KyANG NEWS

Remaining services airmen return to KyANG

By Tech. Sgt. Jennifer Thiery
123rd Services Flight

The 123rd Services Flight’s 12 remaining deployed airmen returned to the commonwealth July 27 after serving more than four months in the Persian Gulf in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

While deployed, the Kentucky airmen managed fitness centers, lodging assignments, recreational activities and food services for other American forces in theater.

Senior Airmen Rachel Cowley and Jessica Martin both said they have no regrets about deploying to support their country.

“It was a great experience — one that I never would have had if I had not gone,” Cowley said. “Overall, I’m glad I went.”

Martin agreed: “I can remember times that were really stressful, but when I look back, it was a very positive experience.”

Six other services troops who originally deployed with the team returned home in mid-May.

123rd Airlift Wing
Public Affairs Office
Kentucky Air National Guard
1101 Grade Lane
Louisville, KY 40213-2678

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

KyANG, 86th complete historic inspection

By Tech. Sgt. Amy Mundell
Cargo Courier Editor

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany — A Kentucky Air Guard C-130 underwent a complete isochronal inspection at the 38th Airlift Squadron here recently, marking the first time that a deployed aircraft has been subjected to an inspection of this magnitude in a Ramstein hangar.

Isochronal inspections examine numerous essential aircraft systems like propulsion and hydraulics, said Lt. Col. Pat Cole, a deployed Kentucky Air Guardsman who is commander of the maintenance section in the 38th Airlift Squadron, more commonly called Delta Squadron.

Normally, these inspections are conducted at a unit’s home station, either annually or whenever an aircraft reaches a set number of flying hours, Cole said.

The Kentucky aircraft, however, has been deployed to Ramstein since mid-March

A Kentucky Air Guard C-130 undergoes an isochronal inspection at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, in August, marking the first time that a deployed aircraft has been subjected to such an inspection in a Ramstein hangar.

See INSPECTION, Page 4

Airmen, C-130s return from desert deployment

By Tech. Sgt. Amy Mundell
Cargo Courier Editor

Hundreds of family members and friends gathered near the Kentucky Air Guard flightline Aug. 11 to welcome home the more than 120 airmen from the 123rd Airlift Wing who returned from a five-month deployment to the Persian Gulf.

The deployed troops provided C-130 airlift services for the Global War on Terror and the war against the former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein, flying troops and cargo throughout the CENTCOM

See DESERT, Page 3
The fact that this unit was able to deliver stuff to the Army and Marines in Baghdad, west of the desert, and other desert locations, while at the same time delivering stuff to Marines in Liberia and throughout Europe and Africa is a testament to the design and foresight of those who saw the obvious benefits of this unit being equipped with 12 modern aircraft.

Your performance justified the vision of Sen. Wendell Ford when he, and the other members of our congressional delegation, secured the funding for these 12 aircraft back in the late 1980s. They knew then that an Air National Guard C-130 unit would be much more efficient and capable of supporting worldwide wartime missions with 12 or more aircraft.

That is why they brought these aircraft to Kentucky, and that is why they built the base to house 12, 16 or 20 aircraft. That is why they and others fought hard over the past 10 years to keep all 12.

You have proved once again that they made the right decision.

The duty of the wing headquarters is to see that the 123rd is organized, trained and equipped to perform its wartime mission.

I am convinced that efficiency in both combat capability and monetary cost is much greater when a unit is equipped with more, rather than less, aircraft.

We have 12 modern C-130s, and anything less would cause a loss of combat efficiency as well as an increase in overall monetary cost to the nation.

It is therefore imperative that we remain equipped with 12 or even more aircraft so that we can efficiently answer the nation’s call to drop out evil forces in intent upon destroying our way of life.

To steal a phrase, “We will not fail!”

Your skill in using the equipment that our predecessors acquired for us continue to show their wisdom and make our efforts to keep our aircraft the right thing to do.

Thanks Loads!

Col. Michael Harden
123rd Airlift Wing Commander

This funded Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication of the U.S. military services. Contents of The Cargo Courier are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or 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, Louisville International Airport, Louisville, Ky., 40213-2678.

Our office is located in room 2118 of the Wing Headquarters Building. Deadline for the next issue is Sept. 22.

An electronic version of the Cargo Courier is available at the Kentucky Air Guard’s Web site — www.kyloui.ang.af.mil
By Staff Sgt. Mark Flener
Cargo Courier Staff Writer

The wing’s base-wide recycling program is designed to save landfill space and reduce the need for new materials, saving the organization money and providing funds for morale, welfare and recreation activities.

Phil Aschbacher, the base environmental manager, said the program is doing just that. Moreover, officials plan to increase the amount of on-base recycling every year.

“The program is right on path,” Aschbacher said.

Recyclable materials include cardboard, paper, batteries, printer cartridges, tires, pallets, metals and oil.

Cardboard balers are located outside the traffic management office and inside the civil engineering maintenance bay. Recycling bins also can be found throughout base buildings.

For more information, contact Aschbacher at ext. 4402.

Meeting of the minds

Carol Morris, Tech. Sgt. Kathy Stinson and Lt. Col. Mitch Perry work together during Emergentics assessments held Aug. 8 in the Base Annex. About 75 airmen gathered to learn more about the different ways people think, identify strengths and weaknesses, and build more effective teams.

Base recycling saves money

If you’ve designated your Servicemen’s Group Life Insurance benefits to be distributed “by law,” do you know who would receive the insurance proceeds upon your death? Chances are you don’t.

Most service members understand the value of being able to leave up to $250,000 to their loved ones through their SGLI benefit. Many, however, unknowingly put at risk their intended beneficiaries’ ability to collect payment from the policy.

By writing “by law” as the policy’s beneficiary designation, you give up or “forfeit” control of the distribution of the proceeds and open the door to claims, disputes and potentially your SGLI proceeds going to someone who should not receive them.

By law may miss intended beneficiaries

For more information, contact the base legal office at ext. 4627.

---Maj. Nate Mellman
Wing Judge Advocate

VFW hosts a pig roast for returning GIs

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1130 and its Ladies Auxiliary invite all members of the Kentucky Air Guard and their families to a welcome-home pig roast bash on Oct. 4.

The event will be held at the Midtownpost, 107 Evergreen Road, and is scheduled to begin at 1 p.m.

Games and activities will be available for all ages. The event is free for anyone with a military identification card.

For more information, contact the post at (502) 245-8773.

Desert deployment Continued from Front Page

area of operations, including Baghdad International Airport.

Wing commander Col. Michael Harden, who deployed with the unit, said he is extremely proud of the Kentucky Air Guard’s performance during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

“The professionalism of our folks really showed,” Harden said. “They worked under very brutal conditions, flying and fixing aircraft around the clock.

“Our maintainers worked in the hot sun until all the aircraft were ready to go and set a standard for maintenance reliability that will be difficult to match. I continue to be proud and humble that I have the honor to command these folks and am thankful that I had the opportunity to serve with them and observe their dynamic performance."


A Desert deployment

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Kentucky-style homecoming

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For his entire military career, the member had sent monthly allotments to the foster parents or stepparents. Yet on his death, his SGLI proceeds went not to the “parents” he intended but to the drug-addicted natural mother who had abandoned him as a child.

Don’t leave the distribution of this valuable benefit to chance. Take a few minutes to specifically name your intended beneficiaries under the “by law” distribution scheme.

When you use a “by law” beneficiary designation on your SGLI policy, a court may end up interpreting the distribution of your benefits using definitions from the SGLI statute and state laws.

As these laws vary from state to state, the legal definition of terms like “spouse,” “child,” “parent,” and “next of kin” may not be the same as you intend. For instance, the term “parent” generally does not include foster parents or stepparents.

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Sept. 13, 2003

KyANG, 86th complete historic inspection

Continued from Front Page

along with more than 100 members of the Kentucky Air Guard’s 123rd Airlift Wing. The Guardsmen are providing airlift services for Operation Joint Forge and other USAFE taskings as part of Delta Squadron, which operates under the control of Ramstein’s 86th Operations Group.

Typically, the Air Guard and Air Force Reserve units that comprise Delta Squadron deploy to Germany for much shorter periods of time, explained Col. Park Plumb, commander of the 86th Maintenance Group here.

“Delta is made up of Guard and Reserve units that are tasked to deploy to Ramstein to support airlift out of USAFE,” Plumb said. “Normally, the planes rotate in and out (every) two weeks to a month.”

Because of increased operational taskings, however, units like the 123rd are staying for months at a time, making it difficult for home-station maintenance personnel to complete regular inspections.

“The amount of time these planes are staying over here has driven this ISO requirement,” Plumb said. In fact, Air Force officials had already granted two waivers allowing the deployed C-130 to fly an additional 800 hours past its usual inspection window, Cole said.

Now, with the waiver period running out, officials faced two possibilities: Send the C-130 home to Louisville, thus reducing mission effectiveness; or complete the inspection in Germany with the help of the 86th. Since the Kentucky unit already had maintainers at Ramstein—and since home-station personnel had their hands full with other Kentucky aircraft that were returning to Louisville after a five-month deployment to the Persian Gulf in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom—officials decided to complete the inspection in Germany.

“It made sense to get the ISO done here,” Plumb said. “We had the work force, the equipment and the parts. And with the Kentucky planes moving between home station and the desert, I think we had more resources here collectively to get the ISO done quicker.”

Cole said he was thankful for the help the active duty troops in the 86th, which made it possible to keep the Kentucky Hercules in Germany and boost mission effectiveness.

“It’s phenomenal that Ramstein allowed us to do the ISO here,” Cole said. “Because they had an open block of time for their hangar space, they said, ‘If you can get it in and out in this time frame, we’ll work with you.’”

Coordination and flexibility were key to making the inspection happen, with scores of maintenance troops pitching in from Ramstein, Kentucky and other Delta Squadron units, including the Alaska Air Guard and the Air Force Reserve’s 910th Airlift Wing from Youngstown, Ohio.

It was, Cole said, a true depiction of the Total Force concept. It also demonstrated the willingness of the active duty forces to support an aircraft deployed on location. In the past, Delta aircraft and personnel operated as separate entities, Cole explained.

The inspection, which normally would have taken 45 days, was completed Sept. 3 after about two weeks of 24-hour-a-day operations, said Senior Master Sgt. Frankie Bronger, Kentucky’s isochronal dock chief here.

“We would have been in a really tight spot without the help of Ramstein,” Bronger said. “We would’ve had to stop flying real-world missions and returned the aircraft to Louisville and grounded it.”

Plumb attributed the success of the inspection to the trust that the professional maintainers had for each other.

“It’s definitely about teamwork and mission accomplishment,” he said. “We work together to get missions done, whether it’s going down as a Total Force team to deployed locations such as in Sicily or Romania to push C-130s through the system during Operation Iraqi Freedom, or working together most recently in Africa or inspecting aircraft.”

Cole also praised his team of Guardians, who continued to support regular maintenance operations at Delta Squadron during the inspection.

“They are fantastic people,” Cole said. “They’ve got their minds and hearts in the right place. They know what needs to be done—they’re professionals and they did it.”

The 123rd has operated from Ramstein’s Delta Squadron numerous times as part of the Air Force’s Air Expeditionary Force deployments, although never for such a long period.

The Kentucky unit remains on active duty at Ramstein to support operations in Liberia and elsewhere around the world, marking its second yearlong call to active duty since Sept. 11, 2001.

Concurrent with the Germany deployment, the Kentucky Air Guard sent several C-130s and hundreds of troops to undisclosed locations in the Persian Gulf for Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The desert group returned home in mid-August and awaits possible new orders as the Ramstein mission continues with no end date in sight.

The Kentucky crews based at Ramstein have flown missions into the Persian Gulf, the Balkans and Africa.
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Kentucky and Ramstein maintainers worked around the clock to ensure the inspection was completed as quickly as possible.
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**Base recycling saves money**

By Staff Sgt. Mark Flener
Cargo Courier Staff Writer

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Phil Aschbacher, the base environmental manager, said the program is doing just that. Moreover, officials plan to increase the amount of on-base recycling every year.

"The program is right on path," Aschbacher said.

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The event will be held at the Middletown post, 107 Evergreen Rd., and is scheduled to begin at 1 p.m.

Games and activities will be available for all ages. The event is free for anyone with a military identification card.

For more information, contact the post at (502) 245-8773.

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**Desert deployment**

Continued from Front Page

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