Leslie says farewell to KyANG after 32 years

By Staff Sgt. Amy Ziegler
Cargo Courier Editor

Col. Bill Leslie, who most recently served as commander of the 123rd Airlift Wing, retired from military service April 28, completing an impressive career that spanned more than 32 years. Leslie was commissioned in March 1969 and, after completing pilot training, became a traditional Air Guard member in December 1970. Eight years later, he was hired as a full-time flying training instructor on base. From there Leslie progressed in responsibilities within the wing, being selected as an assistant flight leader in the 165th Tactical Airlift Squadron in 1980 and a flight leader in 1981.

The following year he was named as wing chief of standardization evaluation, a position he held until September 1983 and as chief of flying safety before assuming command of the 165th Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron from September 1984 to September 1985.

In October 1996, Leslie was appointed as wing vice-commander back in Kentucky, a position held until October 1999 when he was named commander of the 123rd Airlift Wing. Leslie is the command pilot with more than 6,000 flying hours in the T-37, T-38, RF-101, RF-4C, C-12F, C-131 and C-130B/E/H models. His decorations include the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal with two devices, Air Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Combat Readiness Medal with five devices and the Humanitarian Medal.

Col. Michael Harden reassumed command of the 123rd Airlift Wing effective March 4.

Guard members invite their ministers to base

By Maj. Sae Na
KyANG Chief of Public Affairs

A dozen local ministers spent the day here May 19 after being invited on base by Guard members who attend their churches. The visits were part of Clergy Appreciation Day, which is designed to give ministers a better understanding of what KyANG members do while on duty. The day’s activities included a base tour, a local orientation flight aboard a Kentucky C-130, and lunch in the dining hall.

“Clergy Appreciation Day enables ministers to better serve their members who serve in the Air Guard,” said Lt. Col. Tom Curry, wing chaplain.

“The clergy are getting to see firsthand what the life of someone in the Guard is like. It also lets clergy know how crucial the support they offer to unit members can be, Curry said.

“One, our people frequently spending time away from home, it’s important that their ministers offer support to not only the person in the Guard but their families left at home,” Curry said.

Pastor Willie Hunter of Newburg Apostolic Church visited the base for a second time to attend clergy day. Hunter said he can now better serve KyANG members in his congregation because of what he’s learned during the two visits.

“I have a great appreciation for the hard work and sacrifice my Guard members and their families endure to serve our nation and also to protect our state,” Hunter said.

“Also just being allowed to come and visit the base is a great time. I hope I am asked back again next year.”

In addition to fostering understanding, Clergy Appreciation Day is an important tool for creating awareness among local ministers about the need for Guard chaplains, Curry noted.

“This day is very important,” he said. “I pray we can make it a continuous event.”
Roche sworn in as 20th Air Force secretary

WASHINGTON — James G. Roche was sworn in as the 20th secretary of the Air Force June 1 during a ceremony at the Pentagon.

David O. Cooke, director of administration and management for the Office of the Secretary of Defense, administered the oath of office.

Roche was nominated by the president on May 7 and confirmed by the Senate on May 24.

As secretary, Roche is responsible for the functioning and efficiency of the Air Force, the formulation of the service’s policies and programs and the timely implementation of decisions of the president and the secretary of defense.

“I am honored to be confirmed as the secretary of the Air Force, and to join one of the most innovative, dedicated and respected teams the world has known — the United States Air Force,” Roche said.

“I appreciate the confidence and trust the president, the secretary of defense and the Secretary of the Air Force place in me as an airman and an airman-space team. I consider it an esteemed privilege to have this opportunity to serve with the Air Force’s outstanding men and women.

“Over the past decade, our nation has demanded increasingly more effort and sacrifice from its active duty, reserve duty, civil servants, Guardsmen, Reserve and contractors — and that team has responded brilliantly,” Roche said.

“The American people have the highest confidence in our military forces and are justifiably proud of the Air Force’s numerous achievements and bright future.

“We welcome Secretary Roche and his family to the Air Force team,” said Gen. Michael E. Ryan, Air Force chief of staff.

“The secretary has had a distinguished and successful military and civilian career,” Ryan said.

“He brings a unique and valuable combination of military experience, executive management expertise and proven leadership that will now assist to our Air Force and our nation. I look forward to serving with him.”

Chief discusses quality-of-life issues

By Staff Sgt. Amy Ryan

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — The Air Force’s top enlisted person, Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Jim Finch, addressed quality-of-life issues before the House Armed Services Committee, Subcommittee on Installations and Facilities on May 9.

In his remarks, he addressed the continuing need for improved quality of life for the more than 400,000 enlisted active-duty, Reserve and Guard members he represents.

“We, the Air Force, are committed to taking care of our people and their families, who can be found in just about all corners of the world,” he said.

Finch relates the welfare of these people to Air Force readiness. But, he said, “because quality of life is a broad term, with different meanings to everyone, we continue to pursue improvements in several areas.”

In written remarks, the chief identified core quality-of-life priorities: adequate manpower, improved workplace environments, fair and competitive compensation and benefits, balanced tempo, quality health care, safe and affordable housing, enhanced community and family programs, and enriched educational opportunities.

“Our Air Force comprises true professionals, willing to give their lives, if necessary, to accomplish the mission,” he said. “I believe this level of dedication and commitment deserves a standard of living equal to the contribution to America and at least comparable to their civilian counterparts.”

Even though he said he appreciated the comments and the letter, Finch said he was responding to the criticism.

“We must now respond to this century’s new and emerging national security environment by fostering even more constructive relationships among military services to more fully integrate for joint and combined operations,” he said.

Roche said he was a retired Navy captain, was a recipient of the Arleigh Burke Fleet Trophy for the Navy’s most improved combat unit in the Pacific in 1974.

“If I look forward to piloting the journey ahead for the Air Force,” he said. “My vision is an aerospace future just as remarkable as its admired past. My pledge is that I will serve the way Air Force men and women do every day throughout the world, with integrity, selflessness and in earnest pursuit of excellence.”

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Pay raise targets midlevel NCOs

WASHINGTON — Some midlevel noncommissioned officers will see an increase in their pay July 1 thanks to the fiscal 2001 National Defense Au-

thorization Act.

Unlike last year’s July 1 pay table reform, where 75 percent of military members saw a raise, this year’s re-

2001 National Defense Au-

form targets E-5 to E-7 with six to 20 years of service.

The Jan. 1 pay raise for 2002, in keeping with the economic consumer index, will be a minimum of 4.6 percent.

For more information on pay increases, go to pay chart, visit the DOD Military Pay and Benefits Web site.

COMMANDER’S CALL

KyANG must be prepared to successfully wage war

This is the third and final segment of articles that attempt to explain and expand on our vision statement. This month we will talk about our purpose — why we are necessary now, and why we will be vital in the future.

Prepared to successfully wage war and add value to community, state and nation.

This is the essence of why we exist. Any National Guard unit in the country exists to serve two masters — its state and nation.

This fact is what separates us from the active-duty Air Force or Army and even separates us from the Reserves. We have a mission to support the vital interests of the United States and to also support our fellow Kentuckians when called upon during state crisis.

The vision of an organization is a simple statement of what it wants to become. The 123rd must stand up to our mission, take pride in their surroundings.

This translates into readiness, and readiness for this unit means being “prepared to successfully wage war.” We must never shirk that responsibility.

Readiness is what we are about. It is imbued in the core of our organization. It is why we exist, why American people pay our salaries, supply us with state-of-the-art equipment and facilities, and hold us in such high esteem and respect.

It is an ironclad fact that the “Total Air Force” could not do its job with the Air National Guard and the 123rd Airlift Wing. When a theater CINCs calls for tactical airlift, he does not care whether he gets it from the active Air Force or the Guard, because he knows the Guard can deliver.

We have built this position of respect over the years because we take pride in our ability to maintain readiness with a mostly part-time force.

It is critical that every member of this wing be prepared both mentally and physically to go to war, win and then return home with honor. Leadership at all levels must ensure that the wing is supplied with good people, and that these people are motivated and trained to do their jobs.

Equipment must be procured and maintained to allow our airmen to do their jobs in facilities that are comfortable, are conducive to mission accomplishment and foster pride in their surroundings. Anything less is unacceptable and will undermine our reputation and future survival as a relevant combat force.

We must now respond to this century’s new and emerging national security environment by fostering even more constructive relationships among military services to more fully integrate for joint and combined operations,” he said.

Roche said he was a retired Navy captain, was a recipient of the Arleigh Burke Fleet Trophy for the Navy’s most improved combat unit in the Pacific in 1974.

“If I look forward to piloting the journey ahead for the Air Force,” he said. “My vision is an aerospace future just as remarkable as its admired past. My pledge is that I will serve the way Air Force men and women do every day throughout the world, with integrity, selflessness and in earnest pursuit of excellence.”

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This funded Air Force newspaper is published for members of the military services. Contents of The Cargo Courier are not necessarily the views of the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Air Force.

The editorial content is edited and prepared by the public affairs office of the 123rd Airlift Wing, Kentucky Air National Guard, Louisville International Airport, Louisville, Ky. 40213-2678.

If you have a story idea, photo or article to submit, stop by the public affairs office, room 3117 of the Wing Headquarters Building. Deadline for the next issue is June 29.
Enlistments, promotions, retirements & separations

The following individuals have enlisted as members of the Kentucky Air National Guard:

- Staff Sgt. Theodore Bothur, 123rd Mission Support Flt.
- Senior Airman Christopher Chamberlain, 123rd Logistics Sq.
- Wlimer Halfhill II, 123rd Civil Engineers Sq.
- Senior Airman Jason Rowe, 165th Attch Sq.
- Airman 1st Class Robert Stanley, 123rd Maintenance Sq.

The following individuals have been promoted to the rank indicated as members of the United States Air Force:

- Airman 1st Class Robert Stanley, 123rd Civil Engineers Sq.

The following individuals have been promoted to the rank indicated as members of the Kentucky Air National Guard and reservists of the United States Air Force:

- Larry Brinegar, 123rd Civil Engineers Sq.
- Richard Chenault, 123rd Security Forces Sq.
- John Downs, 123rd Special Tactics Flt.
- Dennis Flora, 123rd Security Forces Sq.
- Danny Gregory, 165th Attch Sq.
- David Kammer Jr., 123rd Civil Engineers Sq.
- Kevin Kaufman, 123rd Civil Engineers Sq.
- Jason Lambart, 123rd Security Forces Sq.
- Christopher Middleton, 123rd Security Forces Sq.
- John Miller, 123rd Medical Sq.
- Jeffrey Noel, 123rd Maintenance Sq.
- Ronald Schmitz, 123rd Civil Engineers Sq.
- James Tenney, 123rd Security Forces Sq.
- Michael Wilson, 123rd Air Transport Control Element

The following individuals have retired as members of the Kentucky Air National Guard and reservists of the United States Air Force:

- Tech. Sgt. James Bobbitt, 123rd Civil Engineers Sq.
- Senior Master Sgt. Anthony Hettinger, 123rd Civil Engineers Sq.
- Master Sgt. Leonard Johnson, 123rd Logistics Sq.
- Senior Master Sgt. James McKenzie, 123rd Logistics Sq.
- Tech. Sgt. Herbert Shown, 205th Combat Communications Sq.

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

- Staff Sgt. Thomas Downs, 123rd Communications Flt.
- Master Sgt. Debra Hall, 123rd Attch Wing
- Senior Airman Jeramy Kapka, 123rd Maintenance Sq.
- Capt. Phillip Kolf, 123rd Medical Sq.
- Staff Sgt. Marni Konnino, 123rd Mission Support Flt.
- Senior Airman David Murray Jr., 123rd Maintenance Sq.
- Tech. Sgt. Susan Paul, 205th Combat Communications Sq.
- Senior Airman Joseph Paulowski, 205th Combat Communications Sq.
- Staff Sgt. Douglas Sharp, 123rd Civil Engineers Sq.
- Staff Sgt. Geoffrey Shumaker, 123rd Aerial Port Sq.
- Senior Airman Darjenick Smith, 123rd Logistics Sq.
- 1st Lt. Kevin Sullivan, 123rd Maintenance Fit.
- Master Sgt. Kristina Swenson, 123rd Medical Sq.
- Senior Airman Lewis Walker, 123rd Communications Sq.
- Staff Sgt. Jimmy Woodall Jr., 123rd Logistics Sq.

The following individuals have separated as enlisted members to become commissioned officers in the United States Air Force:

- 2nd Lt. Mary Decker, 165th Attch Wing
- 2nd Lt. Latonia Trowell, 123rd Attch Wing

The Cargo Courier has again been named the best newspaper of its kind in the National Guard, taking top honors in the National Guard Bureau’s 2006 Media Contest.

The paper also scored an award at the Air Force-level media contest, earning third place for overall excellence in its division for 2006.

Significant contributors to the Cargo Courier were Staff Sgts. Amy Ziagler and David I. Tors, Master Sgt. Charles Simpson, Tech. Sgt. Mark Rines and Senior Airmen Alex D. Demmick.

1st Lt. Dale Greer, wing public affairs officer, also was honored when he was named 2006 National Guard Journalist of the Year—his third such title. Greer took home first place in the Guard Bureau’s news article competition, as well.

Softball Tournament held Aug. 15-18

The annual Air Guard Softball Tournament is scheduled for Aug. 15 through 18 in Boise, Idaho.

The tournament, which is open to all guard members, features six divisions—men’s open, women’s open, men’s over 35, men’s over 45, coed and fast pitch.

Every team is guaranteed to play at least three games.

For more information, contact Master Sgt. Ralph Barnaby at ext. 4326.

AFVC offers vacations

The Armed Forces Vacation Club is a space-available program that offers Department of Defense-affiliated personnel the opportunity to take affordable condominium vacations around the world for $234 per unit per week.

For more information, visit www.afvcclub.com.

RiverBats Schedule of events

5:41 p.m. Welcome to Operation RiverBats
5:42 p.m. KyANG video “The Best” on Pepsi Vision
5:50 p.m. KyANG honorary baseball team
5:55 p.m. Special Tactics parachute jump
6:01 p.m. Col. Mike Harden throws ceremonial first pitch
6:10 p.m. KyANG Color Guard
6:12 p.m. KyANG Little Leaguers take the field
6:12 p.m. National Anthem by Senior Airman Stephanie Gilbert
6:14 p.m. C-130 Hercules fly-by
6:15 p.m. Play ball!

KyANG pre-game events on Slugger Field

The Cargo Courier awarded again

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National Guard invited to a day at the Downs

By Staff Sgt. Amy Ziegler
Cargo Courier Editor

Members of the Kentucky National Guard will have an opportunity June 30 to spend a day at the races at Churchill Downs.

Free admission through the pass gate will be granted to anyone with a military ID card. Brig. Gen. Ed Tonini, chief of staff for the Kentucky Air Guard, said the day allows Churchill Downs to salute military members, particularly those in the National Guard.

“Churchill Downs has always been a good friend to military members,” he said. “This day is the Saturday before the Fourth of July, allowing the Downs to honor military members before such a patriotic day.

“I’m sure it will prove to be a fun day for anyone. Churchill Downs and thoroughbred racing are really a part of our community’s fabric of life.”

As a bonus, free, full-color limited-edition posters promoting the Kentucky Air Guard will be given to the first 8,000 people through the gate.

Called “Heading Down the Stretch,” the poster features a Kentucky C-130 flying over Churchill Downs’ twin spires.

Two of the day’s races will be dedicated to the National Guard—one to the Army and the other to the Air. Representatives from both will award the trophy to the winning thoroughbred’s connections after each race.

In addition to the races, the Junior Jockey Club will be open all day for children 12 and under. The club is located near gate 10. Gates open at 11 a.m., and the first post time is 12:40 p.m. Admission for those without an ID card is $2, except for children 12 and under, for whom admission is always free.

For more information contact Lt. Col. Rich Frymire at ext. 4589.

Precise planning used to capture poster image

By Staff Sgt. Amy Ziegler
Cargo Courier Editor

After months of planning, the perfect photo for “Heading Down the Stretch” is complete.

More than a dozen people helped create the signature image for the Kentucky Air Guard poster, including personnel from Churchill Downs, which figures prominently in the photo.

“This was really an intricately planned mission,” said Brig. Gen. Ed Tonini, who originated the photo concept.

“We had to get just the right angle, such as weather, the availability of aircraft—one to be photographed and another to carry photographer Bill Kight, a friend of the Kentucky Air Guard, Tonini said.

“Taking the photo itself was the easy part,” Kight said. “The hardest part of all this was the pilots’ flying in formation at exactly the right time over Churchill Downs,” Kight said. “If it weren’t for the excellent formation flying of these pilots this would not have been possible.”

Many factors had to come together at the right time, such as weather; the availability of aircrew and getting the planes in the right place at the right time, Kight said.

Steps taken to fix hazardous office furniture

By Staff Sgt. Amy Ziegler
Cargo Courier Editor

Another KyANG’s furniture system collapses creating a stir but fortunately not seriously hurting anyone.

May 20 in the Visual Information office in the Headquarters Building a three section filing system fell while office personnel rushed to hold the cabinet up.

This is the fifth reported incident since 1995.

Tech. Sgt. Michael Myers blames the problem on round plastic caps at the top of the cabinets which basically hold the pieces of the furniture together.

“Of the three incidents that were investigated, the caps were found to be 100% of the problem,” he claimed.

Luckily, Myers said, replacement metal caps arrived on base May 17th, which will help to eliminate the problem.

Members of the 123rd Civil Engineers Squadron are beginning to replace any caps which appear to be faulty.

“As time increases and the furniture ages, the risk factor increases,” Myers said.

The Wing Safety office has the following tips to help unit members protect themselves:

—Inspect the caps, paying close attention to any cracks
—Only open one file drawer at a time
—Ensure that the heaviest items are filed at the bottom

“Don’t take a chance of anyone getting hurt,” Myers said. “Don’t try to brace the cabinets, just get out of the way.”

Master Sgt. Charlie Simpson said it was just natural reaction to stop the files from falling. “I was just opening the top shelf and the walls came crashing down. I leaned against them to stop them from falling,” he said. Thank goodness there were enough people around to push and help hold it up.”

Tech. Sgt. Bill Lewis who was also at the scene reports he just heard a big boom.

“Everyone ran in to help Charlie. It was great to see everyone come together to help him,” he said. “Someone really could have been hurt.”

While there haven’t been any serious injuries, one member of the visual information office did strain her back while trying to hold the drawers up.

For information, contact the wing safety office at ext. 4407.

KyANG members can access e-mail from anywhere

Members of the KyANG can now access e-mail via a web browser and Internet connection.

The web-based e-mail is simple to use and requires no complicated client configurations. Browsers must, however, be capable of establishing a secure connection with 128-bit encryption, said Senior Master Sgt. Dave Tinsley of the 123rd Communications Flight.

All that’s needed to log on is an alias, which for most users is firstname.lastname. You also will need to know your domain user name and password.

The web-based e-mail is not as feature-packed as Microsoft Outlook, but it does offer users the ability to check their e-mail from anywhere in the world, Tinsley noted.

The URL for web-based e-mail is http://www.kyloui.ang.af.mil/ etcMail.html

For more information, contact the help desk at ext. 4357.

KyANG news

KyANG Shot-gun Club invites unit members to join

The newly equipped KyANG Shot-gun Club invites unit members to join.

For information contact Senior Airman Larry Burba at ext. 4638.

Photo by Tech. Sgt. Bill Hall/KyANG

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KyANG aircrew members assisted photographer Bill Kight in securing the photo.

Posters featuring the distinctive image were sent to politicians throughout the state, said Tonini, KyANG chief of staff.
KyANG NEWS

Enlistments, promotions, retirements & separations

The following individuals have enlisted as members of the Kentucky Air Guard and reservists of the United States Air Force:
- Staff Sgt. Theodore Bothur, 123rd Mission Support Flt.
- Senior Airman Christopher Chamberlain, 123rd Logistics Sq.
- W1mer Halfhill II, 123rd Civil Engineers Sq.
- Senior Airman Jason Rowe, 165th Artillery Sq.
- Airman 1st Class Robert Stanley, 123rd Maintenance Sq.

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- Staff Sgt. Robert Buckman, Senior Airman David Murray Jr., 123rd Civil Engineers Sq.
- Senior Airman Joseph Paulowski, 205th Combat Communications Sq.
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- 1st Lt. Kevin Sullivan, 123rd Maintenance Sq.
- Staff Sgt. Kristina Swenson, 123rd Medical Sq.
- Senior Airman Lewis Walker, 123rd Communications Sq.
- Staff Sgt. Jimmy Woodall Jr., 123rd Logistics Sq.
- 2nd Lt. Mary Decker, 123rd Artillery WIng
- 2nd Lt. ladonia Towell, 123rd Artillery WIng

Enlistments, promotions, retirements & separations

KyANG NEWS

Up to bat: Kentucky Air Guard

A record crowd of more than 1,250 KyANG family members is expected at tonight’s RiverBats game against the Durham Bulls. Gates open at 5 p.m.

RiverBats Schedule of events

KyANG pre-game events on Slugger Field
- 5:14 p.m. C-130 Hercules fly-by
- 5:12 p.m. National Anthem by Senior Airman Stephanie Hilbert
- 5:12 p.m. KyANG Little Leaguers take the field
- 5:10 p.m. KyANG Color Guard
- 5:09 p.m. Special Tactics parachute jump
- 6:01 p.m. Col. Mike Harden throws ceremonial first pitch
- 6:10 p.m. KyANG Kids take the field
- 6:10 p.m. National Anthem by Senior Airman Stephanie Hilbert
- 6:14 p.m. C-130 Hercules fly-by
- 6:15 p.m. Play ball!

KyANG game events on Slugger Field
- 2nd inning KyANG recruiting video on Pepsi Vision
- 3rd inning Squadron names scrolled on Pepsi Vision
- 3rd inning KyANG Little Leaguer races Buddy Bat
- 4th inning Col. Harden delivers RiverBats radio commentary
- 5th inning KyANG kids in recycling race
- 6th inning Airmen of the Year names appear on Pepsi Vision

KyANG NEWS

Cargo Courier

The Cargo Courier has again been named the best newspaper of its kind in the National Guard, taking top honors in the National Guard Bureau’s 2000 Media Contest.

Significant contributors to the Cargo Courier were Staff Sgts. Amy Ziegler and David I. Torres, Master Sgt. Charles Simpson, Tech. Sgt. Mark Rines and Senior Airman Alecia Denison. 1st Lt. Dale Greer, wing public affairs officer, also was honored when he was named 2000 National Guard Journalist of the Year—his third such title. Greer took home first place in the Guard Bureau’s news article competition, as well.

Softball Tourny held Aug. 15-18

The annual Air Guard Softball Tournament is scheduled for Aug. 15 through 18 in Boise, Idaho.

The tournament, which is open to all guard members, features six divisions—men’s open, women’s open, men’s over 35, men’s over 45, coed and fast pitch.

Every team is guaranteed to play at least three games. For more information, contact Master Sgt. Ralph Barnew at ext. 4326.

AFVC offers vacations

The Armed Forces Vacation Club is a space-available program that offers Department of Defense-affiliated personnel the opportunity to take affordable condominium vacations around the world for $234 per unit per week. For more information, visit www.afvcclub.com.
Roche sworn in as 20th Air Force secretary

WASHINGTON — James G. Roche was sworn in as the 20th secretary of the Air Force June 1 during a ceremony at the Pentagon.

David O. Cooke, director of administration and management for the Office of the Secretary of Defense, administered the oath of office.

Roche was nominated by the president on May 7 and confirmed by the Senate on May 24.

As secretary, Roche is responsible for the functioning and efficiency of the Air Force, the formulation of the service’s policies and programs and the timely implementation of decisions and instructions of the president and the secretary of defense.

“I am honored to be confirmed as the secretary of the Air Force, and to join one of the most innovative, dedicated and respected teams the world has known — the United States Air Force,” Roche said.

“I appreciate the confidence and trust the president, the secretary of defense and the Secretary of the Army in the Air Force team in the aerospace space team. I intend to fulfill the opportunity to serve with the Air Force’s outstanding men and women.

“Over the past decade, our nation has demanded increasingly more effort and sacrifice from our active-duty airmen, civil servants, Guardsmen, Reservists and contractors — and that team has responded brilliantly,” Roche said.

“The American people have the highest confidence in our military forces and are justifiably proud of the Air Force’s numerous achievements and bright future. We must now respond to this century’s new and emerging national security environment by fostering even more constructive relationships among the services to more fully integrate for joint and combined operations,” he said.

“We welcome Secretary Roche and his family to the Air Force team,” said Gen. Michael E. Ryan, Air Force chief of staff.

“The secretary has had a distinguished and successful military and civilian career,” Ryan said.

“He brings a unique and valuable combination of military experience, executive management expertise and proven leadership skills that will serve to assist our Air Force and our nation. I look forward to serving with him.”

Chief discusses quality-of-life issues

By Staff Sgt. Amy Parr

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — The Air Force’s top enlisted person, Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Jim Finch, addressed quality-of-life issues before the House Armed Services Committee, Subcommittee on Installations and Facilities on May 9.

In his remarks, he stressed the continuing need for improved quality of life for the more than 400,000 enlisted active-duty, Reserve and Guard members he represents.

“We, the Air Force, are committed to taking care of our people and their families, who can be found in just about all corners of the world,” he said.

Finch relates the welfare of these people to their readiness. But, he said, “because quality of life is a broad term, with different meanings to everyone, we continue to pursue improvements in several areas.”

In written remarks, the chief identified core quality-of-life priorities: adequate manpower; improved workplace environments; fair and competitive compensation and benefits; balanced tempo; quality health care; safe and affordable housing; enhanced community and family programs, and enriched educational opportunities.

“One Air Force comprises true professionals, willing to give their lives, if necessary, to accomplish the mission,” he said. “I believe this level of dedication and commitment deserves a standard of living equal to their contribution to America and at least comparable with their civilian counterparts.”

Even though he said he appreciated the initiatives taken last year by Congress in the National Defense Authorization Act, more must still be done to retain America’s best and brightest, he said.

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Some midlevel noncommissioned officers will see an increase in their pay July 1 thanks to the fiscal 2001 National Defense Au-

Pay raise targets midlevel NCOs

WASHINGTON — Some midlevel noncommissioned officers will see an increase in their pay July 1 thanks to the fiscal 2001 National Defense Au-

Secretary of the Air Force

James Roche

Wing Commander

Col. Michael Harden

123rd Airlift Wing Commander

This funded Air Force newspaper is published for members of the military services. Contents of The Cargo Courier are not necessarily the views of the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Air Force.

The editorial content is edited and prepared by the public affairs office of the 123rd Airlift Wing, Kentucky National Guard, Louisville International Airport, Louisville, Ky., 40213-2678.

If you have a story idea, photo or article to submit, stop by the public affairs office, room 2117 of the Wing Headquarters Building, Deadline for the next issue is June 29.

This is the third and final segment of articles that attempt to explain and expand on our vision statement. This month we will talk about our purpose — why we are necessary now, and why we will be vital in the future.

Prepared to successfully wage war and add value to community, state and nation.

This statement is the essence of why we exist. Any National Guard unit in the country exists to serve two masters — its state and nation.

This fact is what separates us from the active-duty Air Force or Army, and even separates us from the Reserves. We have a mission to support the vital interests of the United States and to also support our fellow Kentuckians when called upon during state crisis.

The vision of an organization is a simple statement of what it wants to become. The 123rd must fulfill its mission to support the vital interests of the United States and to also support our fellow Kentuckians when called upon during state crisis.

It is critical that every member of this active Air Force or the Guard, because he knows the Air Guard can deliver. He must never shirk this responsibility.

The Air Force’s top enlisted person, Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Jim Finch, addressed quality-of-life issues before the House Armed Services Committee, Subcommittee on Installations and Facilities on May 9.

Well there you have it. It has taken me three columns and several months to explain what I mean by our one-sentence vision statement. I firmly believe that this statement sums up what we want to become, and if we are successful in attaining this vision the 123rd must always strive to better perform our mission to support the vital interests of the United States. I hope you believe it, too.

The Cargo Courier Editor......................Staff Sgt. Amy Ziegler

Wing Commander..........................Col. Michael Harden

Wing Public Affairs Officer...............1st Lt. Dale Greer

Cargo Courier Editor.......................Staff Sgt. Amy Ziegler

How to contact us:
Phone: (502) 364-9431
E-mail: amycziegler@hotmail.com

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

June 9, 2001

COMMANDER’S CALL

KyANG must be prepared to successfully wage war

Wing Commander.........................Col. Michael Harden

123rd Airlift Wing Commander

Roche sworn in as 20th Air Force secretary

James Roche

Secretary of the Air Force

This statement sums up what we want to become, and it is a statement of what it wants to become. The 123rd must always strive to better perform its mission. This translates into readiness, and readiness for this unit means being “prepared to successfully wage war.” We must never shirk this responsibility.

Readiness is what we are about. It is imbedded in the core of our organization. It is why we exist, why American people pay our salaries, supply us with state-of-the-art equipment and facilities, and hold us in such high esteem and respect.

It is an ironclad fact that the “Total Air Force” could not do its job with the Air National Guard and the 123rd Airlift Wing. When a theater CINC calls for tactical airlift, he does not care whether he gets it from the active Air Force or the Guard, because he knows the Air Guard can deliver.

We have built this position of respect over the years because we take pride in our ability to maintain readiness with a mostly part-time force.

It is critical that every member of this wing be prepared both mentally and physically to go to war, win and then return home with honor. Leadership at all levels must ensure that the wing is supplied with good people, and that these people are motivated and trained to do their jobs.

Equipment must be procured and maintained to allow our airmen to do their jobs in facilities that are comfortable, are conducive to mission accomplishment and foster pride in their surroundings.

Anything less is unacceptable and will undermine our reputation and future survival as a relevant combat force.

We must now be ready to “successfully wage war,” we must also be ready to assist our neighbors during state and community crises and must support state officials when called and make our people, equipment and facilities available.

This statement sums up what we want to become, and it is a statement of what it wants to become. The 123rd must always strive to better perform its mission. This translates into readiness, and readiness for this unit means being “prepared to successfully wage war.” We must never shirk this responsibility. We want the community to know that we are ready to help. We want them to take pride in the Kentucky Air Guard as a unit that is ready to assist across the world or across the street.

Only by maintaining our excellent reputation in the community can we continue to recruit our neighbors and motivate the young people of our community to join our organization.

Well there you have it. It has taken me three columns and several months to explain what I mean by our one-sentence vision statement. I firmly believe that this statement sums up what we want to become, and if we are successful in attaining this vision the 123rd must always strive to better perform our mission to support the vital interests of the United States. I hope you believe it, too.

A powerful, harmonious, military organization, comprised of proud citizens, dedicated to the profession of arms, prepared to successfully wage war and add value to community, state and nation.

— So Sayeth the Load Commander

Michael R. Harden

June 9, 2001

The Cargo Courier

June 9, 2001
Leslie says farewell to KyANG after 32 years

By Staff Sgt. Amy Ziegler
Cargo Courier Editor

Col. Bill Leslie, who most recently served as commander of the 123rd Airlift Wing, retired from military service April 28, completing an impressive career that spanned more than 32 years.

Leslie was commissioned in March 1969 and, after completing pilot training, became a traditional Air Guard member in December 1970. Eight years later, he was hired as a full-time flying training instructor on base.

From there Leslie progressed in responsibilities within the wing, being selected as an assistant flight leader in 1975 and a flight leader in 1981. Leslie was named chief of flying safety before assuming command of the 123rd Airlift Wing in 1982. Leslie is a command pilot with more than 6,000 flying hours in the T-37, T-38, RF-101, RF-4C, C-12F, C-131 and C-130B/E/H models. His decorations include the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal with two devices, Air Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Combat Readiness Medal with five devices and the Humanitarian Medal.

Col. Michael Harden reassumed command of the 123rd Airlift Wing effective March 4.

Guard members invite their ministers to base

By Maj. Sae Na
KyANG Chief of Public Affairs

A dozen local ministers spent the day here May 19 after being invited on base by Guard members who attend their churches.

The visits were part of Clergy Appreciation Day, which is designed to give ministers a better understanding of what KyANG members do while on duty.

The day’s activities included a base tour, a local orientation flight aboard a Kentucky C-130, and lunch in the dining hall.

“Clergy Appreciation Day enables ministers to better serve their members who serve in the Air Guard,” said Lt. Col. Tom Curry, wing chaplain.

“The clergy are getting to see firsthand what the life of a someone in the Guard is like.”

It also lets clergy know how crucial the support they offer to unit members can be, Curry said.

“We have people frequently spending time away from home, it’s important that their ministers offer support to not only the person in the Guard but their families left at home,” Curry said.

Pastor Willie Hunter of Newburg Apostolic Church visited the base for a second time to attend clergy day.

Hunter said he can now better serve KyANG members in his congregation because of what he’s learned during the two visits.

“I have a great appreciation for the hard work and sacrifice my Guard members and their families endure to serve our nation and also to protect our state,” Hunter said.

“And also just being allowed to come and visit the base is a great time. I hope I am asked back again next year.”

In addition to fostering understanding, Clergy Appreciation Day is an important tool for creating awareness among local ministers about the need for Guard chaplains, Curry noted.

“This day is very important,” he said. “I pray we can make it a continuous event.”