

# THE CARGO COURIER

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

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## CE refurbishes school, playground in Moldova

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CHISINAU, Moldova — Airmen from the Kentucky Air National Guard began refurbishing the only school for hearing-impaired students here June 3, working in partnership with officials from the Republic of Moldova and U.S. European Command.

The humanitarian project demolished the existing kitchen at Special School #12, updated electrical service and plumbing, and installed new tile, appliances and an improved food preparation area, according to Lt. Col. Phil Howard, commander of the Kentucky Air Guard's 123rd Civil Engineer Squadron.

Outside the school, a new basketball court was added.

"We're here to improve the school for the students, and that's the most important thing for us," Howard said. "We want to do everything we can to make this a great project for the community."

At the same time, the project also provided the Kentucky Air Guardsmen with "an outstanding opportunity to train in a deployed environment while strengthening bilateral relations with our Moldovan colleagues," Howard said.

Read more online at <http://www.123aw.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123474800>



Tech. Sgt. Vicky Spesard/Kentucky Air National Guard

A soldier from the Moldovan National Army works side by side with Airmen from the Kentucky Air National Guard's 123rd Civil Engineer Squadron at Special School #12 in Chisinau, Moldova, June 8.

## Maintenance University trains 260 Airmen

More than 260 Air National Guardsmen from five states attended a unique, weeklong course in aircraft maintenance in Savannah, Georgia, in June to enhance proficiency in everything from hydraulics to electrical generation.

The annual event, now in its eighth year, is called Maintenance University. It was created in 2008 by maintainers at the 123rd Airlift Wing.

Read more at [www.123aw.af.mil](http://www.123aw.af.mil)

## Grade Lane realignment now complete

After months of construction, the realignment of Grade Lane was completed July 1.

The effort was part of an ongoing project to unite two sections of the base, which were formerly separated by Grade Lane, in order to comply with anti-terrorism standards and minimize safety issues, according to Lt. Col. Philip Howard, commander of the 123rd Civil Engineer Squadron.

The project also improves pedestrian safety and gives the base three more acres of land.

Read more at [www.123aw.af.mil](http://www.123aw.af.mil)



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# Life seems routine — until it's not; be ready

You're sitting in your kitchen on a non-UTA weekend, eating breakfast. You have no set plans for the day.

The room starts shaking, and after about 10 seconds, with the room still shaking, you're getting concerned.

In the back of your mind, you slowly begin to realize that an earthquake is taking place.

After you assess that the tremors have ceased and your house is still standing, what are your next actions?

Maybe turn on the TV (hopefully it's still working). You find out an earthquake did indeed take place somewhere in Western Kentucky. It was measured at 6.0.

Many of you probably already know: The governor has a standing order for the full activation of the Kentucky National Guard — including all members of the Kentucky Air National Guard — upon notification of a 6.0 or higher New Madrid Seismic Zone earthquake.

Translated, that means you are required to report to your duty station, per OPOD 15-02: KY National



**Col. David Mounkes**  
Wing Commander

Guard Civil Support Operations (All Hazards Framework), as soon as you become aware of such an earthquake.

We have a Domestic Operations commitment in addition to our wartime commitment.

It goes without saying that all of us must remain in a consistent state of readiness.

There's a reason we're all pressed to keep up on our dental checks, en-

sure we have a current and passing Fitness Assessment, get that medical paperwork to the MDG and keep up with all the nitnoid deployment compliance items.

Everything we do is for a reason (well, almost everything).

It may seem like a little requirement at the time, but it's much better to stay up on your requirements now than try to get a bunch of them accomplished as your unit is rapidly deploying on a short-notice mission.

The world we live in is not always calm and peaceful. I'll leave it up to you to decide what's more likely — an overdue earthquake event or a contingency deployment because we have to go somewhere to take care of business.

Life generally seems peaceful and routine — until it's not.

Please stay ready, and help the 123rd Airlift Wing continue to improve how we prep and deploy efficiently and safely so we can rapidly get to the fight.

Thank you, and thanks to your families for your choice to serve.

—Col. David Mounkes

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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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