Thornton in Frankfort, selected as ESSO

By Tech Sgt. Jeff Sansbury
Editor and Public Affairs NCOIC

Lt. Col. William T. Thornton has been chosen to serve at headquarters of the Kentucky Department of Military Affairs. During October Thornton became the executive staff support officer for air and will hold a key staff position under the adjutant general's office in Frankfort.

The opportunity was created when Brig. Gen. Stewart R. Byrne vacated the position to become commander of the Kentucky Air National Guard in April of this year. At that time Thornton was the deputy commander for resources.

'I've been in Frankfort only a short time, but already I'm impressed with the experience level and professional approach here,' said Thornton. 'The 15 years I spent at Standiford Field helped me prepare for the transition.'

In his new position, the colonel will work at the Boone National Guard Center and serve as the ANG advisor to Maj. Gen. Robert L. DeZarn, the state adjutant general. An Army counterpart will work closely with Thornton on joint matters and together they will act as liaisons to the U.S. Air Force and Army. Thornton will oversee the manpower requirements and readiness status of all units assigned to the KyANG.

Thornton is a native of Union City, Tenn., and a graduate of Memphis State University. After graduation from Officer Training School in 1964 he was assigned to Takhli Air Base, Thailand, for a tour of duty in Southeast Asia. As a master navigator he flew more than 100 combat missions over North Vietnam during the late 1960s and he later served at the Royal Air Force station near Alconbury, England.

"Working with TAG [state headquarters] in the past was always important, and I enjoyed it," the colonel said. "One thing I'm looking forward to now, while in Frankfort, is the interface with Army Guard units throughout the state."

Thornton is married to the former Margaret Polgardy and they live in Louisville with their two children.

No-interest college loans available to dependents

Washington (AFNS) -- The Retired Officers Association has increased its educational assistance program to provide $2,000 annual, no interest loans. The loans are to help children of members of the uniformed services in obtaining a college degree. The loans increased by $500 over the past two years and are awarded for up to five years of undergraduate study to unmarried students, under 24 years old who are dependent children of active duty, reserve, retired service members and some government agencies.

Educational Assistance Program was established in 1948 for the children of retired officers and their widows.

Applications are available by writing to: ROA Educational Assistance Program Administrator (99D), 201 N. Washington St., Alexandria, Va., 22314-2539. Call Tech. Sgt. Deborah Nelson at on-base 485 for more information.
Commander's Column

The times are changing and we will lead the way. With the end of the "Cold War," this nation is headed back to a more militia-oriented defense structure. Gen. Ronald R. Fogleman, commander of the Air Mobility Command, speaking to his wing commanders, said that in his study of history the only time this country has maintained a large standing military force was during the Cold War period. He suspects that we will again return to a more militia-oriented structure. If nothing else, the budget will drive the change.

To maintain a competitive position in the world economically, we must bring our military spending more in line with that of our competitors. In 1989 our defense budget was around $300 billion, more than twice that of the European Community and more than three times that spent by the combined countries of Asia.

During the years we were a militia country not engaged in war, we spent less than two percent of our gross national product on defense. The mobilization for World War II drove us to 38 percent for defense while WWI, Korea and Vietnam took us up to about 12 percent of GNP for defense. At the height of the Reagan years, defense spending topped out at six percent, but has now fallen to below five percent and is headed for 3.6 percent by 1995.

In 1995, the active Air Force will have about half the number of wings it had five years ago, the budget will be 43 percent less than it was in 1985 and the personnel strength will be down 44 percent from the peak in 1986. Advisors close to President-elect Bill Clinton indicate a shift in balance between the active Air Force and the reserve components could reach a 50/50 ratio.

What does all this mean to us? We can expect to shoulder more of the burden for the defense of the country just as our ancestors in the militia picked up arms to defend their settlements. It also means that we must change to an organizational structure more closely aligned to that of the active Air Force and we must learn to operate more efficiently. We must question the effectiveness of our training and the economy of our operations to determine how we can improve quality, and we must again put the interest of the country ahead of personal gain. It also means that we as guard members are becoming much more important.

Militias return as prime force

Vices dropping, survey reports

(AFNS) - An Air Force survey of 16,000 active-duty people revealed:

- Substance use: marijuana is used by 3.8 percent of the surveyed subjects; LSD by 1.8 percent; cocaine by 1.7 percent; and anabolic steroids by 0.3 percent.

- Cigarette smoking: overall, it dropped from 40.9 percent in 1988 to 35 percent in 1992. Heavy smoking (a pack or more a day) fell from 22.7 percent in 1988 to 18 percent in 1992.

- Operation Desert Storm resulted in drug users and drinkers indicated decreased usage while there. For smokers, 15.4 percent increased smoking and three percent started smoking for the first time.

This funded Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of THE CARGO COURIER are not necessarily the official views of the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

The editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office of the 123rd Airlift Wing, Kentucky Air National Guard, Standiford Field ANGB, Louisville, Ky 40213-2678, phone 502-364-9431.

Deadline for submission of articles is Sunday morning of each UTA, for publication in the following month's newspaper. Articles may be delivered to the Public Affairs Office, Room 143 of the O&T Building.
Local AFA chapter ends quarter with membership drive Dec. 11

The Russell E. Dougherty Chapter 407 of the Air Force Association is based in Louisville. This chapter of the AFA has a long heritage of being one of the finest chapters and has traditionally been supported by the Kentucky Air National Guard.

Unfortunately, the chapter began losing some of its drive and enthusiasm as committee membership expired and follow-on members were unavailable to serve. The chapter will hold its membership drive and quarterly meeting Dec. 11 in Louisville and is eager to host current and past members of the KyANG.

The AFA is directly responsible for communicating Air Force and reserve members' interests to the general public. The chapter wants to take up this cause and accept the challenge, as Kentucky's 123rd Airlift Wing is the local Air Force unit in the Louisville community.

The chapter needs your support.

Chapter 407 will host its quarterly dinner and general membership meeting Dec. 11 at the Holiday Inn South on Fern Valley Road at 6 p.m. The dinner will honor Eunice Van Winkle Ray as the keynote speaker. Ray serves on the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Service, known as DACOWITS.

Ray's three-year appointment to DACOWITS, which is considered a three-star position, has a focus of developing the appropriate role of women in the armed forces and recommending changes and improvements to the DACOWITS board of directors and the U.S. secretary of defense.

The Russell E. Dougherty Chapter, named for the Louisville native who became general and commander of the Strategic Air Command, asks for your support Dec. 11. The dinner admission is $12.50 and the chapter promises an enjoyable evening.

ANG Briefs

Vorhees finishes high at Air University

In competition with 580 students, Capt. Benjamin Vorhees graduated among the top nine percent of the Squadron Officer School recently at Maxwell AFB in Alabama and was named a Distinguished Graduate.

Vorhees, a member of Kentucky's 165th Airlift Squadron, graduated from Air University's Class 92-E and was selected for the distinctive honor by the school's review committee and commandant.

Squadron Officer School is the first of the USAF's professional military education schools. The mission of the seven-week course is to provide for the development of company-grade officers so they can better perform and value their role in the conduct and support of the Air Force mission.

The evaluation system consists of academics, communications skills and leadership. The candidate must excel and meet criteria in each field.

3.7% pay raise effective Jan. 1

Congress has passed a $274 billion post-cold war fiscal 1993 budget bill that calls for a 3.7 percent military pay raise and authorizes the Pentagon to develop a 15-year early retirement program, if needed, to meet force drawdown requirements.

In addition to the pay raise, effective Jan. 1, the bill includes $2.7 billion to complete 20 B-2 bombers and $58.4 million to procure 24 F-16 fighter planes.

The bill also gives the defense secretary authority to offer separation pay to regular or civilian retirees, as well as those who resign voluntarily. The pay would be equal to the sum an employee would get if eligible under a severance plan or $25,000, whichever is less.

A Piece of Kentucky History to Benefit the Kentucky Air National Guard

Kentucky's official Bicentennial Medallion to commemorate the 200th anniversary of our great Commonwealth

Solid Bronze

A true collector's item

All profits will be used to help build a new snackbar & credit union complex

You may purchase your medallion at the snackbar or the credit union.

$5.00 each

Contact Staff Sgt. Cynthia Haselhack on-base 510 or visit your orderly room

The Cargo Courier
Dec. 5, 1992
Insurance trusts can protect your wishes

After your departure, children benefit most

By Lt. Col. Gary Napier
123rd Staff Judge Advocate

In yesteryear, Paw married Maw. Maw earned the money, Maw birthed and stayed home with the kids. Maw and Paw stayed married “until death did they part.” Those days are gone.

Men share equal responsibility for raising children and women share equal responsibility to earn the family’s income. Society has changed, like it or not. Today the probabilities are that a parent will not remain married to the same spouse for life. The divorce rate is now 60 percent.

In yesteryear, a parent could simply provide for his family after death by leaving everything to the surviving spouse or to the kids if there was no surviving spouse. In all likelihood, that simplicity won’t work when a divorce has occurred.

The divorced or remarried parent has no desire to leave money, life insurance proceeds or other property to the ex-spouse. In most cases child custody will revert back to the living parent when one parent dies. How do you make sure your estate goes to the kids and not to the ex-spouse? The answer is a trust.

When most lay persons think of a “trust” they naturally think of a large sum of money -- like the Rockefeller estate. Not so! A trust is a relatively simple legal document. It allows you to specify who will control the proceeds when someone else has custody or guardianship of the named beneficiaries. The trust employ a third person or institution to function as the trustee. The trustee controls the purse strings, following your specified directive, for the intended beneficiary or recipients.

For example, you are divorced with two minor children. It does not matter who is the custodial parent. Following your death, it is presumed that the living parent becomes the new custodian.

At question is the $100,000 Servicemans Group Life Insurance proceeds. The children are named beneficiaries equally. What do two minor children do with $50,000? Answer:

As a practical matter the surviving parent now controls that money, supposedly for the children’s benefit. An old adage comes to mind: possession is nine-tenths of the law. It applies here.

In an effort to avoid this dilemma many people are now creating a trust. This legal document lets you name a trusted person, maybe a grandparent, as the trustee. This person or institution earmarks the proceeds in shares for the children. Your trust gives the trustee discretion on how the money is spent. If one child has exorbitant medical needs, the trustee can make the necessary payments from that child’s shares. On the other hand, if a child is irresponsible and would waste the money, the trustee can withhold or limit the amount that child receives.

Trusts work well to ensure college expenses can be paid. Most trusts specify certain ages when the trustee must pay the remainder of proceeds outright to the beneficiary, say, 25 or 30 years old.

If your life is not simple, maybe this would apply to you. It costs a few more dollars over a routine will, but the initial outlay could save your children a considerable amount and prevent you from rolling over in your grave.

Best of the Best

Maj. Gen. Robert DeZarn, the adjutant general of Kentucky, visited Standiford Field Nov. 8 to congratulate the Kentucky Air National Guard's Social Actions office on its national award for excellence. The office earned the 1991 Social Actions Office of the Year award for its documentation and maintenance programs in human relations, equal opportunity treatment and substance abuse education. From left are Maj. Robert Finch, 1st Lt. Marsha Bercham, Tech Sgt. Bill Rice and Tech Sgt. Eric Hertog. It was the Kentucky ANG's third such award since 1984.

KyANG photo by Tech Sgt. Charles Simpson
Retirements, promotions

The following members have been promoted in the Kentucky Air Guard and as reservists of the U.S. Air Force. Congratulations on a job well done.

To Airman (E-2)
David Curl, 123rd CAMS
Gregory Hair, 123rd CES

To Airman 1st Class (E-3)
Theresa Bland, 123rd MSS
Mark Darragh Jr., 223rd COMMS
Jerry Floyd, 123rd MAPS
Antonio Gascon, 8123rd STUD FLT
Christina Holder, 123rd SPF
Emil Jeffers, 123rd SPF
Gary O’Daniel, 8123rd STUD FLT

To Senior Airman (E-4)
Sherry Butts, 123rd MAPS
Brian Elkins, 123rd MAPS
William Gilpatrick, 123rd CES
Joseph Hood, 165th AS
Terry Riddle, 123rd MAPS
Danny Skaggs, 123rd CES

To Staff Sgt. (E-5)
Angela Alvin, 123rd SERV FLT
Karen Cole, 123rd MAPS
Helena Hawthorne, 123rd RMS
Patrick Logsdon, 123rd CES
Joseph Knight, 165th AS
Michael Newman, 123rd CCT

To Tech Sgt. (E-6)
Michael Coryell, 123rd CES
Ronald McAllister, 123rd SERV FLT
Roy Mullins, 123rd MSF
Russell Stich, 165th AS
Matthew Stone, 165th AS
Thomas Willburn, 123rd CES

Retirements from KyANG
CM Sgt. Donald Durham, 123rd CES
MSgt. Robert Burns, 123rd CES
MSgt. Harold Farmer, 123rd CES
MSgt. James Mull, 123rd TAC HOSP
TSgt. Donald Burge, HQ 123rd AW

BE THERE!

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Feb. 26-28, 1993

The Galt House
Louisville, Ky

- Top Level Guest Speakers
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- Hospitality Rooms
- Military Banquet and Ball
- Spouse Activities
- Door Prizes
- Informative Business Session

MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!!

Participation in polls, surveys not allowed

Air Force personnel are reminded that they may not respond in their official capacity to opinion surveys unless official participation is approved.

Commanders may not permit any private individual or organization to conduct a poll, survey or interview within their commands without specific authorization from AFMPC/DPMYAS.

Refer to AFR 30-23 and AFR 190-1 for additional information. The purpose of this guidance and regulations on this subject is to prevent members in their official capacity from having answers erroneously interpreted as an Air Force position or put to commercial or other improper use.

Commanders may verify that a particular opinion survey is approved for official participation by calling AFMPC/DPMYAS at DSN 487-5680.

The Cargo Courier
Dec. 5, 1992
KyANG base construction gets green light

By Capt. Ralinda Gregor
Assist. Public Affairs Officer

It's no secret that Standiford Field is undergoing considerable renovation and construction. However, most Kentucky Air National Guard members are unaware of the details surrounding the construction. Practically all the facilities on base will be affected by this major long-term construction project.

The project has two phases. Phase I, scheduled for completion in January 1995, includes construction of a new composite operations and training building, combat control team and communications facility, composite hangar and resource facility and a fire station. The project includes new electric, gas, water, sewer and communications utilities for the entire base. Temporary buildings erected during Phase I will house the 123rd Mobile Aerial Port Squadron and vehicle maintenance unit until permanent structures are completed during Phase II.

During Phase I, 26 out of 29 existing buildings on base will be demolished to make room for the new parallel runways. A ramp expansion will provide space for all 12 assigned C-130H aircraft. In addition to the military construction projects slated for Phase I, KyANG members will pitch in funds and manpower to build a new snack bar, base exchange and credit union under one roof.

Phase II, scheduled to begin the summer of 1996, includes construction of a new fuel cell hangar and buildings to house the MAPS, vehicle maintenance, operations and civil engineering.

According to Capt. Thomas Benton, the resources and requirements officer for the 123rd Civil Engineering Squadron, work has started on Phase I. Renovation of the avionics building began in October. It will be converted to a new combat control team and communications facility and is scheduled for completion in April 1993. The $854,000 project was awarded to TA Construction of Louisville.

Thurman Company broke ground on the $5.5 million O&T Building project last month. The 51,000 square foot partial two story facility will be located between the existing claimshell facility and engine shop.

According to Benton, the rest of the Phase I projects are still in the planning stage. The fire station is in design and will go out for bid next spring. The hangar and resource facility will go out for bid in January and construction is scheduled to begin in early spring.

A floor plan for the snack bar, base exchange and credit union is also in the works. Since military construction funds are not authorized for this facility, salvaged equipment from buildings scheduled for demolition will be used when-

Story continues on next page
ever possible. KyANG members are selling Kentucky bicentennial medals to raise construction funds for the project (see advertisement on Page 3).

An environmental study of the aircraft parking ramp extension is the final hurdle before groundbreaking on that project begins. That study will go out for public review this month. The ramp is scheduled for completion in September 1993.

Lt. Col. Thomas Marks Jr., the 123rd CES commander, reports that the base construction project is well under way. Three-fourths of the construction money has already been appropriated by the U.S. Congress. Says Marks, "When a building comes out of the ground, it's like an iceberg; 90 percent of the work is complete. The actual construction is only 10 percent of the effort."

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20 Year Service Plaque
Lt. Col. Patricia Horsey, TAC HOSP
Lt. Paul Rhodes, HQ 123rd AW

Maj. Jeff Butcher, HQ 123rd PAO
Maj. Howard Fabing, 165th AS
Maj. Jerry Taylor, 165th AS
Maj. John Wheeler, 165th AS

CMSgt. William Smith, 123rd CTT
SMSgt. John Logsdon, 123rd CES

MSgt. Richard Ala, 123rd CAMS
MSgt. Michael Cook, 123rd RMS
MSgt. Larry Farr, 123rd MSS
MSgt. Roger Hamilton, 123rd CAMS
MSgt. Larry Oney, 123rd MSS
MSgt. Bill Pharris, HQ 123rd AW
MSgt. Samuel Waddell, 123rd SP
MSgt. Gary Wooden, 123rd CAMS

TSGT. Donald Burge, HQ 123rd AW
TSGT. Mary Day, 123rd CES
TSGT. Bobby Salee, 123rd RMS

SSGT. Clarence Delk, 123rd CES

The Cargo Courier
Dec. 5, 1992
Sad visit proves importance of emergency DD93

By Lt. Col. Daniel Wells
123rd MSS Commander

Last year Col. Ed Hornung gave me an assignment which illustrates the importance of keeping your "Record of Emergency Data," known as the DD Form 93, up to date.

Tech Sgt. Paul Davidson volunteered to assist me with a casualty notification detail in Southern Indiana. Although the notification of death is never easy, this case was especially difficult because it involved the suicide of an airman who had just returned from an overseas assignment.

Initial reports indicated his children were home at the time of the incident. Our objective was to notify the parents before they heard about it on the evening news, but the task proved more difficult than we had initially planned.

The only information we had on the deceased airman's parents was from the DD Form 93 and it had not been kept up to date. The parents were divorced and their addresses were obsolete. Fortunately, with the assistance of the local sheriff's department and the U.S. Postal Service, and after several false leads, we finally got the mother's address.

The deputy sheriff led us out of one small town and down several country roads to a farm house in what appeared to be the "Heartland of America." The nice wooden farmhouse had windows open and doors unlocked. Two little puppies were the only ones there to welcome us to the homestead for this dismal task.

After a short wait, the mother arrived from work at a nearby factory. At first she started to kid around as she walked up from the barn, but then realizing the situation, she asked quickly for the information before we could get her inside.

With my heart sinking to the ground and fighting back my feelings for this dear lady, I told her of her son's tragic death. She was still in shock as we helped her inside and called other members of the family. We continued to check leads on the deceased airman's father throughout the state of Florida, but found nothing definite. The father may still not know of his son's fate, but the Air Force is trying to find him.

The moral of this story is to keep your Record of Emergency Data up to date, not just for you but for your family as well. Pass it along as recent events here at Standiford Field continue to indicate the importance of keeping your records up to date. Contact our personnel office immediately if you have changes in your Record of Emergency Data.

Bush signs VA act, offers $200,000 on SGLI plan

On Oct. 29, President Bush signed into public law the Veterans Benefits Act of 1992. This act modifies the provisions of the Servicemen's Group Life Insurance plan, or SGLI, so that members still become automatically insured for $100,000 up to the new maximum coverage of $200,000.

The higher levels of insurance coverage are to be made available effective Dec. 1. The Department of Veterans Affairs policy allows eligible reservists to elect higher levels of coverage through March 30, 1993, by completing a new VA Form 8288.

The new form, dated Nov. 1, 1992, will be mailed to each state's headquarters by the VA. Only the new form may be used to make a new election. Elections dated after March 30 will require the same statement of health as required under the present SGLI plan for selections made by those who previously declined coverage or elected a reduced level of insurance.

Coverage at the increased level becomes effective once the form has been completed, signed and received, or on Dec. 1, 1992, whichever is later.

The premiums for increased levels of coverage apply to the month in which the election is made and each subsequent month in which coverage is maintained. Ask your CBPO for details.