

THE CARGO COURIER

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

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Weather flight standing down this UTA

Other duty sections to gain assets

By Capt. Dale Greer
Wing Public Affairs Officer

The Kentucky Air Guard's 165th Weather Flight will close the books on 57 years of service today with a ceremony marking the unit's inactivation at 1:30 p.m. in the Base Annex.

"It's a sad day for the unit because we've had such good camaraderie and esprit de corps among our members," said Lt. Col. Jeff Peters, the flight's commander.

While the unit's colors are being retired and its organizational structure dismantled, the Kentucky Air Guard will retain most of its weather forecasting ability — 13 of the flight's 17 duty positions will be absorbed into other organizations on base, Colonel Peters said.

The reorganization will produce three combat weather teams that will be integrated with existing operational units, eventually giving Kentucky weather personnel new opportunities to deploy in support of training exercises and real-world missions.

The wing's weather troops currently do not routinely deploy in support of Kentucky Air Guard missions, but rather provide backfill when Air Force weather personnel are mobilized from Fort Campbell, Ky. That backfill mission will now be eliminated, Peters said.

The KyANG units slated to gain weather personnel are the 123rd Operations Support Flight, the 123rd Special Tactics Squadron and the 123rd Airlift Control Flight.

Lt. Col. Greg Nelson, commander of the 123rd Airlift Control Flight, said his unit would be able to respond more rapidly to future deployment taskings now that its weather assets will be based in Louisville. The unit currently has to source weather capability from external units prior to deployment.

"This move will give us organic weather capability that can respond immediately to taskings as opposed to being an augmented piece that's sourced after the taskings come down," Colonel Nelson

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Capt. Dale Greer/KyANG

Staff Sgt. Todd Barnes, a weather forecaster with the 165th Weather Flight, takes temperature readings by the base flightline. Barnes is being transferred to the wing's 123rd Airlift Control Flight, where he will continue to work as a weather forecaster.

Services personnel support flood recovery in W. Va.

By Capt. Dale Greer
Wing Public Affairs Officer

Four members of the wing's 123rd Services Flight deployed to West Virginia in support of a flood-recovery mission on Sept. 21, just 12 hours after the official tasking came down from Frankfurt.

The rapid response was possible because of the dedication of the deploying troops and a spirit of teamwork across the base, said Senior Master Sgt. Veronica Holliman, services superintendent.

The Kentucky Air Guard received word from state headquarters around 1 p.m. Sept. 20 that four to five services troops

might be needed to support disaster relief operations in Wheeling, W. Va., following massive flooding there.

The Kentucky Army National Guard had already begun preparing a convoy of 125 soldiers and 53 vehicles for de-

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Integrity must come first — always

O

ne sunny day, four high school boys couldn't resist the temptation to skip classes.

The next morning they explained to a teacher that they had missed her class

because their car had a flat tire.

To their relief, she smiled and said, "Well, you missed a quiz yesterday, so take your seats and get out a pencil and paper." She waited as they sat down and got ready for the quiz. Then she said, "First question: Which tire was flat?"

INTEGRITY FIRST ... and ALWAYS.

I had the opportunity recently to serve as an interview board member for a sister airlift unit hiring a candidate into a senior leadership position. Each of the three applicants competing for the position was highly qualified, and selecting only one was a difficult task.

It was also an interesting experience in that it offered me some insight into the unit culture and their individual perspectives on leadership.

One of the questions asked of the candidates was, "What is the most important quality for a leader to possess?"

Two of the three candidates answered immediately "integrity," while the other offered a close cousin — "honesty."

Although not 100 percent exact in their responses, the three still placed a high value on that virtue when you consider all the others that could have been mentioned as most desirable.

Integrity is certainly a valuable trait in a leader — critical, I would offer. But it shouldn't be considered a must-have trait that



**Col. Mark Kraus
123rd Airlift Wing Commander**

is "reserved for leaders only;" it is crucial for everyone, especially those of us engaged in the profession of arms, according to former Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Ronald Fogleman, who delivered the following remarks during an Air Force Academy Commandant's Leadership Series:

"We're entrusted with the security of our nation. The tools of our trade are lethal, and we engage in operations that involve risk to human life and untold national treasure. Because of what we do, our standards must be higher than those of society at large. The American public expects it of us and prop-

erly so. In the end, we earn the respect and trust of the American public because of the integrity that we demonstrate.

Well, what do we mean by integrity? Properly defined according to Webster's New College Dictionary:

1. Firm adherence to a code or standard of values: probity. 2. The state of being unimpaired: soundness. 3. The quality or condition of being undivided: completeness.

The Air Force explains integrity as the ability to hold together and properly regulate all the elements of a personality. It also covers several other moral traits indispensable to national service, including courage, honesty, responsibility, accountability, justice, openness, self-respect and humility.

Perhaps most simply stated, integrity is what we do, what we say and what we say we do — when nobody's looking.

General Fogleman, recognized as the author of the Air Force's Core Values (**integrity first ... service before self ... excellence in all we do**), explained the importance placed on not only these values, but specifically "integrity," when he said:

"These core values and the sense of community and professionalism they bring to our service are vitally important to the future of the Air Force. That is why integrity is the bedrock of our core values. At the heart of our military profession has to be the idea that a person's word is his bond. If you're going to be in this business, if you're going to talk about the profession, you must have integrity."

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Weather

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said. "The weather personnel also will be trained and equipped to work with our own mobile command and control package — they'll know our systems, and we'll know theirs."

The reorganization is part of an effort across the Air National Guard to place weather assets in every state, said Master Sgt. Jeffrey Sarver, a meteorological technician with the 165th Weather Flight. Some states, like Kentucky, are losing duty positions, which will be used to staff weather operations in states that are gaining new weather capabilities.

The 165th Weather Flight traces its lineage to the founding of the Kentucky Air National Guard. Its precursor, the 165th Weather Station, was one of the original KyANG units when the base formally received federal recognition in 1947.

The weather unit was first called to active duty in 1950 and then again in 1968 for the Pueblo Crisis. Four years later, in 1972, the 165th Weather Flight was named outstanding Air National Guard weather unit of the year.

In 1991, 11 members of the 165th Weather Flight mobilized in support of Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm and were assigned to the U.S. Army's 20th Special Operations Group at Fort Bragg, N.C.

Three members were later deployed to Iraq — the only KyANG members to do so during Desert Shield/Desert Storm — as part of a post-war relief campaign to aid Kurdish refugees.

More recently, the 165th Weather Flight supported multiple Aerospace Expeditionary Force rotations and four stateside deployments as part of Operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom.

In 2003, two Kentucky weather troops deployed to Southwest Asia in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"We've worked very hard over the years to be one of the weather flights the Guard Bureau can count on when they get tasked for missions around the word," Colonel Peters said.

Services deploys for flooding

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ployment to Wheeling but needed personnel who could provide food services from a mobile kitchen trailer.

Sergeant Holliman and Staff Sgt. Cutty Parker began phoning unit members to locate volunteers, and four airmen immediately stepped forward — Senior Airmen Aaron Foote, Ricky Odle and Bridgett Swann; and Staff Sgt. Leslie Stivers.

The state active-duty call-up was confirmed at 2:57 p.m., and the services personnel were told to report to the base at 3 a.m. the following morning.

In the meantime, Holliman said, unit members from across the base pitched in to assist with the activation, screening medical records, arranging transportation and packing gear like sleeping bags, cots, ponchos, mess kits, gloves, flashlights and sanitation products.

When the deploying troops reported for duty at 3 a.m. on Sept. 21, Master Sgt. Ann Marie Mason of the 123rd Medical Squadron was present for one last formality — HIV blood tests.

At 4 a.m., Sergeant Holliman and Master Sgt. Harold Goodlett drove the deploying airmen three hours to Ashland, Ky., where they joined members of the Kentucky Army Guard for a seven-hour convoy ride to Wheeling.

Upon arrival in West Virginia, the four services troops found themselves working 18-hour days, although that pace has since slowed to a 12-hour cycle, Sergeant Holliman said.

They are providing two hot meals per day for about 120 guardsmen and relief workers.

"Their spirits are great and they're excited to be supporting the Army National Guard and the community of Wheeling, W. Va.," Sergeant Holliman said.

Capt. Rodney Boyd, commander of the 123rd Services Flight, said he was proud of the performance demonstrated by his troops, especially given the time constraints they faced.

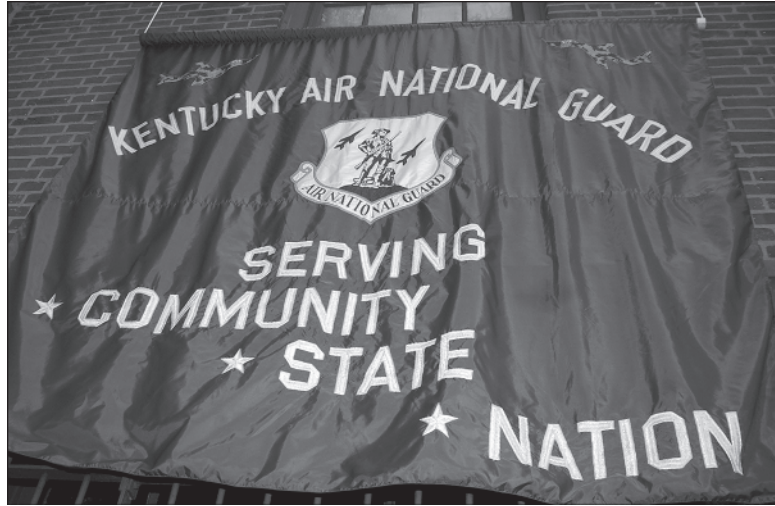
"This activation shows that they're capable and ready to support the mission at any time, whatever the circumstances," Captain Boyd said.



Photo courtesy 123rd Services Flight

Four members of the 123rd Services Flight prepare to deploy to West Virginia on Sept. 21 with help from other Kentucky Air Guard members. Pictured are Col. Bill Ketterer, commander of the 123rd Support Group, Staff Sgt. Cutty Parker, Senior Airman Aaron Foote (activated), Staff Sgt. Leslie Stivers (activated), Master Sgt. Harold Goodlett, Senior Airman Ricky Odle (activated), Senior Airman Bridgett Swann (activated) and Senior Master Sgt. Veronica Holliman.

'Into the Wild Blue Yonder' exhibit tra



Clockwise from bottom left: Air Force ROTC cadets raise the colors during the exhibit's dedication; a banner notes the unit's multifaceted mission; Col. Mark Kraus, commander of the 123rd Airlift Wing, views one of the historical displays; Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Verna Fairchild, former assistant adjutant general for Air, speaks to the crowd.



ces rich history of Kentucky Air Guard

By Capt. David B. Page
KyNG Public Affairs Officer
and Tami Vater
Kentucky Historical Society

FRANKFORT, Ky. — Not even a dense blanket of fog could keep a crowd of about 50 people from attending a ribbon-cutting ceremony here Sept. 10 for “Into the Wild Blue Yonder,” a new historical exhibit that honors the Kentucky Air Guard.

The exhibit, which will run through Sept. 11 at the Kentucky Military History Museum, was developed as a tribute to the many individuals from the Kentucky Air Guard who’ve made a difference in the state’s history, organizers said.

It tells the story of the civilian men and women who, in times of crisis, left their jobs, families and homes to answer our nation’s call to service.

“It’s important to tell how the Air National Guard has such a tradition, from its volunteers to its humanitarian efforts,” said Chief Master Sergeant Jim Turpin, who assisted in the planning of the exhibit. “Ken-

tuckians have always been first to volunteer, and still do today.”

The exhibit allows visitors to experience some of the unit’s 57-year legacy through artifacts, oral histories, photographs and more. Visitors will experience the evolution of the many aircraft flown by Kentucky aircrews, including F-51D Mustangs, F-86A Sabre Jets, RF-101 Voodoos and RF-4C Phantom IIs.

After touring the exhibit, Col. Michael J. Dornbush, KyANG executive support staff officer, said, “It certainly was a nostalgic trip through our past.”

Colonel Dornbush said the exhibit documents the tremendous legacy of the unit, which has been recognized with many prestigious awards, including three Spaatz Trophies.

Named for Gen. Carl Spaatz, the first chief of staff of the Air Force, the trophy is presented annually to the overall outstanding Air National Guard flying unit.

The unit’s first Spaatz Trophy, which is on display at the exhibit, was awarded just two years after the Kentucky Air Guard’s

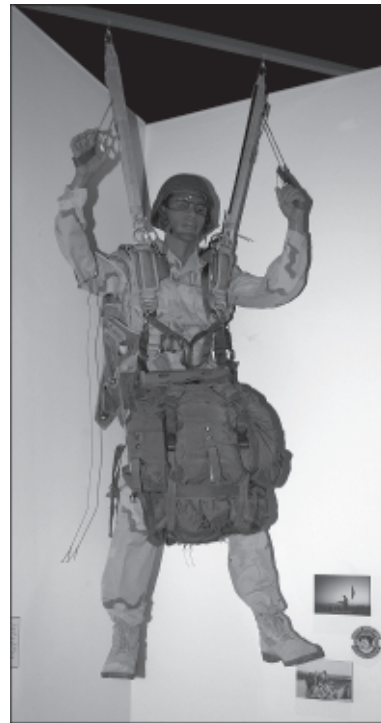
creation, as the wing’s aircrews rapidly reached a high level of combat readiness.

One of the artifacts in the exhibit is the RF-101 Voodoo flight suit worn by Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Richard L. Frymire. General Frymire served as adjutant general of Kentucky for six years and is the only Kentucky Air Guard officer to have served in this capacity.

The Kentucky Military History Museum is open Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sundays from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information about the museum and the exhibit, contact the Kentucky Historical Society at (502) 564-1792.

Photos by
Capt. David B. Page/KyNG
and
Senior Airman
Phillip Speck/KyANG



Above: Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Philip Arderly, the Kentucky Air Guard’s first commander, examines artifacts from the unit’s F-51 Mustang era; a mannequin displays jump gear worn by members of the KyANG’s 123rd Special Tactics Squadron.

Roche: War on terror tests Air Force concepts

by Donna Miles
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — The war on terrorism is teaching Air Force leaders important lessons and validating others, said Air Force Secretary Dr. James G. Roche.

It is emphasizing the success of the air and space expeditionary force, the importance of joint operations and the critical contribution of the Guard and Reserve in the total force, he said.

Operations in Iraq and Afghanistan underscore the value of the air and space expeditionary force, a highly specialized force Secretary Roche said is "able to respond in an instant's notice to be able to go great distances.

"We used to think that the most important thing was our base back home in the United States," the secretary said.

"But increasingly, it is our performance in an expeditionary setting that is the most important thing that we do. And what we do back in the United States is prepare to go and deploy."

Frequent operational deployments keep Airmen in AEFs trained for whatever missions come their way, Secretary Roche said.

When the Air Force flew into Afghanistan during the first night of Operation Enduring Freedom, for example, he said, 70 to 75 percent of the Air Force pilots involved had already been combat tested.

This was from 12 years of patrolling the northern and southern Iraqi sky during operations Northern Watch and Southern Watch using the AEF concept.

"We were able to raise the pond of competence across our whole Air Force," Secretary Roche said.

"So when we were called on to go to war, we didn't have to train anybody."

Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom are also helping speed up what Secretary Roche called "a natural evolution" toward joint operations among the military services.

"We make a point that the Air Force will never fight alone. And the Army has the same

position. They are never going to fight alone," the secretary said. "Therefore, it is natural that we do things in a joint way."

The war on terrorism has caused the services to focus closely on who was doing what and who could do it most efficiently, a process Secretary Roche said helped eliminate duplication.

"You differentiate by the competence of a particular service," he said.

"We're continuing to work that through. We're learning from each other and working very well together."

Airmen are already playing key roles supporting land forces, Secretary Roche said, not only in terms of getting the troops to the

special operations forces, Marine Corps (and the) Army so that they recognize that we are there for them."

The war on terrorism is also proving the value of Air Force technology, including unmanned vehicles and remotely piloted aircraft, Secretary Roche said.

"These things bring something to the battle that manned aircraft cannot," he said.

They are able to operate at long ranges and demonstrate "digital acuity," which Secretary Roche said means they do not tire as a human would.

"They're as sharp in the last hour of the mission as they are in the first hour of the mission," he said.

"You can send them (to) very, very long ranges and keep them there."

But one of the most valuable features of unmanned vehicles and remotely piloted aircraft, Secretary Roche said, is that they never come home draped in an American flag.

"You can send them into dicey areas where, if they are shot down, you don't have to write a letter to the mother of a computer chip," he said.

Secretary Roche said close-air support delivered by precision weapons from very high altitudes is another critical asset the Air Force is delivering to the war on terrorism.

"The integration of space as well as air-breathing assets and the information that they all combine to give to the air-component commander was just remarkably better than it had been before," Secretary Roche said. "The air-component commander, land-forces commander and maritime commander all benefited from that."

To keep up with the operational tempo, Secretary Roche said, the Air Force is relying heavily on Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve Airmen.

"We have the advantage that over the years, this relationship called the total force has worked so well because we have trained to the same standards," Secretary Roche said.

Once guardsmen and reservists come on active duty, he said they quickly integrate alongside their active-duty counterparts.

“

We make a point that the Air Force will never fight alone. And the Army has the same position. They are never going to fight alone. Therefore, it is natural that we do things in a joint way.

”

— Dr. James G. Roche,
Secretary of the Air Force

battlefield, but also in supporting their combat missions.

Besides providing precise, close-air support for ground troops, Secretary Roche said the Air Force works through its air commands to provide direct, on-the-ground support to Navy SEALs and Army special forces troops. Airmen are also providing combat support to the Army.

"We even had special-operations aircraft that, when they were not engaged in special operations, were then free for the air-component commander to assign to other missions," Secretary Roche said.

He said the Air Force has learned the value of working closely with ground troops.

"Our relationship to land forces is a key to our future," he said.

"So we are not just space. ... We have to think and work closely with land forces,

Active-duty C-141s complete their final journey

**By Airman 1st Class Dilia DeGrego
305th Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs**

MCGUIRE AIR FORCE BASE, N.J. — The last two active-duty C-141B Starlifters in the U.S. Air Force inventory flew their final journey Sept. 16 after a special departure ceremony here.

This final flight marked the end of nearly 40 years of service to the nation by C-141s and their crews.

“If you look at the sum total of its history, it’s remarkable,” said Gen. John W. Handy, commander of U.S. Transportation Command and Air Mobility Command.

“The C-141 has been the backbone of our airlift fleet for the better part of the Military Airlift Command and Air Mobility Command history.

“If you look at the performance of the C-141, the crews and maintainers who kept them flying are the most significant contribution of that weapons system.”

Lt. Gen. William Welser III, 18th Air Force commander, flew one of the two final aircraft with an aircrew from the 6th Airlift Squadron.

Both aircraft will remain in permanent

storage at the Aerospace Maintenance and Regeneration Center at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz.

“As a previous commander of the Bully Beef Express, it is an honor to be part of the squadron transition from the venerable Starlifter to the [C-17] Globemaster III that will allow us to continue supporting our nation’s mobility needs,” General Welser said.

McGuire received its first C-141B, tail No. 65-0271, on Aug. 8, 1967.

It was the first American purpose-built jet airlifter, and only the second all-jet transport aircraft to see service in the Military Airlift Command.

Flying countless missions over intercontinental distances for nearly 40 years, the Lockheed C-141A/B Starlifter was the backbone of American foreign policy.

“The C-141 brought airlift into the jet age,” said Lt. Col. Eric Wydra, 6th Airlift Squadron commander.

“Before the C-141, our large airlifters were slow, propeller driven aircraft with limited range. The C-141 is a fast, flexible, intercontinental aircraft that could go just about anywhere — and did.”

Before the ceremony, people toured a display of a C-141B. The display will later become permanent and the sole remaining C-141 here.

“The base will never be quite the same again; there will always be something missing,” said Tech. Sgt. Corinne Alvord, non-commissioned officer in charge of debrief and dispatch for the 305th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

“It is the end of an era, but the beginning of a new one.”

Crews from two Air Force Reserve Command units, the 452nd AMW at March Air Reserve Base, Calif., and the 445th Airlift Wing at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, will continue to fly the C-141 until the summer of 2006, when the last Starlifter is scheduled to retire.

There were 284 Starlifters built for the Air Force between 1963 and 1968, and 20 aircraft remain in service.

“We’ve pushed it as far as the years would allow us; it has performed incredibly well in just a terrific variety of missions,” General Handy said.

“But now it’s just time to retire our B models.”

Political-activity rules differ little for Guardsmen, active duty

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

WASHINGTON—Citizen Airmen serving in the Air National Guard or Air Force Reserve follow the same rules governing political activity as their active-duty compatriots.

Questions about what Airmen can or cannot do abound in this presidential election year, and some situations have become national news. The rules on political activity are largely the same for all Airmen in uniform, but one area differs.

Although active-duty Airmen are prohibited from holding public office, reservists and guardsmen can, said Philip Donohoe, Air Force Reserve Command director of general law.

“But fulfilling the duties of these offices must stop once a reservist or guardsman puts on the uniform and reports for duty,” Mr. Donohoe said.

Air Force reservists and guardsmen who

are serving on active duty under Title 10 of the U.S. Code for more than 30 days must comply with the active-duty rules contained in Air Force Instruction 51-902, “Political Activities by Members of the U.S. Air Force.”

Reservists and guardsmen who are on active duty less than 30 days follow the more general guidelines set out in Paragraph 8 of AFI 51-902.

All reservists and guardsmen must refrain from participating in any political activity while in uniform and from using government facilities for political activities.

Guardsmen who perform duties in Title 32 USC status should be aware of any special restrictions on political activities imposed by their respective state authorities.

While active-duty Airmen may not campaign for, or hold, elective civil office, reservists and guardsmen are not so constrained.

As long as they are not serving on extended active duty — defined to be active

duty under a call or order for more than 270 days — reservists may campaign for, and hold, partisan or nonpartisan civil office. It must be held in a private capacity and must not interfere with the performance of military duties.

When reservists and guardsmen campaign for elective office, they must be careful to avoid using their military status as a political selling point.

For example, a reservist campaigning for office should not use political flyers that show the reservist in his or her military uniform.

Department of Defense Directive 1344.10, “Political Activities by Members of the Armed Forces on Active Duty,” gives guidance to all military branches and is the source for AFI 51-902.

Political activities of civilian federal government employees fall under the guidance of the Hatch Act, and the Joint Ethics Regulation, DOD 5500.7-R, Chapter 6, “Political Activities.”

Promotions, retirements & separations



The following individuals have been promoted to the rank indicated as members of the Kentucky Air Guard and reservists of the United States Air Force:

SENIOR AIRMAN (E-4)

- James Finan,
165th Airlift Sq.
- Brittany Ingram,
123rd Services Flt.
- Lawrence Lawfer,
123rd Maintenance Sq.
- Nicholas Reinke,
123rd Student Flt.
- Jessica Routin,
123rd Maintenance Sq.
- Jonathan Tidei,
165th Airlift Sq.

STAFF SERGEANT (E-5)

- Bryan Ala,
165th Airlift Sq.
- Christopher Brawler,
123rd Maintenance Sq.
- Nicholas Hartsell,
123rd Security Forces Sq.
- James Ketterer,
123rd Airlift Control Flt.

TECHNICAL SERGEANT (E-6)

- Brian Barnett,
123rd Maintenance Sq.
- Dean James,
123rd Maintenance Sq.
- Jeremy Meyer,
123rd Security Forces Sq.

The following individuals have separated from the Kentucky Air National Guard to accept appointments as commissioned officers in the Air National Guard:

- Amy Mundell,
123rd Airlift Wing
- Jerry Zollman Jr.,
123rd Maintenance Sq.

The following individuals have retired as members of the Kentucky Air National Guard and reservists of the United States Air Force:

- Senior Airman Kathleen Blum,
123rd Medical Sq.
- Tech. Sgt. Russell Decker,
123rd Security Forces Sq.

- Master Sgt. Angela Haagen,
165th Weather Flt.
- Master Sgt. Ronald McAlister,
123rd Aerial Port Sq.
- Master Sgt. Roy Mullins,
123rd Communications Flt.
- Master Sgt. Richard Szatkowski,
123rd Medical Sq.

The following individuals have separated from the Kentucky Air National Guard:

- Staff Sgt. Patrick Belanger,
123rd Security Forces Sq.
- Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Dickson,
123rd Aerial Port Sq.
- Senior Airman Mark Hassett,
123rd Medical Sq.
- Senior Airman Michelle Mills,
123rd Logistics Readiness Sq.
- Staff Sgt. Reid Morris,
123rd Security Forces Sq.
- Master Sgt. Kevin Pitchford,
123rd Maintenance Sq.
Airman 1st Class
Luis Rivera,
123rd Student Flt.
- Maj. Thomas Savchick,
165th Airlift Sq.

Integrity

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Since their inception as our service core values in 1996, these principles have become our watchwords to live by, and they roll as easily off our tongues as any childhood nursery rhyme, seared forever in our memories.

I wonder if this familiarity spawns a subtle complacency in us from time to time though? We can mouth the words, but do our actions follow through consistently with every decision or statement we make?

You will always be the first to know if your integrity level slips, and if you aren't monitoring yourself to guard against it ... believe me, others will be doing it for you.

"Which tire was flat?"

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