

THE CARGO COURIER

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

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Wing completes historic mission as part of AEF-1

By 2nd Lt. Dale Greer
Wing Public Affairs Officer

The last rotation of KyANG troops returned from Oman Dec. 27, completing the unit's historic participation in Air Expeditionary Force-1.

The "1" is significant because the mission was the Air Force's first implementation of its new Expeditionary Aerospace Forces concept.

The concept is designed to ease the crushing and unpredictable operations tempo of recent years by limiting each unit's deployments to 90-day windows every 15 months.

More than 160 KyANG personnel and one C-130 deployed to Seeb International Airport in Muscat for AEF-1, providing airlift support for Operation Southern Watch, the U.S. effort to enforce the no-fly zone in southern Iraq.

The Kentucky airmen, who served on rotations averaging three weeks, were joined by members of the Ohio Air Guard's 179th Airlift Wing, which also contributed one C-130.

Together, the two units flew 345 sorties during their three-month tasking, delivering 895 tons of cargo and 1,122 passengers to destinations in Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, according to Col.

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TOP RIGHT: Tech. Sgt. Pete Rendon of the 123rd Aircraft Generation Squadron secures cargo for transport from Oman aboard a Kentucky Air Guard C-130.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Col. David Moremen, vice wing commander, prepares for a sortie in support of Southern Watch.



Photos by Maj. Steve Bullard/KyANG



'Bean Soup 2000' needs your help to assist children and showcase the wing

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or the next few weeks, you're going to hear and see a lot of information about "Bean Soup 2000." For those of you who haven't been around as long as some of us, a little background is in order.

Many years ago, Guard members were asked to spend a UTA weekend standing on street corners or going door to door, collecting for charities — in uniform!

The money went to worthwhile causes, to be sure, and the collections allowed us to show our community involvement.

But they weren't a very productive use of our limited training time, and some even questioned their legality.

So way back in the early 1970s, a few pretty sharp folks came up with a better way to accomplish these goals while also giving the public a chance to see our facilities and providing unit members with the chance to have a little fun.

The result was our first Bean Soup Feast.

In subsequent years, it grew to a much-anticipated event in the community, raising thousands of dollars that we contributed to the WHAS Crusade for Children and other youth charities.



Col. Bill Leslie
123rd Airlift Wing Commander

Then, for a number of reasons, not the least of which was the move to our new facilities, Bean Soup went by the way-side.

We decided to start it again two years ago and have had moderate success. This year, we want to come back strong.

We're putting a lot of effort into publicity and promotion, and we need your assistance. We will be offering each one of you a number of tickets to purchase for you and your family, or you can sell

them to friends and acquaintances.

We also will be providing promotional materials that you can put up at work (with your boss' permission, of course).

You are NOT REQUIRED or expected to sell or buy tickets (unless you plan to eat). We know from past experience, however, that by offering tickets in this way our folks normally get a little more involved and put forth that extra effort to make the event a success.

Although it looks like there may be a "Thunder Over Louisville" this year, including an air show, we will not have a static display or open house as part of Thunder.

So Bean Soup 2000 is a great opportunity to show your family, friends, and the community who we are and what we do.

We hope to feature several different aircraft types on display, as well as other military equipment during the event.

It's good for you, the unit, the children and the community.

And you won't find a better meal for the price anywhere!

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If you have a story idea, photo or article to submit, stop by the public affairs office, room 2117 of the Wing Headquarters Building. Deadline for the next issue is Feb. 23.

Wing Commander.....Col. Bill Leslie
Wing Public Affairs Officer
and Cargo Courier Editor.....2nd Lt. Dale Greer
Assistant Editor.....Staff Sgt. Amy Carr
Staff Writer.....Staff. Sgt. Dave Tors

How to contact us ☎

Phone: (502) 364-9431
E-mail: dalegreer@sprintmail.com



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

Making the Grade

Program offers promotions when slots don't exist

By Staff Sgt. David I. Tors
Cargo Courier Staff Writer

The Air National Guard has extended for another year a program designed to promote part-time NCOs who would otherwise be forced to retire at lower ranks.

The Exceptional Promotion Program permits traditional Guardsmen to advance to E-8 or E-9 even when no slots exist on the unit manning document, said Chief Master Sgt. David Orange, the wing's command chief master sergeant.

One of the program's objectives is to increase retention rates and morale among traditional Guard members, who comprise 72 percent of the enlisted force as a whole but just 25 percent of the Guard's E-8 and E-9 positions.

"This is a great program that allows our traditional folks to reach the top two grades," Orange said.

Just two promotions will be awarded locally under the program this year — one



Staff Sgt. David I. Tors/KyANG

Senior Master Sgt. Ken Wade received his promotion through the program last year.

to E-8 and another to E-9 — and selection will be based on a competitive process that takes into account an individual's performance and potential.

Chief Master Sgt. Ken Bernardi and

Senior Master Sgt. Ken Wade were the most recent KyANG beneficiaries of the program.

"The slot that I currently occupy had been downgraded from an E-9 to an E-8 position about three months prior to me being eligible to put on Chief," explained Bernardi, chief of nursing services in the 123rd Medical Squadron. "I pretty much resigned myself to not being promoted, but the EPP resolved that problem, which was extremely nice."

Bernardi said that without the program, he never would have been promoted unless he changed career fields or transferred to a unit with an E-9 slot.

"I like the fact that this program gives traditional Guardsmen the opportunity to be promoted from master to senior or from senior to chief when there isn't a slot available," he said.

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Basewide TV news show keeps members up to date

By Staff Sgt. Amy Carr
Cargo Courier Assistant Editor

Drill weekends come and go quickly, and many Guard members have a hard time keeping track of what's happening around base the rest of the month.

To address that need, the 123rd Visual Information Support Center has launched the first-ever Kentucky Air Guard news show, "Weekend Report."

"The show is designed to let people know what other people are doing on base," said Master Sgt. Terry Lutz, chief of visual information. "The main thing we want to do is increase the sense of camaraderie and provide information."

The monthly show features profiles on KyANG units and wing members, as well as interviews with base leaders, who provide information on the roles our planes and people are playing around the world, Lutz said. It also gives insight on topics such as the Expeditionary Aerospace Forces concept and anthrax vaccinations.

Senior Airman Jessica Farquhar, a KyANG graphics specialist who served as a field reporter at Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla., anchors the program.

"Weekend Report" airs hourly on Sunday each drill weekend,



Master Sgt. Charles Simpson/KyANG

Tech. Sgt. Scott Mullins and Master Sgt. Terry Lutz prepare Senior Airman Jessica Farquhar for the broadcast.

starting at noon. It can be seen on Channel 12 on the base closed-circuit TV network.

'Bean Soup 2000' promises to be wing's biggest charity dinner yet

Open house to include aircraft static display

By 2nd Lt. Dale Greer
Wing Public Affairs Officer

The Kentucky Air Guard's "Bean Soup 2000" charity dinner is just around the corner, and this year's event promises to be the biggest yet.

The March 23 dinner, which will help raise money for the WHAS Crusade for Children and other local youth charities, will feature an open house and aircraft static display, said Lt. Col. Rich Frymire, this year's "Bean Team" chief.

In addition to a C-130 and various fighter aircraft, the wing hopes to display a KC-135 Stratotanker, a UH-64 Blackhawk and a United Parcel Service 747, in addition to various ground equipment like fire trucks and all-terrain vehicles.

"This is a wonderful opportunity to do something special for our community as well as showcase our extraordinary base

facilities and equipment," Frymire said.

Tickets for the meal, which includes bean and vegetable soups, potato salad, cole slaw and desert, are \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for children under 12.

Carry-out and drive-through service also will be available.

Unit members will have the opportunity to purchase tickets for friends and family beginning this weekend.

They also will have the opportunity to sell tickets, although participation is by no means mandatory.

"We've prepared flyers to promote the event, which our members can take with them to post at appropriate locations at their workplace, church or school," Frymire said.

The KyANG unit that sells the most tickets will be awarded the "Bean Soup Traveling Trophy," Frymire added.

If you would like to volunteer your services to the KyANG Bean Team or can help by donating a dessert, call Lt. Col. Rich Frymire at ext. 4589 or Tech. Sgt. Mary Decker at ext. 4120. ☞

Like Y2K, future is in God's hands

HI! 2K....

Well, it's officially here — the year 2000. After all the hype, the calendar change ended up coming in with a whimper rather than all the turmoil predicted.

A friend of mine spent New Year's eve worried about his father, who'd hoarded up nearly six months worth of supplies and was ready to barricade himself in and defend against all intruders.

Another friend, a computer programmer, spent New Year's eve at the office, ready for any computer bugs that might bite (or byte?).

At my home, the only excitement was a 40-minute loss of electricity at about 8 p.m.

Thanks be to God that none of the horrible things that had been predicted actually happened, but what if they had? Our

lives would still have been in God's hands.

When God called Abraham to leave his homeland, Abraham had to leave that which was familiar and trust God to lead him to a new place, which God would show him.

For us, the year 2000 stood as a metaphor for the unknown, and many were afraid of what the new century might bring.

In reality, each day we are called to leave a past that we have known and

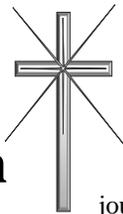
journey into a future, which by its very nature is unfamiliar.

Our future, regardless of the number on the calendar, is in God's hands, not ours. The God who walked with Abraham continues to walk with us into a future that we have yet to discover.

Shalom,

—Chaplain John Von Almen, 1st Lt.

Chaplain's Column



Unit announces program to boost Air Guard recruiting

The 123rd Airlift Wing has launched a new program designed to boost recruiting efforts by recognizing Guard members who refer qualified candidates.

Under the Unit Referral Recognition Program, which kicked off during the January UTA, any wing member who provides a KyANG recruiter with the names of five potential recruits will receive a gift.

Currently, the gift is a long-sleeve mock turtleneck shirt that may be worn under the battle dress uniform.

If a referral leads to an enlistment, the unit member will be eligible for an additional gift. A member whose referrals lead to five enlistments will be awarded the Kentucky Merit Ribbon for extraordinary achievement.

Recognition will be based on a 12-month period beginning in January.

Medical squadron seeking lab techs

The 123rd Medical Squadron is seeking Guard members who may be interested in retraining as medical laboratory technicians.

Candidates must have completed high school or college courses in algebra and chemistry and have a general ASVAB score of 58 or higher. The in-residence specialty training lasts 53 weeks.

For more information, contact Tech. Sgt. Scott Crimm at ext. 4604. ☞

ANG publications now on Website

Air National Guard publications are now available on the National Guard Bureau Website.

The URL is www.ngbpd.cng.army.mil/

AEF-1

Continued from Front Page

Bill Leslie, commander of Kentucky's 123rd Airlift Wing. More meaningful was the effectiveness of the Kentucky-Ohio team, which didn't miss a single scheduled sortie during the entire deployment.

As part of AEF-1, both Guard units were integrated into a larger war-fighting package — the 763rd Expeditionary Aerospace Squadron — which included active-duty C-130 assets based in Saudi Arabia.

The 763rd's active-duty commander was extremely impressed by the two Guard units' benchmark performance, Leslie said.

"He had nothing but praise for the Kentucky and Ohio aircrews and maintainers," Leslie said. "They did very, very well."



Maj. Tim Moore of Kentucky's 123rd Operations Support Flight examines his preflight checklists before departure from Oman.



Master Sgt. Randy Engelstad, a loadmaster with the 165th Airlift Squadron, guides a generator aboard a Kentucky C-130 at Seeb International Airport.

Photos by
Maj. Steve Bullard/KyANG

Program

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Wade, ground safety NCO in the wing's Safety Office, agreed.

"I think it's an excellent opportunity for senior NCOs who are stuck at their ranks to get promoted, whereas they may otherwise end their military careers," Wade said.

To be eligible, nominees cannot be promoted to positions that would cause them

to be two grades above the unit manning document's authorization. Nominees also must have completed Senior NCO Academy and:

- Be within three years of qualifying for a reserve retirement
- Have at least 17 years' satisfactory service
- Have three years' retainability prior to reaching age 60
- Agree to remain in the Air National Guard for three years subsequent to promotion

The deadline to apply for consideration is June 11, Orange said. All candidates will be required to have the necessary time in grade, time in service and Professional Military Education.

"You would think with all the masters and seniors on base, we would have a very large list of qualified candidates, but when we looked into it we found the list isn't that big, and when we looked deeper we found PME is the number one problem," Orange said.

The program is scheduled to run through the end of 2001.

KyANG promotions, retirements & separations



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

AIRMAN (E-2)

- Philip Guptill**,
123rd Airlift Wing
- Elizabeth Lucas**,
123rd Maintenance Sq.

AIRMAN 1ST CLASS (E-3)

- Jason Ellison**,
123rd Security Forces Sq.
- Jeffrey McMahan**,
123rd Security Forces Sq.
- Ryan Russell**,
123rd Aircraft Generation Sq.

SENIOR AIRMAN (E-4)

- Patrick Bawkin Jr.**,
123rd Security Forces Sq.
- James Campbell**,
123rd Maintenance Sq.
- Michael Marks**,
123rd Maintenance Sq.
- Ryan Russell**,
123rd Aircraft Generation Sq.

STAFF SERGEANT (E-5)

- Jay Hill**,
205th Combat Communications Sq.
- David Leonhardt**,
123rd Logistics Sq.

TECHNICAL SERGEANT (E-6)

- Wrensey Gill Jr.**,
123rd Airlift Control Flt.
- Michael Hilbert**,
165th Airlift Sq.
- Patrick Maloney**,
165th Airlift Sq.
- Carrie Shambaugh**,
165th Airlift Sq.
- William Sprake**,
123rd Special Tactics Flt.

MASTER SERGEANT (E-7)

- Franklin Casper**,
Headquarters, KyANG
- Joseph Dawson**,
165th Airlift Sq.

- David Pierce**,
123rd Logistics Group
- Todd Swenson**,
123rd Special Tactics Flt.

SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT (E-8)

- Joel Hicks**,
123rd Special Tactics Flt.
- Carolyn Young**,
Headquarters, KyANG

1ST LIEUTENANT (O-2)

- Cheryl Meffert**,
123rd Student Flt.
- Kevin Sullivan**,
123rd Aircraft Generation Sq.

CAPTAIN (O-3)

- Robert Smith Jr.**,
165th Airlift Sq.

MAJOR (O-4)

- Guy Baum**,
165th Airlift Sq.
- Catherine Brown**,
123rd Operations Support Flt.
- John Cassel III**,
123rd Civil Engineer Sq.
- Joseph DeBoskey**,
165th Airlift Sq.
- Douglas Greene**,
123rd Operations Support Flt.
- Marc Hall**,
165th Airlift Sq.
- Byron Morris**,
165th Airlift Sq.
- David Mounkes**,
165th Airlift Sq.
- Richard Shelton**,
165th Airlift Sq.

The following individual separated from the Kentucky Air National Guard to accept appointment as an ANG officer:

- Tech. Sgt. James Bishop**,
123rd Aircraft Generation Sq.

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

- Airman Basic Mason Bobbitt**,
123rd Student Sq.

- Senior Airman Latonia Clarke**,
165th Airlift Sq.
- Senior Airman Virgil Cook**,
123rd Logistics Sq.
- Staff Sgt. Mark Darragh**,
205th Combat Communications Sq.
- Staff Sgt. Stephen Dean**,
165th Airlift Sq.
- Staff Sgt. Calvin Eisenback**,
205th Combat Communications Sq.
- Maj. Douglas Greene**,
123rd Operations Support Flt.
- Airman Scott Hagan**,
123rd Security Forces Sq.
- Staff Sgt. Wilmer Halfhill II**,
123rd Civil Engineer Sq.
- Senior Airman Robert Herndon**,
165th Weather Flt.
- Tech. Sgt. William Hill Jr.**,
123rd Special Tactics Flt.
- Senior Airman Jeremy Jenkins**,
165th Airlift Sq.
- Staff Sgt. Crystal Johnson**,
123rd Aerial Port Sq.
- Maj. Richard Love**,
123rd Airlift Wing
- Senior Airman Donovan May**,
123rd Civil Engineer Sq.
- Staff Sgt. Shawn McNeill**,
205th Combat Communications Sq.
- Senior Airman Christopher Mynahan**,
123rd Aerial Port Sq.
- Senior Airman Clay Orahod**,
123rd Maintenance Sq.
- Staff Sgt. William Pryor Jr.**,
123rd Civil Engineer Sq.
- Staff Sgt. Lelain Self**,
123rd Aerial Port Sq.
- Airman 1st Class Cory Simpson**,
123rd Maintenance Sq.
- Staff Sgt. Patrick Sledge**,
123rd Logistics Sq.
- Senior Airman Victor Todorov**,
123rd Security Forces Sq.
- Staff Sgt. Darryl Wilkerson**,
123rd Logistics Sq.
- Staff Sgt. William Yocum**,
123rd Aircraft Generation Sq.

The following individual has retired as a member of the Kentucky Air National Guard and a reservist of the United States Air Force:

- Master Sgt. Robert Wood**,
123rd Aerial Port Sq.

USAF working to solidify public identity

Effort intended to boost recruiting and retention

By Senior Airman A.J. Bosker
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — As the Air Force continues its transition to the expeditionary aerospace force, it is focusing its identity to help with recruiting and retention in the new millennium.

As part of this effort, officials said they are working to establish a single, compelling theme and symbol to represent the Air Force to its members and the public.

“We want to ensure our core identity is part of our culture and is understood by our own people and the citizens we serve,” said Gen. Michael E. Ryan, Air Force chief of staff.

“As we enter the 21st century, our identity — who we are, what we do and what we believe — will represent both our heritage and our future.

“We know who we are and what we do,” he said. “We want others to know, and we want them to support our Air Force.”

Secretary of the Air Force Whit Peters said, “We know Air Force men and women take great pride in what they do. Our identity effort crystallizes what they’re thinking. It will foster unity in the Air Force and help the American public understand the worthy work we do — from fighting the nation’s wars to peacekeeping to humanitarian relief.”

How is the Air Force determining how to express its identity?

“By doing a lot of research,” Col. Ron Rand, Air Force director of public affairs, explained.

With the help of a private corporate identity firm, Siegel & Gale, the Air Force spent the past year conducting research among the service and the public to capture the common elements of its identity that have great meaning to bind its people together.

The Air Force committed approximately \$150,000 to research internal and external audiences to determine current understanding and beliefs held about the Air Force, and approximately \$655,000 to hire Siegel & Gale to help interpret the research and ensure its identity is effectively communicated to Air Force members and potential recruits.

“Since last February, we’ve conducted seven surveys, held 68 focus groups and interviewed 13 retired four-star generals and 110 other people,” Rand said.

“We’ve taken input from about 10,000 people. Of this number, 7,500 were enlisted members, officers, and civilians in the active force, Air National Guard and Air

someone’s battle dress uniform, you may not know what service he or she represents,” Rand said.

“As for our aircraft, which are seen by millions of people, the tail markings tend to represent the wing and the command. You have to look pretty hard to see ‘U.S. Air Force’ on our aircraft.”

To overcome these inconsistencies, Siegel & Gale identified the four prevailing themes that emerged from the research: individual achievement, intelligence and technology, core values, and mission.

They recommended the focus of the identity be the vital mission the Air Force performs around the world, because it was the theme that surfaced with the most passion

throughout the research. The other three themes will support the mission focus, Rand said.

In characterizing the mission, Siegel & Gale concluded the Air Force is a world-class, mission-ready organization.

From this, they recom-

mended the theme “World Ready.”

They also devised a symbol that captured both the heritage and future of the Air Force. These were presented to Air Force leaders in November. After much discussion, the secretary and chief of staff asked that more development work be done on both the theme and the symbol.

“We’re trying to encapsulate the essence of what it means to be in the Air Force,” Peters said. “The Air Force is a wonderful organization. It offers extraordinary opportunities beyond the monetary and the educational benefits that we have been using in recruiting.

“The Air Force is a fast-paced, fun, tough, and rewarding environment. It’s about teamwork, patriotic service and belonging to a world-class organization ready to respond anywhere in the world in a matter of hours. That’s what we’re trying to communicate.

“My hope is that this identity effort will do that.”

“**The Air Force is a fast-paced, fun, tough, and rewarding environment. It’s about teamwork, patriotic service and belonging to a world-class organization ready to respond anywhere in the world in a matter of hours. That’s what we’re trying to communicate. My hope is that this identity effort will do that.**”

—Whit Peters,
Secretary of the Air Force



Force Reserve. The other 2,500 were members of the general public.”

This extensive research was used to find strengths and weaknesses in Air Force identity, Rand said.

“We found that our people generally feel allegiance to the unit they belong to and to their job, more than they feel part of one big organization.”

Research also showed that instead of one unifying theme, the Air Force has many different ways of expressing its identity, he said. In addition, there was little consistency in the visual representation of the Air Force.

“If you look at our base welcome signs, you don’t get as much a sense of the Air Force as you do of the units behind the gates,” Rand said. “The same applies to our aircraft, our newspapers and home pages, and even our uniforms.

“Unless you have really good eyes and can read the U.S. Air Force tape on

National Guard adopts song by former troop

By Army Master Sgt. Bob Haskell
National Guard Bureau Public Affairs

ARLINGTON, Va. — A three-minute ballad that resonates with the history and the spirit of America's citizen-soldiers and airmen — from Concord Bridge to Desert Storm — has been adopted as the National Guard's official song.

"I Guard America," is a song written and performed by country singer and songwriter James Rogers — a Tennessee Army Guard soldier in the 1970s — that has been endorsed by three of the nation's National Guard leaders.

Lt. Gen. Russell Davis, chief of the National Guard, as well as Maj. Gen. Roger Schultz and Maj. Gen. Paul Weaver Jr., directors of the nearly half-million Army and Air National Guard forces, have agreed that the song captures the essence of what the Guard has represented for 363 years.

Rogers, who wrote and recorded the song in 1990, performed it during the Air National Guard Senior Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C., last November. It had al-

ready tugged at the National Guard's heartstrings.

He wrote the song for and donated it to the Tennessee National Guard in 1990. The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States made it its official song in August 1998.

"This is truly the greatest honor I have ever received. For a performer, this is bigger than having a hit record," Rogers said after some 900 Guard leaders honored him and his song in the nation's capital.

At 50, he is a seasoned entertainer with 27 years of professional credits and is a featured performer at the Dollywood entertainment park in Pigeon Forge, Tenn., each April through October.

Every service has its distinct song. "And the caissons go rolling along," and "Nothing can stop the U.S. Air Force," are memorable lyrics in the anthems saluting the Army and Air Force.

Rogers' song about the National Guard stirs the emotions as a country ballad, similar to Lee Greenwood's "God Bless the USA."

"I wrote the words for 'I Guard America' from my heart and out of deep admiration and respect for those who have fought, and for those who will fight, to defend America and its freedoms," Rogers said.

He has traced his own military heritage back to this nation's earliest days.

Two of his ancestors, father and son Doswell and William Rogers, were Minutemen during the Revolutionary War, Rogers explained.

His father was an Army Air Corps belly-gunner on B-24s during World War II, and his brother served in the Air Force during the Vietnam War.

Rogers belonged to the Tennessee Army Guard's 196th Field Artillery Brigade in Chattanooga from 1970-77, when he also began earning his spurs as a professional entertainer. He was activated to help civil authorities deal with riots in Chattanooga and for flood relief.

The song's lyrics say, in part, "I am your sons, your friends, your fathers and your daughters — working hard/To be the best and keep us strong — proud to be the Guard."

**123rd Airlift Wing
Public Affairs Office
Kentucky Air National Guard
1101 Grade Lane
Louisville, KY 40213-2678**

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