



The TAGram

July 2002

Brig Gen Wilkening new TAG of Wisconsin

On 21 June the Governor of Wisconsin announced that Brigadier General Albert Wilkening (WI ANG) will succeed Major General James Blaney as The Adjutant General of Wisconsin. Brig Gen Wilkening, currently serving as the Assistant Adjutant General - Air, will be appointed by the governor effective 1 September 2002.

MG Spears reelected as TAG of South Carolina

Major General "Stan" Spears, the Adjutant General of South Carolina, will be reelected to serve a third term as Adjutant General. General Spears won the Republican primary election in June and faces no Democratic or third party challenge in the general election this fall.

BG Vaughn selected as Deputy Director, Army National Guard

The Secretary of the Army has selected Brigadier General Clyde A. Vaughn (MO ARNG) as the next Deputy Director, Army National Guard. BG Vaughn is currently assigned as the Deputy Director of Operations, Readiness and Mobilization (DOMS). Report date is to be determined.

BG Davis selected as Deputy DOMS

The Chief of Staff of the Army has made the selection of Brigadier General Bruce E. Davis (FL ARNG) to serve as the Deputy Director of Operations, Readiness and Mobilization (DOMS). BG Davis is currently assigned as the Deputy Commander, 32^d Army Air and Missile Defense Command, Ft Bliss, Texas. Report date is to be determined.

Col Ickes selected as Air National Guard Chief Operating Officer (COO)

The ANG has selected Col Charles (Chuck) V. Ickes II, currently serving as the 125th FW Commander, FLANG, to be the next ANG COO. Col Ickes will replace Gen Paul Kimmel, who is retiring later this summer.

Olympian, National Guard Colonel Willie D. Davenport passes away

Olympic gold medallist Willie D. Davenport died suddenly after collapsing at O'Hare International Airport on Monday, June 17. He was returning from Boise, Idaho to his home in Arlington, Virginia after attending the AGAUS conference. COL Davenport was pronounced dead upon arrival at the Resurrection Medical Center in Chicago.

Davenport won the gold medal in the 110-meter hurdles in 1968. He competed in a total of five Olympics, also winning a bronze medal in the hurdles at the 1976 Games in Montreal at the age of 33. In 1980, he was one of the first two black members of the bobsled team in the Winter Olympics. In addition to his personal Olympic feats, he also coached the All-Army men's and women's track teams to an unprecedented four undefeated seasons from 1993-1996.

COL Davenport joined the Louisiana Army National Guard in 1981 through a direct commission. His most recent assignments included Commander of Oregon's 741st Corps Support Battalion (1997-98), and Chief, NGB Sports Management.

COL Davenport had planned to retire before his 60th birthday next June. He had a total of 27 years of military service. He is survived by two sons, Willie Davenport Stewart, Jr. of Youngstown, Ohio and Mark Davenport of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and a daughter, Tanya Morris of Monroe, Louisiana. He had recently announced his engagement to Ms. Barbara Henry of New Orleans, Louisiana.

NGB Media Desk, (703) 607-2549

Fourth of July Message from the CNGB

Over 220 years ago today, the American colonies suffered under the tyranny of oppression and the terror that reigns when freedom is denied. In response, ordinary people did an extraordinary thing by taking up arms, forming militias, and fighting to reclaim the dream that brought them to the colonies in the first place: life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Through the hard years of the American Revolution, the militias endured long separations and great hardships. These patriots made great sacrifices so that democracy and a freedom-loving people might live as they chose.

On September 11th, 2001, the United States endured the most lethal single attack in its history when terrorists hijacked civilian airliners and crashed them into prominent symbols of American military and economic success, killing nearly 3,000 people. In response, our armed forces have deployed halfway around the world to remove the Taliban, provide hope to Afghanistan, dismantle the al Qaeda terrorist network, and bring our enemies to justice. In short, we have gone where few could, fought where many wouldn't, and won where none have.

Today, with the nation once again at war, and the threat of terrorism hanging heavy among the American people, the National Guard carries on the vision of the colonial, the perseverance of the militia, and the spirit of the Minuteman. Over the last ten months, the National Guard has deployed aggressively to join in the global war against terrorism. Right now, Army National Guard soldiers serve alongside their active duty counterparts in Afghanistan and elsewhere conducting support, security and special operations. The Air National Guard has flown combat missions over Central Asia, refueling operations over the Gulf, and resupply sorties into Afghanistan and Uzbekistan.

At home we have protected the lives, property and way of life of American citizens by standing guard at our airports, defending our borders, and protecting our landmarks against terrorism. Needless to say, your service has prevented additional attacks, and your presence has reassured a shaken nation.

On this Independence Day, I again thank you for your service and commitment to the National Guard and the Nation's defense. Like the Minutemen of the American Revolution, you make sacrifices so that your fellow Americans can live their lives without fear. You keep America strong, free, and confident, and for this I salute you.

NG Biathletes Continue to Excel after 2002 Olympics

National Guard soldiers represented the United States Armed Forces at the 44th World Military Ski Championships, known as CISM (Conseil International du Sport Militaire) Ski Games. The CISM was held in the Julian Alps region of Slovenia in the February/March timeframe and included biathlon, cross-country skiing, alpine skiing and a military patrol race. The U.S. team was made up of soldiers from both active and reserve force components. Among these were members of the Vermont Army National Guard who had also recently represented the United States in the Salt Lake Winter Olympic Games. NG soldier SPC Ekaterina Ivanova had the best finish with her 3rd place in the women's biathlon sprint race. It was the second year in a row that a U.S. soldier-athlete was successful in winning a medal at CISM. Other soldiers who competed were SPC Jeremy Teela, SPC Lawton Redman, SPC Jesse Downs (Best in cross-country at 44th), SGT Dan Westover (Best men's biathlon finish at 21st), PFC Brian Lilly, SGT Scott Doughty and SGT Kristina Sabasteanski.

CW4 Dennis Loy, NGB-SM (703)607-5963

Assistant Secretary of Defense Visits State Counterdrug Programs

As part of a continuing review of the National Guard's Counterdrug program, the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Counternarcotics, Mr. André Hollis, recently visited a number of state counterdrug programs across the Nation. This latest series of visits included stops in New York, West Virginia and a tour of two Southwest border states (Texas and Arizona). Future trips are planned for Pennsylvania, Florida and Delaware.

During these visits, Mr. Hollis was able to see all aspects of CD operations including Intelligence Analyst support, Cargo Inspection, Surface Reconnaissance and Drug Demand Reduction. He also received flights in the OH-58 helicopters that make up the Reconnaissance and Aerial Interdiction Detachment and C-26 counterdrug reconnaissance aircraft.

These visits highlight the dedication and hard work performed by approximately 2600 Army and Air National Guardsmen who support law enforcement and community based organizations in the fight against illegal drugs. Thus far, the response to this Department of Defense (DoD) review has been largely positive.

COL (Ret) Danny McKnight speaks to the National Guard Substance Abuse Testing Program Conference

COL (Ret) Danny McKnight, who was the convoy commander in Mogadishu, Somalia and was portrayed in the movie "Black Hawk Down", spoke to the National Guard Substance Abuse Testing Program Conference, held 17-21 June 2002 in Phoenix, AZ. His speech focused on operations in Somalia portrayed in the movie, but his message was also about leadership and camaraderie.

The Substance Abuse Testing Program conference brought together m-day and full-time soldiers and airmen from all 54 states, territories and the District of Columbia. Attendees learned about Drug Policy from Mr. Joe Peters, Deputy Director for State and Local Affairs at the Office of National Drug Control Policy, and senior staff from NGB-CD.

COL Jim Joseph, NGB-CD, 703-607-5632

NGB-IR Update

The Realignment Task Force and its proposed Option 3 has made June a very hectic month. NGB-IR would like to thank all of the Adjutants General who showed their support for keeping an internal review element within each state. We know it's not over yet and we are not sure of the outcome. However, without the "strong support" displayed by the TAG's and USPFO's, Option 3 could be well on its way to implementation. More to come on this issue.

On a positive note, the National Guard Internal Review offices have done very well again this year in capturing quite a few of the annual Department of the Army Internal Review awards. Congratulations to the internal review offices in the states of New Jersey, Minnesota, Kansas and Ohio. In the major command category, the NGB-IR office received the "Award of Merit".

Finally, a process action team met with NGB-IR 10-13 June to develop a GS-13 Position Description for the GS 511 series Supervisory Auditor. The package was completed and given to NGB-HR for review. NGB-IR would like to thank Mr. Troy Frost, Supervisory Personnel Management Specialist, Pam Niebuhr, Auditor, WI and Colonel

Hogan, Director Human Resources, MT, for their assistance in developing the Position Description.

Mr John Tate, NGB-IR, (703) 607-0758

ANG Nears 'Guard Augmentee Program' Implementation"

Responding to guidance from a first ever meeting with the AGAUS Force Structure and Modernization Committees, Air Directorate Field Advisory Council (ADFAC), ANG Assistants, Integrated Planning Process Steering Committee, Weapons System Council Chairs and ANG Director's Staff, the ANG Strategic Initiatives Group developed a concept to provide additional augmentation to Air and MAJCOM staffs with ANG personnel. The Guard Augmentee Program, or GAP, would identify general officers who would be integrated into these staffs in a dual-hatted status-the primary status in their State role, the other as an additional duty. The primary purpose of this transformational program is to expand ANG spheres of influence among these staffs by ensuring a larger ANG role in the decision making process. This would help the ANG tell its story and highlight the professionalism, knowledge, and dedication of ANG personnel during this transformational period. This two-phase program would first integrate general officers in key positions in Operations, Plans and Programs, Personnel, Logistics and Warfighter Integration functions of the Air Staff. Additionally, general officers would be dual-hatted in similar functional areas at the MAJCOMs working with assigned ANG assistants at that MAJCOM. The second phase of this program would include Major through Colonel augmentees on these same staffs. NGB General Officer Management Office (NGB-GO) will release the requests for nominations for the general officer positions upon completion of the staffing process.

Col Allison Hickey, NGB/CFX, (703) 607-1282, allison.hickey@ngb.af.mil.

Update on Arming Issue

Customs and the Department of Defense have signed an amendment to the Memorandum Of Agreement allowing the arming of 202 Title 10 soldiers at remote Ports of Entry. On 12 June, soldiers in seven states (WA, MT, ND, MN, NY, ME, VT) went through five days of training to support this requirement. Arming of soldiers assigned to the INS is pre-decisional. Currently, 1144 soldiers are supporting the Border Mission.

MAJ Nachele Wilkinson, NGB-PL, (703) 607-2789

ANG Guardsman are "Getting the AF Homeland Security Word Out"

ANG Staff Integrators at the Pentagon have been busy briefing the field on the new Air Staff Homeland Security Directorate's way ahead. Colonel Scherling briefed the IPP at Gulfport Mississippi in May and the TAGs at AGAUS in Boise, ID in June and Lt Col Brent Feick briefed the Support Group Council at Andrews in May and the LG Division Chiefs at Kansas City, MO in June.

Key concepts of each briefing focused on the Air Force's new way of doing business through capabilities-based Task Force Concepts of Operations (CONOPS). The seven CONOPS lay the foundation for the next step in the AF transformation to a capabilities-focused Expeditionary Air and Space Force; make warfighting effects, and the capabilities needed to achieve them the drivers for everything we do; support the "Bureaucracy to the Battlefield" concept to get resources to warfighters. Programs will no longer compete for resources - capabilities will.

Col Scherling is the Homeland Security Task Force Champion for the Air Force.

More information can be found on the AF CONOPS web site at <http://afconops.hq.af.mil/support/index3.htm>.

Col Terry L. Scherling, Office of the Directorate of Homeland Security, 703-693-5738

AFOSI Liaison Office at NGB

The mission of the Air Force Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI) is to provide professional investigative services for the protection of Air Force and DoD people, operations, and materiel worldwide. In February 2001, the Director, Air National Guard and the Commander, AFOSI, jointly established a liaison office at the National Guard Bureau to provide direct support to the Air Directorate, and coordinate AFOSI support to ANG units in the field. Additionally, the AFOSI Liaison Office was tasked to explore the possibility of integrating the ANG into the AFOSI mission area. Other functions of the AFOSI Liaison Office are to:

- Identify ANG requirements for AFOSI support
- Coordinate AFOSI support to ANG units
- Examine the effectiveness of AFOSI support to the ANG and coordinate the resolution of problems
- Apprise the Director of ongoing AFOSI activities involving the ANG
- Assist ANG directorates with specific counterintelligence needs
- Identify AFOSI mission requirements and determine whether ANG can support those requirements
- Provide other counterintelligence support to the Air Directorate as required.

World events such as "9-11" and other significant geopolitical trends have precipitated a focus on terrorism and Homeland Security as key national security concerns. The roles of both AFOSI and the ANG in these areas continue to evolve. While no one is quite sure where they will finally end up, what is certain is that both

organizations will be increasingly relied upon to meet these emerging challenges. Therefore, the AFOSI Liaison Office is a timely and welcome addition to the NGB Air Directorate.

For more information on the AFOSI Liaison Office, point your web browser at <https://airguard.ang.af.mil/do/DOI/DOIW/AFOSI.htm>.

SA Felipe Morales Jr., AFOSI 3d FIR, OL-E, (703) 607-3902

HR 3831 Update

HR 3831, introduced by Rep Jim Saxton (NJ), calls for the reduction of the age for receipt of military retired pay for non-regular service from 60 to 55. HR 3831 was referred to the Housed Armed Services Committee, Sub-committee on Military Personnel. The sub-committee has not taken any action on the bill. However, in the interest of Soldier and Airman benefits, the Senate FY2003 Defense Authorization Bill, directs the Secretary of Defense to conduct a review of the compensation and benefits programs including retirement deferral until age 60 and address the demands placed on the National Guard and Reserve. The report is due to Congress NLT 1 Aug 03. Within the next several weeks, both the House and the Senate will convene in conference to work out the final FY 03 Defense Authorization Bill for a vote.

LTC Ted Mickevicius, NGB-PL, (703) 607-2771

National Guard Most Mobilized of Reserve Components

The Army National Guard has more people mobilized (over 19,000 people in June 02) than any other reserve component. With over 18,000 people mobilized during the same month, the Air National Guard has the second highest number of people mobilized but, by far, has the highest percentage of its force mobilized of any of the reserve components. About 17% of the Air National Guard have been mobilized while the Army National Guard mobilized 5% of its personnel. The Army, Navy and Marine Corps Reserves mobilized approximately 4% each, while the Air Force Reserve is about 10% mobilized.



Master Reserve Callup
estimate...

<http://www.defenselink.mil/ra>

Guardsmen Tell of Escape from World Trade Center

INCIRLIK AIR BASE, Turkey (AFPN) -- Many stories have come out through the crumbled cement, shattered glass, and twisted metal of the World Trade Center since Sept. 11. For Maj. Christopher Hardej, a New York Air National Guardsman deployed

here from Long Island, NY, his story begins in World Trade Center Tower One, just 10 floors below the impact point, 82 floors above "ground zero."

"I was sitting with my back to the windows and I heard a short 'swoosh,'" said Hardej, the 106th Air Refueling Wing's director of operations. "Then there was a thump and the whole building rocked forward then sprang back." From there, the HC-130 P/N navigator's military training took over. "Instinctively, I hit the deck then low crawled to the middle of the room to get away from anything coming through the windows," said Hardej. "Being a flier, I noticed it was a beautiful day for flying, so I was sure this was no accident."

The hallways outside the skyscraper office were filled with smoke. Previous fire drills kept many people from panicking, he said. Hardej then led 12 people down 82 flights of stairs toward the lobby of Tower One in less than an hour and a half. Tower Two collapsed seconds after Hardej said he glanced through a corridor that connects the two towers. "The falling building expelled air through that corridor, he said. "I looked over my shoulder and saw a tsunami-like wave coming at me. I was literally sandblasted with fiber particles and everything else being pulverized." People just 30 feet behind his group, closer to the connecting corridor, did not make it out of the building, he said.

After regaining their breath and their senses, Hardej took the lead again and his group stumbled out into the street. The group put a few blocks between them and Tower One before it came crashing down too. "We suspected it was our tower," Hardej said. "We just started running. We didn't look back for a second. Our main concern was getting out of there." Hardej prayed for the firemen he passed in the stairwell on his way down, then continued toward home. On the way, he sought out television cameras and reporters, hoping his wife or someone in his family would see him and realize he was alive.

After more than five hours of walking and wondering why he was still alive, Hardej made it home. "There was nothing like sitting in my own home that day," he remembered. "All I wanted was some pizza, so my brother-in-law got me a late lunch."

Like his National Guard ancestors, Hardej did not stay home for long when his country called him to duty. "Two days after the attack, I was airborne on a mission with my unit," he said. Hardej had already received orders to deploy in support of Operation Southern Watch before the attack. "I could've stayed home," he said, "but it's a little more personal for me." Even though his wife thought he might be pressing his luck by deploying so quickly, Hardej would not have it any other way. "I couldn't imagine my friends and squadron-mates going without me," he said.

Since that first deployment, Hardej has spent 60 days here and will be back in the summer for another 50-day deployment. "I realize things that used to upset me aren't that upsetting anymore," he said. "I'm much more focused on my part in the mission these days."

Hardej's unit was activated shortly after the attacks, so he expects them to stay busy, which is fine with him. He said that means there will be more people to listen to his harrowing tale. "I tell this story because it helps me deal with it," Hardej said. "Being under that building as the other one came down is something not many get to see, and

live to tell the tale. "Besides, it's a way I deal with it," he said. "Believe me, I'm happy to be alive to tell others what it was like to be there."

Keith Pannell, 39th Wing PA, Courtesy of U.S. Air Forces in Europe News Service

AF's Top Uniformed Lawyer Explains Article 88 of the UCMJ

A May 26 letter to the editor in a civilian publication sent by an Air Force officer expressing his personal opinions about the president of the United States has called into question freedom of speech in the military.

The letter accused President Bush of knowing about the September 11 terrorist attacks beforehand and allowing them to take place for political reasons. At issue was whether the officer's letter violated Article 88 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

Article 88 states, "any commissioned officer who uses contemptuous words against the President, the Vice President, the Secretary of Defense, the secretary of a military department, the Secretary of Transportation, or the governor or legislature of any state, territory, commonwealth, or possession in which he is on duty or present shall be punished as a court-martial may direct."

"The purpose of Article 88 is to maintain good order and discipline among the force by prohibiting the use of contemptuous language or acts that would tend to undermine the authority of (our civilian leaders)," said Maj. Gen. Thomas J. Fiscus, the judge advocate general of the Air Force.

Although the article does not specifically address statements made by enlisted members, Air Force Instruction 51-902 does prohibit airmen and noncommissioned officers from making similar remarks, Fiscus said. The same instruction also defines what political activities are and are not permissible by uniformed members of the Air Force.

The line between a permissible expression of opinion and a violation of Article 88 is generally drawn on the basis of the forum in which the officer speaks and the content of what the officer says, Fiscus said.

Whether speakers identify themselves as military officers or not makes no difference, he added, nor does the opinion's truthfulness -- or lack thereof. Opinions expressed in purely private conversations are not usually considered violations.

"The Constitution empowered Congress to develop laws governing the land and naval forces (and now also air forces)," Fiscus said. "Congress enacted the UCMJ in fulfillment of this responsibility. Article 88 itself is a well-crafted compromise of our freedom of expression and the need to ensure good order and discipline in the military."

http://www.af.mil/news/Jun2002/n20020625_1017.shtml

VA Girds for Flood of Disability Claims

Military retirees generally must forfeit one dollar in retired pay for every dollar of VA disability compensation they receive. However, signs are that Congress will pass legislation to eliminate that inequity over a five year period for retirees with disability ratings of 60 percent or higher. The VA estimates that perhaps 80,000 would be in line for a pay hike, from a minimum of \$790 a month for 60 percent disabled to a minimum of \$2163 a month for 100 percent disabled. In addition, as many as 118,000 retirees now drawing VA compensation might file for a review of disabilities with hopes of moving into the 60 percent or higher brackets. In addition, some 700,000 new claims could be expected within five years, said a VA official.

Military Report June 18, 2002 Issue <http://www.militaryreport.com>

New Booklet Helps Airmen Answer Questions

Air Force Print News reports that Air Force Doctrine Center officials have released a follow-on set of air and space power concepts and fundamentals which give airmen a second snapshot of operational warfighting beliefs. This new series, titled "50 More Questions Every Airman Can Answer," covers a variety of doctrine concepts ranging from what the Air Force contributes to homeland security to the definition of effects-based operations. The pocket-sized booklet is a compact reference filled with Air Force "best practices" and basic truths that explain how airmen apply and leverage air and space power capabilities in support of national defense. The "50 More Questions Every Airman Can Answer" as well as current Air Force doctrine documents are available on the Air Force Doctrine Center Website at <https://www.doctrine.af.mil>.

TSP Announces New Record Keeping System for September 2002

The Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board today announced that the long-awaited new record keeping system for the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) will be implemented in September 2002. A detailed explanation of the transition schedule and its effect on transactions in progress is contained in the May 2002 edition of the newsletter Thrift Savings Plan Highlights, which is currently being mailed to each TSP participant. In general, the new system will allow for daily valuation of accounts and daily processing of transactions. It will also report account balances in terms of shares as well as dollars; offer a greater number of withdrawal options; and provide on-line service via the Web site for loans and withdrawals. A summary of these and other operational improvements is provided in a leaflet entitled "How the TSP Is Changing," now available on the TSP Website at <http://www.tsp.gov>

Army Game to Debut this Summer

Army News Service reports that starting in July, kids, as well as adults, will have the opportunity to play a realistic, interactive computer game that will take them on a virtual tour inside the Army. "America's Army," to be distributed free of charge on the

Web at <http://americasarmy.com>, will allow players to "experience" everything from the enlistment process at a recruiting station, to jumping out of a C-130 aircraft during an airborne operation and retrieving stolen Stinger missiles from enemy forces. The Army's intent is not only to enhance kids' - and adults' -- video-game-playing experiences and spark interest in the Army as a potential career, but reintroduce the Army to the population at large, said Paul Boyce, an Army spokesman at the Pentagon. The estimated \$8 million game -- developed by computer scientists and master's degree program personnel from the joint services at the Naval Postgraduate School's Modeling Virtual environments and Simulation institute, MOVES, in Monterey, Calif., -- will evolve over five years to cover all the Army's military occupational specialties. The game, which is actually a two-part CD, one called "Soldiers," the other "Army Operations," currently includes 20 combat-arms MOSs. Recently showcased at one of the largest annual expositions for the computer-game industry, the Electronics Entertainment Expo in Los Angeles, Calif., "America's Army," was favorably received by representatives from some of the foremost gaming companies in the world, Army officials said.

http://www.military.com/Content/MoreContent1/?file=gc_games

Where I've been

Kentucky State Visit, 7-8 Jun
National Guard Bureau Senior Leadership Meeting, Boise, ID, 13-17 Jun
Visit 45th ID at JRTC, 18 Jun
ROA Hall of Fame Induction Banquet, Philadelphia, PA, 22 Jun
Visit 39th IN BDE, Sinai, Egypt, GE, IT, UK, 23-27 Jun

Where I'm Going

NAACP Banquet, Houston, TX
PEC Auditorium Dedication, North Little Rock, AR
TEC, Knoxville, TN
CENTCOM Trip
Family Program Workshop, Des Moines, IA
ANG Chaplains Conference, Sioux Falls, SD

Conferences/Meetings/Hearings/Events

TAI Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA, 12-17 Aug
EANGUS, Niagara Falls NY, 18-20 August
NGAUS, Long Beach CA, 7-9 September
ANG Senior Leader Seminar, Crystal City VA, 30 September – 10 October
AFA, Washington DC, 14-18 September
AUSA, Washington DC, 21-21 October