Testing complete, new uniforms chosen

'Mandatory wear date not until 1999'

Washington (AFNS) -- A new, uncluttered, streamlined wool blend service dress uniform is the Air Force's choice for the future, the Air Force chief of staff said Jan. 12.

More than 700 people participated in a wear test of the prototype service dress uniform, including jacket, trousers and skirt, to see how servicemen felt about the new design, three different fabrics, fit and comfort.

"The results are in and I think we have a winning combination," Gen. Merrill A. McPeak said.

The Air Force has also opted for the braided sleeve-style rank insignia for officers.

"The officer sleeve braid links the Air Force with its rich heritage," McPeak said.

As plans developed to establish an independent Air Force following World War II, air power leaders advocated a distinctive uniform for airmen.

Under Gen. Henry H. 'Hap' Arnold's authority, the Army developed four prototype blue uniforms in 1946. For a distinctive look, each of the four test uniforms had braided sleeve insignia similar to Royal Air Force uniforms, the rank insignia preferred by then-chief of staff Gen. Carl A. Spaatz.

But to speed production of the new uniform, Army rank was adopted as an interim measure that was never changed until now.

"Just as the Merchant Marines' uniform looks like the Navy in many respects, the new Air Force image will reflect our ties with the aerospace profession," McPeak said.

Enlisted members' rank insignia will return to tradition with the addition of the star to all chevrons and everyone in the Air Force -- officers and enlisted -- will wear the same quality uniform.

Enlisted stripes will be larger and bolder on the new uniform. Standard four-inch chevrons will be worn on outer garments with three- and a-half-inch chevrons on shirts. Women will be authorized to wear either four- or three-and-a-half-inch insignia on the service dress coat.

The new chevron will also be worn on both the service dress and mess dress uniforms, eliminating the need for separate, expensive mess dress chevrons.

To provide greater recognition to the top three enlisted grades, a new design feature -- one stripe taken off the bottom and put at the top, starting with master sergeant -- will clearly designate all senior NCOs. Senior master sergeants will have two stripes up with five down, and chief senior master sergeant.

With the elimination of name tags, epaulets, metal rank insignia and collar insignia, the new look for the Air Force is uncluttered, with high-quality design and materials, officials said.

The single-breasted jacket has a three-button front and a single breast pocket to help align ribbons, and features a full inside lining. The result is the first new, distinctive service dress uniform the Air Force has had since it became a separate service in 1947.

It will be offered initially by AAFES as an optional garment in 1994. Air Force-issued uniforms will start arriving in late 1995 and the new mandatory wear date will be late 1999.
I am frequently asked about the future of the Air National Guard and, more particularly, the changes we can expect for our unit. I don't have a crystal ball, but it may be beneficial for us to look at what is going on around us.

First we must consider the requirement for a large standing military force. Much of the Air Force effort has been directed toward supporting the Army in a European scenario. With the break up of the former Soviet Union, the threat has changed and we can no longer justify the large standing force.

A threat still exists in Europe and elsewhere, but it has changed and our force structure must change to meet the new threat. Our elected officials in Washington will struggle with decisions of size and composition of the military as they attempt to make the country more competitive economically. If they don't get it right, we may face a dilemma similar to that of the Soviets who placed an unbalanced portion of their budget into military strength.

As the government looks at options, the cost of operating overseas installations and the overall expense of maintaining military capability will be considered. The cost of operating equipment in the reserve components compared to the active force and the differences in capability will also be discussed along with many other important factors.

To bring this into focus for the Kentucky Air National Guard, we must evaluate the influence of the new administration in Washington and the world problems they will be facing. With attention again on the federal deficit and an abundance of social programs, the defense budget will come under even closer scrutiny.

Another round of base closings, which may include ANG installations, will be proposed; new weapons systems will again be challenged; the active Air Force will be asked to give up more force structure; and the balance of forces will shift from the active toward the reserve components.

If my assumptions are correct, "Global Reach" airlift will increase in importance and a significant amount of tactical airlift will be required as the new administration addresses difficult issues in Third World countries around the globe. A smaller Army will decrease the need for tactical airlift but I still believe we have a sound future.

The redistribution of assets within the ANG due to force structure changes is cause for some concern. As the total ANG force structure changes, there will be pressure to redistribute aircraft amongst ANG units rather than face unit closures. This means that C-130 units with more than the standard eight aircraft could come under scrutiny -- let's hope not.

In any case, those who represent us politically will watch this closely and,

I am assured will be very interested in any proposed reductions.

On our part, we want to have a strong program with a good reputation that is difficult for anyone to criticize. This means that our appearance and performance must be above reproach. We are well on our way to becoming a top notch airlift unit, but we must continually strive for improvement and be ever vigilant for those blunders that may cause unwanted publicity.

Bottom line -- our flying unit is in a strong position but not without some concerns. We should certainly be attuned to current events. Support units will continue to be looked at, but with the restructuring that is presently taking place, we should be in a fairly solid position.

In general, with a new energy efficient base and new equipment perfectly suited to meet expected needs of the country, we should be in an enviable position well into the next century.
TQM is KyANG's buzz-word for 1990s

By Maj. Dennie Lewis
KyANG Director of Personnel

In a letter to all employees of the Department of Military Affairs, dated Dec. 7, 1992, Maj. Gen. Robert Dezarn shared his views on total quality management, known as TQM.

In his letter, the Kentucky adjutant general referenced the challenges facing the National Guard -- reorganization, expanded missions, shrinking resources and increased personnel requirements. As many people are aware, these challenges are nothing new to the Kentucky Air National Guard. The unit has had a history of facing difficult challenges, yet it has routinely turned these challenges into opportunities for success.

Shrinking resources in the Department of Defense will require us to continue to improve the way we do business in the future. The unit must change to remain a progressive, value driven, results-oriented organization. Change is never easy.

Members of this unit have developed a record of success matched by few other states. Public awareness and perception have remained positive. The KyANG has "done good."

All members must retain a high level of readiness and strong public support, and members must be smart and aggressive. We must treat our "customers" as we expect to be treated, with dignity and respect. The primary objective should be to guide the Kentucky Air National Guard as it embarks on a journey of changes through the 1990s and into the next century. Therefore, "Quality Guard" was created.

Quality Guard highlights teamwork and team structure. Teamwork aligns personal and organizational goals, objectives and thoughts. Teamwork builds communication and cooperation, stimulates creative thinking and provides a mechanism to continually improve processes.

Quality Guard is based upon providing the best, most efficient services to our customers -- the people we serve -- Quality Guard focuses on doing things right, the first time, every time.

Simply put, Quality Guard can help secure the KyANG's future by harnessing the collective energy and expertise of our unit's dedicated men and women, to their own personal benefit and to the benefit of the unit.

Please support and actively participate in Quality Guard to continuously improve the way this unit leads and serves. TQM can be a world-class example of quality leadership through quality people, adding tangible value to community, state and nation.

KyANG promotions

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

To Staff Sgt. (E-5)

Larry Bristow, 123rd COM FLT
David Fields, 123rd CAMS
William Hill Jr., 123rd CCT
Cedric Jones, 123rd CAMS
Peter Kreutz Jr., 123rd AS
Scott Roche, 205th CCS
Douglas Thompson, 123rd CAMS
Latonia Trowell, 123rd RMS
Phillip Wells, 205th CCS
Barry Wright, 123rd TAC HOSP

To Tech Sgt. (E-6)

David Burba, 123rd CAMS
Timothy Cruse, 123rd MSF
Victor Dry, 205th CCS
Mark Hagan, 205th CCS
Charles Horhnack, 123rd HOSP
Ronald Overstreet, 123rd MSF
Robert Powers, 123rd MSF
Michael Shepherd, 123rd CAMS
Carl Smith, 123rd TAC HOSP

KyANG donations to Honduras make better life for village poor

By Capt. Ralinda Gregor
Assist. Public Affairs Officer

More than 125 pairs of eyeglasses donated by KyANG members will be donated to the poor in Honduras this spring. The glasses were presented to the group Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity. A team of 43 VOSH volunteers plans to travel to Copan and Perspere, Honduras, to provide free eye exams, perform cataract surgery, prescribe medication and fit glasses for more than 5,000 needy people with no access to or money for optometric care.

Thanks to the free medical treatment by VOSH volunteers, like Dr. James Nolan of New Albany, Ind., many people are able to see clearly for the first time in their lives.

Says Nolan, "I scope their eyes and determine roughly how far-sighted or nearsighted they are, and ask them their age, then make a guess on what power they'll need. It's imprecise, but no matter what we give them, it's better than what they've had before and they'll never have it again." This past fall Nolan completed his 21st mission with VOSH and cared for Mosquitia indians in the jungles of Honduras.

Col. Pete Snyder, the KyANG logistics group commander, led the eyeglass collection drive here. Snyder plans to make the drive an annual event and urges all KyANG members to continue to collect used glasses from friends and relatives throughout the year.

The Cargo Courier
Feb. 6, 1993
Nelly Welch, unit member, dies in crash near Lexington

A member of the Kentucky Air National Guard died Dec. 27 from injuries she suffered in an auto accident near Lexington, Ky.

Airmen 1st Class Nelly Welch, who was assigned to the 8123rd Student Flight, was a passenger in her husband's car when he collided with a driver traveling in the opposite direction. Her husband, Craig Welch, was attempting to pass another vehicle when he collided on US 27 outside of Paris Pike. Lexington-Fayette County police said Welch was thrown from the car and was not wearing a safety belt. Her husband and 18-month-old son, Justin, suffered only minor injuries.

Welch was a former Army soldier and had recently transferred to the KyANG. She was preparing to retrain into the administrative field at Keesler AFB in Mississippi. Her husband remains on active duty and is stationed at Fort Knox, where the couple lived. She was a native of Del Rio, Texas, where her funeral was held. The KyANG sent cards and flowers to the family, and a message of condolence was sent on behalf of the Air Force chief of staff.

gradually wasted away as he looked longingly at his own reflection.

Psychologists refer to inordinate self-love as a narcissus complex. Those who love themselves to the exclusion of all others do not think of themselves soberly, but live in a vacuum of self-indulgence.

The remarkable thing is that we really love our neighbors as ourselves and do unto others as we do unto ourselves. We hate others when we hate ourselves. We are tolerant toward others when we tolerate ourselves. We forgive others when we forgive ourselves. It is not love of self but hatred of self that is the root of the troubles that afflict our world.
LSD returns to America, usage is up

Maj. Robert Finch, the KyANG’s social actions officer, reports that use of the drug LSD has increased dramatically over the last two years. The drug was extremely popular during the 1960s.

What is LSD? It is manufactured from lysergic acid which is found in ergot, a fungus that grows on rye and other grains. LSD was discovered in 1938 and is one of the most potent mood-changing chemicals. It is odorless, colorless and tasteless. LSD is sold on the street in tablets, capsules or occasionally in liquid form. It is usually taken by mouth but sometimes is injected. Often it is added to absorbent paper, such as blotter paper, and divided into small decorated squares, with each square representing one dose.

What are the effects of psychedelics like LSD? The effects are unpredictable. It depends on the amount taken, the user’s personality, mood and expectations, and the surroundings in which the drug is used. Usually, the user feels the first effects of the drug 30 to 90 minutes after taking it. The physical effects include dilated pupils, higher body temperature, increased heart rate and blood pressure, sweating, loss of appetite, sleeplessness, dry mouth and tremors.

Sensations and feelings change, too. The user may feel several different emotions at once or swing rapidly from one emotion to another. The person’s sense of time and self change. Sensations may seem to “cross over,” giving the user the feeling of “hearing” colors and “seeing” sounds. All of these changes can be frightening and can cause panic.

What are the effects of heavy use? Research has shown some changes in the mental functions of heavy users of LSD, but they are not present in all cases. Heavy users sometimes develop signs of organic brain damage, such as impaired memory and attention span, mental confusion and difficulty with abstract thinking. These signs may be strong or they may be subtle. It is not yet known whether such mental changes are permanent or if they disappear when LSD use is stopped.

Commuter-distance-rules affect free UTA lodging

Budget constraints have forced the state’s Financial Management Board to change the commuting area for contract quarters to an 80-mile radius from the previous 30 miles. The old mileage rules had been in effect since the early 1980s.

Senior Master Sgt. Madeleine Travis was charged with drawing up the new boundary lines for individuals assigned to Standiford Field and state headquarters units in Frankfort. The 80 miles, according to Travis, is based on straight distance and not “driving miles” or zip codes. She says nearly 800 zip codes were researched.

Arrangements are underway to solicit reduced rates from several area motels for those individuals who wish to pay for their own room. Those people who itemize their tax deductions can claim room costs. Questions about the new boundaries and participating motels should be addressed to Travis at 364-9620.

The Cargo Courier
Feb. 6, 1993
Last USAF warrant officer retires from Reserve

By 2nd Lt. Bryan Hubbard
325th FW Public Affairs

TYNDALL AFB, Fla. (AFNS) -- With more than 40 years of service, the last warrant officer in the Air Force retired Nov. 13.

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Bobby Barrow, a reservist assigned to the Air Force Civil Engineering Support Agency at Tyndall, began serving the Air Force back on Nov. 27, 1951, and has served continuously since then in either an active-duty or active reserve capacity.

Barrow was promoted to warrant office in 1958. His 40-plus years include service as a firefighter, fire protection engineer, wing ground safety officer and base disaster preparedness officer.

For the past six years he served as a research, development, test and evaluation officer for the air base fire protection and crash rescue systems branch of the CE laboratory.

At the onset of Operation Desert Shield, Barrow volunteered to backfill as a chemical warfare defense instructor at Tyndall's nuclear, biological and chemical survivability branch.

He continued to actively support Desert Shield and Desert Storm through voluntary tours of duty and, finally, as part of the presidential 200,000 authority for partial mobilization.

Barrows supported Central Air Force rear initiatives to test and evaluate chemical warfare individual and collective protection systems and special hazard fire extinguishing methods with Desert Shield applications.

The Air Force eliminated the warrant officer from its rank structure in September 1958, transferring superintendent duties to the then-new NCO ranks of senior and chief master sergeant.

Remaining warrant officer duties were incorporated with officer specialties from second lieutenant to lieutenant colonel.

VA home loans now available to members of Guard, Reserve

ROBINS AFB, Ga. (AFNS) -- Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve members with six or more years of service who were not otherwise qualified are now eligible for Veterans Administration home loans.

Guard members and reservists previously had to have served on continuous active duty for at least 90 days during the Gulf War or up to two years during other times to be eligible for a home loan. A new public law signed at the start of the fiscal year lets them apply for loans.

To qualify under the new criteria, individuals must have completed six years of honorable service in the selected reserve. This could include participation in weekend drills and annual training but does not have to be consecutive service.

More information is available by calling a local VA loan officer or the VA hotline at 1-800-827-1060.

GI Bill undergoes major change

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- The Montgomery GI Bill has increased its benefits and enrollment opportunities, allowing more education options for military people, GI Bill program officials said last month.

Major changes to the Montgomery GI Bill include:

-- People who left the service by accepting one of the voluntary separation incentives, or are planning to accept one of the options in the future, can enroll in the new GI Bill program.

-- Beginning April 1, GI Bill rates will increase from $350 to $400 per month for up to 36 months for full-time students. Reserve members will receive an increase of $20, up to $190 per month. Part-time students will also receive a pro-rated increase.

-- Active-duty people who initially obligated for two years of service, but actually served more, are now eligible for the same GI Bill benefits as those who obligated for three years. Previously, benefits were paid on a member's initial obligation.

-- GI Bill participants who left the service because of hardship, disability or reduction in force before completing 12 months of active service, and later came back on active duty, will be considered to have served with no break in service for GI Bill purposes.

Officials said people may now be entitled to full benefits if they successfully complete their second enlistment.

Space unit a first for Reserve unit in Colorado

ROBINS AFB, Ga. (AFNS) -- The first Air Force Reserve space unit, the 7th Space Operations Squadron, will begin operations at Falcon AFB, Colo., by the end of the year, Reserve officials said last month.

The 30-person associate unit will work with the Air Force Space Command and will serve as satellite pilots, ensuring Air Force satellites are flying their intended orbits and are operating properly.

The unit’s 22 officers, including one air reserve technician and eight enlisted members, will receive support from the Reserve’s 3022nd Airlift Wing at Peterson AFB, Colo.
History of KyANG

By Tech Sgt. John Martin
Wing Historian

The February 1966 edition of the Canberra Tales, the great-great-great grandfather of our present Cargo Courier newspaper, ran an interesting article concerning stress among KyANG members. Because Kentucky ranked last nationally in the Special Knowledge Testing passing rate, all guardsmen in the future could expect close monitoring by supervisors, to ensure better preparation for future testing. The result: more stress than before.

One year later, the base paper would be known as Voodoo Tales. This one-page wonder ran such historically significant features as Sunday's dining hall menu; weather forecasts for that weekend -- even the sermon topics for chapel services. The publication's slogan: "All The News That Fits, We Print."

By definition, the term "guardsmen" is meant to be interpreted as "citizen soldiers," a dual role that is the source of pride for most members. But in February 1979, a group of guard members went to federal court to emphasize their "citizen" role. These "citizen soldiers" (or airmen) were requesting the right to wear civilian clothes while performing their civil service "technician" jobs, but were denied this request.

On Feb. 3, 1990, a change of command ceremony took place at the KyANG when Col. Joseph Kottak was selected to replace the retiring commander, Brig. Gen. John Smith.

Guard quiz from January: The total number of aircraft flown by the KyANG has been eight: the F-51 Mustang; F-84 Thunderjet; F-86 Sabre Jet; RB-57 Canberra; RF-101 Voodoo; RF-4C Phantom II; C-130B Hercules; and our present C-130H.

Trivia for March: What is the error in the unit emblem located in the front lobby of the C&T Building?

223rd NABS redesignated

The first of the new year brought another change of individual unit identifications in the communications community. The former 223rd Communications Squadron (commonly referred to as "NABS") became the 205th Combat Communications Squadron within the Air Combat Command, according to Maj. Mitch Perry, the unit's commander.

The "combat comm" units were heavily used during Desert Storm to establish crucial communications networks throughout Southwest Asia. The 205th's mission statement reads: to command, organize, equip, train and administer assigned forces... to ensure readiness of forces to provide command communications in support of tactical air forces; to support emergency state and USAF requirements for communications facilities; and to provide management of communications-electronics personnel and equipment when deployed in support of NATO.

Photo is from the KyANG historical archive

She Got Her Ride: After several rounds of promises, Col. Verne Yahne, the KyANG commander, delivered on a ride for Tech Sgt. Elizabeth Reeves of the 123rd TAC Hospital. At annual field training in 1972, Reeves was given a flight suit, helmet and the works. With Yahne at the controls, she took her orientation ride in the back seat of a dual model Voodoo jetplane, the TF-101F.

The Cargo Courier
Feb. 6, 1993
Surviving news media inquiries

Some keys on how to handle reporters

By Capt. Ralinda Gregor
Assist. Public Affairs Officer

The KYANG is constantly in the media spotlight due to its worldwide C-130 mission. The level of interest is unprecedented.

This new found attention has the same trappings as being named number one in the AP poll for college basketball. An unintentional slip or a missed shot could become historical instead of hysterical. Beware!

Everyone has rights. One right is your ability to say yes or no to an interview. If you choose a yes, coordinate it with your commander and the public affairs office. Most commanders do not like surprises, especially those on the front page or on the 11 p.m. news. Find out who is doing the interview and the organization they represent.

You don’t have to speak to the press if you don’t want to. Be courteous and professional if you turn down an interview.

If you are going to be videotaped, it is likely that the reporter will ask you a few questions before you go on camera. Use these preliminary questions as a dress rehearsal.

Hopefully, the interview questions will be similar to the preliminary questions. Remember, most of us are not trained radio-TV personalities.

You are qualified to talk about your job and areas within the scope of your responsibility; that is what you should focus on during the interview. Don’t reveal classified information or details about the mission and how it is going. Don’t speculate or talk about anything of which you don’t have firsthand knowledge. It’s OK to say “I don’t know.”

Ryan retires, dinner tonight

Kentucky’s assistant adjutant general for air requests the pleasure of your company at a retirement dinner in honor of Brig. Gen. Donald J. Ryan, tonight, Feb. 5, at 7 p.m. A cash bar opens at 6 at the Holiday Inn Downtown, located at 1st Street and Broadway in Louisville. Please RSVP by calling 364-9650 today. The cost is $16 and dress is casual.

Let’s join Brig. Gen. Ryan in celebrating his 30 years of service to the U.S. Air Force and the Kentucky Air National Guard.

Bean Soup Feast is March 11

"Because deep down inside, everyone loves bean soup!"

By Maj. Dennis Lewis
KYANG Director of Personnel

The Kentucky Air National Guard will sponsor its 23rd annual Bean Soup Feast and Open House at Standiford Field March 11.

Prepare yourselves for one of the most outstanding treats offered in these here parts.

Good ‘ole down-home country cooking. Beans and cornbread, just the way Mom never cooked ‘em.

Over the years, the proceeds from the sale of bean soup tickets has provided benefits to many needy families throughout the metropolitan Louisville area. Some of the organizations which have benefited from your generosity are: the Kentucky Easter Seal Society; Old Kentucky Home Council of the Boy Scouts; WHAS Crusade for Children; West End Youth Development Tennis; Ronald McDonald House; and Louisville Deaf Oral School.

The Bean Soup Feast has become a tradition associated with the Kentucky Air National Guard. Through your charitable gifts, the unit has been able to “keep the dream alive” for many boys and girls in this community.

Please continue to do your part by purchasing and selling tickets. More important, invite a friend and bring your family to share in this worthwhile event. Y’all come!

Volunteers needed for local drive

KYANG volunteers are needed for a “bucket brigade” to solicit donations for the Kentucky Easter Seal Society on March 6 and 7. Volunteers will serve two-hour shifts at intersections near Standiford Field to collect contributions from motorists. Military uniforms will be worn, but personnel may not be in any type of military duty status while serving as a volunteer.

Maj. Gen. Robert DeZarn, the Kentucky adjutant general, has tasked all Kentucky National Guard units to solicit volunteers to support the Easter Seal campaign as a show of community involvement. This year’s goal for the Kentucky National Guard is $100,000.

Maj. Ken Peters of the 123rd CAMS is heading the local drive at Standiford Field. In addition to the roadblocks on the March 6 and 7, collection buckets also will be placed at the base snack bar and BX during the UTA weekend of March 20-21. Those interested in volunteering for the bucket brigade should call Peters at ext. 351.