

# THE CARGO COURIER

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

Vol. XXVI, No. 6 • July 23, 2011

## Wing runs Mo. air hub for earthquake exercise

Event part of NLE '11,  
the largest joint-training  
scenario in U.S. history

By Master Sgt. Philip Speck  
123rd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. — More than 40 members of the Kentucky Air National Guard's Contingency Response Element established and operated a key patient-movement hub here as part of National Level Exercise 2011, a week-long scenario designed to test the local, state and national response to a simulated 7.7-magnitude earthquake along the New Madrid Seismic Zone.

The event, which began May 16, was part of the largest joint-training exercise in U.S. history, with participation from emergency responders in eight central states, the National Guard and multiple federal entities like the Department of Defense, U.S. Transportation Command and the Federal Emergency Management Agency, said Lt. Col. Dave Mounkes, commander of the Kentucky Air Guard's 123rd Contingency Response Element.

Under the scenario, the 123rd CRE was tasked to deploy from its Louisville, Ky., base of operations to Springfield-Branson National Airport and establish an air hub at the notionally inoperative airfield. The unit's Airmen brought everything necessary to open the hub

See **AIRLIFT HUB**, Page 4

## Two drills test medical response of 123rd and VA after disaster

By Capt. John T. Stamm  
123rd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Amid the chaos of moans, groans and cries for help, members of the 123rd Airlift Wing conducted patient triage and provided emergency medical care for more than a dozen men and women badly injured in an earthquake and subsequent plane crash here May 18.

Fortunately, the patients were volunteers, and their injuries weren't real. Instead, they were part of two simulations designed to test the disaster-response capabilities of the Kentucky Air Guard medical group

and multiple federal agencies, including the Robley Rex Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Louisville.

In the first scenario, a C-130 carrying injured earthquake victims landed at the Kentucky Air Guard Base, where medical personnel were standing by to carry them off the plane and prepare them for transport to local hospitals. Many of the "patients" had been evacuated from simulated hospitals and nursing homes in the notional earthquake zone, which meant they required special care as soon as they arrived in

See **MEDICS**, Page 6



Left: Capt. Ross Birdsong, a nurse with the 60th Inpatient Operations Squadron at Travis Air Force Base, Calif., and Sgt. Ursus Vargas of the 6th Medical Group, MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., carry a mannequin onto a Kentucky Air Guard C-130 on the flight line of Springfield-Branson National Airport May 17 during National Level Exercise 2011. The exercise was based on a scenario involving a simulated earthquake along the New Madrid fault line.

Below: Tech. Sgt. Charles Woods, a crew chief with the Kentucky Air National Guard's 123rd Contingency Response Element, awaits the arrival of two inbound C-130 Hercules from Louisville, Ky., on May 17 during National Level Exercise 2011 in Springfield, Mo. Woods marshalled the planes into their parking spots, allowing civil authorities to practice the loading and unloading of mannequins that represented injured earthquake victims.

Photos by Senior Airman Maxwell Rechel/KyANG



## *Enjoy the summer weather, be safe and always stand ready to serve*

**W**elcome to the Super UTA this month at Gulfport Combat Readiness Training Center. Or welcome back from the break last month to your individual Unit Training Assembly here at home this weekend. Or please enjoy your break this month if you performed unit-specific training during June.

From this introduction, you can see that the 123rd Airlift Wing took a break from a full wing UTA weekend in June. We needed this after a very aggressive spring, including a full-scale, joint KYNG-local-state-national exercise in May.

Please read the articles in this month's Cargo Courier illustrating the multiple exercise events we either led or participated in during NLE-11.

Be proud of how we demonstrated our Initial Response Hub in support of Kentucky, Missouri and nationally to USNORTHCOM and USTRANSCOM. It was a great exercise.

Afterward, we needed a break to rest and re-Group, re-Squadron, re-Flight or re-Unit for individual AFSC training. I hope everyone has had the opportunity to enjoy this break. I hope this finds everyone having a good sum-



**Col. Greg Nelson**  
123rd Airlift Wing Commander

mer and enjoying some time with family and friends.

As I write this article, the temperature is about 90 degrees, with a "feels-like" gauge of over 100! I'm not going to complain. This time last year, I experienced a 120-degree day, and many of our Airmen are currently serving in the same location or others

with the same extreme conditions.

Please remember them when we think it is hot at home.

Please think about safety during the summer — both yours and your family's. Nice weather brings more outside-event opportunities, so remember to drink plenty of water, don't get too hot and don't forget we're not all 20 years old anymore. Enjoy sensibly — with moderation and limitation.

In closing, I want to say that I look forward to seeing some of you this weekend in Gulfport, Miss. We will concentrate on individual AFSC training and participate in some fun fitness training events. I will miss the rest of the wing but look forward to seeing you in August.

Please remember that some of our Airmen continue to experience challenges this summer. Thanks to their Wingmen and Wingwomen for being there with them.

Please continue to support each other, and never hesitate to ask for help with anything you need. Enjoy the summer.

The 123rd Airlift Wing Stands Ready!

— Col. Greg Nelson

This funded Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of The Cargo Courier are not necessarily the official view of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

The editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office of the 123rd Airlift Wing, Kentucky Air National Guard. All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

Our office is located in room 1160 of the Wing Headquarters Building.

We welcome your feedback. Please contact the Public Affairs Office directly if you have suggestions for articles or photography. Publication deadline for submissions to the next issue is July 24.

### 123rd Airlift Wing Editorial Staff

Wing Commander.....	Col. Greg Nelson
Chief of Public Affairs.....	Maj. Dale Greer
Public Affairs Manager.....	Master. Sgt. Philip Speck
Photo Editor.....	Tech. Sgt. Dennis Flora
Senior Staff Writer.....	Tech. Sgt. D. Clare
Staff Writer.....	Master Sgt. Diane Stinnett
Staff Photographer.....	Staff Sgt. Jason Ketterer
Staff Photographer.....	Senior Airman Max Rechel

Address: 1101 Grade Lane, Louisville, KY 40213-2678  
Phone: (502) 413-4484 • Fax: (502) 413-4676  
E-mail: allen.greer@ang.af.mil

An electronic version of the Cargo Courier is available at the Kentucky Air Guard's Web site — [www.123aw.ang.af.mil](http://www.123aw.ang.af.mil)



## Walker named one of ANG's best medical troops

Staff Sgt. Sean P. Walker, an equipment maintenance technician in the Kentucky Air National Guard's 123rd Medical Group, has been named the Air National Guard Outstanding Biomedical Equipment Repair Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year.

Walker earned the honor by providing expert maintenance on \$250,000 worth of Air Force medical assets, helping ensure 100 percent mission readiness, according to Col. William Christmas of the 123rd Medical Group. Walker also passed a recent Air Force Medical Equipment Repair Center Quality Assurance Inspection with zero faults and boosted the unit's dental x-ray equipment repair efficiency by 40 percent.

But his most impressive achievements may have been his performances during the 123rd Airlift Wing's 2010 Operational Readiness Exercise and Operational Readiness Inspection, Christmas said.

Wing leadership singled him out as an exceptional performer during the ORE for playing critical roles as the biomedical equipment technician and facility manager, while Air Mobility Command inspectors recognized him as a star performer in the ORI for superb leadership skills that contributed to the Medical Control Center's Outstanding Team Award.

"During the ORE, Sean was a stellar performer," Christmas said. "He took on a lot of organizational responsibilities way beyond his rank and did exceedingly well. During the ORI, he and my first shirt expertly organized the workflow in our area, making it all very easy to manage. This award does not surprise me at all. I'm very proud of Sean and expect to see great things from him in the future."

In September 2010, Walker provided a month of crucial medical support to U.S. Africa Command special operations forces, administering more than 1,300 influenza vaccinations in just three days.

Active in the community, he also provides a positive role model for local children by serving as a Scout master.

# Marksmen earn top honors

## Cargo Courier Staff Report

Several members of the Kentucky Air National Guard's 123rd Airlift Wing won top honors at the Adjutant General's Kentucky National Guard State Combat Training Event, held May 1 at Fort Knox, Ky.

This year, the shooting events were tough, but the competition was even tougher, said Master Sgt. Darryl Loafman, captain of the 123rd's Team A.

"We went up against Army National Guard teams from across the Commonwealth, and they are all highly trained marksmen," Loafman said. "To beat shooters of their caliber says a lot about the capabilities of our Airmen and what (the Kentucky Air National Guard) can bring to the fight."

Rifle teams and individuals competed from the prone, standing, sitting, kneeling, squatting and alert positions from distances of 25, 100, 200, 300 and 400 yards with an M16A2, M4 Carbine or M16A4 rifle. Pistol competitors fired from the standing, standing barricade, kneeling and prone positions using an M9 or M11 semi-automatic.

Individual participants were divided into two classes — Old and New. Competitors were considered "old" if they had previously fired at a post-level competition in any state; shooters were considered "new" if they hadn't. Teams had to be comprised of at least 50 percent new shooters. Moreover, all participants had to wear load-carrying equipment during the competition,

including a pistol belt, harness, first aid pouch and packet, one canteen with cover and cup, at least two ammunition pouches and a Kevlar helmet.

"We wore gear we would normally wear in a real combat environment," Loafman said. "This wasn't just a competition; it was training to prepare Soldiers and Airmen for surviving and winning in a firefight."

Individual pistol competition winners from the 123rd were Tech. Sgt. Bryan Hunt (1st place, old class), Loafman (2nd place, old class) and Tech. Sgt. Erik Smith (1st place, new class).

Loafman, Hunt and Smith also teamed up with Staff Sgt. Randy Ford to claim 1st place in the team event.

While the rifle competitors from the 123rd didn't occupy top slots individually, they did capture the 1st- and 2nd-place team titles. Team A took top honors and was comprised of Loafman, Hunt, Smith and Ford; Team B won 2nd place with Master Sgt. Norman Rechel, Tech. Sgt. Jim Berger, Tech. Sgt. Don Yeats and Airman 1st Class Abram Hilbers.

The two teams also took the 1st- and 3rd-place Overall titles, respectively.

Additionally, Loafman was awarded the 3rd-place Overall Individual title, and Rifle Team B was awarded the First Annual Lt. Ephraim M. Branks Award.

Branks, a Greenville, Ky., native, is historically referred to as the "Kentucky Long Rifleman." He earned hero status during the War of 1812 for his actions against British Forces at the Battle of New Orleans in 1815.



Courtesy photo

Marksmen from the Kentucky Air National Guard's 123rd Airlift Wing took top honors in the Adjutant General's Kentucky National Guard State Combat Training Event, held May 1 at Fort Knox, Ky.



# Airlift hub

Continued from Front Page

and support inbound or outbound aircraft, providing command and control, satellite-based communications and cargo-handling equipment, among other capabilities.

Once operational following the arrival of the first aircraft, the unit began supporting a Defense Aero-medical Staging Facility to coordinate the aeromedical evacuation of injured patients to multiple reception centers around the country, Mounkes said. Those evacuation flights were carried out using three C-130 aircraft from the Kentucky Air National Guard's 123rd Airlift Wing at the direction of U.S. Transportation Command.

"This is exactly what we can expect to see in the event of a real-world earthquake," Mounkes said. "There will be a lot of injured patients who will need to be moved quickly and efficiently from the affected area to accepting hospitals throughout the United States. One key to making this work is knowing which patients are being sent where, so they can be tracked through the system. That's why we're working closely with the DASF throughout this exercise."

Mounkes noted that the Kentucky Air Guard is no stranger to operating initial-response air hubs. The unit opened the Alexandria Airfield Hub in Louisiana in support of aeromedical evacuations after Hurricane Katrina, and last year it operated the major airlift hub in the Dominican Republic supporting earthquake relief operations in Haiti.

But each new deployment or exercise provides a valuable opportunity to learn more, and NLE 2011 was no different, officials said.

"This has been a tremendous training experience for us because of the opportunity it's providing to work with so many local, state and federal agencies," said 2nd Lt. Matt Skeens, 123rd CRE logistics officer. "Working with civilian agencies is always an important lesson, and that's really been one of our primary focuses here: to integrate our processes with those of the civilian agencies like FEMA, local emergency management personnel and medical teams from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Being able to speak the same language is probably the most difficult thing we've had to do, and it's also the thing we've learned the most about."

This kind of training does more than enhance mission accomplishment, according to Master Sgt. James Nalley, the 123rd CRE's maintenance flight chief. It also helps grow a new generation of leaders ready to answer the nation's call any time a natural disaster strikes.

"Exercises like this are essential to developing the skills and confidence of our young Airmen," Nalley said. "We're already very good at what we do, but I feel like we can't get enough of this stuff. It makes us better every time."



Above: Airmen from Scott Air Force Base, Ill., Travis Air Force Base, Calif., Pope Air Force Base, N.C., and the 123rd Airlift Wing, Kentucky Air National Guard, join forces May 18 with emergency medical technicians from CoxHealth in Springfield, Mo., to a waiting Kentucky Air Guard C-130 for evacuation during National Level Exercise 2011 at the Springfield, Mo. The scenario was based on a massive earthquake along the New Madrid fault and the evacuation of injured patients.







Base, N.C., and MacDill Air Force Base, Mo., to carry simulated earthquake victims at Springfield-Branson National Airport in fault line, requiring extensive aeromedical



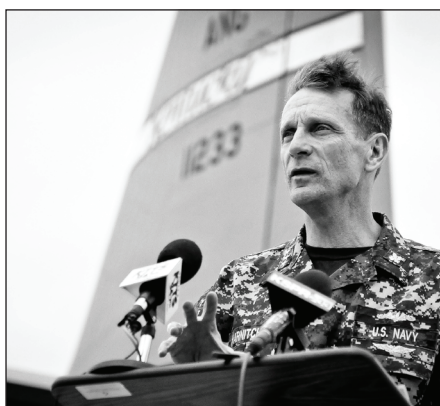
Left: Sgt. Eric Hammerstrom (left), a medic from the 375th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron at Scott Air Force Base, Ill., and Emergency Medical Technician Jerry Ellis of CoxHealth in Springfield, Mo., lift a simulated patient onto a Kentucky Air Guard C-130 Hercules May 17 during National Level Exercise 2011 at Springfield-Branson National Airport in Springfield, Mo. The exercise was the largest joint-training scenario in U.S. history, with participation from emergency responders in eight central states, the National Guard and multiple federal entities like the Department of Defense, U.S. Transportation Command and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.



Left: Lt. Col. David Mounkes (left), commander of the Kentucky Air Guard's 123rd Contingency Response Element, talks May 18 to Adm. James Winnefeld, commander of U.S. Northern Command, about the element's operations while deployed to Springfield, Mo., in support of National Level Exercise 2011. The CRE was responsible for establishing and running an air hub at the notionally inoperative airport.



Above: The 123rd Contingency Response Element's mobile command center for National Level Exercise 2011 was located on the edge of the flight line at Springfield-Branson National Airport in Springfield, Mo.



Above: Vice Adm. Mark D. Harnitchek, deputy commander of United States Transportation Command, speaks to the media about the importance of putting plans into action to ensure success during a news conference May 19 at the Springfield-Branson National Airport. The conference was held as part of National Level Exercise 2011.





## Medics

Continued from Front Page

Louisville, according to Lt. Col. Beth Leistensnider, medical readiness officer for the 123rd Airlift Wing.

Although medical personnel from the wing assisted with patient care during the first scenario, the event primarily was intended to test the VA's support of the National Disaster Medical System, Leistensnider explained. Operated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, NDMS was created to manage the federal government's overall medical response to major emergencies and disasters. In addition to the VA, the NDMS also partners with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Department of Defense, state and local departments of health, and private hospitals.

"In the event of a large scale disaster such as an earthquake, the Louisville VA will be responsible for setting up a patient reception area on our base," Leistensnider said. "Under NDMS, federal authorities will arrange for patients to be flown here from affected areas, the patients will be received by the VA, and they will be transported to local health care facilities."

The partnership between the VA and the Kentucky Air Guard is a valuable one, according to William Young, emergency response coordinator for the Louisville VA.

"The base's involvement in this operation is very critical," Young said. "We don't have the manpower or support to do this by ourselves. Additionally, the medical staff here provides us with invaluable training on how to provide the best care to a large number of patients."

Leistensnider agreed that joint exercises offer tremendous benefits for patient care.

"The more contact we have with the different agencies we may be involved with during an emergency, the more effective we all become," she said.

The second exercise held May 18 was limited to the wing's 123rd Medical Group, whose members were tasked with rendering aid to earthquake victims who were subsequently involved in a plane crash. The scenario required triage of difficult and combative patients and emergency medical care under field conditions, with cases ranging from head trauma and fractured bones to a heart attack and a woman in labor.

"After notification of the incident, we set up our medical control and emergency operations center, set up our communications channels, practiced our system of patient tracking and provided treatment as patients arrived," Leistensnider said.

"We didn't know what was coming at us, which is a very realistic possibility. But we met our objectives by creating a realistic environment and performing our duties using the equipment we had available. With each exercise, we improve. The next time, we'll be even more prepared."

Both exercises augmented National Level Exercise 2011, a week-long event designed to test the local, state and national response to a simulated earthquake along the New Madrid Fault. NLE 2011 included participation from emergency responders in eight central states, the National Guard and multiple federal entities.

**Left: Lee Hyman, a volunteer for the National Disaster Medical System, gets a simulated head laceration applied to his scalp by moulage artist Kelli Morris in preparation for the May 18 exercises held here.**



**Above: Volunteers for the National Disaster Medical System carry simulated patients off a Kentucky Air Guard C-130 during an earthquake-response exercise held May 18 on the flight line of the Kentucky Air National Guard Base.**



**Right: Chief Master Sgt. Jimmy Rogers (left) and 1st Lt. Thomas Hagan of the Kentucky Air National Guard's 123rd Medical Group examine a simulated plane-crash victim during the May 18 earthquake-response scenarios here.**

Photos by Maj. Dale Greer/KyANG





## **Air Force releases updated AFI on dress & appearance**

**RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFNS)** — The Air Force's instruction on dress and personal appearance recently got an upgrade with the release of a new version July 18.

Air Force Instruction 36-2903, Dress and Personal Appearance, received a facelift after several years of interim updates as uniform items were introduced and phased out.

The last revision to the AFI was in 2006, prior to the release of the Airman Battle Uniform, which replaces the Battle Dress Uniform and Desert Camouflage Uniform on Nov. 1, 2011.

Most of the changes to the AFI — including the addition of numerous photos — are more about clarification than new policy, said Ruth Ewalt, Uniform Programs and Policies chief at the Air Staff. They are intended to make the AFI more user-friendly.

"The changes are a result of Airmen in the field requesting clarification, leadership approving more specific policy, and the need to integrate information from the 98th virtual uniform board and other wear policy approved since 2006," Ewalt said.

"We added the ABU, green fleece, and physical fitness uniform information not in the previous AFI and corrected instances of conflicting information."

## **Free phone app helps recruits prepare for basic training**

**RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFNS)** — A free mobile phone application to prepare recruits for life in the Air Force was released June 2.

The mobile app, called "Fundamentals," is available for download from the iTunes Store and Android Market.

"The application will help Air Force candidates prepare for basic military training and ensure they arrive in better physical condition," said Maj. Sandra Magaña, the Air Education and Training Command chief of future learning capabilities.

# **Guard members now have one-stop information shop**

**By Tech. Sgt. John Orrell  
National Guard Bureau**

**ARLINGTON, Va.** — Officials with the departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs have created a one-stop web site for Guard members to access and administer their service benefits-related information in a secure manner, said the undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness.

In a November 2010 memorandum to all the branches, Clifford L. Stanley announced that a new VA eBenefits web portal had been created as a solution for benefit-related information availability to current and former service members, to include all Guard members.

"The DS (DOD Self-Service Logon) is a secure, self-service logon ID that allows beneficiaries affiliated with the DOD or the VA access to several web sites using a single username and password," Stanley said.

Developed by specialists with the 2007 President's Commission on Care for America's Returning Wounded Warriors, eBenefits will allow Guard members to apply and track the status of their VA claims and access a catalog of direct links to assist them with needs ranging from education benefits to life insurance.

"DS Logon will allow all service members and veterans secure access through the eBenefits web portal to benefits information specifically tailored to their needs, for the lifetime of their affiliation with the DOD or VA," he said.

All service members in possession of a common access card should be directed to obtain a eBenefits logon, Stanley said.

On June 11, members of the DOD and VA Joint Executive Council approved the plan, directing service members to obtain a DS Logon when either first enlisting or re-entering the service and directed all current service members to obtain a logon by November 2013.

"National Guardsmen can sign up one of four ways," said Vernell Hill, the National Guard Bureau Interactive Personnel Electronic Records Management System senior access control manager.

Guard members can access for sign-up with their common access card, through myPay, by using a defense enrollment eligibility reporting system real-time automated personnel identification system terminal or by going directly to the closest VA center for face-to-face assistance, he said.

Hill recommends that Guard members who are still part of the uniformed service use their common access cards to enter the system.

"CAC registration is especially critical for our wounded warriors, since it may be more difficult to travel to a RAPIDS or VA site," he said.

Current Guard members enrolling on the eBenefits site must ensure they sign up for level 2 credentialing, Hill said.

All-in-all, Hill feels this program is an extremely useful tool that Guard members should use to ensure all of their information is correct and up-to-date.

"It's a tool for personal information organization," he said. "The sooner you get in and get up to date, the easier it is for everything to fall into line, especially in the event something unforeseen happens and your family needs information."

## **Social Security numbers dropped from IDs**

**American Forces Press Service**

**WASHINGTON** — Social Security numbers will no longer appear on military identification cards issued after June 1.

The effort is part of a larger plan to protect service members and other DOD identification card holders from identity theft, officials said. New cards bear a DOD identification number, instead — a unique 10-digit number

assigned to every person with a direct relationship with the department.

The new number also will be the service member's Geneva Convention identification number.

An 11-digit DOD benefits number also will appear on the cards of people eligible for DOD benefits. The first nine digits are common to a sponsor, and the last two digits will identify a specific person within the sponsor's family.

123rd Airlift Wing  
Public Affairs Office  
Kentucky Air National Guard  
1101 Grade Lane  
Louisville, KY 40213-2678

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

## Airmen honored for performance at officer school

By Maj. Shawn Dawley  
123rd Operations Group

The two newest officers in the Kentucky Air National Guard's 123rd Operations Group recently brought home top honors from the Academy of Military Science, the primary commissioning school for National Guard Airmen.

While earning his commission, 2nd Lt. Nick Reinke was selected by his peers and faculty members to serve as Officer Candidate Wing Commander for the 110-student training cadre, and he eventually went on to earn the title of Distinguished Graduate. During the same class, 2nd Lt. Kenneth Lukens achieved a perfect score on the AMS physical fitness test, maxing out each category of strength and stamina.

Both lieutenants were recognized for their accomplishments during an AMS graduation ceremony, held March 3 at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.

Prior to attending AMS, Lukens was an Air Force pararescueman assigned to the 23rd Special Tactics Squadron at Hurlburt Field, Fla. He later joined the Kentucky Air Guard's 123rd Special Tactics Squadron and has deployed overseas numerous times in support of multiple contingency operations while completing a bachelor's degree through American Military University.

In the coming months, Lukens will begin training as a special tactics officer, where his physical conditioning and leadership will once again be put to the test, said Lt. Col. Jeff Wilkinson, commander of the 123rd Special Tactics Squadron. Upon graduation from the intense training program, Lieutenant Lukens will return to the 123rd STS.

"Ken consistently performs at the top level and is off to a great start to meet our high expectations of him in becoming a special tactics officer," Wilkinson said.

Reinke entered military service in May 2003 when he enlisted in the Kentucky Air National Guard. Following Basic Military Training, he completed the Operations Intelligence Apprentice course at Goodfellow Air Force Base, Texas, where he was recognized as a Distinguished Graduate.

Upon his return to the Kentucky Air Guard, he was assigned to the 123rd Operations Support Flight as an intelligence analyst. During his enlisted career, Reinke rose to the rank of technical sergeant and went on to become Non-Commissioned Officer In Charge of the intelligence section, deploying in support of Operations Joint

Enterprise, Coronet Oak and Enduring Freedom.

Reinke began Undergraduate Pilot Training at Columbus Air Force Base, Miss., in June and will be assigned to the Kentucky Air Guard's 165th Airlift Squadron after completing the 18-month course.

"Lieutenant Reinke was an outstanding NCO and did amazing things for the intelligence section," said his former supervisor, Maj. Kevin Krauss. "I was not at all surprised to see him leading from the front because that is what he's always done. I'm looking forward to seeing the great things he will do in his officer career."



Courtesy photo

2nd Lt. Nick Reinke (center), a pilot trainee in the Kentucky Air National Guard's 165th Airlift Squadron, salutes the commandant of the Academy of Military Science during a graduation parade held March 3 for newly commissioned Air Force officers at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.