

THE CARGO COURIER

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

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Deployments enhance U.S. border security



Photo courtesy 123rd Maintenance Squadron

Chief Master Sgt. Roger Hamilton of the wing's 123rd Maintenance Squadron scans the Mariposa Wash for undocumented aliens west of Nogales, Ariz., in August. Chief Hamilton is one of more than 100 Kentucky Air Guardsmen who have deployed this year to enhance U.S. border security as part of Operation Jump Start.

Kentucky Airmen constructing fences, serving as sentries

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

More than 100 members of the Kentucky Air Guard have played a critical role in the nation's defense by deploying to multiple locations along the U.S.-Mexican border since July.

The deployments are part of Operation Jump Start, the National Guard-led mission to help U.S. Border Patrol agents gain tighter control of the Mexican border. Additional rotations are expected for at least two years.

Most of the Kentucky Airmen have deployed to locations near Tuscon, Ariz., where they've acted as sentries, performed support functions like logistics and maintenance, and

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Headquarters Building renamed to honor Conaway

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

The Kentucky Air National Guard dedicated its Headquarters Building to Lt. Gen. John B. Conaway during a ceremony held here Oct. 22, honoring a former member who rose to the National Guard's highest post.

General Conaway joined the Kentucky Air Guard's 123rd Tactical Reconnaissance Wing in 1963 and held a variety of positions on base, including operations officer, air commander and wing vice commander, before being selected to serve as deputy director of the Air National Guard in 1977.

Four years later, General Conaway was named director of the Air National Guard, a post he held until 1988 when he

was promoted to vice chief of the National Guard Bureau.

In 1990, General Conaway began his three-year tenure as chief of the NGB, the National Guard's top leadership position.

Army Maj. Gen. Donald Storm, Kentucky's adjutant general, called General Conaway a "great patriot" who "laid a tremendous foundation" for the Kentucky National Guard.

"His career has been remarkable," General Storm told a crowd of nearly 200 gathered on base for the dedication ceremony. "And his contributions to Kentucky have been significant in ways that few others could ever conceive.

"What is particularly interesting is the

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Capt. Dale Greer/KyANG

More than a slogan: Service Before Self is a moral imperative embodied by Airmen

One of my greatest privileges as your secretary is witnessing the selfless dedication on display by Airmen around the world.

You consistently demonstrate your commitment to the Core Value of Service Before Self.

Wherever I look, Airmen are executing our mission — flying and fighting in air, space and cyberspace.

More than 30,000 Airmen are deployed around the world in support of 11 major operations, and more than 62,000 Airmen in total are serving overseas.

Whether our Airmen are fighting the Global War on Terror, providing deterrence on the Korean peninsula, or bringing aid to communities devastated by natural disasters, they continue to perform wonders.

Across all ranks and specialties, Airmen serve a higher cause than their own self-interest.

Air Force Reserve C-130 crews serve the greater good of our citizens, fighting wildfires in Oregon, Idaho, and California. Airmen serve on KC-135s and E-3s over the skies of South America, supporting counter-drug operations.

Airmen serve deep in the mountains



Michael W. Wynne
Secretary of the Air Force

of Afghanistan, calling in A-10s and B-1s for airstrikes in support of coalition troops. Airmen serve as America's silent sentries, maintaining the readiness of our Inter-Continental Ballistic Missiles deep in underground control centers across the heartland.

Air National Guardsmen serve in the skies over our homes, providing air

defense patrols and alert forces ready at a moment's notice.

In Balad, Iraq, the service of Air Force medics and evacuation teams saves the lives of Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and their fellow Airmen daily.

Whether on the tip of the spear or supporting the mission with steadfast professionalism, all Airmen are equally committed to Service Before Self — defending our nation at the cost of great personal sacrifice.

The value of Service Before Self is obvious in acts of heroism. Although images of heroic acts come to mind when we talk of Service Before Self, I am fully confident that this value lies deep within us all.

Medal of Honor recipient, A1C John Levitow, explains it best in his quote etched forever in the Inscription Wall at our Air Force Memorial: "I have been recognized as a hero for my ten minutes of action over Vietnam, but I am no more a hero than anyone else who has served their country."

Service Before Self is more than a slogan; it is a moral imperative I see internalized daily in all of America's Airmen. It makes me ever proud to serve alongside you.

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Base marksmen win 8th straight pistol title

For the eight consecutive year — and the 10th time in the past 12 years — marksmen from the Kentucky Air Guard Pistol Team have taken top honors in the state pistol competition.

The annual two-day event, held in April at Fort Knox, Ky., pitted the best shooters from the Kentucky Army Guard against their sharp-eyed counterparts in the Kentucky Air Guard.

Testing participants' skills with the 9mm Beretta pistol, the first match required shooters to lie in a prone position and fire 12 shots at two man-sized targets from 25 yards in less than 60 seconds.

Next, shooters fired 12 rounds from the kneeling position in 30 seconds at a distance of 20 yards. Then the marksmen were required to fire 12 final shots in 15 seconds from the standing position at 20 yards.

When the smoke cleared, the Kentucky Air Guard's Tech. Sgt. Frank Tallman held the lead with a score of 147.

The second event, called the Excellence in Competition Match, ended with the Kentucky Air Guard's Master Sgt. Darryl Loafman in first place with a total of 300 points. Other KyANG participants included Capt. Rodney Boyd; Senior Master Sgt. John Siebert; Master Sgts. James Johnson, Travis Keenher and Dave Selby; and Tech. Sgts. Jim Berger and Tommy Knight.

The Kentucky team also placed in the rifle competition, earning a third-place overall title.

Overall, the Air Guard team earned the top three pistol awards — first to Sergeant Loafman, second to Master Sgt. John Martin and third to Sergeant Tallman.

Captain Rodney Boyd took first place in the novice pistol category, and Master Sgt. Kenny Hampton earned first place in rifle shooting.

Former Ky. Air Guard officer takes top post at 1st Air Force

Maj. Gen. Henry Morrow served as assistant AG

By Tech Sgt Scott Farley
1st Air Force Public Affairs

TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. — Maj. Gen. Henry Morrow, a former officer in the Kentucky Air National Guard, took command of 1st Air Force, Air Forces Northern and the Continental United States NORAD Region during a change of command ceremony here Nov. 1.

General Morrow served most recently as mobilization assistant to the commander, North American Aerospace Defense Command, and comes to Tyndall with more than 28 years of service in the U.S. Air Force.

He held a variety of positions in the Kentucky National Guard between 2003 and 2004, including assistant adjutant general for air and director of operations, Joint Forces Headquarters — Kentucky.

General Morrow also served tours in the United Kingdom, Germany and Qatar,

where he directed the Combined Air Operations Center for U.S. Central Command Air Forces. He is a combat veteran and command pilot with more than 3,000 flying hours in trainer and fighter aircraft.

"I'm very fortunate to serve with some of the finest professionals in the nation while living and working in this great community," General Morrow said.

As commander of 1st Air Force (AF-NORTH) and the Continental U.S. NORAD Region, General Morrow assumes responsibility for the air sovereignty and air defense of the continental United States, Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.

He directs and coordinates the efforts of the Combined Air Operations Center here and its geographically separated defense sectors and fighter wings. 1st Air Force plans, conducts, controls, and coordinates all Air Force forces for the NORAD-NORTHCOM commander.

General Morrow replaced Maj. Gen. M. Scott Mayes, who retired Nov. 1. General Mayes received the Distinguished Service Medal, the Air Force's fourth highest decoration, for his service at 1st Air Force.



Steve Wallace/USAF

Gen. Ronald Keys, left, commander of the Air Combat Command, presents Maj. Gen. Henry Morrow with a guidon during the 1st Air Force change-of-command ceremony held Nov. 1 at Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla.

Jump Start

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constructed or extended steel fencing that serves to deter illegal entry.

2nd Lt. Jerry Zollman, a maintenance officer in the 123rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, deployed to Tuscon in August and described his experience as “extremely valuable.”

“After going down there and working with the Border Patrol, I see how loose the border really is,” said Lieutenant Zollman, who was part of the leadership team that stood up the first Air Guard presence in Arizona.

“Major crimes are happening every day, including human and drug trafficking. So a lot of bad stuff is coming through.

“Our role in helping secure the border is a very important mission,” he added. “It’s the kind of job that the National Guard was created for — protecting and defending our borders.”

While in Arizona, Lieutenant Zollman served as flight chief for the first Air Guard element tasked with Entry Identification Team (EIT) duty.

In this capacity, Airmen staffed border-observations posts 24 hours a day and reported suspicious activity to U.S. Border Patrol agents for follow-up.

EITs in Nogales, Ariz., typically reported several dozen suspicious events per shift, Lieutenant Zollman said, including instances of potential drug smuggling and human trafficking.

In one instance, Air Guardsmen reported a suspicious vehicle that was subsequently stopped by the Border Patrol. Agents found 350 pounds of marijuana and two automatic assault rifles inside.

“The Border Patrol told us we were making a huge difference in the Nogales area,” Lieutenant Zollman said.

More than 30 members of the 123rd Civil Engineering Squadron also made a demonstrable difference by constructing 500 feet of steel fencing and fabricating 70 “Normandy Barricades” during their August deployment to Arizona,

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Photos courtesy 123rd Maintenance Squadron and 123rd Civil Engineering Squadron



Above: Tech. Sgt. Dean James of the 123rd Maintenance Squadron monitors the border near Nogales, Ariz.



Right: A car loaded with drugs and guns is impounded.



Right, below: Members of the 123rd Civil Engineering Squadron leave their mark in Arizona.



Above: KyANG civil engineering members work on a steel fence in Bisbee, Arizona.



Left: Senior Airman Mike Ferris of the 123rd Civil Engineering Squadron cuts steel beams used in the construction of fencing along the U.S.-Mexican border.



Left: Welders with the 123rd Civil Engineering Squadron prepare railroad rails for use in a type of fencing called Normandy Barricades.



Left: An Airman hauls completed Normandy Barricades to the installation site, where they will be welded to other segments.



Workers weld pieces of steel matting together near



Above: Airmen position the steel matting to extend fencing between the United States and Mexico.

Frankfort facilities named for former Ky. AGs

By Army Maj. Don Peters
Kentucky National Guard Public Affairs

FRANKFORT — The Kentucky National Guard honored two of its former commanders here on Oct. 21 with a dedication ceremony renaming two Boone National Guard Center buildings.

Maj. Gen. Richard Frymire (retired), who served as the adjutant general from 1971 to 1977 and is still the only Air National Guard officer to hold that title in Kentucky, had his name posted on the Emergency Operations Center, while the Frankfort Headquarters Armory was renamed after Army Maj. Gen. Billy Wellman (retired), who was the state's top officer from 1977-1987 — the longest such stretch in modern Kentucky history.

Both buildings were built during General Frymire's tenure.

Gov. Ernie Fletcher, who was in attendance along with former Gov. Brereton Jones and several former Kentucky adjutants general, had high praise for both of the honorees.

"It's right and fitting that we honor them this way," Governor Fletcher said. "They both provided a tremendous amount of leadership and growth to the Kentucky National Guard.

"I have many responsibilities as governor, but the best responsibility is working with the adjutants general and the National Guard," he added, saying, "(Generals Frymire and Wellman) laid the foundation to bring us now to a 21st century force. They helped build one of the greatest National Guard organizations this country has ever seen."

Army Col. John Heltzel, Joint Force Headquarters deputy commander, also had high praise for the two.

"Maj. Gen. Frymire was instrumental in revising the state emergency management system," said Colonel Heltzel, acting in place of Army Maj. Gen. Donald Storm, who was returning from visiting KyNG troops in Iraq. Colonel Heltzel went on to call General Wellman a "dynamo" of public service who "put Kentucky on the road to national prominence."

Both General Frymire and General Wellman had distinguished careers, not only in the KyNG but in other public service positions as well.

General Frymire, whose military career spanned three decades, started out as a Marine aviator before transferring to the Kentucky Air National Guard in 1956. From there, he served in numerous staff and command positions, and was mobilized with the 165th Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron in January 1968 for the Pueblo Crisis. After a year of active duty, he assumed command of the unit and was serving in that capacity when he was appointed the adjutant general in December 1971.

After serving for six years, General Frymire resigned on Dec. 9, 1977, and reverted back to traditional National Guard status. A longtime lawyer, he achieved a notable distinction by serving eight years in the Kentucky General Assembly (four years in the House of Representatives and four years in the State Senate) while serving simultaneously in the KyANG. He later held the position of Hopkins County judge-executive from 1999-2003.

"To serve as the adjutant general for six years was a tremendous honor to me," General Frymire said.

General Wellman, who succeeded General Frymire as the adjutant general, enlisted in the Kentucky National Guard in 1951 before receiving his commission through ROTC in 1956. He became a



Photos courtesy Kentucky Army National Guard

Maj. Gen. Richard Frymire (retired), left, receives a framed photo commemorating the Emergency Operations Center dedication from Gov. Ernie Fletcher.



Gov. Fletcher presents a second photo to Army Maj. Gen. Billy Wellman (retired) commemorating the renaming of the Frankfort Headquarters Armory.

full-time KyNG employee in 1957 and worked in staff and command positions before being appointed as chief of staff in September 1975. Named as the Adjutant General on Dec. 9, 1977, General Wellman was reappointed to that position twice by two different governors. He also twice served as secretary of the Justice Cabinet and Kentucky State Police commissioner — once while serving as the adjutant general, the other time after he had retired from military service.

"I'm grateful for the recognition, but more grateful for being allowed to serve," General Wellman said, adding, "I was better prepared for the jobs that lay ahead by working with Maj. Gen. Frymire."

AMC declares C-130J Hercules operational

Air Mobility Command officials have declared Initial Operational Capability for the C-130J aircraft.

The October declaration is the result of an extensive effort to meet specific IOC criteria.

During nearly nine months of testing that concluded in April, the intratheater airlifter performed as it was supposed to under a variety of real-world conditions, officials said.

AMC first deployed C-130Js to Southwest Asia from December 2004 to March 2005, where they logged a mission-capable rate of 93.1 percent.

Honoring those who've served



Fireworks light up the Air Force Memorial Oct. 13 at Arlington, Va., on the eve of its official dedication ceremony.

Designed by the late James Ingo Freed, the memorial, with its three soaring spires inspired by the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds' bomb burst maneuver, pays tribute to and honors the men and women of the U.S. Air Force.

Photo by Senior Airman Desiree L. Andrejck/USAF

Act provides for 22 new C-17s

Tricare eligibility now includes all reservists and family members

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — The fiscal 2007 National Defense Authorization Act provides more than \$530 billion to maintain the military in the shape it must be to win the war on terrorism, officials say.

President Bush signed the bill, officially called the John Warner National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007, during a small ceremony in the Oval Office on Oct. 17.

Senator Warner is Virginia's senior senator and the chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

The act provides \$462.8 billion in budget authority for the Defense Department. Senate and House conferees added the \$70 billion defense supplemental budget request to the act, so overall, the act authorizes \$532.8 billion for fiscal 2007.

The act sets aside \$4.4 billion for 22 C-17 Globemaster III airlifters, \$1.4 billion for procurement of 14 Marine V-22 Osprey

tilt-rotor aircraft and \$1.5 billion for 43 MH-60R/S helicopters. The act authorizes \$841 million for 122 Stryker combat vehicles, including \$41.5 million to replace combat losses. The act also provides \$1.4 billion for 20 F-22 Raptor fighters and reduced funding for the F-35 Lightning II fighter due to schedule delays.

The \$70 billion supplemental provision covers the cost of operations in Iraq, Afghanistan and the Horn of Africa, as well as other expenses affiliated with the war on terrorism. The supplemental funding also provides \$23.8 billion to help "reset" Army and Marine Corps equipment, which is wearing out faster than originally planned because of the war.

The measure further provides \$2.1 billion for the Joint Improvised Explosive Device Task Force, \$1.7 billion to train and equip Iraqi security forces and \$1.5 billion to help train and equip Afghan security forces.

The authorization act provides a 2.2 percent pay raise for American servicemembers, effective Jan. 1. The act also authorizes the expansion of eligibility for the Tricare health care program to all members of the Selected Reserve while in a non-active-duty status and their families. Payment is set at 28 percent of the premium amount established by DOD.

Jump Start

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said Senior Master Sgt. Steve Peters, the unit's operations chief for civil engineering.

The barricades — iron crosses resembling tank traps — were made by welding old railroad rails together, he said, while the fences were constructed from surplus plates once used to build temporary aircraft ramps.

Both projects were designed to frustrate illegal entry by giving U.S. Border Patrol agents enough time to respond to suspicious activities.

The Kentucky engineers also installed metal extensions on existing fences, raising their height by several feet.

"I think we made a lot of headway on border security," Sergeant Peters said.

"We've also got a long way to go. But we'll probably be returning to Arizona for the next couple of years to fabricate more fencing.

"We're definitely taking steps in the right direction."

Dedication

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way General Conaway, while never serving as adjutant general, shaped the Kentucky National Guard and influenced its growth.”

One of General Conaway’s most important contributions, General Storm said, was his successful campaign to secure a C-130 airlift mission for Kentucky, which was saddled in the late 1980s with an increasingly irrelevant RF-4C reconnaissance operation.

“Ever the vanguard for the Kentucky Guard, General Conaway saw the way of future, and he made sure Kentucky was included in the growth of the aviation mission,” General Storm said. “He was instrumental in the transition of the Kentucky Air Guard from the RF-4 Phantom manned reconnaissance mission to the C-130 tactical airlift mission. That was no small feat, but it was the right thing at the right time for the nation and the commonwealth.

“For that effort alone, I want to thank you, General Conaway. You’ll never know how much those aircraft mean, not only to our troops and Airmen, but to total strangers around the globe — military and civilian alike — whose lives have been saved and improved because of that mission capability.”

General Conaway also was “a statesman who worked with our national civilian leadership to provide Kentucky with this state-of-the-art air base in Louisville,” General Storm noted.

“As director of the Air National Guard, and later as chief of the National Guard Bureau, General Conaway never forgot Kentucky. He’s a favorite son of Kentucky who repaid us all as a benefactor of this great commonwealth.”

Maj. Gen. Carl Black, a former commander of the 123rd Tactical Reconnaissance Wing, noted that General Conaway also played a critical role in bringing United Parcel Service’s air hub to Louisville.

That facility is now one of the city’s largest private employers, contributing million of dollars annually to the local economy. But in the early 1980s, air traffic at Standiford Field was limited to planes that could land on a 7,800-foot runway, a factor that made operations more challenging for the wing’s RF-4Cs and ruled out heavy air cargo traffic.



Tech. Sgt. Dennis Flora/KyANG

Lt. Gen. John Conaway (retired), left, receives a framed photo commemorating the dedication of the Kentucky Air Guard Headquarters Building from Army Maj. Gen. Donald Storm, Kentucky’s adjutant general. The dedication, held on base Oct. 22, honored Conaway, a former member of the Kentucky Air Guard who served as chief of the National Guard Bureau from 1990 to 1993.

“We needed (a longer runway) operationally for the F-4s, and John was aware of that,” General Black said. “So he went to work with the Congressmen and the Senators and the Air Force” to seek funding for a runway expansion.

Thanks in part to General Conaway’s efforts, the funding was subsequently secured, improving flight safety for military aircraft while also creating new opportunities for civilian aviation.

“Make no mistake,” General Black said. “Without John B. Conaway, UPS would not be here today.”

General Conaway expressed his appreciation for the dedication and said he was pleased by the unit’s ongoing role at the forefront of world events.

“You make me proud of what you have done with the C-130s and the mission you have,” he said. “You do good for America; you do good for the commonwealth.

“I am so proud to say that I am a Kentucky Guardsman.”

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