

# THE CARGO COURIER

123rd Airlift Wing, Kentucky Air National Guard, Louisville, Ky.

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## APS troops return after 10-month deployment

By Tech. Sgt. Amy Mundell  
Cargo Courier Editor

Seventeen members of the Kentucky Air Guard's aerial port squadron returned from Ramstein Air Base, Germany, on Feb. 10, where many of them had been deployed for 10 months supporting active-duty Air Force operations.

Chief Master Sgt. Tommy Downs, aerial port operations manager, said a total of 37 squadron members participated in the deployment, and 11 stayed for the entire 10-month period.

Chief Downs said the deployment demonstrated that the Kentucky airmen were well-prepared for the demands of active duty anywhere in the world.

"I'm very pleased that the training we provided them with here enabled them to do a good job for the Air Force," he said.

The group was able, in fact, to start working a couple of days before some of their counterparts who deployed from other units.

Staff Sgt. Charles Wilding, an air transportation specialist in the 123rd Aerial Port

Squadron, said he was happy for the opportunity to serve his country.

"Initially, I was a little leery about going," Sergeant Wilding said.

"It was going to be my second year of being activated, but I still felt like I wanted to be involved.

"I knew that there were people over there (in Iraq) giving their lives, and I thought that the least I could do was contribute in this way."

Despite work days that exceeded 12 hours, Sergeant Wilding said the deployment was a good experience.

"It was fantastic," he said. "I met a lot of really good people and learned a lot about how the active duty does things."

While there, the Kentucky airmen were responsible for loading and unloading cargo.

For the most part, Sergeant Wilding said, "We moved cargo to the desert and (transported) fallen troops back to the states."

Several Ramstein airmen told Sergeant Wilding that the active duty troops would really have struggled to accomplish the mission without the Air Guard's support.



Senior Airman Philip Speck/KyANG

**Master Sgt. Scott Wanner is greeted by his daughter, Catherine, at Louisville International Airport on Feb. 10. Wanner spent 10 months deployed at Ramstein Air Base, Germany.**



Master Sgt. Mark Rines/KyANG

**Brig. Gen. Hank Morrow, the assistant adjutant general for Air, presents special tactics members Maj. Jeffrey Wilkinson, Senior Master Sgt. Thomas DeSchane and Tech. Sgt. Ryan Novakovsky with Bronze Stars here Feb. 7.**

## More airmen receive Bronze Star medals

By Tech. Sgt. Amy Mundell  
Cargo Courier Editor

Three members of the Kentucky Air Guard's 123rd Special Tactics Squadron received Bronze Star medals from Brig. Gen. Hank Morrow, the assistant adjutant general for Air, during a ceremony here Feb. 7.

The recipients, Maj. Jeffrey Wilkinson, Senior Master Sgt. Thomas DeSchane and Tech. Sgt. Ryan Novakovsky, were honored for their service during Operation Enduring Freedom in 2001 and 2002.

While deployed, Captain Wilkinson served as

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# KyANG must be ready to wage war and add value to our community, state and nation

**T**his is the third and final segment of columns that attempt to explain and expand on our vision statement.

The first column talked about our organization, and last month we talked about our purpose — why we are necessary now, and why we will be vital in the future.

*Prepared to successfully wage war and add value to community state and nation.*

This statement is the essence of why we exist. Any National Guard unit in the country exists to serve two masters — its state and nation. This fact is what separates us from the active Air Force or Army, and it even separates us from the Reserves.

We have a mission to support the vital interests of the United States and to also support our fellow Kentuckians when called for during state crises. We do that now, and we must continue to do that in the future.

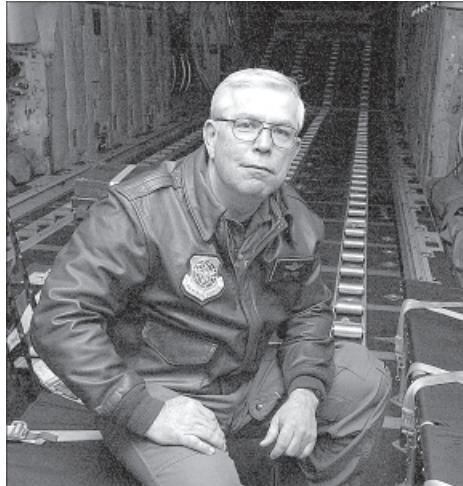
The vision of an organization is a simple statement of what it wants to become. The 123rd must always strive to better perform our mission.

This translates into readiness, and readiness for this unit means being “prepared to successfully wage war.”

We must never shirk that responsibility. Readiness is what we are about.

It is imbedded in the core of our organization.

It is why we exist, why the American



Ron Bath/Business First

**Col. Michael Harden  
123rd Airlift Wing Commander**

people pay our salaries, supply us with state-of-the-art equipment and facilities, and hold us in such high esteem and respect.

We are an equal partner in the Total Force for the simple reason that we are ready to go to war, and everyone knows it.

It is an ironclad fact that the “Total Air Force” could not do its job without the Air National Guard and the 123rd Airlift Wing.

When a theater commander calls for tactical airlift, he does not care whether he gets it from the active Air Force or the Air National Guard. We have built this position of respect over the years because we take pride

in our ability to maintain readiness with a mostly part-time force.

It is critical that every member of this wing be prepared both mentally and physically to go to war, win and then return home with honor. You have done that superbly during the past year.

Leadership at all levels must continue to ensure that the wing is supplied with good people, and that these people are motivated and trained to do their job.

Equipment must be procured and maintained to allow our airmen to do their jobs in facilities that are comfortable, are conducive to mission accomplishment and foster pride in their surroundings.

Anything less is unacceptable and will undermine our reputation and future survival as a relevant combat force.

Not only do we strive to be ready to “successfully wage war,” we must also be ready to assist our neighbors during state and community crises.

We must support state officials when called, and make our people, equipment and facilities available.

This state mission makes us unique in the military forces of our nation, and we should welcome the call and never shirk from this responsibility.

We want the community to know that we are ready to help.

We want them to take pride in the Kentucky Air Guard as a unit that is ready to

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Our office is located in room 2118 of the Wing Headquarters Building. Deadline for the next issue is April 12.

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# Aiming High

Staff Sgt. Mason Hoyt, Senior Master Sgt. Jon Rosa and Staff Sgt. Joe Youdell display their Outstanding Airman of the Year awards at a banquet held Feb. 7 at the Paroquet Springs Convention Center in Shepherdsville, Ky.

All three honorees serve in the 123rd Special Tactics Squadron. The airmen were selected from a group of 25 nominees.



Master Sgt. Mark Rines/KyANG

## *Moving focus from yourself to others is a key to success*

“It’s not about you,” is the opening sentence in the New York Times best seller “The Purpose Driven Life” by Rick Warren.

Many people mistakenly pursue the illusive goal of success thinking it will bring happiness.

The accumulation of money, titles or stuff does not make one happy.

Life doesn’t work that way. Success does not equal significance.

In order to find significance in life, one must discover the purpose of life.

The opening sentence to Pastor Rick’s book hit the nail on the head.

Life takes on significance when I realize that my purpose is to love God and love others.

Making life better for others becomes a powerful force for personal fulfillment, as well as

success.

You can have both success and significance.

Successful leaders serve the needs of those who follow.

Successful parents serve the needs of the family.

Successful relationships meet the needs of the other person in the relationship.

Moving the focus from self to others is also a necessary step from childhood to adulthood.

Upon further reflection, I came to

realize that Pastor Rick’s philosophy — “It’s not about you” — is an Air Force Core Value — “Service before Self.”

Doing so will transform your relationships, your leadership and your organization.

—Lt. Col. Tom Curry  
Wing Chaplain

## Chaplain's Column

## History project seeks veterans to record histories

### Cargo Courier Staff Report

The Veterans History Project is seeking to interview veterans — including current and retired members of the Kentucky Air Guard — so that their oral histories can be preserved.

Any combat veteran from World War I, World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam Conflict or Desert Storm is eligible to tell his or her story, regardless of position.

Tech. Sgt. Tim Gagnon, who is directing the initiative at the 123rd Airlift Wing, said it is important to ensure that veterans’ stories are not forgotten.

“Their stories are important to future generations,” he said.

The wing will be conducting some of the interviews on base in order to encourage more participation, Sergeant Gagnon said.

“We feel that some vets who may have been hesitate to talk may now feel more at ease talking with someone in uniform.”

For more information, contact Sergeant Gagnon at (513) 305-4039 or C130loadm@msn.com.



## KyANG unit profile

### 123rd Services Flight

#### Leadership

Capt. Rodney O. Boyd has commanded the unit since 2000.



#### Mission

To enhance the quality of life for the 123rd Airlift Wing through food service and lodging excellence, and fitness and recreation programs. The unit also provides mortuary support and Honor Guard services for the fallen.

#### Personnel

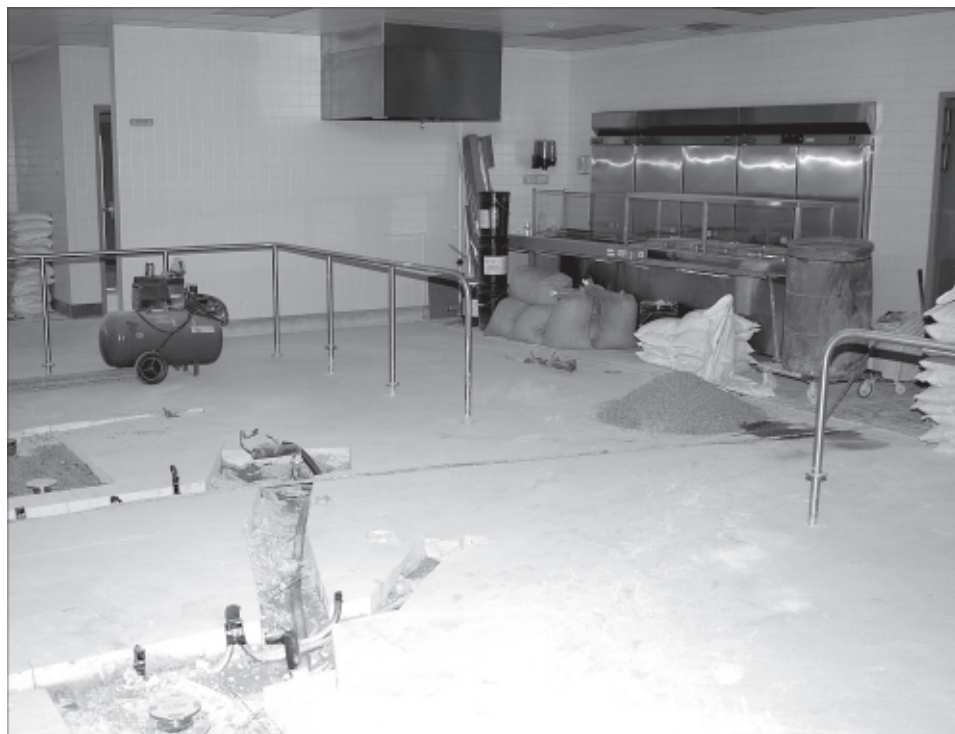
The flight has approximately 30 airmen, including one who serves as a full-time member of the Kentucky Air Guard.

The unit's duty positions include food service, field training, lodging, fitness and recreation, and field laundry and field exchange personnel.

#### Global engagement

Since Sept. 11, 2001, the services flight has deployed twice in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and the Global War on Terror.

During these deployments, the airmen served in various positions of leadership, provided food service and lodging support, and contributed to vital Morale, Welfare and Recreation Programs.



Senior Airman Philip Speck/KyANG

**Renovations to the Kentucky Air Guard dining facility will send the unit's airmen to an alternate location this drill. Both Saturday and Sunday lunches will be served in the 123rd Aerial Port Squadron from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

## Temporary dining facility arranged for March UTA

### Cargo Courier Staff Report

The 123rd Services Flight will be serving lunch in the aerial port squadron's open bay area this weekend while the floor and the drink island are being renovated in the base dining facility.

Lunches will be catered by Arby's Restaurant on Saturday and Bootleg Bar-B-Q on Sunday, according to Senior Master Sgt. Ronnie Holliman.

"We hope that people don't let the alternate location deter them from participating in the regular free lunch for traditional Air Guard enlisted members," Sergeant Holliman said.

For those who normally pay, he noted that the catered meals provide an opportunity to receive a \$7 or \$8 lunch for only \$3.30.

Lunch will be served from 11 a.m. to 1

p.m. at the aerial port's open bay, and a dining area will be provided for members who prefer not to eat in their shops.

Carry-out meals also will be available for individuals who prefer to dine at their workstations.

The aerial port squadron is located in the south end of the Operations Building, near the base fire station.

The entrance to the alternate dining facility will be located at the front of the building.

The renovations should take about six weeks, Sergeant Holliman said. He anticipates that the dining facility will re-open in time for the April drill.

*For more information on the temporary dining facility, contact Sergeant Holliman at ext. 4620 or by e-mail at [veronica.holliman@kyloui.ang.af.mil](mailto:veronica.holliman@kyloui.ang.af.mil).*

## Developing leaders

Col. Michael Harden, commander of the 123rd Airlift Wing, and Capt. Joseph Clements, executive officer for the 123rd Mission Support Group, dedicate the Kentucky Air Guard's Leadership Library during the January drill.

The library, which is open to all unit members, contains scores of printed and audio books on topics like Air Force core values, leadership and history.

Established by the Thoroughbred Company Grade Officer Council, the library is located in the Legal Conference Room of the Headquarters Building.



Senior Airman Alecia Willis/KyANG

## Airmen receive Bronze Stars

Continued from Front Page

director of operations, Special Tactics Operation Center, and as a special tactics team leader in Uzbekistan.

During the deployment, he led the planning and mission execution for the first special operations troops who entered Pakistan, Uzbekistan and Afghanistan.

He also led the largest strategic redeployment of special tactics troops in history.

Sergeant DeSchane was the noncommissioned officer in charge of airfield operations at Bagram, Afghanistan, during the deployment.

He contributed to the establishment and operation of the first major airhead in the country and to the successful completion of 1,700 combat and base-sustainment sorties.

Sergeant Novakovsky, who served as a team leader and combat control operator while deployed, engaged in ground operations against the enemy at an undisclosed location in the region.

On March 4, 2002, Sergeant Novakovsky

and his team repelled enemy attacks and were responsible for saving an airfield from hostile forces.

Col. Michael Harden, commander of the 123rd Airlift Wing, said he is extremely proud of the work these Kentucky-based combat controllers did while deployed for Operation Enduring Freedom.

"These three individuals typify the concepts of duty that made this country and this unit great," he said.

"Our nation called and they responded with honor, courage and skill. Every member of the Thoroughbred Express should be extremely proud to serve with these heroes. I know that I am."

Other Kentucky Air Guard members who have received Bronze Stars for their actions since 2001 include Col. Howard Hunt, Lt. Col. Ken Ellis, Maj. Kevin Morris, Chief Joel Hicks and Senior Master Sgt. Frank Green.

The Bronze Star is awarded to service members who distinguish themselves by heroic or meritorious service in connection with military operations against an armed enemy.

## Air Force Sgts. Association seeks new members

The Air Force Sergeants Association is seeking new members to join its ranks.

All current members and retirees of the Kentucky Air Guard are eligible to join, including officers. Reduced rates are provided to airmen with ranks of E-4 and below.

The local affiliate, Chapter 482, meets the third Tuesday of most months at the Kentucky Air Guard dining facility.

The chapter plans to give T-shirts to the first 20 members who haven't held membership in the organization for the past three years.

Individuals who are interested in joining should attend the March 16 meeting.

For more information, contact Ed Simon at (502) 968-7841.

# Test uniforms hit the streets

By Tech. Sgt. David A. Jablonski  
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Airmen at two bases will get a first-hand look at the proposed new utility uniform Feb. 9 when the tiger-striped blue-, green- and gray-patterned ensemble begins its wear-test phase.

Officials will deliver the distinctive uniforms to testers at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, and Langley Air Force Base, Va. A uniform board official provided an update on the utility uniform and also released details about the fitness uniform.

This is the largest wear test the Air Force has done. Typically an item goes through a wear test at a maximum of three bases and 300 people. This test will be conducted at nine bases with 700 airmen participating.

“The Air Force is asking us what we need in a utility uniform and this is our opportunity to give our feedback,” said Senior Master Sgt. Jacqueline Dean, chief of the Air Force Uniform Board office.

“One thing people should understand is that this is simply a test, nothing about the uniform is set in concrete. And that is why we need to get that feedback from the participants and via the Web site.”

The Web site is expected to be operational in April. The decision to launch the site in April was driven by a desire to allow testers time to wear the uniform. Officials also wanted others to see the testers wearing it and get the chance to ask them questions.

Sergeant Dean is asking people with constructive criticism, who have seen the actual uniform, to log on and answer the questions. Personnel officials will tally the data based on career field.

Sergeant Dean said the board will take into account valuable suggestions and opinions that are concrete and have basis.

“We need to make sure we’re not being emotional,” she said. “We need solutions.”

Some solutions are already being addressed in the new design, Sergeant Dean said.

“The best features of the uniform are the permanent-press treatment and actual sizes,” she said. “This uniform is distinctive, easy to maintain and fits better. Our current battle dress uniform comes in four sizes. The new uniform will come in actual men’s and women sizes. Men’s pants will come in sizes 28 to 48 and the shirts will come in jacket

sizes 34 to 52; women’s uniforms will come in sizes 2 to 24. It’s going to provide a much better fit.”

The test includes trying out two boots, one in suede and another that is a low-polish, low-shine black leather style. The suede boot will be tested in black, charcoal gray and tan.

Sergeant Dean said high-operations tempo caused senior leaders to move away from the requirement to have a high-polish shine.

Sergeant Dean also revealed details about the fitness uniform fit test and planned distribution.

“We have already developed the fitness uniform running suit, shirt and shorts,” Sergeant Dean said. “We need to do a fit test to ensure the patterns and sizes are accurate and will accommodate Air Force needs.”

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper introduced a new fitness standard Jan. 1. Development of a new fitness uniform is the next step. Enlisted airmen will be issued two sets of shirts and shorts and one running suit. Basic training recruits will receive the shirts and shorts first and the running suit following warrior week. People scheduled for deployment will also get priority. Officers must buy their uniforms. Sergeant Dean estimates that the new uniforms will be widely available around October.

The chief of staff’s biggest emphasis in the development of the uniform was to ensure adequate reflectivity features were incorporated throughout the uniform to keep people safe when running in the early morning or late evening, Sergeant Dean said.

The running suit is the same used by cadets at the Air Force Academy. Air Force blue provides the background and all of the piping is reflective white.

Some features of the running suit include zippers under the arms, ventilation in the back, and pants zippers to help remove the suit without removing shoes.

The gray T-shirt has a reflective emblem on front and back. Shorts will have two pockets, one on a front leg to accommodate an identification card, and one in the waistband for a key. The shorts also have a reflective “V” on both sides and the Air Force logo. Shoes will not be issued with the uniform.

“This uniform also brings us up to speed with other services, who already have a fitness uniform.”

The fitness gear will undergo a fit and wear test beginning this month.

## Officials update enlistment test norms

WASHINGTON — Department of Defense officials announced Feb. 6 that new norms for the enlistment test, also known as the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery, will be implemented this summer.

The ASVAB is a multiple aptitude test battery originally designed to predict training and job performance in military occupations.

Since its introduction in 1948, the enlistment test norms have been updated three times.

The updated ASVAB will reflect more current norms based on the 1997 Profile of American Youth, a national probability sample of 18- to 23-year-olds in 1997.

Implementation of these norms will allow DOD officials to compare the cognitive ability levels of today’s military applicants and recruits with those of contemporary youth.

Effective July 1, new ASVAB norms will be implemented with two goals: To represent accurately the aptitude of those enlisting in the military and to treat all applicants fairly.

This includes all those who take the test before July 1 and have valid test scores. They will be grandfathered under an appropriate transition policy. An individual ASVAB test score by itself has no inherent meaning.

Test scores of military applicants are compared with the scores of a representative sample weighted to reflect all recruitment-age men and women.

Consequently, enlistment decisions are based on the relative performance of the applicant compared with the youth population from which the applicant was recruited.



# Army National Guard leaves USAF gates Kentucky base to replace soldiers with augmentees

By Tech Sgt David A. Jablonski  
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON— Anix of airmen, civilians, contractors and new technology will replace Army National Guard military policemen now posted at Air Force bases around the world, including the Kentucky Air National Guard facility.

The Louisville-based 123rd Airlift Wing plans to implement the new measures by using Air Guard security police augmentees in conjunction with security forces airmen, officials said.

Since February 2003, 32 members of the Kentucky Army Guard's 149th Infantry Battalion have provided security services for the wing, said Army Sgt. 1st Class Tim Robinson.

The original agreement struck between the Air Force and the Army called for using the Guardsmen at base entry points for two years — enough time to find a solution to the Air Force security forces' manpower shortfall, said Brig. Gen. James M. Shames, Air Force director of security forces.

But just one year into the plan the Army faced increased requirements in 2003 to support Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Their operations tempo did not decline following the end of hostilities.

"We started with about 8,000 (Army National Guard) soldiers, but in the second year they will only be able to provide about 6,500 on a continuing basis," General Shames said. "We're going to fill that gap with volunteers from our Air Reserve Component, civilians and contractors."

Other options being considered for longer-term solutions include converting manpower positions in overage career fields to security forces, and making other manpower changes within the security forces career field, General Shames said.

Technological solutions will also be applied to situations where they are more efficient than posting a patrolman. Finally, as a stopgap measure, augmentees will continue to fill temporary shortages.

The most important security measure, said General Shames, is making sure the entire Air Force team works together to keep Air Force installations and people safe.



Tech. Sgt. Dennis Flora/KyANG

**Senior Airman Nick Hartsell, a security forces troop from the Kentucky Air National Guard, checks 1st Lt. B.J. Geary's ID card as he drives through the gate. Soldiers from the Kentucky Army Guard, who have been working security at the gate since February 2002, are being replaced by KyANG augmentees because of the Army's increased deployment requirements in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.**

"Security forces can't do it alone — everybody has to be involved," General Shames said.

"As the Air Force chief of staff and others have said, 'every airman is a sensor.' That's what we need to do. I see information every day where airmen, civil servants or contractors have called us to say, 'Something looks wrong here; can you check it out?' In some cases individuals have been uncovered who we did need to check out."

Besides bolstering manpower, security forces planners will incorporate technology to reduce the burden on people and increase efficiency, General Shames said. Some examples are explosive-detection equipment, long-range detection and assessment systems, and automated identification checks at base gates.

"Instead of having a human assigned to a patrol, we'll use systems where we can see areas farther out than a person can, run the information back to a central location and

respond as needed," General Shames said.

"We'll also use automated identification credentialing systems that will check people coming on base faster than an individual stopping a car and looking at an (identification card). It will compare the ID to an electronic database ... in a matter of a second or two and let the person or car proceed.

"If the credential doesn't check out, a barrier drops. If that person goes through the barrier, there will be another one. It's a layered approach to boost our defenses."

Whatever form these measures ultimately take, people should expect a credible check that allows the right people into the appropriate areas, General Shames said.

"We want to complicate things for our adversary so that he abandons his target, or we catch him in the act, or interrupt the act in progress," he said.

*Tech. Sgt. Amy Mundell contributed information to this article.*

# Commander *in* Chief

President George W. Bush is greeted by the Kentucky National Guard's adjutant general, Army Maj. Gen. Donald Storm, and the 123rd Airlift Wing's commander, Col. Michael Harden, upon his arrival here Feb. 26.

The president proceeded to a speaking engagement at a local business and then to a luncheon at The Galt House.

*Photo by Tech. Sgt.  
Dennis Flora/KyANG*



## Wage war

Continued from Page 2

assist across the world or across the street.

Only by maintaining our excellent reputation in the community can we continue to recruit our neighbors and motivate the young people of our community to join our organization.

Well, there you have it. It has taken me three columns and several months to explain what I mean by our one-sentence vision statement. I firmly believe that this statement sums up what we want to become, and if we are successful in attaining this vision the 123rd will be always be a formidable force.

I hope that you believe it, too.

*A powerful, harmonious, military organization, comprised of proud citizens, dedicated to the profession of arms, prepared to successfully wage war and add value to community, state and nation.*

So Sayeth the Load,

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**OFFICIAL BUSINESS**