

Signal NCO Networks At Academy

1WO (SGM) Quek Ser Hiang, a Singapore Army Signal Regimental Sergeant Major in his previous assignment, took the opportunity to meet up with CSM John Holden Jr., U.S. Signal Center CSM, Ft. Gordon, GA, who was at Ft. Bliss, TX, attending the TRADOC Conference in May.



1WO Quek presents SGM Larry Hunter with a plaque for the Signal Room at the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy.

Quek is the first Singapore Signal NCO to attend the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy. "This has been a great experience for me," Quek said. "I hope other Singapore Signal NCOs are able to attend this course."

As a representative of the Singapore Signal Warrant Officer and Specialists Corps, (the Singapore Signal warrant officer is the equivalent of a U.S. Army Signal sergeant major while the Singapore Specialists' Corps is the equivalent of the U.S. Army Signal specialist through master sergeant) Quek presented a plaque with the Singapore Army Signal logo to Holden.

Quek acknowledges that U.S. Army Signal is not new to Singapore because Singapore Signal officers have been regularly attending the signal courses at Ft. Gordon. Holden looks forward to seeing Singapore Signal NCOs at Ft. Gordon soon.

To add color to the richness of U.S. Army Signal heritage, Quek also presented a Singapore Army Signal plaque to SGM Larry Hunter for the USASMA Signal Room. ■

*1WO Quek Ser Hiang
Singapore Army*

Soldiers Selected as Tops in Their Commands

The Reserve Component Soldier and NCO of the Year for U.S. Army Pacific were announced. SOY is **SPC Le Kim Lee**, 29th Support BN, 29th Sep Inf. Bde, Hawaii National Guard. The NCO of the Year is **SSG Pamela Paff**, 1st BN, 207th Aviation Reg., Alaska Army National Guard. She was also the AKANG NCO of the Year.

The two soldiers were both given plaques and commander's coins by LTG William M. Steele, commanding general of U.S. Army Pacific. They were also recognized by the Associa-

tion of the U.S. Army, the Noncommissioned Officers Association and GEICO Insurance.

*LTC Randy Pullen
U.S. Army Pacific PAO*

SSG Ann M.L. Madison was chosen as the Servicemember of the Year for the U.S. Special Operations Command at MacDill Air Force Base, FL. She is the first woman to be selected for this award.

Madison is currently assigned as the personnel sergeant, Headquarters Commandant's Office. She joined the Army in December 1979 and after a short break in service, re-joined in October 1986. She has been assigned to Special Operations Command since February 1993.

"I'm very proud of this accomplishment, especially with the command's recent celebration of its 10th anniversary. It took three years of work and three times of being selected as servicemember of the quarter for the command," Madison said.

*SSG Ann M.L. Madison
Special Operations Command, MacDill AFB*



SSG Ann M.L. Madison

SSG Terry Wong, U.S. Army Reserve NCO Academy, Ft. Lewis, WA, was named 5th U.S. Army Reserve Components, Active Guard Reserve, NCO of the Year, in a ceremony that took place in New Orleans, LA, April 2.

No particular area of the competition proved especially difficult for Wong. "All areas were my strong points from my experience teaching PLDC and with 11B (Infantry) as my MOS," said Wong.

About 16 other NCOs competed within the 5th Army region which covers 21 states. One of the soldiers, from the 70th RSC, was also a former student of Wong's first PLDC course he taught at Ft. Lewis.

Wong has been a reservist for 10 years and in the AGR Program for one year.

*SGT S. Felton
USAR NCO Academy*

SSG Robert A. Boler is the NCO of the Year and **SPC Deborah L. Schatz** is the Soldier of the Year for Medical Command, Ft. Sam Houston, TX.

Boler is the training NCOIC for the medical company at the Army Research Institute of Infectious Diseases.

Schatz, a behavioral science specialist at Ft. Eustis, VA, MEDDAC, was also in the competition last year. She said the only advantage of her experience was knowing she would have to work hard to win. "The board was very difficult," she said. "My face has been in the books. I haven't had a life for months."

All competitors were required to pass the Army Physical Fitness Test. Then came hands-on testing in performing first aid, maintenance of the M-16 rifle, conducting drill and ceremonies and using nuclear, biological and chemical protective equipment. Finally, each candidate was inspected and questioned by a board of senior medical NCOs.

Schatz and Boler each received two \$1,000 savings bonds, a plaque, a Class A uniform from the post exchange, a gold watch from the Association of the U.S. Army, a plaque and a book from the American Military Medical Society and the right to request their choice of their next assignment. ■

*Jerry Harben
Ft. Sam Houston, TX*

SFC Mitchell A. Lopez, 3rd Bn, 4th Air Defense Artillery Regiment (Airborne) won the 82nd Airborne Division's Jumpmaster of the Year competition.



SFC Mitchell A. Lopez

The three-day competition kicked off with an Army Physical Fitness Test, followed by a nomenclature test, a pre-jump examination and an actual airborne operation on a drop zone. Seven soldiers from the major commands in the division competed against one another.

"The biggest reason I wanted to compete — not to take anything away from any NCO or Soldier of the Year — is you can be the NCO/Soldier of the Year anywhere. There's only one air-

borne division. That's why this is a great honor," Lopez said.

He views his win as an extension of his every day job. "This is what I come to work and do every day, so it's just natural to be proficient at it," he commented. ■

*SPC M. Miller
82nd Airborne Div, PAO*

Recruiter Earns Recruiting Excellence Award

SSG Calvin Franklin, a detailed Army recruiter assigned to the Baltimore Recruiting Battalion, made recruiting history

recently as he became the only Army recruiter to earn the prestigious Glenn E. Morrell Award for recruiting excellence in 27 months. Franklin and his wife, Gina, accepted the award from BG Mark Bailey in a ceremony at Ft. Meade, MD, April 12.

The highest award in Army recruiting is named for Glenn E. Morrell, who served as the U.S. Army Recruiting Command Sergeant Major from October 1981 to September 1982.



SSG Calvin Franklin and wife, Gina

Morrell stood for professionalism, integrity and devotion to duty. Only recruiters who have distinguished themselves as experts by earning the coveted recruiter ring are eligible to earn the Morrell award. Franklin earned the points necessary for this award in December 1996.

He has enlisted 76 new recruits into the Army since arriving at Newport News Recruiting Station, VA, in August 1994. ■

*Glenna Linville
Baltimore Recruiting Bn, Ft. Meade, MD*

Soldiers Win Army Aviation Association of America National Award

SFC Charles E. Dick is the winner of the AAAA's Army Aviation Air Traffic Control Maintenance Technician National Award for his service from September 1995 to August 1996. He is assigned to the 4-58th Aviation Regiment in Yongsan, Korea. He repairs and maintains all Air Traffic Service equipment assigned to Guardian Control, Yongsan VIP Heliport, and 3rd and 4th Tactical Enroute Platoons. He also serves as the Company Air Traffic Services Maintenance Coordinator. ■

*CPT Kendall J. Phillips
Yongsan, Korea*

USAMU Shotgun Olympian Named 1996 Armed Forces Female Athlete of the Year

After recently winning the title of the Army Female Athlete of the Year, U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit Shotgun Olympian **SGT Theresa E. DeWitt** was named Armed Forces Female Athlete of the Year by the U.S. Military Sports Association of Alexandria, VA, in cooperation with the Armed Forces Sports Committee.

"I was very excited and pleased to be chosen," De Witt said. "It's the highest honor I've received in my military career and

it's a privilege to be able to represent the Army Marksmanship Unit and Ft. Benning at the Department of Defense level."



Photo by Paula J. Randall Pagan

SGT Theresa E. DeWitt

DeWitt joined the Army in 1991 and was assigned to the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit at Ft. Benning following completion of basic training and Military Police schooling at Ft. McClellan, AL, in 1991.

The Smiths, AL, resident began shooting in 1988. As a member of the 1996 U.S. Olympic Shooting Team, she barely missed the Bronze Medal by placing fourth in women's double trap; she won a silver medal at the 1996

USA World Cup in Atlanta, GA, and a gold medal at the 1995 Pan American Games in Buenos Aires, Argentina, as well as being a member of the Gold Medal winning women's double trap team at the 1996 World Cup in Lonato, Italy. She set a national trap record and was the Women's National Trap Champion in 1993. ■

*Paula J. Randall Pagan
USAMU PAO*

NCOES Accomplishments

The U.S. Army NCO Academy, Ft. Richardson, AK, graduated both their PLDC and BNCOC courses in February with the following soldiers exceeding course standards:

Honor Graduates, **SGT Ronald T. Barker** (BNCOC) and **SPC Robert B. Park** (PLDC); Leadership award, **SGT Barker** and **SPC Joel L. Petty**; Commandant's Inspection Award, **SGT Lyle B. Johnson** and **SPC Noe Gutierrez Jr.**; Physical Fitness Award, **SGT Johnson** and **CPL Timothy E. Locke**; Commandant's List for the top 20 percent of the BNCOC class, **SGT Matthew J. Stanley** and **SGT Brad A. Cowan**; PLDC Commandant's List, **SPC Hubert W. McMinn III**, **SPC Chequita M. Cato**, **SPC Don E. Wahlstrom**, **SPC LaShanda J. Hornsby**, **SPC Billy G. Willett**, **SPC John J. Edwards**, **SGT Michael R. Ennis**, **SPC Thomas D. Williams**, **SPC Michael J. Pierce**, **SPC Suzanne M. Nelson** and **SPC Marcy N. Smith**. ■

*Public Affairs Office
Ft. Richardson, AK*

APFT Awardees Named at Army Medical Department NCO Academy

The Army Medical Department NCO Academy named their Leadership and Commandant APFT awardees for BNCOC Class 2-97 and 3-97 and ANCOC 3-97 and 4-97. The classes graduated at Ft. Sam Houston, TX.

The BNCOC 2-97 Leadership Award: **SGT Richard D. Reynolds**, Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, Washington,

DC, APFT award: **SGT John E. Zinn**, Ft. Polk, LA, with a score of 291.

The BNCOC 3-97 Leadership Award: **SGT James R. Fuller**, Ft. Bragg, NC; APFT award: **SGT Kevin D. Harkey**, Ft. Campbell, KY, with a score of 337.

The ANCOC 3-97 Leadership award: **SSG Dwayne Walker**, Ft. Wainwright, AK; APFT award: **SSG Lori Greco**, Ft. Hood, TX with a score of 327.

The ANCOC 4-97 Leadership award: **SSG Dawn M. Hargett**, Maryland National Guard; APFT award: **SSG Cindy A. Trofimuk**, Ft. Carson, CO. ■

*CSM Paulette H. Dunlap
AMEDD NCO Academy Commandant*

Soldier Reenlists on Great-Grandfather's Battlefield in Maryland

SFC Noel Conrad Mitchell, a platoon sergeant with the 742nd Military Intelligence Bn, Ft. Meade, MD, reaffirmed his oath of enlistment for the fourth time near the site where his great-grandfather, **PVT John Conrad Genger**, fought with **GEN George G. Meade's** division against entrenched Confederate troops more than 100 years ago.

"I've always wanted to honor my great-grandfather's memory by reenlisting at Fredricksburg. My great-grandfather thought so much of **GEN Meade** that he named my grandfather after him — **Warren Meade Genger**. He didn't use his first name — everyone called him 'Meade.'"

Mitchell's ceremony took place at the crest of a low hill where Meade's attack had penetrated into the Confederate reserve trenches Dec. 13, 1862. Half buried in leaves, the trenches could still be seen.

Mitchell never had the chance to meet his great-grandfather who died in the late 1800s, but felt he knew the man through the Civil War tales related to Meade, who in turn passed them on to Mitchell.

*Joe Burlas
MDW News Service*

Three North Dakota National Guard Members Awarded For Bravery

Nine members of Co. B, 142nd Engineer Bn, North Dakota Army National Guard, were taking part in "Nuevos Horizontes '96," a six-month training mission in Panama. They were performing their two-week annual training to support the construction/humanitarian service exercise.

The soldiers traveled to the coastal village of Puerto Viejo Costa to swim. Without warning, a rip tide swelled, carrying members of the group beyond the shallow waters out to sea. **SGT Paul Aker** and **SPC Dallas Johnson** watched in horror as their comrades were pulled under water. Aker made his way out to the struggling soldiers, giving them instructions on how to conserve their energy and made his way back to shore to find flotation devices for the victims.

With the flotation devices in tow, Aker made his way back to the group. He alerted several local swimmers to assist those soldiers he couldn't reach. He saved five soldiers before yielding to total exhaustion. Johnson was assisting Aker by helping the soldiers conquer the remaining distance to the shore line. Aker called out to Johnson to help the last swimmer. Johnson jumped in and was helping the exhausted soldier back to shore when a large wave engulfed them, pulling them under the surface. Two local swimmers rushed to their aid and found Johnson floating face down in the water. After more than 90 minutes of continuous CPR, Johnson never regained consciousness. The 27-year-old specialist made the supreme sacrifice.

The NDANG Deputy Adjutant General BG Harvey M. Haakenson awarded the Soldiers Medal to Akers and to Donna Johnson who accepted the medal on her son's behalf. SSG Glen Keller received the Meritorious Service Medal for his efforts to revive Johnson. ■

*David McQueen
Ft. Sam Houston, TX*

Eight Ft. McCoy Soldiers Earn PT Badge

Eight soldiers from the 1st BN, 2d BDE, 85th Div (EX) earned the Physical Fitness Badge. The badge is awarded to soldiers who obtain a minimum score of 290 or above on their Army Physical Fitness Test.

The recipients were: **SFC Andre Deer**, 343; **SFC Thomas Lee**, 305; **SFC Keven Graham**, 295; **1SG Debbie Schroder**, 291; **CPT Joseph Chase**, 310; **CPT Casey Chamberlain**, 295; **SFC Frank Bruyere**, 318; and **CSM Thomas Hundt**, 356. ■

*MAJ Mary Jo Lemaldi
Ft. McCoy, WI*

First U.S. Army Names Top NCOs and Soldiers of the Year

Scores of soldiers descended on Nashville set on proving themselves to be the "best" of the best in the First U.S. Army NCO and Soldier of the Year competition. Chosen as the top soldiers in their commands, 150 candidates sought to impress the board of senior NCOs with their military bearing and knowledge during grueling questioning.

The winners in the various categories are:

Active Component/Active Guard Reserve NCO Category

Winner — **SSG Ronald C. Moody**, 3d Regional Training Bde, Fort Knox, KY

Runner-up — **SSG Michael J. Stockhausen**, Virginia Army National Guard

Active Component/Active Guard Reserve Soldier Category

Winner — **SPC Harold E. Dunn**, Fort McCoy, WI

Runner-up — **SPC Michael J. Bowman**, New York Army National Guard

Army National Guard NCO Category

Winner — **SGT Richard S. Boggan**, Alabama Army Na-

tional Guard

Runner-up — **SSG Thomas A. Haynes**, Indiana Army National Guard

Army National Guard Soldier Category

Winner — **SPC Daniel K. Langford**, Alabama Army National Guard

Runner-up — **SPC Lissett Mateo**, Puerto Rico Army National Guard

U.S. Army Reserve NCO Category

Winner — **SGT Juan L. Marin**, 87th Div., Birmingham, AL

Runner-up — **SSG Karen L. Speckman**, 98th Div., Rochester, NY

U.S. Army Reserve Soldier Category

Winner — **SPC Judith DeUnamuno**, 65th Army Reserve Command, Ft. Buchanan, PR

Runner-up — **SPC Bradley S. Nelson**, 100th Div., Louisville, KY

LTG Guy A.J. LaBoa, First U.S. Army commander, headquartered in Atlanta, thanked the 150 NCOs and soldiers for participating and said, "You are the finest individuals representing over 335,000 soldiers in approximately 2,500 units from the Active Army, Army National Guard and U.S. Army Reserve in First U.S. Army's 27 states, 1 district, 2 territories, 30 U.S. Army Reserve Commands and over 25 Readiness Groups, Reserve Training Brigades and installations."

First U.S. Army is responsible for seeing that the Army National Guard and Army Reserve are ready for mobilization and deployment at all times. First Army's NCO/Soldier of the Year competition only underscored the high Army standards the Guard and Reserve must continually meet as part of the Total Army. ■

*Karen Bradshaw
First U.S. Army PAO*

Whose Shoulder Patch Is That?



The NCO Journal Staff has received a number of calls from readers who want to know what unit was represented by the shoulder patch that appeared on the uniforms on the cover of the Spring 97 issue of *The NCO Journal*.

If you wear this patch, you are assigned to the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy as either staff, faculty or student. The field of green suggests faithfulness and obedience and the shield is symbolic of confidence, boldness and protection. The torch stands for leadership, education and training, while the flame symbolizes zeal and action. The wreath and star symbolize the insignia of grade for command sergeant major.