



THE CARGO COURIER

Standiford Field, Louisville, Kentucky

123d TAW Kentucky Air National Guard

Vol. 5 No. 6, June 3, 1989





KyANG Photo by Sgt. Dennis Robinson

Life Support training

MSgt. James Smith, NCOIC Life Support, demonstrates various life support equipment with SSgt. David Buzan, NCOIC squadron life support, acting as a model. For more information on the Life Support area see Page 4.

CARGO COURIER

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The editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office of the 123d Tactical Airlift Wing, KyANG, Standiford Field (ANG), Louisville, Kentucky 40213-2678.

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Deadline for submission of articles for **The Cargo Courier** is the Friday after each UTA for publication the following UTA. Articles should be given to TSgt. Jenny Montgomery, Rm 123 of the O&T Bldg.

Air Guard airlifts Army Guard

Through joint service teamwork and coordination, the Kentucky Air Guard airlifted Kentucky Army Guard troops to their Annual Field Training site May 26. A first in the history of the Kentucky Guard, this is just the beginning of a new tradition for the 123d TAW.

Members of the 2nd Battalion 138th Field Artillery Group and their equipment were airlifted on two C-130s to Camp Shelby, Miss. The airlift saved the Lexington unit valuable training time, cutting travel from several days to several hours.

The Adjutant General of Kentucky Brig. Gen. Michael W. Davidson and myself were on hand to see the two aircraft and their cargo off, witnessing a new era for the KyANG.

As part of our airlift mission we will be working more and more closely with the Army Guard and other units providing support. This means valuable training time for our aircrews and even the opportunity at times for other unit members to travel along.



Brig. Gen. John L. Smith
123d TAW Commander

As you have always done in the past, you have accepted this new mission and shown that we can indeed take on and conquer any challenge presented to us.

We can look forward to many more joint missions and I'm confident they will proceed as flawlessly as this first one.

Chaplain's Column

Most powerful muscle

By Chaplain (Capt.) Thomas Curry

A recent body building competition held during the Kentucky Derby Festival brought to my mind the Biblical concept that the tongue is the most powerful muscle in the body. With the tongue great kingdoms have been created and destroyed. With the tongue orders are pronounced on life and death. With the tongue mankind best demonstrates great moments of wisdom and the worst moments of stupidity. The tongue has tremendous power.

In the Bible the tongue is analogous to the bit in the horse's mouth.

The horse, which is by nature wild and unruly (often weighing as much as 2,000 pounds) may have its fiery temper subdued by a bit of metal weighing only a pound or so. It is like the relatively small size of the ship's rudder which can guide huge supertankers to safety or disaster (see James 3:1-8).

When a Greek philosopher once asked a servant to prepare the best meal, the servant prepared a dish of tongue, saying, "It is the best of all dishes because with it we may bless and communicate happiness, dispel sorrow, remove despair, cheer the faint-hearted, and inspire the discouraged." He was a wise servant.

Solomon, a wise king said, "Whoso keepeth his tongue, keepeth his soul from trouble."

Guard continues to train in Panama

By SSgt. Jeff Sansbury
Staff Writer

The Pentagon confirmed this month that National Guard and Reserve troops will continue to train in Central America, a decision that draws criticism from some lawmakers and forces others to examine the role of citizen soldiers.

The Kentucky Air National Guard is among two dozen states that have deployed to the U.S. Southern command since January, and the Guard Bureau announced recently that 14 states are slated to arrive in Panama by the end of June.

Most recently, Lt. Col. David Lynch, Capt. John Fanning and SSgt. Lawrence Isham of the 165th TAS completed a temporary duty assignment at Howard Air Force Base in Panama. Colonel Lynch, a C-130 navigator, and Captain Fanning, a pilot, returned with Sergeant Isham, flight engineer, to Standiford Field May 20 after serving 15 days of rotation duty for the Southern Command.

The Southern Command is responsible for U.S. interests in all of Latin America, which begins south of Mexico in Central America and stretches to the tip of Chile in south America.

"The missions were interesting, but the region had no bearing on our performance or ability," said Captain Fanning. "We did our job the same as the active duty. Being a guardsman isn't the issue. Not at all."

While enroute to one transport assignment, the Kentuckians were ordered to abort their mission and respond to a search and rescue attempt in the Caribbean Sea. A Panamanian freight vessel became stranded for more than four days and was feared lost.

Through radar and other communications, Colonel Lynch and Captain Fanning located the vessel and directed commercial ships to its aid.

The rescue mission was aired on national newscasts, but the fact that Air Guardsmen were involved was not an issue.

"I liked my job in Latin America. It was a good test for me," the captain added. "From another aspect, I hope it strengthens our ties with the Panamanians. I think it did."

The decision to allow Guardsmen and Reservists to train in Central America drew protests last month in light of the rioting and political turmoil surrounding Panama's Gen. Manuel Noriega, the country's de facto ruler. Despite the growing tensions there and in neighboring countries, the NGB does not plan to change its policies in Central America.

"Flying for the Southern Command was one of the greatest assignments I've ever had. You wouldn't believe how much satisfaction it gave me," said Colonel Lynch. "If the chance ever comes up again, you can bet I'll go."

Exercise Volant Oak

Also in May, a 20-member flight crew from the KyANG participated in Volant Oak, an exercise where Air Guard flying units rotate through Panama every 15 days. Airmen from Kentucky were sent there to augment a sister unit of the 179th Tactical Airlift Group from Mansfield, Ohio.

Col. John V. Greene, deputy commander of operations and the mission commander during Volant Oak, said nothing took place that would change his mind about Guardsmen serving down south.

"It's fine with me. I have no problems with our people being there," said Colonel Greene. "Those who served were volunteers, and we did a darn good job."

During their two-week mission, the Kentuckians provided airlift support for real-world missions. They conducted re-supply drops to U.S. embassies throughout Latin America and, on one occasion, carried out an

aeromedical mission and transported an injured marine to the Kelly AFB medical center in Texas.

In addition to the Panama deployment, Kentucky Army and Air Guard troops have contributed greatly to the U.S. presence in Central America. Earlier this year, 53 Air Guard civil engineers deployed to Honduras to construct toilet and shower facilities for U.S. troops stationed at Soto Cano. Several weeks later, an Army Guard medical unit was sent to nearby Guatemala.

National Guard and Reserve units have played an important role in Central America since 1985, primarily to support road building and civilian medical programs. Nearly all 50 states and U.S. territories have sent men and women to serve with the Southern Command, and eventually all states will begin training there on a rotating basis, according to Army Lt. Col. Charles Blische, the Pentagon's chief of special projects at the National Guard Bureau in Washington.

Air Force Association seeks junior officer for council

Nominations are being solicited for the Air Force Association Junior Officer Advisory Council -- one of the most significant advisory groups of the Air Force Association.

The AFA has historically requested lieutenants be appointed to this council to bring fresh and different viewpoints to its deliberations. The JOAC normally meets two or three times a year. Most meetings, with the exception of the National Convention, are convened for two-day periods. These meetings will be funded by Headquarters Air National Guard through the use of the Active Duty for Special Work tour program.

Any KyANG junior officer interested in serving on the JOAC as a representative of the Guard should contact Major Glenn Adair, chief CBPO, ext. 419, this weekend.

LIFE SUPPORT

Changing location and orientation

By Maj. Toby Harrell
Public Affairs Office

One of the KyANG's most successful sections is in the process of setting up shop in a new location to continue their winning ways. The 165th TAS Life Support Section has been awarded five consecutive outstanding ratings on various ORIs, MEIs and other major inspections. Now, with the KyANG's new mission, the section is changing location and orientation.

In the days of the RF-4C, the life support shop occupied a corner section of the Operations Building. There they could provide the Phantom crews with small individual storage areas for harnesses, G-suits and helmets, as well as have room for a cockpit mock-up/emergency egress trainer and a hanging harness training area.

With the change to C-130s, the life support section has moved around the corner of the building to a much larger area, reflecting the different type of life support training and equipment required for larger, passenger carrying aircraft.

MSgt. James M. Smith, NCOIC life support 123d TAW, says there is a significant difference in the work his shop does now. "We are far more aircraft oriented than aircrew oriented. Everything now is for emergency use."

In the past, most equipment maintained by the life support section was used on a daily basis -- helmets, G-suits, and harnesses were required on every RF-4C flight. The emergency equipment was there if needed for ejection/

survival situations.

In the C-130, such individual equipment is not normally required. The emergency equipment maintained by life support on board the C-130 (life rafts, crew parachutes and emergency breathing gear) hopefully will never be used.

One of the most important duties of the life support section is the training of individual aircrews in the use of their emergency and survival equipment. SSgt. Joan Hazle, a life support technician, is hopeful the crews will maintain the same interest and enthusiasm as before. "RF-4 crews were really interested in their refresher training because they knew there was a chance they really might have to use it," Sergeant Hazle said. Keeping the aircrews interested and enthusiastic is something the life support section will work hard at doing.

A new piece of equipment Sergeant Hazle will teach people to use is the Emergency Escape Breathing Device. These devices provide a full-face hood that can withstand temperatures of up to 1,200 degrees Fahrenheit and provide the wearer with 15 minutes of oxygen. Sergeant Hazle said the KyANG is getting 250 of the EEBDs, which provide a much higher level of safety than the older style high pressure breathing bottles. Passengers and crew members will be provided with the EEBDs for use in the case of an in-flight fire or the loss of cabin pressurization.

Sergeant Hazle said there are also significant differences in the chemical warfare defense area. In the past, aircrews were dressed in their chemical ensembles in a "safe" area and then went out to the aircraft. In the C-130, with its doors



KyANG Photo by Sgt. Dennis Robinson

SSgt. Joan Hazle adjusts an oxygen mask.

open for cargo operations, the crews will be much more on their own. "They will have to learn to dress themselves quickly and correctly in the airplane," said Sergeant Hazle.

With the return of the KyANG's Combat Control Team, the life support section will pick up a completely new job. The CCT is equipped with some very specialized gear for their operations such as individual main and reserve parachutes and special jump helmets and goggles. The team's equipment "will be used regularly," Sergeant Hazle said. "It's not emergency equipment." It will be the life support section's job to maintain a good portion of the CCT's gear.

The 123d TAW Life Support Section is manned with three full-time technicians and five traditional Guardsmen. This staff has proven in many inspections in the past that they are the best in the business. All members of the KyANG can rest assured that should the need arise, the equipment and training provided by this section will be the very best.

Drug tests: the facts

By Evelyn D. Harris
American Forces Information Service

You're not a drug abuser. But when you found out that you are in a testing-designated position, you definitely became nervous.

Terror is an accurate word to describe your feelings when you were told to go to the lavatory for your drug test. After all, you've read the stories about people whose careers were ruined by a false positive on a drug test. You've heard that if you take prescription drugs or over-the-counter allergy pills or even if you eat poppyseed bagels, you'll test as positive as a hardened addict.

Calm down. According to Navy Cdr. John Irving, "If you are not abusing illegal drugs, you have no reason to fear the tests." He is acting chief of the Drug Testing Section, Office of Workplace Initiatives at the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

The Department of Defense uses only military and certified civilian drug-testing labs. To ensure accuracy, DoD regularly sends special coded "dummy" specimens through them. If a lab comes up with even one false positive on the dummy specimens, it loses its certification.

DoD drug screening involves a two-step process. The first is a screening test, where specimens are analyzed to indicate the presence of drugs. Specimens that test positive in the screening phase are retested to confirm beyond doubt that the urine does contain the drug in question. The second test involves a procedure called gas chromatography/mass spectrometry. Using it, the possibility of obtaining false positives is virtually eliminated. In fact, the results of urine tests using these procedures have been accepted and sustained in the federal courts.

Job applicants and a percentage of DoD civilian employees in testing-designated positions are being screened for THC (the active ingredient in marijuana), cocaine, PCP, opiates and amphetamines. Unless an individual agency wants to do so, there will be no test for barbiturates.

Commander Irving said that certain over-the-counter drugs could produce a false positive in the initial screening. These drugs include some antihistamines and Vicks-brand inhalers. However, recent improvements in the screening test have reduced the likelihood of this happening, and the more accurate second test, the gas chromatography/mass spectrometry,

usually eliminates the problem.

However, as a safeguard, the medical review officer will talk to individuals who test positive before their agency is notified of the results. During the interview, the individual can demonstrate that the positive finding is due to a valid prescription or an over-the-counter drug. If so, the result is sent back to the agency as negative.

Eating poppyseeds -- even in normal amounts -- can result in a positive screening. Therefore, positive readings for opiates are routinely retested to look for a metabolite found only in heroin. As a further protection, the medical review officer is required to verify the individual's opiate-positive results are sent back to the agency.

Music fans have nothing to fear either. Irving said the detectable cutoff for THC is such that the specimen from a person attending a rock concert or being in a room where marijuana has been smoked would not come up positive in a drug test.

Drinking an herbal tea call "Inca" could result in a positive test for cocaine. The tea has been off the market since 1987 and is prohibited in the United States because it is made from the coca leaf. However, said Commander Irving, if someone "found some in the attic" and drank it, the medical review officer could determine if that was the cause of the positive test.

"The amount of cocaine in the urine from drinking herbal tea would be very low, and the individual's sample would probably be declared negative. But if there was a high level, the officer wouldn't buy it -- the test result would be positive," said Commander Irving.

You may have heard that drug tests discriminate against blacks because they mistake melanin, the substance responsible for skin pigmentation and present in urine, for marijuana. Scientists have been unable to replicate the research that was responsible for this concern and thus have concluded that it was faulty. The conclusion: Testing will no mistake melanin for marijuana.

Feature

Blacks in military history

Submitted by TSgt. Bill Rice
Social Actions NCO

Blacks have served this country valiantly in all the nation's major wars. Even as slaves, black men fought for freedom, not only for themselves, but for their country. However, it was not until July 26, 1948, that President Harry S. Truman ended segregation in the Armed Forces of the United States.

Executive Order 9981 stated there be "equality of treatment and opportunity for all persons in the armed services without regard to race, creed, color, religion, or national origin."

Listed below are two of the unsung heroes in black history:

Charles Young (1864-1922) was the third black man to graduate from West Point. He was a colonel up to the time of World War I, when, rather than being given a command assignment and becoming a brigadier general of white troops, he was asked to retire because of ill health and age.

Colonel Young proved to the Army he was in good health and was not too old by riding his horse five hundred miles to Washington, D.C. However, his efforts were in vain; he was simply reassigned with duties of training black troops at Fort Grant, Ill. Later, he was sent to Liberia to help organize the Army there.

Dorie Miller (1919-1943) was a sailor on the battleship Arizona. He served as a messman since it was the policy of the Navy to assign blacks to menial jobs only.

During the Japanese attack on

Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, Miller carried his mortally wounded captain to safety and then took over an anti-aircraft gun from a dying white sailor. Even though he was untrained, Miller was able to shoot down four Japanese bombers before he was ordered off the ship.

Miller became one of the first heroes of World War II. He was awarded the Navy Cross by President Franklin D. Roosevelt for his bravery. He was killed on Thanksgiving Day, 1943, when his ship, the Liscome Bay, was torpedoed and sunk.

The integration of the Armed Forces has had a great effect on attitudes of whites and blacks. It also proved to disbelievers that blacks could measure up to the standards of achievement set for whites. Countless soldiers of all races have taken this knowledge with them back into private life.

Promotions

To TSgt:

Patrick R. Bales, 123d CFT
August S. Damico, 123d TAW
Roy Denison, 123d MSS
Mary Thurman, 123d RMS
Mark L. Wilson, 123d MSFlt

To SSgt:

Christopher R. Johnson, 123d CFT
Genevieve Smith, 123d RMS

To Sgt:

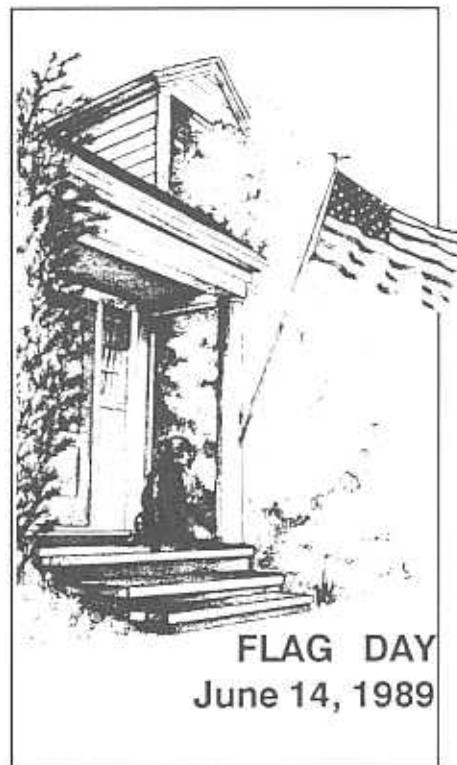
Kevin A. Robison, 123d CFT
Mark A. Thurman, 123d CAM
Michael S. Bishop, 123d CAM

To SrA:

Kenneth R. Broome, 123d RMS
Susan T. Cardwell, 123d MSS
Richard A. Dages, 123d CAM
Matthew K. Spaulding, 123d MSFlt
Pamela J. Thomas, 165th TAS

To AIC:

Archie L. Roberts IV, Tac Hosp



FLAG DAY
June 14, 1989