

THE CARGO COURIER

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

Vol. XXVIII, No. 8 • Nov. 23, 2013

CE supports largest Silver Flag exercise

Simulated war-time setting tests skills for bare-base ops

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

Twenty-six Airmen from the Kentucky Air Guard's 123rd Civil Engineer Squadron deployed to Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla.,

Sept. 13 to 21 to test their skills in a simulated combat environment while operating from a bare-base location.

The exercise, known as Silver Flag, was the largest of its kind to date, drawing together more than 245 active-duty Air Force and Reserve Component Airmen, according to Lt. Col. Keith McCallie, the 123rd's deputy base civil engineer and Silver Flag student commander.

"This was an extremely worthwhile learning experience given the level of Total Force integration — the first that I've ever seen at Silver Flag," McCallie said.

Silver Flag is a regular training event for all civil engineering personnel, covering command and control, and specialized craftsmen training.

See **SILVER FLAG**, Back Page



Tech. Sgt. Dave Soldat/KyANG

Guardsmen from the 123rd Civil Engineer Squadron join with other Airmen to anchor a Mobile Aircraft Arresting System at Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla., on Sept. 16. They were participating in Silver Flag, a week-long exercise to test the skills of civil engineers at bare-base locations.

Dawson takes responsibility as new wing command chief

By Maj. Dale Greer
123rd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Chief Master Sgt. Ray E. Dawson assumed responsibility as the 123rd Airlift Wing's newest command chief master sergeant Nov. 1, replacing Chief Master Sgt. Curtis Carpenter, who is scheduled to retire in February.

Dawson joined the Kentucky Air National Guard as an air terminal operations center specialist in December 1993 after serving for more than eight years in the active-duty Air Force. He has been the wing's

full-time Air Terminal superintendent and technician supervisor since April 2010.

"I'm extremely pleased to welcome Chief Dawson to headquarters as the wing's top enlisted Airman," said Col. Warren Hurst, commander of the 123rd Airlift Wing. "He brings a wealth of experience to the position, including a deep knowledge of numerous missions ranging from cargo handling and contingency response to audio-visual support and law enforcement.

"Equally important, he is committed to the profes-



DAWSON

See **DAWSON**, Back Page

It has been an honor to serve such a great wing

Thank you for all the great things you have accomplished during my tour as your wing commander.

You deployed to the fight multiple times, responded to national and local emergencies, participated in numerous exercises, hosted several high-profile distinguished visitors, improved your readiness to record levels, and maintained your training currencies.

You did all this while facing the unprecedented challenges of the new "consolidated" higher headquarters inspections, budget cuts due to sequestration, technician furloughs (not once, but twice) and a contentious government shutdown that lasted 16 days.

You met these challenges head-on with a level of professionalism and pride that was truly remarkable.

You increased your coordination as a team and synchronized activities between the groups that improved our ability to meet all the challenges and obstacles thrown in our path.

You fixed things that were broken and offered solutions to improve processes and increase efficiency.

I cannot thank you enough for all your efforts. Our readiness levels are the best they have ever been. You watered the eyes of the inspectors and left a lasting positive impression, once again, that the 123rd Airlift Wing is one of the best in the nation.

Our Mission Support Group provided



**Col. Warren Hurst
123rd Airlift Wing Commander**

support to the AOR with security forces, aerial porters, and firefighters while simultaneously keeping our base facilities and grounds in top shape.

Our Explosive Ordnance Disposal team answered short-notice calls to assist local law enforcement on several occasions.

The Contingency Response Group raised the bar again for superior performance during a Joint Task Force-Port Opening exercise which surpassed that of our active-duty counterparts.

Without a doubt, we have the best-trained and experienced CRG in the U.S. Air Force.

Our operations and maintenance group personnel set new records for launch-reliability rates while deployed in the AOR. They made combat delivery look easy. Maintenance also received an "outstanding" grade on their recent inspection. Together they are the heart and soul of our airlift mission.

Our Medical Group has improved our dental and medical readiness to levels we have never been able to attain. Their dedication, creativity and passion for providing the best medical support possible have put us on a path for great success.

Our CBRNE Enhanced Response Force Package is also one of the best in the nation, sought after for their expertise in this new mission set.

The 223rd Intelligence Flight has many successes we will never be able to talk about. And we have a unique wing with an AFSOC component of Special Operators who never rest. They volunteer for multiple deployments in high-threat environments — and would probably have it no other way. Quiet professionals.

You are an outstanding wing, and I have been very honored and blessed to serve such a great organization filled with multi-talented and wonderful people.

Thank You!

— Col. Warren Hurst

This 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 National Guard photographs unless otherwise indicated.

We welcome your feedback. Please contact the Public Affairs Office directly if you have suggestions for articles or photography.

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

123rd Airlift Wing Editorial Staff

- Wing Commander.....Col. Warren Hurst
- Chief of Public Affairs.....Maj. Dale Greer
- Public Affairs Officer.....2nd Lt. James Killen
- Public Affairs Manager.....Master Sgt. Philip Speck
- Senior Staff Writer.....Master Sgt. Diane Stinnett
- Staff Writer.....Staff Sgt. Austin Shaffner
- Staff Writer.....Staff Sgt. Vicky Spesard
- Staff Writer.....Airman 1st Class Joshua Horton

Address: 1101 Grade Lane, Louisville, KY 40213-2678
 Phone: (502) 413-4484 • Fax: (502) 413-4676
 E-mail: 123AW.PA@ang.af.mil

Visit our Website for expanded content — www.123aw.ang.af.mil • Follow us on Facebook for daily updates — www.facebook.com/123AWKY

'Military Cheer' benefits needy Airmen during the holidays

Operation Military Cheer, a free holiday program designed to assist military members in need, is now accepting applications.

Last year, the program provided gift cards, clothes, shoes and toys for more than 440 children of Kentucky National Guard Airmen and Soldiers, according to Cindy Culver, lead child and youth coordinator for the Kentucky National Guard Family Programs Office.

"With the holidays right around the corner, it's time for all of us in the Kentucky National Guard family to reach out and help our fellow Soldiers and Airmen who may need assistance," Culver said.

If you would like to adopt a military family or apply for assistance, please contact Master Sgt. Krista Lindsey in the 123rd Force Support Squadron at (502) 413-4032.

The deadline to apply is Dec. 6.

White House Interest



Maj. Dale Greer/KyANG

Col. Warren Hurst, commander of the 123rd Airlift Wing, greets Dr. Jill Biden, wife of Vice President Joe Biden, and Gen. Frank Grass (far right), chief of the National Guard Bureau, on the flight line here Nov. 3. Biden and Grass were in town to attend Survivors' Day at the Races, an event at Churchill Downs racetrack to honor the family members of military personnel who died while serving their country.

Awareness key to prevent terrorist activity

By Staff Sgt. Vicky Spesard
123rd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Two homemade pressure-cooker bombs exploded during the Boston Marathon April 15, killing three people and severely wounding more than 200 others.

In the aftermath of this horrific event, many questions are being asked about what constitutes a terrorist act and whether people put their safety at risk by attending large public events.

Capt. Joshua Elwell of the Kentucky Air National Guard's 123rd Contingency Response Group offers his own insight as director of the anti-terrorism program here. He's specially trained in identifying the causes and effects of terrorist activities within the United States and how to combat them.

Q: What is the definition of terrorism, and is there a difference between terrorism abroad or domestically?

A: A terrorist is someone who wants to in-

still fear and terror in a society for a political or religious reason.

The intent of terrorism is to cause our country pain at a national level, to shut us down economically or to instill enough fear that we stop participating in public events. If any of these things happens, a terrorist has met his or her intent.

In my opinion, there is no difference in terrorism carried out abroad or domestically. The intent is still the same.

Q: With so many large, public events happening around the country, can a person feel safe attending them?

A: The intent of terrorism is to scare us into disrupting our lives, to make it a challenge to go out and participate in these events. Don't stay home and be scared to live your life. A lot of attention is now being given to security at big events as local authorities, security agencies and threat working groups implement enhanced security measures. I would just

encourage everyone attending to be patient with security personnel who may be checking bags or coolers and things of that nature. Remember, they are there for our protection.

Q: How can a person minimize his or her own risk at large events?

A: There are many things you can do for your personal safety. If you are attending public activities, don't stand around in large gatherings of officials. Don't hang around a table of VIPs. Be aware of your surroundings and use common sense. Keep your eyes open and report what looks out of place.

Q: What can an individual do to help?

A: "Watch, report, protect" is the motto for the EagleEyes program, operated by the Air Force Office of Special Investigations. The program encourages the public to report anything that looks odd or out of place. In the Louisville area, reports can be made by calling the Kentucky Air Guard's 123rd Security Forces Squadron at (502) 412-4477.

Special Tactics members scale McKinley

Exercise provides valuable extreme-climate training

By Staff Sgt. Vicky Spesard
123rd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Five combat controllers from the Kentucky Air National Guard gained valuable extreme-weather experience recently by scaling to the top of Mount McKinley near Talkeetna, Alaska.

Senior Master Sgt. Wes Brooks, Master Sgts. Russ LeMay and Aaron May, and Tech. Sgts. Grant Kinlaw and Harley Bobay of the 123rd Special Tactics Squadron reached the summit of North America's highest mountain May 25 after many weeks of mid-altitude and high-altitude conditioning.

The objective of such extreme training, which involved glacier travel techniques, crevasse rescue operations and avalanche prediction, was to give the Airmen experience they might need during cold-weather, high-altitude military operations, according to Chief Master Sgt. Tom DeSchane, the 123rd's combat control enlisted manager.

"In preparing for part of their war-time tasking, these guys have to practice their mountaineering skills and land navigation through arctic conditions," DeSchane said. "Each operator is issued his own skis, snow shoes and all the accoutrements for surviving the elements. Going up Mount McKinley teaches them how to rope-in and traverse the terrain safely with all of the equipment that they have to carry."

Combat controllers are part of the Air Force Special Operations community and are among the most highly trained personnel in the U.S. military.

As certified air traffic controllers, they deploy undetected into combat and hostile environments to establish assault zones or airfields while simultaneously conducting air traffic control, fire support, command and control, direct action, counter-terrorism, foreign internal defense, humanitarian assistance and special reconnaissance.

Planning for the high-altitude training exercise began about a year ago when the five men participated in mountaineering training in the snowy mountains outside Salt Lake City, Utah, with other members of their squadron.

There, the squadron practiced knots, an-



Five combat controllers from the 123rd Special Tactics Squadron scaled Mount McKinley near Talkeetna, Alaska, on May 25 as part of arctic mountaineer training. The 20,237-foot summit is the highest mountain peak in North America.

chors and other rope skills, as well as movement techniques, minimalistic equipment and clothing, and medium-altitude terrain traversing.

"Originally, the idea to climb (McKinley) came from Aaron, who had tried to climb the mountain before with his previous unit," LeMay said.

"His team was unable to reach the summit when they stopped to help rescue another group of climbers who had an accident."

Accidents on the mountain are common and mostly caused by climbers who are not properly trained or prepared for the change in altitude and the extreme environment.

The Kentucky team took great care in preparing for their climb.

When the five-member team arrived in Anchorage, Alaska, outside Denali National Park and Preserve, they spent the first day with a guide service, familiarizing themselves with their equipment and preparing meals. The team then departed by air taxi to Mount McKinley base camp, where they spent three days engaged in hands-on training to ensure a solid skill foundation.

For the next 13 days the five Airmen and two guides applied all of their skills and techniques

to climb the mountain summit, stopping at camps along the way to acclimate, rest and complete training objectives, before making the return trip to base camp.

"Summit day was the hardest part of the climb," LeMay said. "It took us five to six hours of straight climbing from the last camp we stayed at to reach it."

"We were the first group of the day to reach the summit so we had about 45 minutes to ourselves to see how beautiful it was. It was the clearest day at the top, so we could see for miles around us. It was amazing."

Having to make way for other climbing groups, the combat controllers returned to the camp they stayed in the night before to rest for their descent.

"It was tough to go up to the top," LeMay continued. "Everything about going up and coming down was tough. The cold-weather environment is very unforgiving, and it makes even the smallest tasks very difficult."

"It was the best kind of cold-weather training we could have gotten. Working in such a harsh environment gave us invaluable experience. The climb was amazing, but a lot of hard work."

Building Partnerships

123rd Airman teaches Colombian counterparts

123rd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

BOGOTA, COLOMBIA — An Airman from the Kentucky Air National Guard deployed here Aug. 11 to Sept. 14 to help build stronger ties with the Colombian Air Force while serving as an instructor for the 571st Mobility Support Advisory Squadron.

The 571st's Mobile Training Team was conducting the fourth in a series of training events focused on Colombia's C-130 aircraft maintenance program, according to Tech. Sgt. Jason Sanderson, a crew chief in the Kentucky Air Guard's 123rd Global Mobility Squadron.

Held at the central airlift maintenance facility in Bogota, the course's intent was to assist in broader relationship-building efforts between the U.S. and Colombian air forces, while directly assisting the Fuerza Aérea Colombiana in their efforts to increase the sortie generation rate for critical airlift missions, Sanderson said.

The Mobility Support Advisory Squadron mission, based out of Travis Air Force Base, Calif., supports the 12th Air Force's continued engagements in the U.S. Southern Command area of responsibility in Latin America and the Caribbean. This particular engagement was unique because Sanderson was one of the first Air National Guard members brought in to augment the Mobility Support Advisory Squadron mission and teach a C-130 maintenance instructional seminar.

According to Maj. Shawn Keller, State Partnership Program director for the Kentucky National Guard, the inclusion of Air Guard members in active-duty security cooperation missions is a trend that is likely to continue.

"The Air Force has discovered that the Guard has a long and successful history of building and sustaining international partnerships," Keller said. "As budgets and manpower continue to shrink, the Mobility Support Advisory Squadron and other U.S. military units operating in USSOUTHCOM are taking advantage of the strong foundational relationships that the State Partnership Program has been building in the region since the mid-1990s. They have also realized



Above: Tech. Sgt. Jason Sanderson, a crew chief in the Kentucky Air National Guard's 123rd Global Mobility Squadron, explains C-130 engine components and inspection procedures to members of the Colombian Air Force during a training event held in Bogota, Colombia, in August and September.



Left: Sanderson trains Colombian maintainers on the components of a C-130 aircraft Main Landing Gear System. He is one of the first Air National Guardsmen to augment an active-duty Air Force Mobility Support Advisory Squadron mission.

Photos courtesy 123rd Contingency Response Group

that the Guard is an excellent source of highly skilled and seasoned Airmen who can fill critical positions on their Mobile Training Teams."

The initial plan for Air Guard involvement was developed during a joint maintenance assessment conducted by a team from the South Carolina and Kentucky National Guard State Partnership Programs in April 2013. South Carolina, whose Air National Guard is equipped with the F-16 weapon system, was recently partnered with Colombia under the

National Guard Bureau partnership program.

Kentucky, which has C-130s, also participates in the State Partnership Program and has been paired with Colombia's neighbor, Ecuador, since 1996.

The airlift mission plays a vital role in Colombia's counter-narcotics and border security efforts, Keller said, and mission-capable aircraft are a key to success. As a result of

See COLUMBIA, Page 7

Memorial planned for fallen Ky. Guardsmen

By Staff Sgt. Vicky Spesard
123rd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Names. Hundreds of names. Hundreds of names of Kentucky men and women who died while serving their state and nation in the Army and Air National Guard. Names that are only remembered today through stories handed down to family members.

To Kentucky National Guard Memorial Fund committee member Charlie Jones, whose son's name is among these ranks, the stories are not enough.

"My son, Sgt. 1st Class Charles Jones, served in the 149th Infantry Brigade as a combat medic and was deployed to Iraq in 2006," Jones said. "He was proud to serve and never hesitated when asked to go. He was just not fortunate enough to come back."

Jones and 20 other committee members, most of them retired military and veterans, are raising money through the fund to build the Kentucky National Guard Memorial, where each name of fallen Kentucky Guard members will be etched in stone as a tribute to their sacrifice and dedication to the Commonwealth.

The memorial will be located at the entrance to Boone National Guard Center in Frankfort, Ky. A large granite stone in the shape of the state will serve as the focal point of the memorial, where each name will be etched. In front will be a larger-than-life-sized bronze statue of Daniel Boone, to be sculpted by Wyatt Gragg.

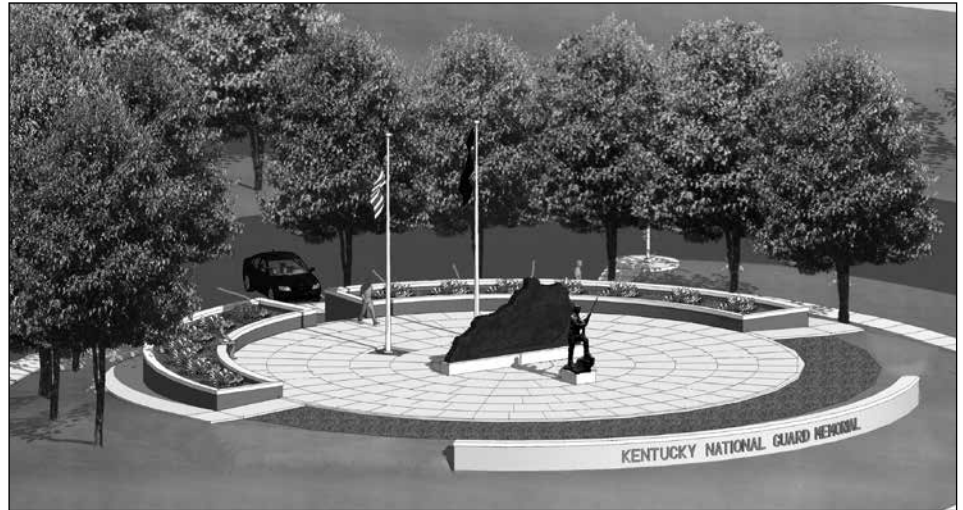
"This memorial serves two purposes," Jones said. "It is a reminder to the family members that we have not forgotten the sacrifice their service member made.

"It's also there to let future military members know that we are behind them and are supporting them and will never forget what they are about to do for the people of this great state."

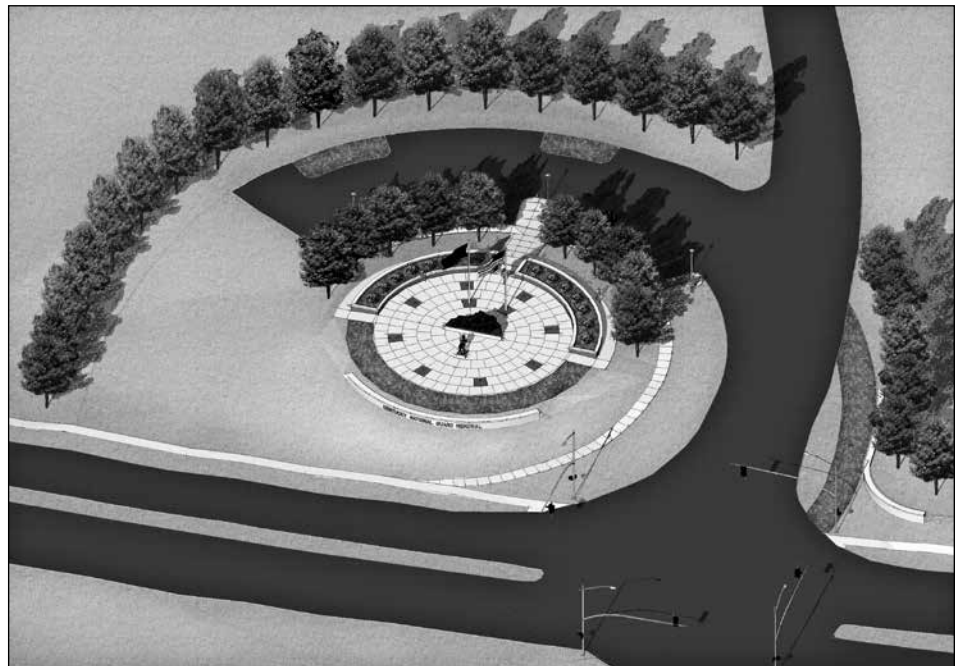
The construction of the memorial, which was designed by Bender Associates Architect, will take approximately six to eight months to complete, Jones said. The site of the monument is largely an open rocky area that has been set aside, awaiting more funds to pay for the project before construction can begin.

According to James LeMay, committee secretary, the group has raised about half of the budget needed to begin construction, mostly through private contributions, corporate donors and fundraisers such as a golf scramble.

"Our donors have been very generous in gifts and donations of work and supplies



The proposed Kentucky National Guard Memorial will feature the names of hundreds of Kentucky Army and Air National Guardsmen and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their state and nation. The monument is slated for construction near the entrance to Boone National Guard Center in Frankfort, Ky.



needed," LeMay said. "However, we need an additional \$800,000 to move the memorial forward toward completion. We would like to be able to dedicate the memorial in the fall of 2014 if we can get enough private donors and grants."

Tax-free donations can be made through the fund's website at www.guardmemorial.com. Each sponsor's name will be displayed at the monument's entrance, officials said.

"Putting together the fund and building the monument became personal for me on that day when my son died," Jones said. "He went out and did what he was asked to do.

"The names waiting to be put on this memorial are Kentucky's children," he continued. "They represent each county in the Commonwealth. Donating to the fund is the right thing to do. It's the least we can do to honor their memory."

Finis Flight

Heather Wilson, wife of Kentucky Air National Guard C-130 pilot Lt. Col. Scott Wilson, spays her husband with champagne at the conclusion of his final, or “finis,” flight in the Hercules aircraft here Nov. 20. Wilson, who has served in the Air Force and Air National Guard for 26 years, is set to retire Jan. 31.

Finis flight celebrations are an old Air Force tradition. Their origins can be traced back at least as far as the Vietnam War, when Airmen would hose down a pilot each time he completed 100 combat missions.

Kentucky Air Guard photo by Maj. Dale Greer



Columbia

Continued from Page 5

Colombia’s request for assistance in the form of a C-130-specific maintenance seminar, the South Carolina Air National Guard partnered with Kentucky and other states to provide C-130 subject matter experts.

“South Carolina has done a tremendous job of quickly establishing an effective partnership in a country that is definitely one of the busiest in SOUTHCOM,” Keller said. “They realized the importance of airlift support to Colombia immediately, and wasted no time in reaching out to other Air National Guard units for support. South Carolina has a great State Partnership Program team, and we are happy to be supporting their mission.”

The training course, which lasted approximately three weeks, was “translated to the 14 partner-nation students by the 571st’s highly experienced senior air advisor, Tech. Sgt. Javier Borges,” Sanderson said.

“Borges was instrumental in the success of the aircraft maintenance seminar as well as the instruction of C-130 air drop and loadmaster seminars conducted during the

engagement,” he added.

Sanderson was able to provide assistance in the fields of auxiliary power unit and bleed air systems; engine systems; and fuel systems components and operations. He also provided an introduction to C-130 avionics and communication/navigation systems, and lectured on the importance of the Crew Chief Concept of flight line operations, production inspections, technical order systems, the role of quality assurance, and proper maintenance documentation.

“The students are highly competent, very enthusiastic about learning the C-130 and excited about the U.S. involvement in helping them achieve their goals,” said Master Sergeant Aaron Carrillo, an air traffic controller with the 571st who observed several maintenance seminars and served as team sergeant instructor for the mission.

In addition to providing instructional seminars, the team was able to organize a partnership-building day at the end of the second week. The Fuerza Aérea Colombiana, or FAC, provided their own officer club for the event, while the 571st provided food and entertainment, Sanderson said.

Part of that entertainment involved a friendly soccer match between the 571st team

and the partner nation. Much to the dismay of the 571st’s first-time mission commander, Maj. Justin Allen, the Colombians won the match by a margin of five goals.

“It was a wonderful experience for the (571st) team, as well as for the students who participated,” Allen said. “We may have lost the match but we won on the larger scale of building partnerships.”

Keller agreed.

“Overall, the fourth Mobility Support Advisory Squadron engagement to Colombia was a great success,” he said. “Sergeants Sanderson and Borges were able to instruct the FAC maintainers on C-130-specific aircraft systems as well as give them a glimpse into the overall maintenance concept of the U.S. Air Force and its continued success on the world stage.

“Both the 571st Mobility Support Advisory Squadron, through their increased focus on building partnership capacity, and the Air National Guard, through the National Guard Bureau’s State Partnership Program, stand ready for involvement in future engagements. When a crisis or contingency operation occurs, the United States and their partner nations will be better prepared to respond together.”

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

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Dawson

Continued from Front Page

sional development and personal well-being of every member of our enlisted corps, who are the heart and soul of this wing.”

Dawson enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in 1985 and served as an audio-visual specialist from 1985 to 1991. He then cross-trained into law enforcement, serving as a special agent in the Air Force Office of Special Investigations until 1993.

Later that year, he joined the Kentucky Air Guard’s 123rd Aerial Port Squadron, ultimately rising to the post of air terminal superintendent. In March 2008, Dawson was named chief enlisted manager of Kentucky’s 123rd Contingency Response Group, a post he held for two years before moving back to air terminal operations as a full-time technician.

He has deployed in support of numerous training exercises and contingencies, including Operations Southern Watch, Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom and New Dawn.

In 2012, Dawson served as the chief enlisted manager of the 451st Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron at Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan, providing counsel to the commander on issues affecting the morale and well-being of more than 230 enlisted personnel.

As a Citizen-Airman, Dawson has served his community as an elected city councilman in Scottsburg, Ind., from January 2004 to December 2008. He has also served as a city police sergeant and Indiana State Police trooper prior to joining the full-time military technician force here in April 2010.

As Dawson begins the next step in his career, he said he’s looking forward to challenge and opportunity offered by serving at headquarters.

“I am truly humbled and honored by the outpouring of support shown by my enlisted brethren as I assume the position of wing command chief,” he said. “With that support comes great trust and responsibility, which I do not take lightly. ‘Recruit me, train me, equip me and take care of my family’ is what I hear loud and clear from these fine Airmen. It’s my honor and privilege to serve them as we make the Kentucky Air National Guard an even stronger force here at home, while serving the citizens of the Commonwealth in times of need or in foreign lands fighting the enemies of this great nation.”

Silver Flag

Continued from Front Page

The exercise is mandatory for civil engineers every 40 months, McCallie explained. It challenges each craft area to perform a war-time mission tasking.

Evaluated disciplines include emergency management, utilities, structures, heating ventilation and air conditioning, heavy equipment, electrical, power protection, site development, CE operations, and fire protection.

The 123rd’s Command and Control Element also participated.

Tasks that had to be executed during the “war” included water purification, bare-base site layout, erection of a tent city, set-up of electrical generators and power distribution, airfield lighting operations, rapid runway repair, and installation of a mobile aircraft arresting system.

The Airmen also showed that they could pre-stage vehicles, perform precision convoy operations and defend assets by stopping simulated host-nation saboteurs from disrupting

power distribution.

An additional benefit of the exercise is the opportunity it provides many Airmen to use specialized equipment they don’t have back home, McCallie said. It also serves as a test bed for new and improved equipment coming into the Air Force.

For example, a new power-distribution system was being field-tested in September which consisted of digital components designed to replace less reliable analog systems.

“This gives the Airmen a look at new cutting-edge technology, which is a benefit to the troops, and it gives the command element exposure to new technology,” McCallie said.

During the exercise, the cadre commented on the positive attitudes of everyone, McCallie noted. They also praised the integration of the active-duty Air Force, Reserve and Guard personnel.

“Everyone meshed very well — no fights or feuding between the components — and it was eye-opening to see how everyone was so enthusiastic,” he said.

“Everyone embraced this training with enthusiasm and the go-get attitude.”