4 days’ notice brings SVF to UN mission in Egypt

By Tech Sgt. Jeff Sansbury
Editor and NCOIC

Ten members of a Kentucky Air National Guard unit have traded winter in Louisville for the desert tropics of Egypt.

Volunteers from the 123rd Services Flight departed Standiford Field ANGB on Feb. 5 to begin a 60-day support mission of Operation Restore Hope. Restore Hope is the United Nations relief mission in Somalia, Africa, where hundreds of thousands of people have died from starvation, disease and the residuals of a decade-long civil war.

"We've never had a shortage of volunteers, and we don't anticipate a shortage if a second wave is needed beyond 60 days," said Senior Master Sgt. Madeleine Travis, the unit's technician-superintendent. "The Air Guard stands ready, including Kentucky."

The airmen from the 123rd -- one officer and nine enlisted men and women -- were called on by the Air Mobility Command to replace an active duty Air Force team that returned to its home base at Altus AFB, Okla. The Kentuckians are operating a services flight that will support U.S. troops in transition to Somalia- and Kenya-area installations.

Before arriving in Somalia, U.S. transient troops may spend anywhere from two hours to several days at the staging area, known as Cairo West. Members of the 123rd SVF are specialists in food services, billeting, mortuary services and morals, welfare and recreation. The unit may be responsible for receiving and processing any fatal casualties that leave the area en route to the United States.

A nine-member Air Force squad is supporting the Kentucky deployment, which is commanded by Capt. Judy Mitro of the 123rd.

Cairo West is one of several reception stations for UN troops bound for Kenya and Somalia, and the men and women who pass through are welcomed to a last chance at rest and relaxation, where they can shop at an AAFES field store before heading on to some long and serious tasks involving the humanitarian relief missions.

The services flight personnel were given just four days' notice of their deployment, and they have set up camp just two hours from Iraq and neighboring Saudia Arabia, where tens of thousands of troops remain after Operation Desert Shield was launched in 1990. "It's only a small sample of what we (KyANG) do," said Travis. "That became obvious when AMC gave us just four days to be there."
Don't be silent; we always listen

about things we have messed up, and I can deal with that. But I am concerned that some of you see things that are going wrong and you haven't let anyone know of your concerns.

If you don't feel comfortable telling me what's on your mind in person, drop me a note or even better, leave a message on the "commanders' hot line."

How do you do that? It's simple. Call the base at 364-9400, listen to the recorded message, press "8" and you can record a message that can only be retrieved by me or my secretary. Leave your name and a way to get back to you and I'll get you an answer.

Warning: you may become part of the solution ... call if you feel it will be helpful

As we attempt to empower you to have more say in the processes you control, we will make mistakes. Some things will get worse before they get better, and all of us must learn to take part in the decision-making process and take responsibility for those decisions.

During this period when we are implementing an attitude of "Quality," I want you to know that I care about your concerns and I welcome your comments. Most of the feedback I receive has been very encouraging and that's great. Some of you have not been hesitant to tell me

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Also, I must not forget that our resident IG, Chief Master Sgt. Jim Oney, is doing a superb job of staffing your complaints. I encourage you to bring your problems to Chief Oney if you can not resolve them through normal command channels. His office is located in the northwest corner of the base hangar, on the second floor, and he is available during most UTA weekends.

We are interested in you, and we care when you have an unresolved problem. Please let me know and I assure you, we will help you find a solution.

New commanders named here

Several position changes were announced here during the February UTA. As a result of Brig. Gen. Donald Ryan's retirement, Col. Austin "Pete" Snyder will take over as the Kentucky Air National Guard's headquarters chief of staff in Frankfort.

Lt. Col. Gary Logan will replace Snyder as the logistics group commander, while Maj. Paul Stone will replace Logan as the 123rd CAM Squadron commander.

1st Lt. Chuck Mayfield, formerly the base disaster preparedness officer, was named the new commander of the 123rd Security Police Squadron.

This funded Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of THE CARGO COURIER are not necessarily the official views of the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

The editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office of the 123rd Airlift Wing, Kentucky Air National Guard, Standiford Field ANGB, Louisville, Ky 40213-2678, phone 502-364-9431.

Deadline for submission of articles is 3 p.m. Sunday of each UTA, for publication in the following month's newspaper. Articles may be delivered to the Public Affairs Office, Room 143 of the O&T Building.
Ryan bids farewell; long career spanned 30 years

By Capt. Rallinda Gregor
Assist. Public Affairs Officer

Brig. Gen. Donald J. Ryan retired Feb. 6 after 30 years of Air Force and Kentucky Air National Guard service. In a ceremony held at Standiford Field, the general and his wife, Georgia, were recognized for their contributions to the KyANG.

Ryan began his career in 1962 after graduating from the University of Louisville and earning his commission through the Reserve Officers Training Corp. During his Air Force career he flew the B-47, B-52 and OV-10 aircraft and served in a variety of positions, including squadron commander of an OV-10 unit.

He joined the KyANG in 1970 and has flown the RF-101, RF-4C and C-12 aircraft. In addition to Ryan's most recent position as the KyANG headquarters' chief of staff, he has served as the 165th Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron operations officer, its squadron commander and the 123rd Tactical Reconnaissance Wing vice commander.

During his retirement ceremony, Ryan reflected on his career in the KyANG. In his early years with the unit, he saw it grow from a "real flying club" to the "No. 1 recce unit" in the country. He praised the conversion to the C-130 aircraft as a chance for more members to become involved in the flying mission and an opportunity for the unit to participate in an ongoing, real-world mission. He challenged each member to put their full confidence in their commanders and to direct their efforts toward making the 123rd Airlift Wing the best C-130 unit in the country.

Military essay contest accepting theme entries through May 1

KELLY AFB (AFNEWS) -- With the theme "The Military Today," the Freedom Foundation kicks off its 1993 military essay contest and is now accepting submissions.

The contest, which awards the first place winner a George Washington Honor Medal and a $100 U.S. Savings Bond, is open to all active duty and reserve component members, as well as ROTC and Junior ROTC students.

Second place winners (there is no set number of these) will receive the medal and a $50 U.S. Savings Bond.

Submissions, which must be postmarked no later than May 1, should be between 100 and 500 words long, typed and double-spaced.

For more information or to mail an essay, write to: Awards Department, Freedoms Foundation, Route 23, Valley Forge, PA 19481.

TQM Minute

Total Quality Management

Quality is a horizon, not a goal line. As we walk toward the horizon, it recedes from us.

The speed at which we get it done is not the issue. The issue is that we need to get started on it and make a commitment to it, and we need to understand that what we're talking about is continuous, incremental improvement.

We don't need a revolution, we need a commitment.

Merrill A. McPeak, General, Air Force Chief of Staff

Next UTA weekend in 2 weeks; don't forget about April 3 - 4

The Cargo Courier
March 20, 1993
Air Force, Army continue withdrawal from Africa

U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. H. H. Deeter

ANG learning from geese?

"Author Unknown"
Submitted by Staff Sgt. Melissa Talley
123rd RMS Pay Technician

This fall, when you see geese heading south for the winter, flying along in "V" formation, think about what science has learned about why they fly that way. As each bird flaps its wings, it creates uplift for the bird immediately behind.

By flying in "V" formation, the flock can fly at least 71 percent farther than if each bird flew on its own. Perhaps Guard members who share a common direction can get where they are going quicker and easier if they cooperate.

Whenever a goose falls out of formation, it feels the resistance of trying to go it alone and quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of flying with the flock. If Guard members have as much sense as a goose, they will work with others who are going the same way as their comrades. When the lead goose gets tired, it rotates back into the wing and another goose flies on the point.

It pays to take turns doing hard jobs for any group. The geese honk behind to encourage those up front to keep up their speed.

Finally -- and get this -- when a goose weakens or is wounded and falls out of formation, two geese fall out and follow it down to protect it. They stay with the other goose until it is able to fly or until it is dead, and they then set out on their own or with another formation until they catch up with the group. If we had the sense of the goose, we would stand by each other like that.

Air Force to simplify, reduce most publications

KELLY AFB (AFNEWS) -- The Air Force is reducing the size and number of its directive publications. The reductions will help the Air Force change from long, cumbersome regulations to concise Air Force policy directives and a minimal number of Air Force instructions. All "essential" Air Force instructions are planned to be completed by June, when regulations will cease to exist. While Air Force headquarters will still formulate policy, it will be up to the people in the field to prepare the instructions that implement those policies. The new directives will reflect a new structure and style, and will consist of two or three printed pages that contain only policy statement, explanation of key terms, responsibility and authority, and identification of policy interfaces and other directives.
Lockheed rep leaves KyANG job, friends behind

By 2nd Lt. Beth Ruark
123rd CAMS

Wrapping up a one-year assignment with the Kentucky Air National Guard, Mike Masse departed on Feb. 25 with confidence that the C-130H aircraft here are left in good hands.

Masse, a Lockheed Aircraft field service representative, was a familiar face to members of the 123rd CAMS Squadron, where he served as trainer, adviser and liaison in the transition to the new aircraft.

Working as a team, he and maintenance crews were able to identify areas needing improvement, and they implemented modifications that resulted in a finely tuned aircraft customized to the specific needs of the KyANG. Some of these changes have been incorporated into the production of new aircraft at Lockheed. Masse's personalized service here has strengthened the unit's relationship with Lockheed and benefited both parties.

Masse's list of credentials is as extensive as his travels have been over the past 10 years. After six years as an in-flight engineer on the Navy's P-3 Orion aircraft, he went to work with Lockheed Western Export Company in Marietta, Ga. He quickly worked his way up from a flightline inspector, conducting final checks of avionics and electronics systems on new airplanes, to his current position as a field service representative.

He has worked closely with several Air Force flying units in the United States and abroad. Most notable was his service as an advisor to the Zairean and Taiwanese air forces in the areas of maintenance, logistics and operations of the C-130H aircraft.

During his stay in Kentucky he attended the University of Louisville, pursuing a degree in operations management. In his spare time Masse is an avid motorcyclist. Anyone who has had even a brief encounter with him can attest to his enthusiasm for the sport.

The KyANG benefited from Masse's vast experience and knowledge, and the unit looks forward to his periodic visits in the future.

SDF surpasses 2 million passengers for 7th year

Courtesy of ARRIVALS
Regional Airport Authority

The passenger count reached in excess of two million passengers for the seventh consecutive year at Louisville's Standiford Field. The metro area's largest airport reports 2,080,450 passengers in calendar year 1992, up 3.2 percent over last year.

There were 1,034,907 passenger enplanements at Standiford for a 3.11 percent increase over 1992. The airport says this is the seventh consecutive year that passenger enplanements exceeded one million, and total passengers using Standiford exceeded two million. During a time when airlines are suffering from increased debt, forced layoffs and cancellation of aircraft orders and scheduled service, Standiford Field has maintained not only a level of stability, but a modest growth.

The Regional Airport Authority of Louisville-Jefferson County reports that 1992 ended on a strong note, enplaning 84,088 passengers in December, a 2.3 percent increase over 1991. The airport believes this is significant, considering that December passenger enplanements for the U.S. airline industry was 2.5 percent below the previous year.

Special pay offered to Restore Hope troops

Servicemen and women called to Somalia for Operation Restore Hope are entitled to special pays, including hazardous duty pay, imminent danger pay and family separation allowances.

In addition, enlisted men and women supporting Restore Hope receive foreign duty pay with the amount based on a person's grade. Contact the CBPO for more details.

The Cargo Courier
March 20, 1993
Editorial Feature

Somalia: what caused this desperate situation?

By Tech Sgt. John Martin
Wing Historian

The following article was based on current news accounts and several historical resources here.

Rarely has there ever existed a people that has had to face such overwhelming odds just to survive on a day-to-day basis. The inhabitants of Somalia are such a people.

Since the days of antiquity when this region was known as the Land of Punt, drought, famine, plague and bloody tribal combat have been the norm for these nomadic people. The country which along with Ethiopia and Kenya makes up the Horn of Africa, is about 240,000 square miles. The terrain is mostly dry desert, steppe and savanna suitable only for raising livestock. Manufacturing is mostly undeveloped, and what little is produced is being offset by one of the most sweeping famines known to man this century.

Life in this country, roughly the size of California, has been dominated for centuries by fear, idolatry, superstition and witchcraft associated with animism. Known in ancient Egypt as the land of “aromatics and incense,” Muslim Arabs developed trading posts along the Somali Gulf of Aden during the seventh century.

In the centuries that followed, the region of modern-day Somalia, due to its strategic location on the Indian Ocean and Gulf of Aden, became a highly prized outpost for many militaristic countries, mainly France, Italy and Great Britain. In 1839 these three countries were locked into a scramble to set up Somali possessions.

What occurred was the beginning of British domination. But Britain was not the only country interested in this land. Egypt also wanted to expand its influence south of the Sudan, the result being a fierce rivalry marked by a bitter war between Somalia and Egypt in 1877.

By the end of the 19th century, England’s grip on much of Somalia weakened, except for the northern region, known as British Somaliland. By the start of the 20th century, British influence was being threatened by a religious rebellion led by Mohammed Abdullah Haase (known as Mad Haasen to the British). The Mohammed’s ideals were in direct conflict with the newly established Christian missions that had been set up in the area. In 1920, in an effort to “cleanse” the land of unholiness, anyone who had sided with the British during their years of domination (there were many), was branded as a traitor to Islam and expelled from the land, or imprisoned. Ironically though, Italy began asserting its influence in Somalia, and the land became known as Italian Somaliland until after World War II. In 1950, Italy agreed to a 10-year term to prepare Somalia for independence, which they gained on June 26, 1960.

But politics was still determined by tribal allegiances. Aden Addullah Osman was elected as the country’s first president in 1960, but a coup d’état, backed by the British, forced him from office just one year later.

In March 1963, Somalia broke off all relations with Great Britain to align themselves with Red China and the Soviet Union. Soon thereafter, guerrilla operations began in Kenya. On October 15, 1969, President Shermarke was assassinated during a family (tribal) dispute, leading to a military coup. This coup was led by Maj. Gen. Mohammed Siad Barre, who, after replacing the government with his newly formed Supreme Revolutionary Council (made up of military officers), forced the dissolution of old parties, imprisoned all who opposed him and began, in 1976, the Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party or SRSP.

It was Barre who encouraged the overthrow of Ethiopian ruler Haile Selassie and began years of border fighting between the two countries. By 1978, fighting ceased and peace was restored. With Soviet backing, Somalia began establishing trade with countries of the Indian Ocean, but internal strife and graft within the government forced this once-strategic country to be less aggressive with its neighbors and come to grips with its own domestic problems.

Since the mid-1980s, the land has been beset by other wars, and its lack of suitable earth has made its produce almost not-existent. Another setback for such a fiercely independent people. Though the major teaching in the schools is from the Koran, which emphasizes peace, tribal gangs and warlords still threaten the existence of the people, who, in the midst of famine, have known hardship all their lives. Such has been the history of Somalia.
In 1966, nearing the end of his eight-year tenure as Kentucky's adjutant general, was Maj. Gen. A. Y. Lloyd, center photo, who served under Govs. Combs and Breathitt as head of the state Department of Military Affairs.

Moremen earns safety award; 165th flies in 1990 MAC rodeo

By Tech Sgt. John Martin
Wing Historian

The March 1962 edition of the Canberra Tales told of how the Kentucky Air National Guard collected 53 bags of clothing, weighing 900 pounds, for the local Save-the-Children campaign.

The March 1968 edition of Voodoo Tales featured an article for all KyANG members to heed warnings to discontinue wearing field jackets with their blue uniforms. From that same edition, the following statistics were predicted in the event of a two-year deployment. In such an event, KyANG personnel could expect 1,352 coffee breaks; 2,028 meals; 676 morning shaves (females not included); 98 shoe shines; and 49 haircuts.

The March 1988 Cargo Courier announced that Lt. Col. David Moremen had received the ANG 1988 Chief of Staff Individual Safety Award. Moremen was praised for his commitment to safety within the wing and for exceeding Air Force safety regulations and OSHA standards, which reduced work-related injuries and lost-time accidents while raising safety awareness within the Guard.

In March 1990, flying units from the former 165th Tactical Airlift Squadron competed for the first time in "Sentry Rodeo," placing 8th out of 14 units. The exercise was an airlift competition between various flying units within the ANG, the best of which were chosen to represent the ANG at the former Military Airlift Command's worldwide Airlift Rodeo.

Trivia for February: The error in the unit emblem is in the number of stars shown (13 for the 13 colonies, which Kentucky was not part of). Kentucky became the 15th state in 1792.

Question for March: How many men have commanded the KyANG since its formation in 1946? Answer in next month's Cargo Courier.
Support group seeks help from family, friends

From the KyANG Info Bulletin

The Kentucky Air National Guard is seeking volunteers to represent their respective units for the base “family support program.” Volunteers can be the service member, their spouse, parent, child, brother, sister, boyfriend or girlfriend. It makes no difference.

These volunteers will make up an officially sanctioned family support group. The group will provide information and act as a support network for families and service members during their association with the unit, especially during periods of separation. (For example: weekend training, annual training, extended tours of temporary duty, deployments, and mobilization).

The family support groups will be used for projects and activities that will improve family awareness, education and communication between KyANG units, their mission and activities.

The support groups would play an important role with family days, youth camps, family newsletters, organizational days and fund raisers for unit projects. Anyone who is interested in volunteering should contact Staff Sgt. Rose Farquhar at 364-9604 or Staff Sgt. Julie Webb at 364-9486.

U.S. airlines offer new leave fares with restrictions

The American Forces Information Service and the KyANG TMO

Military leave fares for travel on U.S. air carriers are available once more, say Military Traffic Management Command officials.

Before rushing out to buy a ticket, however, do some checking through the base travel office or airlines, they advised.

At the Kentucky Air National Guard, most major airlines operating out of Louisville have reinstated the Military Furlough (Leave) fares for all active duty personnel and accompanying family members. AGR personnel may qualify, but they should confirm their status by calling their CBPO or local TMO.

The fares require no advance purchase, are fully refundable and are available for one way as well as round trip.

Terms and conditions of furlough fare programs vary from airline to airline. Personnel should contact the base traffic management office, or TMO, for information and assistance.

In addition, major U.S. airlines have agreed to waive restrictions on non-refundable tickets for personnel who have had to change travel plans as a result of the situation in Somalia. Personnel with questions should contact Tech Sgt. James Deloehanty at 364-9433.

Each participating airline has set up its own program; terms, conditions and routes vary. Also, not every U.S. air carrier offers these fares. Those that do include Continental, Delta, Northwest, Southwest, Trans World Airlines, United and USAir.

Personnel serving in Operation Restore Hope who purchased non-refundable tickets they weren't able to use should contact the airline involved.