MILESTONES

**Moremen retires after 26 years of service**

By 1st Lt. Dale Greer
Wing Public Affairs Officer

Col. David Moremen announced his retirement from the Kentucky Air National Guard during a ceremony held July 15 on the base flightline, ending a 26-year military career.

Moremen, who most recently served as wing vice commander, entered the Air Force with an ROTC commission from the University of Kentucky in May 1974. He served for seven years on active duty as an academic instructor and instructor pilot before joining the Kentucky Air Guard in September 1981.

While here, he served as chief of Flight Safety, chief of Standards and Evaluation and commander of the 123rd Operations Group. Moremen also was selected to lead a team of instructors who delivered a C-130B to Chile to provide training for members of the Chilean Air Force. It marked the first time in 25 years that the United States had provided military aid to the South American nation.

“Dave has been a key member of our management team,” said Col. Bill Leslie, wing commander.

“We have been able to bounce ideas off each other and, I feel, come up with the best possible answers. I will particularly miss his analytical skills, his perseverance and his professionalism.”

Moremen is a command pilot with more than 4,000 flying hours in a variety of aircraft, including the C-130 B/E/H and RF-4C. His decorations include the Air Force Meritorious Service Medal with device, Air Force Commendation Medal and Air Force Achievement Medal.

The wing is holding a dinner in honor of Col. Moremen tonight at Woodhaven Country Club, 7200 Woodhaven Road. The event gets underway at 6:15 p.m.

**Annex construction nearing completion**

By Staff Sgt. Amy Carr
Cargo Courier Assistant Editor

Sunday morning worship services will soon move from base classrooms and conference facilities to the wing’s newly renovated Multipurpose Annex Building.

The facility, which once was a church, was acquired by the Kentucky Air Guard when the base relocated its current site in 1995. For much of the time since, the structure’s assembly hall has remained largely unused and in disrepair.

About two years ago, members of the 123rd Civil Engineer Squadron began the ambitious task of restoring the hall to usability, and that task is now nearly complete, said Senior Master Sgt. Russ Slinger, superintendent of the unit.

KyANG civil engineers have been working full time in crews of five or six to completely refurbish the building, including its mechanical and electrical systems.

In addition to the renovations, new state-of-the-art audio and visual multimedia equipment have been installed.

The hall, which can seat 400 people, will provide a venue for assemblies, weddings and other social events, as well as church services.

Lt. Col. Tom Curry, chief chaplain of the 123rd Civil Engineering Squadron, said the new facility and equipment will create an opportunity for the base chapel community to offer more contemporary worship services.

No other Guard units, Curry said, have this type of equipment to enhance worship.

“This creates an atmosphere that will enable the unit wor-
Good-bye 205 CBCS, hello 123 STS

COMMANDER’S CALL

With it’s finally official on Sept. 30—the 205th Combat Communications Squadron ceases to exist, and on Oct. 1, the 123rd Special Tactics Flight becomes a full squadron.

That’s a loss of 59 authorized positions with the 205th and a gain of 59 authorized positions in the STS.

Net gain/loss: zero.

Knowing that this was going to happen, we allowed the manning in the combat communications squadron to drop from 59 to 37.

As personnel took positions in other functional areas, retired, or separated from the Guard, we did not recruit to fill their vacancies.

A Site Activation Task Force, or SATAF, completed its work July 12 and found no "show-stoppers" to the closure/plus-up.

They gave us a great deal of flexibility in how we take care of the displaced 205th personnel.

Obviously, we can’t just move the remaining combat communicators over to the special tactics flight and make them sneaker-eaters.

The SATAF gave us until Dec. 31, 2001, to find positions for the 205th. No one has to leave the wing.

Our military personnel flight, recruiters and recruiters have been working overtime to find positions.

They have gone through each individual’s records and the entire wing manpower database, compared Air Force Specialty Codes and found positions requiring virtually no training for all but five folks.

They continue to work on the final five, and we still have 17 months to make the moves.

And by the way, the National Guard Bureau plans to give in school days and dollars for those 205th folks requiring, or just desiring, retraining.

So 205th folks, if you are not in your new positions on Oct. 1, don’t panic. Nothing dreadful will happen on that date.

For everyone else on the base, don’t panic. You will not be displaced by anyone from the combat communications squadron.

The 205th was an outstanding organization, comprised of outstanding and motivated team players.

Welcome them into your organizations and onto your team.

The 123rd Special Tactics Squadron is, meanwhile, looking for a few good sneaker-eaters.

Please help us with the recruiting effort for this, and all areas of the Wing. We all need to be "recruiters" because we get our best prospects from your families, friends and acquaintances.

As a result of the combat comm/special tactics reorganization, and the addition of the Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Team, you will be seeing some facilities changes on base.

The STS growth requires more space for their personnel and equipment, and the WMD civil support team requires temporary housing until permanent facilities can be built.

To partially accommodate the special tactics squadron and keep its operations together, the unit will acquire the current Air Lift Control Flight area in the Operations Building, while the ALCF will move temporarily to the first floor Annex, where offices of the 205th are currently housed.

Once the addition to the Operations Building is completed, the ALCF will relocate there.

The WMD Civil Support Team will temporarily occupy the upper floor of the 205th facility, in the Annex.

You will begin seeing these changes soon, perhaps as early as the September UTA.

As a result of the combat comm/special tactics changes on base, the Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Team will also be moving, retraining. The unit will acquire the current Air Lift Control Flight area in the Operations Building, while the ALCF will move temporarily to the first floor Annex, where offices of the 205th are currently housed.

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An electronic version of the Cargo Courier is available at the Kentucky Air Guard’s Web site — www.kyang.af.mil
KyANG NEWS

Annex
Continued from Front Page

ship services to be conducted in a more modern style closer to chapel services on an active-duty base,” he said. “I just couldn’t be happier about the facil-
ity. I am just elated and looking forward to it.

“Again, the idea of a praise band wouldn’t be possible in temporary quar-
ters,” Curry said.
The Multipurpose Annex Building also will be home to the offices of Military Equal Opportunity.

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:

AIRMAN 1ST CLASS (E-3)
• Aaron Haycraft, 123rd Maintenance Sq.
• Collin King, 123rd Security Forces Sq.
• Kevin Roy, 123rd Security Forces Sq.

STAFF SERGEANT (E-5)
• Jason Ellison, 123rd Security Forces Sq.
• Jeffrey McManus, 123rd Security Forces Sq.
• Davranik Smith, 123rd Logistics Sq.

STAFF SERGEANT (E-5)
• Michael Bradley, 123rd Logistics Sq.
• David Crane, 123rd Maintenance Sq.
• Dean James, 123rd Civil Engineering Sq.
• David Johnson, 123rd Civil Engineering Sq.

SPECIALIST 5TH CLASS (E-5)
• John Martin, 123rd Artillery Wing

SPECIALIST MASTER SERGEANT (E-6)
• Terry Lutz, 123rd Artillery Wing

TECHNOLOGICAL SERGEANT (E-6)
• Richard Anderson, 205th Combat Communications Sq.
• David Brown, 123rd Logistics Support Flt.
• Patrick Cross, 123rd Aircrew Generation Sq.
• Lloyd Davis, 205th Combat Communications Sq.
• Juanita Kirk, 123rd Civil Engineer Sq.

MASTER SERGEANT (E-7)
• John Martin, 123rd Artillery Wing

LIEUTENANT COLONEL (O-5)
• Greg Hamilton, 123rd Operations Support Flt.
• Donnie Stevenson, 123rd Operations Support Flt.

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

• Tech. Sgt. Freddie Challenger, 123rd Aircrew Support Flt.
• Tech. Sgt. Fred Hayde Jr., 123rd Security Forces Sq.
• Master Sgt. James Harned, 123rd Logistics Support Flt.
• Master Sgt. Katherine Mills, 123rd Artillery Control Flt.

The following individuals have separated from the Kentucky Air National Guard:

• Senior Airman Marcus Avery, 123rd Security Forces Sq.
• Staff Sgt. Sheila Battenfield, 123rd Civil Engineer Sq.
• Senior Airman Brian Baumgartner, 123rd Special Tactics Flt.
• Staff Sgt. Todd Claypool, 123rd Artillery Wing
• Lt. Col. Calinda Gregor, 123rd Civil Engineering Sq.
• Senior Airman Christopher Harding, 165th Artillery
• Staff Sgt. William Katsh, 123rd Civil Engineer Sq.
• Maj. Bryan Langeberg, 123rd Artillery Control Flt.
• Senior Airman Dennis Orr, 123rd Civil Engineer Sq.
• Staff Sgt. Melanie Owens, 123rd Security Forces Sq.
• Senior Airman Brian Renshaw, 123rd Maintenance Sq.
• Staff Sgt. Craig Ringo, 123rd Maintenance Sq.
• Staff Sgt. Stefanie Simpson, 123rd Logistics Sq.
• Airman 1st Class Mary Stottman, 123rd Artillery Wing
• Airman 1st Class Kristie Woods, 123rd Artillery Wing

The Cargo Courier
Aug. 12, 2000

Celebrating Diversity
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• Aug. 25, 1920 — Ethelda Bleibtreu became the first American woman to win an Olympic gold medal by tak

Unit wins visual information honors

By 1st Lt. Dale Greer
Wing Public Affairs Officer

Members of the wing’s Visual Information Branch have once again captured a plethora of national awards, collecting a half-dozen prizes for photography, videography and graphic design during the National Guard Bureau’s annual Combat Visual Information Contest. The awards, handed down in March, continue the section’s long tradition of excellence and spotlight the hard work of its airmen, said Senior Master Sgt. Terry Lutz, chief of visual information. Since the contest’s inception in 1993, the Kentucky shop has claimed 26 top awards and seven honorable mentions.

“This just reinforces what everybody finds out when they use our services: Our people are the best,” Lutz said.

“We’ve got a great team, and I would stack them up against active-duty Air Force units any day.”

The award recipients were:
• Senior Airman Jessica Fatum, who claimed first place in the publication category for her 1999 Airman of Year Awards Banquet program
• Lutz, who took top honors in the picture story category for his depiction of a deployment of the wing’s 123rd Medical Squadron
• Master Sgt. Scott Mullins, who won in the combat camera category for his video-taped documentary of the same deployment
• Master Sgt. Charles Simpson, who captured second place in combat camera for his still photo image of a medical evacuation

“Senior Airman Tommy Downs, who collected a second-, third- and fourth-place award for still photography features”

Lutz noted that VI offers its professional services to any KyANG organization with a legitimate need. For example, the section can deploy during unit exercises to shoot video documentaries and still photographs.

Graphics can also be added to both video and photography to create training films, deployment highlights, historical documentation, books, displays, reports.

See AWARDS, Back Page

KyANG NEWS

Bean Counters

By Lt. Col. Philip Miller
State Public Affairs Officer

ESMERALDAS, Ecuador — It has been more than two years since Kentucky Army National Guard Maj. Robert S. Hacker died in Ecuador.

But today all you have to do is look into the eyes of the children who attend the school that bears his name here and you know his spirit lives.

An 18-year veteran of the Guard and a native of Richmond, Hacker was administrative officer for the Ashland-based 201st Engineer Battalion. He was in charge of operations for a humanitarian relief mission when he died in a vehicle accident on July 18, 1998 — just three days before he was to return home to his wife and young son.

Hacker’s assignment in the South American nation had been to direct the work of more than 1,300 U.S. soldiers and airmen, including members of the Kentucky Air Guard, who were participating in a five-month effort in this coastal province, building schools and clinics and providing medical care to impoverished residents.

Shortly after his death, Hacker’s family and friends in Ashland established a memorial fund that collected nearly $4,000 to purchase school supplies to further aid the children Hacker had traveled to Ecuador to help.

The Cargo Courier

KyANG NEWS

KyANG News honors fallen Guard member

By Staff Sgt. Amy Carr
Cargo Courier Assistant Editor

Clouds fill the dark, gloomy sky as the processional drives through the front gate. Guard members and retirees line the street as the remains of their fallen comrade pass by.

Salutes are rendered and tears fall during the July 28 tribute to Senior Master Sgt. Darrell Minton, a crew chief in the 123rd Aircraft Generation Squadron who died at University of Louisville Hospital on July 24. Minton, 49, suffered multiple brain aneurysms three days earlier.

The processional of more than 10 cars filled with friends and family follow the hearse as it drives past the remains of their fallen comrade.

“Whether you needed to borrow money or needed help moving, he would be there for you.”

Col. Bill Leslie, commander of the 123rd Airlift Wing, echoed Allen’s praise for Minton.

“The service was very well-done, and it showed that we really are a family in the Guard,” Leslie said.

Minton, who was buried at Evergreen Cemetery with full military honors, is survived by both parents, two daughters, a son, four grandchildren, five sisters and a brother.
KyANG NEWS

Ecuador honors fallen Guard member

By Lt. Col. Philip Miller
State Public Affairs Officer

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Hacker’s assignment in the South American country had been to direct the work of more than 1,300 U.S. soldiers and airmen, including members of the Kentucky Air National Guard, who were participating in a five-month effort in this coastal province, building schools and clinics and providing medical care to impoverished residents.

Shortly after his death, Hacker’s family and friends in Ashland established a memorial fund that collected nearly $4,000 to purchase school supplies to further aid the children Hacker had traveled to Ecuador to help.

The U.S. Embassy in Quito also got involved in the effort, with Cultural Affairs Attache Susan Crystal working with Peace Corps volunteer Julie Smithwick in Esmeraldas to find a school in need of assistance.

Having worked with the people of the coastal city for three years, Smithwick, a South Carolina native, had little difficulty identifying a needy school in the city’s poverty-stricken El Neuvo Palmar district. But Smithwick went a step further by working with local leaders to have the school named for Hacker.

Esmeraldas school officials agreed, and in April of this year Kentucky Adjutant General Russ Groves led a small delegation of National Guard representatives back to Ecuador for the official dedication of the Robert S. Hacker School.

Situated near the Pacific Ocean on Ecuador’s north coast, Palmar is a maze of ramshackle wood and concrete block buildings. Deeply rutted dirt roads narrow to less than a vehicle’s width in some places and provide a thoroughfare for the scores of adults and barefoot children who live there, as well as the chickens, pigs, dogs and cats that roam.

Providing a natural backdrop for the dedication was a typical Esmeraldas day. A dazzling sun poking through a sky of brilliant blue was occasionally blotted by black tropical storm clouds. The sun would then pop back out to produce the familiar swelter of heat and humidity that perpetually exists near the equator.

A crowd of 200 townsmen, parents, students and Ecuadorian military personnel gathered in front of the school — three buildings that house 65 students in grades one through six.

The onlookers excitedly examined the new wood and stucco school; their eyes shone brightly as they feasted through the new books filling the shelves, while outside in the schoolyard a dozen brightly clad boys and girls performed a traditional dance to the accompaniment of marimba and drums.

Ecuadorian government and military officials started the ceremony by welcoming the U.S. delegation. Maj. Gen. Groves, speaking in Spanish, described the life of the fallen National Guard officer whom none of the Ecuadorians had ever met, but whose name is known throughout the area.

“This day we come together in the true spirit of partnership that Robert Hacker supported,” Groves said. “More than just a collection of concrete blocks and textbooks, this school, filled with the voices of children and their hopes for the future, is a symbol of his legacy. The dedication of Escuela Robert Hacker is a fitting tribute to the man, his legacy. The dedication of Escuela Robert Hacker is a fitting tribute to the man, his legacy. The dedication of Escuela Robert Hacker is a fitting tribute to the man, his legacy. The dedication of Escuela Robert Hacker is a fitting tribute to the man, his legacy. The dedication of Escuela Robert Hacker is a fitting tribute to the man, his legacy. The dedication of Escuela Robert Hacker is a fitting tribute to the man, his legacy. The dedication of Escuela Robert Hacker is a fitting tribute to the man, his legacy. The dedication of Escuela Robert Hacker is a fitting tribute to the man, his legacy. The dedication of Escuela Robert Hacker is a fitting tribute to the man, his legacy. The dedication of Escuela Robert Hacker is a fitting tribute to the man, his legacy.”

The legacy of Maj. Robert Stephen Hacker, soldier, father, husband and humanitarian, is now considered a hero to the people of poverty-stricken El Neuvo Palmar district.

KyANG remembers late comrade

Minton’s big heart not to be forgotten

By Staff Sgt. Amy Carr
Cargo Courier Assistant Editor

Clouds fill the dark, gloomy sky as the processional drives through the front gate. Guard members and retirees line the street as the remains of their fallen comrade pass by.

Salutes are rendered and tears fall during the July 28 tribute to Senior Master Sgt. Darrell Minton, a crew chief in the 123rd Air Craft Generation Squadron who died at University of Louisville Hospital on July 24.

Minton, 49, suffered multiple brain aneurysms three days earlier.

The procession of more than 10 cars filled with friends and family follow the hearse as it drives slowly along the road, a lone vehicle with no crew chief, to signify the unit’s loss.

As the processional passes by, each crew chief salutes and says good-bye to Minton.

“Today we come together in the true spirit of partnership that Robert Hacker supported,” Groves said. “More than just a collection of concrete blocks and textbooks, this school, filled with the voices of children and their hopes for the future, is a symbol of his legacy. The dedication of Escuela Robert Hacker is a fitting tribute to the man, his legacy. The dedication of Escuela Robert Hacker is a fitting tribute to the man, his legacy. The dedication of Escuela Robert Hacker is a fitting tribute to the man, his legacy. The dedication of Escuela Robert Hacker is a fitting tribute to the man, his legacy. The dedication of Escuela Robert Hacker is a fitting tribute to the man, his legacy. The dedication of Escuela Robert Hacker is a fitting tribute to the man, his legacy. The dedication of Escuela Robert Hacker is a fitting tribute to the man, his legacy. The dedication of Escuela Robert Hacker is a fitting tribute to the man, his legacy. The dedication of Escuela Robert Hacker is a fitting tribute to the man, his legacy. The dedication of Escuela Robert Hacker is a fitting tribute to the man, his legacy.”

At the end of the road, facing in the opposite direction, sits one lone plane with no crew chief, to signify the unit’s loss.

The plane has a University of Kentucky flag flying above it, making it recognizable to those who knew Minton well.

Next, another formation of crew chiefs flies formation above Minton by offering a salute and then a thumbs-up to send him off.

This is a signal crew chiefs give when the time comes to say goodbye to a fallen comrade.

As the processional turns back to find crew chiefs now standing at the rear of their aircraft, again offering the thumbs-up.

It was a fitting tribute to a man who had spent nearly 30 years in the Guard and personified the best of citizen-soldiers, friends said.

“He was simply the best,” said Chief Master Sgt. Robert Allen, superintendent of the 123rd Aircraft Generation Squadron and one of more than 300 people who attended Minton’s funeral service in the base Annex.

“Darrell was a citizen-soldier with the dedication and willingness to go anywhere and do anything, at anytime,” he said.

He was always involved in everything from sports programs to fund-raising events.

He was the kind of guy who would take trips at Christmas time to keep others from having to leave their families during the holidays.

“Anything that you’d ever need, Darrell was always there.”

Minton, Allen said, truly loved the Guard and working on aircraft.

“He was extremely knowledgeable about the aircraft and a silent leader to the younger guys,” Allen said.

“Even if you asked him about his leadership role he would play it down, but he did offer guidance and understanding to them,” Col. Bill Leslie, commander of the 123rd Airlift Wing, echoed Allen’s praise for Minton.

“Whether you needed to borrow money or needed help moving, he would be there for you.”

Minton continued to give to others even after his own life had ended.

“Darrell always said he would give his organs, and he did.”

“Hell, he was just the type of person who would say, ‘Well, I sure don’t need them anymore.’

The processional was a well-deserved honor for his coworker and friend, Jones said.

“It was really, really, a touching tribute on the flightline. We just wanted to give something back to our fallen comrade. It was one perfect way, as far as closure goes, to say our final good-bye.”

Staff Sgt. Thomas Monin of the 123rd Maintenance Squadron said he was one perfect way, as far as closure goes, to say our final good-bye.

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Annex
Continued from Front Page
ship services to be conducted in a more modern style closer to chapel services on an active-duty base," he said.
"I just couldn’t be happier about the facil-
ity. I am just elated and looking forward to it.
I can’t wait until the first drill weekend when we can use it, and I hope attendance will double.
"Our usual field-condition services will be a thing of the past."
To further enhance services, the chapel community is working to actively involve more Guard members.
With the help of 2nd Lt. B.J. Geary, plans are underway to start a praise band using instruments that have been donated by unit members.
"Again, the idea of a praise band wouldn’t be possible in temporary quar-
ters," Curry said.
The Multipurpose Annex Building also will be home to the offices of Military Equal Opportunity.

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

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- Collin King, 123rd Security Forces Sq.
- Kevin Roy, 123rd Security Forces Sq.
- John Martin, 123rd Artillery Wg.

**SENIOR AIRMAN (E-4)**
- Jason Ellison, 123rd Security Forces Sq.
- Jeffrey McManus, 123rd Security Forces Sq.
- Dejan Nikolic, 123rd Logistics Sq.

**STAFF SERGEANT (E-5)**
- Michael Bradway, 123rd Maintenance Sq.
- David Crane, 123rd Maintenance Sq.
- Dean James, 123rd Security Forces Sq.
- David Johnstone, 123rd Civil Engineering Sq.
- John Lundergan, 123rd Artillery Wg.
- Clinton Saul, 123rd Civil Engineering Sq.
- Leslie Stivers, 123rd Logistics Sq.
- Robin Stokley, 123rd Medical Sq.

**TECHNICAL SERGEANT (E-6)**
- Richard Anderson, 205th Combat Communications Sq.
- David Brown, 123rd Logistics Support Flt.
- Patrick Crosser, 123rd Aircraft Generation Sq.
- Lloyd Davis, 205th Combat Communications Sq.
- Juanita Kiker, 123rd Civil Engineer Sq.

**MASTER SERGEANT (E-7)**
- John Martin, 123rd Artillery Wg.

**SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT (E-8)**
- Terry Lutz, 123rd Communications Flt.

**LIEUTENANT COLONEL (O-5)**
- Donnie Stevenson, 123rd Operations Support Flt.

**Battalions**

**123rd Civil Engineering Sq.**
- Senior Sgt. David Smith, 123rd Civil Engineering Sq.

**123rd Maintenance Sq.**
- Master Sgt. Michael Gilloway, 123rd Communications Flt.
- Master Sgt. Timothy Stephens, 123rd Artillery Wg.

The following individuals have
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- Staff Sgt. Sheila Battenfield, 123rd Civil Engineer Flt.
- Senior Airman Brian Baumann, 123rd Special Tactics Flt.
- Staff Sgt. Todd Claypool, 123rd Civil Engineer Flt.
- Lt. Col. Roland Gregor, Headquarters, KyANG
- Senior Airman Christopher Harding, 165th Artillery Sq.
- Staff Sgt. William Ketch, 123rd Civil Engineer Flt.
- Maj. Bryan Langeberg, 123rd Artillery Wg.
- Staff Sgt. Craig Riding, 123rd Maintenance Flt.
- Senior Airman Brian Renshaw, 123rd Maintenance Flt.
- Staff Sgt. Kristie Woods, 123rd Artillery Wing.

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Compiled by Chief Master Sgt. Ron Smith and Chief Master Sgt. Robert Wagner, human resources advis-
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KyANG NEWS

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**Unit wins visual information honors**

By 1st Lt. Dale Greer

Wing Public Affairs Officer

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"We’ve got a great team, and I would stack them up against active-duty Air Force units any day.

The award winners were:
- Senior Airman Jessica Fataphar, who claimed first place in the publication category for her 1999 Airman of Year Awards Banquet program.
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See AWARDS, Back Page
COMMANDER’S CALL

Good-bye 205 CBCS, hello 123 STS

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON—The Air Force is taking action in response to details outlined recently by Deputy Secretary of Defense Rudy de Leon on the temporary slowing of the Anthrax Vaccine Immunization Program. This slow down was necessary because of limitations in the supply of Food and Drug Administration approved safe and effective vaccine.

According to a July 17 policy letter signed by the deputy secretary, only those deployed for at least 30 days to the high-risk theaters of Southwest Asia and Korea will continue to be vaccinated.

Vaccinations for personnel deploying to these areas should begin prior to arrival in theater and are authorized to begin up to 45 days prior to deployment. Upon return from the high-threat areas, further immunizations will be deferred.

The Air Force is working with DOD officials to redistribute its supply of anthrax vaccine as needed to support the Defense Department-directed slowdown.

According to de Leon, the program will resume fully once the Defense Department has additional FDA-approved vaccine.

Programs to educate and inform Air Force people about the biological threat and effectiveness of the anthrax vaccine will continue during the period of slowed implementation and upon full program resumption.

More information on the anthrax immunization program can be found at www.anthrax.osd.mil.

Immunization schedule based on body’s response

By Lt. Col. David E. Granstrom
KYANG Public Health Officer

Medical providers are required to adhere to the Food and Drug Administration approved schedule for anthrax vaccine inoculations that include an initial injection and subsequent inoculations at two and four weeks.

Booster shots are to be given at six, 12, and 18 months with an annual booster thereafter. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have stated that it is not recommended to decrease the interval between immunizations that require multiple doses to produce adequate protection. This is based on fundamental principles of immunology and reflects the slow nature of the immune response following immunization exposure.

The key point in these recommendations is not to decrease the interval between vaccinations. Once exposed, the body’s immune system develops a “memory” of the offending agent, and responds more quickly and with greater intensity each time it is re-introduced. This is the basis of all vaccinations.

Since an immune response usually requires several weeks to become protective after initial infection, vaccination gives the body a much-needed head start. The timing of boosters is important because an optimal secondary immune response occurs after the primary response has subsided.

The protocol for anthrax vaccination is typical for a killed vaccine. Multiple boostsers are required at increasing intervals to build active immunity and an annual booster is necessary to sustain it.

Immunity from the initial injection wanes quickly and the second injection can be administered in two weeks. Four weeks are required for the immune response to subside before the third injection can be given. Immunity following the third, and subsequent injections takes much longer to decrease, which should be expected.

Obviously, vaccination timing is much more important when boosters are given over several weeks rather than many months.

At this point, it should be obvious that the immunologic “memory” created by the anthrax vaccine is firmly imprinted following the second injection. If the period between vaccinations is longer than scheduled, the body will still respond, even if the booster is given years later.

In fact, DOD policy does not require the series to be restarted unless the schedule has been interrupted for up to two years after initial vaccination. If two inoculations have been given, the series can resume on the same schedule indefinitely.

While the complete vaccination series with annual boosters is optimal, and maintains the highest state of active immunity, the immunologic memory created by a partial vaccination series is expected to provide the head start needed to protect against anthrax exposure. It certainly worked well in the primates used to test the vaccine.

We cannot plan to deviate from the prescribed protocol. However, trying to stay on schedule presents a unique challenge for the reserve components of the armed forces, even under the best of circumstances.

We will strive to provide anthrax immunizations according to schedule, but when that is not possible the principles of immunology and common sense will continue to be our guide.

The immunologic ‘memory’ is firmly imprinted following the second injection. If the period between vaccinations is longer than scheduled the body will still respond.

—Lt. Col. David E. Granstrom
KYANG Public Health Officer

The Cargo Courier
Aug. 12, 2000

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

W
ell, it’s finally official on Sept. 30—the 205th Combat Communications Squadron ceases to exist, and on Oct. 1, the 123rd Special Tactics Flight becomes a full squadron.

That’s a loss of 205 authorized positions with the 205th and a gain of 59 authorized positions in the STS.

Net gain/loss: zero.

Knowing that this was going to happen, we allowed the manning in the combat communications squadron to drop from 59 to 37.

Obviously, we can’t just move the remaining combat communicators over to the special tactics flight and make them snake-eaters.

The SA TAF gave us until Dec. 31, 2001, to find positions for those. No one has to leave the wing.

They gave us a great deal of flexibility in how we take care of the displaced personnel.

The 123rd Special Tactics Squadron is, by the public affairs office, room 2117 of the Wing Headquarters Building, the Annex.

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COMMANDER’S CALL

Good-bye 205 CBCS, hello 123 STS

Col. Bill Leslie
123rd Airlift Wing Commander

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The editorial content is edited and prepared by the public affairs office of the 123rd Airlift Wing, Kentucky National Guard, Louisville International Airport, Louisville, Ky. 40213-2678.

If you have a story, photo or article to submit, stop by the public affairs office, room 2117 of the Wing Headquarters Building, Deadline for the next issue is Aug. 25.
MILESTONES

Moremen retires after 26 years of service

By 1st Lt. Dale Greer
Wing Public Affairs Officer

Col. David Moremen announced his retirement from the Kentucky Air National Guard during a ceremony held July 15 on the base flightline, ending a 26-year military career. Moremen, who most recently served as wing vice commander, entered the Air Force with an ROTC commission from the University of Kentucky in May 1974. He served for seven years on active duty as an academic instructor and instructor pilot before joining the Kentucky Air Guard in September 1981.

While here, he served as chief of Flight Safety, chief of Standards and Evaluation and commander of the 123rd Operations Group. Moremen also was selected to lead a team of instructors who delivered a C-130B to Chile to provide training for members of the Chilean Air Force. It marked the first time in 25 years that the United States had provided military aid to the South American nation.

“Dave has been a key member of our management team,” said Col. Bill Leslie, wing commander.

“We have been able to bounce ideas off each other and, I feel, come up with the best possible answers. I will particularly miss his analytical skills, his perseverance and his professionalism.”

Moremen is a command pilot with more than 4,000 flying hours in a variety of aircraft, including the C-130 B/E/H and RF-4C. His decorations include the Air Force Meritorious Service Medal with device, Air Force Commendation Medal and Air Force Achievement Medal.

The wing is holding a dinner in honor of Col. Moremen tonight at Woodhaven Country Club, 7200 Woodhaven Road. The event gets underway at 6:15 p.m.

Annex construction nearing completion

Structure to offer site for meetings, chapel services and weddings

By Staff Sgt. Amy Carr
Cargo Courier Assistant Editor

Sunday morning worship services will soon move from base classrooms and conference facilities to the wing’s newly renovated Multipurpose Annex Building.

The facility, which once was a church, was acquired by the Kentucky Air Guard when the base relocated its current site in 1995. For much of the time since, the structure’s assembly hall has remained largely unused and in disrepair.

About two years ago, members of the 123rd Civil Engineer Squadron began the ambitious task of restoring the hall to usability, and that task is now nearly complete, said Senior Master Sgt. Russ Slinger, superintendent of the unit.

KyANG civil engineers have been working full time in crews of five or six to completely refurbish the building, including its mechanical and electrical systems. In addition to the renovations, new state-of-the-art audio and visual multimedia equipment have been installed.

“The hall, which can seat 400 people, will provide a venue for assemblies, weddings and other social events, as well as church services.”

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Lt. Col. Tom Curry, chief chaplain of the 123rd Civil Engineer Wing, said the new facility and equipment will create an atmosphere that will enable the unit to use the hall to its fullest potential.

“Creating an atmosphere that will enable the unit to use the hall to its fullest potential.”

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