

Maryland

Digest

Military Department

Fall 2009



WREATH LAYING

“ We must never forget the tremendous sacrifices of these Americans and their families. ”

-Brig. Gen. James A. Adkins
The adjutant general of Maryland

Martin O'Malley
Governor



Anthony G. Brown
Lt. Governor

To the Personnel of the Maryland Military Department:

As we begin the winter season, the Maryland Military Department, including all its components, continues to successfully accomplish federal and state missions with professionalism, integrity and resourcefulness. I am proud of all you do for our nation, our state and our communities. Please thank your families for all they do to support you and our organization.

One of the issues that requires constant attention is safety. All of you are valued assets to our state and our nation; we care about you and quite simply, we want to keep you safe. For most of us, the riskiest part of our day is the time we spend in our cars. Car accidents pose a very real threat to your safety both on the job and off. In fact, on any given day in Maryland, there will be an average of 258 crashes. More than 100 people will be injured, and at least one person will die. Hazardous driving during winter weather increases the threat.

On average in Maryland, traffic crashes claim the lives of about 600 people each year. Multiply that figure by the thousands of loved ones those crash victims leave behind and you can see that the emotional impact can be devastating. More than 93 percent of these crashes are attributed to driver error. Most, if not all, of those crashes can be prevented. We want to make sure you have the information and tools you need to prevent crashes through new campaigns outlined in executive orders issued by President Obama and Governor O'Malley.

President Obama has issued an executive order which forbids text messaging by federal employees while driving a government-owned vehicle; when driving a privately-owned vehicle on official government business; or when using electronic equipment supplied by the government while driving. In the President's order, texting or text messaging means reading from, or entering data into, any handheld or other electronic device for the purpose of Short Message Service texting, e-mailing, instant messaging, obtaining navigational information or engaging in any other form of electronic data retrieval or electronic data communication. The order also defines driving as operating a motor vehicle on an active roadway with the motor running, including while temporarily stationary because of traffic, a traffic sign or otherwise.

Governor O'Malley's executive order mandates a new hands-free cell phone policy and prohibits texting while driving. State employees who drive state vehicles will participate in a "Be a Driving Force for Safety" program that encourages safe driving skills.

The next few weeks and months will present challenges as we prepare for deployments, major exercises and other missions. Please focus on your duty to our state and our nation. That includes keeping yourself safe. Millions of Marylanders are counting on you. God speed.

Respectfully,

JAMES A. ADKINS
Brigadier General, MDARNG
The Adjutant General



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MDNG paid tribute to fallen Servicemembers during a ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Va. October 13. Photo by Spc. Thaddeus Harrington



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Antietam's Unknown Soldier Sent Home



Just days before Sept. 17, the 147th anniversary of the Battle of Antietam in Sharpsburg, Md., an unknown Union Civil War Soldier was sent off to his home state of New York for a proper burial with military honors. A hiker from Oklahoma recently found the remains while walking on a trail near the battlefield. He spotted disturbed ground and decided to look closer.

Jim Rosebrock, Jr. is an Antietam volunteer. He is the son of a retired Army Soldier who is also an Antietam volunteer. The Rosebrocks are dressed in Union uniform, each with an Enfield rifle, a European firearm, which fires a .58 caliber bullet.

The Battle of Antietam on Sept. 17, 1862, was the bloodiest one-day battle in American History. It left 23,000 Soldiers killed, wounded or missing after 12 hours of combat. This battle was the first invasion of the North by Confederate General Robert E. Lee and the Army of Northern Virginia. The New York National Guard accepted the transfer of remains of the Unknown Soldier from the Maryland National Guard.



The 12-hour battle began at dawn on Sept. 17th. The unknown Soldier was under the command of Maj. Gen. Joseph Hooker who led the first Union assault. Six Park Rangers, specially selected to perform this detail, carry the empty coffin to the place where the remains are located. The remains were placed in the coffin, and the coffin was nailed shut.

The New York National Guard's Honor Guard unfolded a 34-star flag to place over the coffin. The flag was adopted with the admission of Kansas as the 34th state in January 1861 and used until 1863 when West Virginia became a state. The United States did not believe that secession was legal, thus the flag never lost any stars during the Civil War.



The Lecturn

By Chaplain (Col.) Sean Lee, state chaplain

Resiliency of the force continues to be paramount to the readiness of the Maryland National Guard. Spiritual resiliency - the integration of faith for coping, comfort and meaning - is foundational to remaining able to hear and respond to the repeated call to service. A key part of spirituality, or "that which animates life", is often the relationships with those we love.

The chaplains and chaplain assistants of the Maryland Army National Guard, Maryland Air National Guard and Maryland Defense Force are committed to keeping the spirit of our Soldiers, Airmen and their families resilient in this age of persistent conflict.

Along with the traditional support of providing worship services, pastoral counseling, religious education, prayers and religious supplies, our chaplains and chaplain assistants provide relationship skills and enhancement training for both married couples and singles through "Strong Bonds" weekends and events. These opportunities provide a time away at a location designed to allow the Soldiers, Airmen and families to come away from the stress and learn some wonderful relationship and life skills.

The State Family Program Office provides the coordination for the events, and the Joint Force Headquarters Chaplain's Office provides a certified instructional team

to lead the weekend. While the singles events are newly offered this year, the marriage events (both I and II) have been offered for several years. Comments from participants continue to be positive about the often life-changing results of the weekends. The education and interaction offered provides tools for keeping the most important human relationships healthy and resilient.

Many have said that the Guard is like a family. Through Strong Bonds events, we are working hard to keep the families and singles of the Maryland National Guard strong in relationship to those they love. This, in turn, will help steady the home front so Soldiers and Airmen alike can keep the focus on the mission when deployed.

For more information about the Maryland National Guard Strong Bonds programs, a schedule of events, or to register for an upcoming weekend, call Joint Force Headquarters Chaplain's Office at 410-576-6124, or the State Family Programs Office at 410-576-6019.



Members of the Maryland National Guard's Honor Guard salute as the coffin containing the remains of the unknown Soldier is carried to the transport vehicle.



The New York National Guard's Honor Guard accepted the transfer of the remains, which included a coat, a cuff, trouser buttons, a leather strap, a belt buckle and more than 400 bone fragments. The remains were placed in a replica Civil War era coffin and transported in a specially configured vehicle to Gerald B.H. Solomon Saratoga National Cemetery to be buried on Sept 17.

By Spc. Thaddeus Harrington

Department Digest

MDDF Conducts First-Ever NCO Induction Ceremony



Twenty-eight noncommissioned officers of the Maryland Defense Force were welcomed into the NCO corps during an induction ceremony held at Naval Station Annapolis on Oct. 17, 2009.

Brig. Gen. (MD) Courtney Wilson, commanding general of the Maryland Defense Force, offered opening remarks for the command's first-ever NCO induction ceremony, addressing an audience of MDDF officers, NCOs, Soldiers and family members.

The senior noncommissioned officers of the Maryland National Guard – Command Sgt. Maj. Brian Sann, Command Sgt. Maj. Franklin Wright, and Command Chief Master Sgt. Glenn Hart – attended as distinguished guests.

Wilson told the audience that the concept of an NCO summit was inspired by the Army's "Year of the NCO" theme. "When I heard early this year that the Secretary of the Army had declared 2009 the Year of the NCO, it set me thinking about the character and nature of the Maryland Defense Force."

Explaining that the MDDF has been largely dominated by the officer corps for a number of years, Wilson added, "I think we all realized, largely through our experience in the field during Hurricanes Katrina and Rita....that there was an entire layer of leadership missing. It is my sincere hope that, in this Year of the NCO, you...the NCO Corps of the

MDDF will find new life, new esprit de corps, new inspiration and new responsibility as a result of this great day." Command Sgt. Maj. Brian Sann, senior enlisted leader, Maryland National Guard was the keynote speaker.

Sann told the NCOs, "you are the heart and soul, the nervous system and the eyes and ears that enable MDDF to successfully complete its mission."

The solemn and dignified ceremony, meant to symbolize the significance of the transition to NCO, began with a tribute to fallen soldiers and the playing of Taps.

Several readings highlighting the history of the NCO Corps, the role of NCOs as leaders and mentors, and the NCO values were conducted by MDDF NCOs and junior soldiers. Ceremonial support was provided by the MDDF Cavalry Troop, the MDDF Band and the Maryland National Guard Honor Guard.

Planning for the ceremony was coordinated by 1st Sgt. (MD) Ronald Scott of the MDDF Engineer Corps who said the NCO Council, consisting of the senior NCOs of each of MDDF's subordinate units, has been planning the event since June.

"The induction ceremony underscores MDDF's renewed focus on the NCO and is intended to enhance the professionalism and esprit de corps of the command's NCOs while acknowledging their many accomplishments,"

said Scott. "Walking under those crossed sabers held by members of our own cavalry unit was a huge honor and meant we have turned a new page in the MDDF and that our NCOs and the soldiers they lead will be ready when called."

The formal induction into the NCO corps was marked by the NCO Charge led by Sann and the reading of the NCO Creed by the group of inductees. Each inducted NCO then marched through a saber arch and was presented with a personalized certificate commemorating the event.

In remarks during the ceremony, Sann reminded the newly-inducted NCOs of their responsibilities to lead and care for the Soldiers entrusted to them, and to support and advise the officers in command.

"I see a group of Soldiers who truly inspire me," said Sann. "The MDDF has distinguished itself in every mission assigned."

Sgt. Maj. (MD) John Kelly of MDDF's 10th Medical Regiment served as master of ceremonies for the event. "I don't know what problems tomorrow's Defense Force will face," said Kelly. "But I am sure that with a strong and vibrant NCO Corps as the backbone of the Maryland Defense Force, we will achieve the highest standards for years to come."

Former Secretary of the Army Pete Geren named 2009 "Year of the NCO" to recognize the commitment of NCOs to service and their willingness to make great sacrifices on behalf of the nation.

Throughout the year, the Army has honored NCOs through initiatives and events that enhance awareness and public understanding of the roles and responsibilities of today's NCO, and enhance and accelerate the development of NCOs through education, fitness and leadership development initiatives.

The MDDF is not part of the Army but follows Army customs, courtesies and traditions.

"This is a great step in reestablishing the importance of the Maryland Defense Force NCO Corps," said Sann.

110th Field Artillery Regiment Deactivated



Nearly a century of history ended on a Saturday in early August for the Maryland National Guard's 110th Field Artillery as the regiment's colors were retired during a deactivation ceremony at the Pikesville Military Reservation.

"It's a very sad occasion," said Lt. Col. Matthew L. Packard, commander of the 2nd Battalion, 110th FA Regiment for the past two years. "But having gone through the ceremony, I'm very proud of having been in this battalion, and to stand alongside some of the very great men who have served here and their families who have supported them."

The unit originated as the Light Artillery Battery in 1915, and nearly two years later, it officially became the 110th FA, assigned to the 29th Infantry Division.

As part of the 29th ID, the 110th FA stormed Omaha Beach on D-Day at Normandy, France, in 1944. Elements of the regiment have since been involved in a number of campaigns which include Operation Noble Eagle, Operation Enduring Freedom and, most recently, Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The deactivation of the regiment is a part of a larger U.S. Army reorganization plan.

"It's a process," said Brig. Gen. James A. Adkins, the adjutant general of Maryland. "Our Army goes through changes and transformation, and we look at what the needs are and the requirements [are]. The United States Army is shutting down artillery units all over the globe, and that's what hit us."



The 110th's colors are cased. However, the impact of such an active military heritage is not so easily surrendered.

Retired Brig. Gen. J. Donald Haynes, commander of the 110th from 1984 to 1988, hopes to see another

chapter unfold for the field artillery tradition in Maryland, which has its beginnings in the Revolutionary War.

"I pray that we will very soon see another artillery unit come back to Maryland and be stationed at Pikesville. . . and that the lineage of the 110th FA will be returned to it," said Haynes.

During the ceremony, Packard dedicated an oak tree on the reservation's grounds to the unit.

The regiment's motto, "Sicut Quercus," means "as the oak."

In keeping with that motto, the roots of the 110th FA run deep, glimpsed in the camaraderie of its current and past Soldiers and felt in the palpable reverence that filled the air throughout the ceremony.

"Today was a day we honored history and recognized that all our units are made up of individuals who have answered the call," said Adkins. "They serve and make sacrifices and have done (so) in Maryland for hundreds of years. We just wanted to honor that service today and deactivate the unit with class and the appropriate respect it deserved."

Ravens Military Appreciation Day

The Baltimore Ravens held their second annual Military Appreciation Day at their training camp in Westminster on Wednesday, August 19.

There were more than 500 uniformed Servicemembers in attendance at this year's event, said Melanie Legrande, the community relations director for the Baltimore Ravens.

This number represents a tenfold increase from last year, and it doesn't include the many military members that were present in civilian clothing.

Legrande enlisted the help of her mother, who works in Air Force family readiness at Langley Air Force Base, to get better contacts and bolster participation this year. Legrande's father and sister were also members of the armed forces. She said she has "a huge affinity for the military" because of this background.

"It just makes sense," said the self-proclaimed "military kid" commenting on the motivation behind this event.

In addition to making sense, the

Ravens' appreciation also made an impression and an impact on the Servicemembers and their Families.

"I was very impressed that they allowed the members of the military out onto the field after the practice to interact with the players and the coaches," said Sgt. 1st Class Charles Brubaker.

During this interaction, he and his son got a chance to meet offensive lineman Tre' Stallings, wherein Stallings thanked him for his service, said Brubaker. Stallings also signed an autograph and posed for a picture with his son, he added.

Even military members who aren't avid football fans such as Staff Sgt. Carmen Wilkins, a supply sergeant with the 58th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade of the Maryland Army National Guard, enjoyed their experience at training camp.

"Our grandsons couldn't stop talking about it," said Wilkins.

Wilkins' four grandsons range from three to 10 years old, and out of those

By Spc. Stephen Scott

four, three play organized recreational football.

Wilkins recalled her oldest grandson saying that it was the best day of his life because he got to meet and take pictures with Ray Lewis, Joe Flacco, Todd Heap and other players.

"To see the excitement and smiles on our grandsons' faces was more momentous than hitting the lottery," said Wilkins.

Legrande says she hopes to continue this event for many years to come, and military members such as Wilkins and Brubaker look forward to going back.



Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve's annual Bosslift

By Spc. Thaddeus Harrington



Flying in on UH-60 Blackhawk Helicopters, employers of Maryland Guard Soldiers took part in the Maryland Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve's annual Bosslift Aug. 8. The Blackhawks transported them from Warfield Air National Guard Base at Martin State Airport to the Lauderick Creek Training Site at the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground to watch the 1297th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion conduct training operations.



Employers received briefings about the ESGR program and how the Guard values the relationship and understanding that civilian employers have for their employees with military obligations.

Rita Carter, a contracting supervisor for the U.S. Property and Fiscal Office for Maryland, receives her first Meal Ready-To-Eat – Southwestern Chicken. "I was told that chicken was the best," she said.

The ESGR was established in 1972 to promote cooperation and understanding between reserve component members and their civilian employers. It also serves to assist in the resolution of conflicts arising from an employee's military commitment.

Bosslifts provide employers the opportunity to share their insights on the challenges and benefits of having employees that serve in the reserve components. Employers are encouraged to offer recommendations and ideas for improving the employer/employee relationship with respect to the consequences of military service.



Soldiers and employers participated in an after action review discussing the good and bad points of the exercise as well as what can be improved.

The employers viewed and learned about several weapons systems used in the Maryland Guard like the MK19-3 Grenade Machine Gun, the M249 Squad Automatic Weapon and the M2 .50-Caliber Machine Gun.

"As much as I want them [her Guard employees] to learn how to do their jobs, it's important for me to learn what they do on the military side," said Carter. "It helps me to better understand and be as flexible as I can be so that they can perform the military duty that they need to do."

"The Bosslift gave me the opportunity to see what goes on out in the field and makes me appreciate the work that they [Servicemembers] do for me," she added.

Employers received training and information on spotting three categories of improvised explosive devices: package type, vehicle-borne, and suicide bomb as well as respective kill radiuses.

Freestate Challenge Academy

○ Six individuals
○ Recognized

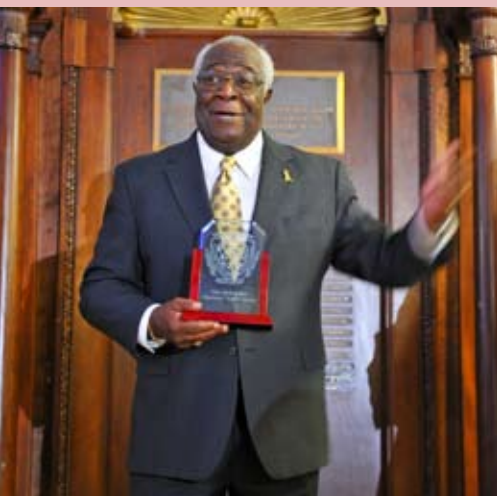
By Maryland National Guard Public Affairs

The Maryland National Guard Freestate Challenge Academy recognized six distinguished individuals who significantly contributed to the success of the academy efforts Oct. 14.

In a ceremony at the Lt. Gen. Milton A. Reckord Lounge at the Fifth Regiment Armory in Baltimore, academy officials honored U.S. Senator Barbara Mikulski, Ms. Jennifer C. Buck, deputy assistant secretary of defense for reserve affairs, State Senator Nathaniel McFadden, Lt. Gen. H Steven Blum, deputy commander of U.S. Northern Command, retired Air Force Lt. Gen. John B. Conaway and Clarence Davis, former state delegate, with its lifetime achievement awards.



The academy is a 22-week residential intervention program for underemployed, drug-free, "at-risk" high school dropouts from the state of Maryland and the District of Columbia. The program, which began in 1993 has graduated more than 2,750 cadets during the last 16 years.



Clearing the Draw



By Capt. Edward Liu

During a ceremony at the Fifth Regiment Armory Sept. 26, artist Larry Selman along with Joseph Balkoski, command historian, presented the painting "Clearing the Draw," depicting Soldiers of the of the 121st Engineer Battalion and 116th Infantry Battalion performing a mission during World War II.

Morning Physical Training at Ravens Stadium



By Spc. Thaddeus Harrington

The Maryland National Guard Honor Guard conducted their morning physical training, a unit flag football game, at the Baltimore Ravens M&T Bank Stadium Oct. 19.

MD TAG Visits MEDEVAC



By Sgt. 1st Class Paul Wade

Brig. Gen. James A. Adkins, adjutant general of Maryland, stares out of a UH-60 Blackhawk onto Camp Bondsteel as pilots of Charlie Co., 1-169th General Support Aviation Battalion take him to a demonstration of their hoist machine.

Brigade Support Battalion Stands Down



By Master Sgt. Ronald Pitts

Hundreds of current and former members of the 729th Brigade Support Battalion participated in the Oct. 4 inactivation ceremony held at Camp Fretterd Military Reservation. The battalion, which was created on September 30, 1985, was made up of seven different companies from different communities around the state including Hagerstown and Easton.

C-130J Hercules on the Rise



By Spc. Thaddeus Harrington

Representatives from the Indian Air Force recently met with Maryland Air National Guardsmen to learn the ins and outs of the C-130J Hercules aircraft, which Maryland operates out of Warfield Air National Guard Base in Middle River, Md. Pilots and support personnel from the MDANG's 175 Wing conducted a two-day training session September 18 and 19 with four of their Indian counterparts following India's recent purchase of six new C-130Js from the Lockheed Martin Corporation.



Lt. Col. Jeffery Knepshield, commander of Maryland's Officer Candidate School battalion, briefs senior leadership from the Maryland Guard, as well as representatives from several states, at the Brig. Gen. Thomas B. Baker Training Site Aug. 9. August 9 was V.I.P. Day, allowing command representatives to observe candidates train and have a chance to chat with and share a meal with the troops.

Maryland's Officer Candidate School Land Navigation Training



By Spc. Thaddeus Harrington



Camp Baker, located near Hancock, Md., is more than a hundred miles west of Baltimore and named after Brig. Gen. Thomas B. Baker, a former Maryland assistant adjutant general – Army. The 1st Battalion, 70th Regiment conducts its consolidated fall accelerated OCS and phase 1 annual training, beginning at Camp Fretterd. Phase 1 ended Aug. 15 at Camp Baker Training Site.



Command Sgt. Maj. Brian Sann, senior enlisted leader, was once the OCS battalion's first sergeant, and he offers candidates advice on successfully completing the land navigation task. As of Aug. 8 there were 166 candidates from 28 states —15 from Maryland and 16 from California, which had the most of any state.



1st Sgt. Carrie A. Heinze, first sergeant of Maryland's OCS battalion, and Brig. Gen. Adkins review points used in the land navigation exercises. Candidates are tested on physical fitness, road marches, drill and ceremony, troop leading procedures, operational orders and warrior task battle drills.



Candidates were completing a land navigation exercise before eating lunch in the shaded area overlooking a mountain range. Today's lunch special are meals ready-to-eat. MRE's are also known to some as 'Mysterries' because you often have little choice in what flavored meal you get.



Brig. Gen. James A. Adkins, the adjutant general of Maryland, eats an MRE with candidates from different states. 193 candidates began the Fall course, 166 are on schedule to graduate according to the Aug. 8 figures.



At Point Kilo, is a memorial dedicated to Command Sgt. Maj. Roger W. Haller by family, friends and Maryland Guard Members. Haller was the command sergeant major of the 70th Regiment and was killed January 2007, while serving in Iraq. Point Kilo was a favorite spot for Haller. It's a serene view of the Potomac River, shaded by tall trees; a place to view the sun rise and set over the mountains adjacent the river.

110th IO FSB at Forefront of Information Warfare



By Maj. Kristine Henry

PIKESVILLE, Md. – The 110th Information Operations Field Support Battalion, stood up in October here as part of the Maryland Army National Guard's transformation.

The IO FSB, headquartered at the Pikesville Military Reservation, is commanded by Lt. Col. Dick Amott, a seasoned officer with more than 33 years military experience.

The unit consists of positions largely in the fields of military intelligence and signal, complemented and supported by a handful of other military occupational specialties. The unit is unique from other battalions because of the high-tech, information-based, skill sets required and the experience of a senior rank structure.

The unit's senior enlisted leader, Command Sgt. Maj. Kemp Freund explains the mission, "In essence, what IO does is take all of the unit staff sections and advisors and tie them into one cohesive group and manages information for a consistent message. Ultimately, our job is to provide trained personnel to combatant commanders in all active theaters to assist with this mission."

"The Maryland Guard is uniquely positioned to have a unit like the 110th because of the large pool of the right kind of people in this area," explains Maj. Andrew Goldin, the operations officer, as he describes the benefits.

Being located so close to the Washington, D.C. and Baltimore metropolitan areas, makes this part-time soldiering opportunity a win-win-win for the Guard,

the Soldier [and family], and civilian employers, says Goldin.

Many of the personnel in the unit also work in similar fields on their civilian jobs, which provides a seamless continuity between civilian work during the week and military duty on the weekends.

Capt. John Henderson works during the week as a civilian senior threat analyst for the Rapid Equipping Force at Fort Belvoir, Va. analyzing possible threats.

"I will do exactly the same type of things I do on my civilian job even when applying it to my position within the IO [battalion]," said Henderson.

"Many of the battalion's members have come from existing units that have deactivated under transformation, however, we are still trying to fill some slots with the right people, whether they come from an existing unit in Maryland or outside of the Maryland National Guard," explains the executive officer, Maj. Dave Dement. "It's an exciting opportunity for motivated Soldiers to be a part of a unit that incorporates so many of the Army's modern information functions into a single mission."

The unit's higher headquarters, the 56th Theater Information Operations Group, is located in Seattle, Wa., another high-tech corridor. For administrative purposes while in Maryland, the 110th IO FSB will report to the 29th Combat Aviation Brigade stationed at Edgewood. The actual activation ceremony for the unit is projected for December.

EXTENDED EDUCATION BENEFITS TO MARYLAND GUARD MEMBERS

The Maryland National Guard recently announced that the University of Maryland University College, signed a partnership agreement with the National Guard as part of its Partners in Education program at the Fifth Regiment Armory in Baltimore, Md.

As part of the agreement, UMUC has agreed to authorize a 50 percent-off tuition waiver for members of the Maryland National Guard.

"This is an outstanding example of the incredible support the men and women of the Maryland National Guard receive from the educational community," said Brig. Gen. James A. Adkins, adjutant general of Maryland.

"The University of Maryland University College has really supported those who put their lives on the line defending our state and our nation."

In addition to the tuition waiver offered as part of this program, National Guard members are also eligible for federal and state tuition assistance, as well as educational benefits under the G.I. Bill.

The Maryland National Guard spent more than \$139,000 in federal tuition assistance last fiscal year, and members of the Maryland National Guard were left with the remainder of the bill or had to seek State Tuition Assistance Reimbursement. The agreement signed will save not only FTA, but STAR funds that can be used to pay for education for additional Citizen-Soldiers and Airmen.

UMUC is the 40th institution of higher learning to sign on with the Partners in Education program. The Partnership Agreement was read aloud and signed by Adkins; Dr. Susan C. Aldridge, UMUC president; Capt. Brian K. Zdunowski, education services officer-MDARNG; and David H. Glenn, professional development & training-Maryland Military Department.



MEMA

Calvert Cliffs

Exercise

Evaluators gave high marks to participants, including the Maryland Emergency Management Agency, for their performance in a three-day October exercise testing state and local capabilities in the event of an incident at Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant in Calvert County.

The first day of the exercise was conducted like the typical every-other-year nuclear power plant exercise. Those exercises test the ability of the plant operator — in this case, Baltimore-based Constellation Energy — to work with state and local officials to protect residents in the emergency planning zone, which extends for a radius of 10 miles around the plant.

Emergency operations centers were set up by the power plant operators in Calvert County and MEMA in Reisterstown, along with the three counties in the emergency planning zones in Calvert, Saint Mary's and Dorchester.

Every six years, plant operators and state and local officials must also exercise as if a particularly bad incident at

the plant would send radioactive material beyond the 10-mile EPZ, known as the ingestion pathway. Ingestion pathway exercises determine what efforts state and local officials must do to areas contaminated with radioactive material, focusing on food and water safety and relocation of residents.

The second day of the ingestion pathway exercise was conducted at the Maryland Department of the Environment headquarters in Baltimore, where officials evaluated simulated radiation sampling to determine what areas would require special protective action decisions.

On the third day, the exercise moved back to MEMA's Emergency Operations Center, where various state agencies simulated how they would implement the previous day's decisions. (In a real event, both activities would have been conducted simultaneously.)

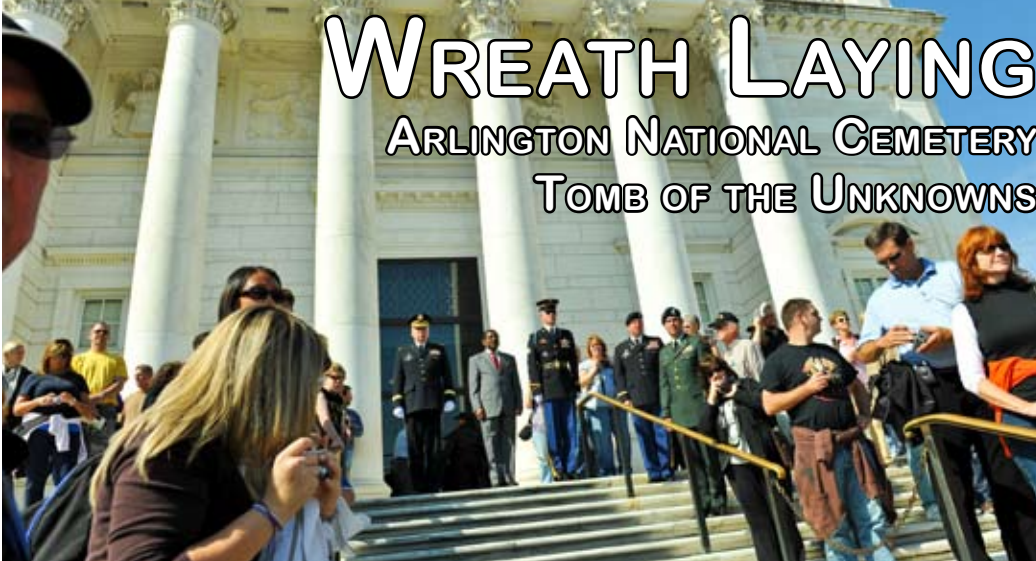
MEMA usually conducts one nuclear power plant drill annually, alternating between Calvert Cliffs and Peach Bottom, located just a few miles over the Mason-Dixon Line in Delta, Pa. Part of the Peach Bottom EPZ affects northern portions of Harford and Cecil counties. Peach Bottom exercises will be conducted in January of 2010.



WREATH LAYING

ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN



During a recent ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Va., the Maryland National Guard paid tribute to Maryland Servicemembers who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

Brig. Gen. James A. Adkins, the adjutant general of Maryland, laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in remembrance of Maryland's fallen military heroes.

"I was honored to have the opportunity to lay a wreath at Arlington National Cemetery's Tomb of the Unknowns with Maryland's Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army, Mr. Turhan Robinson," said Adkins. "We must never forget the tremendous sacrifices of these Americans and their families. Marylanders have a proud tradition of defending their state and country dating back to well before the founding of this great nation."

Maryland military history dates back to 1634 when two militia captains landed at St. Mary's City, Md. Since then, Maryland Servicemembers have served with distinction in virtually every American conflict.

- Members of the "Maryland Line" repeatedly charged a vastly superior British force at the Battle of Long Island during the American Revolution, buying time for the Continental Army to escape.
- Maryland militia units fought on both sides of the Civil War. At the Battle of Front Royal, the Confederate 1st Maryland fought the Union 1st Maryland.
- As part of the 29th Infantry Division, Marylanders took part in the D-Day landings of June 1944 and fought their way across France, Holland and Germany to link up with the Russians at the Elbe River. During the war, the 29th Division suffered one of the highest casualty rates of any American division.



By Maryland National Guard Public Affairs

Maryland Special Forces Soldiers train in Korea

By 2nd Lt. Kristofer Baumgartner

An elite Maryland Army National Guard unit took part in a major joint exercise in the Republic of Korea as part of their annual training.

The Special Operations Detachment-Joint Forces, based in Laurel, Md., lent their expertise in planning and operations to Special Operations Command-Korea during the annual joint exercise, Ulchi Freedom Guardian, August 12-28.

Named for the 7th century Korean military strategist, Ulchi Mundok, the exercise helped coordinate the joint U.S.-ROK response to the outbreak of hostilities on the Korean Peninsula and utilized significant numbers of National Guard personnel, according to Lt. Col. Kevin Dennehy, acting commander, SOD-JF.

"In some cases, whole shifts in the Joint Operations Center and at a ROK Special Operations headquarters were entirely manned by SOD-JF personnel," said Dennehy. "That says something about the importance of National Guard augmentees for these important exercises."

In addition to serving as strategic liaisons to the South Koreans, other Maryland Guardsmen worked in administrative, intelligence, logistical and information technology roles during the exercise.

Although it is an annual event,

this year's exercise set a different precedent because the ROK military took the lead of the combined forces, which consisted of all branches of the U.S. and ROK militaries. This was in preparation for a planned 2012 organizational shift which would see the Korean Joint Chiefs of Staff taking charge of the overall military effort. The U.S. would assume a supporting role providing resources, assets and capabilities as requested by ROK JCS, such as added air and naval power or additional defensive capabilities against ballistic missile attacks.

"They're using their internal command and control systems independent of ours to see how they would work in the event of an actual war," said Maj. David May, operations officer with the SOD-JF, highlighting one aspect of the new operational environment.

This change to a support role required some adjustments for the SOD-JF, according to Maj. Craig Weedon, SOD-JF full-time supervisor. While imbedded with the ROK Special Forces Command Center, he helped synchronize and coordinate operations for the SOCKOR commander.

One of the more difficult challenges was that the Koreans' decision-making process is centralized and at a different organizational level than U.S. forces, said Weedon.

But adaptability is a Special Forces trademark, said Dennehy. "We are uniquely suited for this type of mission," he said.

"Our specialized training and past experiences give us the expertise needed to help effectively coordinate special operations forces at all levels in any theater."

For many of the Soldiers, this exercise was their second trip to Korea this year. The unit also traveled to Korea in March to participate in Exercise Key Resolve, a command-post exercise with computer-based simulations similar to UFG.

Even though the unit is largely self sufficient, the SOD-JF's multiple unconventional missions rely on MDARNG leadership support from the brigade level at the 58th Troop Command to the state level at Joint Force Headquarters in Baltimore. Headquarters-level support such as processing orders and arranging transportation is vital to the success of the SOD-JF's mission, said Weedon.

The unit recently deployed for a year to Stuttgart, Germany where they helped to build and establish the Army's newest Theater Special Operations Command in Africa.



Maryland Military

175th Wing Change of Command

By 175th Wing Public Affairs

The Maryland National Guard announced Col. Scott L. Kelly as the new commanding officer of the Maryland Air National Guard's 175th Wing on Aug. 1.

Kelly most recently served as the vice commander of the 175th Wing, which is comprised of both C-130J Hercules transport and A-10C jet fighter aircraft.

An A-10 jet fighter pilot with more than 25 years of service, Kelly assumed command of the unit during a ceremony at the Warfield Air National Guard Base in Middle River, Md., on Aug. 1. Kelly officially took command of the unit on June 22.

"Col. Kelly is an extremely accomplished Airman and leader who is well-positioned to take the 175th Wing to the next level," said Brig. Gen. James A. Adkins, the adjutant general of Maryland. "As we look to the future, the Maryland Air National Guard will be a leading voice in helping to shape the future of both the Air National Guard and the U.S. Air Force. I look forward to even greater accomplishments by Col. Kelly and the men and women under his command. They truly represent the best that the state of Maryland and this great nation have to offer."

Kelly is a command pilot with more than 3,700 military flying hours. He is a veteran of the 1991 Persian Gulf War, during which he flew 40 combat

sorties. He also served as the 455th Expeditionary Group vice group commander during Operation Enduring Freedom. His previous assignments include mission support group commander, operations group commander and fighter squadron commander.

"I'm extremely excited and ready to get to work," said Kelly. "This is a tremendous unit with an extremely talented and hard working group of professionals, and I'm honored to command them at this most critical time in our nation's history. We have a number of challenges ahead of us, both at home and abroad, but I have every confidence that we will continue to demonstrate that the Maryland Air National Guard is second to none."

Kelly, who earned his bachelor's degree from the Citadel and is a graduate of the U.S. Air Force Air War College, assumed command of the 175th Wing from Brig. Gen. Guy M. Walsh, who was recently selected to be the first Air National Guard officer to command an active duty wing in combat. Walsh now commands the 451st Air Expeditionary Wing, based in Kandahar, Afghanistan.

The 175th Wing is comprised of more than 1,500 members and has an economic impact of nearly \$120 million on the Baltimore metropolitan area.

Officer Candidate School's 50th Anniversary & Commissioning

The Maryland Army National Guard's Officer Candidate School celebrated its 50th Anniversary Sept. 26 at Camp Fettered Military Reservation. During the ceremony, Brig. Gen. Hinz, Brig. Gen. Deener and Brig. Gen. Adkins were inducted into the OCS Hall of Fame.

After the anniversary ceremony, the Maryland Army National Guard's 70th Regiment (LDR) Officer Candidate School hosted a commissioning ceremony for classes 50 and 51 accelerated. A total of eight Soldiers graduated. Class 50 graduated five, and class 51A graduated three.



Final Frame

The Maryland Army National Guard recently held a grand opening for its newest recruiting storefront in Reisterstown, Md. Brig. Gen. Alberto J. Jimenez, commander of the Maryland Army National Guard, cut the ribbon, officially opening the recruiting station. This effort to link the Maryland Army National Guard with communities throughout the state is a new business venture in the Reisterstown area.



By 1st. Lt. Kurt Rauschenberg