

Maj. Gen. Pudlowski leaves lasting legacy as CG of 28th Division during period of increased reliance on Army Guard & Reserves

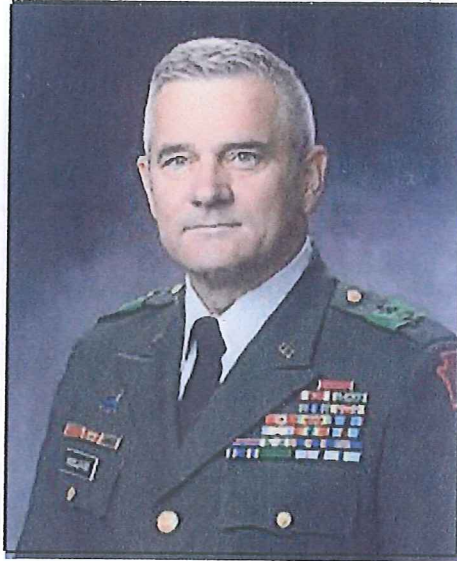
By Sgt. RICHARD BLANDY
Keystone News Staff Writer

During his five-years of service as the 33rd Commanding General of the 28th Infantry Division (M), Major General Walter F. Pudlowski Jr., oversaw a period of enormous activity and historical significance for the 28th ID

Pudlowski assumed his duties as Commanding General on November 1, 1998 during the beginning of increased deployments of Guard and Reserve units in the war-torn Balkans.

Before stepping down from command on Oct. 12, 2003 Pudlowski would help organize the largest deployment of 28th ID troops since World War II and the Korean Conflict.

Shortly after the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, Division soldiers were



Maj. Gen. Walter F. Pudlowski, Jr.
Commanding General,
28th Infantry Division (M)

called upon to secure the commonwealth's 15 major airports, five nuclear power plants, three major military installations, Air Force bases, ammunition supply points and depots within Pennsylvania.

A short time later, more than 2,000 soldiers deployed to Germany, Italy, Belgium and the Netherlands to secure military installations and protect the families of America's finest throughout Europe.

In Sept. 2002 approximately 1,100 soldiers of the 28th Division were mobilized and deployed to the war-torn country of Bosnia-Herzegovina as peacekeepers and a force against terrorism in the region. This marked the first time the U.S. contribution to the NATO-led mission was entirely National Guard and reserve forces commanded by Pennsylvania's Keystone Division.

Soon after, the 28th Division's military police deployed to Saudi Arabia to secure the Riyadh International Airport as presence

patrols were deployed throughout the commonwealth in an effort to deter terrorist activity.

In July 2003, the division deployed another 1,200 citizen soldiers to war-torn Kosovo. The 28th Division is the first National Guard division to command the U.S.-led sector of Kosovo supported predominantly by National Guard and reserve forces.

In 2003 Pudlowski was instrumental in convincing the Army to chose Fort Indiantown Gap as the home base for the new Stryker Brigade Combat Team.

According to Lt. Col. Chris Cleaver, State Public Affairs Officer, the brigade to be stationed at the Gap is one of six Stryker brigades being organized over a period of several years named in honor of Pfc. Stuart Stryker and Spc. Robert F. Stryker, Medal of Honor recipients in World War II and Vietnam who were both killed in action.

The first combat-ready brigade is forming at Fort Lewis in Washington and other brigades will be based in Alaska and Hawaii. Five of the bri-

(Continued on Page 10)



Maj. Gen. Pudlowski and his wife, Libby, dance together along with other soldiers and guests at the Headquarters 28th Inf. Div. (M) staff officer's mess Dining Out held May 17 at the Four Points Sheraton Inn, Harrisburg. Photo by 1st Lt. Alfred A. Smith



Maj. Gen. Pudlowski and wife Libby chat with guests at the end of the Headquarters 28th ID (M) staff officer's mess Farewell Dinner at the Penn Harris Radisson Hotel Oct. 11. Photo by Sgt. Richard Blandy

WORLD WAR I CHAMPAGNE-MARNE AISNE-MARNE OISE-AISNE MEUSE-ARGONNE
CHAMPAGNE 1918 LORRAINE 1918 WORLD WAR II NORMANDY NORTHERN FRANCE
ARDENNES-ALSACE RHINELAND CENTRAL EUROPE KOREAN CONFLICT



GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA KOSOVO CENTRAL EUROPE
IRAQ AFGHANISTAN KUWAIT HOMELAND SECURITY

To American Legion Riders Post 238 and Patriot Guard
For Support of our troops past and present.
God Bless America