

THE CARGO COURIER

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

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More airmen return home

Tech. Sgt. Joe Fry, a crew chief in the Kentucky Air Guard, is welcomed home by his wife, Stacy, on the flightline here Sept. 18.

Fry was deployed for more than six months to Ramstein Air Base, Germany, where the Kentucky Air Guard flew missions in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, peacekeeping efforts in Bosnia and U.S. military operations in Liberia.

More than 30 other wing members also returned home Sept. 18. About 120 Kentucky airmen remain deployed around the world.



Senior Airman Philip Speck/KyANG

VFW Pig Roast scheduled today

**By Tech. Sgt. Amy Mundell
Cargo Courier Editor**

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1170 and its Ladies Auxiliary invite all members of the Kentucky Air Guard and their families to a welcome-home pig roast bash today at 1 p.m. at the post in Middletown.

The organization has put together a special day for local military members, especially the 123rd Airlift Wing — their “adopted unit” — as thanks for serving the country during a time of war, said Lt. Col. Rich Frymire, KyANG community relations manager.

“The welcome-home celebration lets our airmen and their families know that their sacrifices to our country are deeply appreciated,” Frymire said.

The post formally adopted the wing as part of a national VFW “adopt-a-unit” program and has worked to help the troops of the 123rd and their families in a variety of ways.

The list is long, Frymire said, but it includes the development of Operation Goodie Box, which provided more than 700 morale gifts to KyANG troops deployed for Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

They post also donated \$1,000 to the Family Readiness Emergency Relief Fund and numerous food or personal-care items to the KyANG Family Readiness Pantry.

“When the VFW adopted us, we had no idea that their contributions would make such a difference,” Frymire said.

“We are fortunate to have such a wonderful local support organization that has embraced our airmen and their families.”

The Middletown post is located at 107 Evergreen Road. Games and activities will be available for all ages. The event is free to anyone with a military identification card.

For more information, contact the post at (502) 245-8773.

Medical personnel train in Alpena

**By Senior Airman Jason Hobgood
123rd Medical Squadron**

More than 50 members of the 123rd Medical Squadron deployed to Camp Collins in Alpena, Mich., from Sept. 14 to 20 for the unit’s field medical readiness training.

The training teaches medical personnel how to function in a field hospital and to manage problems that could arise during a real-world deployment, said Maj. Kathryn Marshall, a physician in the squadron.

“This deployment was a good opportunity to learn about all working aspects of the hospital and the role that each individual plays,” she said.

During the training, Kentucky airmen joined forces with members of the California Air Guard and began providing simulated medical care in field conditions under war-time scenarios.

They lived and worked in tent facilities

and encountered the types of patient casualties that could be expected if deployed to a war zone.

“On drill weekends, I am secluded to my little office, and this was a great way to learn how well we meshed with each other as well as other units, and how our training and experience compared,” Marshall noted.

Senior Airman Bryan Ala, a medical technician who recently returned from a desert deployment supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom, said the exercise offered realistic experiences.

“The tent hospital itself, and the way it was run, was identical to how things were in the desert,” he said.

“I believe it will give our personnel a level of confidence that I did not have should they be deployed. When I first arrived in the desert, I didn’t know what to expect at all.”

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123rd plays role in ridding the world of terrorists

O

ne of the great things about being commander is that once a month I have the opportunity to write this column and pontificate on whatever I want to.

There has been a lot of rhetoric flying around in the press about what our nation has done in Iraq, and whether or not we should even have undertaken Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Since I have the opportunity (and also a very personal interest) in this issue, I am going to tell you what I think.

First of all I believe in what this administration is trying to do.

I have a problem, however, with the term "war on terror."

I think that term tends to hide or downplay what a dirty business this really is. Terror is a feeling, and you don't wage wars against feelings.

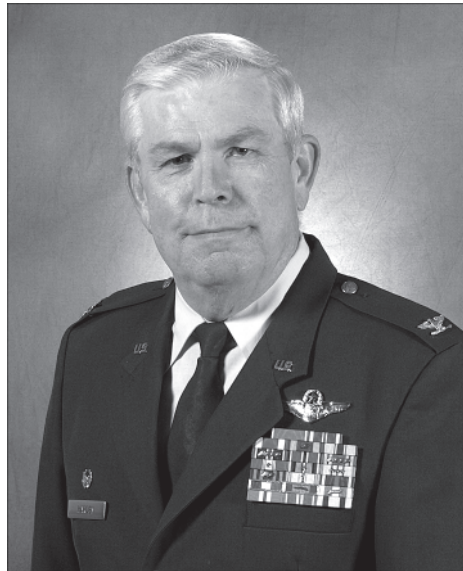
You wage war against the enemy — and our enemy is anyone who seeks to destroy our society, and anyone who supports those who do.

Despite the rhetoric from a lot of ill-informed folks, Saddam Hussein and his minions fit that description.

He has terrorized his country and others for years; given the chance, he would terrorize the world.

His removal, and the creation of a democratic society in the Middle East, will pay us and the entire world big dividends well into the future.

For one thing, we have taken away



Col. Michael Harden
123rd Airlift Wing Commander

Osama bin Laden's major reason for attacking us in the first place when we moved out of Saudi Arabia. And we could not have moved out of Saudi until Iraq was neutralized.

So all our efforts are really pointed toward ridding the world of our enemies and threats to America — and these efforts are vitally important. Just look what we have done in the past two years.

First, we have taken down the Taliban and severely crippled Al Qaeda in Afghanistan.

Second, we've taken out Saddam and his thugs, and are on the way to setting up

a democratic society in Iraq.

Third, we've left Saudi Arabia, which takes away a major stated reason for Arab hatred of the United States.

Fourth, we've damaged terror networks worldwide and kept America free from terrorist attacks for two years.

Not a bad record, and I am very proud that the 123rd has had a major impact on all four of these accomplishments.

So for what it's worth, I am proud that our country has undertaken this cause.

The world is a dangerous place filled with dangerous and cowardly people who will take advantage of any opportunity to kill Americans and disrupt our way of life.

Because of our efforts, the world now has a few less of these individuals.

As for the future, I think that whatever we will be called upon to do will be worthwhile and play a part in the overall goal of safeguarding America, which is what we really get paid to do.

I am privileged to be a member of this country's armed forces, and I thank each one of you for your important contributions to this war on our enemies.

I am also thankful for the support that the vast majority of the American people have for the military and for doing what is right despite the hardships.

For what it's worth — thanks loads!

Michael Harden

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Our office is located in room 2118 of the Wing Headquarters Building. Deadline for the next issue is Oct. 22.

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An electronic version of the Cargo Courier is available at the Kentucky Air Guard's Web site — www.kyloui.ang.af.mil

Mentoring CONNECTION

Senior Master Sgt. Ken Wade serves as a mentor to Staff Sgt. Mark Flener, overseeing his career development through shared experiences and insights.

The program, called the Thoroughbred Mentoring Connection, currently has 85 members of all ranks.

To serve as a mentor or protégé, contact Wade at ext. 4106 or Chief Master Sgt. Bob Wagner at ext. 4409.

Photo by
Tech. Sgt. Mark Rines/KyANG



Ky. mini C-130 expected to be a crowd pleaser

By Staff Sgt. Mark Flener
Cargo Courier Staff Writer

Members of the 123rd Maintenance Squadron are building a miniature model of the C-130 Hercules to help raise community awareness of the Kentucky Air Guard and assist recruiting efforts during parades.

Construction of the motorized replica, which will taxi but not fly, began in March and is scheduled for completion by May.

Master Sgt. David Fink, a metals technology supervisor, said the model has been a

combined effort between four shops in the maintenance squadron: electroenvironmental, structural maintenance, metals technology and survival.

"This whole project has been research, development and imagination," Fink said.

The idea for the mini C-130 came after the West Virginia Air Guard brought its own miniature Hercules to the Kentucky Air Guard Family Day a few years ago, letting children and adults ride in it.

Eventually, the idea for the Kentucky Air Guard's own replica began to take shape, and wing leadership was very receptive to the idea, Fink said.

Lt. Col. Pat Cole, the maintenance squadron commander, put the project in motion by first asking squadron leaders if there would be any interest in a Kentucky version.

When they answered yes, Cole took the idea to Col. Michael Harden, commander of the 123rd Airlift Wing.

Harden approved the idea, paving the way for the maintenance squadron to begin the project.

Because most of the wing's real aircraft and personnel have been deployed to Germany and the Persian Gulf in recent months, the maintenance troops left behind were freed from their usual duties, making it a perfect time to start the project.

"With all the planes gone, we've been able to really focus on it," Fink said.

As a further help, the maintenance squadron was able to use the West Virginia version as a prototype for developing an improved KyANG model.

"We had something to look at and then take those extra steps that would make our mini C-130 better," Fink said.

For example, the Kentucky version turns better than the West Virginia model, Fink noted.

"I predict this is going to be a busy piece of equipment," Fink added. "West Virginia's is very much sought-after, and I have no doubt ours will be, too."

The replica, when completed, will be 26 feet long with a 33-foot wingspan.

It will weigh in at approximately 4,000 pounds, Fink said, and will boast removable wings and tail sections for easier transportation.

The mini C-130 will be able to accommodate six children in the "cargo hold" and one driver and passenger in the "cockpit," Fink said.



Master Sgt. Charles Simpson/KyANG

Members of the 123rd Maintenance Squadron work on the mini C-130 Hercules. The project is scheduled to be completed in May 2004.

Ky. static display aircraft undergo restoration

Planes return to look of their glory days

By Staff Sgt. Mark Flener
Cargo Courier Writer

The RF-101 Voodoo and the RF-4C Phantom II aircraft on static display here recently were restored to their original outward conditions, giving the vintage aircraft the look of their glory days.

The fighters, which were flown by the wing from the mid-1960s to the late 1980s, have been on static display since being retired from service.

Their appearance, however, had begun to deteriorate in recent months, said 1st. Lt. Chris Bishop, logistics management officer for the 123rd Maintenance Squadron here.

"They looked terrible," Bishop said.

"So we wanted to bring them back to how

they looked in their glory days."

Additionally, Air Force regulations require the custodians of static-display aircraft to maintain their physical appearance, even though all Air Force static-display aircraft technically are the property of the Air Force Museum at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio.

This year, thanks to the efforts of the

123rd Maintenance Squadron, the Voodoo and Phantom reconnaissance aircraft now look as if they could take flight.

Lt. Col. Pat Cole, commander of the 123rd Maintenance Squadron, said many people and agencies

were involved in the painstaking restoration effort, both on and off base.

"It was a huge effort," Cole said. "We prevailed, and nobody gave up on the project."

Both aircraft were towed to the old clamshell hangar in February, where a contractor stripped and painted them.

The base aircraft structural maintenance shop then recreated decals for the aircraft by studying old photographs of the planes when they were in service.

Cole said that people in the community noticed when the planes were moved from their usual display pads for restoration — the wing received calls from citizens wanting to know where they had gone.

In addition to the Air Guard static display aircraft in Louisville, the maintenance squadron also helped restore the RF-101 Voodoo on static display at the Boone National Guard Center in Frankfort, Ky.



Photos by Master Sgt. Charles Simpson/KyANG

The RF-4C Phantom II was the last supersonic aircraft to be flown by the Kentucky Air Guard. It was retired in 1989 and replaced with C-130s as the wing's mission shifted to airlift.



The Kentucky Air Guard flew the RF-101 Voodoo aircraft from 1965 until 1976, when the unit converted to the RF-4C. Both airframes were designed for aerial reconnaissance missions.

Medley Fund continues to provide assistance decade later

Cargo Courier Staff Report

The John Medley Memorial Fund has raised nearly \$20,000 for students at DeSales High School in Louisville's South End since it was established 10 years ago.

The fund was created in honor of Master Sgt. John Medley, a loadmaster in the Kentucky Air Guard who was killed when the C-130 Hercules he was aboard crashed in Evansville, Ind.

After Medley's death, the family received many financial donations from people in the community, according to his

brother, Tony Medley.

Rather than give the money to charity as a one-time donation, the family decided to establish a scholarship fund that would perpetuate John's name, Tony said.

The fund they created is designed to help students at DeSales, Medley's alma mater, who need financial assistance purchasing text books.

For more information, write the John Medley Memorial Fund, Attn: Tony Medley, DeSales High School, 425 Kenwood Drive, Louisville, KY, 40214.



123rd Medical Squadron

DEPLOYMENT



ABOVE: Members of the Kentucky and California Air Guard stimulate field emergency surgery during training at Camp Collins in Alpena, Mich.

LEFT: Capt. Donna Hunsaker, a physician in the 123rd Medical Squadron, covered her face with camouflage paint for her first field medical readiness training.



Medical personnel from the Kentucky Air Guard wait to enter the gas chamber, a requirement of the training.



ABOVE: Lt. Col. Bill Adkisson and Senior Airman Jason Hobgood review a patient's chart during the exercise.

LEFT: Col. John Moore, commander of the 123rd Medical Squadron, sits with his troops and as they take instruction from the trainers at Camp Collins.



Photos by Master Sgt. Charles Simpson/KyANG

Hail to the chiefs



Photos by Tech. Sgt. Mark Rines/KyANG



ABOVE: Donna Webb receives chief master sergeant stripes during the September drill. Col. Bill Ketterer (left), director of operations, and Webb's husband, Michael Webb, did the honors of replacing her epaulets.

LEFT: Maj. Mary McCallie, commander of the 123rd Communications Squadron, promotes Terry Lutz to chief master sergeant with the help of Lutz's daughter, Audrey, during the September drill.

Promotions, retirements & separations



The following individuals have been promoted to the rank indicated as members of the Kentucky Air Guard and reservists of the United States Air Force:

SENIOR AIRMAN (E-4)

- Sharon Foster,
123rd Mission Support Flt.
- Travis Goodwin,
123rd Maintenance Sq.
- Dirk McComas,
123rd Services Flt.
- Brandy Noe,
123rd Services Flt.
- Nicholas Stavropoulos,
123rd Aerial Port Sq.
- James Thuss,
165th Airlift Sq.

STAFF SERGEANT (E-5)

- Steven Atkins,
123rd Maintenance Sq.
- Joshua Elwell,
123rd Aerial Port Sq.
- Jonathon Gray,
123rd Aircraft Maintenance Sq.

- Joellen Mathias,
165th Airlift Sq.
- Jeffrey McMahan,
123rd Security Forces Sq.
- Christopher Metcalfe,
123rd Civil Engineers Sq.
- Bradley Simms,
123rd Airlift Sq.
- Tracey Thompson,
123rd Services Flt.
- Curtis Solomon,
123rd Airlift Wing
- Aaron Wood,
123rd Airlift Control Flt.

TECHNICAL SERGEANT (E-6)

- Timothy Cox,
123rd Civil Engineers Sq.
- Amy Busch,
123rd Mission Support Flt.
- Christopher Webb,
123rd Medical Sq.

The following individuals have retired as members of the Kentucky Air National Guard and reservists of the United States Air Force:

- Master Sgt. Lois Allen,
123rd Support Gp.

- Master Sgt. Audrey Barney,
123rd Aerial Port Sq.
- Senior Master Sgt. Ralph Lowery,
123rd Civil Engineers Sq.
- Master Sgt. Diana Miller,
123rd Special Tactics Sq.
- Lt. Col. Williams Raines III,
165th Airlift Sq.

The following individuals have separated from the Kentucky Air Guard:

- Airman 1st Class Christopher Engebretson,
123rd Student Flt.
- Staff Sgt. Stephanie Hilbert,
123rd Airlift Wing
- Senior Airman Robert Johnson,
123rd Logistics Sq.
- Master Sgt. Harold Leggett Jr.,
123rd Logistics Sq.
- Airman 1st Class Sergio Mendez,
123rd Special Tactics Sq.
- Staff Sgt. Dustin Olander,
123rd Logistics Sq.
- Staff Sgt. Roger Potts,
123rd Aerial Port Sq.
- Senior Airman Amy Rock,
165th Weather Flt.
- Staff Sgt. Daniel Smith Jr.,
123rd Civil Engineers Sq.

AF offers multilingual thank you to parents

By Staff Sgt. C. Todd Lopez
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Airmen whose parents speak languages other than English can now order Air Force Parent Pins with accompanying cards translated into one of 100 languages.

The new Your Guardians of Freedom initiative is an extension of the Parent-Pin program called “E Pluribus Unum.” The Latin term comes from the great seal of the United States and means, “out of many, one,” said the program’s director, Brig. Gen. Edward Tonini.

“We try to take a lot of what we do in this program from history,” Tonini said. “E pluribus unum comes from our founding fathers. It evokes both the strength that America derives from the diversity of its citizens and the strength that the Air Force derives from the diversity of its airmen.”

In the first four months of the Parent-Pin program, more than 200,000 parents or parental figures received the lapel pins and personalized cards from Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper and Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche.

Tonini said the idea for E Pluribus Unum came shortly after the program kicked off in early May.

“It started very early on in the program with an e-mail from a lieutenant colonel in Arizona,” Tonini said. “He thought the program was magnificent but said his father spoke only Spanish, and it would be so much more meaningful to his father to receive the card in Spanish. Over the next few weeks, we got a hundred of those kinds of letters.”

Even before launching E Pluribus Unum, members of the Your Guardians of Freedom office received more than 1,000 requests for cards in 40 different languages, according to Tonini.

Office officials teamed with people from the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, Calif., and other commercial agencies to trans-

late the original card into 100 different languages, Tonini said.

The purpose for offering the letter in so many languages is community outreach, according to Tonini.

“The Air Force Parent-Pin program is designed to acknowledge the parents and parental figures whose support continues to be critical to America’s airmen,” Tonini said. “When your parents wear these pins, their friends will ask about it. Your parents will tell them about you and your service, and how proud they are of you. This is a real ‘support multiplier,’ and that support is just as important if your parents or parental figures don’t speak English.”



Master Sgt. Jim Varhegyi/USAF

WASHINGTON — Tech. Sgt. Ares Bisco pins a Parent Pin on his mom, Mila Bisco, during a ceremony launching “E Pluribus Unum” at the National Press Club here Sept. 12. Bisco is a native of the Philippines. A letter written in Tagalog, her native tongue, accompanied the pin.

No plans to extend Guard, Reserve deployments

By Master Sgt. Scott Elliott
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Air Force officials do not plan to extend the involuntary deployment of Reserve and Air National Guard airmen to Iraq.

About 4,700 Air National Guard and Reserve airmen are deployed supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom. According to a senior Air Force official, about 12,000 deployed Air Reserve Component airmen have already returned home.

“The (Air Force’s) position all along has been that Air Reserve Component personnel will be released when they’ve completed what they set out to do,” said Col. Richard M. Stedding, senior military adviser to the

deputy secretary of the Air Force for Reserve affairs.

“The importance of returning our citizen airmen to their families and civilian jobs is well-known, and we continue to strive toward that,” he said.

The Air Force is following a standing policy of doing what it can to avoid extending deployments, Stedding said.

“Combatant commanders have been (asked) to make sure ARC personnel are released ... in sufficient time to return to their home units, reconstitute, take needed leave and process off active duty,” Stedding said.

Army officials extended their Reserve soldiers on active duty based on mission requirements, the colonel said.

“Many provisions have been made to ro-

tate personnel in order to maintain the health of the force and to meet the needs of the mission,” Stedding said.

The Air Force is in the first of two 120-day transitional air and space expeditionary forces that are designed to bring the service’s deployment rotation schedule back on track by March.

AEF Blue airmen deployed in July, and airmen of AEF Silver are scheduled to replace them in November.

“Everything is on track to resume the new steady state rotations of the AEF,” Stedding said.

“That’s not to say that there won’t still be some ARC members mobilized in March, but the numbers should be small and the rationale great.”

USAF 2003 Climate Survey launches Oct. 1

This year Guard, Reserves included

By Richard Salomon
Air Force Manpower and
Innovation Agency Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — Air Force leaders at all levels want to know, "How is my organization doing?" The 2003 Air Force Climate Survey begins Oct. 1 to answer this question with the help of Air Force people.

Their participation in the survey is critical, said senior leaders.

"Leadership must be made aware of what's really going on out there," said Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche.

"By taking a few brief moments to fill out this survey, you can help your leaders understand your concerns and, ultimately, better serve you and our nation's interests."

Previous surveys included active-duty airmen and appropriated-fund civilians. This year, the survey also will include the Reserve, Guard, non-appropriated fund civilians and students on temporary-duty status.

"We want to make sure all members of the Air Force team have an opportunity to participate," said Lori Marcum, the survey's team leader.

"Leaders at all levels use the Air Force Climate Survey to target areas for improvement. In order to create positive changes within an organization, (leaders) must know where to begin. This survey provides everyone an opportunity to speak out about strengths and areas for improvement in their organization."

The survey runs through Nov. 23 and can be completed online at <http://afclimatesurvey.af.mil> anytime during the survey period.

Because Air Force leaders ask for direct and candid feedback, the survey team has taken extraordinary measures to ensure privacy by using advanced information-masking software.

Anonymity continues to be a key factor of the survey, officials said.

Results will be released early in 2004, said Gen. John P. Jumper, Air Force chief of staff.

"The U.S. Air Force is the finest in the world, a great place to serve and raise our

families," he said. "We share a commitment to make it better."

The 2003 survey will cover 13 factors that measure work experience: job, resources, core values, leadership, supervision, training and development, teamwork, participation and involvement, recognition, unit flexibility, general satisfaction, unit performance outcomes and job enhancement.

Survey participation has climbed from 39 percent in 1997 and 36 percent in 1999 to more than 65 percent of active-duty airmen and civilians in the 2002 survey.

The 45th Space Wing at Patrick Air Force Base, Fla., used the data from the 2002 survey as a powerful tool for change.

Patrick's leaders created a performance plan called START for "Synchronize actions," "Trust people," "All accountable," "Recognize achievement" and "Tenacious execution."

The plan emphasized mentoring and individual development. It provided mission focus with clear and measurable goals, according to base officials.

Even though the base scored high in most

factors, base leaders wanted to make life at Patrick even better, said Judy Nicholson, START director.

"We knew from the Air Force survey that we could improve in some areas. The work the commanders did reviewing the survey feedback resulted in START," she said.

The base introduced monthly civilian commanders' calls and created a civilian-oversight-recognition team.

Leaders rewrote the rules on the quarterly awards process to focus more on performance than additional duties.

To encourage attendance at commander's calls, leaders use tickets for rocket launches at nearby Cape Canaveral Air Force Station as door prizes.

Brig. Gen. J. Gregory Pavlovich, 45th Space Wing commander, said he continually reviews the survey results to make sure the wing is on the right track.

"START is a direct result of the Air Force survey, so we place a great deal of value on the survey data," he said.

"Because of the survey, we've been able to make improvements at all levels."

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