Discharge benefits extended to Guard

Separation pay, hiring priority for Air Guard

By Capt. Ralinda Gregor
Assist. Public Affairs Officer

The Department of Defense announced it will extend transition benefits to reservists and guardsmen who are involuntarily separated between Oct. 23, 1992, and Sept. 30, 1995.

The Reserve Transition Assistance Program benefits will be extended to individuals who are involuntarily separated, not those who are separated for cause, according to Master Sgt. Elizabeth Green, NCOIC of quality force at Standiford Field.

Guard and Reserve members who have served at least six years but less than 15 years of service will be eligible for separation pay if they are involuntarily separated.

The amount of separation pay is equal to 15 percent of 62 days of basic pay, times the number of years served. Their years of service are based on retirement points earned.

Special separation pay is also authorized for some members who qualify for retirement at age 60 and who are transferred to the retired reserve. The special separation pay may be paid for up to five years (no payments are authorized at age 60 when retired pay starts). Technicians who are eligible for an immediate annuity upon retirement are not eligible for this special separation pay.

The payments are equal to the member's annual basic pay times five percent, plus an additional half percent for every qualifying year of service over 20 years (not to exceed 10 percent). For instance, a member with 24 years of service would receive seven percent of their annual basic pay each year, up to five years, if they are under age 60.

Early retirement will be offered to some enlisted Guard and Reserve members who have served at least 15 good years; they will be eligible for retirement pay at age 60. The 15 years of service must be completed before Oct. 1, 1991, or after that date and before Sept. 30, 1995. Members who are transferred to the retired reserve under this program will be treated like any other member who has received notice of their future eligibility for retired pay.

The Air Force has not determined which ranks and AFSCs will be offered the early retirement benefits, Green said, but the program will be voluntary.

Guard and Reserve members whose units or billets are inactivated will be given priority for hiring (along with members leaving the active forces) in other Guard and Reserve units.

Guard and Reserve members who are involuntarily separated between Oct. 1, 1991, and Sept. 30, 1995, will continue to be eligible for Montgomery GI Bill benefits. Their benefits will end 10 years from the date of initial eligibility. Members who qualified for active component GI Bill benefits and now qualify for higher benefits due to their Reserve or Guard participation will continue to receive benefits at the higher level if they are involuntarily separated.

Some commissary, exchange and MWR (morale, welfare and recreation) facility benefits will be extended to members who are involuntarily separated. The benefits extend for two years after the date of separation or Oct. 23, 1992, whichever is later.

KyANG members who have questions about these benefits should contact Green at on-base extension 485.

For the Children

KyANG photo by Master Sgt. Terry Lutz

Maj. Denny Lewis, the Kentucky Air Guard's director of personnel, presents $1,000 to Wayne Perkey during a live broadcast of the WHAS-TV Crusade for Children on June 6. Proceeds from the KyANG's Bean Soup Feast helped this year's 46th Crusade raise a record $4.5 million.
Make family part of ANG base support group here

How does your family feel about your participation in the Air National Guard? Most would say that the benefits are nice but they would like you to spend more time with them. I know, because my family feels that way.

The Guard is very time consuming for both full-time and traditional members. We give up much of the time that others spend at home or on outings with their families. Therefore, it is very important that you be considerate of your family and keep the communications flowing. They need to understand the importance of what you do with the Guard and you need to listen to their needs and frustrations.

To help bridge the gap, we have a family support group made up of spouses of unit members that will help to keep the families informed and involved. The president of the group, Karen Smith, is seeking ways to be helpful. If you have suggestions, please contact Karen or one of our unit coordinators, Tech Sgt. Rose Farquar or Staff Sgt. Julie Webb.

The other part of the equation is to use the spare time you have wisely. With a little planning and innovation you can make the time you have with your family much more meaningful.

As an example, I hit a home run with my son when we drove to Chicago to see a Cubs game on his birthday. We all enjoyed the game, the drive gave us time to talk, and Hooters was a real eye-opener for a 15-year-old’s birthday. It was great fun. I could see that it made my son feel special that we would take time to celebrate his birthday this way.

During the summer, take time to do something special with your family. You’ll like the results. Also, don’t forget that spouses like to be courted even after you’ve been married for years.

Quality time with your family can free you mentally to be more productive at your work. A little time to plan family events can pay big dividends.

AMC restricts C-141s

The Air Mobility Command has restricted all C-141 Starlifters from carrying their full loads of military cargo. The order, issued May 14 by Gen. Ronald R. Fogleman, AMC’s commander, limits the payload for the cargo jet to 55,000 pounds, about seven tons less than its normal maximum peacetime load. The action affects 260 C-141Bs in the active and reserve fleets.

The load limit was set as a result of an Air Force Scientific Advisory Board recommendation.

The board’s analysis of a C-141 undergoing a tear-down inspection at Lockheed’s Marietta, Ga., plant found more extensive evidence of wing cracks than the Air Force had previously estimated. Most of the small cracks emanate from “weep holes” — the quarter-inch holes that allow fuel to flow between strengthening risers along the interior of the aircraft’s inboard lower wing structure. If left unchecked, these cracks could lengthen onto the aircraft’s underwing panels, causing fuel leaks and weakening the wings.

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Airdrop update

RHEIN-MAIN AB, Germany (AFNS) - Operation Provide Promise aircraft continue their nightly humanitarian missions into the least accessible areas of Bosnia-Herzegovina, delivering supplies to areas beyond the reach of U.N. convoys. U.S. forces include nine Kentucky Air Guardsmen who departed Louisville June 7 to augment C-130 crews already there.

Air Force C-130 cargo planes and German and French C-160 aircraft recently delivered more than 372 tons of food and 10 tons of critically needed medical supplies to besieged areas around Srebrenica, Zepa and Gorazde, said U.S. European Command officials.

More than 1,773 tons of food and 35 tons of medical supplies have been delivered to the people of Srebrenica so they could survive until ground convoys arrive.

As of May 17, Zepa and Gorazde have received more than 777 and 673 tons of food, respectively, along with medical supplies.

Contributing supplies for the most recent airdrops were Japan, Germany, Austria, Italy, Pakistan, the United States and the European Community.

Bosnia No-Fly Zone

Twelve F-15Cs from Bitburg AB, Germany, and five KC-135 tankers from RAF Mildenhall, England, deployed to Aviano AB, Italy and Naval Air Station Sigonella, Italy, respectively, in support of the NATO operation.

GPO catalog offers new military history volumes

American Forces Information Service

A catalog of official military history books published by the U.S. government is now available from the Government Printing Office.

The books cover everything from the Continental Army to Civil War battles, Vietnam and the Iran-Iraq War.

Some books deal with contributions of specific services. For example, there are volumes on the Air Force and Marine Corps in Vietnam, as well as the Navy during the War of 1812.

Also available are general histories. These include the Women's Army Corps, an eight-volume dictionary of U.S. Navy ships, pictorials of World War II and Vietnam, and a poster of a U.S.-allied deployment in Operation Desert Storm. Foreign military subjects include the 1967 Arab-Israeli War and the Soviet Union during World War II.

The books are available by mail from 23 government bookstores throughout the United States. Cities with stores include Washington, D.C., Atlanta, Denver, Houston, Chicago and Los Angeles.

For store locations in these cities, check the telephone directory. For a catalog, send a postcard with your name and address to:

Superintendent of Documents, Military History Catalog, Mail Stop: SM, Washington, DC 20401.
ANG member 'programmed' to dance?

By Airman 1st Class Fred Michaels
123rd Mission Support Flight

Tech Sgt. Nancy Morgan is no beach bum. As a high school senior living in Tampa, Fla., she quit school, moved away from her parents, worked as a waitress during evening hours and played on the beach during daylight hours. Through part-time coursework, she was able to complete high school.

"On a whim, I took the military entrance test," Nancy recalls when asked about her early career. "This was during the 1970s, when computers were new and booming in popularity. I was anxious to learn something new, and so I entered the personnel field."

She received an active duty assignment at Ellsworth AFB, S.D. Nancy describes herself as a "true Floridian," but she adjusted well to the cold weather conditions in South Dakota.

Through a hardship discharge after the death of her brother-in-law, Nancy came to Louisville, began civil service work for the Kentucky Air National Guard and continued working in military personnel. Her outgoing personality has made her known by many at Standiford Field. For the past eight years, she served as secretary for the Bluegrass Chapter No. 69 Union, representing civilian technicians. She twice went to Washington as a representative of civilian technicians with the military, meeting with various government officials. She describes Sen. Wendell Ford of Kentucky as "an absolute doll."

Nancy was taught as a child by her mother and grandmother to dance, and she has danced a great deal since coming to Kentucky. While in Florida, she maintained a taste in music and dance primarily of the Top 40 variety. It since has shifted toward the Country-Western style.

She receives great satisfaction in seeing her students grasp dance moves after just a month of lessons. She says that with couple-dancing in the Country-Western style, the man leads as a frame and the woman follows as a picture. However, because of their inhibitions and lead roles, it sometimes takes men longer to learn certain dances well.

Nancy mentions four fine points to dancing. These are smoothness, a good framework, execution and styling. Styling involves putting one's own personality onto the floor.

Nancy's favorite dance styles are the Waltz and the West Coast Swing. Waltzes have soft, romantic music, while the West Coast Swing leans itself to "naughty," carefree music. She says that certain musical artists tend to stay with certain beats in their music. For example, Clint Black mainly has two-step beats in his music while Patty Loveless tends to stay with polkas.

Nancy's creative talents include drawing as well as dancing. While in high school she took advanced art courses, and she designs many of her own outfits for dancing. Voluntarily, Nancy has worked with the Big Brother and Big Sister program, and has served as a Brownie troop leader.

"I enjoy learning," Nancy says. "With computer programming, the programs constantly are changing, and that's exciting to me. The same is true with dance."

Tech Sgt. Nancy Morgan: tried a few things before enlisting in the Air Force, and now has found a career (on and off the Kentucky Air Guard base) that fulfills both loves in life.

"With computers, the programs constantly change; that's exciting to me...the same is true with dance."
Working group studies ending homosexual ban

American Forces Information Service

DoD has established a working group to determine how best to end the military's ban on homosexuals.

President Bill Clinton directed Defense Secretary Les Aspin to draft an executive order ending the current military policy prohibiting individuals from joining or remaining on active duty solely because of their sexual orientation. Deadline for the executive order was July 15.

The president asked Aspin to include the committee's study results with the draft executive order when he forwards it to him.

In the memorandum establishing the committee, Aspin said the working group is to provide him a list of options in order of preference with the working group's assessment of the feasibility of each.

"These policy options must meet the president's requirements to end discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in determining who may serve in the armed forces and to be practical, realistic and consistent with the high standards of combat effectiveness and unit cohesion our armed forces must maintain," Aspin said.

Overseeing the committee's actions is Air Force Lt. Gen. Robert M. Alexander, deputy assistant secretary of defense for military manpower and personnel policy.


Also named to the committee are Brig. Gen. Gerald L. Miller, Marine Corps staff judge advocate and Rear Adm. James M. Loy, chief, Coast Guard Office of Personnel and Training.

In developing the executive order and staff study, Aspin expects to consult with the Joint Chiefs of Staff, military services, government offices affected by the order, individuals concerned with the changes who are outside of the Executive Branch and members of Congress.

DoD has also commissioned the Rand Corp. to examine the issue. DoD spokesmen said the internal and external reviews will be separate and each will act as a check on the other.

Uniform Board makes changes

Washington (AFNS) - Air Force people using two-line name tags have until Oct. 31 to delete the second line, just one of the dress and appearance changes approved by the Air Force uniform board.

The board deleted authorization for two-line name tags from Air Force Regulation 35-10. No exceptions will be made to the policy, board officials said.

Officials said unit operations and maintenance funds would not cover replacement costs, so members must replace the two-line name tags with standard tags at their own expense.

More information is available from local military personnel flight customer service sections.

Other dress and appearance recommendations approved by Gen. Merrill A. McPeak, Air Force chief of staff, are:

* Adopt the Marine Corps-style women's neck tab, which fastens with a hook and pile fastener underneath the back of the collar.

* Wear smocks only in the duty section, usually the dental clinic. White shoes, socks and belts are worn at the option of the enlisted members since they are not issued items.

AFR 35-10 has been updated with the new changes.

Phone system complaint hotline

There is an established telephone technical complaint hotline at the Kentucky Air National Guard. By calling on-base 377, the hotline is available for those members who are having problems with the current phone system and Auds features within the system.

All comments are solicited to bring about an improved system that allows personnel to communicate with each other effectively and efficiently. Call on-base 650 for more details.

Crew Chief of the Year

Washington (AFNS) -- Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Merrill A. McPeak awarded the 1993 Crew Chief of the Year award to Chief Master Sgt. Scott Womack of the 41st Airlift Squadron.

The award recognizes individual excellence in mission support.

Womack may earn the Air Force recognition ribbon.

Volunteers needed during state fair

The KyANG recruiters need volunteers to help pass out posters and answer questions at the Kentucky State Fair from Aug. 19-29.

Any time you can give them will be appreciated. Sign up during the July UTA or call 364-9422, or on-base extensions 423 and 424.
KyANG moves to Air Combat Command

By Capt. Ralinda Gregor
Assist. Public Affairs Officer

The Air Force announced that all C-130 units will be transferred to the Air Combat Command on Oct. 1 as part of several force structure and alignment changes.

The transfer of C-130s allows ACC to better integrate combat forces in support of theater commanders. As a result, ACC will control all tactical assets. AMC will be able to concentrate its assets to support the mobility position of "global reach - global power."

The Kentucky Air National Guard will retain its 12 C-130H aircraft but will transfer from the Air Mobility Command to ACC, which is commanded by Gen. John M. Loh and headquartered at Langley AFB, Va.

The Air Force will also transfer the B-1 and B-52 bomber forces to the Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve and establish another active duty composite wing at Moody AFB, Ga.

Pentagon spokesman Bob Hall said these changes are part of the adjustment process the Air Force goes through annually. "It's the kinds of things they do to increase efficiency, adjust to budget demands and modernize the air reserve component," Hall said.

Some of the other changes that were announced include:
- The 116th Fighter Wing (ANG) at Dobbins AFB, Ga., will relocate to Robins AFB, Ga., and convert from F-15s to B-1B aircraft.
- The 117th Reconnaissance Wing (ANG), Birmingham Airport, Ala., will convert from 18 RF-4C to 10 KC-135R aircraft in late 1994.
- The 118th Airlift Wing (ANG), Nashville Municipal Airport, Tenn., will lose four C-130H aircraft starting in mid-1993, bringing them down to 12 assigned C-130H aircraft.
- The 153rd Airlift Group (ANG), Cheyenne Municipal Airport, Wyo., will modernize by converting from eight C-130B to eight C-130H aircraft beginning in mid-1993.
- The 191st Fighter Group (ANG), Selfridge ANG Base, Mich., will convert from 18 F-16As to eight C-130E aircraft in mid-1994.
- The 910th Airlift Group (AFR), Youngstown Municipal Airport, Ohio, will receive four additional C-130H aircraft in late 1993.

The Air Force Communications Command was redesignated as the Air Force Command, Control, Communications and Computer Agency, to be known as AFC4A on May 28.

Some information was obtained from a related news story by Tech Sgt. David Masko of the Air Force News Service.

New York ANG claims first female fighter pilot

By Lt. Col. David Super
National Guard Bureau

To a long list of aviation accomplishments, Maj. Jacquelyn Parker can add an event that will make her part of Air National Guard history.

In the days following the April 28 Pentagon statement that combat assignments for female service members were being expanded, ANG officials at New York's 107th Fighter Group announced that Parker had been selected for a billet in an F-16 Fighting Falcon. The distinction makes her among the first female members of the entire Air Force to be picked for combat training.

As Parker, a new member of the Niagara Falls-based unit, leads the way for women in the National Guard to enter previously closed combat assignments, personnel officials throughout the Defense Department are working to change administrative regulations and procedures to match the major policy change announced by Secretary of Defense Les Aspin.

"At the age of 14, I wanted to be an astronaut," Parker told reporters. "It's still a goal of mine to either be an astronaut or test pilot for NASA."

Formerly an active duty Air Force pilot, Parker joins the 107th with impressive academic and aviation credentials. She was the youngest graduate of the University of Central Florida at the age of 17, where she received a degree in mathematics and computer science.

She worked as a computer systems analyst for NASA and the space shuttle program before joining the Air Force, and she served as commander of 12 extensively modified KC-135 tested aircraft at Wright-Patterson AFB in Ohio.

Photo courtesy of 107th Fighter Group
Maj. Jacquelyn Parker graduated from the University of Central Florida at age 17. 

The Cargo Courier
July 17, 1993
Service decorations approved for KyANG

By Capt. Ratinda Gregor
Assist. Public Affairs Officer

Several Kentucky Air National Guard members are eligible for decorations due to their involvement in recent contingency operations.

The Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal has been approved for members who were deployed to support Operation Restore Hope.

The Humanitarian Service Medal has been approved for members deployed to Operation Provide Relief.


The Humanitarian Service Medal has also been approved for members who participated in the Hurricane Andrew disaster relief operation in Florida from Aug. 23 to Nov. 10, 1992, or in Louisiana from Aug. 25 to Oct. 8, 1992.

The Aerial Achievement Medal may also be awarded to members who complete 10 humanitarian relief operation missions, according to personnel management officials at the Air Mobility Command.

KyANG members who have questions about these decorations should contact their unit awards and decorations monitor or Tech. Sgt. Deborah Nelson, NCOIC of the personal affairs branch, at on-base extension 486.

RB-57s 'bug out' in 1965; 1975 gives new look to SPs

By Tech Sgt. John Martin
Wing Historian

During July 1965, the KyANG was notified that three unit RB-57 aircraft were needed to assist the Atomic Energy Commission on a site survey in the forests near Oak Ridge, Tenn. The purpose of this mission was to take aerial photographs of areas that had been infested with pine beetles.

That's right. Pilots were on a bug hunt. The photos would determine the success of treatment given to the wooded areas damaged by the "invaders."

Eight years later, the following advertisement was featured in the Voodoo Tales: "Sgt. Williams is interested in forming a combo of KyANG personnel to play country music ... or something that's 'not too far out.' Need a drummer, sax or horn player, lead guitar, piano and organ. We'll keep you informed of how they did in Nashville."

If anyone out there knows the whereabouts of this group, please pass it along to the KyANG historian's office.

Two years later, security police members of the KyANG were seen sporting a new look -- navy blue berets -- which were authorized for all Air Force cops. This new look made the SPs on base highly noticeable and set them apart in appearance from other units. Prior to this, SPs wore white pith helmets, and later on, wheel caps.

In 1986, the 123rd Civil Engineering Squadron was awarded the Air National Guard Civil Engineering Emergency Association Outstanding Civil Engineering Unit Award (say that 10 times real fast) for 1985.

This award is presented annually to the CE unit that excels in training, unit readiness, manning, OJT upgrading, retention and civil support.

In 1991, 15 members from the 123rd Security Police Flight, along with members from the 146th SF, North Carolina ANG, were deployed to Upper Hayford RAF, England, for annual field training. This was the first time in recent memory that SP personnel here were deployed to England.

Trivia for June. Did you find the one "truck" on base? If not, just look at the top of the flagpole. That "truck" is the silver ball that rests on top the pole, making it the only real truck on base.

Question for August: What is the KyANG's World War II heritage?

The Cargo Courier
July 17, 1993
When sought for relief duty, SVF honored to answer call

Col. Ben Welch, commander of Cairo West, recognized the KYANG during its final days in Egypt. Capt. Judy Mitro, the 123rd commander, accepts a token of appreciation with Master Sgt. Dominic Palumbo, the KYANG NCOIC, and Chief Master Sgt. John Hayden, the base senior enlisted advisor.

By Tech Sgt. Jeff Sansbury
Cargo Courier Editor

Last February, as American troops were called to another world hot spot, a small Kentucky Air National Guard unit made a quiet difference in the African nation of Egypt. The Americans and UN support personnel were energized by the presence of 10 unsung heroes from the 123rd Services Flight, just a small sample of what the unit is trained to carry out.

For 60 days, the Kentucky guardsmen were stationed at the Cairo West military post while transient personnel arrived for duty at Operation Restore Hope in neighboring Somalia. The unit provided food service, billeting, recreation and mortuary affairs with the 1610th Airlift Support Group there, known as the 'gateway' to Restore Hope operations.

For the 70 to 150 personnel who passed through each day -- either leaving Africa or arriving for the first time -- the 123rd manned a field operation 24 hours a day to ensure that American and allied troops were given a hot meal, a last chance to relax and a brief but significant taste of the ancient Egyptian culture before heading on to Somalia and Kenya.

"Working with the Cairo businessmen and merchants was neat. We used local purchasing authority to buy their products and to try their foods," said Tech Sgt. Mary Kays, a unit NCOIC. "They helped our people, and we tried to benefit their city."

"I learned a lot, much more than I expected," added Staff Sgt. Steven Johnson, the unit's supply clerk. "It was two months I'll never, ever forget."

If local purchasing couldn't meet the needs that day, the services flight would count on the American embassy commissary in Cairo to make things work. More than 27,000 hot meals were served by the unit, in addition to processing about 750 transient personnel. Four commercial hotels were on hand to accept overflow servicemembers at any given time.

"No one here would deny how good it felt. I hope our contribution helped Somalia through a really bad time," said Capt. Judy Mitro, the Kentucky deployment commander. "We know it made a difference. You could see it in the faces of the troops coming and leaving.

"The way things are going now (world affairs)," she added, "there's no telling where we'll end up next."

Job openings here at TALCE

The 123rd Tanker Airlift Control Element (TALCE) anticipates openings in the following career fields: two openings in AFSC 45572 or 3027X; one opening in AFSC 45471 or 54272; and one in AFSC 70270 or 73270.

The positions will require some travel and training may be needed to meet the TALCE requirements. If you are qualified and interested in one of these positions, contact Senior Master Sgt. Frank Green at on-base 444 or 581, or call Senior Master Sgt. Al Gering at 444.

Base repairs need CE approval first

The 123rd Civil Engineering Squadron is responsible for all base maintenance, repairs and remodeling. All remodeling must first be authorized through the base CE office, even the smallest self-help projects.

For base repairs and assistance, contact Senior Master Sgt. Tim O'Mahoney at on-base 435, Monday through Friday. During UTA weekends, the contact is Staff Sgt. James Berger.

Air Force Reserve wins at Rodeo '93

One of the top winners at this year's Air Mobility Command Airlift and Air Refueling Competition -- Rodeo '93 -- was the 440th Airlift Wing of the Air Force Reserve. Based at Gen. Mitchell Airport, Wis., the 440th earned the Gen. William G. Moore Award as the best AMC wing at this year's Rodeo. The unit also claimed best airdrop wing and best C-130 wing.