



# *The TAGram*

Dec 2002

*An executive communication from the Chief, National Guard Bureau,  
to the Adjutants General of the Several States*

---

## **A Holiday Message from the Acting Chief, National Guard Bureau**

This year we face another holiday season with many of our loved ones deployed as they serve to protect our great country and what it stands for. As we enter into the second year of the Global War on Terrorism, we must accept the new reality of the long-term effort that this requires. And, as America looks toward our men and women in uniform to provide a sense of safety and security, they also see our citizen soldiers and airmen serving proudly, willingly, and with much skill and dedication. The National Guard has served to protect this country for over 366 years, while it has also stood shoulder to shoulder with its active duty counterparts in every major conflict – serving in distant lands and remote battlefields.

This year, as in years past, our National Guardsmen serve both at home and abroad, providing their talents and their leadership to our communities and to our combatant commanders. We have much to be thankful for in the quality of our men and women in the National Guard. They are highly trained, motivated, and respected and they represent hard work, selflessness, and sacrifice. We must be equally proud of their families and their employers, who endure the hardships of separation, extended duty away from home and work, and the financial consequences.

The future will entail many challenges and we must continue to work hard. I have every confidence that our National Guard will do no less. However, I hope that you can set some time aside to spend with your families and friends – *you* deserve no less. I wish you a very joyous and safe holiday season.

*MG Fred Rees, Acting Chief, National Guard Bureau*

---

## **Legislative Update**

The FY03 Defense Appropriations and Authorization Bills, along with Military Construction Appropriations, have been approved by the Congress. All FY03 funding and legislative issues will be out from under the Continuing Resolution Authority that prescribes funding levels and activities for the rest of the federal government. The Department of Defense is the only government agency which has both authorization and appropriations passed for FY03. Issues that will now move forward with passage of the Bob Stump FY03 National Defense Authorization Act include military pay raises, military construction authorizations, direction to establish 23 new WMD Civil Support Teams,

and an enhanced delayed enlistment program. More details can be found at <http://www.ngb.dtic.mil/staff/pl/pl/Opener.htm>

---

*Col Mike Miller, NGB-PL, (703) 607-2770*

## **National Defense Authorization Act 2003 Calls for Additional WMD Civil Support Teams**

Congress has directed the establishment of 23 new WMD Civil Support Teams (CSTs) in the NDAA FY 03, Section 1403, which was signed by President and made Public Law on 2 Dec 02. The challenge is that no funding or time line has been attached to creating these teams. DoD has until 2 June 2003 to submit a plan to Congress including exactly how and when the new set of teams would be manned, trained, and equipped, to include the details on funding. NGB-HS has held preliminary meetings within NGB to discuss the various requirements for bringing the new teams on line, and will meet with representatives from FORSCOM, TRADOC, and OSD in early January 2003 for further coordination to make the standup process as smooth and workable as possible. Plans evolving from these sessions will be offered to OSD to facilitate their planning process.

## **NGB Participates in Advanced Concept Technology Demonstration**

NGB participated in a multi-state, multi-organizational Homeland Security Advanced Concept Technology Demonstration (ACTD) 9-12 Dec 02, in which the Area Security Operations Command, Control and Communications System (ASOCC) was utilized. This event involved a wide array of state, federal, and local agencies - including the 34<sup>th</sup> CST (VA), the 62<sup>nd</sup> CST (LA), and the NGB-HS Operations Section - to assess the efficiency of ASOCC in providing situational awareness to dynamic groups of users. This resource provides commanders visibility of events to provide them with a better understanding of what they are dealing with, particularly if there are multiple events involved. This demonstration was viewed as a success by all involved. The next demonstration will take place April 03.

---

*Ms. Kathi Heaton, NGB-HS, (703) 607-0011*

## **Audit of Federal Oversight of National Guard Briefed**

On 26 November 2002, the Army Audit Agency held an Audit Status Briefing, with NGB, on the Audit of Federal Oversight of the National Guard. The following AAA conclusions were briefed: Conditions of staff employment under Title 32 impairs independence; Selection process for filling the USPFO position impairs independence; and, federal logistics, information management and comptroller functions had migrated or were under the process of migration to State control. AAA also recommend that all positions in the USPFO organization be converted to Title 5 (DA Civilians). The next step is a AAA submission of a draft report to ACNGB for review and concurrence.

On the positive side, monetary benefits reported by internal review offices through the Department of the Army Semi-Annual reporting system for the six month reporting period was \$ 107 million. The National Guard Internal Review offices reported \$ 66 million or 61% of the total Army monetary benefits reported. For FY 2002, the

National Guard identified \$ 171 million that equates to a 13 – 01 Return on Investment. This far exceeds the DA goal of 3-1.

*Mr. Harry Tate, NBG-IR, (703) 607-0758*

---

### **SABERS Financial System Transition**

Transition of the ARNG financial management system (SABERS) to STANFINS, an ARMY O&M system, is well underway with test implementation in five states: Pennsylvania, Indiana, North Carolina, Alabama, and Oklahoma. Even though the initial conversion workload have been high, the October and November months have been closed out and balanced by the test states using STANFINS. It is envisioned that the remaining 49 states and territories will transition 1 October 03 (FY04). Once the transition to STANFINS is complete, the ARNG will be positioned to convert to a Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Act-compliant enterprise system along with the Army.

*Mr. J. Van Pelt, NGB-PF, (703) 607-1645*

---

### **Guard Information Analysis Network (GUARDIAN)**

The ANG has developed a web-based program to collect, integrate and display mission related and business process data in a number of critical subject areas. This capability forms the cornerstone of the ANG effort to consolidate performance measurements and readiness reporting into a common “look & feel” to give senior leaders a big picture view. GUARDIAN began as a Logistics-based system but has now expanded to all Directorates with the release of new Flying Hour Program Management and Trained Personnel Requirements Program Management modules, and soon to be followed by a Personnel & Manpower Status feature for all Air Force specialties (currently limited to Logistics). The Executive Reports feature is of particular interest to the TAG community. Currently it has a single-page display of all relevant weapon system readiness indicators along with single-point drilldown to Unit measurements. The Executive Reports feature will be a significant part of future GUARDIAN expansion efforts into new subject areas such as Financial Management (including DLR), Manpower Execution-Vs-Allocation, Strategic Plan measurements, Supply Readiness analysis, and PersTempo/OpsTempo measurements. GUARDIAN can be found at <https://guardian.drc.com> and is accessible from .mil sites only.

### **ANG Mobilization Survey Update**

The ANG Mobilization Survey continues to draw responses and good comments. As of 16 Dec, over 20,000 Air Guardsmen have responded to the survey. The collected data will be used to support ANG senior leadership decisions and shape ANG positions as the U.S. military adjusts to a post-September 11<sup>th</sup> security environment. This survey will also help address issues and concerns raised by members of the Adjutant General Strategic Planning Committee. Your continued support for this survey is critical to ensure the best decision-making for the Air National Guard to remain ready, reliable, and relevant. Please encourage every member of the Air National Guard in your state to participate in this survey. The web-based survey is available at <https://www.angsurvey.xservices.com> and will run through 0800 13 Jan 03. The survey

can be accessed from any location - even from home - and does not require a .mil address.

---

*Lt Col Robert Lemieux, NGB/CFX, (703) 607-1449*

### **ARNG Mobilization Policies Approved**

In the past 30 days, both Unit Stop Loss and Cross-leveling Policies have been approved and published to the States. The Stop Loss policy implements a freeze on movement or discharge of soldiers from an alerted or mobilized unit. The Adjutant General is the approval authority for exceptions that are of a compassionate nature while MRD and other needs of the service will still allow discharges. The Cross-leveling policy allows the States to transfer personnel from non-alerted units to alerted units to meet readiness needs.

---

*COL Ross DeBlois, NGB-ARH, (703) 607-5904*

### **ARNG Dental Readiness Campaign**

The Director, Army National Guard, signed All States Memo P02-0064 on 6 Dec that initiates authority and conveys resources to start dental exams and restoration to Dental Category 2. The target units are those that would deploy from C to C+75.

---

*COL Cherry Gaffney, NGB-ARS, (703) 607-7140*

### **Support to Gubernatorial Inaugurals**

The All-States letter on the National Guard's support to gubernatorial inaugurals (P02-0061), is now posted on Guard Knowledge Online. Of special note is a new section pertaining to the use of Active, Guard and Reserve (AGR) personnel. The policy has been changed to one of *no use* of AGR members. No waivers will be granted. The change is driven by a recent Army OTJAG opinion that states "AGRs may not perform duty in SAD status, regardless of whether they take leave from their AGR positions. So waivers are out of the question."

Officials in NGB-ARH add: "... the whole purpose for the AGR soldier is to be a readiness asset. So to expect them to individually participate in something that the whole unit is not involved in removes the AGR from the basic purpose for their existence ... focusing on taking care of the unit for readiness purposes."

A copy of the nine-page memorandum (in PDF format) has also been made available to TAGs and State Public Affairs Officers via First Muster website.

---

*Col Thomas C. Schultz, NGB-PA, (703) 607-2543*

### **Connecticut National Guard Fights Ecstasy Use with HEART**

With an estimated 750,000 Ecstasy tablets consumed each week in the New York-New Jersey shores corridor, Connecticut Public Schools recently turned to the National Guard for help in battling this growing threat. The Connecticut National Guard has responded with the Healthy Environment and Responsible Teens (HEART)

Program. The Drug Demand Reduction (DDR) Program created HEART to provide assistance to high schools in providing their nationally mandated substance abuse education. Guard personnel are in classrooms across the state combating the popular view that Ecstasy is harmless through teaching students the truth about MDMA, or Ecstasy. They are not only helping students understand the emotional trap caused by Ecstasy abuse, but also teaching them about the dangers of use such as brain damage, psychosis, and paranoia. The DDR Team is taking full advantage of this opportunity to explain to the students the connection between terrorism and drugs.

---

*CPT Kathryn Masters, NGB-CD, (703) 607-5673*

### **ANG Historian Publishes New Book**

Dr. Charles Gross, the Air National Guard' historian, recently published, *American Military Aviation: The Indispensable Arm*. This is the second book published in Texas A&M's Centennial of Flight series, which consists of 14 books under contract so far. The series commemorates the 100th anniversary of the Wright Brothers' first flight at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina on 17 December 2003. Dr Gross' book covers the prehistory of flight through Operation Allied Force, the air war for Kosovo in 1999. It discusses how the Air National Guard and the other air reserve components have contributed to the development of military aviation in the United States. It is the first scholarly work to provide a broad survey of the development of US military aviation alone.

---

*Dr Charles Gross, ANG-PAI-H, (703) 607-2668*

### **Conferences/Meetings/Hearings/Events**

CST Commander's Conference, 8-9 Jan 03, Arlington, VA  
ARNG Senior Commanders Conference, 24-26 Jan 03, PEC, Arkansas  
AGAUS Mid-Winter Conference, 21-24 Feb 03, Washington DC