KyANG pistol-whips its way to Wilson

By Tech Sgt. John Martin
123rd Airlift Wing Historian

The time is high noon. The place is a dusty hill where the sun beats down on eight battle-hardened gunslingers. With ice water in their veins and squints in their eyes, the gunslingers face off in a brief but explosive display of firepower. In just barely 20 seconds they slaughter their opponents.

This impressive gunfight was a high point for Kentuckians at the Winston P. Wilson Championship Matches, held at Camp Robinson, Ark., from Oct. 10-15. Representing the KyANG were Lt. Col. Larry Zettwoch, Maj. Mike Johnson, Master Sgt. Gary Stormes, Tech Sgt. John "Rich" Martin and Staff Sgt. Shawn Burt. Maj. Donald Conover and Sgt. 1st Class Judy Bagan represented the Kentucky Army National Guard.

The Kentucky "shootists" went into the marksmanship competition, matching their keen skills against 900 other Army and Air Force pistol and rifle teams from the United States, Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, Great Britain, Australia and Germany.

Many events were conducted in field conditions to simulate combat. Full field gear was required during all events; participants were required to have a helmet, canteen, web belt, holster, ammo pouches, first aid kit and LBE harness. Protective ear and eye wear was a must at all times.

The most challenging event was the George S. Patton Match. In this event, shooters ran a two-mile course with limited time at the end to shoot targets at 50 and 25 yards with the 9mm pistol. The Kentucky team made a respectable showing at the Patton match, placing 12th out of 44 teams entered, while setting individual and team records during the week-long event.

The highlight of the week came on the last day of competition when Kentucky sharpshooters literally outshot the team from Vermont, (overall winner of the competition) to win the pistol team assault course.

In order to win this event, shooters had to sprint 30 yards to the firing line, pick up their weapons, load and commence firing on 10, four-inch clay targets placed 20 yards away. The winner was the team that eliminated all targets in the least amount of time with the fewest bullets. Each shooter on the four-man team had six bullets allotted toward this goal.

The Kentucky team was in the lead, but had to wait literally until "high noon" until the last team, Vermont, had time to shoot. In just over 20 seconds, the Kentuckians won their first team event at the Wilson match by just 58 hundredths of a second.

Individual honors went to Stormes, the team coach who finished 14th in the individual pistol team assault course, and to Martin, who placed second in the individual combat course and sixth in the individual pistol championship match.

The Kentucky sharpshooters are seeking new members to join the team. Competition rules require half the team members to be new shooters each year. Interested personnel should contact Zettwoch or Stormes for details.

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New AFSCs begin service

(USAF Internal Information) -- The Air Force announced a new specialty code classification system Oct. 31. The new system will be better aligned with the restructured Air Force and will provide members with better career path visibility.

Another benefit of the classification restructure will be fewer AFSCs. Currently, there are 216 officer and 203 enlisted specialty codes. Once the new system is functional, there will be about 120 officer and 180 enlisted AFSCs.

AFSCs will change for all military members under the new system. Orderly rooms and military personnel flights will send each member a new AFSC designation by computer printout in the near future, the Air Force announced.
Commander's Column

Quality, trust in unit is key to improvement

As we move into the holiday season, I want to express my appreciation to each of you for the extraordinary contributions you have made to make this an outstanding year for the Kentucky Air Guard. We have not only been engaged in humanitarian relief missions around the world, we have jumped head first into a new era of quality improvement that will shape our unit for even better performance in the future.

We have seen firsthand what happens when law and order break down and countries dissolve into disarray, where the basic essentials for life are no longer available and people become desperate. We have also learned through our 'Quality' training how good it feels to be a part of the decision making process that will bring improvement to our unit and our country, to be trusted to do the job right without someone looking over our shoulder.

As your leader, it is easy to say I trust you because I feel you are worthy of that trust. The difficult part comes with the development of the vision and the confidence that experience brings. Those of you who have teen-agers who are starting to drive have a good understanding of my concern. You have great trust in them, they have been trained and certified with a license but you know it takes time and experience to become a safe driver. Your jump in insurance premiums is evidence that your concerns are well founded.

Well, I do trust you and I am convinced that we are on the right road on our journey into quality improvement. We still have rules and regulations that must be followed. We must have confidence and trust in our leaders. We must come together as a team in the decision making process and put the unit's concerns ahead of personal concerns. We must be less self-oriented and more understanding of others.

Then what are our new rights? The right to challenge business as usual; the right to place quality and customer first; the right to be heard; the right to expect a commitment to quality improvement.

And, what do I expect? I expect you to be knowledgeable of all aspects of your job and to cooperate with our office to improve service to those you serve. Take responsibility for improvement of the Kentucky Air National Guard. It is your unit, your team.

I'm confident that we, as a team, will make the right decisions and will secure a solid position for our unit well into the future. Let us take time during this holiday season to give thanks for the privilege we have of living in this great country where we can bring about change peacefully and to be part of the military force that secures our freedom. Let us also be mindful that our freedoms and our future depend on our dedication to improvement of what we do today.

-- Brig. Gen. Stewart R. Byrne

Chaplain's Column

By Chaplain (Maj.) Charles Smith
KYANG Installation Chaplain

"Trials are but lessons that you failed to learn, presented once again; so where you made a faulty choice before, you now may make a better one, and thus escape all pain that you chose before has brought to you."

Lake Solitude, nestled high in the Tetons, is seven miles from a road, through green meadows sprinkled with wild flowers. On either side, waterfalls tumble down lofty mountains. It is quiet except for the sounds of nature, and a voice that seems to say, "Be still and know that I am God." It was easy to remain still there, and to think about the greatness of God. His majesty and power are visible everywhere, and your heart overflows with praise.

The path of life is similar to the path to Lake Solitude. God is the guide who shows the way to eternal life, past forks along the path that leads to other destinations. He gives strength to climb the steep and rocky inclines to trials and difficulties.

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Wing Commander
Brig. Gen. Stewart Byrne

Public Affairs Officer
Maj. Jeff Butcher

Assistant PA Officer
Capt. Ralinda Gregor

Editor and NCOIC
TSgt. Jeff Sansbury

Administrative Support
SSgt. Sandra Merriweather

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Nov. 20, 1993
Father-son combo has close ties in Air Guard

A father's dream of a son following in his footsteps came true recently at the Kentucky Air National Guard Base.

Chief Master Sgt. Ray Spradling, 57, a superintendent loadmaster for the 130th Airlift Group of the West Virginia ANG, placed the chief master sergeant epaulets on his son's shoulders. Chief Master Sgt. Dan Spradling, 34, of the KyANG is also a loadmaster superintendent.

Both are assigned to C-130 airframes. Combined service time in the C-130B, E and H models is more than 45 years for the father-son combo.

ACC completes year with safe record

LANGLEY AFB, Va. (ACCNS) -- The Air Combat Command closed out fiscal 1993 with its best flying safety record ever, taking into account historical Tactical Air Command and Strategic Air Command combined performances.

Leading the way were the 12th and 2nd Air Forces. Both completed the year with no Class A mishaps during 150,000 and 25,000 flying hours, respectively. It's the first time in the 12th Air Force's history that active duty units completed their flying programs without this type of mishap.

The command completed almost 603,000 flying hours with a Class A mishap rate of 1.8 per 100,000 flying hours. Class A mishaps involve the loss of aircraft, a life or $1 million damage.

Gen. John Michael Loh, the ACC commander, attributes the record to people, training, quality and a proactive safety program with an emphasis on people.

"We have a very proactive flight safety program. We aggressively investigate mishaps to find out the causes so we can prevent similar accidents in the future. We constantly review the training for our aircrews to ensure it's realistic," Loh said.

"We have periodic 'Safety Days.' We use videos and the Combat Edge magazine to pass on safety information. As part of our quality culture, we've started programs like user groups," he added.

Col. Robert R. Jones, the ACC's chief of safety, agrees: "Our aircrews, maintainers and logistics people are cut there following the rules and thinking smart as they train realistically," he said.

Wing safety office stands ready to assist

By Master Sgt. Kenneth Wade

123rd Airlift Wing Safety Office

The Occupational Safety and Health Act, along with the Air Force Occupational Safety and Health Program, mandate that all employees are provided a safe and healthful work environment in which recognized hazards are eliminated or controlled. This is achieved by the 123rd Airlift Wing Safety Office conducting active and continuing occupational safety, health and fire prevention programs.

Quality can be achieved through safety practices. Safety is your responsibility and is our commitment.

The Base Safety Office is dedicated to ensuring that you have a safe and healthful work environment. The staff can be reached on-base 407.
New unified command begins operation

USACOM includes all service branches

Courtesy of Staff Sgt. John Clough, ACC Public Affairs and Jim Garamone, American Forces Information Service

The Air Combat Command joined forces with combatant commands from the Army, Navy and Marine Corps under a new unified command Oct. 1.

The unified command, U.S. Atlantic Command, has been tasked with ensuring the joint training and readiness of U.S. forces. The command will also retain its previous mission of keeping the sea lanes to Europe open.

USACOM will include almost every service member in the continental United States; Air Combat Command, U.S. Army Forces Command, the Navy's Atlantic Fleet and the Marine Forces Atlantic will fall under USACOM.

Defense Secretary Les Aspin formally activated the U.S. Atlantic Command at headquarters near Norfolk Naval Base, Va. He said the new command will be able to put together a force package of "ready and available forces" that can provide the needed capabilities in regions of conflict.

Officials used Europe as an example of how USACOM will work. In the past, forces in Europe were on the scene and used to working with each other. The drawback is that forces must come from the United States in the event of any crisis.

These forces, officials said, must arrive at the scene ready to fight jointly. USACOM will provide forces to European, Central, Southern and Pacific commands.

USACOM will be responsible for:
- Planning for land defense of the CONUS and Canada.
- Supporting peace operations, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief.
- Responding to requests for military assistance to civil authorities and military assistance for civil disturbances in the United States, its territories and possessions.

Aspin explained the basis for the change of mission:

"We no longer face a single global adversary, but the dangers to us remain global."

"We need to have a new and different concept, a different way of handling the armed forces of the United States," said Adm. David E. Jeremiah, the former acting chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. "We want the services enclosed in a closed fist so power can be applied whenever and wherever it needs to be applied throughout this globe of national and political volatility, he added.

CCAF degrees awarded; extra training pays off

By Tech. Sgt. Rose Farquhar, Base Career Advisor

The Community College of the Air Force is the only military agency with the authority to grant associate degrees. The degrees are only for active duty Air Force, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve enlisted members.

Upon completion of basic military training, CCAF grants four semester hours in physical education and awards credit for the completion of technical school training. All programs are specifically tailored to Air Force occupational specialties. College programs include a combination of Air Force technical education, professional military education, CLEP and DANTES exams, along with college-level study at civilian institutions.

CCAF degree programs are designed to enhance the technical, leadership, management and military skills of enlisted members.

Many CCAF students have realized the advantage of dual-tracking. That is, while earning their CCAF associate degree they are concurrently working toward a bachelor's degree or other program. By using their military training, experience and CCAF degree, many students qualify for professional certification, licensure or registry in their jobs.

Many CCAF graduates aware of

The following Kentucky Air National Guard members recently received their Community College of the Air Force diplomas for an associate degree in applied science:

- Tech. Sgt. Fred Deviller, Information Systems Technology;
- Tech. Sgt. Mark Grant, Administration Management;
- Tech. Sgt. Carl Hilbert, Aircrew Operations;
- Tech. Sgt. Ken Shuler, Logistics;
- Staff Sgt. Martha Jenkins, Financial Management;

The dual-tracking concept have made every core curriculum course count toward their CCAF degree and their bachelor's degree.

Some Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve members are being selectively promoted in their civilian occupations because they pursued a CCAF Associate in Applied Science degree.

For more information on CCAF, call Tech. Sgt. Rose Farquhar at 604.
KyANG flys Air Force cadets into flood region

Cadet 4th Class Justin Lavadour of the U.S. Air Force Academy works to clear debris from homes along the Des Moines River near Ottumwya, Iowa, last month. The Kentucky Air National Guard joined other active, Guard and Reserve units in providing airlift support as 300 cadets participated in Operation Heartland, a flood relief effort in which they helped clean up in the wake of record Midwest flooding this summer.

American Express takes over travel card this month

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (AFNS) -- American Express will take over the government travel card program when the General Services Administration contract with Diners Club expires Nov. 29, officials announced recently.

The Defense Finance and Accounting Service headquarters and the two credit card companies are working to ensure a smooth transition between contracts, defense finance officials said. Implementation information will be released as it is received from the GSA.

Officials said all activities should continue to use the current government travel charge card in the interim. As with Diners Club, the American Express card will cover virtually all transportation, lodging, car rental and meal expenses while on official travel, reducing the need for substantial cash advances.

The government travel card program features free membership, no interest or late charges, a reduced rate for automatic teller machine cash advances and enhanced availability of travelers checks.

Martin gains attention of AG


Air Guard, C-130 crews honored


The general accepted one of AFA's highest awards, the Citation of Honor, for C-130 operations from Jan. 1, 1992, to May 31, 1993. The award honored all C-130 crews, including those of the Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve.

"They (C-130 crews) have amassed a very impressive record, in both war and peace, throughout the world," said McPeak as he held onto the award. "Name a hot spot anywhere in the world and you'll see our C-130 crews there, usually the first in and the last out.'
Bosnian relief mission beats Berlin Airlift record

WASHINGTON -- Operation Provide Promise has overtaken the historic Berlin Airlift as the longest sustained relief effort in Air Force history.

Provide Promise reached the milestone Oct. 8 when it surpassed the 462 days of the Berlin Airlift. Between June 1948 and September 1949, Air Force and Allied planes carried about 4,500 tons of food, fuel and medicine per day to keep Berlin alive after a Russian blockade went into effect.

Similarly, Air Force and United Nations forces have taken on the responsibility of supplying the Bosnian city of Sarajevo with everything it needs for survival. Air Force and U.N.-flagged C-130 cargo planes have been flying humanitarian aid missions into Bosnia since July 3, 1992. The Kentucky Air National Guard pulled several months of duty there and returned home this fall.

The U.S. European Command says there have been no major injuries or aircraft crashes in the U.S. portion of the humanitarian aid missions.

Outer wear is part of ACC quality

By Maj. Knox D. Lewis
KyANG Director of Personnel

As part of our continuing effort to ensure we look the part of ACC quality, we need to turn our attention to the wear of outer garments.

Gen. John Michael Loth, the ACC commander, spoke recently to a group of students at Air War College. He placed great emphasis on the fact that both the lightweight blue jackets and the leather flight jackets are both outer garments.

What does this mean? It means no matter how cold or drafty your office is, you should not wear these jackets indoors.

It means that when worn, they will be zippered at least halfway, preferably more. It means that the blue pullover sweater may be worn under the "new style" lightweight blue jacket and the leather jacket.

Does it mean that I must remove my jacket when I'm visiting, or going from building to building? No. It means you probably shouldn't be sitting at your desk working, or attending meetings with your jackets on.

Let's continue to look sharp and follow the rules. We're on our way to ACC quality.

Secretary of the Air Force extends her first message

I am extremely proud to be secretary of the world's preeminent Air Force. I view this honor as an opportunity, not an achievement.

As such, I will always seek to learn from you. Your dedication in time of national peril, disaster and humanitarian relief, whether on active duty, in the Guard or Reserve, or in the civilian ranks, inspires me as I am called to serve you and this great nation.

My goal is to "build a quality air force today and tomorrow." Quality for today translates into readiness -- the ability to create, sustain and deploy highly mobile forces to project America's global reach and global power.

Taking care of our people demands special attention at every leadership level -- starting with me. My concern will be reflected in my personal attention to pay, promotions, training, retention, and by ensuring a high quality of life for you and your families. I owe it to you, the men and women who sacrifice so much for this nation everyday, to always be your advocate.

The Air Force was built on the promise of technology. We must maintain our technological edge to fight and win in the future, but "business as usual" will no longer work as we develop, buy and sustain new technology.

In our fast-changing world, your professionalism is something I know I can count on. In every association I've had with the Air Force, you've demonstrated the meaning of public service.

You made this the world's most respected Air Force, and I'll work with you to keep it that way.

-- Dr. Sheila E. Widnall

MIT photo by Donna Coveney
As a professor of aeronautics, Dr. Sheila E. Widnall was an associate provost at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
Association selects Arflack to fill exec director vacancy

By Lee Ann Webb
Kentucky Focus Editor

The National Guard Association of Kentucky's Executive Council has named Lt. Col. Norman E. Arflack to fill the position of NGAKy executive director. The position was left vacant when Col. Jerry W. Heaton retired in March after 26 years at the helm.

Arflack is no stranger to the Association. In addition to his committee duties, he served as Executive Council representative for the 2/123rd Armor Battalion and as vice president for Army.

Most recently, he served one-and-one-half terms as NGAKy president by fulfilling the remainder of an unexpired term as president-elect during the 1990 and 1991 years. Arflack said this participation helped develop a “keen interest” in the association and its future.

Arflack says he would like to see the association return to its original intent of service to the membership. “We've had to be preoccupied with making money, for obvious reasons,” he said, “but now we can return to the membership.” Arflack noted that another primary objective is to maintain and improve the insurance programs.

Presently, Lt. Col. Arflack is a member of the 614th Military Police Company (Criminal Investigation Detachment). He began his military career as an enlisted member in 1970 and received his commission as a second lieutenant after completing Officer Candidate School in June 1975.

On the civilian side, Arflack was a sergeant with the Kentucky State Police. He was a staff officer with Operations Division. He assisted with administrative matters, prepared correspondence and monitored special projects. Other positions Arflack held within the state police include drug enforcement supervisor and commander of the data processing section.

To accept the position of executive director of the NGAKy, Arflack retired from the state police with 23 years of service. He said he saw the job of executive director as a challenge. “I feel I have something to offer the association. I think I can gain more from this job and put it back into the association.”

Arflack said he saw the association as a viable lobbying group that has been instrumental in improving the National Guard on the state and national levels, and that it is directly responsible for many benefits enjoyed today.

The Executive Council approved the recommendation of the Executive Director Search Committee to hire Arflack on June 30, 1992. The search committee began accepting applications in May, conducted interviews and made its recommendation to the Executive Council. Arflack officially assumed his position in Frankfort on Sept. 1.

AMC creates third pilot program

By Sgt. James Davis
AMC News Service

Scott AFB, Ill. (AFNS) – Faced with a surplus of pilots and a shortage of navigators throughout the Air Force, the Air Mobility Command is tackling both problems with a third pilot program.

The program is designed to stem the flow of pilots to non-flying jobs, or the “bank,” while opening career possibilities for navigators. Banked pilots in the AMC alone number more than 900, with some 300 programmed to enter in the next three years.

At the same time the pilot bank swells, the Air Force is experiencing a lull in navigator production as undergraduate navigator training moves to Randolph AFB, Texas, from Mather AFB, Calif.

“When we bring the school back on line, we're projected to produce about 100 active duty navigators per year -- not a very large number,” said AMC commander Gen. Ronald R. Fogleman.

While the navigator shortage didn't pose a big problem at the end of fiscal 1992, significant gaps between the number of navigators needed and those available will appear by fiscal 1995.

“There are some aircraft that cannot perform their mission without a navigator,” Fogleman said. “There are some weapons systems where navigators are absolutely crucial now and will be in the future.”

As the Air Force draws down cockpit and rated specialties, it has required a hard review of the aircrew requirements for every airplane, he said.
KyANG learns of first AFOUA in 1970

History of the KyANG

By Tech. Sgt. John Martin
KyANG Wing Historian

In 1965, the KyANG was in the midst of converting from the RB-57 Canberra aircraft to the RF-101 Voodoo supersonic aircraft (1965-1976).

By the end of November 1965, all 24 authorized RF-101 aircraft were on base.

During November 1965, the Louisville Chamber of Commerce selected the KyANG as one of the largest industries in Kentucky.

That month the UTA hours changed.

Reporting time remained at 8 a.m. but the end of the duty day was changed from 5 to 4:30 p.m. There were two roll calls per day during drill.

On Nov. 3, 1970, KyANG members learned they had earned their first Air Force Outstanding Unit Award. This award was given for meritorious service in support of military operations during the Pueblo Crisis and the Vietnam War.

The KyANG was called to federal active duty in January 1968 and was deployed to various bases overseas for 16 months, returning to Louisville and state service in June 1969.

Nov. 4 is a special anniversary for all operations personnel. On that day in 1978, Maj. Gen. Billy G. Wellman, the adjutant general of Kentucky, helped celebrate the opening of the operations building by speaking to KyANG members in front of the new facility.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, Wellman presented a symbolic "key" to the front door of Ops Airman Walter Brewer, who, in turn, presented the key to the KyANG base commander, Col. Carl D. Black.

Trivia answer from the September edition of the Cargo Courier:

The unusual method used to start the RB-57 Canberra aircraft was to prime each engine with a small quantity of black powder, the same stuff used by Daniel Boone in his rifle when he hunted game in these parts 200 years ago.

Question for December:
Where on base is there a time capsule, and what is in it?

Building a quality Air Force for today, tomorrow

Give members all they can handle. Empower them. Look into any unit in the Air Force and you'll see results; job satisfaction and success. You'll see a positive return to the bottom line.

-- Dr. Sheila F. Widnall, Secretary of the Air Force

Quality is not free, nor is the culture achieved overnight. It takes hard work to make a cultural change, and it never ends.

-- Gen. John Michael Loh, ACC Commander

Our aim is to empower people at the lowest levels. With empowerment comes the responsibility to make positive changes that will improve the way the Air Force does business.

It is everyone's responsibility to improve those things we can do better.

With all the changes taking place, one thing remains constant: our commitment to a quality force through continuous improvement.

-- Gen. Merrill A. McPeak, Air Force Chief of Staff