

THE ALAMO JOURNAL NEWSLETTER



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First Regiment * Tennessee State Guard * Millington, TN

ARE YOU READY?

Soldiers Prepare for the worst at CERT Training by CW4 Andrea Wulff R.N.

"Taking personal responsibility for the safety of our families, our neighbors, and our nation is critical to ensuring limited damages and losses from disasters. Every American needs to participate in CERT training and disaster kit preparation in order to insure that their families - as a nation- are all better prepared" -FEMA

Everyone needs to know how to respond to a community emergency disaster. We must have the tools and plans in place to make it on our own, at least for a period of time. While there is no way to predict what will happen, there are things you can do to prepare.

Seven TNSG members from the 1st Regiment recently attended the "Train the Trainer" CERT course as part of the Memphis and Shelby Co. EMA program. It was well done and extremely informative. As part of the course, disaster kits were discussed in great detail. Below is a summary of what we learned:

Consider building two kits. One will remain in your safe room "for sheltering in place."



This kit will contain things you will not need in your evacuation kit, for example- heavy plastic and duct tape for sealing off your area.

The bones for a basic evacuation kit will remain constant. You will need to add to it as your personal

situation dictates. For example- children's needs, pet's needs, Rx medicines. You will also need to review its contents according to season and to check expiration dates on perishables.

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WE'RE LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD TENNESSEANS!



The historical significance of Tennesseans volunteering to protect Tennessee dates back to our declaration of independence from the British during the Revolutionary War. The 1st Tennessee Regiment and the Tennessee State Guard proudly continues this long tradition.

The TNSG's jurisdiction falls within the Military Department of the State of Tennessee. Our mission is to be a force-multiplier of the Tennessee Army National Guard and to assist local communities during times of emergency or national disaster within the State.

With today's climate of politically motivated violence and the ever-pressing need to protect our homeland from terrorists, the Tennessee State Guard needs your help.

Any citizen of Tennessee between the ages of 17 and 67 without a criminal record and not currently enlisted in any active or reserve of the Armed Forces of the United States may join the TNSG. Personnel with prior military service are given preference.

As a volunteer member of the TNSG, you will not receive

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- Water-** 1 gallon per person per day, 2 qts for drinking and 2 qts for sanitation.
- Food-** at least 3 days supply. Consider no refrigeration, no preparation, no extra water.
- Shelter-** "tube tent", emergency blanket
- Complete change of clothes.**
- Means of communication-** hand cranked radio/charger, cell phone and charger Note: text messages will probably be the fastest means of sending information
- Flashlight-** shake type or extra batteries, light-sticks
- Matches and fire-starters**
- First aid kit-** consider the needs of your group-Rx medicines allergies, etc.
- Whistle, Dust-mask and safety goggles**
- Personal hygiene-** garbage bags, wipes
- Can-opener-** consider for food stored other than your own
- Wrench, pliers, utility knife, utility shears, rope, etc**
- Local maps, compass**
- Identification in waterproof container or sealed plastic bag**

There are many other things to consider within your personal situation. For more detailed information, come by and pick up a copy of some of the pamphlets we received during class.



**Brigadier General Alfred Tripp
Deputy Commanding General West
Tennessee State Guard**



We recently completed a very successful test of individual and "joint" interoperability. VG-08 gave us, and the National Guard, the opportunity to work together toward a common goal to accomplish the same mission. It was, for a short time, "us" instead of "them." Regardless of what our stated mission and TO&E dictate, our mission was the mission dictated by a higher authority, an authority even higher than the Tennessee National Guard. The participation of the leadership in the Pentagon raised the playing field to a level we have not seen before, and our ability to "get the job done RIGHT" was highlighted by those leaders who noted our complete preparation and conduct. As General Takasaki has stated, "We are trying to build relationships." VG-08 showed us that we could form a mutual support system that turns people of disparate backgrounds, professions and interests into a single, bonded organization. For a short period of time, the whole was greater than the sum of its parts. We can continue to operate in such a manner. Every unit at every level has the capacity and motivation to pull together to accomplish a common mission and goal. I have seen it in action and have faith that the Tennessee State Guard can be even better. It's been said that those who do not move forward will fall back. Let us move forward!

BG (TN) Tripp

VOLUNTEER, FROM PAGE 1

pay for attending drills or other routine missions and community service projects. However, you will receive training in a variety of skills and be provided an opportunity to hone those skills. Prior service members can recapture that camaraderie not found elsewhere and non-prior service members will learn the meaning of being part of a military organization. Drills are one weekend a month plus an Annual Training drill of one three-day weekend.

Enlistment in the TNSG is similar to enlistment in any branch of military service. However, unlike the Active/Reserve Military Forces or the National Guard, the TNSG can only be activated at the order of the Governor or Adjutant General of the State of Tennessee.

There is no minimum enlistment period and members who find that the TNSG is not for them may submit a letter resignation at any time. Unless otherwise warranted, an Honorable Discharge will be granted.

If you would like more information about our organization or would like to spend a day with us, please contact:

**Major Mason Ezzell
Recruiting & Retention Mgr.
TNSG**

**800-737-3032 ext. 101
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901-680-9981 fax
tmezzell@lamserv.com
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**CONGRATULATIONS
TO THE
TENNESSEE STATE
GUARD
SHOOTING TEAM...
BRAVO ZULU!!!**



**We
Lead
...**



**...
Others
Follow**

FRONT AND CENTER WITH THE CO

By the time you read this the TNSG has a new boss, COL(P) Max P. Haston. On 16 August, COL(P) Haston was briefed by the four Regimental Commanders (or their designated reps) and HQ Nashville Staff. It was a great opportunity to meet the person who will set our Mission Essential Tasks and activate us when the time comes. Although I was out SIQ (Sick in Quarters for you civilian and Air Force types), I still provided input as to our operations and training status. The XO and CSM provided information to COL(P) Haston and while he asked some difficult questions, I think he walked away with an understanding of who you are and what you have done.

While out these past few weeks, I reflected on just how far you have come as a military organization. It simply astounds me that such a small group of people that started four years ago has grown to such a large group of highly dedicated individuals. Service in the Tennessee State Guard is DIFFICULT. Don't let anyone tell you different. Volunteering your and your families' time is a sacrifice. I say you and your family because if you are not at home with them, then they are giving up (albeit not voluntary) time away from you. So please show your appreciation.

OK, so what have we been up to?

The OEF/OIF Welcome Home operation was a success! I hope it did your heart good to see all of those veterans and families attending the career fair, medical and other orientation sessions. It was wonderful to shake those guy's and gal's hands who put all on the line for our freedom.

Thanks to all who showed up for the 4th of July fireworks event. You did a great job and both the Mayor and CAPT McMasters (CO of the Navy base) expressed thanks to me personally. It was HOT! (As it always is) and the op went off without a hitch, both professional and safe.

Thanks to all who showed up for the National Night Out. For any operation we do, the NNO must occur in the hottest conditions we see all year. Fortunately, the op isn't until very late and is over in a few hours. But thanks to all who came out and braved the extreme temperature (even if it was for a couple of hours).

Members of the Rifle Team have been keeping busy anticipating the upcoming competition. I understand the 1REG HQ will soon have the trophy we won last year hanging on our wall. The Mid-South All Military Invitational Rifle Tournament will be held on 20 September. This is the best team I have seen so far in command. CW2 Walker is a great leader and some great people back him up. The team consists of MAJ Ezzell, MAJ Thomas, 2LT S Owens, CPL M Burgess, 2LT Deutsch, CPL J Vandiveer, WO1 B Hughes, CPL K Kahl, SGM J Tiscia, CPL R Hawley and PVT M Sims. On 30 July, members of the 1st threw down the gauntlet and won a Gold, two Silver and at least one Bronze medal from the civilian matchin Memphis-BRAVO ZULU to all those who are participating!

The 4th Battalion, under the able command of MAJ Griffith and CSM Dyer, continue to lead the torch on many issues. The Bruceton in May Festival, Huntington Relay for Life and Hallarock operations were flawless, safe and continue to provide the citizens of Tennessee value.

I hope you had a chance to stop by and see our "communicators" at work on the 28th and 29th of June. The 1REG provided support for HAM licensed members of the Regiment and HQ Nashville to participate in an AARL (American Radio Relay League) Field Day. This event is a non-military annual event that allows licensed HAM Radio Operators to set up and communicate around the world.

Thanks to those who helped set up the 1 REG Family Day. Maybe next year we can meet in Jackson or even Paris? The 4th BN has promised to feed us all the catfish we can eat!

The Future:

Celebrate Munford (20 September 2008). If you haven't already contacted 2LT Drew Schmitz, please take the time to do so. The more volunteers means less time out on patrol or conducting traffic safety.

Interoperability Training with NSA Mid-South: This should begin in October. I am looking forward to sending the 1st Team over to get some good training. NSA has promised to challenge us and provide some great training.

On 6 September the CG and Regimental Commanders will be meeting in Huntsville, Alabama to attend the State Guard Association of the U.S. (SGAUS) mid-year meeting.

The XO, CSM and I will soon be looking for volunteers on the annual Christmas party and Awards Banquet on 13 December. We really need help on this one. Please note that family members are allowed to step forward and help out.

Ok Team Alamo, as you have read, we have done some great work these past few months and we have a lot to do between now and the end of the year. I want each of you to re-invigorate yourselves and ensure you attend as much training as possible and participate in any operation you can. Once again, it is my honor to serve as your CO and I appreciate all that you do for the Citizens, the State and the Country.

Yours in Service,

Brian Willemsen, LTC

Commander, 1st Regiment

Tennessee State Guard



Meet the New Boss!



Assistant Adjutant General , Army Tennessee National Guard

BG Terry M. "Max" Haston was appointed the Assistant Adjutant General, Army on 6 May 2008. Before his appointment, BG Haston served as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Training and Operations /J-3 for the Joint Forces Headquarters, TN.

BG Haston is a native of McMinnville, TN and currently resides in Knoxville, TN. BG Haston was commissioned as an Armor Officer in the U.S. Army in 1979 from Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro, TN. Upon completion from the Armor Officer Basic Course at Fort Knox, KY he was assigned to the XM-1 project and to 2/5 Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood, TX as a Tank Platoon Leader. BG Haston was then assigned to 3-67 Armor, 2nd Armored Division where he served as a Tank Platoon Leader, Company Executive Officer, Support Platoon Leader and Battalion S-4.

Upon leaving active duty in 1983 BG Haston joined the Tennessee Army National Guard where he commanded Company M 3/278th Armored Cavalry Regiment in Rockwood, TN. In 1987 BG Haston joined the Active Guard/Reserve (AGR) program and served as the 3/278th ACR Training Officer and S-3 until joining the 278th Regimental staff in 1989. In 1992 BG Haston assumed the duties as the Regimental S-3 until 1997 when he became the Commander of Third Squadron, 278th ACR (Phantom Raider Squadron). Simultaneously BG Haston served as the Training Officer for the Tennessee Army National Guard. Following the Completion of the resident course, U.S. Army War College, Carlisle Barracks, PA, BGHaston became the 7th Commander of the 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment, headquartered in Knoxville, TN. Following

Command of the 278th ACR, BG Haston was assigned as the Deputy Chief of Staff, for Operations and J-3 , Joint Forces Headquarters, Tennessee. In May 2005 BG Haston mobilized and deployed as the Chief of Reserve Components, Multi-National Corps Iraq (XVIII Airborne Corps). Upon completion of his tour in the Middle East, he returned as the J-3, JFHQ TN.

EDUCATION:

BG Haston is a graduate of the Armor Officer Basic and Advance Courses at Fort Knox, KY, Tactical Commander's Development Course and Command and General Staff Course at FT Leavenworth, KS. He is also a resident graduate of the United States War College at Carlisle Barracks, PA where he received his Masters Degree in Strategic Studies.

AWARDS:

- Legion of Merit
 - Bronze Star Medal
 - Meritorious Service Medal (3 OLC)
 - Army Commendation Medal (3 OLC)
 - Army Achievement Medal (1 OLC)
 - National Defense Service Medal
 - Overseas Service Ribbon
 - Iraq Campaign Ribbon
 - Global War on Terrorism Medal
 - Army Service Ribbon
 - Armed Forces Reserve Medal
 - Tennessee National Guard Distinguished Service Medal
 - Tennessee National Guard Commendation Ribbon
 - Tennessee Army National Guard Service Ribbon (2 OLC)
 - Tennessee Army National Guard Volunteer Ribbon
 - Army Parachute Badge
 - Indonesian Parachute Badge
 - Order of Saint George, Bronze.
- (Current as of 28 May 2008)

INTERESTED IN SERVING? WE'RE LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD TENNESSEANS!!!

- *Training
- *Service
- *Friendships
- *Community

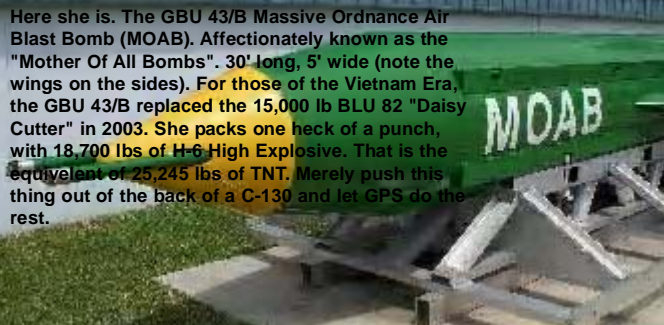


A Word from Byrd: *(from an email sent to the CO, 6-12-2008)*

Sir,

I have received a few e-mails from people back home wanting to know how things are going. At the moment they are good. I guess the best way to describe my life right now would be to say that school is hectic and school is life. My average day begins at 0430. I make my way (30 minute drive) to the schoolhouse for breakfast chow and to be in class at 0600. I break for lunch from 1200 to 1300. I am back in class from 1300 to 1630. Which gives me just enough time to make a mad dash back to mainside (The main part of Eglin AFB for you non-Navy types) with barely enough time to fall into the PT formation at 1705. We do our little workout session until 1815 at which time we are released from duty.

After hours during the week is just a chance to eat dinner, do laundry, take a shower, and go to bed. Sleep is a must once you're "in the schoolhouse" (actively training to be an EOD Technician). Falling asleep in class for 2 minutes can literally result in rolling out of school here.



Here she is. The GBU 43/B Massive Ordnance Air Blast Bomb (MOAB). Affectionately known as the "Mother Of All Bombs". 30' long, 5' wide (note the wings on the sides). For those of the Vietnam Era, the GBU 43/B replaced the 15,000 lb BLU 82 "Daisy Cutter" in 2003. She packs one heck of a punch, with 18,700 lbs of H-6 High Explosive. That is the equivalent of 25,245 lbs of TNT. Merely push this thing out of the back of a C-130 and let GPS do the rest.



Air Force Security Forces Weapons and Ammo locker. One of the sights that can be seen from my room. Such a scenic place.

Naval School Explosive Ordnance Disposal or NAVSCOLEOD for you navy types (simply referred to as "The Schoolhouse" here) gives new meaning to phrases such as "Demanding", "Fast-Paced", and "Material Intensive". I have been in class for a running total of 14 days. At this point I have taken 7 academic written tests, 3 practical exercise tests, and personally set up, primed into, and detonated 9 High-Explosive shots, one of which contained the following.

- 1 Mk 83 1,000lb High-Explosive (HE) Bomb
- 13 WWII era High-Explosive Anti-Tank (HEAT) Rifle Grenades
- 10 60mm HE Mortars
- 4 105mm HE Projectiles
- 30 40mm HE Grenades (M-203 type)
- 2 4.2 inch HE Mortars (The old "four-deuce" for the Korea and Vietnam vets)
- 2 20lb Anti-Tank Landmines
- 3 M1A2 Bangalore Torpedos
- 10 M18A1 Anti-Personnel mines (Claymore)
- 1 55lb TNT General Purpose Cratering Charge

And an additional 200 lbs of various High Explosive General Demolition items. (Blocks of C-4, Various 20lb satchel charges, etc.)

Needless to say it doesn't take much for a couple guys armed with an all-terrain forklift and a little creative ingenuity to make a "BFH" (Big Freaking Hole) in the sandy earth of the Florida Panhandle. 32' diameter and 20' deep to be exact. I love this stuff!!! They even have a saying in EOD designed just for guys like me...

"EOD is a science of vague assumptions based on debatable data taken from inconclusive experiments of problematic accuracy by persons of questionable mentality."

I took my comprehensive test for the DEMO division of the school today. By passing it, I have tested out of the DEMO division and will start TMD (Tools and Methods Division) Monday. Tomorrow is range clearance. Basically a treasure hunt where the gold is High-Explosive Ordnance. Once its found we blow it up. That simple.

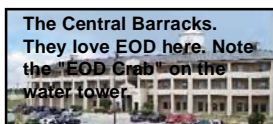
I am currently holding a GPA of 96.34. Things are crazy at school, but they are good for now. If I stay with my class and don't fail any portion, my graduation will be 08JAN09. I've been to a lot of schools as most of you know, but the day that Navy Captain pins that "Crab" on my chest, will by far be the proudest day of my life.

Well I gotta pop smoke for now. Check out the pictures below.

Not real interesting, but it shows you where I'm at these days. Any of you can feel free to contact me via e-mail at any time and I will get back to you ASAP. Wish all of you the best and as we say in EOD. Have a frag-free day!

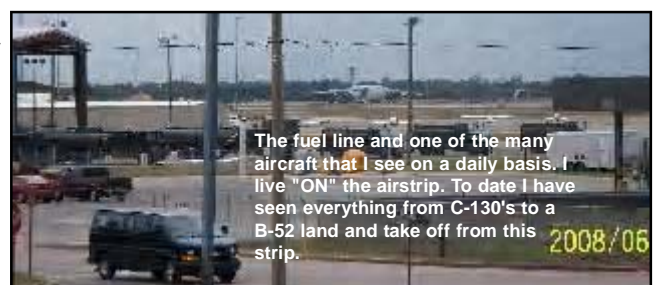


The bad stuff. "FRAG" Both of these pieces are from a 105mm Projectile. (The zippo is for scale) The piece on the left is actually the fuze well that has been split in half. Note the threads at the top. I made both of these masterpieces with my favorite sculpting tool. C-4!



The Central Barracks. They love EOD here. Note the "EOD Crab" on the water tower.

-PFC Byrd



The fuel line and one of the many aircraft that I see on a daily basis. I live "ON" the airstrip. To date I have seen everything from C-130's to a B-52 land and take off from this strip.

Focus on a Guardsman: MAJ Tommy Towery

When he graduated from Memphis State University in 1968, Tommy Towery had two career paths available to him. He could use the writing skills he learned in his News/Editorial Journalism degree and write for a newspaper, or he could pursue a military career via the 2nd Lieutenant's commission earned through the university's Air Force ROTC program. The desire to fly and to travel the world won out, and he spent the next 20 years as a rated Air Force Officer.

Although his dream of becoming a fighter pilot was not in his future, he quickly adapted to the skills required to become a navigator. He expanded those skills one-step farther and specialized in the Electronic Warfare Officer (EWO) field.

"When I was about to graduate from EWO school, I had one desire about the plane I wanted to fly - anything but a B-52!" he recalls. It turned out that all eight members of his class were assigned to the Strategic Air Command's B-52 Stratofortress jets, and thus began his career which would define his future. For 10 of his 20 years he was a B-52 crew member and the next 10 was spent in another Strategic Air Command aircraft, the RC-135 reconnaissance aircraft.

By the time he retired as a Major, Towery had earned his Master Navigator Wings and had accumulated over 5,000 hours flying time, including over 1,600 hours aboard a B-52. This time included B-52 bombing missions in Southeast Asia on sorties flown out of Guam and Thailand during the war in Vietnam.

Though he hated every minute he spent aboard the B-52, that experience became a defining period in his life. Whether it was combat in Southeast Asia or standing Nuclear Alert during the Cold War, his experience in the B-52 proved to be a source of pride and patriotism that would stay with him long after he hung up his flight suit.

He returned to the University of Memphis after retiring from the Air Force in 1988. During his service time he earned a Master's degree from TCU and a second bachelor's degree, this time in Information Systems Management, from the University of Maryland. He returned to Memphis as one of three small computer software support specialists for the entire university. He has continued in that specialty and is now the Local Technical Support Provider for the College of Communication and Fine Arts. He also taught classes in desktop publishing in the Journalism Dept., combining the skills he learned in both writing and computers to produce printed media.

Years after he last stepped down from his last flight in a B-52, the memories of the bad times associated with the airplane took back seat to the good memories of the adventure and the

camaraderie of those days. He was moved by the human stories depicted in the *Band of Brothers* HBO series and the movie *We Were Soldiers*. He realized that many books had been written about the mission of the B-52 and many more about the aircraft itself, but little was recorded about the everyday lives of the men who flew it.



Towery had previously self-published two books of memoirs of his childhood in his hometown of Huntsville, Alabama, so he knew the skills of getting a book to print. He decided to contact a few of the men he crewed with in B-52s to gauge interest in some personal stories for a book. The main object was to record what a crewmember of a B-52 actually did in his day-to-day duties.

It was titled "We Were Crewdogs - The B-52 Collection", and when finished contained 33 stories from 17 different former B-52 "Crewdogs" - the nickname crew members called themselves. It included a forward by Pulitzer Prize winner Rick Bragg, and an introduction by the former director of the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum. There were stories from the pilot of the first B-52 shot down in Vietnam and also the pilot of the last B-52 shot down during that conflict. The book proved to be so popular that it is now in its fourth printing.

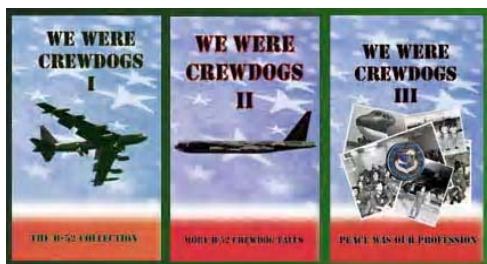
A year later, the second book in the series was printed. That book grew to include 58 stories by 30 authors. One story was by a crewmember that was in a B-52 that was shot down over New Mexico by a missile fired from a New Mexico National Guard fighter. Another was from a navigator who had to eject from a B-52 in the middle of a typhoon after being in a mid-air collision with another B-52 during a bombing mission being flown out of Guam.

Stories continued flowing in and a third book containing 44 stories by 44 different authors was published in the fall of 2007. The fourth was published in the summer of 2008.

Besides selling them to the authors at cost, they are also available and being sold at several Air Force museum gift shops across the country. Any profits derived from their sale go toward helping the museums preserve the airplanes on display.

"It is a very rewarding hobby," Towery says about his efforts to preserve these stories. "I am getting some wonderful feedback and thank you notes from friends and the families of people that were crew members on the aircraft. Most never realized what all the crews did during the Cold War and training portions of their careers."

"I am doing just a small part of preserving the military history of a lot of people."





EAGLE RISING: Warrant Officer's Review

by CW4 L.P. Wulff

The recently concluded Democratic and Republican National Conventions reminded us all that it will soon be time to choose a new Commander-in-Chief. The process by which we do so is a right that each American should cherish. The right to choose our leaders is protected and defended 24/7 through the dedication and gallantry of our brothers and sisters in the service of our Country. U. S. Navy SEAL, Lieutenant Michael P. Murphy was one of many American warriors who through the years have selflessly sacrificed his or her life in defense of the ideals, the rights, and the privileges we enjoy as citizens of this great Republic. The story of Lieutenant Murphy's sacrifice and that of his teammates follows...

Lieutenant Murphy was the officer-in-charge of a four-man, special reconnaissance mission deep behind enemy lines in the Hindu Kush of Afghanistan June 27 to 28, 2005. He was tasked with locating a high-level Taliban militia leader for the purpose of gathering intelligence for a follow-on mission to capture or destroy local leadership and disrupt enemy activity. However, local Taliban sympathizers discovered the SEAL unit and immediately revealed their position to Taliban fighters. The SEALs were besieged on a mountaintop by scores of enemy fighters, and the firefight that ensued pushed the SEALs farther into enemy territory, leaving all four of them wounded.

The SEALs fought fearlessly despite being at a tactical disadvantage and outnumbered more than four to one. Understanding the gravity of the situation and his responsibility to his men, Lieutenant Murphy, although painfully wounded, deliberately and unhesitatingly moved from cover to cover into the open where he took and returned fire while transmitting a call for help for his beleaguered teammates. Shot through the back while radioing for help, Lieutenant Murphy completed his transmission while continuing to return fire. The call ultimately led to the rescue of one severely wounded team member, Hospital

Corpsman Second Class Marcus Luttrell, and the recovery of the remains of Lieutenant Murphy, Gunner's Mate Second Class Danny Dietz, and Sonar Technician Second Class Matthew Axelson.

Eight more SEALs and eight Army Special Operations reinforcement personnel also lost their lives when their helicopter was shot down before they could engage the enemy. The entire action resulted in the worst single day loss of life for Naval Special Warfare personnel since World War II. The sole surviving SEAL, Marcus Luttrell, credited all three of his teammates for their heroism, and specifically Lieutenant Murphy's sacrificial act that led to their rescue.

Lieutenant Murphy was posthumously inducted into the Hall of Heroes at the Pentagon on October 23, 2007. He joins some 3,400 other service members who have been awarded our nation's highest military honor.

Please join the 1REG Warrant Officers in honoring Lieutenant Murphy and the others involved in this action for their sacrifice and service to our country. These men are the embodiment of the phrase, "freedom is not free." Without these defenders of freedom, and others like them, we may not have the right select our leaders.

This column is a permanent part of our newsletter. Please feel free to submit material for consideration. Suggestions for improvement are always welcome.

I encourage anyone desiring to learn more about Warrant Officers to visit the Army's Warrant Officer website at <http://usawocc.army.mil>. Google also provides great information on Warrant Officers through a variety of sources. I am available to discuss the program at drills or staff meetings, and may otherwise be contacted at lpwulff@comcast.net.

Set the standard. Be Professional. Be Proud.

Be a Warrant.

July's Drill: Fellowship with the 1st

by MAJ T. Towery

On Saturday, 9 September the 1st Regiment of the Tennessee State Guard sponsored their annual Family Day Picnic. While it was obvious to some that the high cost of gas and transportation prevented many of the members from traveling to the event, those that were able to attend were feasted with Corky's BBQ and all the trimmings, provided by 1SG Joe Tiscia. I preferred the BBQ hot dogs. When I was stationed in England with the Strategic Air Command (SAC), we used the opportunity of the annual Air Show to sell hot dogs and hamburgers at SACDonalds' and used the money for our yearly activities. While we had 400,000 visitors during the two day air show, there were not as

many regiment soldiers and family members present for our open house. Still, all appeared to enjoy themselves. That's one of the joys of being in the Guard, it allows many cultures and service traditions to merge into one.

The warm weather gave us a good reason to eat inside and by doing so, the ability to better visit with all the family members that attended. It also gave the spouses and family members a chance to see our new facilities and appreciate the hard work that we have put in fixing it up.

There was no fixed activity schedule posted but LTC Willemssen took advantage of the opportunity to pass out some recently earned awards. For all that attended the event was well worth the trip.

