troops call their legal assistance office if they have any questions about powers of attorney.

FCC program teaches military smart way to keep in touch

"Calling Home: What You Should Know" is the title of a new Federal Communications Commission brochure that tells service members overseas and stateside how to save money when keeping in touch with families and friends via telephones.

The brochure is packed with information about making long distance contact cheaper for defense personnel and their families, according to K. Dane Snowden, chief of the FCC Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau in Washington.

"The FCC is trying to educate people about what their options and rights are," Snowden said during a recent interview. "We've created a brochure that we'll distribute to military installations across the country and abroad so everyone will have this information at their fingertips."

"The brochure contains different calling options," Snowden noted. "It tells consumers what to ask a carrier before they sign up for a particular calling plan, and tells them where they can go should they have any problems with a carrier."

All consumers will find the tips helpful, but the FCC designed the program specifically for military personnel. Snowden said all the information is in a central location,

either in the brochure or through the FCC web site at www.fcc.gov/cgb. The toll free number is 1-888-CALL-FCC (1-888-225-5322). The TTY number is: 1-888-TELL-FCC (1-888-835-5322).

Snowden said one of the most important questions to ask a carrier is if the carrier has a military option plan.

Snowden said most people don't realize they need to shop around for the best deal in telephone service "as we would do for a car or dishwasher."

"If you have access to the Internet, check out the different carrier's websites. If they have a search button, look for 'military plans,'" Snowden said. People who don't own a personal computer can log into a friend's computer, find access in most libraries and find inexpensive "Internet cafes" while traveling abroad, he added.

Prepaid calling cards can be money savers, but consumers should be careful about which ones they buy, Snowden pointed out.

"We encourage all consumers to read the fine details on the prepaid calling cards and ensure they're from a reputable company," he said. "It's also important to realize what the costs are. For example, if it's 30 minutes for \$10, it's important to understand what the first minute cost and what hook up fees are. That way you prevent getting five minutes worth of calling and 25 minutes worth of fees associated with it."

Military exchanges offer prepaid cards in varying amounts, however, Snowden points out that service members should still compare costs.

"Just because it's sold in the exchange doesn't mean it's the best rate," he said. "Some service providers give discount minutes to defense personnel on their prepaid cards. Read the card carefully for costs associated with international calls."

Snowden warns people not confuse calling cards with prepaid calling cards.

"Using a calling card doesn't necessarily guarantee a low rate and rarely carries the lower rate that applies to a domestic calling plan," he explained.

The toll-free 1-800 or 1-888 numbers are good options for people in the United States who make calls to a single long distance number within the country.

"Toll-free numbers often provide the lowest rate alternative for calls made to one number," Snowden said.

Cell phones are convenient, but they don't work everywhere and they can be expensive, he warns.

Callers can use the international callback service to call anywhere in the world and pay US rates.

"You call your US service provider and they'll connect you or 'callback' with an American dial tone," Snowden said.

However, he emphasized that, "This service should be researched and discussed with the service provider before leaving the United States."

Snowden said military base phone banks are another inexpensive way to stay in touch with family and friends. But the demand is so great that it can be difficult to get access.

The "Calling Home" campaign, which was launched this month, is slated to run for a year, but will be lengthened if needed, Snowden said.

"Our goal is to get information in the hands of all service personnel and defense civilian employees to help them save money when keeping in touch with their families and friends."

Cold War medal not created by DoD; not authorized for wear

The Department of Defense will not be creating a Cold War service medal, and commemorative medals being sold by private vendors are not authorized for wear on military uniforms, defense officials said.

"After careful consideration, it was decided not to create a medal," said Brad Loo, deputy director of officer and enlisted management personnel for the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

"Throughout the Cold War years, commanders used a full spectrum of individual, unit and service awards to recognize the achievements and sacrifices of service members," he said. Former Secretary of Defense William Cohen approved a Cold War Recognition Certificate in 1999, and the Army, as executive agent, has been responsible for issuing them to any eligible applicant.

The certificate recognizes all service members and federal employees who faithfully served in the U.S. military during the Cold War era, Loo added. For certificate purposes, that era is the end of World War II, Sept. 2, 1945, to the collapse of the Soviet Union, Dec. 26, 1991.

Last year, someone began sending e-mail to people informing them of the approval of a Cold War medal, said Arlette King, chief of policy for the Army Award Branch.

"We've tried to correct the issue by putting out messages on our web site stating that there is not an authorized medal," King said. Several different designs of medals are offered on the Internet—and even at military clothing sales stores. "This is America. Anyone can purchase the commemorative medal from private vendors, just not wear it on his or her uniform."

It's illegal to wear unauthorized medals on a military uniform, said Master Sgt. Kittie Messman, uniform policy noncommissioned officer for the office of the Army deputy chief of staff for personnel.

Messman cited Title 18, Section 704, "Military Medal or Decorations": "Whoever knowingly wears a medal not authorized by Congress...shall be fined or imprisoned not more than six months or both."

The only official site to apply for a Cold War Recognition Certificate is the Army's at coldwar.army.mil/. Any other sites offering certificates, replicas or other commemoratives for sale are neither official nor endorsed by DoD or the services.

New DEERS consolidates medical information by 2003

The new Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System, scheduled to begin in 2003, consolidates medical information from more than 120 different databases into a single one that will benefit not only Tricare patients but also the providers, said an Air Force surgeon general official.

"New DEERS is really a tremendous step forward," said Maj. (Dr.) Paul Friedrichs, operations branch chief of the health benefits and policy division at Bolling Air Force Base, D.C. "It will consolidate information on eligibility, enrollment, claims processing, the primary care manager, and if enrollees have other health insurance."

Under the old system, the major said, the large number of databases resulted in repeated problems for patients and medical officials.

"One common example is that one

database would reflect that a person was enrolled in Region 1 while another would report that (he or she was) enrolled in Region 6," Friedrichs said. "Similar conflicts between the various databases could occur, creating problems when a claim was processed or a person sought medical care."

Information on patients from all of the services, including the Coast Guard, as well as Guard, Reserve and any other agency using the Tricare health system will be included in the new database, said Friedrichs.

"For the first time, all military treatment facilities and Tricare contractors will be able to access New DEERS to verify someone's eligibility for care, which is a real advantage, particularly if you're traveling," he said.

Keeping such a massive database up to date can be a daunting task, but one that Friedrichs believes is necessary.

"It improves the way we can deliver health care," he said. "We will be able to get the right information about a patient at the right time to improve (his or her) treatment, enrollment or claims processing needs. For example, providers now don't have to worry about searching through duplicate records to find the correct lab results. This will greatly help providers give our customers the best care possible."

New DEERS is being deployed in three phases.

The first, deployed in July 2001, consolidated everyone's enrollment information.

The second phase, deployed in October 2001, added the Tricare for Life information to the database for senior enrollees (those older than 65) and anyone who qualified for Medicare.

Phase 3 will be deployed next year and will contain the remaining information regarding claims, data about other health insurance carried by enrollees, and additional administrative data, he said.

Friedrichs expects full implementation of New DEERS in 2003.

"I'm a doctor by training, but I've been interested in medical information systems for a long time," he said. "(New DEERS) had probably the most successful pre-deployment testing that I've ever seen in the military."

"We spent two months testing the database by running thousands of test patient transactions prior to deploying Phase 1, and we'll do the same again before Phase 3," he said. "In fact, we've already corrected hundreds of thousands of errors as we've consolidated the information. The new system allows us to correct many of these in real-time as soon as they are identified. And the advantage of the system is that impact to the patient is minimal with most corrections and transactions occurring behind the scenes."

DoD launches new website for news on war against terrorism

The U.S. Defense Department's unconventional war against terrorism has spawned an unconventional web site to report news about that war: DefendAmerica.mil.

The new site, which can also be found at DefendAmerica.gov, offers the latest news, photographs, transcripts and other information about the U.S.-led global effort against terrorism. As DefendAmerica.com's editor, David Jackson, put it: "If it has anything to do with the war, we're interested."

The Defense Department launched the site before Operation Enduring

Freedom began last October. The goal was to inform the public, both in the U.S. and abroad, of what the U.S. was doing to combat global terrorism, according to Victoria Clarke, assistant secretary of defense for public affairs.

"We wanted people to know what our service members were doing at home and overseas," the Pentagon spokeswoman said. "Our goal is to help the public understand and appreciate how dedicated and committed our men and women in uniform really are."

The site captured attention quickly. Shortly after DefendAmerica.com's debut on the Internet, USA Today named it a "hot site" and Time Magazine reported: "If you want the official war news, that's easy—go to the Pentagon's comprehensive site, www.DefendAmerica.mil."

Although DefendAmerica.com has been available to the public for only seven months, it already boasts readers in more than 70 countries, and links to it can be found on web sites all over the Internet, according to Jackson, a veteran newspaper and magazine journalist who was brought on board to edit DefendAmerica.com.

Content on the site changes daily, Jackson said, and includes coverage of every Pentagon briefing by Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld and other top military officials.

A feature called "Americans working together" reports on the myriad ways Americans are working together to combat terrorism, while "profile" spotlights individuals and the roles they play in the war effort. Archives of both features can be accessed on the site.

DefendAmerica.com is also the home of "America's Thank You Note", an online form where supporters are invited to sign a virtual thank-you note to US service members.

A daily feature titled "We Remember Their Sacrifice" pays tribute to each victim who died in last year's Sept. 11 attack on the Pentagon.

Military buffs have found the site to be a rich source of information on military aircraft and equipment. A "database" section offers technical information about a wide range of military systems and equipment.

Another section, "backgrounder," offers information on subjects from Afghanistan to weather and its influence on warfare. The site also contains links to other government and military web sites along with streaming audio and video news stories.

DefendAmerica.com reports on all branches of the military, including the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force and Coast Guard, both active duty and reserve components.

Probably the most popular feature has been DefendAmerica.com's photo gallery archive, which offers photo essays by joint combat camera and other military photographers that chronicle the progress of the war, from the Sept. 11 terrorists' attacks to the current campaign to help Afghanistan rebuild after years of civil war and unrest.

"There are a lot of stories to tell about this war effort," Jackson said, "and there's an enormous demand out there from both Americans and international readers to learn more. We're glad that they're finding us an authoritative place to see what's going on."

Dairy Queen honors military with free sundaes on July 6

On Saturday, July 6, members of the American Legion family, active duty, National Guard and Reserve military

personnel and veterans showing proper membership or military identification cards will receive a free five-ounce sundae at Dairy Queen stores.

Dairy Queen is partnering with the American Legion family and the Children's Miracle Network to honor our troops fighting the war on terrorism, our veterans who fought in past wars for America and also raise \$1 million for Children's Miracle Network hospitals.

OCS hosting charitable golf tournament in Albany in July

Class 42 from the Oregon Military Academy is sponsoring a golf tournament, with proceeds benefitting the cadet class fund.

The tournament will be held at the Golf Club of Oregon on Sunday, July 21 at 8 a.m.

Located just minutes off of I-5 in Albany, this historic 18-hole golf course is nestled along the Willamette River and provides a beautiful wooded background in which to play.

The format is two-person best ball with prizes awarded to the lowest scoring four teams along with awards for various other competitions.

Also, as a non-profit organization, any donations made to the cadet class fund can be used as a tax write-off. The OCS tax ID number is 93-6001775.

The cost is \$45 per player, with a \$5 barbeque lunch available.

For more information or to register, contact SOC Don Holden at (503) 481-5575 or by e-mail at ocsopen@excite.com.

New MRE entrees approved and scheduled for 2004

American Forces Press Service reports that pepperoni and barbecue chicken pocket sandwiches have been approved for the Meal, Ready-to-Eat.

Shelf-stable sandwiches are comparable in size, calories and appearance to "Hot Pocket" brand sandwiches found in grocery stores.

Other varieties under consideration are a pizza pocket with Italian sausage and pepperoni slices in a tomato sauce, sliced beef in a barbecue sauce, tuna or chicken salad, ham and cheese, and peanut butter and jelly.

The same technology is being applied to a new program in combat breakfast foods.

Some proposed concepts include cream cheese-filled bagels with and without fruit fillings, sausage and cheese biscuits, breakfast burritos with bacon and eggs in a tortilla wrap, and breakfast pizza.

Prototypes are scheduled for this year with production planned for 2004.

House panel wants BAS eliminated, put in basic pay

The House Armed Services Committee has suggested that Basic Allowance for Subsistence be folded into basic pay.

The suggestion stems from disparity in the rules for paying BAS to deployed service members.

Based on the type of deployment and service-unique policies, some receive full BAS while others at the same duty location receive only a portion.

The long-range goal is for all members to get the full payment, but defense officials assert that this is a year or more in the future.

If BAS, now tax-free, becomes part of basic pay, it would be subject to income tax. On the positive side, it would be included when calculating retired pay.

Retiree Focus

Dental benefits available for retirees through Delta Dental

Dental health care benefits are available to eligible retiree family members through the Tricare Retiree Dental Program (TRDP), administered by Delta Dental.

Information regarding coverage and plans is available online at the Delta Dental website at www.ddpdelta.org/.

A special enrollment offer is available for those members who enroll within 90 days of their retirement from active duty.

Recent changes in the TRDP have provided for an enhanced benefits plan, which provides for more extensive coverage.

Enrollment is made easy by calling Delta at 1 (888) 336-3260, or by using their online registration at www.ddpdelta.org/cgi-bin/enrollment.asp

In addition to online enrollment, the website also enables you to check premium rates for your zip code, print claims form, view a payment chart, and check the frequently asked questions list for answers to most questions you may have about the program.

Since there is no such thing as a one size-fits-all plan, members of the retiree community are encouraged to become familiar with the plan before enrolling, and to remember that it is not a government subsidized program.

Delta Dental may also be contacted by e-mail.

Enrollment: ddpenroll@delta.org
Customer service: ddpservice@delta.org

Premium payment inquiries: ddpbilling@delta.org

Other Delta Dental contact information:

Enrollment (new enrollments, changes and related correspondence): (888) 838-8737 Monday - Friday (excluding holidays) 7 a.m. - 5 p.m. PST

Customer service (claims, eligibility inquiries and related correspondence): (888) 336-3260 Monday - Friday (excluding holidays) 8:15 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. PST

Interactive voice response: (888) 336-3260 Available around the clock Monday - Saturday

New VA handbook outlines programs and benefits for vets

A new edition of the Department of Veterans Affairs' popular handbook

Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents updates the rates for certain federal payments and outlines a variety of programs and benefits for American veterans.

Most of the nation's 25 million veterans qualify for some VA benefits, which range from health-care program enrollment to burial in a national cemetery.

In addition to describing benefits provided by VA, the 2002 edition of the 100-page booklet provides an overview of programs and services for veterans provided by other federal agencies.

Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents includes resources to help veterans access their benefits, comprising a listing of various toll-free phone numbers, world wide web locations and a directory of VA facilities throughout the country.

The handbook can be downloaded free from VA's web site at www.va.gov/opa/feature/

The handbook is one of the US Government Printing Office's (GPO) top selling consumer publications.

GPO accepts credit card orders for the publication at 1 (866) 512-1800 (toll-free) for a cost of \$5 each to US addresses, \$6.25 for international customers.

It can be ordered by mail from the GPO at: Superintendent of Documents, PO Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954 (stock #051-000-00225-3).

In addition to health-care and burial benefits, veterans may be eligible for programs providing home loan guarantees, educational assistance, training and vocational rehabilitation, income assistance pensions, life insurance and compensation for service-connected illnesses or disabilities.

In some cases, survivors of veterans who received benefits may also be entitled to continuing benefits.

The handbook describes programs for veterans with specific service experiences, such as prisoners of war or those concerned about environmental exposures in Vietnam or in the Gulf War, as well as special benefits for veterans with severe disabilities.

Update DEERS with changes of address or family status

It is important to update your Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) record to

show any changes of address, family status such as marriage, divorce, birth or adoption, etc.

Remember: Each family member's eligibility is independent and must be updated.

NOTE: If applicable, DEERS must also be updated to reflect your having Medicare Parts A/B and, when you turn 65, the medical section of your military ID card may need to be updated.

Home addresses are important because DEERS uses them to send out information on health benefits.

Also, health benefits could be denied if DEERS is not updated to reflect new information.

You may update your DEERS address in several ways:

* Visit the DEERS website at <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/swg/owa/webguard.login?appl=9012&rule=02>

* Visit a local personnel office that has a uniformed services I.D. card facility. Call ahead for hours of operation and for instructions if you are updating a record for someone who is housebound. To locate the nearest military ID card facility visit www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/

* Call the Defense Manpower Data Center Support Office (DSO) telephone center at (800) 538-9552. The best time to call is between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. (Pacific Time) Wednesday through Friday to avoid delays.

* Fax address changes to (831) 655-8317.

* Mail the change information to the DSO, ATTN: COA, 400 Gigling Road, Seaside, CA, 93955-6771. Other aspects of the DEERS record may be updated by sending appropriate documentation (such as marriage or death certificates) by mail or fax, or by visiting the nearest military ID card facility.

For additional questions regarding your DEERS record, call the DSO telephone center at (800) 538-9552. The hours of operation are 6 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (Pacific Time) Monday - Friday (excluding federal holidays).

Golf tournament scheduled to benefit Portland-area charity

Mark your calendars for the 2002 "Wings of Angels" 5th annual golf tournament and charity event on Aug. 30, at the Gresham Golf Course, in Gresham, Ore.

The event is open to all Department of Defense employees (state, federal and

retired), family members and guests.

Proceeds go to the Dougy Center, an organization in Portland that helps children cope with the traumatic loss of parents and siblings.

The tournament format is a four-person scramble—you pick your foursome; we pick your team with a blind draw.

The price is \$65 a person, which includes golf, cart, banquet, prizes and more.

The deadline for registration is Aug. 1, 2002.

For more information contact Senior Master Sgt. Debbie Cimmer at (503) 335-4492; or Lt. Col. Bill Nielsen, (503) 335-4197.

Retiree office looking for new orientation course instructors

The retiree office is attempting to identify former Oregon National Guard members who would be interested in serving as instructors for a recently-developed new employee orientation course.

Work is part-time, and a wide variety of subjects are taught during the course. If you are interested, contact:

RSO@or.ngb.army.mil or call (503) 584-3804 or toll-free 1 (800) 542-7500 ext. 3804.

Highlighted FAQs regarding Tricare-for-Life benefits

Q. Do I need a beneficiary card to receive health benefits under Tricare For Life?

A. No. A Tricare For Life beneficiary card is not necessary to receive care and enrollment is not required. When you receive care from a civilian provider, your provider will usually file claims with Medicare. Medicare will pay its portion, then automatically forward the claim to Tricare for the remaining amount. Tricare will send its payment directly to your provider. You will receive an explanation of benefits (EOB) that indicates the amount paid to your provider.

To be eligible for the expanded Tricare coverage, uniformed services retirees, eligible family members and survivors, need to be registered in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS). They also must be eligible for Medicare Part A, and purchased Medicare B.

Q. Is my ID card still OK even though it says "No civilian medical care after age 65?"

A. Yes. If you become Medicare eligible while your present ID card is valid, it is not necessary to have a new card issued as long as your DEERS information is current. The best way to verify Tricare eligibility in DEERS and to obtain a current ID card is to go to an ID card issuing facility. Its personnel can provide information about the documentation that is necessary, its address and hours of operation. If it is not possible for a beneficiary to go to an ID card facility, he or she should contact DEERS at 1-800-538-9552 for guidance.

Information about the nearest ID card facility can be found on the at www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl, or by calling Tricare's toll-free number, (888) DOD-LIFE (888-363-5433). More frequently asked questions about Tricare For Life are available online at www.tricare.osd.mil/ndaa/faq.cfm

Address changes

Retiree Services Office
PO Box 14350
Salem, Oregon 97309

- New Retiree Change
 Stop Deceased

Name of retiree _____

Rank of retiree _____

Current address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Retired from Army NG Air NG Federal State

Retiree Service Office

Open every
Tuesday

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

(503) 584-3804 or
(800) 452-7500 ext. 3804

E-mail:

RSO@or.ngb.army.mil

Mail inquiries to:

Retiree Service Office
PO Box 14350
Salem, Oregon 97309

This month In military history

The Revolutionary War 1775-1783

British vessel burned off Rhode Island
June 9, 1772

In an incident that some regard as the first naval engagement of the American Revolution, colonists board the *Gaspee*, a British vessel that ran aground off the coast of Rhode Island and set it aflame.

The *Gaspee* was pursuing the *Hanna*, an American smuggling ship, when it ran aground off Namquit Point in Providence's Narragansett Bay on June 9. That evening, John Brown, an American merchant angered by high British taxes on his goods, rowed out to the *Gaspee* with a number of other colonists and seized control of the ship. After leading away its crew, the Americans set the *Gaspee* afire.

When British officials attempted to prosecute the colonists involved in the so-called "Gaspee Affair," they found no Americans willing to testify against their countrymen. This renewed the tension in British-American relations and inspired the Boston patriots to found the "Committee of Correspondence," a propaganda group that rallied Americans to their cause by publicizing all anti-British activity that occurred throughout the 13 colonies.

The War of 1812 1812-1814

Second Anglo-American War begins
June 18, 1812

The day after the Senate followed the House of Representatives in voting to declare war against Great Britain, President James Monroe signs the declaration into law—and the War of 1812 begins. The American war declaration, opposed by a sizable minority in Congress, had been called in response to the British economic blockade of France, the induction of American seamen into the British Royal Navy against their will, and the British support of hostile Indian tribes along the Great Lakes frontier. A faction of Congress known as the "War Hawks" had been advocating war with Britain for several years and had not hidden their hopes that a US invasion of Canada might result in significant territorial land gains for the United States.

The Civil War 1861-1865

American Civil War ends
June 2, 1865

In an event that is generally regarded as marking the end of the Civil War,

Confederate Gen. Edmund Kirby Smith, commander of Confederate forces west of the Mississippi, signs the surrender terms offered by Union negotiators.

With Smith's surrender, the last Confederate army ceased to exist, bringing a formal end to the bloodiest four years in US history.

After four long years, the Confederacy was defeated at the total cost of 620,000 Union and Confederate dead.

World War I 1914-1918

Battle of Belleau Wood begins
June 6, 1918

The first large-scale battle fought by American soldiers in World War I begins in Belleau Wood, northwest of the Paris-to-Metz road.

In late May 1918, the third German offensive of the year penetrated the western front to within 45 miles of Paris. US forces under Gen. John J. Pershing helped halt the German advance, and on June 6 Pershing ordered a counteroffensive to drive the Germans out of Belleau Wood.

US Marines under Gen. James Harbord led the attack against the four German divisions positioned in the woods and by the end of the first day suffered more than 1,000 casualties.

For the next three weeks, the Marines, backed by US Army artillery, launched many attacks into the forested area, but German Gen. Erich Ludendorff was determined to deny the Americans a victory.

Ludendorff continually brought up reinforcements from the rear, and the Germans attacked the US forces with machine guns, artillery and gas.

Finally, on June 26, the Americans prevailed but at the cost of nearly 10,000 dead, wounded or missing in action.

World War II 1941-1945

D-Day
June 6, 1944

On this day in 1944, Supreme Allied Commander Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower gives the go-ahead for the largest amphibious military operation in history: Operation Overlord, code named D-Day, the Allied invasion of northern France.

By daybreak, 18,000 British and American parachutists were already on the ground. At 6:30 a.m., American troops came ashore at Utah and Omaha beaches.

At Omaha, the US First Division battled high seas, mist, mines, burning vehicles and

German coastal batteries, including an elite infantry division, which spewed heavy fire.

Many wounded Americans ultimately drowned in the high tide.

British divisions, which landed at Gold, Juno and Sword beaches, and Canadian troops also met with heavy German fire, but by the end of the day they were able to push inland.

Despite the German resistance, Allied casualties were overall relatively light.

The United States and Britain each lost about 1,000 men, and Canada 255.

Before the day was over, 155,000 Allied troops would be in Normandy.

However, the United States managed to get only half of the 14,000 vehicles and a quarter of the 14,500 tons of supplies they intended on shore.

The D-Day invasion has been the basis for several movies, from *The Longest Day* (1962), which boasted an all-star cast that included Richard Burton, Sean Connery, John Wayne, Robert Mitchum and Fabian, to *Saving Private Ryan* (1998), which includes some of the most grippingly realistic war scenes ever filmed, captured in the style of the famous Robert Capa still photos of the actual invasion.

The Korean War 1950-1953

Korean War begins
June 25, 1950

Armed forces from communist North Korea smash into South Korea, setting off the Korean War.

The United States, acting under the auspices of the United Nations, quickly sprang to the defense of South Korea and fought a bloody and frustrating war for the next three years.

Korea, a former Japanese possession, had been divided into zones of occupation following World War II.

US forces accepted the surrender of Japanese forces in southern Korea, while Soviet forces did the same in northern Korea.

Like in Germany, however, the "temporary" division soon became permanent.

The Soviets assisted in the establishment of a communist regime in North Korea, while the United States became the main source of financial and military support for South Korea.

On June 25, 1950, North Korean forces surprised the South Korean army (and the small US force stationed in the country), and quickly headed toward the capital city of Seoul.

The United States responded by pushing a resolution through the UN's Security Council calling for military assistance to South Korea. Russia was not present to veto the action as it was boycotting the Security Council at the time.

With this resolution in hand, President Harry S. Truman rapidly dispatched US land, air and sea forces to Korea to engage in what he termed a "police action."

The American intervention turned the tide, and US and South Korean forces marched into North Korea.

This action, however, prompted the massive intervention of communist Chinese forces in late 1950.

The war in Korea subsequently bogged down into a bloody stalemate.

The Korean War was the first "hot" war of the Cold War.

Over 55,000 American troops were killed in the conflict.

Korea was the first "limited war," one in which the US aim was not the complete and total defeat of the enemy, but rather the "limited" goal of protecting South Korea.

For the US government, such an approach was the only rational option in order to avoid a third world war and to keep from stretching finite American resources too thinly around the globe.

It proved to be a frustrating experience for the American people, who were used to the kind of total victory that had been achieved in World War II.

The public found the concept of limited war difficult to understand or support and the Korean War never really gained popular support.

The Vietnam War 1964-1975

US forces launch first offensive
June 28, 1965

In the first major offensive ordered for US forces, 3,000 troops of the 173rd Airborne Brigade—in conjunction with 800 Australian soldiers and a Vietnamese airborne unit—assault a jungle area known as Viet Cong Zone D, 20 miles northeast of Saigon.

The operation was called off after three days when it failed to make any major contact with the enemy.

One American was killed and nine American and four Australians were wounded.

The State Department assured the American public that the operation was in accord with Johnson administration policy on the role of US troops.

Did you know...

- Air National Guard has flown over 29,517 sorties and 110,123 flying hours in support of Operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom as of May 1, 2002.
- ANG deployed over 621 aircraft in the month of May 2002—about half the entire ANG fleet in support of ONE/OEF and AEF steady state.
- Army National Guard has deployed over 42,850 soldiers from 54 states, territories and the District of Columbia to CINCs so far this year (May 1, 2002).
- To date (May 1, 2002) National Guard has provided 236,179 workdays in support of CONUS military support/emergency response missions. 312 operations, 54 states and territories participating.

Looking Back

The Azuwar staff recently found back issues of the paper dating to 1974. As the Oregon Guard continues to excel into the new millennium, we would like to run selected stories to look back into the past.

Stake your claim

GRANTS PASS—Combat Support Company, 1st Battalion 186th Infantry, issued a challenge to other Guard units: who has the least, most, oldest, newest, etc., of anything pertaining to the Guard?

Combat Support Company stakes claim to the following categories.

Most Brothers is a Unit: Five sets, 11 total brothers: Private Chris and Specialist 4 Wayne Holcombe; Privates Jack and Jon Jacobsen; Sergeants David and Leonard L. Petrie; Sergeant Brian

and Corporal Mark Rathburn; Corporals Byron and Richard and Sergeant Ronnie Lanham.

Most Father-Son Teams in Same Unit and Platoon: Two teams: Platoon Sergeant and Private Lawrence Guise; Staff Sergeant Robert and Private Robert Starns.

Can your unit top this? Can you stake claim to another category? Write to the Azuwar with your statistics.

This article was first published in the June 1979 edition of the Azuwar.

Awards and Decorations

Meritorious Service Medal
 Lt Col Michael VanHoomissen HQORANG
 CMSgt James McIntosh 142 CF
 MSgt Rusty Zile 116 ACS

Air Force Achievement Medal
 CMSgt Gary Baldwin HQORANG
 MSgt Kimber Wright 142 SVF
 TSgt Teresa Whalen 244 CBCS

Oregon Meritorious Service Medal
 CMSgt Rodney Smith 142 LSF
 SMSgt Donald Kutcher 142 MXS
 MSgt Angela Fitzgerald 142 LG
 MSgt Jerry Nichols 272 CBCS
 SrA Mark Gibson 123 WF

Air Force Commendation Medal
 Lt Col George Smeraglio HQORANG
 MSgt William Faller 142 AGS

Oregon Commendation Medal
 TSgt Jacob Chow 272 CBCS

Paltridge receives national meritorious service award

On May 22, 2002, at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, DC, Capt. Lori Paltridge was awarded the Federal Asian/Pacific American Council's (FAPAC) Military Meritorious Service Award.

Paltridge has served as the state equal employment manager for the Oregon National Guard since January 1999.

She is responsible for the affirmative employment program, diversity program, special emphasis program, discrimination complaints program, equal employment opportunity training, and employee assistance program.

Established in 1985, the FAPAC promotes equal opportunity and cultural diversity for Asian/Pacific Americans within the federal and District of Columbia governments.

FAPAC works to promote overall awareness of the impact of Asian/Pacific American cultures, contributions, work ethics, and behavior as related to government employment.

The awards ceremony recognized outstanding military service members who

have made significant contributions to the advancement of Asian/Pacific Americans and the promotion of diversity and equal employment opportunity in the federal work force and the Asian/Pacific American community.

The criteria for the awards includes: Fostering an innovative and harmonic environment between the military and Asian/Pacific American community. Assisting the work force in overcoming discrimination and eliminating barriers that hinder equal opportunity for Asian/Pacific Americans and other minorities in the Armed Forces.

Promoting the tenets of civil and human rights, race relations, equal opportunity, affirmative action, human relations, and public service programs within the Armed Forces.

Allowing military members to participate in program activities that will benefit the career development of Asian/Pacific Americans in the Armed Forces.

Managing and promoting a diversified work force within the military.

Paltridge earned a bachelor's degree in Russian and Russian studies from Cornell College, Mt. Vernon, Iowa, in 1988.

She is also a graduate of the non-commissioned officer professional development school, Camp Jackson, Korea; the officer candidate school, Monmouth, Ore.; the officer basic course for quartermaster, Fort Lee, Va.; and the military intelligence transition course, Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

Paltridge's awards and decorations include the Army Achievement Medal and the National Defense Service Medal.

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Oregon National Guard

June 2002



Sgt. James Torunay guides an injured climber from the side of Mount Hood to the interior of a Blackhawk during a rescue effort in May. Members of the 1042nd Medical Company, pilot Chief Warrant Officer 4 Mike Cataldo, co-pilot Chief Warrant Officer 4 Al Jung, crew chief Tournay, and flight medics Staff Sgt. Frayne Fowler and Sgt. Patrick Casha, rescued three of the four critically-injured climbers.