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1989 -- A year of change for the KyANG
Commander's Column

Farewell message

It has been my privilege to serve as your Wing Commander since 1 October 1983. I can truly say that I have enjoyed every moment and the memories of those years will never fade. Change is, however, inevitable. And change is good for an organization.

I am fortunate and appreciative to have had the opportunity to work with the best and the most professional Air guardsmen in the nation -- you, the members of the Kentucky Air National Guard. It has been an exciting time for me and I hope I have added in some small way to the colorful and great history of this unit as each of you has done so richly for so many years. The total support you have given to me and to the Wing is greatly appreciated -- I know you will continue that with your new commander.

I look forward to your continued success in the years ahead. The challenges are merely opportunities and I know you will rise to the occasion and meet them in your standard -- "Outstanding" -- fashion. Here's to your victory at this year's Rodeo. God bless you all.

John L. Smith
Wing Commander

Chaplain's Column

Dare to Care goal exceeded

By Chaplain (Capt.) Thomas Curry

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!! The chaplain has been released from his shackles. Thanks to your generous support, 1,050 pounds of food was donated to Dare to Care by the Kentucky Air Guard. This exceeded our 1,000 pound goal and doubled previous records. Dare to Care will distribute more than six million pounds of food in 1990. You've demonstrated through this community work how people can "Live By Faith."

The Air Guard will face many new challenges in 1990. The swift changes in global politics reflect the ever changing world in which we live. Should we be called upon to mobilize, are you spiritually prepared to go? Spiritual preparation includes your emotional readiness, your familial readiness, and your religious preparation. Take time to include spirituality on your personal inspection checklist for 1990.

Have a good new year. May your troubles in the coming New Year be as short-lived as your resolutions.
Durbin retires after 35 years
Only 1 other has been full-time with the KyANG longer

By TSgt. Jeff Sansbury
Staff Writer

The Kentucky Air National Guard lost a good friend last month when Lt. Col. Donald L. Durbin ended his tenure and retired here Dec. 29.

During the 1950s and throughout the ’80s, Colonel Durbin witnessed the KyANG adopt new missions and fly a mirage of high-tech aircraft. From the P-51 Mustang fighter plane to today’s C-130B Hercules transport plane, his career spans 36 years and survives an era only few have enjoyed.

Colonel Durbin, the deputy commander for resource management, entered the unit in April 1954 and is the second ranking technician here in terms of longevity. Only MSgt. James R. Mack, 123d Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, has served longer as a full-time member of the KyANG.

During a ceremony here Dec. 3, there was no doubt the colonel was sad when it came time to say goodbye. Nevertheless, his tour of duty was “short” as members of the 123d Resource Management Squadron fell into the formation one last time.

“I’m going to miss you all,” said Colonel Durbin. “In fact, I think I already am. You’ve been my family.”

Colonel Durbin was then awarded the Air Force Meritorious Service Medal by Brig. Gen. John L. Smith, 123d Tactical Airlift Wing commander.

“This is a very difficult thing to do,” he added. “I’m a very emotional person, and it’s really tough to leave this place. I’ll promise to return.”

When he wasn’t managing the 123d RMS, the colonel was easily found at the local firing range, doing what he does best. Sort of his second calling, he was drawn to the range where he became an expert marksman and an avid weapons collector.

He excelled in small bore rifling and eventually earned a position on the U.S. Olympic team in 1984. Colonel Durbin placed 13th that year when Los Angeles hosted the XXIII Olympiad Games, and he became the first ANG member to land a spot with the U.S. rifle team.

Still hard on himself for not bringing home a medal, Colonel Durbin says it remains difficult for him to accept the loss.

“It was 90 percent mental and only 10 percent skill,” he explained. The following year he was accepted on the U.S. national team and entered communist East Germany to compete in a follow-up international meet. Besides some pretty stiff competition, his six days there were marked by residuals of the Cold War in Europe, he recalled.

Growing up in Jeffersonville, Ind., the colonel enlisted in the KyANG when the 123d Fighter Bomber Wing was based on the opposite side of Standiford Field airport, now the site of the Bremner Biscuit plant. He joined at a time when there was no formal basic military training for Guardsmen, and all the “sick sleevers” had to serve at least one year before earning that first stripe.

In 1975 Colonel Durbin earned his commission. He played a role in every mission conversion here, aside from the initial years when the KyANG was home at Bowman Field.

That’s all history now. From turbo prop planes, to supersonic jets, then back to the turbo props, Donald L. Durbin was here. He could easily have found an excuse to sign up just one more time.

“But what’s the use,” he asked.

“I’m going to take it easy,” he said, rubbing the edge of his desk. “Maybe shoot a little, improve my score a bit. I’m not really sure.”
News

Technicians retire -- 109 years service

By TSgt. Jeff Sansbury
Staff Writer

Four technicians said goodbye last month to the 123d Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, combining 109 years of excellence and duty to the Kentucky Air National Guard.


Each of the sergeants were full-time Guard members and had undergone training for the relatively new C-130B transport mission. At a ceremony here Dec. 3, the senior NCOs were recognized before family members and their squadron peers.

CMSgt. Kenneth L. Franklin -- "I've worked here nearly all of my adult life," says the NCOIC of field maintenance, with 32 years of service. "I'm not sure what I'll do now. I'll miss it terribly."

SMSgt. James W. Snodgrass -- "Some days were better than others, but they were all terrific," admits the NCOIC for aerospace systems, who spent 4 1/2 years in the regular Air Force before enlisting in the KyANG 29 years ago. "There was never an obstacle that our teamwork didn't overcome. The family aspect was the biggest thing. I really mean that."

SMSgt. Melvin D. Davis -- "Our teamwork was the best I've ever witnessed, anywhere. It makes me wonder why I'm really leaving this place," states the unit's hangar chief after 26 years, who now will become a Ballard County deputy sheriff. "These were the best of times, honest."

SMSgt. William D. Rose -- "The experience developed me as a person, not just as a Guardsman," says the unit's NCOIC of the communications and navigation sections, who served four years in the Navy before signing up with the KyANG 22 years ago. "I'm really going to miss the travel opportunities; the lessons learned from around the world are more valuable than anything taught in a text book."

CAM Airmen of the Quarter

The 123d Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Senior NCO, NCO and Airman of the Quarter were recently announced by Lt. Col. John R. Pearl, squadron commander.

Selected were: MSgt. Michael G. Mitro, Senior NCO of the Quarter; SSgt. Ronald G. Loyd, NCO of the Quarter; and SrA Robert M. Crosier, Airman of the Quarter.

SrA Robert M. Crosier

The 123d CAM Squadron wishes to thank the local restaurants that awarded dinners to these quarterly winners: Fifth Quarter on Durrett Lane, Jim Fairburn, general manager; Tumbleweed, Margaret Tucker, vice-president; and Mr. Gattis.
Blueprint of the future
An overview of KyANG's facilities of the 1990's

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is excerpted from the 1989 Adjutant General's Annual Report to the Governor and Legislature.)

By Lt. Col. Edward W. Tonini
HQ KyANG Public Affairs

The June 22, 1988 announcement to totally change the physical characteristics of Standiford Field to accommodate parallel runways has had a profound effect on the Kentucky Air National Guard. The new eastern parallel runway as designed will run directly over the current location of the Guard's main administration building.

The National Guard Bureau has expressed intent to purchase an approximately 125 acre parcel of land which lies between the proposed east parallel runway and Interstate I-65. The area today is made up in large part by the "Standiford" housing community. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has appraisers under contract to determine the value of existing property, as well as a value for the proposed site. The Urban Renewal Agency and the Louisville and Jefferson County Regional Airport Authority also have appraisers accomplishing the same task.

In the fall of 1989, following the appraisals, all parties will negotiate a value to be placed on the real property at the old site, at the value of the new site, the construction costs of the new facilities and the amount of financial commitment by the National Guard Bureau toward the project.

The new base master plan is being designed by Schmippler-Corrado and Associates. Short range plans call for a design that would accommodate 16 C-130 aircraft. A longer range plan calls for many design aspects to be incorporated to accommodate 16 of the much larger C-17 aircraft. An example of this is the fact that hangars are to be built under specifications that would accept the greater wing span of the C-17 with the extra length to be added at a later date.

15 SEparate projects

The new base requires the completion of 15 separate design/construction projects. Included in the projects are a 30,450 square foot Operations & Training and Medical Training Building. This building will include the State Headquarters, Wing Headquarters, Tactical Hospital, base personnel offices, disaster preparedness and audiovisual. The 31,600 square foot squadron operations/telecommunications building would include space for flight operations, the Air Logistics Control Element, weather flight, the combat control team, life support and telecommunications. The 14,200 square foot security police/dining hall building would include space for the security police force, the dining hall and services flight.

Other projects include a 9,300 square foot fire station, 71,000 square foot aircraft maintenance hangar, 30,000 square foot fuels system maintenance/corrosion control hangar, 18,000 square foot aircraft engine shop, 14,200 square foot base engineering building, 1,500 jet fuel storage operations building with a storage complex having a 210,000 gallon capacity, 9,900 square foot communications flight and a 21 point small arms range with a 1,500 square foot indoor range, an 800 square foot munitions storage area and an outdoor range with walls and baffles. If these plans are actualized the new base would have more than 308,000 square feet of buildings under roof.

Transition timing

The time table for transition from the existing base to a new base is projected to occur in stages. Under current planning the east parallel runway is scheduled to be completed in June 1992. Existing buildings would be abandoned and raised in three phases: by June 1991 - Operations & Training Building, Security Police Building, Vehicle Maintenance Building, Jet Fuel Storage and Base Supply, by June 1992 - Fire Station, Hangar, Engine Shop, Aircraft Ground Equipment Building and the aircraft parking apron; by June 1993 - the Squadron Operations Building, the Aerial Port Training Facility, the Avionics Building, and the Base Engineering Building.

Construction of the new base is currently planned to be completed in two phases. The first phase, to be completed by April 1991 includes all site preparation, the Operations & Training and Hospital complex, squadron operations/telecommunications building, base supply, security police/dining hall, vehicle maintenance and jet fuel storage. The second phase scheduled for completion between April and July 1992 includes the balance of here-to-for described facilities.
Women's Memorial design chosen

By Evelyn D. Harris
American Forces Information Service

The winner in an eight-month-long design competition for the nation's first memorial to American military women was announced Nov. 9 in Washington, D.C.

Michael Manfredi of Brooklyn Heights, N.Y., and Marion Gail Weiss of Washington, D.C., submitted the winning design, which features 10 39-foot-tall prismatic glass spires. A six-member jury of designers and military women, led by architecture critic Robert Campbell, chose the winner.

The memorial, authorized by Congress, will commemorate the contributions of all women who have served, are serving and will serve in the U.S. armed forces. It will be built at the Hemicycle, the gateway to Arlington National Cemetery.

Retired Air Force Brig. Gen. Wilma L. Vaught, president of the Women in Military Service for America Foundation, said the design challenge was complex. The contestants had to incorporate their designs with the Hemicycle, create a cultural and educational center in which to display military women's contributions and create a visible, unforgettable monument to those contributions.

A model of the winning design for the women's memorial at Arlington Cemetery

Weiss said the 10 glass prisms, or "candles," would be built atop the curved Hemicycle, giving the impression of fingers on two outstretched hands and symbolizing women's roles as helping hands. The prisms will serve as skylights during the day and will glow softly at night from lights inside the Hemicycle.

Stairs will ascend through niches of the gateway into a terrace providing views of the cemetery and Washington. Below the terrace, the memorial center will have a computer registration room with the photos and records of service of all registered women and an auditorium where multimedia presentations will trace the history of women's involvement in the military.

In addition to the professional challenge, Manfredi had a personal reason for entering the competition. "I owe it to my mother," he said. His mother, Dorothy, served in the Philippines as an Army nurse during World War II and quit in 1954 after 11 years and three weeks of service because she was pregnant with him.

Veteran reporter Sarah McClendon, who served in the Army in World War II, also took part in the announcement. "I spent the war publicizing and talking about military women and their jobs, and I'm still doing that," she said. "This memorial is for the women who lost flesh to jungle rot and the women who lost their lives at Anzio."

The privately funded memorial will cost about $15 million. Another $10 million is needed to restore the Hemicycle and maintain the memorial. So far, the foundation has raised $750,000. By law, the remainder of the $15 million must be raised by Nov. 6, 1991.

Asked what she would do if the money isn't raised in time, Vaught said, "I've made no plans, because we don't fail." She is counting on the more than 1.2 million women veterans and the 400,000 women on active duty to regis-
ter themselves or their friends for a
minimum donation of $25, Vaught said
many people have donated money to
register deceased relatives who served.
The memorial center computer will file
the service highlights of every woman
who registers.

"Almost every day I read a story that
brings tears to my eyes," she said. "The
other day, I got a letter from a woman
who was on a plane that crash-landed in
Albania during World War II. She and
her companions walked hundreds of
miles to safety, often backtracking to
avoid German tanks and troops, foraging
and living off the land."

To contribute to the memorial fund,
contact:

Women in Military Service
for America Foundation
Dept. 560
Washington, DC 20042-0560
Or call (800) 222-2294. The Wash-
ington-area number is (202) 533-1155.
Commissary Cards available in units

The new Commissary Privilege Cards are available in unit orderly rooms this UTA.

These new cards are required, along with an ID Card for admission to all commissaries. Dependents must also have a Reserve Dependent ID Card for entry.

Tests may save you both time, money

By Maj. Daniel Wells
Base Education Office

Although taking tests may not be your idea of fun, they can help you save you both time and money. Let’s examine two situations where the military can be of assistance to you.

First, if you are trying to enter a college or university in a two year, four year, or graduate program, you must take an entrance exam. Military tests centers like the one at Fort Knox offer free entrance exams such as the SAT, ACT, GRE, and the GMAT for free, to military personnel including the National Guard.

Second, if you are pursuing a degree and want to bypass the formal classes, you may be able to review the subject using study guides and then take a test. Passing the test will provide you with college credits. The tests are free at Fort Knox and you decide when to take it.

For more information, contact myself or TSgt. Larry Farr at ext. 497. You can contact a counselor at the Fort Knox education office by calling (502) 624-4136 or AV 464-4136.

Angel Tree gifts

TSgt. Karen Renn, 123d Tactical Airlift Wing, poses with volunteers from the Salvation Army's Angel Tree Program. Sergeant Renn bought presents for children on the tree with money donated by KyANG leadmasters and flight engineers. The donations were from CMSgt. Russell Leadbetter, MSgts. Michael Harp, Jerry Becker, Jose Fernandez, Donald Swift, Daniel Spradling, John Hourigan and James Everett; TSgs. William Logsdon, Kenneth Jeff Bishop, Kenneth Faust, and Daniel Fuller; Sgts. William Jones and John Siebert. Sergeant Hourigan started the fund raising.

Air Force Assistance Fund Campaign begins

The 1990 Air Force Assistance Fund Campaign will be conducted from Feb. 26 through March 31.

Materials will be distributed to units in the next month. The Air Force Assistance Fund raises money for three charitable organizations: the Air Force Enlisted Men's Widows and Dependents Home Foundation, Inc.; the Air Force Village Foundation, Inc.; and the Air Force Aid Society.

Contact TSgt. Deborah Nelson, CBPO, ext. 486 for further information.