

# OPERATION BOSS LIFT A SUCCESS

Hunter-Liggett, CA. — John Mondoux was just asking for trouble. After working at ASCO Security in Las Vegas, NV for only four months, Mondoux told his new employer he needed to take 15 days off. Not exactly the way to endear yourself to the people who pay your salary.

"We only have about 60 employees," said Don Burse, director of operations for ASCO Security. "When someone is gone for an extended period of time, it can put a strain on scheduling. But John is very dependable. It's hard to find guys like him."

Mondoux is more than a dependable employee for ASCO Security. He is an M-60A3 tank driver in the Nevada Army National Guard. He needed the 15 days to go to annual training at Ft. Hunter-Liggett, CA.

The law says companies have to give their employees time off for Guard training, but that doesn't mean they have to like it. And letting someone take off for two weeks puts more pressure on a small business than a large one.

"When I heard about the Boss Lift, I thought it was a great idea," said Mondoux, who holds the rank of specialist. "I signed up Don because I wanted him to see what we do out here. Believe me, this is no vacation!"

While Mondoux was honing gunnery skills in California, his boss was boarding a California Air Guard C-130 cargo plane in Las Vegas. Flying through a gap in the Spring Mountain range, the air crew opened the rear ramp, giving everyone in the aircraft a picturesque view of Las Vegas.

A little over an hour later C-130 touched down at El Paso Robles Airport. Within minutes the employers boarded three Nevada Army National Guard CH-47 helicopters and were transported to a tank range. After a short briefing, Guardsmen were given a couple of hours to talk with their employers and show them what annual training is all about.

The tank ranges at Hunter-Liggett are hot, dry, and dusty. Although temperatures were hovering around the century mark, Mondoux and Burse quickly left the shaded briefing area and headed straight for Mondoux's tank.

"I'm just like a kid in a candy store," said Burse. "I've never flown in a plane like that, or flown in a helicopter, or been inside a tank before. This is all new to me. I love it."

And Mondoux was just like a kid too...at show and tell. "I wasn't sure what Don would think, but I wanted him to see what I do in

the Guard," he said. Burse saw plenty, and he liked what he saw. "Every employer ought to go on a trip like this," he said. "Knowing what John is going through out here has given me a whole different attitude. These guys are working hard, preparing to defend our country."

Lt. Col. Phillip Gustafson wasn't there to see Mondoux show off his tank to Burse. But he was the man who made it happen. Gustafson, a 26 year veteran of the Nevada Army National Guard and a former Public Affairs Detachment Commander, knew what he had to do to make the Boss Lift successful.

Gustafson's idea worked well. Although representatives from large companies and the Clark County School District (the largest single employer of Guardsmen in Las Vegas) were on hand, most of the people on the Boss Lift were small businessmen and women. Community leaders and the media were also invited.

Community leaders on the trip included the President Pro Tempore of the State Senate, Lawrence Jacobsen; the President of the Northern Nevada NAACP, Henry Brown; Divine Turner also of the NAACP; North Las Vegas Mayor James Seastrand; Yerington Mayor John



(L to R) Don Burse, Director of ASCO Security, is briefed by his employee, Army National Guard Specialist John Mondoux during his Annual Training on the Combat Tank Ranges at Ft. Hunter-Liggett, CA 24 July - 7 August 1993

Pursel, Lyon County Sheriff Sid Smith, and representatives from Nevada's two national congressional members and the governor's office.

By all accounts, Nevada's first Boss Lift in four years was a success. But there is more to judging an operation than shuttling people around on a tight

## BROADNAX

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served as president of the New York State Civil Service Commission and Commissioner, New York State Department of Civil Service.

Broadnax has written, lectured and taught at the University level on management, organization and public policy.

He is a member of the NAACP and the National Urban

League.

His wife has resumed her career as a statistician at the U.S. Census Bureau. His daughter Andrea Alyce Broadnax works in the controller's office of Hailor, Frey and Coon Insurance Company in Syracuse, N.Y.

At some point, Broadnax plans to return to being a university professor; he is particularly interested in working with young African-Americans who are preparing themselves for public

service careers.

For the present though, he has no thoughts about retirement. "I think I'll stay with it in some capacity as long as my health remains good."

Anyone who thinks that he would be on target. "My time here has been so exhilarating," Broadnax says. "There are days when I wake up and almost leap out of bed to get to work. There's so much to do."

necessary job for our state and country. It's very important when dealing with the public to use the correct terminology. We do our soldiers a real disservice when the media or community leaders refer to them as "Weekend Warriors" or to their annual training on Combat Tank Ranges 'summer camp'.

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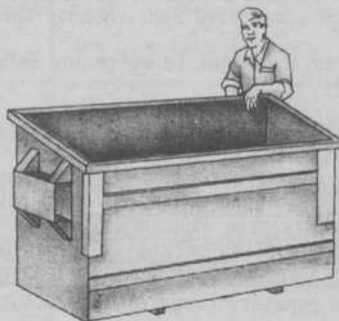
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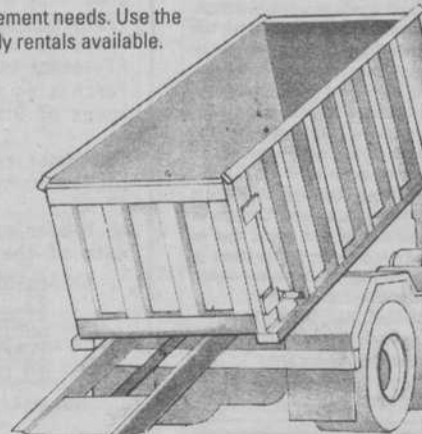
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## POET'S CORNER

### Poem For Poets A Dying Breed

By Natalie D. Lambert,  
Sista' Girlfriend, Inc.

The world is my Universe.

Imagination — my workshop.

Events in/of the world crowd my space.

I live in seven dimensions and sit four-square—  
all my senses are alive. I must express myself—  
write my visions—share my experiences—observations—  
hearsay — I am sensual, I see, hear, feel, taste, smell,  
perceive, recognize and understand my environment.

The world moves faster — my thoughts are hurried.  
There must be order and harmony in the cosmos —  
no blurring the vision. Don't retire the pen, like an  
aging artist who no longer paints, acts, dances, cooks,  
performs, sings.... Does "normal" intelligence still exist?

Warmth in sunshine, beauty in flowers, rhythm  
in music, aroma of spices, delights of the palate,  
understanding my surroundings. Nothing makes sense  
anymore — who shall comprehend the language of my  
verse — cherish a thought— be moved to action.

That was a profound thought — you Thinker — Write  
it down. You paint the world with words.. Bring understanding/  
enlightenment to the masses... You are a Poet. Share your  
gift. Don't leave the page empty. The world is still here.

Where are you?