Oregon Guard assists with hurricane cleanup efforts

More than 1,900 Oregon Soldiers and Airmen deploy to Louisiana to help storm, flood victims

Story by Capt. Michael Braibish, Deputy State Public Affairs Officer

NEW ORLEANS — The Oregon National Guard was one of the first responders to recent cleanup and recovery efforts following the landfall of Hurricane Katrina’s Aug. 29.

More than 1,900 Soldiers and Airmen, 325 ambulances, HMMWVs, five-ton trucks, generators, and other pieces of equipment were sent into the city, with the first wave leaving Portland on Sept. 2.

As Task Force Pontchartrain, Oregon’s citizen Soldiers and Airmen helped civilian authorities establish security, rescue survivors, and begin the recovery effort.

Among the first to deploy were military police from Salem and Milton-Freewater and security forces from both Portland and Klamath Falls air bases.

“We actually went out the second day we were there,” said Capt. Trent Klug, commander of the 1186th Military Police Co. “We went out just to take a look. We saw green civilians, homeless folks living on (Interstate 10), and I-10 was just a trash heap. On the superdome side of things everything was flooded out.”

With nearly two-thirds of their area of operations flooded, the Oregon National Guard needed special assets to get around.

The Counterdrug Support Program sent two Light Armored Vehicles.

“They’re very specialized vehicles and nothing else out there can do what they do,” said Col. Rick Williams, the ORNG Counterdrug Program coordinator. “The problem was flooding, downed power lines and downed trees. There were very few vehicles that could get around and ours could.”

As the flood waters receded, Oregon troops expanded foot patrols and were able to reach more survivors. Some were eager to leave while others opted to remain behind. Through it all, Oregonians in New Orleans rescued 2300 people in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

In spite of the effort put forth by Guardsmen, nature hurled another hurricane into their path. As Hurricane Rita bore down on the Gulf Coast, The ORNG took the lead for the anticipated disaster response.

On Sept. 23, JTF Pontchartrain was designated as Joint Task Force Rita and 1,400 citizen Airmen from Oregon linked up with aviation, engineering and Stryker assets.

The mission of JTF Rita was to conduct support operations to local civilian authorities within designated areas of operations and provide humanitarian assistance and recovery.

See LOUISIANA Page 6

BRAC Commission votes to keep 142nd FW jets at PANG

to the input from local communities, military value was our top priority,” said Chairman Anthony J. Principi.

Oregon National Guard leaders lauded the decision to retain the fighters in Portland.

“We’re pleased with the decision made by the commission to keep the 142nd FW at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.” said Adjutant General of the Oregon National Guard Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees. “It’s a clear sign that security in the Pacific Northwest is a vital concern.”

President Bush accepted the Commission’s recommendations on Sept. 15. The report becomes law unless Congress enacts a joint resolution of disapproval within 45 days of receiving the report from the President.

The commission did vote to realign the KC-135 cargo tankers from the 939th Air Refueling Wing which shares the base with the 142nd FW.

According to Maj. Jim Wilson, spokesman for the 939th ARW, the news comes with mixed emotions.

“These are not easy decisions,” Wilson said. “But these realignments will result in other KC-135 units being more robust and that’s a good thing for our country.”

The 939th ARW is set to lose a total of eight KC-135-R aircraft. Four will go to the 507th ARW at Tinker Air Force Base, one to the 931st ARW at Minot Air Force Base, and the remaining four could end up at Barksdale Air Force Base.

In June, the commission heard official testimony from Oregon National Guard leaders and experts on security and vulnerability in the region. The officials detailed the importance of the 142nd FW’s mission.

Private citizens and elected officials in federal, state and local governments also provided the commission their concerns and assessment of the BRAC proposal.

The commission presented their final recommendations to President George W. Bush on Sept. 8.

“I’m proud of the recommendations the commission submitted to the President, We reached our decisions through an open, fair and non-partisan process. While we listened carefully
41st Infantry Division celebrates 65th anniversary

"I believe that we as an organization have to revisit our history and take those experiences with us as we move forward."

— Maj. Michael Wegner

Story by Kim L. Lippert,
State Public Affairs Office

SALEM, Ore. — Sept. 16, 1940, 65 years ago, more than 6,300 Oregon soldiers of the 41st Infantry Division were called for Federal Active Duty for World War II. The anniversary brought many local veterans of the division, their families, and members of the Oregon National Guard together for a celebration at Heritage Park in Salem, Ore. on Sept. 15, 2005.

"Your history permeates everything we do today," said Adjutant General of the Oregon National Guard Maj. General Raymond F. Rees. More than 20,000 National Guardsmen comprised the 41st Infantry Division, which was the first American division to be trained in jungle warfare earning them their nickname, the "Junglelers.

The 41st Inf. Div. was the first National Guard division to deploy overseas in WWII. They played a significant role in the war as the first American division deployed after the attacks on Pearl Harbor, the first American division deployed to the South Pacific, and the first American division to meet Imperial Japanese Forces in an offensive operation.

"That sense of shared purpose, shared camaraderie, that most people in history only you can know or understand because of your common bond," Rees said. Many veterans from the division, now in their 80's, still live in the Pacific Northwest and keep in touch through the 41st Infantry Division Association. One of its members, Leland "Bud" Lewis, spoke at the ceremony.

"I'm extremely proud to have the 41st Brigade as our military descendants," said Lewis, now 85. The 41st Inf. Div. reformed in Oregon in 1946 and was reorganized in 1965 as the 41st Infantry Brigade. It is now referred to as the 41st Brigade Combat Team.

"We are grateful to have been beneficiaries of victories of the 41st Infantry Division 65 years ago — and equally as important we are grateful to your service to the United States in the years following," Rees said.

"We take our opportunities to reflect and celebrate your successes and sacrifices. I believe that we as an organization have to revisit our history and take those experiences with us as we move forward," Wegner said. Many units in the 41st BCT have seen many overseas deployments in recent years to Bosnia, Egypt, Kuwait, Iraq and Afghanistan.

Most recently, the 41st BCT assisted relief efforts in the wake of hurricanes on the Gulf Coast. The 41st BCT is also preparing to deploy to Afghanistan in 2006.

Thousands join veterans at Ft. Vancouver to observe 60th anniversary of WWII

"Our goal was to bring the 'Great Generation' together to honor their guests. People of all ages would stop and shake the older veteran's hands and thank them for their service so many years before. Those who fought in Korea and Vietnam were some of the first to salute their older counterparts.

"You are a group of Americans who literally saved the world from tyranny and oppression," said Oregon Gov. Ted Kulongoski, a U.S. Marine Corps veteran, during his remarks to over 2,500 people. "You all have a story. We are able to host a great weekend of celebration and to say thank you," Hagen said. "More than 7,200 volunteers were able to host a great weekend of celebration and meeting this group of men and women who, perhaps more than any one else, united our nation in war time like no other time in our history.

First Sgt. Art Collins shows WWII anniversary attendees his 1944 map of the Battle of the Bulge.

"I believed that we as an organization have to revisit our history and take those experiences with us as we move forward."

— Maj. Michael Wegner

Story by Kim L. Lippert,
State Public Affairs Office

PT. VANCOUVER, Wash. — Walking among more than 25,000 visitors at Fort Vancouver were the survivors from Pearl Harbor and the Bataan Death March, the soldiers who landed at Anzio and Normandy, the paratroopers, pilots, air and ground crews, Marines who took two Jima and Merchant Mariners who manned the vital supply ships. They were there to celebrate their victories of staying alive and recalling those who didn’t make it.

Dressed in his uniform shirt that had the original chevrons on it, former Army 1st Sgt. Arthur Collins, 85, shared many memories from the Battle of the Bulge.

"It was always scary, but you had to put that out of your mind and just do your job," Collins said. "It was cold, but we worked together. It was war.

Former Naval Reserve Ensign Larry Lydon, 84, of Southwest Washington, is a retired high school teacher. He still fit nicely into his wooden naval officer’s dress uniform he once wore aboard the USS San Francisco anchored at Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941. He recalls how his ship had no ammunition that morning, so the crew ran and boarded the New Orleans docked nearby.

"A lieutenant ordered us not to fire unless fired upon, but moments later another officer ran by on deck yelling ‘lay that order and fire at will,’” Lydon chuckled. He was among those who captured the first pair of Japanese submersi- ners who ran aground in their mini-sub.

"They were shaking so bad they thought we were going to kill them.

Dale Bowlin, 85, of Vancouver, fought aboard the Utah and was severely wounded above his left knee.

"If it wasn’t for the concern of a German soldier who drug me into a building and later got me a doctor, I wouldn’t be here today. They
A Soldier provides her perspective on the role of women in combat

I was asked by Command Sgt. Maj. Moe to write an article about what it takes to be a woman in combat. His straightforward statement of “What it takes to be a woman in combat” caught me off guard. I hadn’t really thought about it. Really the only thing that seemed to come to mind was the idea that others always seemed to place more emphasis on gender than I did.

So I mulled his statement over like a rock tumbler trying to polish the jagged edge of a rough question. After hours of contemplation and countless conversations with fellow Iraqi veterans and peers, I was unable to come up with any answers that might differ from the obvious.

It all boils down to this — soldiering is soldiering. A trigger pulled knowing no gender just as an enemy’s bullet’s trajectory to the destination does not discriminate between male and female. It’s merely its moving target — a soldier.

Many will argue females on the battlefield must believe you are capable of doing what it takes to be a woman in combat — some fell in my desert combat uniform shirt burning my skin — as I fired with my M16. My driver screamed his head off — at what I don’t really remember. A few vehicles were ambushed. We were trapped in the kill zone, firing at a heavy rate from rocket propelled Grenades and small arms.

One RPG exploded 5 to 10 feet from our vehicle and sent us rocking. All the while, bullets were zipping past my gunner’s head in my infrared combat uniform shirt burning my skin — as I fired with my M16. Our driver screamed his head off — at what I don’t really remember. A few vehicles were ambushed. We were ambushed on a bridge entering Baghdad. We were trapped in the kill zone, firing at a heavy rate from rocket propelled Grenades and small arms. A few RPG explosions were heard.

For example, as we prepared to convoy from Kuwait to Baghdad, I sat in a tent with a headquarters element from Arkansas (the convoy was mixed with Arkansas and Oregon Soldiers) as they laid out the plan for who was driving what. It was said Oregon would be providing the turret gunners since they were infantry. But they still needed assistant gunners for those vehicles.

The headquarters commander signaled heavily and then asked, “Okay… who in here is qualified on a 240B machine gun?”

I was the only person in a tent of 60 to 80 people to raise my hand. So, I ended up being the back-up gunner in a 5-ton vehicle with one of our Oregon guys. Add that to my already long list of tasks. Now I was ambushed on a bridge entering Baghdad. We were trapped in the kill zone, firing at a heavy rate from rocket propelled Grenades and small arms. A few RPG explosions were heard.

When my vehicle was ambushed, we were ambushed on a bridge entering Baghdad. We were trapped in the kill zone, firing at a heavy rate from rocket propelled Grenades and small arms. A few RPG explosions were heard.

The common thread in the Army’s fabric is that everyone has to pull the trigger and that means being ready and prepared to do whatever it takes to make the mission happen, and we did it.

The most common thread in the Army’s fabric of those missions was soldiering — basic infantryman’s job. There was no matter what your job, race, or gender. Everyone has to pull the trigger and that means being ready and prepared to do whatever it takes to make the mission happen, and we did it.

The most common thread in the Army’s fabric of those missions was soldiering — basic infantryman’s job. There was no matter what your job, race, or gender. Everyone has to pull the trigger and that means being ready and prepared to do whatever it takes to make the mission happen, and we did it.

The most common thread in the Army’s fabric of those missions was soldiering — basic infantryman’s job. There was no matter what your job, race, or gender. Everyone has to pull the trigger and that means being ready and prepared to do whatever it takes to make the mission happen, and we did it.

The most common thread in the Army’s fabric of those missions was soldiering — basic infantryman’s job. There was no matter what your job, race, or gender. Everyone has to pull the trigger and that means being ready and prepared to do whatever it takes to make the mission happen, and we did it.

The most common thread in the Army’s fabric of those missions was soldiering — basic infantryman’s job. There was no matter what your job, race, or gender. Everyone has to pull the trigger and that means being ready and prepared to do whatever it takes to make the mission happen, and we did it.
Camp Rosenbaum celebrates almost four decades of helping Oregon’s at-risk youth

Looking into the Future

The largest contributor to the camp continues to come from corporate donations. For more information, please contact our executive assistant, Mike. Donates brand new athletic shoes, camp t-shirts and camperships, and other gifts to Camp Rosenbaum. According to Rosenbaum Board President and Nike Global Community Affairs Employee, John Edgerton, the relationship between Mike and Camp Rosenbaum has stretched back at least a decade.

"Mike’s involvement in camp has definitely made a difference," Edgerton says. "I know for sure we have had a relationship with camp over the past ten years. It’s been a lot better since we’ve had a relationship with Mike.

As a result of sports apparel and gear, Nike donated $12,000 to the Rosenbaum Foundation each year. The corporation also has a matching fund where Nike will match employees’ donations to the Rosenbaum Foundation for the plants that they donate for. But Nike’s influence goes beyond donations and grants to incorporate every detail of the camp’s activities.

According to Edgerton, something he is particularly proud of is the "One of the important components of the camp is leadership skills, which they try to teach to the kids." Edgerton says.

Keeping the dream of hope alive

In 1979, Camp Rosenbaum was established by Oregon State Police Trooper Bob Wilhelmsen. What began in 1979 with one man, a handful of kids, and a vision to help Camp Rosenbaum has become a beloved camp that has impacted the lives of thousands of children from around the country. For over three decades, Camp Rosenbaum has provided a safe and supportive environment for children at risk, helping them develop the skills and confidence they need to succeed in life.

Volunteers from the Greater Portland Metro area public housing agencies, the Oregon Police and Fire Retirees Association, and the American Legion Post 60 are just a few of the many organizations that contribute time and resources to make Camp Rosenbaum a success. These volunteers help with everything from cooking and cleaning to providing a safe and nurturing environment for campers. In addition to the volunteers, many companies and organizations support Camp Rosenbaum through donations, in-kind gifts, and sponsorships.

"I think we get more out of camp than we give," says Cliff "Hammer" Madison, the former camp director. "We get so much back from what we put in. Our campers learn valuable life skills, and our staff members have the opportunity to make a positive impact on the lives of these young people."

The success of Camp Rosenbaum is attributed to the dedication and hard work of the staff and volunteers. From the camp director and staff to the volunteers who help with everything from cooking to cleaning, everyone plays a crucial role in making Camp Rosenbaum a success.

"The camp is like a home away from home for our campers," says John Edgerton, Nike Global Community Affairs Employee.

Oregon State Police Trooper Bob Wilhelmsen credits the success of Camp Rosenbaum to the hard work and dedication of the staff and volunteers. "Without the support of our staff, volunteers, and corporate partners, Camp Rosenbaum would not be possible," he says. "We are grateful for the continued support of our partners and look forward to many more years of helping Oregon’s at-risk youth.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has awarded Camp Rosenbaum a grant to help fund the camp’s operations.

"We are very grateful for the support of the Department of Housing and Urban Development," says Camp Rosenbaum’s executive director, Mike. "This grant will help us continue to provide a safe and supportive environment for Oregon’s at-risk youth."

The camp’s success is a result of the hard work and dedication of the staff and volunteers. Without the support of our partners, Camp Rosenbaum would not be possible. We are grateful for the continued support of our corporate partners and look forward to many more years of helping Oregon’s at-risk youth.

If you are interested in learning more about Camp Rosenbaum or supporting the camp, please contact the camp director, Mike. We would be happy to provide more information on how you can get involved. Thank you for your support of Camp Rosenbaum and our mission to help Oregon’s at-risk youth reach their full potential.
In support of Operation Backpack, Staff Sgt. Rachit DeRose (center), C Co. 141 Spc. Br., and Judy Berck (left), volunteers from Portland, delivered 100 backpacks full of school supplies to the Red Cross Crisis Center at Washington High School to be donated to evacuees from the Gulf Coast who have been re-located to Portland. Accepting the backpacks are Jim Martin, Red Cross volunteer, and Kerry Tintera (right) of Portland Public Schools.

Story and photos by Spc. April L. Dustin, State Public Affairs Office

SALEM, Ore. — During the month of September the Oregon National Guard joined forces with the Oregon Department of Education and launched a donation drive, known as Operation Backpack, to collect school supplies for children and teachers affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

“The Department of Education contacted the Oregon National Guard to identify a way to help students and teachers from the Gulf Coast get back to school as soon as possible,” said Kay Fristad, deputy of Public Affairs for the Oregon Military Department. “Operation Backpack was developed as an off-shoot to Operation Shoedock, a similar effort in the early 1990’s to support humanitarian efforts in El Salvador.”

The Department of Education asked schools and communities throughout Oregon to donate “Resource Kits” which included backpacks filled with school supplies. The ORNG assisted the donation drive by providing drop-off locations for the donations and coordinating transportation of the items.

“All armories across the state were designated as collection points for Operation Backpack donations,” said Capt. Michael Braibish, deputy of Public Affairs for Oregon Military Department. “Once armories received donations, they shipped them to Camp Withycombe (Clackamas, Ore.), to be staged for transportation to the Gulf Coast.”

Since flights to the Gulf Coast are no longer being provided into teams and spent two hours collecting school supplies at local Shopko, K-Mart, and Wal-Mart storefronts.

“Everyone was very helpful and eager to assist, we were very impressed with the community’s response,” said 2nd Lt. Sarah Thompson, detachment commander for 206th Quarter Master Bn. “A lot of people really want to help, but they don’t know how, so this provided them with an outlet.”

Thirteen soldiers from the 206th Quarter Master Bn. were divided into teams and spent two hours collecting school supplies from Salem area shoppers. Their efforts resulted in about ten shopping carts full of donations, some of which included new shoes for children.

“We are grateful to the organizations and people that so generously opened their hearts to help out,” said Lt. Col. Rosmarie McCabe, battalion commander for 206th Quarter Master Bn. “This is really going to make a big impact on a lot of kids.”

Operation Backpack is no longer collecting donations however, for more information on how to help hurricane survivors visit www.redcross.org or http://katrina.salvationarmy.org.

Photo by Tech. Sgt. Roger M. Dey, Montana Air National Guard

Continued from FRONT PAGE

Oregon Soldiers and Airmen rescue 2,500 victims of disaster in Louisiana

During door-to-door search operations, Spc. Greg Parris and Spc. Scott Allen, both of C Co. 2 Bn. 162nd Inf. Reg., mark a house near Paris Avenue in the northern sector of New Orleans indicating that no people remain there in need of help or evacuation. The soldiers deployed to Louisiana with the 41st Bde. Combat Team in support of rescue and recovery efforts following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Oregon Soldiers and Airmen rescue 2,500 victims of disaster in Louisiana

security to residents of the ravaged areas.

“We are the front line,” said Brig. Gen. Doug Pritt, commander of Oregon’s 41st Brigade Combat Team which led JTF Rita. “We are the first responders for Task Force Rita.”

Pritt said Oregon went from covering 75 percent of New Orleans to covering 40 percent of Louisiana. Jointly Guarded by Guardmen from Louisiana, Pennsylvania and Missouri, the Oregonians in JTF Rita positions were able to send in strategic locations across the southern portion of Louisiana.

After the hurricane swept through, the ORNG redeployed its forces from New Orleans to rescue storm victims and assess damage, and assist civilian authorities with the immediate recovery efforts. The Oregon Guard rescued another 200 people in the aftermath of Hurricane Rita, bringing the total number of rescues performed by the ORNG to 250.


From the outset of the recent disasters, the National Guard nationwide has provided more than 50,000 troops to support the relief effort.
News Briefs

Operation Katrina participants receive Title 32 pay

The Department of Defense approved federal funding for all states participating in the Operation Katrina response efforts. This ensured that all service members, regardless of component or branch of service in the state, were reinstated in their employer’s health plan when they are re-employed, generally without any waiting periods or exclusions (e.g., pre-existing condition exclusions) except for service-connected illnesses or injuries.

If you believe you are a victim of employment discrimination you have the option of filing a complaint. For more information, visit https://www.dol.gov/vets or call 1-866-4-US-VETS.

Oregon Guardsmen wins truck driving competition

A veteran Army National Guard Member recently took home the 2005 State Truck Driving Championships.

In June, 1st Sgt. Ted Carlson of the 22nd Engineer Co., edged out 13 competitors to win the competition. He was ecstatic to win, especially after taking two years off, said Carlson, who was recently promoted to first sergeant in his unit, based at Camp Withycombe, in Auburn.

Carlson, a Federal Express Freight driver, won the contest in 2002 but was unable to re-apply because of a two year restriction.

While in Iraq, Carlson served as the area damage control sergeant, which didn't allow him much time to drive a truck.

He said his recent deployment and 13 years in the Guard have given him a competitive edge, which helped him win.

"The competitiveness I've gotten from the Guard has given me a strong desire to win," Carlson said. "And I think that helped me in the competition.

Each competitor was judged in a variety of areas: a pre-interview portion, pre-trip checks and services test, how well they maneuvered through the Snake course, and overall time.

"The pre-trip portion is very similar to any pre-combat check performed by soldiers. It's simple, you must fill in the correct information or you could lose your deployment," Carlson explained.

The taking two airway portion is very similar to an Army promotion board. You must present your qualifications to command determined by your service, rank, member or departmental personnel," he said.

But the obstacle course proved to be the toughest part - and this is where Carlson excelled.

Carlson’s win means he will compete in the National Truck Driving Championships in Ohio during August.

He’s looking forward to competing against other drivers from across the nation.

“Like to meet all of the other drivers. It’s like being in the Army and meeting people from all over the country,” Carlson said.

Your Letters

New Orleans resident thanks Oregon troops

Your guys in New Orleans are fabulously helpful to us.

I had the pleasure of meeting the Oregon military men and women at the lake-front in New Orleans. They couldn’t have been more polite, efficient and professional group.

I am thrilled they are there. I was also able to drive around for three hours... my home had not flooded, was relatively undamaged, and not looted.

I realize until the second day I visited that they are living on MRE’s, if so I hope its okay if I bring them real food.

I work on my house, it’s a 300 mile round trip for me. We would like to show our appreciation in some form. If all the good “po’boy” places and other restaurants I would normally advise people to go are sadly closed, I hope its okay if we bring them something good from outside the area.

Thank you so much for helping us. Your people are of uniformly high quality. I felt so much better when I saw your people there and met some of them.

Thank you,
Katie and Joel Derby

Citizen compliments Oregon Guard soldiers

I flew from Dallas, Texas to Portland today with about six members of the Oregon National Guard returning from Afghanistan for a two-week leave.

I just wanted to say how humble, respectful and courteous they all were. Please accept this compliment and pass it on to them.

Thanks,
Holly Wittenberg

Corrections

173rd FW F-15 incorredly identified in Aug issue of Sentinel

To the Editor,

As the Commander of the 173rd Fighter Wing, I want to extend my appreciation to the Sentinel staff for putting one of our jets on the back cover of your August issue. We very much want to drive this point home to the National Guard and truly appreciate what we make it when we put a jet into the paper, allowing us the opportunity to tell a small part of our story.

Unfortunately a small mistake was made in the information provided by Carlson.

State Active Duty orders were authorized on September 20, 2005 for membership, performance of service, training, pay scale, therefore each soldier from the 173rd Fighter Wing out of South Dakota, I don’t know how it happened but it did.

The jet on the rear cover of the Sentinel issue September 2005 was the 114th Fighter Squadron.

We appreciate the publicity and hope that in the future you will continue to tell our story. This picture was taken during our bi-annual Sentry Eagle exercise that brings over 50 aircraft to the 173 FW for a five day exercise and one day open house.

Sentry Eagle Concours over 10,000 spectators by local and overall time.

I had the opportunity to visit with people who were from as far south as Los Angeles and as far north as Portland who made the trip to view the activities of Sentry Eagle open house.

Additionally, we had the pleasure of entertaining the Governor of Oregon and our Adjutant General during the open house and exercise.

Thanks again for letting us tell our story.

CSM Moe’s column for Aug. Sentinel issue incorreclty attributed

In the August issue of the Oregon Sentinel, Command Sgt. Maj. Thomas Moe’s column was incorrectly attributed to CSM Moe. Moe wrote the introduction, if the body of the column was written by Staff Sgt. Randy Freedo from the 1186 MP Co., of Milton-Freewater, Ore.

Did you know?

Most people know that George Wash- ington was the father of the United States but most people don’t know he was also the father of roses in America. The United States. Washington loved and had his own garden at Mt. Vernon and filled it with his own selections of roses. He named one of his varieties after his mother and it is still being grown to this day.

Tell us what you think!

Address your comments, feedback and ideas to:

The Oregon Sentinel
Attn: Editor

c/o State Public Affairs Office

P.O. Box 2083

Salem, OR 97309

sentinel-editor@mil.state.or.us

The Oregon Sentinel

The Oregon Sentinel is the official publication of the Oregon National Guard, authorized under the provisions of AR-360-1. It is designed and published monthly by the Oregon Military Department Public Affairs Office, P.O. Box 14350, Salem, Oregon, 97309. (503) 584-3917. The views and opinions expressed in the Oregon Sentinel are not necessarily those of the departments of the Army and Air Force. The Oregon Sentinel is distributed free of members of the Oregon National Guard and their families, in the Pacific Northwestern states. Also available to active duty persons at their request. Circulation: 12,500. The Oregon Sentinel is also distributed electronically via the Internet at http://www.oregon.gov/OMD/GMV/newsletters.shtml.

Stories and photos from the field are gratefully accepted. We need your input to insure better coverage.

Guard members and their families are encouraged to submit any articles meant to inform, educate or entertain fellow members of the Oregon National Guard. Please include stories about interesting Guard personalities and unique unit traditions. Your photos are also welcome. All letters must include the author’s name, address and daytime phone number. Names may be withheld in photos if author requests. Letters must be signed, and are subject to editing prior to publication. For publications on a Minimum Green computer. Text files may be submitted using Microsoft Word.

© 2005 Oregon Military Department

All Rights Reserved

Oregon Sentinel Publication Staff

Associate Editor/Copy Editor
Kay F. Fristad
kay.f.fristad@mil.state.or.us

Managing Editor/Contributing Writer
Tech. Sgt. Nick Choy
nick.choy@mil.state.or.us

Contributing Editor/Contributing Writer
Capt. Michael S. Braibish
michael.s.braibish@mil.state.or.us

Senior Copy Editor/Contributing Writer
Spec. April L. Dustin
april.dustin@or.army.mil

Contributing Writer
Kimberly L. Lippert
kimberly.lippert@mil.state.or.us

Audio/Visual/Contributing Photographer
Sgt. Khris C. Froidure
tom.hoe@or.army.mil

Contributors
115th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment
142nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs
173rd Fighter Wing Public Affairs
Unit Public Affairs Representatives
Parish Mayor presents Oregon National Guard commander with Key to the City

Calling them "our heroes," Lafayette Parish Mayor Joey Durel presents Brig. Gen. Douglas Pritt with the key to the city on Sept. 27, for clean up, recovery and rescue assistance provided by the Oregon National Guard. He praised the men and women of the Oregon Guard, "with the gratitude of our community, our state and our country."

In front of the parish council and more than 40 local citizens standing and applauding, Gen. Pritt accepted the key on behalf of those National Guard members that responded in the wake of Hurricane Rita.

"We are very appreciative of your hospitality," said Brig. Gen. Pritt. "The men and women of the National Guard are proud to be assisting in the safety and security of southwest Louisiana."

Brig Gen. Pritt commanded and coordinated the 4,000 National Guard members that responded to Hurricane Rita across eight parishes in southwest Louisiana to include 300 members of an engineering group, 700 members of an infantry unit and 300 members of a medical unit.

National Guard members evacuated hundreds of people from their flooded homes in southwest Louisiana, provided security for key facilities such as hospitals, shelters, food distribution points and pharmacies; escorted convoys carrying military equipment, food, water and ice; cleared roads and schools of debris; clipped limbs off trees that blocked vehicle access to roads, and began restoring power to hospitals and provide medical aid and comfort to thousands of Louisianans.

Hunting, fishing licenses for service members

House Bill 3504, Section 11, was passed by the Oregon Legislature and signed by Governor Kulongoski. The bill will allow a person to apply to the Oregon Military Department for reimbursement for the cost of a resident annual hunting license and a resident annual angling license if the person:

(a) Is an active member of the Armed Forces of the United States; or

(b) Has retired from the Armed Forces of the United States within 12 months of the date of making the application for a license.

The Oregon Military Department shall reimburse a person for the cost of a resident annual hunting and fishing license upon receipt of the person’s application. The Oregon Military Department is writing regulations to implement this Bill, which will not take effect until November 15, 2005 as it requires 91 days for the Bill to go into effect after passage.

Current Oregon National Guard members will make a photocopy of their Hunting/Fishing license and military ID card, obtain signature of their command and then forward the application to the Oregon Military Department, AGC at PO Box 14350, Salem, OR 97309-5047.

Active duty or members of the Reserve components, i.e. Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Coast Guard, Marine Reserve etc, must take their Hunting/Fishing license and current military identification card to a local Army or Air National Guard Recruiting Station for verification, validation and signature prior to requesting reimbursement from the Oregon Military Department.

A complete copy of the regulation governing this will be published when it is completed.