

THE WOLVERINE GUARD



**Goodwill in Ghana
Trains and Automobiles
Bronze Star with V Device Shows Bravery
New Howitzer Completes First Time Fire**



Maj. Gen. Thomas G. Cutler awards Staff Sgt. Gerald Miller II a U.S. flag and the Michigan Distinguished Service Medal during Miller's retirement ceremony at the Joint Force Headquarters in Lansing, Mich. The event on June 8 recognized Miller for 15 years of military service and was attended by Miller's mother, sister, and friends from the Michigan Army National Guard. Michigan National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Denice Rankin



Maj. Gen. Thomas G. Cutler stands with J.J. Anderson, a veteran at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans. Cutler is holding a picture of Anderson's father as a young Soldier during World War II. Photo courtesy of Grand Rapids Home for Veterans



Maj. Gen. Thomas G. Cutler signs an autograph during the officer professional development trip for a couple who were visiting the monuments in Washington, D.C. Michigan National Guard photo by Senior Airman Brittany Simon

★ ★ *From the desk of
The Adjutant General* ★ ★

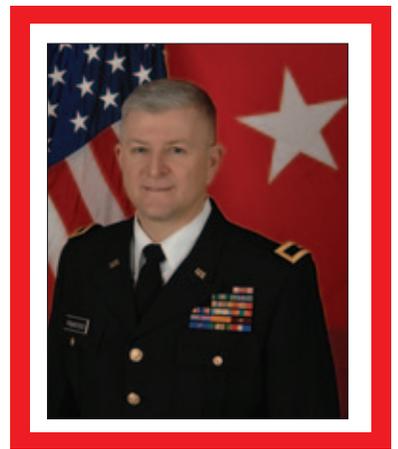
TAG TALK

Over the past seven years, I have often taken the opportunity in my Wolverine Guard messages to express the pride I have in our organization and each one of you. I have done that because it is a natural response to the incredible service each of you has rendered to our state, our nation, and to the people we serve. You continue to meet every challenge, whether it's deployments, conversions, inspections, or challenging budgets, with an outstanding "can-do" spirit. It is this spirit and this attitude that generates results we can all be very proud of...and rightly so!

I was recently reminded that our fellow citizens are also incredibly proud of those who serve in their Armed Forces. In early May, Brig. Gen. Francisco, Brig. Gen. Johnston, and I took 50 of our young officers to Washington DC for two days of officer professional development. As part of that program we took them on an escorted tour of our nation's war memorials. We started at the Viet Nam War memorial, then went to the Korean War memorial, and completed our tour at the WW II memorial. Our intent was to reflect on the service and sacrifice of those who served during each of those wars. As we did that, we also experienced something we didn't anticipate. As you might imagine, we were not the only ones there. There were many groups of tourists there, from all over America, and many from other countries. There were also many school groups there on their spring field trips. As our young officers walked along the memorials, group after group would stop what they were doing and extend a hearty round of applause to our Soldiers and Airmen. Many of the children would then come up and ask for their autographs. Children and adults also asked to have their pictures taken with our Airmen and Soldiers. As I observed this, I could see the impact that it was having on each member of our group...I think they all felt like "rock stars!" It was a powerful reminder that what we do matters to our fellow citizens. It reminded us that the vast majority of our fellow citizens appreciate our service and they are exceptionally proud of our willingness to serve them and to protect their freedoms. It was truly an inspiring, yet humbling experience for each one of us!

As citizen soldiers, we not only have the privilege of serving our nation, but we also have the privilege of serving our state. We are truly the face of the "military" here in Michigan. I want to thank each one of you for choosing to serve your fellow citizens in this way. As you do so, be reminded that they are paying attention and they do appreciate your service...that they are in fact very proud of who you are and what you do. It is an honor to serve with each one of you!

Thomas G. Cutler
Maj. Gen. Thomas G. Cutler



Effective April 1, 2010, Maj. Gen. Cutler, appointed me as his Assistant Adjutant General for Army and the commander of the Michigan Army National Guard. As the new commander of the Michigan Army National Guard I believe it is important that I share with you the priorities I have established, along with a brief description to accomplish my expectations.

My priorities include:

Communication. Goal: Improve communication through the chain of command

Soldier Readiness. Goal: Improve Soldier physical readiness, ensure leaders are trained and qualified, and aggressively pursue DMOSQ for all Soldiers

Soldier and Family Care. Goal: Provide pre-mobilization resiliency training, mobilization support, post-mobilization reintegration support to all Soldiers and their families.

Strength Management. Goal: Focus and prioritize recruiting efforts to meet the needs of the unit commanders; retain our qualified and deployable Soldiers.

I intend to improve communication throughout the organization by a process I will refer to as *Collaborative Leadership - Command Decision*. Decisions are made by commanders and intend to retain that authority. However, I do intend to discuss issues and concerns with the Major Subordinate Command (MSC) commanders and my staff to ensure that a collaborative effort will lead to the best command decision. I believe transparency fosters a climate of trust and collaboration so I will do my best to ensure transparency of action with the MSC commanders. It is critical to our success that we as commanders communicate openly and honestly, without fear of reprisal, to solve our major issues. However, once a decision is made I expect everyone to pull together, in a unified effort, to achieve maximum results.

Readiness is a term that has a variety of interpretations. To achieve the goals previously stated I expect commanders to *Build Readiness* at the individual/Soldier level, unit, and within the family. Soldier readiness means soldiers are physically and medically fit to accomplish their wartime mission. Soldiers must meet Army APFT and the height/weight (AR 600-9) standards for promotion and retention. I expect unit commanders to consistently apply the standards and implement remedial actions IAW the regulation for non-compliance. All Soldiers must be deployable. As the MIARNG is part of the "Operational Reserve" all Soldiers must be prepared for deployment. We do not have the luxury of MTOE or TDA positions that allow Soldiers to be retained but not deployable. Critical to deployability is duty MOS qualification. Soldiers assigned to a duty position must be provided a reasonable opportunity to get qualified or reassigned into a position they are MOS qualified. We cannot afford to have "chronic" non-DMOSQ Soldiers. Soldier resiliency is a term to describe preparing Soldiers to handle the stresses of deploying, particularly to a wartime theater. We are developing training strategies for Soldiers and their families to cope with the stressors commonly experienced in the lengthy deployments that we have seen in our units.

To build unit readiness I expect collective training to be focused on squad/section/platoon technical and tactical proficiency. It is my intent to maximize our limited resources to units in accordance with the Army Force Generation ARFORGEN model. Our funding will likely be reduced in the future and this model will provide allocated resources to support pre-mobilization training and enhance unit readiness. I expect brigade and battalion staffs to conduct staff training to maintain their tactical proficiency.

Family Readiness will be accomplished through our fully staffed and trained State Family Program Directorate and your fully staffed and unit Family Readiness Groups. I intend to ensure the maximum support and resourcing for the Yellow Ribbon Program during pre-mobilization and post-mobilization reintegration events.

As this article is my first opportunity to communicate to the Soldiers and their families in the Michigan Army National Guard I feel it is important that everyone understands my priorities, goals, and intent. I look forward to serving as your commander. Our operational tempo (OPTEMPO) continues to be at an all time high and is likely to continue in the foreseeable future. Thank you to the Citizen-Soldiers and their families for your service and personal sacrifices you make each and every day.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Burton K. Francisco".

Brig. Gen. Burton K. Francisco



Command Sgt. Maj. Richard Michael receives a parting gift from Brig. Gen. Michael Nevin on behalf of the 177th Military Police Brigade during the 2010 Military Police Ball. Michael spent many years with the Military Police before becoming the Army command sergeant major. Michigan National Guard photo by Sgt. 1st Class James Downen

Warriors,

Let me begin by saying how honored and humbled I am to represent you as the Army Guard Command Sergeant Major. I began my military career in 1983 in the active Army as a military policeman. During my seven years in the active force I served in Germany and ultimately ended up at Fort McClellan, Ala., as an instructor at the U.S. Army Military Police School. In 1990, I made the decision to pursue a career in civilian law enforcement and became a member of the Michigan State Police. It was also in 1990 that I joined the Michigan National Guard. Since joining the Michigan National Guard I have deployed in support of Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm, Operation Joint Endeavor, Operation Nobel Eagle, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Katrina Relief, and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

One thing that I have observed time and again during deployments is the disparity between the active and reserve forces. Many times our counterparts in the active force want to minimize our contributions by labeling us as “weekend warriors” or “part-time soldiers.” The reality of the situation is that the National Guard is as much a part of the operational force as any facet of the active component. The recent “transformation” of the reserve component from a strategic force to an operational force is nothing more than the acknowledgement of the accomplishments of the reserve component. Remember, you receive the same training, you wear the same uniform, and fight the same wars as any member of the active

component and you do it while raising a family and maintaining a civilian career. Never allow anyone to diminish your contributions to the nation as “part-time.”

Some of you who have had the opportunity to hear me speak know that I have three basic rules for success. Rule #1 – Do what’s right. The right thing is not always the easiest or most popular. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is quoted as saying “the ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.” What will you do when no one is looking? Whenever you are faced with a decision take a moment and ask yourself, “what is the right thing to do?” Rule #2 – Do your best. I can’t count how many times I have heard the phrase “work smarter; not harder.” As pointed out by a very wise commander I had the opportunity to serve with – working smarter does not relieve you of your responsibility to work hard. At the end of the day you are the only one who will know if you have done your best - don’t let yourself down. Rule #3 (often referred to as the Golden Rule) – Treat others as you wish to be treated. Respect is the best gift you can give to those with whom you serve. We all serve our state and nation with pride and there is no room, or tolerance, for bigotry, prejudice or racism.

I would like to leave you with one final thought. It is a poem that I learned a long time ago and I feel that it speaks volumes.

Your name is very important. You got it from your father; maybe it was all he had to give. But, it is yours to use and cherish for as long as you shall live. You may lose all else he gave you; it can always be replaced. But, a black mark on your name son, can never be erased. So guard it very carefully, for when all is said and done, you’ll be glad your name is spotless when you give it to your son.

What will be your legacy?

Command Sgt. Maj. Richard C. Michael

Bullets

“Why isn’t my unit ever in *The Wolverine Guard*?”

If you don’t tell us, we may never know about your...

Training
Deployments
State or National Awards
Family or Community Events
New Facilities
New Equipment
Unit Reorganizations
Unit History
Military Reunions
Personnel Information

Readers are encouraged to submit comments, articles and information for publicatoin to WolverineGuard@michigan.gov.



Family Readiness Groups

Michigan National Guard Family Readiness Groups provide a support network that assists military families during hardships while loved ones prepare for deployment and while deployed. They also work closely with the leaders of deployed troops and organizations that support troops to solve issues that military family members face while their loved ones are away.

Each summer we have the opportunity to recognize one outstanding volunteer from each of our Major Subordinate Command’s and two youth council volunteers to attend the National Guard Family Program Volunteer Workshop.

The theme for 2010 is Determination, Courage, and Patience. The National Guard Family Program Volunteer Workshop for 2010 will take place this year in New Orleans, La.

The Michigan National Guard Youth Symposium volunteers attending are Samantha Houchlei and Katerina Bierwirth.

Each of these volunteers has gone above and beyond to support their units and the Michigan National Guard and it is our honor to have them represent our volunteers and families at the 2010 National Guard Family Program Volunteer Workshop.

Military ID Cards

The Lansing ID card office issues military IDs to military members, active, Guard, Reserve, retirees, and their families. Walk-ins are welcome on Mondays and Wednesdays. Tuesdays and Thursdays are by appointment only, and the office is closed on Fridays. Family members are reminded to bring their social security card. For more information about the documents you need and to schedule an appointment, call Sgt. Charmion Prince at 517-481-8360. Other military ID card issuing facilities in Michigan include:

Wyoming 616-249-2617

Battle Creek 269-969-3216

Selfridge 586-239-4516

Camp Grayling 989-344-6100

Alpena CRTC 989-354-6474



UPAR 101

Unit Public Affairs Representative training will be offered during the Camp Grayling Annual Training period, Wednesday, July 28. The training focuses on writing press releases and tactics for working with the media. Commanders are encouraged to select a UPAR and send them to this four-hour course. Units not scheduled for the Camp Grayling A.T. are welcome to attend and current UPARs may wish to join us for refresher training. To sign up, contact Angie Simpson at 517-481-8135.



Correction

In the Spring 2010 issue the story ‘A-10s Complete First Deployment,’ was indicative of the first deployment taken by the 127th Wing. The mission of the A-10 was previously that of the 110th Wing out of the Battle Creek Air National Guard Base. The A-10s deployed numerous times from Battle Creek before the 127th Wing underwent the conversion to the A-10C due to the 2005 order of the Base Realignment and Closure Commission.

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Summer 2010



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A publication of the Michigan Army and Air National Guard
www.michigan.gov/dmva
WolverineGuard@michigan.gov

Photos clockwise from left: Michigan Air National Guard in Ghana, Africa (pg 12); M-932 trucks waiting to be inspected and unloaded from the rails (pg 10); Spc. James Potter after receiving his Bronze Star with Valor device (pg 14); The new M-777 Howitzer fires for the first time (pg 7).

Commander in Chief

Gov. Jennifer M. Granholm

Adjutant General

Maj. Gen. Thomas G. Cutler

Assistant Adjutant General, Army

Brig. Gen. Burt Francisco

Commander, Michigan Air National Guard

Brig. Gen. Robert Johnston

Assistant Adjutant General Future Missions, Air

Brig. Gen. James R. Wilson

Assistant Adjutant General for Veterans Affairs

Brig. Gen. Carol Ann Fausone

Director of the Joint Staff

Brig. Gen. Michael Stone

State Command Sergeant Major

Command Sgt. Maj. Delbert Husband

State Public Affairs Officer

Maj. Dawn Dancer

Editor *The Wolverine Guard*

Capt. Corissa Barton

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MIARNG Receives Award for Excellence

Story by Lt. Col. Andrea Sting

Brig. Gen. Burton K. Francisco, commander, Michigan Army National Guard, accepted the third place plaque from Gen. Craig R. McKinley, chief of the National Guard Bureau, at the 2010 Army Community of Excellence Award Ceremony held May 3, 2010 at the National Guard Readiness Center. This award recognizes the organizations commitment to continuous improvement and performance excellence.

This year, the MIARNG received \$50,000 which is being used to provide physical fitness equipment in Marquette and Gladstone training centers for the 1430th Engineer Company, complete purchase of public address systems for the remaining 18 training centers, purchase Common Access Card Readers for every Soldier, and provide training in support of organizational development.

Units and Soldiers are encouraged to provide input on how the ACOE funds should be spent through their chain of command to NGMIQA@ng.army.mil. In past years the funds have purchased physical fitness equipment, beds, ice-makers, gas grills, unit floor mats, televisions, and DVD/VCR players. The goal is a common level of support in every garrison training center.



110th Airlift Wing wins Diversity Award

Story by Tech. Sgt. Jonathan Stein

The 110th Airlift Wing, Battle Creek, Mich., was recognized for its commitment towards building a culture that values the differences of its members and the additional value they bring to the unit when they received the 2009 Excellence in Diversity Awards from the National

FAST FACT

The Battle Creek Air National Guard base started the diversity council in 2006 and raised the number of minority members from 7 to 13 percent.

Guard Bureau, Washington D.C.

“The value of the award is not just what it represents but the message it sends to the community and new members coming into the unit,” said Col. Rodger Seidel at a recent diversity council meeting.

While they were recognized for 2009, the program began to take shape in 2006 with two goals of building more awareness within the unit and informing outside organizations about the 110th Airlift Wing’s role when it comes to diversity training.

“The diversity council was the catalyst for the award. The council went into the community to the Urban League, NAACP, and the Upward Bound program in Grand Rapids, Mich., and Michigan State University, to educate the leaders of

these organizations on the National Guard,” said Chief Master Sgt. John Kemp, who leads the 110th Airlift Wing’s diversity council.

The diversity council has also worked to raise awareness within the unit and its current members.

“We worked with EO (Equal Opportunity) on the training of everyone in the Wing,” said Senior Master Sgt. James Bottorff, also on the diversity council. “We’ve heard positive feedback about the training. Everyone adds value to the big picture.”

Prior to the start of this focus the base had a membership with around seven percent minorities but that number is now 13 percent.

Where There's Smoke There's a Redleg

Story by Sgt. 1st Class James Downen



Michigan Army National Guard Artillery Soldiers of 1st Battalion, 119th Field Artillery fired their new M-777, 155mm Howitzers for the first time during a fire mission at Camp Grayling, Mich., at noon on May 21, 2010.

The digitally programmed M-777 Howitzer is the world's first 155mm Howitzer weighing less than 10,000 lbs (4218 kg). The M-777 can fire a variety of projectiles, including

a Global Positioning Satellite-directed artillery round.

Family and members of the 119th Field Artillery Association attended the firing demonstration and were shown the M-777 Howitzers after firing was concluded. The Soldiers of 1st Battalion, 119th Field Artillery are preparing for a tour of duty in Kuwait this fall where they will perform convoy escort.



Medical Prospects learn about “Home” Team

Story by Laurie Stone

The highly recruited prospects filed past rows of fine-grain wood lockers at Ford Field May 15, eagerly searching for a label with their name attached, each with a chance of becoming a valuable member of the team.

The prospects were not top draft picks, but rather, medical professionals invited by the Recruiting and Retention Battalion; and the lockers within the Detroit Lions locker room contained the colors of another team: the Michigan Army National Guard.

More than 50 professionals from the civilian and Guard medical and dental communities experienced an action-packed afternoon in two of Michigan’s finest professional sports venues. In a unique effort to bridge a gap between the military and civilian medical and dental communities, the RRB hosted a social to engage these professionals in a new way.

Supported by National Guard Bureau Strength Command the MIARNG RRB is the first to host a medical recruiting event of this kind. The program is being closely tracked to measure the results of the effort. The RRB is will continue to build inroads into these professional networks in effort to contribute to the readiness of our MIARNG force.



Potential members of the Michigan National Guard medical team stand on Ford Field during the Guard Medical Social. Michigan National Guard photo by Capt. Corissa Barton

With approximately 19 vacancies for doctors, dentists, and physician assistants within the Guard Medical corps, a renewed push to bring in practicing medical and dental professionals is critical. With increased deployment cycles there is a greater demand placed on the medical corps to provide care for our Soldiers. Reaching the medical and dental professionals is often a challenge due in part to their long work hours. Creating an appealing event that would be enjoyable while building awareness of the Michigan Army National Guard Medical corps, led to the idea of a “Guard Medical Social.”

In addition to the Lions locker room visit, attendees were treated to an array of activities at the impressive Ford Field, including field goal kicking, quarterback pass, and a rooftop suite social event. The social allowed the recruiting team to start a dialogue about opportunities as medical corps officers. The evening came to close at Comerica Park, where guests experienced an exciting, extra-inning win by the Detroit Tigers over the Boston Red Socks.

To date RRB staff have identified over 25 practicing and credentialed medical or dental professionals with interest in either joining or advocating the MIARNG. Currently four professionals have begun the appointment process.



Prospects for the Michigan National Guard medical team were treated to a personalized football jersey, medical scrubs, and luggage during the Guard Medical Social. Michigan National Guard photo by Capt. Corissa Barton

Veterans Court comes to Ingham County

Story by Roberta M. Gubbins, *Ingham County Legal News*

“The Ingham county veteran’s treatment court identifies veterans or persons who are currently serving who become criminal defendants. The court will coordinate any needed services and provide a mentor for peer counseling,” said 54B District Court Judge David L. Jordon announcing the official start of the Ingham County Veteran’s Treatment Court (ICVTC) in his courtroom in East Lansing on May 3.

“We will provide structured probation with judicial oversight. We strive to treat every veteran with dignity and respect. These are men and women who have been placed in harm’s way on our behalf and they deserve no less,” he said.

The ICVTC integrates alcohol and drug treatment and mental health services with supervision of each veteran’s probationary case. The court helps veteran defendant’s access treatment using the sources available to them from the Veteran’s Administration.

The program is a collaborative effort of the U.S. Department of Veteran’s Affairs, the Ingham County Circuit Court, 54A, 54B and 55th District Courts, Ingham County Prosecutor’s Office and local police agencies. Guy Sweet of the Ingham County Prosecutor’s Office will be prosecutor for all ICVTC cases.

Supporting partners with the court include the Battle Creek Veteran’s Medical Center, the Veterans Service

“We strive to treat every veteran with dignity and respect. These are men and women who have been placed in harm’s way on our behalf and they deserve no less.” Judge David L. Jordon

Organizations, Volunteers of America Homeless Shelter (one-third of the occupants are veterans) and the Michigan National Guard. Key to the program are the retired and active veterans who volunteer their time to be mentors to the veterans in the program. They receive training provided by the Michigan National Guard. Currently 13 mentors are being trained.

“We are assigned by age and shared life experience,” said Master Sgt. Dave Dunckel. “Veterans that served in Iraq will have mentors who have also served there. Veterans often don’t seek help when they need it. We can help them find and accept the help they need, get copies of necessary records, and access services with the Veteran’s Administration.”

The Michigan Supreme Court and State Court Administrative Office supported ICVTC. “Michigan has been a leader in therapeutic courts going back 20 years. We have had all kinds of therapeutic courts,” said Michigan Supreme Court Justice Marilyn Kelly.

“The common goal of these courts is that they address the underlying problem bringing people in the criminal justice system. The key features of these programs are the same—they involve intensive supervision, frequent review hearings before a judge, graduated incentives and sanctions.”

“These programs, both here and across the country are proving their worth. Studies show that graduates of therapeutic courts are less likely to commit offenses again leading to less cost to the community and the victims. For every person that successfully completes a program, there is a family made stronger and a community more cohesive.”

This program will serve the men and women who served this country. It is my hope that this program will serve our veterans as well as they have served all of us,” she said.

Maj. John Wojcik, Michigan National Guard, judge advocate general, on behalf of the ICTVC, presented Justice Kelly with a coin inscribed with the words “Fortitudine vincimus,” Latin meaning “By endurance we conquer.” He explained that in the military, coins are rewarded to someone who has done exemplary work.

The coin is in recognition of Justice Kelly’s leadership on the Michigan Supreme Court and the State Court Administrative office, which allows the ICVTC to accept cases from all the courts in Ingham County.

“Leave no veteran behind”

In keeping with it’s mission, “Leave no veteran behind,” the Veteran’s Court will work to:

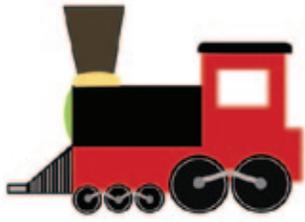
-- Coordinate services between the court, probation, the Veteran’s Administration and any service providers

-- Provide veteran mentors- an individual they can trust and can help with jobs, housing, or other problems as they appear

-- Provide probation mentoring and court supervision twice monthly

-- Coordinate feedback between the court, probation, Veteran’s Administration, and service providers

-- Treat the needs of the veteran promptly and professionally



Trucks on Train Tracks

Story by Senior Airman Brittany Simon

The first image that comes to most people's minds involving semi-trailer trucks is that of a shiny 18-wheeler cruising down a well-maintained American highway. Michigan Army National Guard Soldiers of the Wyoming and Sturgis, Mich., based 1463rd Transportation Company have different needs from the previously mentioned notion, specifically, an off-road capability.

The needs of the 1463rd Transportation Company were met when Terry Hallock, the transportation agent for the United States Property and Fiscal Office arranged for 60 M-932 tractor trailer trucks to be delivered to Michigan via rail road on April 20, 2010. The delivery was significant because it was the first time in 15 years that heavy equipment has been delivered by rail to the Michigan Army National Guard.

Sgt. 1st Class William Minock, an automotive inspector with the Combined Support Maintenance Shop, said the previous family of semi-trucks used by the 1463rd



Sixty tractor trailer trucks sit on rail cars waiting to be inspected and unloaded. The trucks were obtained through the RESET program that keeps units equipped and ready for war. Michigan National Guard photo by Senior Airman Brittany Simon



Soldiers from the Combined Support Maintenance Shop inspect a new M-932 truck before it is distributed to the 1463rd Transportation Company. Michigan National Guard photo by Senior Airman Brittany Simon

Transportation Company was found to be deficient for the off-road conditions encountered in Iraq and Afghanistan. The new trucks are designed to perform on and off road missions and can handle any task assigned to them.

"These vehicles give us mission flexibility. On the road the trucks have a top speed of 65mph so they can keep up with civilian traffic," said Lt. Col. Jerry Hurtgen, commander of the 246th Transportation Battalion.

The M-932 trucks were procured through the Reset program which is administered by the Army Tank-automotive and Armaments Life Cycle Management Command to get replacement equipment to Army units that need replacements for war torn vehicles used in Iraq or Afghanistan.

"These tractors are fresh from recapitalization. That means they are like new, but at a lower cost than brand new trucks. The only thing they are missing is that new car smell. The Army doesn't issue that," said Hurtgen.

BY THE NUMBERS

8 rail cars delivering the mass shipment of M-932 model trucks.

15 years since the last shipment of military vehicles was received by rail.

60 M-932 model trucks, capable of performing off-road missions in Iraq or Afghanistan.

15,000 pound winch on the front of vehicle giving it more towing capability.

Story by Senior Airman Brittany Simon



Brig. Gen. Michael Stone stands with his family after being promoted to the general officer ranks. Michigan National Guard photo by Sgt. 1st Class James Downen

Michael A. Stone of Grand Blanc, Mich., has been promoted to the rank of brigadier general in the Michigan Army National Guard.

Stone is the Director of the Joint Staff, at the Lansing-based Joint Force Headquarters. He has been a member of the Michigan National Guard for nearly 23 years.

Stone began his military career at the University of Detroit where he attended the Reserve Officer Training Corps and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in 1989. From there he served in numerous positions with increasing responsibility including: platoon leader, company commander, area security officer, battalion S-1, vulnerability assistance officer, battalion S-3, brigade S-4, battalion executive officer, battalion commander, brigade chief of staff, deputy brigade commander and director of joint operations.

Throughout his career, Stone has attended numerous military schools to include: Military Police Officer Basic Course, Military Police Officer Advanced Course, Signal Officer Advanced Course, Field Artillery Officer Advanced Course, Field Artillery Pre-Command Course, Combined Armed Services Staff School, U.S. Army Command and General Staff Course, Joint Task Force Commander Course and the U.S. Army War College.

Stone is a veteran of Operation Desert Storm, Operation Joint Endeavor and Operation Iraqi Freedom. During each tour he served as a military police officer.

Stone holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in history, cum laude from the University of Detroit; a Juris Doctorate, cum laude from the Michigan State University School of Law (formerly known as the Detroit College of Law); and a Master of Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College.

Stone and his wife, Elisabeth, have two daughters, Libby and Katie.

Story by Senior Airman Brittany Simon

Alto, Michigan-resident Brig. Gen. Burton K. Francisco has assumed command as the assistant adjutant general of the Michigan Army National Guard. He replaces Brig. Gen. James R. Anderson who retired after 38 years of military service. Prior to this assignment, Francisco served as the director of the joint staff for the Michigan National Guard.

“General Francisco has demonstrated true integrity and leadership in his many years of military service. I am confident he is prepared to lead the members of the Michigan Army National Guard and to take them to an even higher level of professionalism and military readiness,” said Maj. Gen. Thomas G. Cutler, the adjutant general of Michigan.

Francisco began his military career April 1978 when he enlisted in the Michigan Army National Guard as a private assigned to Company C, 1st Battalion, 125th Infantry, Alpena, Mich. In May 1983 he was commissioned to second lieutenant and initially served in the 46th Infantry Brigade in a variety of assignments with increasing responsibilities including: platoon leader, company commander, battalion S1, S2, S3, battalion executive officer and brigade S3. From there he served as the counterdrug coordinator, commander of the 51st Civil Support Team, G3 for the 46th Military Police Command, director of Human Resources, brigade commander of Headquarters, 63rd Troop Command, deputy chief of staff for operations and training, chief of staff, and director of the Joint Staff.

Francisco holds a bachelor’s degree from Ferris State University and a master’s degree in strategic studies from the U.S. Army War College.

Francisco has been married to Donna (Scheuner) for 29 years. They have two children and three grandchildren. Their daughter Karla is a technical sergeant in the Michigan Air National Guard and their son Chad is a sergeant in the Michigan Army National Guard.



Brig. Gen. Burton Francisco stands with his family after taking over command of the Michigan Army National Guard. Michigan National Guard photo by Sgt. 1st Class James Downen

Goodwill In Ghana

127th CES Leaves Lasting Impression

Story by Tech. Sgt. Dan Heaton Photos by Master Sgt. Terry Atwell



Brick by Brick

Airmen who deployed for training to West Africa learned new skills and techniques, thanks to their interaction with Soldiers from Ghana.

The 127th Civil Engineering Squadron, Michigan Air National Guard, deployed to Accra, the capital city of Ghana in West Africa for two weeks in April to work with the Ghana military and the North Dakota Air National Guard to perform a major rehabilitation of a building at the Ghana Air Force's School of Technical Training.

"This has been an excellent training environment for our people," said Chief Master Sgt. Greg Robinson, the senior enlisted Airman who made the trip to Africa. "Particularly for our masons, who have had to learn how to work in a totally different environment from what we are used to back home."

Of particular challenge for the masons who were working on the project, which included bricking in several windows and doors on the existing frame of a cement building, was working in the high heat and humidity of Africa's "Gold Coast." In the local environment, the normal ratios used to make mortar for laying brick didn't work.



Senior Airman Keith Perkins and Staff Sgt. Chris Tarquino, both members of the 127th Civil Engineering Squadron, Michigan Air National Guard, mix mortar for use on a construction project while on deployment to Accra, Ghana.



Senior Airman Shamika Moore, a member of the 127th Civil Engineering Squadron, Michigan Air National Guard, carries a cement building block at a worksite.

"We were constantly adjusting how much water we needed to add, how wet we needed to make the mortar to work with it," said civil engineer Senior Airman Keith Perkins.

"We had to adjust as the day went on and it kept getting hotter. The Ghanaian Soldiers taught us their methods so we could keep working," said Perkins.

Robinson said Perkins and Staff Sgt. Jason Earad, another mason on the project, also learned new techniques for applying mortar not normally used in the U.S.

"The Ghana Soldiers we have been working with are very sharp. I think there has been a good level of interaction at the job site between our people and the locals," Robinson said.

Robinson said that learning to work in adverse conditions will serve the 127th CES Airmen well the next time it is called to forward deploy to Iraq, Afghanistan or elsewhere.

Orphanage Assistance

During the training mission, Airmen from the 127th Civil Engineering Squadron paid a visit and dropped off donations at an orphanage and a center that assists the children of women who have been rescued or have escaped from human traffickers.

“How can you not help but feel that you must do something for these children,” said Maj. Tom Sierakowski, the officer in charge of the deployment.

Anticipating the trip to Ghana, Sierakowski worked with the Flint, Mich., chapter of the Safari Club International, to bring two large bags of supplies to the organizations in Ghana. Once the 127th CES arrived in Ghana, the Airmen worked in conjunction with the U.S. Embassy to determine some of the needs of the orphanage and took up a collection to purchase items locally to support the organization.

Master Sgt. Lisha Lewis visited both of the facilities to learn their specific needs and to arrange the visit by the Michigan Airmen.

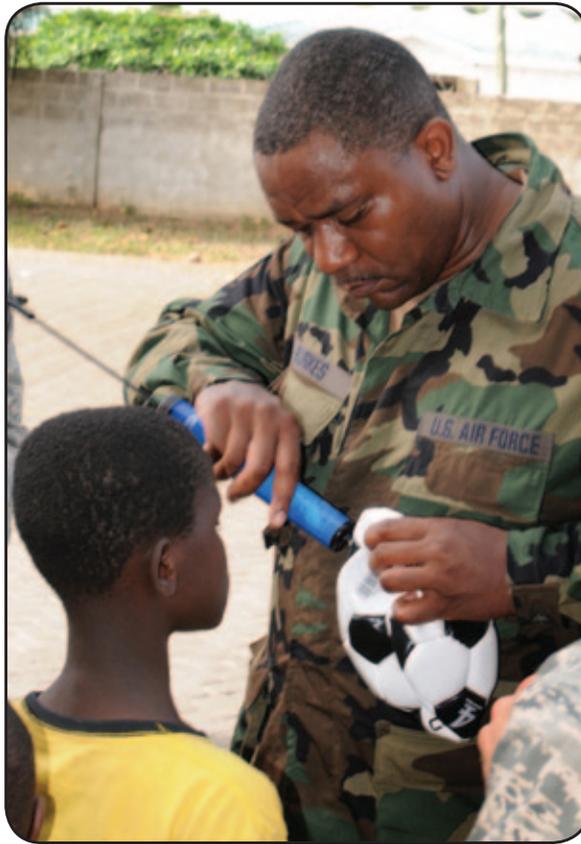
“Their list of needs ranged from flip-flops for the children to wear, all the way up to a new vehicle,” Lewis said.

Tech. Sgt. Emory Sims said visiting the orphanage was a reminder of the many things that Americans take for granted.

“It was just amazing to see 250 children all living in that one orphanage,” said Sims. “The children were eager just to get to speak with an American.”

Door of No Return

The trip to Ghana was the first time many of the 127th Airman had visited Africa. During the 15-day journey, the Airmen enjoyed one day off in Africa and many took advantage of the day to visit Cape Coast Castle and the infamous “Door of No Return” where thousands of African slaves were loaded on to ships for the so-called “Middle



Tech. Sgt. Oscar Burkes pumps up a soccer ball for eager children during a visit to the OSU Children's Home in Accra, Ghana.

Passage” journey to slavery in the Americas. The castle recently added a small commemorative plaque that recalls the 2009 visit to the castle by President Barack Obama and his family.

Future Partners

It is likely that more Michigan Guardsmen will visit Africa in the future. The Michigan National Guard recently began a partnership with Liberia, which borders Ghana, under the Partnership for Peace program, in which U.S. state National Guards partner with the military of emerging nations. Michigan has long enjoyed a partnership with Latvia, which will also continue. Ghana recently became a partner with North Dakota, which helped organize and worked with Michigan on the trip to Ghana.



Staff Sgt. Chris Tarquino, a member of the 127th Civil Engineering Squadron, Michigan Air National Guard, works with a Soldier from Ghana to prepare mortar for use in masonry work during a deployment to Accra, Ghana, April 2010, to perform a major renovation on a training building used by the air force of Ghana.

Soldier Receives long time coming Bronze Star for Valor

Story and photos by Sgt. 1st Class James Downen with Spc. James Potter

“Specialist James L. Potter, United States Army, distinguished himself by exceptionally meritorious service to the United States as a Gunner, 46th Military Police Company, Multi-National Corps Iraq, Baghdad, Iraq, on 26 May 2007 during Operation Iraqi Freedom.”

The above narrative is one of three paragraphs that describe the events leading to Michigan Army National Guard Spc. James Potter being awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor device for heroism. It took almost three years for Potter to be presented with his hard earned medal, so it is appropriate that we give him an opportunity to explain what happened on May 26, 2007 in his own words.

Potter describes how the events unfolded:

“We started our mission at an Iraqi Police Station. A local national came in and claimed people were building a mosque on a road where one was already located. The local national claimed the new mosque was a front for a weapons cache.

Our patrol was dispatched to see if the mosque existed. We checked the road and it was there. We drove by it as inconspicuously as possible to take pictures of it for intelligence purposes. After taking the photos, we changed our route to head for Forward Operating Base Loyalty to get lunch.

Sgt. Kricia Brown noticed scrap metal on the road and told me to watch for improvised explosive devices. Our vehicle ended up being struck, caught on fire and I don't recall the explosion or impact. The heat was intense and so I jumped off of the passenger side and could see nothing but a big black smoke cloud.

I ran back to the vehicle, opened the door and found Sgt. Brown trying to climb over the radio mount. I helped her out of the vehicle while yelling, ‘Get out, Labonte,’ and then ran around to the passenger side where the interpreter was seated. The passenger door was blown off and I helped him out. The interpreter's face was burned so badly he couldn't open his eyes.

I ran to the driver's door and opened it; the driver's position was engulfed in flames. I grabbed Sgt. John Labonte and pulled him out with my right arm



Brig. Gen. Michael Nevin, commander of the 177th Military Police Brigade pins the Bronze Star with Valor device on Spc. James Potter. Potter received the award for actions as a gunner during his deployment to Iraq with the 46th Military Police Company.

under his arm pit. My left arm, which was wounded with shrapnel, quit working, so I did this one handed. Labonte was badly wounded, his left eye was gone and his legs

were traumatically amputated. Sgt. Christopher Bates and Spc Lance Swatzenruber put tourniquets on his legs.

I ran back to the convoy commander's truck and reported to 2nd Lt. Alex Guildoni, 'Sir, I can't feel my left arm and my right is burned.' Guildoni told me 'Don't look at your arm, Potter!' as he treated my wounds. I replied, 'Too late, Sir!' Guildoni put a tourniquet and Israeli bandage on my wounds and ordered me to get in the back of his vehicle. My vehicle exploded again, it was the ammunition cooking off.

We ended up being casualty evacuated to FOB Rustiyah. It seemed as if 50 medics were waiting on us when we pulled up. The medics put all wounded Soldiers on spine boards, but I walked on my own. A chaplain, whose name I don't recall, walked in with me. Our command sergeant major put his arm around me and asked, 'What's your name, Soldier?' The Chaplain replied, 'That's Spc. Potter, command sergeant major, the one you said looks like Nicki Stokes from *CSI Las Vegas*.'

At the hospital, they told me I was being put in for a Bronze Star Medal with Valor device.

Potter was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Victory device and the Army Commendation Medal on May 10, 2010 at Camp Grayling Army Airfield, Mich., in a ceremony conducted by his current unit, the Kalamazoo, Mich., based 507th Engineer Battalion. Brig. Gen. Michael Nevin, commander of the 177th Military Police Brigade, presented the award to Potter. Potter's family was in attendance for the ceremony and afterwards was treated to an Army dinner of turkey and trimmings in the mess hall.

Potter and the 507th Engineer Battalion are training for duty in Iraq this fall.

The Bronze Star Medal was established in 1944 to any Soldier who distinguishes him or herself by heroic or meritorious achievement or service. The Valor device is awarded as a result of an act of combat heroism. The Bronze Star Medal with Valor device is the military's fourth highest award for valor.



Spc. James Potter stands with his family after being awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor device at Camp Grayling.



O U R



1st Lt. Kristin Schulte, 146th MMB, with Elle Mae the Bull Terrier



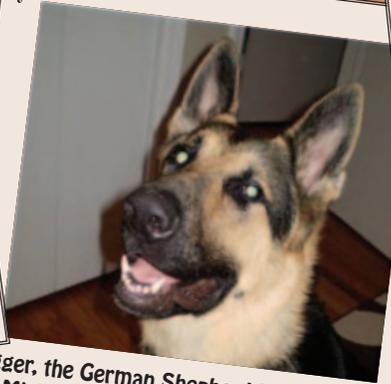
Cookie Monster the Chocolate Lab, Princess Ariel the Airedale, and Midnight Mya the Black Lab belong to Command Sgt. Maj. Garry Gross, 126th Press Camp Headquarters and Master Sgt. (ret) Danette Gross



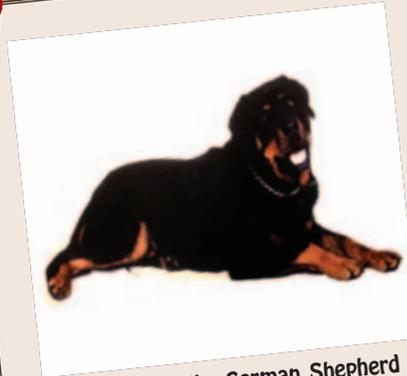
Sgt. 1st Class Jim Downman the Miniature Schnauzer and African Grey Parrot



Boomer, the Blue Tick Coonhound-Australian Cattle Dog mix, belongs to Chaplain Doug DeWitt of the 127th Wing



Trigger, the German Shepherd belongs to Cpl. Michael Anderson of Company C, 125th Infantry



Rocky, the Rottweiler-German Shepherd mix, belonged to Master Sgt. (ret) Franz Ankrapp, 191st Security Forces. Rocky passed away March 18, 2009



Staff Sgt. Germaine L. the Golden Retriever



Cpl. (ret) Derek Gagne with Toby, the Jack Russel Terrier



Shadow and Snowball belong to Capt. AJ Spina, 144th Military Police Company



Scooter belongs to Pfc. Scott Johnson, Company E, 238th Aviation

P

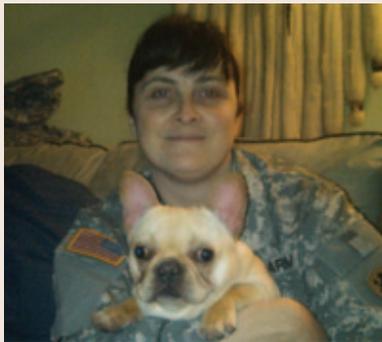
E

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S



men, JFHQ, with Shermauzer and Junior the



Sgt. Charmion Prince, 1462nd Transportation Company, with Harvard Lunchbox Riley, the French Bulldog



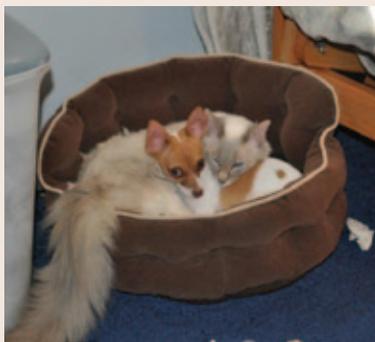
Major, the Golden Retriever, belongs to Sgt. William MacDonald, Company A, 125th Infantry



apporte, JFHQ, with Tank,



Roy, the Miniature Potbelly Pig, belongs to Staff Sgt. Samantha Maine, 631st Troop Cmd., and Sgt. 1st Class Aaron Maine, JFHQ



Ruthie the Chihuahua, and Emi the Balinese Cat, belong to Senior Airman Candace D'Amour, 127th Aviation Maintenance Squadron



Spc. Bryce Lynn, 126th Army Band, with Darko, the Husky-Lab mix



Stewie, the Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, belongs to Sgt. 1st Class Mark Houston, JFHQ



Spc. Kayla Fairbanks, 1462nd Transportation Company, with Ziva (L) and Rex (R), both German Shepherds



Emma McCarty is the daughter of Sgt. Patrick McCarty, 1073rd Maintenance Company, with Liberty, a Boxer Dog

Capitol Area Homeless Veterans Stand Down

The Michigan National Guard Honor Guard participated in the Capitol Area Homeless Veterans Stand Down in Lansing, Mich., in May. Volunteers of America recognized Veterans who came home and found the transition from war to civilian life difficult. The 7th annual stand down for veterans was also an opportunity for veterans to get help with medical, housing and other concerns. Also participating were numerous Michigan National Guard members who helped serve food to the many attendees. Michigan National Guard photo by Senior Airman Brittany Simon



Michigan Soldier Represents Region 4



State Command Sgt. Maj. George Stopper, Wisconsin Army National Guard, shakes the hand of the new National Guard Bureau, Region Four Noncommissioned Officer of the Year, Staff Sgt. Adam Little of the Michigan Army National Guard during the award ceremony at Fort McCoy on May 13. Fourteen Soldiers and Noncommissioned Officers from the Army National Guard organizations of seven different states converged at Fort McCoy for the annual competition, held to select the NCO and Soldier to represent NGB Region Four at the national level. Photo by Spc. Alyson Berzinski, 112th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Washington D.C. Trip Offers Time for Remembrance

Capt. Jennifer Prichard and Capt. Christopher Fisher take a moment to reflect the losses from 9/11 at the Pentagon Memorial. The Airmen were in Washington, D.C., for the annual officer professional development trip. Each year outstanding Michigan Army and Air National Guard officers are nominated by their units for the trip. This year 55 officers visited various monuments and memorials throughout the city, and attended a dinner at the National Guard Association of the United States Headquarters, where they were addressed by Senator Carl Levin. The officers also participated in a memorial at Arlington Cemetery where they visited the graves of fallen Michigan National Guard Soldiers. Michigan National Guard photo by Senior Airman Brittany Simon



“Warrant Officers are LAMe”

Story by Command Chief Warrant Officer 5 Rhea Pruetz Photo courtesy of Detachment 15, Operational Support Airlift Command

Have you heard? “Warrant Officers are LAMe.” Nearly every month for the past four years I listened to that statement. Instead of being insulted or irritated, I was proud to hear these words. Every month there is a Federal Recognition board conducted by the officer branch on behalf of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel (Army G1). This board determines if someone should be granted approval for appointment as a commissioned officer or warrant officer.

Enlisted Soldiers seeking appointment as future warrant officers personally appear before the board. As an advisor to the board, I provide guidance and information regarding the technical qualifications of the Soldier. Col. Dave Taylor (recently retired) was our Senior Army Advisor for the past four years and served as the board president. He never endorsed a Soldier to become a commissioned officer or a warrant officer unless he was confident of their skills and abilities to be a leader. At the conclusion of each Soldier’s interview Col. Taylor would summarize his opinion of warrant officers by saying... “Warrant Officers are LAMe.” After a quizzical response from the Soldier, he would explain his statement by writing the word LAMe on the board. There is a reason the letters L, A, and M are capitalized with just a small letter e. Why? It is because Warrant Officers are LEADERS, ADVISORS, and MENTORS first. We know they are technical experts or they would not have made it to the board. Commands will rely heavily on their technical skills. That is what makes a warrant officer unique. As a future warrant officer they must now take their career to that next level and be LAMe.

A great example of leadership and warrant officers being LAMe was in the recent deployment of our C12 fixed wing unit, Detachment 15, Operational Support Airlift Command (OSACOM). This is the only unit in the Michigan Army National Guard to deploy with a warrant officer in command. It was led by Chief Warrant Officer Five Todd Dembowske. Other units have had warrant officers in senior leadership roles during deployment but not to this degree. There are no regular commissioned officers assigned to Detachment 15. They deployed on February 25, 2009 and returned back home on October 10, 2009. This isn’t a large unit. It is composed of eight warrant officer pilots and four noncommissioned officers. However, they supported a large mission safely. They were based out of Ali Al Salem, Kuwait, where they flew in two shifts. Their passengers were from all levels of command traveling to more than 20 different countries. They flew from southwest Asia to the continent of Africa. Upon completion of the deployment they flew their aircraft



back to Michigan from Kuwait, making a brief stop in Greenland. They had no major incidents throughout the mission and received numerous medals of commendation for their accomplishments.

Look around and you will find there are a lot of LAMe warrant officers in the Michigan Army National Guard. The first unit in the state to be commanded by a warrant officer is the 126th Army Band. It is currently led by Chief Warrant Officer Two Jon Montgomery. The 126th Army Band has performed throughout the world for heads of state, military activities and the general public.

Just fewer than 50 percent of our warrant officers are pilots. The remaining warrant officers serve throughout the state in a variety of technical positions such as maintenance, logistics, information technology, engineering, military intelligence and administration. They are there to support the readiness of their commands. In 2005 we were struggling to fill these critical leadership positions. We only had 132 warrant officers assigned and things were not headed in the right direction. With the hiring of a Warrant Officer Strength Manager, Chief Warrant Officer Three Deb Salters, the trend was turned around and Soldiers interested in being a part of this leadership team were brought into the Warrant Officer Corps. Today we have 177 warrant officers assigned to the Michigan Army National Guard with 17 positions still vacant. We need to find the right Soldiers to fill these leadership positions. More information on how to become a warrant officer can be found on our recruiting website: <https://www.mi.ngb.army.mil/ocs/index.aspx>

It is exciting to be a member of the Warrant Officer Corps working with exceptionally professional Soldiers who are recognized as being “LAMe.”

Show us your true colors!



Send us a photo of you representing your favorite college or high school. Decked out cars, costumed pets and colorful accessories are all possibilities! Send photos to WolverineGuard@Michigan.gov. Please include your name, rank, unit and name of school. Submissions must be received by August 1, 2010.



U.S. Flag flies with WMU Pride

Story and photos by Master Sgt. Ronald Raflik



Photo Left: Lt. Col. Ed Kluk raises the American flag on Forward Operating Base Lightning in Afghanistan. The flag was presented to him by his co-workers at WMU when he was called to active duty.



Photo Right: Lt. Col. Ed Kluk, accompanied by Brig. Gen. (ret) Dan Litynski, and Brig. Gen. (ret) Tom Edmonds, render honors as the WMU ROTC Honor Guard raise the flag presented to the university by Kluk after flying it under his command in Afghanistan.

The weather was very much the same. Somewhat windy, a little cloudy, and the temperature around 80 degrees.

The event was the same as well. The difference? Five months, 12,000 miles, and very different circumstances.

Lt. Col. Ed Kluk, Embedded Training Team #4 commander in Afghanistan from April 2009 through January 2010, brought his deployment experience to a fitting end on Thursday, April 15, 2010.

Kluk, the assistant director for Information Technology at Western Michigan University, was presented an

American flag by his co-workers before he deployed to Afghanistan. The flag was flown in the face of the enemy at Forward Operating Base Kunduz, and FOB Lightning, where Kluk commanded while deployed.

On April 15, at WMU in Kalamazoo, Mich., Kluk presented the flag to the Board of Trustees. In a ceremony immediately following, the flag was raised on the campus in honor of the more than 400 veterans attending or working at WMU, and those serving abroad.

After flying for ten days, the flag will be cased and put on permanent display in the university archives.

Michigan Army and Air National Guard Promotions

February 27, 2010 through June 1, 2010

Brig. Gen.

Stone, Michael A.

Col.

English, Thomas

Estrada, Pablo

Lt. Col.

Dilg, Kenneth

Fischer, Charles

Marlowe, Kimberly

Perricane, Michael

Maj.

Chandler, Leatha

Dziedziolowski, John

Frey, Jeffrey

Mann, Richard

Picconi, Jason

Capt.

Brennan, Andrew

Cichon, Mesha

Findlay, Timothy

Gonzalesnavarre, Cary

Graham, Darren

Herschleb, Douglas

Holoman, David

Jenzen, Adam

Knowles, Randall

Miosku, George

Murrell, Amanda

Rico, Carlos

Vandop, Jared

Williams, Arnold

Yunker, Robert

1st Lt.

Bennett, James

Brainard, Robert

Brolsma, Matthew

Deutsch, Moses

Gee, Spinny

Kennedy, Jeffrey

Limas, Ruben

Osbeck, Gary

Stimson, Jacob

Webb, Brian

2nd Lt.

Bryant, Jeremiah

Bryant, Kervin

Carbary, Kelly

Caron, Simon

Chapin, Jeremy

Duncan, Matthew

Essenmacher, Matthew

Frank, Patrick

Fuller, April

Grime, Zachary

Hernandez, Andres

Hylko, David

Mccann, Ryan

Metz, David

Nelson, Paul

Nyquist, Jacob

Snyder, Christian

Stephens, Adam

Warrant Officer 4

Bowling, Shaun

Warrant Officer 3

Kent, David

Warrant Officer 2

Brown, Andrew

Cage, Jamil

Cook, Shawn

Eurich, Paul

Gordon, Daniel

Hatchew, Ronald

Mack, Joel

Mosley, Tracey

Mudge, Glen

Patterson, Michael

Warrant Officer 1

Barrett, Thomas

Beebe, Robert

Berry, Sheryl

Moore, Ryan

Riley, Lonnie

Ross, Kevin

Sgt. Maj.

Wren, Jerome

Master Sgt.

Hanson, Janet

Palmatier, Kevin

Plaxton, Jeremy

Potter, Tim

Reed, Renee

Waltenburg, Carl

Sgt. 1st Class

Beckwith, Martin

Berg, James

Crisp, Michael

Dinehart, Brian

Hahn, Devin

Hall, Terrance

Hosey, Brian

Lamaire, Phillip

Lynch, Brent

Oswald, Michael

Price, Stacy

Roberts, Michael

Swanson, Michael

Vanalstine, Dawn

Staff Sgt.

Antilla, Roger

Arsenault, Jason

Betz, Dale

Bison, Nicholas

Boswell, John

Burns, William

Buxton, Theodore

Cook, Adam

Craig, Charles

Dion, Earl

Dorin, Craig

Elder, Richard

Ferguson, Michael

Gallagher, Daniel

Gizicki, Creg

Glasser, Ronald

Guild, Joshua

Hilla, Jason

Hodges, Brandan

Izydorek, Nicholas

Johansen, Brian

Kirby, Branden

Koch, Keith

Koenitzer, Roy

Langlois, Charles

Lasseigne, Edward

Milnes, Kevin

Mulder, Amy

Nystrom, Michael

Pilmer, Russell

Ritter, Jason

Rivera, Robert

Rogers, William

Ross, Chad

Schultz, Christopher

Shiery, Scott

Stanwick, Steven

Stotts, Cory

Traxler, Bryan

Ulrich, Kurt

Weiler, Randall

Wigginton, Tracy

Wilburn, Levoy

Young, Michael

Sgt.

Ahner, Sean

Alexander, Charles

Allen, William

Baker, Jeremy

Barker, Jeffrey

Bennett, Kevin

Bennink, Brenton

Block, Shon

Bos, David

Brockway, Kyle

Buchholz, Richard

Burtts, Lauren

Candela, Angela

Childers, Elise

Churchill, Jimmy

Clark, Matthew

Cochran, Heather

Cochran, Ryan

Conkey, George

Cooper, Laurence

Crowe, Adam

Cutler, Michael

Daman, Ronald

Dickinson, Ronald

Donegan, Joshua

Drewelow, Perry

Eckert, Jason

Edwards, Donald

Eggleston, David

Elliott, Brian

Essex, Diamond

Fields, Mason

Futter, Frederick

Gavin, Jasin

Gilbert, Travis

Giuliani, Danielle

Gotcher, Jason

Green, Eric

Green, James

Hagler, Jimmy

Henry, Linden

Hensley, Megan

Herring, Kyle

Hollinshead, Kyle

Horst, Cory

Horvath, Christopher

Houghtaling, Aaron

Hunter, Ty

Inman, James

Keehr, Riley

Kenney, Scott

Klush, Michele

Krautner, Nicholas

Kreitner, Jeffrey

Krumbhaar, Khai

Krumm, Peter

Kuzminski, Ryan

Lacourt, Stephen

Lafernier, Melvin

Latham, David

Latuszek, William

Linder, Richard

Marchek, Jeremy

Marshschweitzer, Jacob

Marvin, Michael

Mckinney, Robert

Mcphail, Kevin

Miller, Craig

Mitchell, Allen

Montani, Thomas

Mullin, Alan

Osborn, Leslie

Pak, Joseph

Parrott, Joanie

Porojan, Cristina

Portman, Timothy

Potts, Bobby

Punches, Ricky

Qualls, Brian

Querfurth, Justin

Rasmussen, Andrew

Reed, Michael

Rench, Andrew

Robinson, Johnathan

Rumph, Russell

Sevilla, Kenneth

Sherd, Geordan

Smith, Joshua

Southard, James

Striggow, Kenneth

Swan, Michael

Tasior, Christopher

Tatum, Dale

Taylor, James

Taylor, Krysta

Thomas, Jason

Thomas, Richard

Tohlman, Michael

Tolliver, Berry

Turek, Jason

Valkema, Dustin

Visser, Jay

Waldrup, Stanley

Walton, Toussaint

Warner, Terence

Wheeler, Brittany

Williams, Donald

Willis, Dustin

Wright, Angelo

Spc.

Adams, Scott

Agar, Amber

Allan, Miles

Allen, Antonio

Anaya, Jorge

Anderson, Jeffrey

Apger, Timothy

Bailey, Jason

Bal, Allan

Barnes, Joshua

Barth, Chad

Michigan Army and Air National Guard Promotions

February 27, 2010 through June 1, 2010

Berryhill, Kevin	Gay, Nicholas	Miller, Justine	Studer, Ethan	Troyer, Christopher	Homrich, Nicholas
Blackwell, Theodore	Gidcomb, Aaron	Mladenoff, William	Sumner, Nicholas	Vang, Michael	Jackson, Robert
Blight, Nathan	Gilginas, Jessica	Moore, Andrew	Sundquist, Gary	Watkins, Tony	Mcnally, Kenzi
Bloomquist, Richard	Gilliland, Richard	Moquin, Brendon	Tackett, Patrick	Williams, Jonathan	Muscato, James
Bolles, Morgan	Giuchin, Argelis	Nelson, Troy	Pfc.	Pvt.	Sherman, Brian
Bonner, Raymond	Godard, Michael	Nelson, Vincent	Fletcher, Holly	Batchelder, Cameron	Snodgrass, Justin
Bouwkamp, Mitchell	Goedike, Cody	Neumann, Robert	Fradette, Colette	Bittell, David	Taylor, Kevin
Bradburn, Timothy	Goldi, Dennis	Newcomer, Matthew	Gary, Kimberly	Kreft, Taylor	Vergun, Daniel
Brassaw, Morris	Grigg, Cody	Nolan, Jessica	Gray, Jonathan	Piggott, Aaron	Vandenberg, Jared
Briolat, Christopher	Hall, Brandon	Olds, Nathan	Hale, Carol	Ray, Jasmin	Wilson, Michael A.
Brooks, Steven	Harmon, Brian	Orr, Joshua	Holt, Kayla	Riddle, Trevor	Tech. Sgt.
Brown, Daniel	Hartlerode, Nathan	Orvis, Michael	Hopkins, Ryan	2nd Lt.	Beck, Mark
Brown, Derek	Haywood, Joshua	Palmer, Christine	Johnson, Alex	Best, Benjamin	Cadena, Alonzo
Brown, Robert	Hoffman, Steven	Palmore, Raphael	Kerby, Zachariah	Bishop, Jeremy	Eldred, Tyler
Bucholtz, Kevin	Hopkins, Albert	Paris, Tyrone	Kipen, Jason	Conrad, Katherine	Faulkner, Brian
Bullock, David	Ingraham, Prescott	Patsey, Joshua	Knowles, Bryan	Curtis, Kenneth	Griener, Quentin
Burkitt, Amanda	Johnson, Adam	Popan, Flavius	Lewis, Gordon	1st Lt.	Gunderson, Dandrea
Card, Johnathan	Johnson, Grace	Prado, Javier	Litten, Edward	Klinger, Mitchell	Hardin, Timothy
Carey, James	Johnston, Corey	Putman, Jason	Lopez, Hiram	Capt.	Medley, Joshua
Carpenter, William	Jones, Justin	Queen, Christopher	Marshall, Drew	Amara, Bryan	Pomorski, Andrew
Clarkson, James	Julite, Robert	Ramon, Hector	Mashon, Steven	Maj.	Rhodes, Maygan
Cobb, Andiago	Kaupp, Ian	Randall, Roderick	Massie, Nicholas	Osiecki, Lawrence	Vannortwick, Daniel
Cole, Trisha	Kennedy, Joshua	Randall, Roderick	Mcnicol, Michael	Siu, Jeffrey	Master Sgt.
Cook, Jennifer	Kinder, Benjamin	Reynolds, Steven	Mogg, Brandy	Whitener, Tate	Chappel, Mary
Correa, Brandon	Kitchenhoff, Rollie	Riplett, Lance	Moleski, Joshua	Lt. Col.	Haven, Bonnie
Crampton, Daniel	Krick, Joshua	Roberts, Kyle	Nelson, Cody	Cruchon, Kimberly	Henderson, Eric
Cruz, Troy	Lane, Joshua	Robertsodell, Ashley	Nelson, Tyge	Dimichele, George	Lewis, Brett
Damron, Trevor	Langmeyer, Luke	Rocheffort, Jeffrey	Newman, Aaron	Kuiper, Steven	Lewis, Lisha
Deace, Brandon	Larm, Trent	Rosier, Jesse	Oneil, Brian	Rossi, James	Smith, Michael
Debano, Daniel	Lawton, Matthew	Rosso, Gregory	Partington, Regina	Senior Airman	Toohey, Todd
Diaz, Eric	Lindsey, Jessica	Rotunda, Ruth	Peabody, Dustin	Garze, Roland C.	Senior Master Sgt.
Duffy, Kenneth	Louis, Ryan	Saddler, James	Perez, Victor	Kelly, Kyle	Hatch, Charles
Dupuis, Paul	Maehling, Amanda	Sayler, Joshua	Pittman, Keven	Krueger, Karl	Memmott, Robert
Eddy, Matthew	Main, Christian	Seabolt, Danielle	Psenski, Sarah	Matchinski, Dustin	Roeper, James
Eldridge, Mark	Malek, Spencer	Seratti, Michael	Reese, Anthony	Osborne, Jason	
Evans, Aaron	Mallon, Michael	Sharp, Ryan	Rentz, Matthew	Wilson, Steven J	
Farmerprice, Derrick	Mann, Quincy	Shier, Stephen	Richardson, Amanda	Yang, Vang	
Feldpausch, Donald	Marnell, Tagan	Sime, Sarah	Riley, Donald	Staff Sgt.	
Ferguson, Eric	Martin, Brittney	Sleppy, Daniel	Roy, Patrick	Balcom, Chad	
Fital, Sean	Martin, Erick	Smith, Edward	Rushton, Evan	Barton, Rachel	
Fredrickson, Kristal	Masura, Michael	Soeder, Steven	Seavolt, Ryan	Brooks, Nicole	
Fuller, Cody	Mccarthy, Jacqueline	Space, Evan	Smith, Charles	Cole, Matthew	
	Mccord, Dirk	Spangler, Anthony	Spear, Garrett	Depue, Bret A.	
	Mcgill, Sean	Statler, Kyle	Squires, Lisa	Fenton, Craig	
	Meece, Joshua	Stephen, Jeffrey	Sullivan, Ian	Hamisfar, Kenneth	
		Stephenson, Andrew	Sullivan, Jeremiah	Hartman, Braden	
			Taylor, Rhiannon	Hilborn, Robert	

Correction-

Missing from previous issues were the following promotions:

Senior Master Sgt.

Shirley Mitchell
Erik Morse

Listed incorrectly-

Senior Master Sgt. Roger Haller should have been listed as Chief Master Sgt.



Photo courtesy of Maj. Aaron Radlinski

“Rad” Ironman

Racer: Maj. Aaron A. Radlinski; S3, 210th Military Police Battalion

Race name: St. George Ironman

Location: St. George, Utah

Course highlights: 59 degree water temperature for the swim; multiple elevation gains of more than 2,000 feet during bike course; multiple elevation gains of nearly 500 feet during the run course.

Date of Race: May 1, 2010

Length of Race: 140.6 miles (2.4 mile swim, 112 mile bike, 26.2 mile run)

Completion Time: 15 hours, 33 minutes

Race highlights: The entire city of Saint George, Utah seemed to be lining the streets for the entire race. The emotional support provided by family, strangers, and race followers was incredible.

Motivation for race: Being able to race with my wife was fantastic (she beat me by 45 minutes). But the largest reason I had for completing the race was to see how far I could push my physical limits. There was one time in particular on the bike course when I had about 70 miles left to go before the finish line that I questioned my ability to finish. In spite of the great temptation to stop, I refused to quit. I was not going to leave Utah without accomplishing what I'd been training to do for the past nine months. Ultimately, the joy of finishing far outweighed the physical pain I was experiencing during the course.

Final verdict: I will race again!

Currently Deployed

Army

46th Military Police Command	Afghanistan
CO C, 3/238th GSAB	Iraq
777th MP Det	Iraq
1437th Engineer Co.	Iraq
1073rd Maint. Co.	Iraq
CO B, BSTB, 37th BCT	Kosovo
CO C, BSTB, 86th BCT	Afghanistan
OMLT 3	Afghanistan
745th Ordnance Det	Afghanistan



Staff Sgt. Lance Miller walks with his three daughters after the 1434th homecoming ceremony. The Grayling-based 1434th Engineer Co. returned home from a 12-month Iraq deployment where they contributed to the construction and remodeling of more than 50 structures. Michigan National Guard photo by Angela Simpson



TAPS

Tech. Sgt. George M. Sims, (ret), 64, March 6, 2010
 Maj. Victor Lawson Jr., (ret), 89, March 15, 2010
 Sgt. 1st Class Larry Wheeler, (ret), 65, March 18, 2010
 1st Sgt. Dennis Holley, (ret), 63, March 22, 2010
 Sgt. Maj. Dennis E. Ohara, (ret), 70, March 28, 2010

Sgt. 1st Class Arnold L. Schipper, (ret), 73, April 9, 2010
 Senior Master Sgt. Frederick Wythe, (ret), 63, April 26, 2010
 Spc. Frank J. Laurence, (ret), 78, May 26, 2010
 Lt. Col. Donald R. Wernette, (ret), 91, May 27, 2010

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PLAY IT SAFE

- Be prepared: Know your camping area. Check weather conditions. Wear proper clothing for the weather.
- Water: Bring your own water or water filter for drinking.
- Animals: Never handle, feed or attract wild animals.
- Campfire: Dig a small pit for fire. Clear a five-foot area around the pit down to the soil. Never leave a campfire unattended.
- Have a written plan of activities, area map, emergency phone numbers, locations of medical assistance, lodges and park rangers and leave a copy with someone at home.

LEADERS
SOLDIERS
FAMILIES

CAMPING OUT!

SAFE
SUMMER



ARMY SAFE
IS ARMY STRONG

