### 192D TACTICAL FIGHTER GROUP



# VANGUARD



### VIRGINIA AIR NATIONAL GUARD

28th Year, No. 8

Byrd IAP, Sandston, Virginia

September 1984

### Mobility Weekend September UTAs

If you are required to process during mobility, here are a few tips that should help you in your processing.

Remember to bring your ID Card. The Uniform for everyone is long sleeve fatiques or flight suit with boots.

Upon notification by your squadron, you will start your initial processing by reporting with luggage to a pre-determined location within your squadron area. Here, the Squadron Mobility Officer or NCOIC will instruct you on where to go and when to be there. They will appoint an Interim Troop Commander you to the check-in point of the Air Passenger Terminal. You will, again, be moved as a unit to the mobility processing line located in Bldg 2749 (Old State Headquarters Building).

Once you have completed processing, you will move across the hall to the Passenger Terminal for a final briefing. At the completion of this briefing, you then would be either loaded on the aircraft or taken to the holding area until your time comes to load the aircraft. (During this exercise aircraft will be simulated.) After this, you will be released back to your squadron area.

Since we are processing 800 personnel and over 250 tons of cargo, the normal 8 hour day will not be sufficient time. Therefore, the duty days will be extended to accomplish this processing. In other words, don't expect to leave at the normal time.





Generals Heath and Mattox receive keys to new headquarters building.

# New Headquarters Building Dedicated

When the 192nd Civil Engineering Flight left its 43-year-old wooden building last year for a modern, energy-efficient concrete structure across the street, it didn't just forget the old building.

Instead, the civil engineers immediately began renovating the wooden structure into a new, full-time home for the Virginia Air National Guard's State Headquarters.

"It's a wonderful building inside of a building," BG Claude F. Heath told a group of civil engineers who gathered during the August UTA for a ceremony dedicating the State Headquarters offices.

State Headquarters, which since its inception in 1961 until this year occupied downtown Richmond office space, has moved into a 5,200 square foot wing of a building that is shared with the Club 149.

At the dedication ceremony, LTC William A. Prosise, Jr., Commander of the CE Flight, handed two kingsize wooden keys to Generals Heath and Mattox, the two highest ranking officers in the State Headquarters unit.

General Heath is Assistant Adjutant General for Air, and General Mattox is the Virginia Air Guard's Chief of Staff.

"What we did basically was (take) \$50,000 to \$55,000 worth of materials and turned it into \$150,000 worth of work," LTC Prosise said.

What they did, specifically, was take a well-worn maze of offices, storage space and shops and turn it into a neatly organized office complex replete with thermopane windows and a zoned heating and cooling system.

The complex houses two generals, a host of colonels and several other support personnel. It's three-color hallway with two-tone carpeting leads to a handsomely furnished conference room, something the downtown offices did not have.

The new arrangement takes into account the full-time and part-time nature of the State Headquarters mission. LTC Cecil Modlin, Executive Support Staff Officer, has an

continued on page 2

Page 2 Vanguard, September 1984



Your Chaplain is available to you and your family 24 hours a day. Do not hesitate to call him if you think he can help or assist you in any way. His telephone numbers are: "A" 387, "C" 66, or 737-0635 (Home) and 737-1527 (Church).

### Headquarters

continued from page 1

office that adjoins a two-room administrative set-up. That complex, where full-time personnel work throughout the month, is heated and cooled independent of the rest of the building. The heat pump that heats and cools other offices can be turned off when that area is not being used, said MAJ Conrad Slate of the State Headquarters Disaster Preparedness Office.

Until recently, State Headquarters operated on a month-long basis in its offices on East Main Street, and during drills at less-than-desirable accommodations on base. For years, it conducted it's drill weekend business in the old barracks building, then moved to the hangar, then moved back to the barracks.

"It was kind of a joke, 'Where will we meet next?'" Major Slate said.

Almost all of the restoration work, except some contracted carpeting, was done by the base civil engineers, Major Slate said. "Basically, we're talking about a building for the Guard built by the Guard.

### Thinking of leaving; better think twice

So, you think you want to leave the Guard. You think you could get another part-time job and make as much if not more money. When you speak to your prospective employer, explain to him that you will only accept employment under the following conditions:

1. You will work only one weekend a month to allow yourself at least three weekends for rest and relaxation.

 For these two days a month you want four days' pay plus benefits, which you spouse may also take advantage of.

3. You want to be eligible for a retirement upon completion of 20 satisfactory years. While in a retired status you should be entitled to medical and travel benefits for yourself and dependents.

4. Although you may not be qualified to do the job, you will be provided with necessary training.

5. He must provide two weeks of additional training each year; and during this training period must provide housing, meals, pay, medical and travel benefits for yourself and dependents.

6. He should offer up to \$35,000 of life insurance coverage for only \$31.60 per year with full coverage even when you are not on the job.

7. If your full-time employment or circumstances require you to move out of the area, you may transfer your part-time employment with no loss of pay or benefits.

If your potential employer balks at these conditions and feels your demands are out of line, he is unreasonable. After all, your last part-time employer, the Virginia Air National Guard, granted you all of this and more. Think again on what you're planning to give up.



#### **Chow Call**

\*\*SATURDAY LUNCH\*\*

Salad Bar
Tuna Salad
Baked Ham with Raisin Sauce
Sweet Potatoes
Buttered Peas
Chef's Salad (as main course only)
Milk, Fruit Drink, Coffee
Chilled Peaches

\*\*SUNDAY LUNCH\*\*

Salad Bar
Cottage Cheese
Roast Beef and Gravy
Mashed Potatoes Buttered Corn
Chef's Salad (as main course only)
Milk, Coffee, Fruit Drink
Chilled Pears



The VANGUARD is an official monthly newspaper published by and for the personnel of the 192d Tactical Fighter Group, Virginia Air National Guard, Byrd IAP, Sandston, Virginia. The opinions expressed herein do not necessarily represent those of the Adjutant General of Virginia or the Virginia Air National Guard.

COMMANDER:

COL Hartwell F. Coke, IV EDITOR:

MSG Michael R. Woody ADVISOR:

MAJ Lawrence M. Fuccella CHIEF OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS: MAJ Francis J. McNally PHOTOGRAPHER:

SSG Dean A. Covey STAFF:

TSG Robert N. Lamb, Jr. SRA Mary A. Pijanowski

### News Briefs

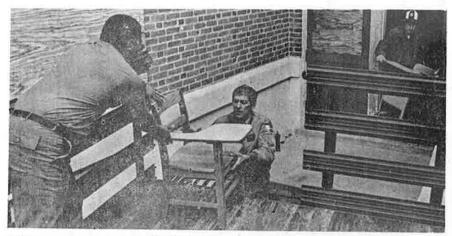
The days are getting shorter, the gardens are dying down, and time is running out on the Rental and Maintenance Agreements on your equipment as FY 84 draws to a close.

A letter was sent out from the Base Contracting Office on 15 July 1984 to all property custodians requesting they submit their requirements for equipment rentals and maintenance agreements on equipment to this office no later than 15 August 1984. (Excluding electric typewriters.)

If you have not done so, and need to do so, please do so immediately. And, as usual, the personnel in the Base Contracting Office are willing to assist you any manner.

There will be a CPR instructor's course September 29 and 30. Applicants must be certified in CPR. The course will be 16 hours.

All persons interested, please contact Denise Jones at 786-1530 or David Gay at X476 before during the September UTA.



Unit members load desk donated by Henrico School Board, for delivery to



Col Evans, Capt Pemberton and Chief Maynard, visit school of the U.S. during Coronet Cove Deployment.

### Supplies delivered to Panamanian school

The 192d Tactical Fighter Group (Virginia Air National Guard) recently delivered 41 used desks to the school of the U.S. in Panama City, Panama. The delivery was the result of a project which began in March 1983 when the Virginians adopted the school and vowed to help the elementary school students in any way they could.

Several members of the 192d TFG who have close contacts with the Henrico County School Board, inquired about the possibility of the school district donating unused, but servicable, desks to the project. Robert Thompson, Henrico County Administrative Supervisor of General Services, and members of his staff agreed to release 41 desks which had been stored in the old Glen Allen School.

The desks were transported to

Panama on board a C-130 on May 19, and handed over to representatives of the school of the U.S. on May 22.

Although the desks, by American standards, were unusable without some refurbishing, the Panamanians were more than happy to accept them in "as-is" condition.

A committee of Guard members, headed by CMS Jack Maynard, and Henrico County School Superintendent, Dr. William C. Bosher, and his staff are working together to determine whether there are other servicable supplies which can be donated to the school. Currently, the group is trying to find more than 300 additional used desks for shipment to Panama. Those, along with the 41 desks in the original shipment, whould guarantee that each of the 400 students in the school of the U.S. would have a useable desk to work on.

### **BUSCH**GARDENS

Gardens will sponsor "Virginia National Guard Days" on 27-28 October 1984 for all Guard personnel, employees of the Department of Military Affairs and their families. The regular admission price will be reduced from \$13.95 to \$9.95 for this occasion. Although 27-28 October will be declared "Virginia National Guard Days", the tickets may be used on any day between now and that weekend. The park hours are from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Tickets may be purchased from MSG John Rollings, Base Career Advisor, in Room 23, O&T Building.



# Salvation Army receives Harvest of Help

The Virginia Air National Guard culminated it's community involvement project, June Harvest of Help, by donating approximately 575 cans of food to the Salvation Army. The canned goods, presented to MAJ Powell and Ann White, Director of Family Services, were well received. Mrs. White commented that their food reserves were extremely low and during the last two months, they had received over 2,000 requests for assistance. To all Guardsmen who contributed, you should feel very pleased to know your efforts have helped those less fortunate. Our hats off to the 192d CE Flight, 192d WSSF, and State HQ, all of whom had over 100% participation. Again, we have shown that the Virginia Air National Guard is a caring, participating member of our community.

UNIT	% OF PARTICIPAT
ST HQ	419%
WS SF	197%
CE FLT	156%
TF S	54%
COM FLT	50%
CSS	41%
TF G	34%
CAMRON	30%
RMS	29%
CLINIC	9%
	29%

### Proper response saves lives and resources

Notification of emergency situations to the proper authority is essential to ensure a proper response in order to save lives as well as protecting valuable resources. After notifying the proper authority, and if not involved in life saving activities, the Command Post or survival recovery center should be notified in order to provide proper command and control of the situation. Below are the emergency numbers for responding agencies.

	"A"	"C"
FIRE REPORTING	317	17
DISPENSARY	307	23
CIVIL ENGINEERING	362	-
SECURITY POLICE	320	37
CHAPLAIN	387	66
COMMAND POST	400	36
SURVIVAL RECOVERY CNTR	368	22
DISASTER PREPAREDNESS	386	88



Maj Powell and Ann White Director of Family Services receive canned goods from SMS Brooks.

### That time of year

I've had a wonderful summer soaking up sun and enjoying my garden tomatoes. Now, suddenly, its October and time to think of working short staffed because our personnel are out with the flu, or spending time nursing a sick husband who is a peculiar shade of green, or worse than anything, being confined in the house with a whiny, vomiting child! There are some days when even cotton-soft is too much for a bottom rendered so tender by bouts of flu caused diarrhea. Lord, give me August with its hot, muggy days anytime. Thank goodness that someone developed a vaccine that protects us against the worst of the thousand or so viruses that cause flu. The Clinic program for flu immunization will get underway during the October UTA and will be the only shot we give that month. In November and December, we will continue to give flu immunizations. We recommend that you plan to take the flu shot in October to protect you during the prime flu months. Last year, many people were sick during the Christmas Holiday season. If you received an immunization from your employer, bring a statement of confirmation, and we will enter it into your military records. This year, all personnel will be required to be immunized in keeping with our medical readiness standing. You can't defend your country while you're sitting on the "John" puking your guts out!

#### SHARE THE AIR GUARD WITH A FRIEND

The Air National Guard needs you-to share your Guard experiences with civilians who would make promising Air National Guard members.

To find out more details, call your base recruiting office at 2228884

And share the Air Guard with a friend.

NATIONAL We Guard America's Skies.

## Enlisted Advisory Panel to meet

The ANG/USAFR Enlisted Advisory Panel is scheduled to meet on 5-6 February 1985. Individuals are encouraged to submit suggestions for the improvement of the Air Reserve Forces to ARPC/CVR, Lowry AFB, CO 80280-5000 to arrive no later than 7 November 1984 for review by the Steering Committee. Recommendations should be forwarded on ARPC Form 2 or by letter stating the suggestion with any discussion, background in-formation, justification, or references cited. Each member submitting suggestions to the panel will receive a reply as to the disposition of the recommendation. Again, recommendations should be for the improvement of the Air Reserve Forces and to provide maximum benefit to all air reserve force personnel. For questions or additional information, contact Major Joel Levy, Autovon 926-4988.

# Base team places second in national softball tournament

After several months of hard warm-up in a local league the base soft-ball team played outstanding ball to finish in second place in the 70 team, 19th Annual ANG Softball Tournament held in Houston, TX, 10-12 August 1984.

Losing only to the 116TFW, Dobbins AFB, GA., the team completed the three day tournament with an overall 9-2 record, outscoring their opponents 113 to 42.

Coming through the losers bracket from an earlier loss to the Dobbins team, the 192d gave the Georgian's their first loss in the final bracket of play, forcing a play off game with both teams having one loss. The championship game went the legal limit. Both teams played outstanding defense and provided timely offense, with Dobbins emerging as the winner with a key hit in the bottom of the 7th, two outs and tied score. Final score: 5-4.

Tiny Lund and Ed Smith shared the pitching duties allowing only 4 walks during the tournament. Second baseman Gary Wood and short-stop Donald Duke teamed up with Bobby Weis at first for 8 double play combinations. With Lenny Dean behind the plate and David George at third, the steady infield defense kept the opponents off balance throughout the tournament. Speed, strong throwing and the persistence of outfielders Butch Osborne, Bryant Thorpe, Bill Martin and Chuck Sparks denied base runners to many of the other teams. Solid pinch hitting and base running



hy Al Harrison and Mark Horner were key ingredients to the 192d scoring ability. Leonard Kirsh and Lynn Johnson provided the flexibility for excellent outfield relief with Dave Hampton providing backup at third base as well as the outfield. Home runs were contributed by David George (1), Donald Duke (2), Bill Martin (3), and Bryant Thorpe (4), for a total of 10. Manager and coaches include: Buddy Evans, Herbert Childress and Melvin Sirles, with official team statistics and score book maintained by Catherine Evans.

Coach Evans expressed the teams feelings that the successful year we had can be attributed a lot to the overall unit support we had this year. Unit personnel have participated in the raffles, the dunking tank at the promotion party, by coming out to the league games, and we really appreciate that support.

The goal has already been set for next year and that is taking the final step, VIRGINIA, NUMERO UNO!

### Survival Recovery Center new concept in disaster exercises

A new concept established in AFR 355-1 is that of a Survival Recovery Center (SRC). The SRC is an integral part of the command post and will be implemented into our disaster exercise, both at Byrd IAP and Savannah during the ORI. Its primary objectives are to manage base survival and recovery efforts and monitor overall recovery operations. SRC actions in support of these objectives include collecting, displaying and analyzing data concerning damage assessment, casualties, contamination, detonations, unexploded ordnance, fires, communications and power outages, directing specialized teams, and ensuring that the Battle Staff is kept abreast of

significant developments and is properly advised on the status of recovery requirements and actions.

The installation commander or his designated representative is in charge of SRC. Representatives from civil engineering, security police, disaster preparedness, communications, and the medics make up the staff. Each representative is responsible for committing functional areas resources for their respective areas as well as ensuring that their portions of the recovery operations are properly executed.

Here at home, the SRC will be located in the Combat Support Squadron Orderly Room, O&T Bldg, Room 3, and can be contacted on Ext.

Teams played with scores:

1	Friday	
	Houston, TX	6-2
	New Jersey	11-3
	Saturday	
l.	Jacksonville, FL	17-3
ř	Dobbins, GA	2-5 (Lost)
95	Vermont	17-2
	Utah	7-5
l.	Special Street, and St. or	
ľ	Sunday	
	108WSSF NJ	25-2
	North Carolina	10- 5
N	Texas	7-4
h	Dobbins, GA	7÷6
	Dobbins, GA	4-5 (Lost)

368, Class "A" and 22 on Class "C". The location for the SRC at Savannah is undertermined at this time.

### Red Horse Unit gets first enlistees

The Virginia Air National Guard's newly established Red Horse Team inducted its first enlistees during the August UTA. The first enlisted, MSG David R. Wolters is a former Air National Guard member from the state of Michigan, and currently works with the Budget Control Center at Langley AFB, Virginia. MSG Wolters will be assigned to the 192nd RMS as a Financial Management Supervisor until an official transfer to the 203rd can be made.

The second enlisted, AlC Marvin Conerly is a non-prior service member and will receive his first touch of military life, the whole nine yards. AlC Conerly, who will start his BMT Training on 1 Oct 84, currently works as the Director of Planning & Placement at Virginia Union University.

"We want quality people", says LTC William Prosise, "and it looks like we are off to a good start."

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*



LtCol Prosise welcomes MSG David Wolters and AlC Marvin Conerly to the 203rd.

# DEERS mandatory for medical care

DEERS is a mandatory data based system designed to verify eligibility for medical care in military medical treatment facilities or through the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS). A recent DOD change now requires ANG members under a call or order to active duty for 30 days or more to be enrolled in DEERS. Without enrollment, medical treatment and/or CHAMPUS claims may be denied.

Dependents of active-duty and retired military members who are not enrolled in DEERS (Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System) after 1 October 1984 will not receive routine medical care at military medical facilities.

Information on active-duty and retired military members is automatically entered into DEERS. Dependent registration is not automatic. Sponsors must register their dependents at the CBPO. Any changes in dependent status, such as births, etc., should be reported to the CBPO as soon as possible.

If you have any questions concerning the DEERS Program, please contact TSG Karla Brown or SSG Pat Busch, CBPO, Ext. 309/310.

### **Divorced** members

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Should you be so unfortunate as to die, would you like your ex-spouse to collect the money due your current spouse?

That is exactly what could happen if you were to die subsequent to a divorce and the information on your Emergency Data Record (DD Form 93) reflects your ex-spouse's name in Item 10. He or she would collect any unpaid pay and allowances. Insure this form reflects what you want to happen upon your death.

Drop by your Customer Service Center today, or call Ext. 310 for an appointment.

#### Critics corner

Little did the Dining Hall staff know, that during the Sunday August UTA, they were secretly rated by the famous food critic, "Pierre Connoisseur".

Under the guise of a Guardsmen, he was treated to a succulent steak grilled to perfection, smothered in onions and mushrooms. This, served with potato, green beans, a great salad bar, and topped off with a delicious strawberry shortcake, helped the Dining Hall to receive a four-star rating. Well done!

### New fire protection

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

The F-15's take advantage of the Fire Protection provided by the newly arrived wheeled type Halon 1211 Fire Extinguisher replacing the old reliable CB Extinguishers. Training has already begun on the new Halon Extinguishers and as more personnel are trained in their use, they will be placed in service on the Flightline. Any maintenance personnel requiring training on the Halon, please contact TSG Rick Lewis, Ext. 329/81 for scheduling.



## Emergency actions for choking children

According to Jane M. Dennison, chief pediatric resident at Rhode Island Hospital, Providence, the first thing to do if your child is choking is to listen. If the child is talking, crying or coughing, watch and wait. The child will probably cough up the food.

But if the child is unable to make a sound, even if the chest is moving, the airway is blocked. First call for help. Then turn your attention to the child. Remove any food in the mouth.

Put the child face down across your lap with the head supported and use the heel of your hand to strike four blows between the shoulder blades. Flip the child over and thrust on the chest with your fingers four times. If you see food in the mouth, take it out.

Check again to see if the child is breathing.

If not, give the child mouthto-mouth resuscitation using four quick, gentle breaths. Make sure you cover the nose with your mouth if you are dealing with an infant.

If the chest does not rise, repeat the whole procedure: back blows, chest thrusts and mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.

If you find an unconscious child, do the mouth-to-mouth resuscitation first to see if the chest rises. If it does not, start with the back blows.

Do not use the Heimlich maneuver on children under age 5 because you may cause serious internal injuries.



#### BULLETAN BOARD

The ANG Retired Members Association meeting will be held Wednesday, 1900 hours, 19 September at the Club 149.

The Virginia Air National Guard license plate frames have arrived. You may pick them at the old CE building from MSG Vickie Norwood this UTA weekend.

### New Programs offered in 1985

ACSC will initiate a new Associate Seminar and Correspondence Program during calendar year 1985. This program represents the second major revision of ACSC Associate Programs and offers significant improvements that will benefit students. The purpose of this correspondence is to give you some lead time in gaining an understanding of the program so you and your staff can answer student questions.

The new format reduces the seminar and correspondence programs from 50 to 40 core lessons and adds two short prerequisites courses and one elective course. The first prerequisite course, Staff Communications, will be available 1 Jan 85. Military History is the second prerequisite and will be available 1 Mar 85. At least two elective courses will be available not later than 1 Sep 85. These prerequisite

and elective courses are short, self-paced correspondence courses which allow sutdents maximum flexibility to complete in a convenient yet timely manner. Core courses 35A and B (Correspondence) and 36A and B (Seminar) will be available on 1 Sep 85. The rest of the core courses, 35C and 36C, become available on 1 Jan 1986.

As ACSC initiates the new program and the new materials become available, we will transition correspondence enrollees into the newer courses. This may create a conflict for those students who have previously enrolled in course 30 since they have a three-year limit to complete the program and may not have done so by the time the new program is activated. ACSC reserve the right to automatically transition students into the new program, depending on their enrollment date and course availability.

### In case of fire

\*Try not to panic. Your fire escape plan should prepare you to act reasonably calm, in such an emergency.

\*Yell "fire" as loud as you can to alert others in your dwelling.

\*Don't jump out a window if you are above two stories. Use a rope or chain ladder if you have one. As a last resort, hand from a window sill or other ledge and then drop. Try to land on your feet and roll as soon as you hit the ground.

\*If you are a high-rise dweller, grab your keys and crawl to the door. Feel the door. Don't open if it is warm. If it isn't, open the door slowly and proceed to the nearest fire exit (crawl if you encounter smoke). Go up to the roof if you detect smoke coming up the stairwell, otherwise proceed outside.

\*If the door is warm stay in your apartment. Open a window for ventilation. If you are above two stories, call for help and hang a sheet outside the window to let firefighters know you are there. Fill your tub with water, wet sheets and towels and place them around doors and cracks to keep smoke from seeping in.

\*Remember, most people die as a result of smoke, poisonous gases and panic in home fires, often because they didn't know what to do. If you have an escape plan, and are mentally prepared, you can greatly increase your chances of survival in the event of a home fire.

\*Practice your escape plan, no matter where you live. Remember, in a real fire emergency, you may not be able to reach or communicate with others, and you'll experience some degree of panic or stress. Make sure everyone knows what to do.

Good Housekeeping.

\*Never allow old papers, boxes and rags to pile up, throw them out. Oily rags should be kept in tightly covered metal containers.

\*Flammable liquids should never be stored in the house itself. They should be stored in a garage or other storage building in safety cans or kept in their original containers.

\*Keep matches and lighters out of reach of small children.

\*Never smoke in bed or while drowsy. Use large ashtrays and always extinguish your cigarette butt or other smoking materials, such as cigars and pipes.

\*Buy only UL or AGA-approved continued on page 8

continued from page 7

household appliances. Replace frayed cords and/or cracked plugs on any appliances. Do not overload electrical circuits.

\*Never place extension cords under carpets.

\*If you have a fireplace, make sure the flue is open when you light a fire. Have it cleaned out periodically.

\*Purchase an all purpose home fire extinguisher and learn how to use it. Keep it in a handy place near the kitchen.

\*Designate a meeting place outside of your home where you can account for all family members when you escape during a fire.





CBPO conducts Phase II CWD training.

### ... BUT who will know?

MATIONIAL KREP GUARDING AMERICA'S SKIES.

#### By MAJ BILL CAMPENNI

"...This must be three hundred scoops of mashed potatoes I dished out today. I give up a day at the beach to come in here at 5 AM to do this and I'll bet none of these guys even care or know who I am. I wonder if it's all worth it?"

"...Dawn! It had to start raining just as the planes land. And this one's a quick-turn. I'll be stuck out here for the next half hour getting drenched. Think anybody cares? - nah, and I'll probably get chewed out for not getting a haircut yesterday. Wonder why I even put up with this crap."

"...If I type up one more form today I'll go bonkers! This isn't what I had in mind when the recruiter told me about that Great Way Of Life. Yes sir, sign right here. (Would be nice if just once someone would say thanks)."

We all joined the Guard for reasons common and diverse. And there are inevitably days when we get a little down, when we wonder if it's all worth the time and effort, and if anybody really notices or cares

about the seemingly small part we each play in it. A very basic human want is to be recognized and appreciated, but in a large organization the overall mission accomplishment diverts attention from those responsible for that accomplishment. Time and circumstances preclude even the most considerate commander from expressing gratitude to each of us in any but a collective way. The sacrifices in our personal lives, our careers, our families, would be worth it if every now and then we got just a little pat on the back.

Sometimes it's hard to see our role as important, that our being here really makes a difference. The glamour that is found in the more public face of the unit, the jets climbing into an azure sky, seem so

remote from our job. It's hard to imagine that if our little block was pulled out of the bottom of the pyramid anyone would notice, or that the whole thing might come tumbling down. But it is true that the capstone of that pyramid wouldn't be there if those underlying blocks were not supporting it.

In Robert Bolt's play, "A Man For All Seasons", there is a scene where Sir Thomas More, Chancellor of the Exchequer to the tempestuous Henry VIII and second most powerful man in England, is approached by Richard Rich, a young teacher in Sir Thomas' village. Downcast by what seems to him his thankless job, and desirous of the glamour and glory that high politics offers, he asks Thomas for an appointment to the King's Court. Sir Thomas, aware of the pettiness, intrigue, and emptiness that lies behind the official glitter, advises him, "Richard, be a teacher". His dreams of glory now shattered, Richard responds, "But then, who will know?" And Sir Thomas replies, "You will. Your students will. And God will. That's not a bad public, you know."

And so you scoop up another lump of mashed potatoes, type up another form, load another bomb, innoculate another arm, make another ID card - but who will know? Well, you will. With unspoken words your coworkers will. In its unmentioned way your country will. And God will. And that's not a bad public either.