

THE CARGO COURIER

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

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CRG completes successful earthquake-response exercise

Unit teamed with U.S. Army to operate Joint Task Force

By 2nd Lt. James Killen
123rd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

FORT CAMPBELL, Ky. — Natural disasters are an unavoidable fact of life, but that doesn't mean the nation can't be prepared for them. Architects can design more resilient buildings and strengthen existing ones, disaster-management officials can pre-stage recovery equipment and supplies, and the men and women who respond can hone their training to ensure rapid assistance.

The Airmen of the Kentucky Air National Guard's 123rd Contingency Response

Group are those men and women, and they successfully demonstrated their disaster-response capabilities here June 16-19 during a simulated-earthquake exercise called CAPSTONE '14. The exercise tested the 123rd CRG's response to a major earthquake in the New Madrid Seismic Zone that caused massive damage across an eight-state region from Arkansas to Ohio.

The 123rd CRG, working in partnership with the U.S. Army's 688th Rapid Port Opening Element, established a Joint Task Force-Port Opening within hours of deploying to Fort Campbell's airfield.

Read more online at
www.123aw.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123415767



Master Sgt. Phil Speck/KyANG

Airmen from the 123rd Contingency Response Group use a forklift to load cargo onto a flatbed truck during Capstone '14, a homeland earthquake-response exercise at Fort Campbell, Ky., on June 18. The 123rd CRG joined forces with the U.S. Army's 688th Rapid Port Opening Element to operate a Joint Task Force-Port Opening from June 16 to 19.

Survival skills tested at Taylorsville Lake

More than 120 Kentucky aircrew members participated in land- and water-survival training at Taylorsville June 5 through 7. See more online at www.123aw.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123416555 and view a photo gallery at www.flickr.com/photos/kyngpao/sets/72157644667569238/

Wing Command Chief Carpenter retires

After more than 34 years of service to the U.S. Air Force and Air National Guard, Chief Master Sgt. Curtis R. Carpenter was officially retired in a ceremony here May 17. See more online at www.123aw.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123413925

Other headlines at www.123aw.af.mil

Kentucky Air Guard Family Day to offer events for all ages

KyANG and U.S. Army establish cargo hub for earthquake response

Radke retires after 32 years' service to Air Force, Air National Guard

Airmen sharpen contracting skills for disaster-response missions



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Sweet 16: Wing's latest outstanding unit award is a testament to your dedication to excellence

Many things will be accomplished this weekend, and one of the biggest is our celebration for earning the wing's 16th Air Force Outstanding Unit Award.

Every two years, we are allowed to submit a two-page form in which we list all we've done. The dates for this award are Oct. 1, 2011 to Sept. 30, 2013.

Winning for the 16th time puts the 123rd in an elite category. Very few wings within the Active Duty, Guard or Reserves have achieved this number of awards.

We've won due to many factors, but they all come back to our people. You deploy often, to many parts of the globe, in service to our country.

When deployed, you complete your job in the best manner possible. Common feedback from Component Commanders is that you are "over and above."

And when at home station, you train with excellence, you maintain our nation's treasure with pride, and



Col. Barry Gorter
123rd Airlift Wing Commander

you comply with the nauseating amount of regulatory compliances demanded.

Around the base are posters listing exactly what was accomplished within that time period. This is the

exact verbiage used on our entry.

Please take a moment to look at the posters. These are the accomplishments of you and your fellow Airmen. They are AMAZING! Read them with pride.

Also this weekend, share the accomplishments with your family members. Family Day provides an excellent opportunity for your support structure to understand the demands that come with wearing the uniform.

I know each of your families is proud that you serve. Family Day is a chance for you to thank them for supporting you.

The successes you enjoy as part of the 123rd are success they have been part of, too. Let them know you appreciate them.

Thank you for all you do every day. Thank you for representing the Kentucky Air National Guard well — including those times when you are not wearing your uniform. And thank you for your support.

— Col. Barry Gorter

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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, 1101 Grade Lane, Louisville, KY 40213.

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