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Crews fly war scenarios at Sentry Aloha exercise

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

More than 60 Airmen from the 123rd Airlift Wing and three Kentucky Air National Guard C-130s arrived at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, between Aug. 8 and 30 to participate in exercise Sentry Aloha, a large-force exercise designed to test aircrews with war-time scenarios involving fighter aircraft.

The Hawaii Air National Guard led the exercise, which was conducted around the Hawaiian Islands, said Lt. Col. Randall Hood, chief of tactics for the

Kentucky Air National Guard's 165th Airlift Squadron. Aircrews flew multiple scenarios, acting as both friendly and hostile forces while integrating with F-15s, F-16s and F-22s.

"The goal for us was to integrate with the fighters," said Hood, who served as the unit's mission commander for Sentry Aloha. "To see what they can provide us, see what our limitations are and to interact so we're speaking the same language."

Read more at www.123aw.ang.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123476187



Senior Airman Robert Buchberger/Kentucky Air National Guard

An aircrew from the Kentucky Air National Guard's 165th Airlift Squadron banks a C-130 Hercules over one of the islands of Hawaii during exercise Sentry Aloha Aug. 23. The exercise tested multiple airframes and aircrews in wartime scenarios.

Hazel retires after three-decade career

Closing a chapter that spans more than 30 years in the active-duty Air Force and Kentucky Air National Guard, Chief Master Sgt. Joan Hazle officially retired in a ceremony here April 17.

Lt. Col. David Lalonde, commander of the 123rd Operations Support Squadron, delivered a few remarks to an audience of more than 200 family members, friends and coworkers wishing to express their respects to Hazle, superintendent of the Aircrew Flight Equipment Office.

"Joan is someone I've known for 26 years, and she's been such a joy to work with," Lalonde said. "I've always enjoyed her demeanor and can't remember her ever getting mad about anything."

Hazle enlisted in the active-duty Air Force in 1977. She joined the Kentucky Air National Guard in 1987 and became a full-time technician in 1988, where she worked in the Aircrew Life Support shop.

In May 2010, she was hired as the Aircrew Flight Equipment superintendent.

See photo coverage and read more at www.123aw.ang.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123476184



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Soldiers, Airmen aim to be top shooters

By Sgt. Brandy Mort
133rd MPAD

FORT KNOX, Ky. -- More than 70 Soldiers and Airmen of the Kentucky National Guard competed in pistol and rifle matches during the annual Adjutant General's Marksmanship Match here July 30-31.

The event brings together the state's top shooters from the Army and Air Guard for competition, training and bragging rights. Competitors participate in individual matches, as well as on a team level.

The 238th Regional Training Institute's team consisted of Maj. Timothy Mitchell, brigade supply officer, and Staff Sgt. Shahid Iqbal, supply sergeant. This year was Mitchell's first year competing and Iqbal's second.

"I like to practice shooting on the civilian side, so I thought it was interesting to learn how we are able to shoot within the state," Mitchell said. "I thought it was great to be able to learn from the trainers, as well as my teammates and fellow competitors."

While the event was a learning experience for Mitchell, Iqbal said he was happy to help his teammate along the way.

"My plan is to come back as many times as I can and help train and guide others along the way," Iqbal said.

"This event is a great asset because I can also take back the lessons I am taught



here, and bring them back to my unit to help others."

Match non-commissioned officer in charge, Master Sgt. Edwin Garcia, who is also assigned to the Kentucky small arms readiness section, enjoys the esprit de corps that the event brings to the different military branches and teams.

"It is great to see competitors, new and old, get out there and shoot," Garcia said. "It is a great training aid for all of the participants."

"Every shooter is different, so there are different challenges each participant faces. This event gives them an opportunity to learn, while also increasing their accuracy as a shooter."

Kentucky's State Command Sgt. Maj. David Munden was in attendance and offered up words of encouragement to the troops as they began shooting.

"It's good training and good competition for our Soldiers and Airmen,"

Munden said. "One of the most important skills to have is to be able to fire your weapon accurately. This kind of competition adds to their knowledge and increases their skill level, while adding a little friendly competition amongst the ranks."

The Kentucky National Guard awards the "Governor's Twenty" tab to the top 20 participants in the competition. This year, four competitors received the highly prestigious

award -- Sgt. 1st Class Edward Cole, Tech. Sgt. Jeff Stanley, Staff Sgt. Joel Campbell and Staff Sgt. Benjamin Joynt.

Team, Individual and Overall Awards were given for the Top 3 Pistol and Top 3 Rifle shooters.

For the individual awards: 1st Place Pistol was awarded to Staff Sgt. David Farc, 1st Place Rifle was awarded to Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Borders, and Top Gun -- awarded to the top overall shooter -- was awarded to Sgt. 1st Class Eric Dean.

For the team awards: 1st Place Rifle was awarded to Air Guard B Team, which consisted of Senior Master Sgt. Darryl Loafman, Master Sgt. Tim Kenney, Master Sgt. Travis Keehner and Tech Sgt. Jeffrey Stanley.

1st Place Pistol and 1st Place Overall were awarded to Air Guard A Team, which consisted of Staff Sgt. Jacob Fuller, Staff Sgt. David Farc, Tech Sgt. Daniel Creed and Staff Sgt. Nicholas Larimore.

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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.

123rd Airlift Wing Editorial Staff

Wing Commander.....Col. David Mounkes
 Chief of Public Affairs.....Lt. Col. Dale Greer
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 Staff Writer.....Senior Airman Joshua Horton

Phone: (502) 413-4089 • Email: allen.d.greer.mil@mail.mil

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