

THE CARGO COURIER

Standford Field ANGB, Louisville, Ky.

123rd Airlift Wing, Kentucky Air National Guard

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New Base Construction Begins!

By 2nd Lt. Didi Byerly
123rd Civil Engineering Squadron

As the base populace came to work this morning, it probably noticed one peculiar point -- construction of the new Kentucky Air Guard base is underway.

Construction for the new base began the first week of May and will continue through January 1995 when all buildings should be complete. However, at this point, we all wonder the same thing: which buildings are which? Is it the headquarters building or the new civil engineering building? Most everyone is confused because at this early construction stage, everything looks about the same.

To make it simple, as you stand at the church on Grade Lane, the first building seen is the new headquarters building. Behind that building and to the left is the new hangar-resource complex. The composite operations building is off to the left while construction of the new civil engineering building can be viewed from I-65. At this time, these four buildings are the only ones under construction.

Construction on the new fire house should begin in July 1994 along with construction of a new ramp. At press time, considerable discussion about building a temporary or permanent aerial port squadron and vehicle maintenance shop continues. A decision should be reached soon. Discussion regarding the new POL



KyANG photo by Staff Sgt. Drew Fritz

Senior Master Sgt. Russell Slinger Jr. of the 123rd Civil Engineering Squadron, left, consults with Chief Master Sgt. Richard Wilson over construction plans and the designing of the new air base. Wilson is chief of the base fire department, which is slated to have a new facility when the base is completed next year.

building continues with no final decisions as of press time.

A large number of the technician staff and several traditional guardsmen participated in the design of the new buildings.

Further, most technicians had the opportunity to design their own workspaces by creating system furniture layouts. Chief Master Sgt. Hugh Carberry, supply procedures and analysis technician, said "All supply personnel are thrilled that

their wishes and desires are considered in the new design. It's been interesting, intriguing, challenging and enjoyable."

Indeed, designing the buildings and systems furniture has been a new experience for many guardsmen. The input received from around the base is invaluable to the outcome.

"The construction of our new base employs all the techniques and principles of TQM" -- Lt. Col. Thomas Marks Jr.

"The construction of our new base employs all the techniques and principles of TQM. It is truly a team effort," said Lt. Col. Thomas Marks Jr., commander of the 123rd CES.

However, the job is far from over. Because the buildings are "design-build," the design of the buildings continues as the construction is underway.

Davidson pins second star

The promotion of former Kentucky Adjutant General Michael W. Davidson to the rank of major general has been approved by President Bill Clinton and confirmed by the U.S. Senate, according to the May issue of *On Guard*.

Davidson is now assigned to the

U.S. Special Operations Command at MacDill AFB, Fla., where he serves as deputy commander for mobilization and reserve affairs. He was appointed Kentucky's adjutant general by Gov. Wallace Wilkinson in 1987 and he held that position until 1991.

Rediscovering Visions That Made America Strong

Last month Sen. Sam Nunn, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, was our keynote speaker at the Louisville Armed Forces Day Dinner. As many of you who attended the dinner know, the senator from Georgia reminded us that "It is still a dangerous world." Despite the end of the Cold War and many movements toward peace, the world is far from tranquil. "It's a world where nuclear deterrents have been reduced as instruments of stability."

Nunn warned, "the defense structure has been brought down too quickly," and he said, "this is a time of less predictability and difficulty in defining the United States' interests." The United States needs the same wisdom and vision that guided its military policies after World War II, he said.

Without it, Nunn warned, the country will be continually faced with deciding whether to support humanitarian endeavors over more vital and important courses of action.

We have certainly been on the leading edge as the world has changed so dramatically over the past few years, and it is reassuring to know that we have such capable representatives as Nunn and Sen. Wendall Ford of Kentucky arguing these issues in the Senate. However, I think that we have another threat that must be



Brig. Gen. Stewart R. Byrne
123rd Airlift Wing Commander

addressed if we expect to keep our position in the world.

My son has been hosting an exchange student from Moscow, Russia, for the past few weeks and I have learned first hand how deceiving the impression we receive from the media can be. We thought he would be impressed with our school system and our standard of living. We were surprised to find that he had completed academics at age 15 that exceeded our 12th grade level.

Our school was not challenging and a bit boring for him, even though he was trying to be a good guest and comple-

mentary of our system. He was appalled at the lack of discipline in our classrooms. Surprised?

He was not impressed that my son had a 286 computer at his disposal -- he has a 486 machine and is extremely competent. He has a VCR and has seen most of the latest movies; he was familiar with most of the rock stars my son likes; he had no problem playing my son's electric guitar or bass; he spoke English fluently and he had no problem helping my son with some difficult math homework. Considering that my son is in the advanced program (takes after his mom), I think we have reason to be concerned about the future of our country.

As I looked at our country through this Russian student's eyes, I began to realize just how fast the world is changing and what we must do to keep pace. It was embarrassing that he observed workers sleeping on the job at factories he visited and that we had at least one violent death in our community every day he was here.

Yes, this is a changing world and we must continuously improve our quality to stay competitive in our schools, in our factories, in our community and in our military. It is your responsibility and it is my responsibility. If we don't shoulder this responsibility for continuous improvement, someone else will and we will become the oppressed.

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Deadline for submission is Sunday of each UTA, for publication in next month's issue. Articles may be delivered to the wing public affairs office in Building 7.

DoD can now garnish pay for commercial debts

WASHINGTON (AFNS) – The Defense Finance and Accounting Service can now garnish civilian employees wages to repay commercial debts. The law now requires the government to honor garnishment orders from state courts in addition to those already in effect for child support and alimony, officials said.

The law will also allow the Department of Defense to deduct money from military members' paychecks for commercial debts as soon as implementing regulations are issued. Officials said the regulations should be available

within the next few months.

Debt collections will be limited to 25 percent of an employees' disposable earnings, unless limited to a lesser amount by state laws. Employees will also pay a processing fee when a garnishment is processed.

Processing procedures for child support alimony garnishments won't change.

In instances of multiple garnishments, child support and alimony will take precedence over commercial garnishments, officials said.

Kentucky's Own



U.S. Sen. Wendell Ford (D-Ky.) returned to the Bluegrass State last month to speak during the Louisville Armed Forces Day Dinner at the Hyatt Regency. Brig. Gen. Stewart Byrne, commander of the Kentucky Air National Guard, joined the Capitol Hill leader during the evening ceremonies, which was sponsored by the Louisville Armed Services Committee.

U.S. Sen. Sam Nunn (D-Ga.), chairman of the powerful Senate Armed Services Committee, was the keynote speaker at the May 13 event.

KyANG photo by SMSgt. Dave Tinsley

Tips for new uniform fit

The new service dress uniform was built with comfort in mind, from the fabrics used to the design and fit of the garments. Here are some tips to keep in mind when buying the new uniform.

The coat fits much differently. It has larger armholes, more room in the chest and lower front openings. It also has a looser fit.

Wearers should be able to pinch two inches of fabric from each side at the waist. The shirt collar should show one-fourth to one-half inch above the coat collar.

Men should fit the trousers on their hips first, making sure the pockets don't gap. The waist can then be adjusted accordingly.

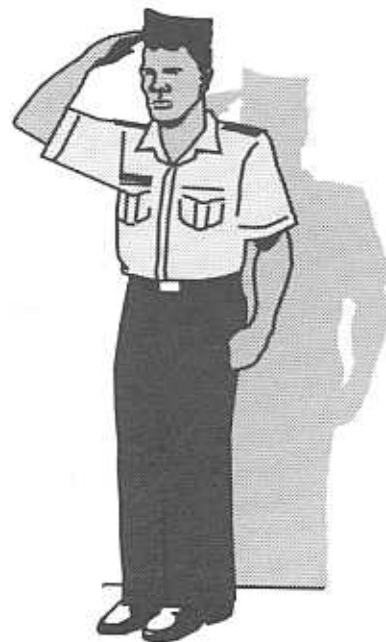
The women's skirt should have at least a thumb's width of material on each side of the hips and the pleats should hang straight from the waist. Both the skirt and coat are available in women's and misses' sizes.

If the skirt fits too snugly in the hips, women may want to try the women's size, which has more fullness in that area.

Other uniform changes in effect: The lightweight blue poplin jacket has been phased out, and enlisted personnel can be issued the new jackets for free.

V-neck tee-shirts are now required with the service uniform.

Air Force members cannot wear the rounded collar shirts anymore with the dress uniform.



Bitburg: A Year to Remember

123rd CES witnesses historic base closure

*Story and Photos by Tech. Sgt. Jeff Sansbury
Cargo Courier Editor*

THE EIFEL, Germany – All of the F-16 fighter jets are gone from Bitburg Air Base, a remote U.S. installation that Germany has grown to appreciate over the last 41 years.

The base NCO Club had its farewell bash and even the bowling alley is abandoned. Skeleton staffs make up much of the population now, and recently that included a Kentucky Air National Guard unit that probably never realized the history being made.

Perhaps the most significant U.S. Air Force base in Europe, the 123rd Civil Engineering Squadron witnessed Bitburg's final weeks. For 16 days in May, these guardsmen deployed here to receive annual field training and to lend a hand to USAFE forces.

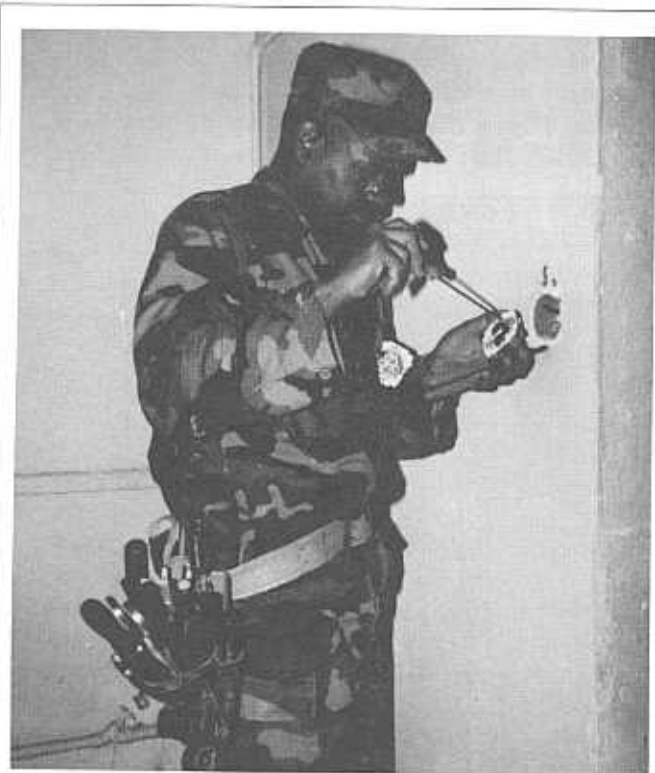
But it might be the unit's last assignment to Germany and it reflects a swift sign of the times. Nearby Zweibrucken Air Base, which closed last year, was the site of the KyANG's last deployment to Germany in 1986 (although over the past 18 months, some aircrews have flown C-130 relief missions out of Rhein-Main Air Base to support Operation Provide Promise).

With recent American base closures and drawdowns in

the Philippines, the Netherlands, Greece

and soon expected in Panama, an overseas assignment is something to cherish these days. The DoD announced recently that 867 overseas operations have been closed, reduced or placed in standby since 1990. Of those, 798 are in Europe.

At Bitburg, 49 Kentucky civil engineers were deployed to renovate offices and recreation centers, expand parking lots and complete other projects. Despite the base closing, the projects were justified to support neighboring Spangdahlem Air Base and its need for additional housing, recreation centers and services facilities. Still, Bitburg has essentially dissolved and its resources will be returned to German and possibly NATO military units.



Staff Sgt. Clarence Murrell, an electrician for the 123rd Civil Engineering Squadron, revamped the wiring at a Spangdahlem Air Base facility in May. He joined about 50 other guardsmen.



Chaplain (Maj.) Thomas Curry, left, takes a driving lesson from Staff Sgt. Jim Berger during a work break.

"I'm thrilled at what we accomplished," said Senior Master Sgt. Mike Meredith, the deployment's NCOIC. "We did fine work, but the goal was to have our people train at Bitburg. As long as they received solid training that was realistic to their [Air Guard] careers, then we met our goal for this summer."

The Kentucky deployment climaxes an Air National Guard project that began 15 months ago, witnessing the contributions of more than 17 Air Guard units. Teams of highly skilled plumbers, electricians, site developers and other craftsmen comprised the units that are capable of deploying anywhere in the world on just 28 hours' notice.

While their families back home were

Story continues on next page



At left, Sgt. William Pryor (far left) installs tile flooring with Senior Airman Kenneth Link and Airman 1st Class Juanita Kirker. At right, a Kentucky guardsman custom shapes the tiles needed. Below, Staff Sgt. John Green receives heavy equipment training.



Former German airfield evolved into America's first jet-fighter base in Europe

Continued from Page 4

celebrating the 120th running of the Kentucky Derby, these citizen soldiers boarded a C-130H transport plane to prepare for a different kind of race. Covering more than 6,500 miles, the airmen refueled and rested in the Portuguese Azores before arriving in the Eifel region of southwest Germany May 7.

"The emphasis this time was on training," explained Master Sgt. Dwight "Dce" Riggle, a 20-year veteran who was recently named the unit's first sergeant. "We set out to do it all -- certification and testing, cross training, drivers school for equipment operators -- the whole nine yards."

While the unit's wartime mission is to keep runways open as part of the "rapid runway repair" tasking, known as "triple R," this type of mission is not new to the 123rd CES. They've deployed across the globe to shape things up in Honduras, Spain, Belize and England. During this deployment, however, no one ever saw a runway. New bathrooms, flooring, parking lots and communication lines were just a few priorities during the tight schedule.

"It was an excellent deployment," said Senior Master Sgt. Gary Kelton, the unit's NCOIC for training. "Central America and the third-world countries provided some great challenges in remote and austere conditions, but this type of mission in USAFE, with an established base operation, is more realistic for us."

Kentucky's host, the 36th Fighter Wing, is linked to an extensive U.S. military alliance. Its 1948 arrival at Furstenfeldbruck marked the first time that U.S. fighter jets were stationed in Europe. In 1953 it relocated to Bitburg and evolved into one of USAFE's largest communities,



becoming the premier air superiority base in Europe.

As drawdowns and force reductions affect overseas military installations, the 123rd can be proud to have played a role in Bitburg's final weeks. With the collapse of the East Block coalition and an end to the Cold War, most U.S. guardsmen will only reminisce about their overseas military service.

"It's a real education, during and after duty hours. Few people get the opportunity like us, to serve here and to experience these terrific countries," said Tech. Sgt. Jim Bush, a site developer for the 123rd CES. "I really mean it. I think that's why I've stayed in almost 18 years."

Shewmaker honored, astronaut visits during early '60s

By Tech. Sgt. John Martin
123rd Wing Historian

June is a birthmonth of sorts for the KyANG base. On the 11th day of that month in 1960, a dedication ceremony was given in honor of Capt. John Shewmaker, a KyANG pilot who was killed in action during the Korean War. The ceremony concluded with the renaming of the guard base "Shewmaker Air National Guard Base," which remained as the official name until 1976 when it reverted back to "Standiford Field." It was a Federal Aviation Administration ruling that ordered the switch.

An interesting sidenote to this story was that in 1993, new information surfaced in the local media that Shewmaker might not have been killed, and may have survived the war in a prisoner of war camp. No further details are known as of this writing.

In 1962, Louisville rolled out the red carpet for America's newest hero, Virgil I. "Gus" Grissom, the second man to be sent into space from the United States. A crowd of 10,000 greeted the 36-year-old Air Force captain as he made his way down Fourth Street during a tickertape parade.

Keeping with a Kentucky tradition, KyANG deputy commander, Col. Verne M. Yahne, made Grissom an honorary Kentucky Colonel. "It's easier to

get promoted in Kentucky than in the Air Force," Grissom said.

For those interested, according to legend, the month of June was named for the Roman Juno, the Roman goddess of marriage. The month then, was dedicated to the young men of Rome, hence the name *juniores*, is Latin for "young men."

Trivia Question for May: There are about 38 cents that can be found in various pieces of cement throughout the

base, maybe enough to buy a pack of chewing gum at the base exchange. Also imbedded is a boundary marker, located between the base hanger and the fire house. Two security police badges, one SP function badge and one TAC crest are all located at the SP building.

Question for July: What Olympic team member had a direct connection to the KyANG? We'll answer that next month.

B-2 Stealth on display in California



U.S. government photo
Bomber aircraft have certainly evolved since World War II. On the opposite page is the feared B-17 "Flying Fortress" of 1944. Compare that to the new B-2 "Stealth" aircraft above. The second B-2 was delivered to Whiteman AFB, Mo., in April and was named the "Spirit of California" during a ceremony at Palmdale, Calif. A flight-test aircraft flies overhead.

Normandy: *The Longest Day*

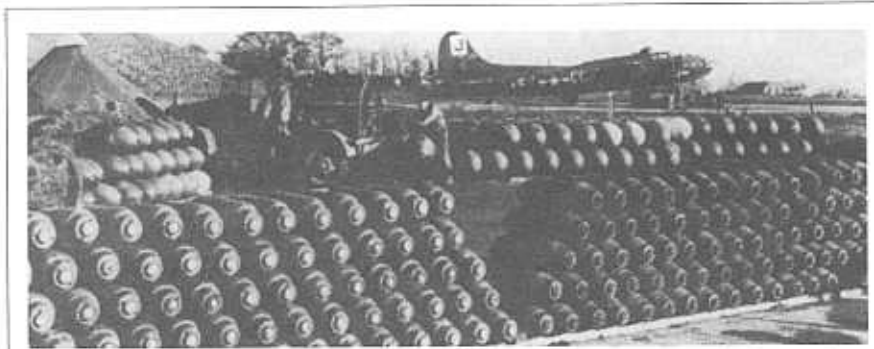
By Tech. Sgt. John Martin
123rd Wing Historian

Thirty minutes past midnight on June 6, 1944, World War II took on added significance. At that moment, the first paratroopers from the United States, Great Britain and Canada hit silk over France, and the Normandy Invasion had begun.

Precisely six hours later, the major landing attack force of Operation Overlord, code name for the invasion, hit the shores of northern France. Thousands of soldiers from the three countries and from France would soon embark on the largest amphibious attack ever assembled in the history of warfare. Those soldiers, most of whom traveled from the English Channel to France to spearhead the thrust into Europe, liberated the continent from Nazi tyranny.

It was an undertaking that most observers agreed could easily have failed. In the first few hours of the invasion, it almost did. Months of preparation had gone into planning the invasion. Nothing was overlooked or taken for granted.

The Germans had anticipated a mass



U.S. Army Air Forces photos
The Army Air Forces used this bomb storage base at Farmlingham, England, prior to the assault on Normandy. It became the largest seaborne invasion ever.

landing of allied personnel, but they were not quite sure from what part of France they would be heading. Field Marshall Erwin Rommel, head of the German Africa Korps who supervised the construction of defenses along the 50-mile coast, stated that the Normandy beaches could easily be utilized by an attack force.

Gen. Dwight Eisenhower, supreme allied commander, had the task of giving the order to carry out the invasion. It was either wait for better weather, something that favored the enemy -- or go ahead and launch the attack in marginal

weather conditions. "Ike" opted for the latter.

Once the attack began, the dead lay everywhere. Many who made it onto the shores of Omaha or Utah beaches, reserved for U.S. troops, or Gold, Sword or Juno beaches for the British and Canadians, were cut down in a hail of lead.

Brig. Gen. Theodore Roosevelt Jr., son of "Teddy," also took part in the invasion on that first day. Ignoring his own personal safety to walk the beaches with his men, he died six days later of a heart attack.

It was this first wave of the attack that has been called the "longest day" by those combat veterans. It took nearly 23 hours for the allied soldiers to break through all the barriers that were erected by the German defenders.

Victory would not come until May of 1945 when V-E Day was announced (Victory in Europe).

Fifty years later, the survivors have returned to remember and to reflect. Thousands of veterans -- American, French, British, Canadian and even German, are attended dedication ceremonies there.

We as guardsmen must never forget how these brave men fought against a foe very much their match. For such a sacrifice, a grateful France literally gave America 177 acres of land. This land remains legal property of the United States and is used as a cemetery for those who hit the shores of Omaha, Gold, Sword, Juno and Utah beaches.



A B-17's tail literally breaks up during a bombing mission in 1944. These aircraft were among the first to bombard Germany prior to the Normandy invasion.

New ID card testing progresses

KELLY AFB, Texas (AFN) — Six months into testing, defense officials are pleased with the process for issuing new identification cards to uniformed service personnel and their families. Project officials working with DoD's personnel and readiness office predict the card will phase in throughout the department when the test concludes shortly.

During the test, officials issued more than 104,000 new identification cards to

active duty, reserve component and retired personnel and their family members.

The new card is the same size as a standard credit card, allowing better storage in wallets. The front is similar to the old card. It shows a digitized black and white photo, rank, Social Security number, signature and expiration date. Also, on the front is the seal of the United States and the military service seal. The back is different.

In addition to printed personal information, such as height, weight, blood type and birth date, the card has two bar codes. One supplies basic identification information while the other contains all information printed on the card, includ-

ing the photo.

By running the card under a scanner, officials can retrieve data automatically. The card can serve as a key to access data bases for a wide range of applications. The military departments are planning to use the card for equipment issue and control, transportation, manifesting and numerous other routine activities.

Although there have been relatively few problems during the test, the major concern has been with handling the demand for the new card. The program will replace old cards as they expire. At some point officials will call in the remaining cards for replacement, focusing on the active duty population.

Few KyANG members enroll in CCAF

By Tech. Sgt. Johnny Phillips
123rd Mission Support Squadron

The Community College of the Air Force offers an associate's degree in practically every speciality area of the Air Force. The degree programs are accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Unlike some associate's degrees, it requires a combination of both practical experience, such as OJT, with civilian and military classroom study.

However, the fact is that few Kentucky Air National Guard members take advantage of the tremendous opportunity to complete an accredited associate's degree. The number of airmen from the 123rd Airlift Wing eligible to receive their degree through CCAF exceeds 900, yet only about 4 percent of this total have completed their degree.

During either the initial enlistment of an airman, or the transfer of the airman from another base to the 123rd, the benefits of a CCAF degree are explained but sometimes forgotten as the individual advances in time and grade.

By the end of the first and ultimately subsequent enlistments, many airmen have attended college with plans to finish a civilian degree program. They fail

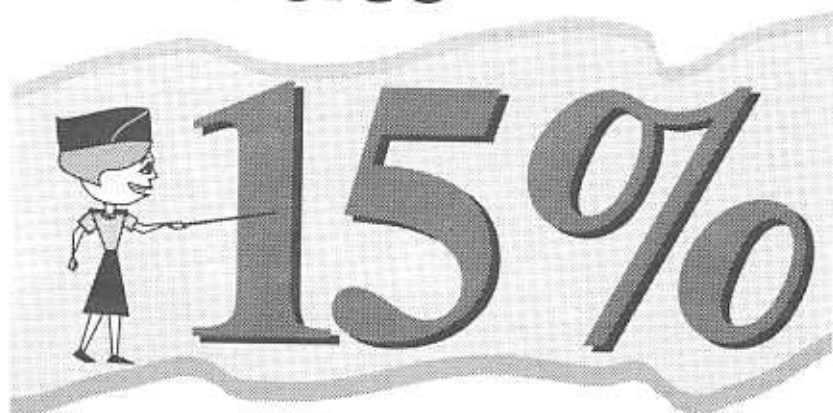
to realize that many of those same civilian college hours can be applied toward a CCAF degree. The end result is that while you are completing that civilian associate's or bachelor's degree, you can also be completing your CCAF degree.

For the enlisted guardsman who has college hours which may be used toward a CCAF degree, the base education office recommends that you stop by or call

them to obtain the address for sending your official college transcripts. Once the transcript is received, it will be forwarded to Maxwell AFB, Ala., where a review of your transcript is accomplished. You will be notified when the results are obtained.

The education office invites you to put your college hours to their maximum use by applying them toward a CCAF degree, a great benefit by any means.

Women in the Air Force



As of Dec. 31, 1993, the magic number for the 66,088 women in the Air Force was 15. Women make up 15% of the Air Force, 15% of the officers and 15% of the enlisted force.