

THE CARGO COURIER

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

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KyANG fine tunes as ORI nears

'Dress rehearsal' allows guardsmen final prep for 1996 inspection

By Staff Sgt. Dale Greer
Wing Public Affairs Office

SAVANNAH, Ga. -- SCUD missiles, terrorist infiltrations and deadly chemical agents weren't enough to kill the Kentucky Air National Guard mission during last month's deployment to Savannah, Ga.

The simulation, which included a grueling four and a half hours in full chemical gear, tested the ability of the unit's 603 deployed members to survive and operate in a hostile environment.

Although inspectors from Moody Air Force Base, Ga., found several areas for improvement during the operation readiness exercise, the KyANG performed well in the most critical areas of evaluation -- generating aircraft and flying the missions. The wing made all the time frames for preparing aircraft for flight and completing its sorties, which included such real-world missions as deploying Marine parachutists over North Carolina.

"The performance was much improved over what we saw during the (June) ORE," said Maj. Bill Schomas, an adviser from the Air Force's 347th Wing inspector's office. "I think you're ready for an ORI."

Col. Mike Harden, the 123rd Airlift Wing commander, was equally impressed.

"I'm very pleased with our performance," Harden said. "The level of effort, the attitude and our preparation have come along just fine."



Tech. Sgt. Annette Strom, left, briefs Master Sgt. Donna Walz and others on MOPP levels and duress codes at the clearing house before entering the "war zone" in Savannah. Below, security police augmentees guard the flightline perimeter during a simulated gas attack that lasted more than 4 hours.

KyANG photos by
Maj. Ralinda Gregor

Harden said he was especially pleased with the interaction between aircraft maintenance and the flying operation -- a relationship that will be crucial during the wing's February operational readiness inspection, or ORI.

"Most ORIs come down to flying and fixing airplanes," Harden said. "If the maintenance guys can get the planes out, and the ops guys can get them over to the drop zones and get the loads on the targets, we'll do OK."

Schomas also singled out the unit's security police augmentees for doing a good job, calling them the "best seen to date."

He noted deficiencies, however, in a few areas, including ATSO (ability to survive

and operate) training.

"The biggest thing with ATSO is that people need to show a sense of urgency," Schomas said. "Also, we saw a lot of gas



masks fogging over -- there were numerous bad seals.

See ORI on Page 7

1995 service was not routine; every member was exceptional

With the holiday season upon us, I thought it would be appropriate to reflect upon our accomplishments of the past year in an effort to understand just what it is that makes this unit so special.

Why is it that the "Thoroughbred Express" was able to support three major deployments designed to improve our combat-ready status, move into a new base and continue to support our real-world taskings? Some units would stumble under the weight of just one of the above tasks.

Why didn't we? The answer lies in who we are and where we came from. We are a unit made up of individuals who over the years have accepted that whatever the challenge, whatever the task, when it comes time to perform, the job gets done.

It is very easy to become caught up in the day to day hassles, squabbles and political infighting.



Col. Michael L. Harden
123rd Airlift Wing Commander

We all do it, and to a certain extent, it is part of the job. Our secret, however, lies in

our ability to put these petty concerns out of our mind when it comes time to perform. This ability has been the trademark of the KyANG for a long time and we owe it to all of those Kentucky guardsmen who came before us to continue that tradition.

It is the responsibility of old timers like me to continue to instill this unselfish "can do" attitude into all of the young men and women who join our organization.

If we do that, we will live up to our heritage and insure that the 123rd continues as one of the premier units in the total force.

Thanks for who you are, what you have been and what you will be. Take pride in what you have accomplished, and I have every confidence that we will continue to build upon our proud heritage.

Have a happy and safe holiday season and let's begin the new year with a renewed commitment to add to the proud heritage of the Kentucky Air National Guard.

Enlisted promotions in the KyANG

The following members have been promoted within the KyANG and as reservists of the U.S. Air Force. Congratulations for a job well done.

To Airman (E-2)

Joshua Crenshaw, 123rd APS

To Senior Airman (E-4)

Travis Allen, 123rd Civil Engineering Sq.
Tara Scroggins, 123rd Logistics Sq.

To Staff Sgt. (E-5)

Kathleen Gregg, 123rd Services Flt.
William Peak, 123rd Logistics Sq.

Melissa Silvers, 123rd Services Flt.

To Tech. Sgt. (E-6)

Jeffery Abell, 123rd ALCF
Sharron Boger, 123rd ALCF
Robert Brown Sr., 123rd Logistics Sq.
Mark McNair, 123rd Ops Support Flt.
Julie Webb, 123rd MSF

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Call the PA office if you have a story idea, photo or article to submit. Deadline for our next issue is Dec. 12, and our office is in the wing headquarters building.

All-Enlisted Promotions Board

Chiefs call for wider peer review, vow to increase responsibility

By Staff Sgt. Dale Greer
Wing Public Affairs

For as long as anyone can remember, the path to promotion has been the same: every technical sergeant in the Kentucky Air National Guard has needed to pass muster with the headquarters' officer-dominated review panel before sewing on the rank of master sergeant.

That all changed Nov. 4, when a newly structured senior enlisted promotions board met for the first time.

The new board, which evaluates airmen who are up for promotion to the grades of E-7, E-8 and E-9, is now composed entirely of chief master sergeants, said Chief Master Sgt. Martin Anderson, the state's senior enlisted advisor and one of the board's permanent members.

Technical sergeants who are eligible under the Deserving

Airman Program will also meet the board.

The board also includes another permanent member, Chief Master Sgt. Margaret "Vonnie" Hood, who is assigned to the KyANG's headquarters staff. The third member will be selected anew each month from the various units on base, Anderson said.

Previously, the board consisted of Anderson and two field-grade officers. But when one of those officers, Col.

David Rhodes, had to vacate his spot on the board after being named the KyANG's new vice commander, Anderson saw an opportunity to make even more substantial changes.

He proposed the new setup to the assistant adjutant general for air, Brig. Gen. Verna Fairchild, and received approval shortly after.

Anderson had high praise for the officers who previously served on the board with him, saying they were "always very sensitive to the needs of enlisted people."

He said, however, that the new approach will give the enlisted force more responsibility for charting its future.

"I just thought it was time the enlisted force accept the responsibility for taking care of its own," Anderson said. "This is another area of leadership that we can assume."



Guard officer promotions face new rules in 1996

By Lt. Col. Ken Wiggins
Air National Guard MPPS

Air National Guard officers will learn early next year what the minimum and maximum time-in-grade requirements will be for promotion as a result of the Reserve Officer Personnel Management Act. The Air Force and the other services are in the process of writing policies to implement the new rules which take effect Oct. 1, 1996.

ROPMA is not just a new promotion system. It ties accessions, assignments, promotions and separations together into an interlocking whole. ROPMA gives the services broad latitude to set promotion time-in-grade standards and greater flexibility.

Things you can expect to see under ROPMA are an elimination of the time-in-service requirement for promotion and a

"best qualified" rather than "fully qualified" standard for mandatory promotion. This will make the process more competitive for individual officers, providing an incentive to complete advanced degrees and PME.

The "best qualified" standard means that the ANG will set a quota by category for mandatory promotion. The quota will be based on the needs of the service. For example, if we set a quota of 40 majors in a certain category, only 40 captains will advance to major in that category. Under current law (ROPA), everyone who is "fully qualified" is eligible for promotion.

Under ROPMA, officers may request to delay a promotion for up to three years, which is sometimes called the "hip pocket" promotion. This allows an individual time to find a position in his or her new grade. If they decline a promotion, it is the same as

being passed over. Two pass-overs for officers seeking promotion to lieutenant colonel or below would mean automatic transfer to the Individual Ready Reserve.

Of special interest to retirement-eligible officers is the new requirement that lieutenant colonels and above serve three years time-in-grade to retire at that grade.

Exceptions are made for majors and below with six or more months time-in-grade or for officers who are involuntarily separated for statutory reasons such as age, medical or mandatory separation date.

When called to active duty, ANG officers would stay on the "reserve active status list," mandated by ROPMA, up to 24 months, thereby avoiding having to compete with active duty officer promotions. During call-ups they would no longer lose rank or date of rank when transferring to active service.

123rd leads Kentucky at Winston P. Wilson

Lainhart, Jackson compliment Bluegrass Guard's elite

By Master Sgt. Bernard DeLisle
Arkansas Air National Guard

NORTH LITTLE ROCK, Ark. -- The best combat shooters in the Army and Air National Guard from 49 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico competed for top honors during the 24th annual Winston P. Wilson rifle, pistol, sniper and light machinegun championships held here at Camp Joseph T. Robinson from Oct. 16-20.

More than 800 competitors, including 16 members of the Kentucky National Guard, vied for the distinction of "best of the best" in four shooting disciplines. The WPW matches are conducted by the National Guard Marksmanship Training Center.

The matches are designed to promote marksmanship by providing high level training and competition among states. The participants earned the honor of competing at the national level by being the champion team in their state.

Senior Airman Jason Lainhart, a member of the Kentucky light machinegun team, finished match 103, the assault fire course, in first place with a score of 38.

Sgt. 1st Class Timothy Mullins, a member of the Kentucky combat pistol team, won third place in match 201 with a score of 291.

Mullins also finished second place in novice match 205, the pistol assault course, with a score of 210. In addition, Mullins took third place in novice class of match 225, the combat pistol individual

championship, with a final score of 1,063.

Lainhart said he enjoyed his experience at WPW this year. "We came down, competed, and had a lot of fun. This

pretty much the other real life situations" as an M-60 gunner.

"The training has helped me with my sights and shooting, and it just gives me more experience with the weapon," Jackson related. Both Lainhart and Jackson are members of the Kentucky Air National Guard's 123rd Security Police Squadron.

The matches have continued to evolve over the years to reflect more realistic training. Particular emphasis is devoted to improving individual battle-focused "move and shoot" combat marksmanship skills. Team spirit, physical fitness and leadership qualities are developed and tested during the physically and mentally demanding week.

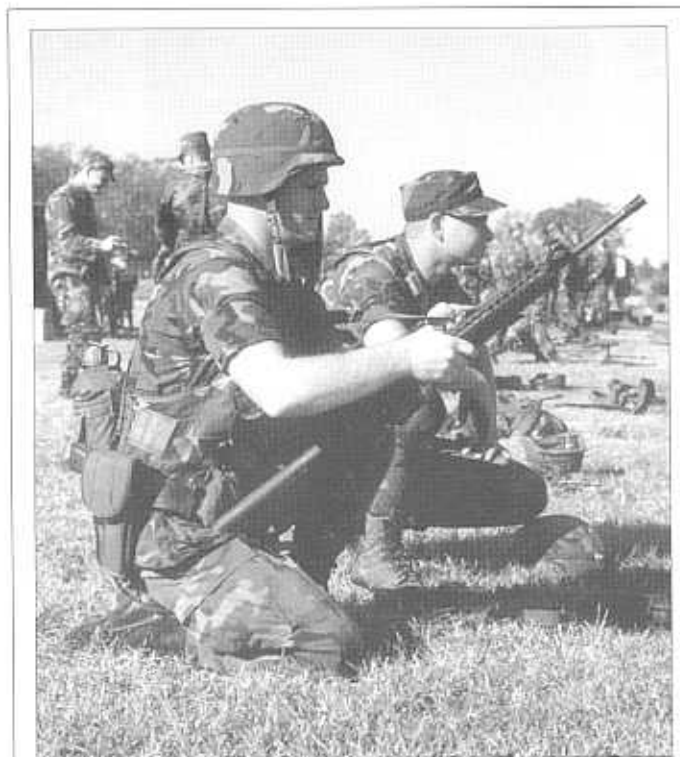
With the active forces relying more heavily on the readiness of reserve components, combat training and combat marksmanship skills are receiving greater emphasis throughout the National Guard.

The Wilson matches are named for Maj. Gen. Winston P. Wilson, former chief of the National Guard Bureau and a member of the Arkansas Air National Guard.

Lt. Gen. Edward Baca, chief of the NGB, spoke to WPW participants at the closing ceremony Oct. 20, emphasizing his support in keeping the marksmanship program alive.

"Everybody loves a winner," Baca said. "We love competition...our whole culture is based on competition. Regardless of who gets the awards here tonight, all of you are winners, just by being here."

"You're winners in your state, and I can tell you that it's that winning spirit that makes us the strong National Guard and nation that we are," the general concluded.



ANG photo by Tech. Sgt. Cheryl Zorn

Senior Airmen Jason Lainhart, left, and Timothy Jackson of the 123rd Security Police Squadron teamed up for the Winston P. Wilson Championships at North Little Rock, Ark. They earned a shot at national competition after becoming champions on their state National Guard team.

training gives us the opportunity to ompete in combat situations as well as compete in the same situations that we would see in any airbase ground defense."

Lainhart's teammate, Staff Sgt. Tim Jackson, said. "This was my first year here. I'm gaining the experience and knowledge that I need to compete, and

Troop airlift plan is taking shape, gearing up

USAFE's plan has been waiting for 15 months

By Master Sgt. Lois Arana-Barradas
Air Force News Service

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany -- As American soldiers in Europe train for possible peacekeeper duties in Bosnia, the Air Force plan to airlift them there is reaching its final stages.

Completing the airlift plan is the job of U.S. Air Forces in Europe air operations squadron and Air Mobility Command planners. It's a plan they are intimately familiar with and would love to implement, said Col. Stoney Sloan, the USAFE unit's commander.

Since the squadron -- the first of its kind in the Air Force -- became operational 15 months ago, it has had a hand in helping plan every major American contingency in the region, Sloan said during an interview with Air Force News Service on Nov. 9.

"We've been asked to do some pretty unusual things and every one has been successful," Sloan said. "We'll be ready to go to Bosnia."

Though Bosnian peace talks are ongoing, and no decision on American involvement -- if any -- has yet been made, Sloan said the airlift of troops to Bosnia has been an Air Force issue for a long time.

"We've been planning for peace operations in Bosnia for two years. And we've been hoping we could get to the point where we actually could have some kind of peace implementation. We're ready to do that," he said. During contingency operations, unit members form the crisis action team to concentrate on the task at hand, Sloan said.

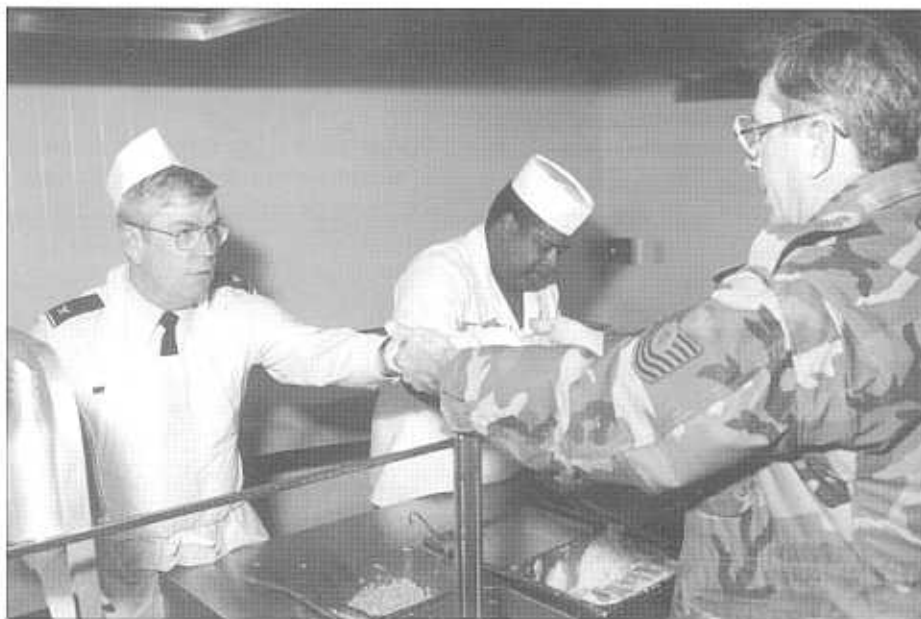
"Technically our crisis action team has been up since the beginning of Desert Shield and Desert Storm because USAFE has been in constant support of contingency operations like Provide Comfort, Provide Promise and Deny Flight."

In a nutshell, Sloan said his unit marries up the customers and the key players, while providing the means to carry out contingency operations.

"Our customers treat the USAFE crisis action team as the single 'belly button,'" Sloan said. "When they ask for help, we'll provide it ourselves or go to the command staff, numbered air forces or wings to find the support."

Besides the Army, the squadron's customers include NATO or other nations, like in the Operation Quick Lift airlift of British troops in Croatia. "It can quickly turn into a team effort," Sloan said.

'With all the trimmings, sir'



KyANG photo by Tech. Sgt Charles Simpson

No, Col. Mike Harden hasn't switched career fields yet. Rather, the 123rd wing commander helped celebrate the Thanksgiving Day holiday at last month's UTA by serving his troops a traditional fanfare of turkey, potatoes and all the fixins'.

If sent, service members would get special pay for Bosnian peace duty

(AFNS) -- If they go, U.S. service members will receive additional pay while in Bosnia-Herzegovina supporting the NATO peace implementation mission. Defense Finance and Accounting offices in Washington said service members tapped for Bosnian duty will receive imminent danger pay, currently \$150 per month. However, if the situation in Bosnia is stable enough that the task force commander places members on regular TDY, they will reinstate subsistence payments, officials said.

Family Day

Guests finally receive invite to inspect new KyANG base

according to Maj. Richard Frymire III, wing project officer for the event. Unit displays and tours begin at noon.

The Family Support Group, known as the Spirit Lifters, will host children's activities in the dining hall, said Phoebe Bryan, the support group's president. Santa Claus will assist the Spirit Lifters.

Another highlight will be performances by the WIZZO Tabernacle Choir led by Col. Mike Harden, commander of the 123rd Airlift Wing. The choir will perform in the dining hall.

Unit newsletters contain complete information about each unit's Family Day activities.

By Maj. Ralinda Gregor
Wing Public Affairs Officer

Kentucky Air National Guard members will show off their new base facilities tomorrow during Family Day festivities here.

A full afternoon of fun kicks off at 11 a.m. when individual units begin serving lunch for members and their families.



Schedule of Events for Family Day

11 a.m. -- Units begin serving lunch

- * State Headquarters at work area
- * Wing Headquarters at wing conference room
- * Logistics at hangar
- * Operations -- (all units except Aerial Port Squadron) will meet at operations counter
- * Aerial Port Squadron at work area
- * Hospital at conference room
- * Civil Engineers at CE classroom
- * Security Police at SP classroom
- * Communications Flight at classroom
- * Mission Support Flight at SRC classroom
- * 205th Combat Communications at classroom
- * Services Flight at dining hall

KyANG members are urged to park at Male High School. The operations hangar lot will be reserved for family members.

Noon -- Base tours begin

- * C-130H tour on ramp
- * Logistics video in Classroom B hangar
- * Combat Control Team display
- * Life Support display
- * Operations video in aircrew briefing room
- * Firearms Training System facility
- * Engine prop display
- * Support Group video in wing conference room

Dining Hall activities:

- * Family Support Group booth
- * Enlisted Association booth
- * National Guard Association of Kentucky booth
- * KyANG Federal Credit Union booth
- * Children's games
- * Santa Claus
- * WIZZO Tabernacle Choir

As ORI nears, guardsmen make some final adjustments

Continued from Page 1

"So you need to do more buddy checks and get that fixed because I know the (inspector general) is going to go around killing people off when he sees that."

Other areas that need attention, Schomas said, include forms documentation and communication. Harden agrees.

"We need to work on upchanneling damage reports," he said. "The battle staff in the survival recovery center needs to know exactly what's going on outside, and we had some problems upchanneling communications."

"It was an education problem: people don't know who to call."

Harden said he was confident the unit will work everything out by the time it returns to the Savannah Combat Readiness Training Center next year.

"I just want to thank everybody for their attitudes and their efforts," he said, "and I think we'll do just fine in February."



KyANG photo by Staff Sgt. Dale Greer
Senior Airman Robert Stevens, a security police augmentee, prepares for a simulated shoot-and-kill scenario after a terrorist who claimed to be carrying a bomb boards a KyANG C-130H aircraft.

2 ANG commanders lose jobs

WASHINGTON (AFNS)--Two Air National Guard commanders have lost their jobs because of sexual discrimination within their unit, the 174th Fighter Wing at Syracuse, N.Y.

Col. David Hamlin, commander, and Col. Thomas Webster, vice commander and air commander, were relieved of duty Oct. 20, stated a Department of Defense memorandum dated the same day. The action followed a general officer investigation that began when the Guard's first female fighter pilot, Maj. Jacquelyn Parker, asked to be relieved from flying status.

According to the memo, the investigation showed that Hamlin and Webster did not provide fair and equal training opportunities to all unit members and failed to correct inappropriate behavior by some unit members.

The investigation also showed:

-- Several unit members had displayed conduct unbecoming an officer;

-- Malicious behavior had occurred toward Parker;

-- Parker and another female pilot had not been given the same opportunities as the men in the unit and were subject to long delays in becoming mission ready.

Hamlin was taken off the brigadier general promotion list and asked to resign. Webster has been reassigned to a support position, the memo stated.

Until a new commander is selected, Col. Jim Burdick, former commander of the 107th Fighter Group at Niagara Falls, N.Y., will act as interim commander of the 174th FW.

The ANG has directed the entire unit to undergo training to ensure against future problems, and has offered to return Parker to flying with an ANG unit.

Do you know these former ANG members?

We miss them, and we want to contact them!

Chief Master Sgt. William Bond
 Paul Bronger, rank unknown
 Master Sgt. Harold Craig
 Master Sgt. Claude Davis Jr.
 Maj. Ural Dow
 Master Sgt. Billy Doyle
 Hurst Forester, rank unknown
 Capt. John Knight
 Senior Master Sgt. Harold Lunsford
 Maj. John McClure
 Chief Master Sgt. Daniel Miller
 Harvey Raymer, rank unknown
 Lt. Col. John Silverman
 Chief Master Sgt. Stowers
 Maynard Weppner, rank unknown
 Master Sgt. Preston Whalin
 Master Sgt. George Wright
 Master Sgt. Kenneth Yates.

The KyANG state headquarters staff wants to send *The Cargo Courier* to these retirees each month. Please call Chief Master Sgt. Jim Turpin at DSN 366-3489 or commercial 502-564-8489 if you have any information on the whereabouts of these retired Guard members. They have earned their title ... for life.

123rd once part of Continental Air Command?

By Tech. Sgt. John Martin
123rd Wing Historian

Forty-five years ago on Dec. 1, the Kentucky Air National Guard was relieved of its affiliation with the Continental Air Command, or Con AC, and reassigned to the Tactical Air Command. The unit remained under the authority of the 9th Air Force.

The 123rd had been part of Con AC since 1949, but a realignment of the 1st Air Force from the Air Defense Command placed the

KyANG within TAC.

General Order No. 32 made the announcement of the augmentation of the air section, state headquarters and headquarters detachment for the 123rd, effective Dec. 1, 1949. On Dec. 14, 1951, General Order No. 23 called for the activation of the 8165th Air Base Squadron, and the deactivation of the Air Base Flight "I," with personnel and equipment being transformed from the latter to the former.

Guess what was happening on our base

this month in 1956? No current members were in the unit back then, but the Robert Simmons Construction Co. was awarded a contract to build a new KyANG base just south of the runway off Grade Lane.

The original base was located where our present base is today. It was demolished and replaced with a newer base (which was demolished earlier this year) to include a new hanger, parking ramp, supply, motor pool, crash house, fuel and ammunition storage areas, all on a 51-acre tract of land. In later years the acreage expanded to 66 acres after the addition of the O&T Building, civil engineer, operations, fuel cell and engine test pad facilities.

It was seven years ago this month that the first flight of a C-130 transport plane at the KyANG base took off, flying from Louisville to Rickenbacker ANGB in Ohio. On that flight, the KyANG crews participated in personnel drops and assault landings.

Although the event was some years back, most of the crew from that first flight are still with us today, including officers Mike Harden, Dave Moremen, Paul Rhodes and George Greschel; the enlisted crew was John Hourigan, Tommy Miller, Roy Brown, Jeff Brown, Mike Mitro and Darrell Minton.

Trivia Question from November: The difference between a regular commander and a base detachment commander is that the commander is a "military boss," while the base detachment commander is a civilian, Air National Guard technician.

Question for January: What two great events occurred in KyANG history on Jan. 23, 1965? Answer next month.



Photo is from the KyANG historical archive

In the early 1950s, the Kentucky Air National Guard maintained some of the hottest trucks ever, including this Chevrolet light transport vehicle. In 1956 the KyANG built a new base at Old Grade Lane, and that base was demolished earlier this year.

More C-17 Globemasters built; C-141 is retiring

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Now that the Defense Acquisition Board has decided to procure a total of 120 C-17A Globemaster III aircraft, the Air Force has announced where the additional aircraft will be based.

According to a Nov. 7 memo to the news media:

-- Forty-eight C-17s will go to the 62nd Airlift Wing at McChord AFB, Wash., replacing the C-141 Starlifter, which is being retired after 30 years of service.

-- Forty-eight aircraft will go to the 437th Airlift Wing at Charleston AFB, S.C., also replacing the C-141.

-- Eight C-17s will go to the 97th AMW at Altus AFB, Okla., starting in mid-1996. The Air Force is also moving formal training for the Globemaster III to Altus from Charleston, said an Air Force spokeswoman. Currently, 23 C-17s are based at Charleston.

Deputy Secretary of Defense John White said at a Nov. 3 Pentagon press briefing that the decision to buy 80 additional C-17s was "a good-news story."

Three years ago, he said, the C-17 was "knee-deep in trouble." Since that time, however, the aircraft's manufacturer, McDonnell Douglas, has "got the cost down and the quality up," White said.