New Year holds changes for KyANG

A new year -- A new mission. What does this mean to the members of the KyANG? It means we are entering a new era with a vastly different challenge before us. We earned a great reputation in the Tactical community as documented by our recent selection as an Air Force Outstanding Unit for the seventh time. I commend each of you for that and the effort it took to accomplish this honor.

As we now become a member of the MAC Global Community and its mission, we no longer have that 40 years plus experience to fall back on. The challenge is monumental but I know with your support and pride in our unit that we will rapidly come on line as MAC's finest airlift unit. The harder we work the quicker we will enjoy the fruits of the MAC mission.

We will be a part of the 21st Air Force, one of two combat ready intertheatre and intratheatre airlift arms of MAC. Area of responsibility extends eastward through Canada, Greenland, Iceland, NATO Europe, Africa and through the Middle East to the eastern boundaries of Iran and the Arabian peninsula. Southward includes the Caribbean and South America. Within this region, airlift aircraft operate from more than 50 locations. In addition to our airlift and airdrop training requirements we can expect to fly in support of the U.S. Army airborne training, firefighting, aerial spray and other support missions for the active forces. We will deploy periodically as we did in TAC to a COB for intratheatre training. As you can see we will be a worldwide unit but only after we reach combat readiness posture. Let's all pitch in and get the job done.

Brig. Gen. John L. Smith
Wing Commander

Chaplain’s Column

Gratitude

By Chaplain (Capt.) Thomas Curry

A tourist was watching some women in Mexico who were washing their clothes at a place where hot and cold spring bubbled side by side. They boiled their garments in the hot springs and rinsed them in the cold.

Impressed by the way the Mexican women took advantage of nature's provisions, the tourist said to his guide, "I suppose the people here think Mother Nature is generous to them, do they not?"

"No, Senor," was the reply, "just the opposite. There is a grumbling because she does not supply soap."

The New Year which God gives us will be filled with countless blessings and challenges. Let's determine to live in gratitude for every good gift and determination to meet every challenge.

"I can do all things through Him who strengthens me." (Philippians 4:13)

Happy New Year to all.

Chaplain Thomas Curry
KyANG earns Outstanding Unit Award

7th Award for Wing

Once again the 123rd Tactical Reconnaissance Wing has been recognized for its exceptional mission performance, with the announcement of its seventh Air Force Outstanding Unit Award.

This honor, which is bestowed upon only 10 percent of the eligible Air National Guard units each year, attests to the fact that the 123rd Tactical Reconnaissance Wing is one of the best," stated Brig. Gen. Philip G. Killey, director, Air National Guard in a letter to The Adjutant General of Kentucky.

The KyANG is the only Air National Guard unit to hold the distinction of seven AFOUAs. The last six of these AFOUAs were received consecutively, covering approximately two-year intervals for 12 years from November 1, 1976 to March 31, 1988. The unit received its first AFOUA for its work during the Pueblo Crisis for the period Jan. 26, 1968 through June 8, 1969.

"The enthusiasm, concern for mission accomplishment, and the dedication displayed by these professional Guardsmen are really what has made the 123rd Tactical Reconnaissance Wing the outstanding unit that it is," stated General Killey. "Please extend my congratulations to all the members of this superb organization."

Dental Standards
Affect on world-wide status

By Dr. (Maj.) John D. Moore
Chief, Dental Clinic

New dental standards that affect a member’s status for world-wide duty have been established by the U.S. Air Force and apply to the Air National Guard.

The revised 1988 USAF Dental Classification includes four basic classes:

Class 1: No pathologic oral conditions exist and no treatment is required.

Class 2: Oral conditions exist that will not require emergency care within 12 months.

Class 3: Oral conditions exist that may require emergency care within 12 months.

Class 4: A dental examination is required.

The standards further advise that no patient will be cleared for world-wide duty in Class 3 or 4. If you are found to be in Dental Class 3 or 4, the dental clinic is obligated to initiate Air Force Form 422, Physical Profile Serial Report. As a general rule the suspension will be six months for treatment completion, however extensions may be granted upon evidence of satisfactory treatment progression.

Non-compliance will result in the individual being declared unfit for world-wide duty with subsequent administrative action by CEPO.

Please remember that these classifications are not locally produced, they are an Air Force regulation. Prompt treatment of the Class 3 conditions by your private dentist or one of the state supported Dental Schools will result in removal of the Air Force Form 422 disqualification and the progression of you ANG career.

Squadron disbands

With the conversion from tactical reconnaissance to tactical airlift, the 165th TRS disbanded and officially became the 165th Tactical Airlift Squadron effective tomorrow. As many people as possible got together for one final photograph. Anyone you know?
KyANG begins new era, makes first C-130 flight

After more than 40 years and thousands of hours flying tactical reconnaissance missions, the KyANG logged its first official hours in the C-130 Dec. 6. The 123d Tactical Reconnaissance Wing officially becomes the 123d Tactical Airlift Wing tomorrow.

The flight plan for the training mission was to Rickenbacker AFB, Ohio where the crew practiced personnel drops and assault landings. Because it was a training mission, the crew size was doubled with one crew in command from standford Field and another on the return trip.


TSgt. John Medley, right, a loadmaster, discusses pre-flight with TSgt. Michael Mitro, center, crew chief, and TSgt. Darrell Minton, assistant crew chief.

SSgt. Roy Brown Jr., loadmaster, checks cable length.
The first C-130 aircraft flown on a mission by the KyANG prepares to taxi.

Col. John Greene, aircraft commander, briefs the first crew on its mission.
Governor flies with ANG

By SSgt. Jeff Sansbury
Staff Writer

It took Governor Wallace Wilkinson just five minutes to say "yes!"

On Dec. 10, Kentucky's commander-in-chief accepted a call to fly with the Kentucky Air National Guard. He is the first governor to do so since Louie B. Nunn of the late 1960s.

Rising at 5 a.m., and following his breakfast, the governor's Sikorsky helicopter departed the Frankfort mansion for a 20-minute flight into Standiford Field. Guided in a red sweatshirt and blue jeans, he was greeted by Col. Joseph L. Kottak, vice wing commander, and escorted to base operations.

"I'm ready," announced Governor Wilkinson. "Let's do it."

He appeared bristled by the 30-degree temperature and enjoyed a hot cup of coffee before undergoing the 2 1/2 hour pre-flight orientation. Flanked by Adjutant General Michael Davidson and close friend James Thornton of Georgetown, the three were fitted with helmet gear and flight suits just prior to ejection seat training. The three men and their pilots would fly in close and tactical formations during most of Saturday's thrill.

Governor Wilkinson holds a private pilot's license and operates his own pair of wings.

"Not a bad fit," the governor joked of his olive-green attire. "I look the part, now let me feel it."

The chief executive paid strict attention as MSgt. James Smith and SSgt. Joan Hazle, life support, reviewed in-flight standards and cockpit lingo. A cockpit simulator provided realistic surroundings during much of the initial training.

Later, Governor Wilkinson and the guests met in conference with Lt. Col. Gary Burge for additional flight briefings and a quick look at the weather. Colonel Burge, along with Colonel Kottak and Maj. Michael Sams, piloted the three Phantoms over Indiana, Illinois and Tennessee.

General Davidson and Mr. Thornton were equally proud to participate in perhaps some of the final sorties involving RF-4Cs and the Kentucky Air Guard.

"This is an historic event, so let's take it slow and enjoy," reminded Colonel Kottak. "You won't have the chance again."

Like he had been there before, Governor Wilkinson approached his aircraft and climbed into the rear compartment, otherwise manned by a weapons systems officer. After last-minute details and a final comprehensive check, the governor motioned "humbs up" as the jets pulled off the flightline. One by one, the impressive fighter-recon aircraft took off from South Runway 1-9 to embark on a two-hour mission.

At 20,000 feet, the governor and Colonel Kottak practiced low-level missions and approached super-sonic speeds before returning to Louisville. At times Colonel Kottak relinquished his duties while the governor performed several "rolls" in the aircraft.

"He's a real good driver. I was impressed," Colonel Kottak admitted. "The governor knows his stuff."

Upon returning to the Standiford Field air base, Governor Wilkinson spoke candidly of his Air Guard experience. He deemed it "the greatest thrill of my life," and said he'll miss the fleet of Kentucky RF-4Cs.

After 40 years in the reconnaissance business, the 123d TRW is trading its jets for a tactical airlift mission and the C-130B turbo-prop aircraft.

Acknowledging the 123d as "a vast collection of roles and missions," Governor Wilkinson described the flight as only one aspect of the Total Force Concept.

"Hopefully," he added, "I'll be back to share visits with Guard members representing all units."

Orientation rides

The 165th TRS life support section, MSgt. James Smith and SSgt. Joan Hazle, prepared 105 people in 1988 for orientation rides. Between July and December they processed an unbelievable number -- 86 people.
Kentuckians dedicate Vietnam Veterans Memorial

By Sgt. Rick Baker
133d Public Affairs Detachment

The gray clouds, coupled with the November chill, created a somber shadow over the Kentucky Vietnam Veteran's Memorial as family, friends and others gathered to dedicate a monument to the Kentuckians who had paid the supreme sacrifice in America's last war.

As threatening as the weather was, it never daunted the 5,000 people who gathered on the hillside overlooking the state capital. It was time to honor the 1,046 fallen and 23 missing soldiers -- a gesture many felt was long overdue.

Kentucky Governor Wallace Wilkinson noted the irony of the timing as he addressed the crowd.

"Thirteen years from the first casualty to the last. Thirty years from the last casualty until now. Too much time, too much pain."

Much of the pain and bitterness of the war was forgotten as the crowd gathered on the hillside. Those who fought in the war searched out friends and former comrades they hadn't seen in years. Family members of those being honored sat waiting for the word that would allow them to search the monument's plaza for the names of their fallen loved ones.

While they waited, many gazed upon the beautiful, unique structure that took five years from concept to completion.

Designed by Lexington architect Helm Roberts, the giant steel and granite sundial took one year and one million dollars to complete once construction started. The shadow of the pointer, or gnomon, will touch the name of each Kentuckian who lost their life in Vietnam on the anniversary of their death. The names of the missing are situated so the shadow never falls on them.

Encircling the monument are the words from Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 which begin "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven."

For many at the dedication, the time had come to heal old wounds.

Governor Wilkinson said "We know that with the passing of time comes healing, strength and wisdom...we can't rewrite history, but we can see that history remembers the Vietnam soldier and honors him as we do today."

Eyes filled with tears as a multi-service color guard and two of Kentucky's Congressional Medal of Honor winners placed a wreath between the two flag poles.

F-4 Phantom jet fighters from the Kentucky Air National Guard and UH-1 Huey helicopters piloted and crewed by Vietnam veterans passed over the crowd in "missing man" formation. But the helicopters returned in full formation to signify a new era for Kentucky's soldiers.

Following the ceremony, hundreds descended on the plaza to search for names of loved ones and to make rubbings to occupy a special place in their home.

As the crowd slowly drifted away, the sun broke through the clouds. The bright beams warmed the chill that had filled the air, much as the earlier ceremony had warmed the cold feelings that had filled many hearts.

Selective Service Unit ready if draft reinstated

By Mike Lynch
Ky. Dept. of Military Affairs

Who has the job of getting the selective service system working again if Congress ever re-starts the draft?

Probably very few people know the answer, but, in fact, there is a unit of Kentucky Army National Guard and Army Reserve soldiers who are trained and prepared to do the job. Lt. Col. Earl Shackleford, Jackson, Tenn., recently took command of the selective service unit when Col. Mike Molley was promoted to brigadier general. The unit is a part of STARC and includes seven Guard members and five Reservists.

"If we had a national emergency, we've got to have people there already, trained to set up the system," Lt. Colonel Shackleford says. "We've got to be there on board within 72 hours."

The Guard and Reserve members of the unit train together as equals to know how to set up and operate a selective service office. But their ultimate goal, should they be mobilized, is to put themselves out of business.

"Our primary task on mobilization would be to establish those offices and to hire and train civilian employees to replace us," said unit training officer Maj. Ronn Padgett. "When that is done, the Guard and Reserve officers would revert for other assignments."

Lt. Colonel Shackleford, branch manager for a security guard firm, says locations of 10 draft board offices have already been selected and five civilian members are kept on each of 35 local boards. During its drills, the unit takes training classes or trains the board members.

Major Padgett, an official of Kentucky's Disaster and Emergency Service Division in his civilian job, says there are 728 Guard and Reserve officers nationwide assigned to the selective service jobs. He says the Guard members assigned to the selective service task must meet all of the other usual Guard requirements, like range-firing qualification and MOPP training, in addition to their special selective service training.

And the job, he adds, is more than just mobilization planning.

"We do a lot of what you might call FR type work—making speeches to civic groups to promote both public awareness and public support for the registration element of selective service," Major Padgett says.

If there were a mobilization, the system would work like this. The unit members would have 72 hours after reinstatement of the draft to report to the headquarters or the area offices to which they are assigned (those offices are currently recruitment centers). They would get staff help in setting up the offices form recruiters. They and their staff would handle all except the "judgmental claims" from draftees; the judgmental claims (for conscientious objection, hardship, etc.) would be handled by the local boards.

The Guard, Reserve and recruitment staff would be replaced within 90 days by civilians recruited and trained to take over the job. It's a scenario which will unfold only if Congress votes to put the draft back into effect.

"It's an important job if we have a national emergency," Lieutenant Colonel Shackleford says. "You've got to have a nucleus there ready to do the job. That's why we have the Guard and the Army itself."

The Courier Jan. 7, 1989
Commissary Earning Statement

New procedures for entry

Interservice entry procedures have been set forth by the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense, Force Management and Personnel. Effective January 1 through June 30, 1989, the DD Form 2AF Reserve (red ID card) and orders will be the documents required for Air National Guard members using military commissaries.

ANG members must have performed active duty or active duty for training in Calendar Year 88 or Calendar Year 89. The member must present a copy of these active duty orders at the commissary along with the red ID card (the same special order is sufficient each time the member enters the military commissary).

A dependent will be required to present a copy of member's active duty orders, a valid form of identification containing a photograph, and proof of dependent status to the sponsor. (Note: the Fort Knox commissary requires dependents to have an AF Form 447, reserve dependent ID card.)

Beginning July 1, the new Commissary Privilege Card will be the document for entrance into the commissary. CPC examples and procedures will be announced later.

DD Form 93 Record of Emergency Data

Uphold is important

( Editor's Note: The following article is reprinted from the November-December 1988 TIG Brief. The base-level review was not conducted at the Kuyang.)

By Maj. Flowers
HQ AFISC/IGSH

Stop for a moment and ask yourself who you want notified if you are seriously ill, injured, captured, missing in action, or die? Then ask yourself who you want to receive your $3,000 death gratuity pay, plus your unpaid pay and allowances should you die?

While these questions may not be pleasant to consider, they are important ones to which every military member should give serious thought.

The DD Form 93, Record of Emergency Data, is where you want your intentions should be clearly documented and kept current. It is probably the most important document in your personnel file, but it may be the one that gets the least amount of your attention.

A recent base-level review of these documents found about one-quarter of them contained one or more items that were out-of-date and could have delayed notification to family members as well as payment of the benefits mentioned above.

Interviews with Air Force members during our base-level review of the Record of Emergency Data Card revealed two commonly held misconceptions about this form:

* First, most members believed that updating a local address in the finance system or with the base locator would also update the information on the Record of Emergency Data Card.

* Second, most people thought that beneficiaries of Servicemens Group Life Insurance (SGLI) were the same as those for death gratuity pay and unpaid pay and allowances.

In the case of the first misconception, the DD Form 93 is not part of any automated data system. All creations, and subsequent revisions of the form, must be manually done at the CBPO on a typewriter, except for changes to local addresses of spouse and children, which you can make in pencil.

In the second case, SGLI and DD Form 93 beneficiaries could be the same, however, changes to beneficiaries must be done separately for each.

Furthermore, SGLI payments are based on optional life insurance coverage; not everyone may elect coverage. Death gratuity pay, however, a $3,000 lump sum payment made by the Air Force to the beneficiary listed on the DD Form 93 to assist in meeting unusual expenses. This payment can usually be made within hours after the beneficiary is identified.

Unpaid pay and allowances include pay and allowances due to the member, and unpaid at time of death, plus pay for accrued leave of up to 60 days.

Your best source of information about the DD Form 93 is the Personal Affairs Unit in the CBPO. These people are trained to answer all questions about your Record of Emergency Data.

Remember, you are the only one with the information to keep this form current. It's your responsibility alone to provide the CBPO with the most up-to-date information concerning your personal emergency information.

(To inquire about your Record of Emergency Data or to update any information contact the local Personal Affairs Office, Room 124 of the O&T Bldg., during UTAs or Room 123 during the week.)