

THE CARGO COURIER

123rd Airlift Wing, Kentucky Air National Guard, Louisville, Ky.

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Engineers test skills at Silver Flag exercise

Ky. troops sharpen combat readiness, learn new techniques

By Capt. Dale Greer
Wing Public Affairs Officer

More than 60 members of the 123rd Civil Engineering Squadron deployed to Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla., in October for Silver Flag, a recurring training event designed to educate CE troops about the newest equipment and latest lessons learned in the Global War on Terror.

The unit last attended a Silver Flag exercise in 2003, just before being deployed to Baghdad International Airport.

Maj. John Cassel, the squadron's operations officer in charge, said the 2003 experience proved invaluable — and this year's training was no different.

"In 2003, we were taught the latest lessons learned from the AOR, which really contributed to our success in Iraq.

"Likewise, Silver Flag 2006 exposed us to many new techniques, equipment briefings and ideas that will help us in future assignments. If we're deployed to the AOR again, we'll be able to hit the ground running."

Major Cassel cited the military's Alaskan Small Shelter System as one example of new technology. Older, flat-sided tents are being replaced with this system, which features modules that resemble Quonset huts.

"They have more head room, are easier to put up and are safer than the older tents," he said. "And we need to learn as much about them as we can so we can go to a place like Baghdad set up a tent city using them."

Airmen representing all four of civil engineering's primary missions — Air Base Operability (also known as disaster preparedness), Fire Protection, Explosive Ordinance Disposal and the Base Emergency



Above: Firefighters from the Kentucky Air Guard's 123rd Civil Engineering Squadron practice extracting wounded aircrew members from a smoking helicopter during Silver Flag 2006, held at Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla., from Oct. 14 to 21.



Right: Members of the 123rd Civil Engineering Squadron marshal pallets of equipment and cargo for deployment during Silver Flag 2006. The training event is required for all Guard, reserve and active-duty civil engineering units approximately once every three years. The Kentucky unit last completed Silver Flag training in 2003, just before being deployed to Iraq.

Photos courtesy 123rd Civil Engineering Squadron

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Guardsmen and reservists play essential role in today's Total Force military team

Congratulations! As a leader in Total Force integration, the Air Force continues to benefit from one powerful, cohesive team formed by our Active Duty Airmen, Air National Guardsmen, and Air Force reservists.

In my travels around the Air Force, I see this synergy firsthand and realize our training and operations make it impossible to differentiate between the three components.

Whether it is the C-17 landing in the combat zone or the mechanic working on F-16s in Vermont, the Total Force is making it happen.

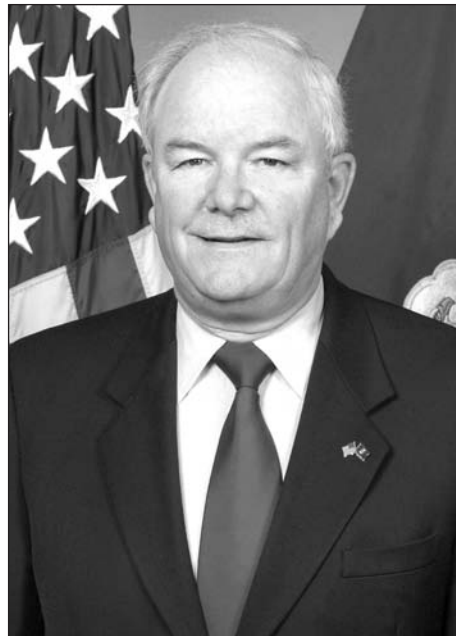
We simply could not accomplish today's dynamic mission without the Total Force integration of our Guard, reserve and active-duty force.

Gone are the "strategic reserve" days of the Guard and reserve.

Today, our Total Force sacrifices daily through extended deployments in the most challenging missions we have.

As an integral part of this highly skilled team, the Guard and reserve train to the same high standards set by our active duty, operate the latest equipment and participate in every mission across the spectrum of operations.

Our active duty, Guardsmen and re-



Michael W. Wynne
Secretary of the Air Force

servists stand side by side in the fight in the Global War on Terrorism.

Nowhere was this more apparent than in the recent airstrikes that killed the leader of Al-Qaeda in Iraq, Abu Al Zarqawi.

In Balad, the 332nd Expeditionary

Maintenance Squadron mirrors where our Air Force is going: an active duty commander, an Air National Guardsman as operations officer, and a reservist as first sergeant.

The collective efforts of active, Guard and reserve forces continue to yield tremendous successes for the Joint Team and our Nation.

So what does this mean for you, the individual Airman?

First, this means that we have a healthy respect for those Total Force members who support our mission.

Second, we need to adhere to the set standards, to ensure that as we assemble the total force we remain prepared to execute the assigned mission.

Third, we need to use the diversity represented by the Total Force to continually look for better ways to accomplish our mission.

Total Force has moved from a future concept to today's reality.

One team, one fight, with a shared, disciplined combat focus.

The continued dedication and service of all Airmen — active, Guard, and reserve — make a grateful Nation proud.

Thank you for all you do.

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Our office is located in room 2118 of the Wing Headquarters Building. Deadline for the next issue is Dec. 14.

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

Airmen with foreign-language skills sought

The base intelligence section is seeking individuals who are interested in military opportunities requiring the use of foreign-language skills.

“Any Airman who speaks a foreign language is encouraged to contact us to discuss exciting new and emerging mission areas,” said 1st Lt. Mitch Myers, special security officer with the 123rd Operations Support Flight.

These areas might include the future collection, analysis and dissemination of intelligence information, Lieutenant Myers said.

“Right now, we’re just trying to identify people with skill sets, meet with them and see if this is something they might be interested in,” he said.

For more information, contact Lieutenant Myers on base at extension 4367 or via e-mail at mitchell.myers@kylou.ang.af.mil.

Recruiting assistants paid for efforts

A new campaign called The Guard Recruiting Assistance Program (G-RAP) pays current Guardsmen \$2,000 for each new enlistee they recruit to join the unit.

The enlistee must report to basic training to qualify.

Recruiting assistants also are paid \$2,000 for each prior-service member they recruit. The new member must attend at least three drills to qualify.

Any traditional Guard member is eligible to become a recruiting assistant, but training is mandatory.

For more information on this part-time opportunity, contact Master Sgt. Linda Larson at (502) 413-4889.

Runway renovation



Photo courtesy 451st Air Expeditionary Group

Col. Steven Bullard (center), a Kentucky Air Guard member who currently is serving as senior airfield authority at Kandahar Air Field, Afghanistan, pauses as the final foot of pavement is laid to complete construction of the facility’s rebuilt runway Oct. 9. The two-year-long project restored an airstrip decimated by the Air Force’s initial bombing campaigns in October 2001.

Pilot earns prestigious honor

Staff report

A pilot assigned to Kentucky’s 165th Airlift Squadron has earned a prestigious award given only to the top graduates of undergraduate pilot training schools.

1st Lt. Michael Templeman was presented with the Orville Wright Achievement Award by Brig. Gen. Howard Hunt, KyANG chief of staff, during a ceremony on base Nov. 19.

The award is bestowed by the Order of the Daedalians, a private organization composed of current and former military pilots.

Lieutenant Templeman graduated at the top of his class from the Naval Air Training Program for the period of Jan. 1 to June 30, 2005, while on temporary duty from the Kentucky Air National Guard.

“This award speaks highly of the 165th Airlift Squadron, and it speaks highly of Lieutenant Templeman,” General Hunt said. “Congratulations to him and his family.”



Staff Sgt. Phil Speck/KyANG

Brig. Gen. Howard Hunt, KyANG chief of staff, presents the Orville Wright Achievement Award to 1st Lt. Michael Templeman on Nov. 19.

The award is bestowed on the top graduates of the U.S. military’s undergraduate pilot training programs.



Silver Flag

Continued from Front Page

Engineering Force (or construction specialties) — all were able to train on new equipment unavailable at home station.

“It ran the gamut from aircraft arresting systems and runway lighting to whatever is necessary for rapid runway repair,” Major Cassel said.

Silver Flag even boasted a giant fire pit — similar to a gas-powered barbecue — that gave firefighters the opportunity to practice on simulated aircraft blazes.

Meanwhile, EOD specialists scouted for Improvised Explosive Devices on a dedicated course designed by some of the field’s top experts.

Another benefit of Silver Flag was the opportunity it provided for blending, Major Cassel said. More than a dozen units and about 250 troops were combined for the exercise, simulating the kind of blended squadrons Airmen will encounter during real-world deployments.

“The whole experience was an exceptional training opportunity,” he said.

Photos courtesy 123rd
Civil Engineering Squadron





Clockwise from top left: Firefighters extinguish a blaze on a simulated fighter aircraft at Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla.

CE troops from Guard, reserve and active-duty units staff a Unit Control Center during a simulated attack.

Senior Master Sgt. Carol Davis of the 123rd Civil Engineering Squadron takes a break for lunch during Silver Flag 2006.

Master Sgt. Kevin Kaufman of the 123rd Civil Engineering Squadron surveys land for the construction of a tent city.

KyANG marksman takes 2nd in national Johnson continues Olympic bid

**By Capt. Dale Greer
Wing Public Affairs Officer**

A Kentucky Air Guardsman took second place in his division during the USA Shooting National Championship 10-meter Air Rifle Competition held June 14 and 15 at Fort Benning, Ga.

Master Sgt. Jim Johnson, a combat controller in the 123rd Special Tactics Squadron, scored 1,155 points during the annual event, which pits the nation's best shooters against one another and serves as a proving ground for marksmen hoping to make the cut as members of the 2008 U.S. Olympic Team.

Sergeant Johnson actually wasn't aware that he had placed second until he received a silver medal in the mail a few weeks after arriving home.

"I was so disgusted that I didn't win the thing, that I didn't even check to see if I took second or third," he said.

"Well I just got my silver medal in the mail, so I guess the practice is starting to pay off."

Sergeant Johnson and Tech. Sgt. Frank Tallman, a radio-maintenance technician with the 123rd Special Tactics Squadron, became the first Air Guardsmen ever to join the U.S. Air Force Marksmanship Team in 2004. They've been using that relationship — and the free ammunition it provides — to hone their skills ever since.

Both continue to shoot for an Olympic berth. Sergeant Johnson ended the 2005 season ranked 14th nationally in prone rifle, while Sergeant Tallman finished 19th.

Those standings are expected to improve when the 2006 rankings are announced later this year.



File photo

Master Sgt. Jim Johnson of the 123rd Special Tactics Squadron hopes to compete in the 2008 Summer Olympics.

Promotions, separations & awards in the Kentucky Air Guard

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

AIRMAN 1ST CLASS (E-3)

•**Eric Carlson,**
123rd Student Flt.

SENIOR AIRMAN (E-4)

•**Victor Cole II,**
123rd Aerial Port Sq.
•**Tatiana Collins,**
123rd Services Flt.
•**David Fouts,**
123rd Maintenance Sq.
•**Charles Maguire,**
123rd Communications Flt.
•**Gideon Miller,**
123rd Aerial Port Sq.
•**Joshua Miller,**
123rd Aerial Port Sq.
•**Nathan Noel,**
123rd Aerial Port Sq.
•**Thomas Steele-Sheets,**
123rd Aircraft Maintenance Sq.
•**Kaniece Summers,**
123rd Services Flt.
•**Charles Tyra III,**
123rd Maintenance Sq.

STAFF SERGEANT (E-5)

•**Nicholas Ash,**
123rd Aerial Port Sq.
•**Benjamin Bull,**
123rd Aerial Port Sq.
•**Nicholas Dobson,**
123rd Aircraft Maintenance Sq.
•**Maria Hart,**
165th Airlift Sq.
•**Gregory Howard,**
123rd Aircraft Maintenance Sq.
•**Keith Kramer,**
123rd Aerial Port Sq.
•**Christopher Larimore,**
123rd Maintenance Sq.
•**Patrick Lease Jr.,**
123rd Aerial Port Sq.
•**Michael Lovensheimer Jr.,**
123rd Aerial Port Sq.
•**Jeffrey Perry,**
123rd Maintenance Sq.
•**Marie Plaza,**
123rd Medical Grp.

•**John Posten,**
123rd Aircraft Maintenance Sq.
•**Erik Smith,**
123rd Aerial Port Sq.
•**Richard Stankiewicz,**
123rd Security Forces Sq.
•**Kelly Tucker,**
123rd Aerial Port Sq.

TECHNICAL SERGEANT (E-6)

•**Brian Anders,**
123rd Aerial Port Sq.
•**Steven Atkins,**
123rd Maintenance Sq.
•**Matthew Atkinson,**
123rd Operations Support Flt.
•**Christopher Brawner,**
123rd Special Tactics Sq.
•**Anthony Cortese,**
123rd Special Tactics Sq.
•**Paul Davis,**
123rd Maintenance Sq.
•**Kevin Gaud,**
123rd Maintenance Sq.
•**Edwin Hall,**
123rd Maintenance Sq.
•**Michael Helton,**
123rd Aircraft Maintenance Sq.
•**Richard Hessick,**
165th Airlift Sq.
•**Mason Hoyt,**
123rd Special Tactics Sq.
•**Anthony Kernan,**
123rd Maintenance Sq.
•**James Ketterer,**
123rd Airlift Control Flt.
•**Christopher Knight,**
123rd Aircraft Maintenance Sq.
•**Edgar Link,**
123rd Maintenance Sq.
•**Robert Powers,**
123rd Maintenance Sq.
•**Matthew Skeens,**
123rd Aerial Port Sq.
•**Michael Skeens,**
123rd Aerial Port Sq.
•**Bruce Slaughter,**
123rd Maintenance Sq.
•**Alan Smith,**
123rd Civil Engineering Sq.
•**Douglas Thiery,**
123rd Civil Engineering Sq.
•**Benjamin Vost,**
165th Airlift Sq.
•**Charles Wilding,**
123rd Aerial Port Sq.

MASTER SERGEANT (E-7)

•**Michael Bradley,**
123rd Special Tactics Sq.

•**Anthony Glover,**
123rd Aerial Port Sq.
•**Keith Metcalf,**
123rd Maintenance Sq.
•**Patricia Nasby,**
123rd Maintenance Sq.
•**Daniel Paul,**
123rd Communications Flt.
•**James Powell Jr.,**
123rd Civil Engineering Sq.
•**Jason Rowe,**
123rd Security Forces Sq.
•**Ronald Schmitz,**
123rd Civil Engineering Sq.
•**James Tongate,**
165th Airlift Sq.
•**Norma White-Caruso,**
123rd Mission Support Flt.
•**Stephen Young,**
123rd Aircraft Maintenance Sq.

SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT (E-8)

•**Troy Ciukaj,**
123rd Maintenance Sq.
•**Curtis Meurer,**
123rd Airlift Wing Headquarters
•**Gregg Romans,**
123rd Services Flt.

CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT (E-8)

•**Ray Dawson,**
123rd Aerial Port Sq.

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

•**Capt. James Dunn III**
•**Master Sgt. Stephen Elson**

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

•**Senior Airman Sarah Cummings**
•**Senior Airman Maria Kimberling**

The following individuals have won the awards indicated:

BRONZE STAR

•**Chief Master Sgt. Robert Allen,**
123rd Security Forces Sq.
•**Senior Airman Kenneth Lemay,**
123rd Special Tactics Sq.

Western air defense ops center opens in Washington

McCHORD AIR FORCE BASE, Wash. — With the snip of a fiber-optic ribbon, the Western Air Defense Sector opened its multi-million dollar operations center here Nov. 20.

The opening culminated an 18-month effort that now stands WADS as a significant, technically advanced deterrent against asymmetrical threats over a significant portion of America's airspace.

"This is an important technological breakthrough that definitely enhances our nation's defense," said Maj. Gen. Timothy Lowenberg, Washington State's adjutant general.

"By incorporating the latest technologies and infrastructure, WADS now protects the airspace over roughly 72 percent of the country.

"And we have the capability to cover the National Capitol Region and eastern United States if the call arises," he said.

Gone are the green-swept scopes and darkened control rooms reminiscent of the Cold War.

The refurbished Sector Operations Control Center enjoins state-of-the-art air defense systems and cutting-edge computer technology to significantly increase surveillance and identification capabilities, and better protect the nation's airways from intrusion and attack.

The SOCC also incorporates a newly-developed situational awareness system that gives WADS unprecedented tools and technology to assist state and local responders in dealing with natural disasters.

The upgrade included renovation of a 6,300-square-foot WADS operations floor and the installation of more than 22 miles of fiber-optic cable and 10 miles of copper cables, at a cost of more than \$1.8 million.

The original facility, built in 1958, formerly housed a node of the Semi-Automatic Ground Environment air defense system.

VA, DOD joint medical clinic marks new approach to care

By Master Sgt. Kimberly Spencer
59th Medical Wing Public Affairs

SAN ANTONIO — As the sound of sledge hammers and bulldozers fades, a new state-of-the-art medical facility on the north side of San Antonio is poised to open its doors — and a new approach to medical care.

The North Central Federal Clinic, the first Department of Veterans Affairs and Department of Defense venture using joint leadership and staffing, is scheduled to open Monday.

"The congressionally approved facility was chosen after a federal competition, and is a jewel in the crown for both federal agencies and a test bed receiving national recognition," said Maj. Eric Peipelman, 59th Medical Wing project manager here.

The clinic will provide pharmacy, radiology, laboratory and optometry services for those enrolled.

"We have several other facilities throughout the United States that are working toward the same goal we have achieved here," said Mark Goldstein with the South Texas Veterans Health Care System.

The clinic is designed to improve access to medical care for VA and DOD beneficiaries living on the north side of San Antonio. Currently those Air Force beneficiaries must drive across town to Wilford Hall Medical Center on the south side of the city on Lackland Air Force Base.

"The Air Force and the VA are both extremely excited to bring our quality care close to our patients living on the north side of San Antonio," said Brig. Gen. (Dr.) David Young, 59th Medical Wing commander. "This innovative partnership to improve health care will provide improved access to services for these beneficiaries."

Approximately 5,600 Wilford Hall patients have been identified and notified as those who would benefit the most from being seen at the NCFC.

Officials looked at active duty dependents, retirees and retiree family members, enrolled in TRICARE Prime, who live in the north central San Antonio area. These individuals were then assessed by their medical needs and the level of services available at the NCFC.

The NCFC currently won't be open to active duty personnel. Active duty personnel will continue to be seen at their current care locations.

"Enrollment currently has been maximized," said Major Peipelman.

"However, we will be looking at demand in the area and considering options over the next six months, such as active duty sick call, to increase access if demand warrants."

Hospital officials, along with congressional and federal leaders, will be following the success of the clinic closely for consideration for other joint facilities to begin using joint leadership and staffing.



Master Sgt. Kimberly Yearean-Siers/USAF

The North Central Federal Clinic is the first medical facility to use joint VA and DOD leadership and staffing.

Change of Command

Lt. Col. Jeff Peters (right) accepts command of the 123rd Aerial Port Squadron from Col. Bill Ketterer, commander of the 123rd Mission Support Group, during a change-of-command ceremony held in the Base on Annex Aug. 12.



Colonel Ketterer (left) presents Lt. Col. Doug Rose with the guidon for the 123rd Logistics Readiness Squadron during a change-of-command ceremony held Aug. 12 in the Base Annex. Colonel Rose previously served as commander of the 123rd Aerial port Squadron.



*KyANG photos by
Tech. Sgt. Dennis Flora*

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