

THE CARGO COURIER

Standiford Field, Louisville, Kentucky

123rd TAW, Kentucky Air National Guard

Vol. 8, No. 4, April 4, 1992

CMSgt. Adams, 'role model' after 4 decades, leaves KyANG

By Maj. Jeff Butcher
Public Affairs Officer

The enlisted person's primary and most senior role model retired from active service last month.

Chief Master Sgt. Roy L. Adams said farewell to the Kentucky Air Guard before a wing formation with about 30 friends and family members looking on to pay him the ultimate tribute.

Adams had accumulated an unequaled 41 1/2 years of service with the Air National Guard. His last five found him serving as the senior enlisted advisor on the state headquarters staff.

Brig. Gen. John E. Kuhn, the assistant adjutant general for air, pinned the clusters on him. The awards covered the last two years.

Kuhn also announced recognition from the Commonwealth of Kentucky's senate, Jefferson County Judge-Executive David Armstrong and Louisville Mayor Jerry Abrahamson.

Maj. Gen. Robert L. DeZarn, the state adjutant general, said he joined the governor in commending Adams for "setting the standards" for non-commissioned officers in the Air Guard.



KyANG photo by Staff Sgt. Drew Fritz

Chief Master Sgt. Roy Adams, the Kentucky Air Guard's senior enlisted advisor, got a hug during his retirement ceremony here last month. With more than 41 years service, Adams bid farewell to his friends and comrades, and to a position that directed the enlisted ranks through a significant era.

"It's hard to believe that I joined the guard in that old wooden hangar some 40 years ago," Adams explained. "I have not accomplished all of this on my own. I thank you (members assembled) and all of my superiors who have placed their confidence in me all of these years."

Later that evening more than 170

well-wishers turned out to see Adams and his wife Mary Ann receive further accolades. He became the first-known Air National Guard member to ever be awarded a 40-year plaque for distinguished service. Senior Master Sgt. Martin Anderson was selected as Adams' successor. See related story on Page 5.

Air Guard planes get new flat gray paint scheme

Air Force News Service - All of the Military Airlift Command's C-5As, C-130s and C-141s will shed the camouflage design and get a new color scheme -- a topcoat of flat, gray polyurethane paint. The new paint job is part of the command's equipment excellence upgrade program, MAC officials announced recently.

Command officials noted that desert sand took its toll on aircraft paint during Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm. Officials at the Air Logistics Center at San Antonio, Texas, see a number of advantages to the new one-color scheme. "It's easier to match on touch-up painting," said a lead Air Force technician.

Commander's Column



Activities planned here, let's join in celebration

Back to basics! Our conversion to the new H model is moving on.

Minor problems have created some delays, but the first new C-130H aircraft, named "Man-O-War," will arrive here 16 May 92 during the UTA.

In addition to the planned arrival ceremony for the aircraft, the May UTA is Armed Forces Day and we are planning activities for spouses

and employers. We will also have an awards ceremony with lunch under the trees on Sunday -- Let's hope the weather cooperates.

Our goal is to become combat-ready in the new aircraft. We still need 90 good people -- please help the recruiters find them!

If you have an employer that you feel needs special recognition, please give Capt. Richard Frymire III the details.



Col. John V. Greene
Wing Commander



Dr. (Brig. Gen.) John E. Kuhn
KyANG Assistant AG for Air

Kuhn named as assistant AG

John E. Kuhn M.D., the Kentucky Air National Guard's state air surgeon since 1985, was selected last month to become the unit's assistant adjutant general for air, the Department of Military Affairs announced. Dr. Kuhn was promoted to brigadier general and will remain in Frankfort to carry out the new assignment, following the retirement of Brig. Gen. John L. Smith.

Kuhn first joined the Kentucky Air Guard in 1953 as an airman basic; he received a direct commission as a second lieutenant in January 1959, but his commitment to medical training forced him to resign from the ANG in 1963.

When the unit needed physicians in 1981, Kuhn rejoined the KyANG at the request of the state air surgeon, and he was appointed to the medical corps

where he has remained ever since.

Kuhn was commander of the 123rd Tactical Hospital in 1982 until his assignment as the state air surgeon in 1985.

After graduating from St. Xavier High School in Louisville, Kuhn earned his bachelor's degree from Bellarmine College and later graduated with highest honors from the University of Louisville Medical School in 1963. His civilian experience is broad based, including medicine, business, chemistry (he holds 18 patents in epoxy resin production), computer technology and publishing.

Kuhn is married to the former Brenda C. Freeman of Danville, Ky. The Kuhns live in Louisville and have four children.

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Deadline for submission of articles is Sunday morning 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.

Drug use down among DoD, enlisted ranks smoke more

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- A 1988 survey shows a decrease in the number of military people who drink heavily and use drugs. The Department of Defense released the results of its 1988 worldwide survey of substance abuse and healthy behaviors among military people Feb. 6.

The figures are the lowest since the survey series started in 1980. The survey also considered smoking and health practices. Use of any drug by military people declined from 27.6 percent in 1980 to 4.8 percent in 1988.

Use of marijuana and other drugs also dropped significantly between 1985 and 1988. In 1985, 6.5 percent of the military reported marijuana use, compared with 2.9 percent in 1988. Comparable figures for other drug use were 5.8 percent in 1985 and 3.1 percent in 1988.

The final report expands on last year's preliminary findings of decreasing tobacco use in the military.

Cigarette smoking and use of other tobacco products fell significantly between 1980 and 1988. For example, cigarette use declined from 51 percent to 40.9 percent. Heavy smoking of one or more packs a day declined from 34.2 percent in 1980 to 22.7 percent.

The survey reports a substantially higher number of smokers among enlisted than officers: 47.7 percent of en-

listed people smoked compared with 18 percent for commissioned officers.

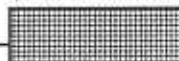
Greater percentages of heavy smokers were among the higher pay grades: 36.3 percent of E-7s to E-9s, 25.6 percent of E-4s to E-6s, 18.6 percent of E-1s to E-3s, and 12.5 percent of O-4s to O-10s compared with 7.8 percent of junior officers.

Other tobacco use showed 24 percent of military people smoked cigars or pipes and 17.3 percent used smokeless tobacco. The percentage of cigar and pipe users remained stable over the 1980-1988 period, but the percentage of smokeless tobacco users declined between 1985 and 1988.

Among those who smoked within the past two years, 62 percent tried to stop and about one-fifth succeeded.

In its review of overall health practices, the survey found that almost 80 percent of military people took some action within the past year to improve their nutrition, such as eating fewer calories high fat content. About 90 percent had blood pressure checks within the past year.

Survey information helps military authorities target educational programs in drug, alcohol and tobacco use in the health practices, and in providing information about aids.



New uniform makes debut next month

The proposed new Air Force uniform will have several insignia options when its wear test begins in May. Both sleeve -- what many called the Navy rank-and-shoulder style, traditional rank insignia stitched on an epaulet and attached to the shoulder, will be tested for the officer uniform.

Men's four-inch enlisted sleeve ranks of the same size they currently wear will be tested. Women will wear-test a slightly larger chevron than currently authorized.

Design and development should end in December, and patterns and specifications are expected to go to procuring by March 1993.

MAC copter makes rescue

Santa Fe, N.M. (AFSN) -- The word "Help" stamped out in 20-foot letters in the snow led a military airlift command helicopter crew to the rescue of two Arizona men who wandered away from a marked ski trail.

The MH-60G Pavehawk Helicopter Crew from the 551st Flying Training Squadron, Kirtland AFB, N.M., found the men Jan. 24, about eight miles from where they had wandered away from the Santa Fe ski area.

Dressed only in light ski clothes, the men spent three nights in the mountains without food and made snow caves to stay out of the cold. They were taken to St. Vincent Hospital in Santa Fe and later released after being treated for hypothermia.

Proposed MRE Menu Late 1992

Menu #1

Pork with rice, apple sauce, jelly, cocoa, sugar-free beverage, Packet "B"

Menu #2

Corned beef hash, fruit, oatmeal cookie bar, jelly, cocoa, sugar-free beverage, Packet "B"

Menu #3

Chicken stew, fruit, peanut butter, candy*, cocoa, beverage with sugar, Packet "A"

Menu #4

Ham omelet, potatoes au gratin, oatmeal cookie bar, cheese spread, candy*, cocoa, sugar-free beverage, Packet "A"

Menu #5

Spaghetti with meat sauce, pound cake, cheese spread, candy*, sugar-free beverage, Packet "A"

Menu #6

Smoky franks, fruit, potato sticks, peanut butter, candy*, cocoa, sugar-free beverage, Packet "A"

Menu #7

Beef stew, pound cake, peanut butter, beverage with sugar, Packet "A"

Menu #8

Ham slice, potato au gratin, chocolate-covered brownie, jelly, cocoa, beverage with sugar, Packet "A"

Menu #9

Pork chow mein, chow mein noodles, fruit, chocolate-covered cookie, peanut butter, sugar-free beverage, Packet "A"

Menu #10

Tuna with noodles, pound cake, cheese spread, candy*, beverage with sugar, Packet "A"

Menu #11

Chicken with rice, chocolate-covered cookie, cheese spread, candy*, beverage with sugar, Packet "A"

Menu #12

Escalloped potatoes with ham, apple sauce, chocolate-covered brownie, jelly, cocoa, beverage with sugar, Packet "A"

Packets include coffee cream substitute, sugar, salt, gum, matches, tissue and towelette. "B" also includes vanilla caramels, Tootsie Rolls.

Phillips, Brian earn outstanding airman awards

Submitted by 2nd Lt. Greg Stark
123rd Mobile Aerial Port Squadron

Tech Sgt. Johnny Phillips and Senior Airman Dennis Brian have been awarded as the outstanding NCO and Airman of the Year awards by the 123rd Mobile Aerial Port Squadron.

Phillips has served under the Kentucky Air National Guard since 1981 and has been a part of the 123rd MAPS since 1988. His excellent performance has served as a shining star for all the members of the MAPS to follow.

Senior Airman Brian's youthful exuberance and enthusiasm has inspired all the members of the unit, young and old alike. Enlisted members and command leaders of the MAPS feel privileged to serve with these two fine and outstanding young men.

Phillips is from Bardstown, Ky., where he works as a social worker for the State of Kentucky Department for Social Services. He has been in this position for 2 1/2 years, having acquired it upon graduation from Kentucky State University in May 1989 with a bachelor's degree in Psychology and a minor in Business Management.

Phillips also graduated from the Jefferson Community College in 1982 with an associate's of science degree and two associate's degrees from the



KyANG photo by SMSgt. Dave Tinsley

Senior Airman Dennis Brian
U of L trained, BMTS honor grad

Community College of the Air Force, one in businessmanagement and the other in personnel administration. He also is a master's of education degree candidate at the University of Louisville. He has been assigned to the MAPS since it was formed in January 1989. Prior to that he was assigned to the 123rd CAM Squadron from 1981-1989.

As NCOIC of the MAPS he performs a variety of personnel and administrative duties. Phillips describes a typical drill weekend as both hectic and

challenging. "I feel great about receiving an award, but it's the hard working people around me, especially Sgt. Robin Jones, that makes my work a lot easier."

His future plans include working as a human services employee assistance professional after completing his master's degree. Phillips, 33, is single and has no children.

Brian enlisted in the 123rd Tactical Airlift Wing in 1988 into the air transportation career field. He came on board as the first Mobile Aerial Port Squadron air cargo specialist after returning from basic military training and technical schools where he graduated as honor graduate in each.

He went on to finish his studies at the University of Louisville School of Business in May 1990 for his bachelor's of science in business administration, with a major in accounting.

In June 1992, Brian will be licensed as a certified public accountant with the accounting firm Deming, Malone, Livesay & Ostroff, PSC in Louisville.

He is looking forward to a successful future with the Kentucky Air Guard with the hopes of moving toward a commission as an officer. He is the 24-year-old son of Philip and Rita Brian, born and raised in Louisville.

US steps up effort in search of POW/MIAs in Southeast Asia

Washington (AFSN) -- The United States has stepped up its investigation into the issue of prisoners of war and those missing in action in Southeast Asia, the Pentagon announced Feb. 19.

POW/MIA specialists from the United States have deployed to Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos to work with their host government counterparts to resolve the status of Americans missing since the Vietnam War.

The joint activities will last approximately 30 days in Vietnam, and 10 to 15 days in Cambodia and Laos. During the operation, POW/MIA specialists will begin field surveys and make preparations for other follow-on field activities.

This marks the first time the United States has fielded POW/MIA teams in the three countries at the same time, and is a clear indication of U.S. efforts to accelerate results from POW/MIA operations, the Pentagon said.

Bean Soup Feast set for April 16

It's time again for the 22nd Annual Kentucky Air Guard Bean Soup Feast & Open House, Thursday, April 16, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tickets for adults are \$4 and children under 12 are \$2. You can dine in or call 364-9485 for carry-out. Monies from ticket sales should be turned in by May 5.

Anyone needing flyers to post at their civilian workplaces or churches, or to obtain additional tickets, may contact Master Sgt. Madeleine Travis at on-base ext 620 or Master Sgt. John Lundergan at 638.

Anderson selected as senior enlisted advisor

Senior Master Sgt. Martin F. Anderson has been selected as the Kentucky Air National Guard senior enlisted advisor, the Boone National Guard Center in Frankfort announced.

Anderson, 45, takes over the top enlisted position following the retirement of Chief Master Sgt. Roy Adams.

Anderson enlisted in the KyANG in February 1978 after serving from 1969 to 1973 on active duty. Working as a personnel specialist, he was assigned to Homestead AFB in Florida, Shaw AFB in South Carolina, Nakhom Phonom RTAB in Thailand and Andrews AFB in Maryland.

Anderson has worked in several fields of the 732X0 AFSC most of his military career except for three years when he was the first sergeant of the 123rd Mission Support Squadron of the KyANG's 123rd Tactical Reconnaissance Wing. He was promoted to his current rank of senior master

sergeant in 1988 and was formerly the assistant NCOIC of the personnel unit of the KyANG's headquarters in Frankfort.

When off duty, Anderson is employed by the Kentucky Department for Social Services in Frankfort, where he serves as director of the Division of Children's Residential Services, a division of 845 employees working in juvenile treatment programs spread throughout the state. His division cares for children committed to state government by district courts. Anderson has worked in state government nearly 17 years. He earned a bachelor's of arts degree in political Science from Georgetown College in 1969 and later earned a master's of arts degree in public affairs from Kentucky State University in 1980.

Anderson is married and has two sons, ages 9 and 13.

KyANG Promotions

The following members are promoted in the Kentucky Air National Guard and as a reservist of the U.S. Air Force. Officers were promoted following their approval by the U.S. Congress. Congratulations for a job well done.

To 2nd Lt. (0-1)

Thomas Savchick, 123rd CAMS

To 1st Lt. (0-2)

Catherine Hill, 123rd TAW

To Capt. (0-3)

Philip Palmer, 123rd RMS

To Maj. (0-4)

Thomas Curry (Chaplain), 123rd TAW

Michael Lueken, 123rd RMS

Charles Smith (Chaplain), 123rd TAW

Enlisted

To Airman Basic (E-1)

James Sidebottom Jr., 123rd CAMS

To Airman (E-2)

Carlotta Greathouse, 123rd

Deanna Brown, 123rd CAMS

To Airman 1st Class (E-3)

Shawn McNeill, 123rd COM FLT

To Senior Airman (E-4)

Donnetta Bibb, 123 TAC Hosp

To Staff Sgt. (E-5)

George Heeke, 123rd CES

James Hickman, 123rd SPF

John Nash, 123rd CES

Stanley Tungate Jr., 165th WEA

Stephen Snawder, 123rd CAM

Lennie Wheeler, 123rd CES

To Tech Sgt. (E-6)

Todd Albin, 123rd TAW

Timothy Bibbs, 123rd CES

It's a sign of the times



U.S. government photo by Jim Garamone

An F-4G "Wild Weasel" streaks down the George AFB, Calif., runway. Flight operations at the base will end in June, as part of the USAF reduction plan.

' It's not the end of the world, but you can see it from here '



Photo courtesy of the U.S. government

The crew of Derby 81 arrived in the Phillipines recently to transfer the KyANG's last C-130B transport plane to that country. Following a 9,000-mile trip the guardsmen were greeted by top Phillipine military officials and U.S. commanders and diplomats. The transfer ended the 123rd TAW's four-year hitch with the B model aircraft.

On Jan. 3 Col. Pete Snyder and his crew of 11 Kentucky Air National Guardsmen departed Standiford Field and began a 9,000-mile journey to deliver the last of the unit's five C-130B transport planes to the Phillipine Air Force.

The flight took them to Shaw AFB in South Carolina, then to Anchorage, Alaska, the Aleutian Islands,

Misawa Air Base in Japan and finally Manila.

After 36 hours of flying the crew of Derby 81 taxied to a stop directly in front of the Phillipine Air Force headquarters building and was met by the Hon. Frank Wisner, the U.S. ambassador to the Phillipines.

Joining the ambassador were several high-ranking Phillipine military

officials; an arrival ceremony with official aircraft transfer followed which received extensive Phillipine TV and newspaper coverage.

According to Snyder, the trip's highlight was being stranded at Shemya AB, Aleutian Islands, for two days because of blizzard-like conditions, resulting in an "arctic white-out" and 70-knot direct cross-winds.

American Forces Information Service

Buying land from Uncle Sam

The U.S. government sells hundreds of surplus properties every year. For example, the January-March *U.S. Real Property Sales List* offers seven parcels of unimproved land in Waimanolo, Hawaii.

Also for sale: a two-story, three-bedroom home in Providence, R.I., a residential subdivision in Broken Arrow, Okla., and 43 properties in the Miami area including houses, lots and commercial land.

How the government ends up with the properties is another story. What's important to consumers is Uncle Sam wants to get rid of them. The government generally sells surplus property by competitive sealed bids or public auction. Prospective buyers receive an information package that describes the properties and details the bidding process and sale terms

and conditions.

The General Services Administration, which publishes the quarterly property list, usually notifies successful bidders within 60 days of the sale. GSA warns bidders that property is sold "as is, where is." Buyers should personally and carefully inspect the property before bidding. Once a buyer is selected, there is no backing out. All property is sold based on fair market value.

For a free copy of the current property list and the latest *Consumer Information Catalog* listing more than 200 free or low-cost government publications, send your name and address to:

Consumer Information Center
Dept. 525Y
Pueblo, CO 81009

DoD toughens urinalysis standards, admits sharp drop in drug abusers

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Information Service

The Department of Defense recently toughened the urinalysis standards used in detecting cocaine, officials said.

"The tests are so good and so accurate, we've been able to toughen the standards," said Sharon Cooper, director of the Pentagon's Demand Reduction Office. "The amount of cocaine that will show a positive now is smaller." The new test level as of Jan. 1 is 100 nanograms a milliliter for a positive. The old level was 150 nanograms a milliliter.

In addition to toughening cocaine standards, DoD will increase emphasis on detecting amphetamines, methamphetamines and hallucinogens. The standards will not change, but DoD will test more for these substances.

The Demand Reduction Office — part of the Office of the DoD Coordinator for Drug Enforcement Policy and Support — sets policy and standards for the armed services' urinalysis programs. In addition, it's involved with educational programs to warn and educate service members and their families of the dangers of drug abuse.

Other government officials have held up the DoD program as an example of the effectiveness of drug demand reduction policies. DoD figures for 1980 show 27 percent of those in the military admitted they had used some illegal substance within the last 30 days. In 1988 — the most recent data available — that figure dropped to 4.8 percent.

"Commanders in the field are saying they have better troops, and productivity has improved," Cooper said. "The military effort is being held up as a flagship for other government agencies and private corporations. We were the first with a 'Zero Tolerance' program, we were the first with urinalysis, we were the first government agency to test civilian workers, and we were the first to require contrac-

tors to test certain employees.

"The lessons we have learned can be transferred," she said.


The biggest lesson is that a demand reduction program needs the "stick" of a deterrence/detection program to work. "Education alone, without urinalysis, is less effective," she said. "People know there are real penalties if they use drugs. In the military, only junior enlisted may get a second chance."

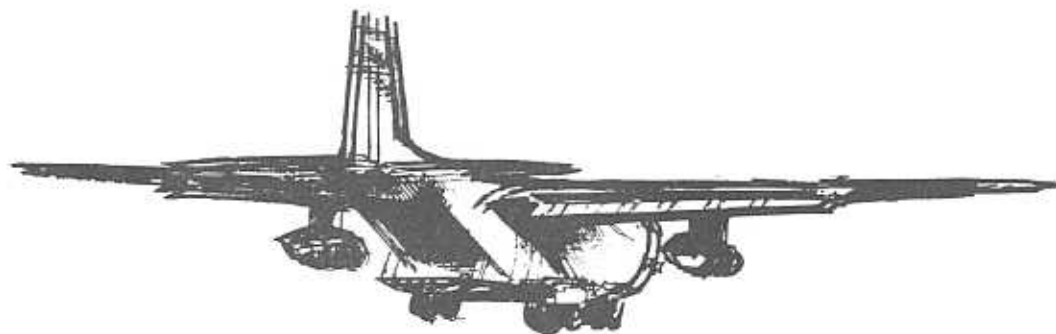
The urinalysis program is effective from several levels. Those people who might be tempted to experiment with drugs are deterred from experimenting by detection through urinalysis. The "second-level" user — one who dabbles in illegal substances — may not be deterred from using, but may not take as much or as often.

For the hard-core user, urinalysis will detect them and get them out of the service.

The same deterrence works for industry. "Those who have developed a urinalysis program — DoD contractors are prime examples — have noticed better productivity, they've had fewer health problems, and accident rates have gone down," Cooper said.

More people with drug problems are calling the office. "These calls are from people asking how they can get help before they are detected," she said. "The program is so credible that people believe it's only a matter of time before they get caught. It's a far cry from when the program was introduced."

She anticipates no great changes in the urinalysis program. "The tests are cheaper now," she said, "so there certainly will be no reduction in testing. This is not the kind of program you can declare victory in and shift the funds to another area. You have to maintain it." 



It happened in April

APR
01

U.S. Air Force Academy established at Lowry Air Force Base, Colo., 1954.

APR
15

White Star luxury liner *Titanic* sinks on maiden voyage, 1912.

APR
03

Japanese begin all-out assault against U.S.-Filipino defenders of Bataan during World War II, 1942.

APR
16

President George Bush announces joint military forces will build and run refugee camps in northern Iraq for Kurds, 1991.

APR
04

NATO established, 1949.

APR
18

Army Lt. Col. James Doolittle's carrier-based B-25 bombers raid Tokyo in first U.S. offensive against Japanese in World War II, 1942.

APR
06

United States declares war on Germany and enters World War I, 1917.

APR
19

Explosion on USS *Iowa* kills 47 sailors, 1989.

APR
08

Hank Aaron hits his 715th home run, breaking Babe Ruth's record, 1974.

APR
21

Spanish-American War begins, 1898.

APR
09

Gen. Robert E. Lee surrenders the Army of Northern Virginia to Gen. Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Court House, 1865.

APR
23

Gen. and Mrs. George Washington move into the first presidential home, 1 Cherry St., New York City, 1789.

APR
10

Bataan Death March begins, 1942. Japanese soldiers force U.S. and Filipino prisoners of war to march out of Bataan. More than 5,000 die.

APR
24

U.S. Selective Service registration begins for all American men between 45 and 64 years of age, 1942.

APR
11

Navy accepts its first submarine, USS *Holland* (SS-1), 1900.

APR
27

Worst U.S. steamship disaster occurs when the *Sultana* explodes on the Mississippi near Memphis, Tenn., killing almost 1,500 passengers, mostly former Union prisoners of war on their way home, 1865.

APR
12

U.S. Civil War begins when Confederate gunners bombard Fort Sumter, S.C., 1861.

APR
28

Leslie Irving demonstrates use of new Army Air Corps' Model A parachute at McCook Field, Dayton, Ohio, 1919.

APR
14

President Abraham Lincoln shot by John Wilkes Booth at Ford's Theater in Washington, D.C., 1865.

APR
30

Adolf Hitler, leader of Nazi Germany, commits suicide in Berlin, 1945.

Ky guardsman, college student extends training to Honduras

By Capt Dianne B. Watkins
356th Public Affairs Detachment
97th U.S. Army Reserve Command

SOTO CANO AIR BASE, Honduras -- Pharmacy student Karole Geiger is furthering her education and experience while providing medical services to U.S. and Honduran soldiers and airmen to Soto Cano Air Base, Honduras.

Geiger, a staff sergeant and pharmacy technician for the Kentucky Air National Guard's 123rd Tactical Hospital, is also a student at Jefferson Community College in Louisville.

At Soto Cano, Geiger recently trained with the base pharmacy staff for 30 days. The medical staff includes both U.S. and Hondurans working and training side by side.

"It's meaningful because I'm able to make a difference in someone's life by helping to better their quality of life. It's a feeling that's priceless and hard to describe," says Geiger.

She describes her experience here as being quite different from

her experiences as a pharmacy technician in the United States. "I think that we as U.S. citizens should be very thankful that we have the opportunity to better ourselves and have education available to us," Geiger says.

While stationed at the Honduran air base, Geiger traveled with the veterinarians on missions to help immunize animals at a cattle ranch in the local villages. She also traveled with medical technicians to visit a local orphanage.

Here they checked the children for worms and vaccinated them for various diseases. They played with them and sometimes grill hot dogs. "They show so much affection. The children are very loving," expressed Geiger.

"The expressions on the faces of little children in Honduras, even though they are poor, show they're very happy. Although they don't have a lot of possessions, they have an appreciation for life and the smaller things," she explains.

Geiger says she enjoys her profession, and her experience in Honduras has been great.



*U.S. Army Reserve photos
by
Staff Sgt. Wendell Allen*

Staff Sgt. Karole Geiger, a member of the Kentucky Air Guard's 123rd Tactical Hospital, checks the inventory of medicines at a base pharmacy at Soto Cano Air Base in Honduras. Geiger, a student at Jefferson Community College in Louisville, recently served a 30-day duty assignment in the Central American nation.



Powell asks for support of new force plan

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Information Service

The military will be much smaller in the future, but what's left will be choice, according to Gen. Colin Powell.

The chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff said that if given time to do the job right, the U.S. military will maintain its qualitative edge against any foe. He said the base force plan, which will cut the military by 25 percent by 1997, will allow the military to downsize without losing combat effectiveness. He has asked Congress to leave the plan intact.

During an interview with armed services reporters, Powell also commented on the importance of integrating the services' doctrines, personnel issues, continued U.S. military participation in NATO and requested cuts in the reserve components.

He discussed the various threats facing the United States, saying while much has transpired to make the world a more peaceful place, no one really knows what may still happen. He said there are still some threats out there and mentioned North Korea, the "residual Iraqs of the world" and Iran. However, the greater threat is "unknown," he said.

With the demise of the Soviet Union, the United States no longer faces the monolithic Red army. Powell said instability and uncertainty about the Commonwealth of Independent States should be considered when reducing the military.

"Can anyone tell me what the Commonwealth of Independent States will look like a year from now? Can anybody tell me what Russia will actually look like?"

Powell said Russian President Boris Yeltsin said that if his economic plan doesn't work, the United States may find itself back in the Cold War or even a hot war. "(Yeltsin) said, 'This new system of ours is brand new. It's like a baby in diapers. It is very fragile. We're not sure where it's going,'" Powell said. "So I will resist efforts to cut us or to undercut our strategy because people don't like the fact that our dance card isn't full of threats."

Powell said there are some plans the United States can make even without a specific threat. "Even though I can't specify specific threats, here's something I do know," he said.

"I know the neighborhood they live in. I know where those threats are liable to emerge from, and I know how much force I will need to move to that street corner. And (I know) how much lift and sustainment it will take to have a fight on that street corner even though I don't know which bully is going to show up for the fight.

"I also figure if I'm strong enough and I can get to that street corner with enough force, he ain't gonna show up," Powell continued. "That's deterrence. That's peace and that's progress. I don't ever want the United States to be in the position of being unable to respond to the bully on the corner because we took our marbles and went home."

One aspect of handling any threat is the strategy and tactics used. Powell said the Army and Air Force AirLand Battle doctrine proved itself during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. He said he would like to see an Air-Land-Sea-Space doctrine take its place. "When we put joint task forces together, we all have to understand one another," he said. "To operate as a team, everybody has to have the same playbook."

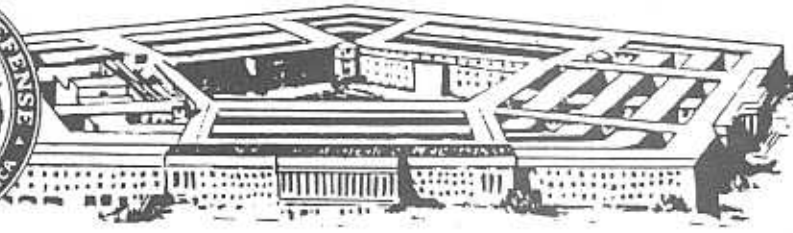
Powell cited Operation Provide Comfort in northern Iraq and military aid to Haitian refugees at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, as two instances where joint operations were crucial for success. But, he said, his call for teamwork doesn't mean all differences between the armed services will be erased.

"Teamwork is the name of the game, while at the same time recognizing the unique difference and capabilities of the individual services and the pride each service has in its own identity," he said. "We're not trying to make everyone purple. We just want to make sure when its time to fight, we can fight purple."

Powell said he was pleased by the way the services are implementing the base force plan. He said the base force came about when military planners looked to the future and envisioned what the United States would need. They planned for greatly reduced Soviet power, but with the United States still having to confront regional threats. The base force

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plan would allow the United States to deploy Desert Shield-size forces to two non-concurrent crisis points. In other words, sending a million service members to, for example, the Middle East and the Pacific so long as both crises did not start at the same time.

Powell said the way the services are taking the force down has pleased him greatly. He said it is being done in a responsible way, with planners giving a great deal of thought to the impact that reduction will have on careers, families and assignment patterns. Powell said the services are gauging the effect the draw-down will have on the military education system and also "on the anxiety that is in the heart and mind of every soldier who may be faced with a career choice."

"I'm very pleased with the transition programs that all the services put into place," he said. "I'm very pleased, for example, with the Army, (where) senior commanders (are) sitting down their soldiers and saying, 'Look, here's what's happening. Here's how we're going to take care of you.'"

While the force downsizes, the Defense Department plans to reduce recruitment, but not freeze it. Powell said the services are getting tougher at re-enlistment points so the force can be shaped in a balanced way.

"If you don't do it properly, you block advancement and promotion," he said. "Then people lose faith in the system. We don't want to run into some of the situations we ran into in the past where, as a result of the draw-down, nobody gets promoted for eight, nine or 10 years. That would be terribly destructive of morale."

"I think we can bring the force down in a way that will not break the great morale and esprit and professionalism that exist out there now, if we're given the time to do it."


Powell said the department's greatest concern is congressional support for the program. He said Congress may be tempted to look for additional savings in personnel accounts, forcing DoD to start breaking contracts and involuntarily separating people. This would "do terrible things to the force," he warned.

Powell also addressed the U.S. position in NATO. He said the United States will eventu-

ally have only 150,000 service members stationed in Europe. He reiterated the importance of a U.S. military presence in Europe, but said U.S. support must be provided in the context of NATO.

Finally, Powell talked about cuts to the reserve components. In last year's budget, DoD asked for a reduction in reserve forces. The reasoning was that the threat in Europe had decreased and the reserve forces specifically raised to counter a Central European threat should also be reduced. Congress approved a smaller reduction than DoD asked for.

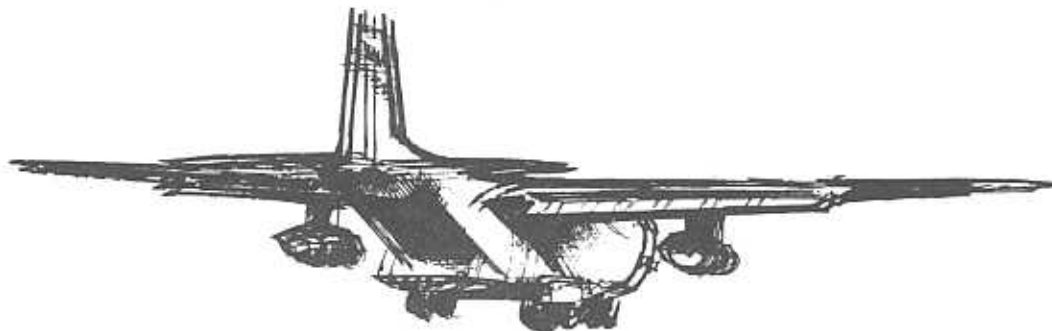
Powell said that if Congress again balks at approving the entire reduction, the total force will suffer. "It means we will be retaining units that are no longer needed," he said. "The money going to that unneeded structure will not be available to support valid total force needs."

"I believe in the total force," he said. "I believe in the reserves. The reserves will be even more important in the future, but they must be reduced to a size related to missions and need. To do otherwise is to not make the best use of our defense dollar." 



Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Army
Gen. Colin L. Powell

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