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DMVA Weekly Highlights

17 January 2003

Joint Chief of Staff, COL (Ret) Michael B. Smith

Current DMVA Highlights

FEDERAL AND STATE OFFICES CLOSED ON MONDAY, 20 JANUARY 2003, IN CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

THE ADJUTANT GENERAL PRESENTED A *STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT* BRIEFING TO DMVA EMPLOYEES.

RECOGNITION AND THANKS TO COL ALAN BUNTING AND THE MEMBERS OF THE 177TH FIGHTER WING, NJ AIR NATIONAL GUARD.

CLASS 18 OF THE NEW JERSEY NATIONAL GUARD CHALLENGE YOUTH PROGRAM WILL BEGIN ON 9 MARCH 2003.

LtCol RONALD ALFORS AND THE 108TH COMPTROLLER ORGANIZATION ARE HONORED AS WINNERS OF THE AIR NATIONAL GUARD'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND COMPTROLLER ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR FOR FY 2002.

NEW JERSEY ASSEMBLYMAN JOSEPH AZZOLINA AND ASSEMBLYWOMAN MARY PREVITE VISITED THE DEPARTMENT'S NEW HOMELAND SECURITY/CENTER OF EXCELLENCE.

CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT CRAIG CZARNECKI HONORED BY THE DETECTIVE ENDOWMENT ASSOCIATION OF THE NEW YORK CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT.

2003 ARMED SERVICES YMCA ART CONTEST DEADLINE APPROACHES.

448 TROOPERS OF THE 5/117TH CAVALRY SQUADRON REPORT TO FT. DIX, NEW JERSEY.

20 JANUARY 2003 IS THE DEADLINE FOR ORDERING DISCOUNTED TICKETS FOR THE NEW JERSEY DEVILS VS. THE PHILADELPHIA FLYERS HOCKEY GAME ON 30 JANUARY 2003.

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA (MOAA) WILL GIVE \$1,000 COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS TO RANDOMLY SELECTED SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF MILITARY PEOPLE, INCLUDING RESERVISTS.

ARMY KNOWLEDGE ONLINE - DO YOU HAVE AN ARMY KNOWLEDGE ONLINE (AKO) ACCOUNT?

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WORDS OF WISDOM.

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FEDERAL AND STATE OFFICES CLOSED ON MONDAY, 20 JANUARY 2003 IN CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., pastor and civil rights leader who advocated nonviolent protest in the fight to secure the human and civil rights of all Americans. In 1963 Dr. King helped organize the March on Washington, an assembly of more than 200,000 protestors. The march influenced the passage of the 1964 Civil Rights Act. That same year, Dr. King was awarded the 1964 Nobel Peace Prize. He broadened his advocacy to address the plight of the poor of all races and to oppose the Vietnam War. In 1968, while in Memphis, Tennessee to support a sanitation worker strike, Dr. King was assassinated. In 1983, President Ronald Reagan designated the third Monday in January a federal legal holiday in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday.

THE ADJUTANT GENERAL PRESENTED A STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT BRIEFING TO DMVA EMPLOYEES at the Central Office facility in Lawrenceville and to the employees at the Headquarters Building at Fort Dix on Friday, 17 January 2003. BG Rieth reviewed the year's highlights and accomplishments of the NJ Army and Air National Guard, the employees who serve our state's veterans community, and the support staff who make it all possible. TAG expressed his gratitude for the teamwork that has made our Department one that we can all be proud of.

RECOGNITION AND THANKS TO COL ALAN J. BUNTING AND THE MEMBERS OF THE 177TH FIGHTER WING, NJ AIR NATIONAL GUARD who responded rapidly to the scene of a major water main break at the Veterans Memorial Home at Vineland with emergency heaters to ensure continuity of heat to the veteran residents of Unit One. This reinforces TAG's emphatic statement that we at DMVA are truly one Department. Well Done!

CLASS 18 OF THE NEW JERSEY NATIONAL GUARD CHALLENGE YOUTH PROGRAM WILL BEGIN ON 9 MARCH 2003. The ChalleNGe Youth Program is a 17-month military style program (22-week rigorous residential phase and a 12-month post-residential phase) located at Fort Dix, New Jersey. The program is geared for youth who are high school dropouts 16 ½ to 18 years old. The goal of this program is to give students a second chance at life through education, (GED curriculum), life skills, leadership training and employment training. ChalleNGe is not a traditional "boot camp" environment. Placement Test dates are scheduled for 25 January and 15 February 2003 at 9:00 a.m., Building 5402, 1st Street, Fort Dix, NJ 08640. If you are aware of anyone who might be interested in attending, please have him or her contact Mr. Donald Alexander at 609-562-0577 or at e-mail address Donald.Alexander@njchallenge.com.

LtCol RONALD ALFORS AND THE 108TH COMPROLLER ORGANIZATION ARE HONORED AS WINNERS OF THE AIR NATIONAL GUARD'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND COMPROLLER ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR FOR FY 2002 in an announcement by Col Virginia Kelly, Air National Guard Comptroller. Competition was keen and a record number of

nominations were submitted. The award will be presented on 4 February 2003 at a formal Awards Luncheon to be held during the FY 03 Air National Guard Comptrollers Conference, 4-6 February 2003, at the Double Tree Hotel, Arlington, VA. Congratulations on an outstanding job!

NEW JERSEY ASSEMBLYMAN JOSEPH AZZOLINA AND ASSEMBLYWOMAN MARY PREVITE VISITED THE DEPARTMENT'S NEW HOMELAND SECURITY/CENTER OF EXCELLENCE during the past week. They toured our new state-of-the-art facility and met with BG Rieth and Col Morgan to discuss military and veterans issues.

CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT CRAIG CZARNECKI HONORED BY THE DETECTIVE ENDOWMENT ASSOCIATION OF THE NEW YORK CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT. CMSgt Czarnecki, currently assigned to Headquarters, New Jersey Air National Guard, continues to try to make a difference for some of the survivors of September 11, 2001. Chief Czarnecki witnessed the carnage of Ground Zero while assisting with "Light Carts" to light up the immediate area around the fallen buildings. After being assigned to NJANG Headquarters, he met First Lieutenant Andrew Mattson, a traditional Guardsman and a member of The New York City Police Department. Lieutenant Mattson and Chief Czarnecki found a way to help survivors by soliciting donations for the NYPD Widow and Orphans Fund. Their product was a slide show of photos of the destruction taken after September 11. The funds collected by Chief Czarnecki were turned in and matched by a financial organization in New York for a total of over \$1,000. For his efforts, Chief Czarnecki was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation from the Detectives Endowment Association of the New York City Police Department by Major General Clark Martin, Commander, New Jersey Air National Guard, and 1Lt Andrew Mattson.

2003 ARMED SERVICES YMCA ART CONTEST'S DEADLINE APPROACHES. Elementary school artists of military families have until January 27 to enter the 2003 Armed Services YMCA Art Contest and earn a chance to win a \$500 US Savings Bond. The annual talent hunt is open to kindergartners through sixth graders of active and reserve-component military families in all the services, including the Coast Guard. Winners are selected from each service and are awarded a \$500 bond. Runners-up receive a \$100 bond. Department of Defense and Coast Guard civilian's children may enter in an honorary category for a \$100 bond. Winners' artwork will be judged on the theme, "My Military Family" and will be featured on the Military Family Month 2003 poster. For more information, visit the Armed Services YMCA web site at www.asymca.org or call (703) 313-9600.

448 TROOPERS OF THE 5/117TH CAVALRY SQUADRON REPORT TO FT. DIX, NEW JERSEY to conduct a 5-day Soldier Readiness Processing (SRP) exercise in preparation for their federal activation for the Air Force Base security mission. They have been tasked to support McGuire AFB and the Atlantic City International Airport NJ Air National Guard Base at Pomona. HQ STARC personnel are supporting this 5-day exercise, ensuring the 5/117th CAV soldiers are ready for deployment. The 5/117th CAV mission will begin in February 2003 and will last initially for one year. Good luck to all of the soldiers that will deploy, we know they will represent the NJ Army National Guard proudly.

20 JANUARY 2003 IS THE DEADLINE FOR ORDERING DISCOUNTED TICKETS FOR THE NEW JERSEY DEVILS VS. THE PHILADELPHIA FLYERS HOCKEY GAME ON 30 JANUARY 2003. If you are interested in obtaining tickets, contact SMSgt Dave Whalen, 108th Air Refueling Wing, at 609-754-3616.

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA (MOAA) WILL GIVE \$1,000 COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS TO RANDOMLY SELECTED SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF MILITARY PEOPLE, INCLUDING RESERVISTS. Formerly known as The Retired Officers Association, the MOAA will honor 100 college-bound or current undergraduate students with individual \$1,000 scholarship grants for the 2003-2004 school year. The association's scholarship program is part of an ongoing effort to assist young people from military families. Deadline to complete the online application is March 1st. For more information and to apply, visit <http://www.moaa.org/Education/2003>.

ARMY KNOWLEDGE ONLINE - DO YOU HAVE AN ARMY KNOWLEDGE ONLINE (AKO)

ACCOUNT? If you do, then you are familiar with the Army's portal and capabilities that are being expanded every day for access to Army information resources from any Internet connected computer. One of the first resources that everyone can use is the e-mail service. If you use it as your primary e-mail address, it means contact listings don't have to change when you move or change assignments, providing a great way to stay connected with people. Army dependents are eligible for guest accounts, making communicating with deployed soldiers convenient and secure. Go to www.us.army.mil to check out AKO and create an account.

NEW JERSEY ARMY NATIONAL GUARD WELCOMES ITS NEWEST WARRANT OFFICER.

WO1 Jason M. Swingle was pinned by the State Comand Chief Warrant Officer (CCWO) Al Curving on Friday, 10 January 2003, at graduation ceremonies held in Fort Rucker, Alabama. A real story in the value of persistence, SRA Swingle started his quest to become an Army Aviation Warrant Officer nearly three years ago following a chance meeting with CW4 Fred Menschner at a local 7-11 store. After being selected for the third time through an order of merit board process, the Air Guard's mission was finally able to authorize an inter-branch transfer to move Airman Swingle over to the Army Guard. Graduating from a very rigorous Warrant Officer Candidate School (WOCS) with *The Red Devils Class #2003-04*, Mr. Swingle will now remain at Fort Rucker for nearly a year of Initial Entry Rotary Wing (IERW) training. He will return to the 5/117th CAV of the NJ Army National Guard as an Army Aviator helicopter pilot.

2003 SOLDIER/NCO OF THE YEAR COMPETITION RESULTS.

A selection board convened on Saturday, 11 January 2003, at the State Area Command Headquarters (STARC) Building, Fort Dix, to select new Jersey's nominees for the Soldier/NCO of the Year program. This board selected those soldiers who will represent the New Jersey Army National Guard at the First Army Competition at Camp Rowland, Connecticut.

Enlisted Soldiers (PV1-CPL)	Unit
SPC Christopher Nettleton	A Co 250 SIG BN
SPC Jose M. Perez	1 st BN 150 th AVN
CPL Michael Traenkner	C Co 1/114 th INF
SPC Maria E. Velez	T3BL
NCO (SGT-SFC)	
SFC Steven Katkics	HHC 50 th BDE
SFC Nester R. Smith	T3BL
SGT Johnathon M. Sodamin	1st BN 150th AVN
SGT Daniel F. Yuill	HHC DISCOM

The winners who will represent New Jersey are SGT Johnathon Sodamin from the 1st Battalion 150th Aviation as the NCO and SPC Maria Maria Velez from the T3BL as the enlisted soldier. All of the soldiers who competed are to be congratulated for a job well done. These soldiers were selected as the best from their units and Major Commands.

ARMORY HAPPENINGS - CHECK TO SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING AT AN ARMORY NEAR YOU.

16-19 Jan	Tool Show	Cherry Hill Armory
18-19 Jan	Dog Show	Vineland Armory
19 Jan	Emcee Sports Card & Comics Show	Bordentown Armory
16-20 Jan	Home Design & Landscape Show	Morristown Armory
23-24 Jan	Antique Show	Morristown Armory
23-26 Jan	Tool Show	Lawrenceville Armory
25 Jan	Medieval Festival	Westfield Armory
28 Jan - 2 Feb	Tool Show	Mount Holly
23 Feb	NASCAR Collectibles Show	Bordentown Armory
28 Feb	Wrestling	Atlantic City Armory
7 Mar	Tool Show	Bordentown Armory
4 Mar	Tool Show	Woodbridge Amory
21-23 Mar	Craft Show & Sale Home Design & Landscape Show	Morristown Armory Westfield Armory
30 Mar	NASCAR Collectibles Show	Bordentown Armory

STATE EMPLOYEE OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT FORMS DISTRIBUTED. Every state employee should have received a memo and form from the DMVA Ethics Officer concerning Outside Employment with this week's pay statement. Every employee is required to complete and return the form, even if they do not have any other employment. The completed form should be given to your supervisor, who will also sign it and send it to your Director for signature. All signed forms are to be returned to LTC (Ret) Jack Dillie, DMVA Ethics Officer.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE, VIETNAM SERVICE, AND MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL PRESENTATION CEREMONIES ARE SCHEDULED.

16 Jan - 1100 hrs.	Distinguished Service/ Meritorious Service Medal	Salem Community College (Theater)
29 Jan - 1100 hrs	Vietnam Service Medal	Middlesex County College
4 Feb -- 1000 & 1300 hrs.	Distinguished Service/ Meritorious Service Medals	Toms River Elks Lodge

SAFETY TIP - REFUEL SAFELY BY STOPPING STATIC ELECTRICITY BUILD-UP. The Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) reminds motorists of the importance of avoiding potential problems with static electricity at gas pumps. In many parts of the country, static electricity build-up is most likely to occur during the fall and winter months, when air is cool or cold and dry - the typical climate conditions for static electricity buildup. Static electricity builds up when a motorist exits or re-enters the vehicle during fueling. Upon returning to the vehicle fill pipe during or at the end of refueling, the motorist may experience a static discharge at the fill point, which may cause a flash fire or small sustained fire with gasoline refueling vapors. The most effective means by which a motorist can avoid static electricity problems at the gas pump is to stay outside the vehicle while refueling. In the rare event a motorist does experience a fire while refueling, it's important to remember *to leave the nozzle in the fill pipe of your vehicle* and back away from it. Immediately notify the station attendant to shut off all dispensing devices and pumps with emergency controls. Consumers can minimize these and other potential fueling hazards by following safe refueling practices.

177th FIGHTER WING TAKES TO THE SKIES OVER PHILADELPHIA'S VETERANS STADIUM. Members of the NJ Air National Guard's 177th Fighter Wing will provide a fly over Veterans Stadium at the start of the Eagles League Championship Game on Sunday at 3:00 p.m.

This week's *Words of Wisdom* come from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

"We must learn to live together as brothers or perish together as fools."

"Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into friend."

"Life's most urgent question is: what are you doing for others?"

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