THE CARGO COURIER

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# Ford site adds realism to 'Turkey Trot'

Photos by Master Sgts. Terry Lutz and Charles Simpson/KyANG

**ABOVE: Maj. Bill Adkisson of the 123rd Medical Squadron provides trauma care to a wounded airman during Turkey Trot '99.**

**BELOW: The realistic exercise included actual tear gas assaults.**

**By 2nd Lt. Dale Greer**
**Wing Public Affairs Officer**

The demands of drill weekend can sometimes make it impossible for Guard members to meet training requirements while keeping up with essential duties.

That's especially true for members of the wing's 123rd Medical Squadron, which has seen it's share of real-world taskings lately, processing personnel for several overseas deployments.

"Because of all the deployments and requests to set up shot lines, we were having a real problem staying current on our proficiency training," said Master Sgt. Barry Wright, public health manager for the unit.

The solution, Wright said, was to pack up the squadron's gear and get out of town.

And so, after a week of classroom instruction here on everything from the Law of Armed Conflict to bandaging techniques, that's just what 37 KyANG medical personnel did, deploying to the Wendell H. Ford Training Center near Greenville, Ky.

From June 9 through 14, the doctors, physician-assistants, nurses and medics were tasked with setting up an Air Transportable Clinic, providing perimeter security and retrieving wounded troops from enemy territory for trauma care and medical evacuation.

In the meantime, members of the 123rd Special Tactics Flight were assaulting them with real tear gas and attempted raids.

"We actually got a whole year's worth of training in that two-week period," said Capt. David Worley, who, as the squadron's education and training manager, helped plan the deployment.

The simulation mirrored a proficiency test the unit is required to take every four years at the Air National Guard's Combat Readiness Training Center in Alpena, Mich.

"We took their lesson plans and taught the same material," Wright said.

Because of that fact — and because the deployed environment added a dose of wartime realism — the unit should be well prepared for its next trip to Alpena in 2000, he said.

"There were a lot of new people who went on this deployment — a lot of young troops who have never experienced field conditions, put up a temperate tent or

*See DEPLOYMENT, Page 4*

# Wing moving to AEF concept to reduce load and improve planning

I hope that everyone has had a great summer and enjoyed the break that we've had since last UTA.

I am happy to say that we've had a productive and safe summer thus far, and so it is fitting that we take some time this weekend to invite our families to the base before we get wrapped up in all of our AEF deployments this fall and winter.

As everyone knows, the Air National Guard has become more and more involved in the day-to-day missions of the Air Force.

The Air Expeditionary Force concept does not change this fact, but it should serve to lessen the turmoil caused by last-minute taskings.

For us it means that our aviation package will deploy every 15 months to either Southwest Asia or Europe to support long-term steady state contingency operations.

We will also continue to support several Coronet Oak deployments each year. Our Support folks will deploy every 30 months during the same time periods as our aviation package.

We will be responsible for supporting an operation for a 90-day period but will rotate folks in and out every two to three weeks.

**Col. Michael L. Harden**
*123rd Airlift Wing Commander*

The whole idea is to put all our deployments into the same 90-day time frame so that when we are not in the box to deploy, we will be home to concentrate on training and all the other things we have to do.

This concept should simplify our lives by letting us, our families and our employers know when we will be expected to deploy.

Our AEF partner is the 179th Airlift Wing from Mansfield, Ohio.

They fly the same model Herk that we fly, and all of those folks who worked with them during our Germany deployment last winter know that they are a great bunch of people.

We will work with them on our AEF One deployment to Oman, which will begin next month and continue until the first of January.

This will be our first test of this new concept.

I know that it comes at a difficult time for a lot of folks because we have been so busy this past year, and here we go again asking you to once again take time away from your families and employers.

As the first AEF, this is an important deployment for us — and the Air National Guard.

I ask for your support once again, and I know that we will pull it off in grand fashion.

Thanks Loads,

Michael L. Harden

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**The editorial content is edited and prepared by the public affairs office of the 123rd Airlift Wing, Kentucky Air National Guard, Louisville International Airport, Louisville, Ky. 40213-2678.**

**If you have a story idea, photo or article to submit, stop by the public affairs office, room 2117 of the Wing Headquarters Building. Deadline for the next issue is Sept. 1.**

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# Base Club opens for business

Photos by 2nd Lt. Dale Greer/KyANG

By 2nd Lt. Dale Greer
Wing Public Affairs Officer

The Thoroughbred Club's grand opening last month was a "great success," according to Master Sgt. Teresa Adams.

"Our first drill weekend really exceeded our expectations," said Adams, who sits on the club's board of directors.

"We were very happy with it. I think there was a good turn out, including a lot of retirees who came out on the Friday before drill."

Adams cautioned, however, that the club was only a third of the way through its initial 90-day trial run.

"We need everyone's continued support, and we're hoping this drill will be even better."

The club, located in the old Motor Pool Annex, is open Tuesday through Friday from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. and on UTA weekends from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.

**Chief Master Sgt. Tommy Downs keeps the brats cookin' during the Thoroughbred Club's grand opening last drill (TOP) while Capt. Armand Bolotte enjoys the camaraderie (BOTTOM).**

## Chaplain seeking nominees for Clergy Day

**The 123rd Airlift Wing will hold a Clergy Appreciation Day on Oct. 16 to familiarize local ministers with the Air Guard mission and thank them for their support.**

**The day's activities will include lunch and a base tour, as well as a possible C-130 orientation flight. The program will be limited to the first 35 ministers who accept.**

**To nominate your favorite pastor, call the base chaplain's office at ext. 4611 before close of business Sunday.**

## Officer position open in MSF

**The 123rd Mission Support Flight has a vacancy for the position of customer support officer.**

**Any officer or certified officer candidate may apply for the position, which has an authorized grade of captain.**

**For more information, contact Lt. Col. Mike Dornbush at (502) 364-9443.**

# Promotions in the Kentucky Air National Guard

*The following individuals have been promoted to the rank indicated as members of the Kentucky Air Guard and reservists of the U.S. Air Force:*

### AIRMAN 1ST CLASS (E-3)

**•Heather Allen,**
205th Combat Communications Sq.
**•Aleica Dennison,**
123rd Communications Flt.

### SENIOR AIRMAN (E-4)

**•Stanna Atwell,**
123rd Medical Sq.
**•Amy Busch,**
123rd Mission Support Flt.
**•Casey Carmichael,**
123rd Logistics Sq.
**•Meghann Coffey,**
123rd Security Forces Sq.
**•Christopher Mariott,**
123rd Aerial Port Sq.
**•Eric May,**
123rd Security Forces Sq.
**•Tanika Pilgrim,**
205th Combat Communications Sq.
**•Anthony Smith,**
123rd Aerial Port Sq.

### STAFF SGT. (E-5)

**•Baron Bodner,**
123rd Aerial Port Sq.
**•Christian Cobler,**
123rd Special Tactics Flt.
**•James Embry,**
123rd Aircraft Generation Sq.
**•Cary Mendelsohn,**
123rd Maintenance Sq.
**•Kenneth Rafferty,**
123rd Services Flt.
**•Mimi Roy,**
205th Combat Communications Flt.
**•Michelle Self,**
123rd Services Flt.
**•Chad Waters,**
123rd Maintenance Sq.

### TECHNICAL SGT. (E-6)

**•Angela Conner,**
123rd Medical Sq.
**•Ray Dawson,**
123rd Aerial Port
**•Larry Harlson,**
123rd Aerial Port Sq.

# Deployment

**Continued from Front Page**

drank out of a canteen," Wright said.

"We've used moulage patients on base in the past, but when you've got people shooting at you, or tear gas exploding, or it's hot outside and bugs are biting you, it's different than sitting in a comfortable classroom on drill weekend.

"Because of the realism of this kind of hands-on training, I think our people will have a fundamental understanding of what they're supposed to do when the red flag goes up."

That realism included the use of a medevac helicopter, courtesy of the U.S. Army's 101st Airborne.

"That's something they don't even have at Alpena, and it was a real plus for our training," Wright said.

"There's a lot of ground safety issues involved with working around a helicopter and those rotor blades — especially when you're trying to carry a patient on a litter and get him loaded on board.

"Simulation won't work with that kind of training. It's something you actually have to do."

Working with the Army presented it's own challenges, Wright said, because of incompatible radio equipment and different ways of accomplishing the same tasks.

"Those kinds of things are real-world," Wright added, "so it's good that we had a chance to get some joint-service training. The Army people said they now understand a little more about how the Air Force operates, too."

The Kentucky squadron exceeded the standards of Alpena's program in another area by becoming one of the first Air Guard medical units to provide comprehensive force protection training.

The training, presented by members of the wing's 123rd Security Forces Squadron, included briefings on cover and concealment, tactical communications and the rules of engagement.

"The medical squadrons, for the longest time, have never really taught force protection," Wright explained.

"You were required to secure your camp if you ever had to deploy, but you were never taught how to do it.

"We let the security police teach us how to set up lines of fire and everything else we need to protect ourselves."

The squadron's program was so successful, Wright said, that instructors from Alpena are evaluating it for addition to their curriculum.

Overall, Wright and Worley were extremely pleased with the deployment and its training opportunities. Just like in the real world, however, things didn't always go as planned.

But situations like that gave people a chance to exercise a little perseverance.

"If something didn't work, we had to find another way to make it work," said Senior Airman Roberta Davison, who joined the Kentucky Air Guard in May and was accomplishing her first deployment with the squadron.

"Things came up that we had to deal with, and we had to think on our feet."

Worley was especially pleased with the facilities at the Wendell H. Ford Training Center, which he called "outstanding."

"We're looking at the possibility of going down there each year to accomplish some training," he said.

First, however, is the unit's 2000 evaluation in Alpena.

Wright, for one, is not concerned.

"We're ready for Alpena," he said. "Our folks have already shown with this deployment that they know what to do."

**BELOW: Senior Airman Kelly Drescher expands on her duties as a dental technician by providing perimeter security for the medical clinic.**

**RIGHT: Senior Airman Shelly Portman strings wire for the clinic's communications gear.**

'E: Turkey Trot included a medevac helicopter supplied by the U.S. Army's 101st Airborne Division at Fort Campbell, Ky.

/E LEFT: Tech. Sgt. Shelby Higgs prepares to protect fellow airmen from an impending enemy attack.
/E RIGHT: Senior Airman Dana Corbin fights the June heat while wearing her chemical warfare gear.

# Guard helps troubled teens find direction

## Kentucky Youth Challenge includes liberal dose of basic training realism

By Staff Sgt. Amy Carr
Cargo Courier Senior Staff Writer

FORT KNOX, Ky. — The Kentucky Challenge staff paces the floor of the post hospital here as nervous cadets sit quietly in their chairs, waiting for their initial medical exams.

The cadets are beginning the first class in the Kentucky Youth Challenge program, a voluntary 22-week military-style training course for troubled teens.

Cadet Glenn Taylor Jr., 18, of Louisville said he hopes the program, sponsored by the Kentucky National Guard, will help brighten his future.

"I volunteered because school wasn't working out and it seemed like I kept going back to school and kept getting kicked out," Taylor said. "My mom read in the paper about the program and she started looking into it.

"Since all I was doing was working, and school wasn't working out, I thought I should do it so I could get my GED, and they'll set me up with a good job. It's something for my future."

TOP: Senior Airman Robin Stokley of the 123rd Medical Squadron draws blood from Cadet Glenn Taylor Jr.

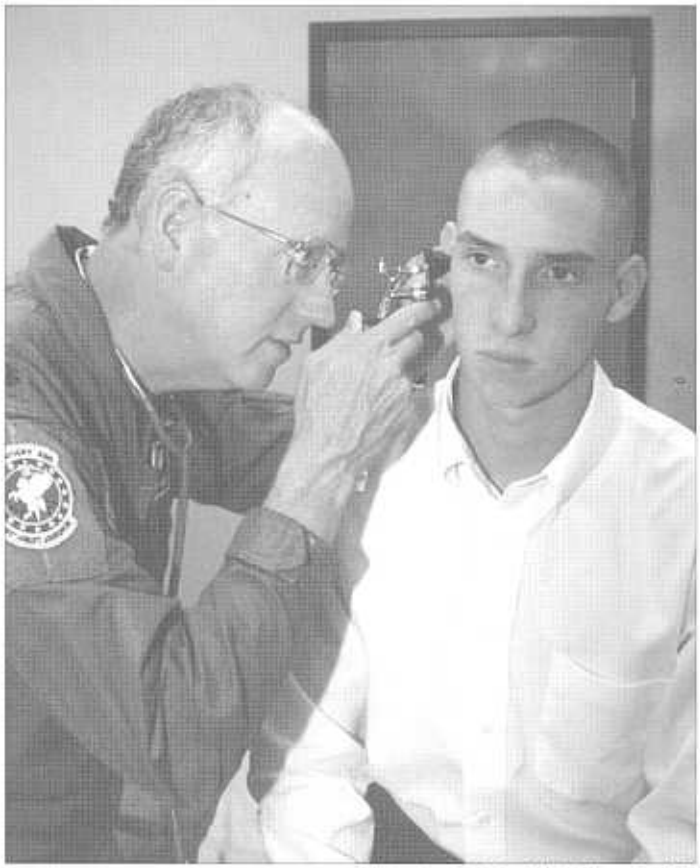
BOTTOM: The Kentucky Youth Challenge staff is a partnership of civilians and military personnel, including Air and Army National Guard troops, as well as active-duty Army personnel.

Another Cadet, Thomas S. Holiday, 18, of Lawrenceburg, Ky., said he is nervous about starting the program but also thinks it will help get his life in order.

"I plan to leave here with my GED," he said. "I have been training for the physical part of the program for about a month. I am mostly worried about the school part because I failed my junior year of high school twice.

"I was having trouble with the law, and this'll help me out court-wise to help me get my life straightened out."

Seven members of the 123rd Medical Squadron volunteered to assist the program during the July UTA, giving physicals to the cadets with help from the Army National Guard and active duty Army medical personnel.



Photos by Tech. Sgt. Mark Rines/KyANG

Lt. Col. Richard Kimbler of the Kentucky Air Guard gives Cadet Scott Holiday a medical exam as part of Kentucky Youth Challenge.

Richard H. Jett, a retired Air National Guard colonel who is now administrative branch manager for the Kentucky Youth Challenge Program, said contributions from the medical personnel help make the program possible.

"We couldn't do it without them," he said. "The Guard doctors and active duty Army folks here have been very supportive."

Jett said he hopes Kentucky's program will be as successful as those already operating in other states.

"I think the program is great. We are the 30th state to be certified. The 20 other states will ultimately have similar programs. Some other states like Illinois have had over 900 cadets at a time. We perceive Kentucky growing to more than 200 cadets a year.

"We plan to have two classes a year here at Fort Knox," Jett explained. "Right now we have about 70 cadets, which for our first class is wonderful."

According to Jett, the National Guard's major role is to provide

*See CHALLENGE, Back Page*

# 2000 defense bill addresses retention issues

**Air Force Print News**

WASHINGTON — Pending a final floor vote, House and Senate conferees have reached agreement on the National Defense Authorization Bill for fiscal 2000.

A final vote on the bill, which authorizes funding for the Department of Defense, is expected after Congress returns from recess in September.

Once the authorization bill is passed, the next step is the appropriations bill that approves an actual budget to carry out the authorizations.

Significant items that will go to a vote in the House and Senate include:

•A 4.8 percent across-the-board pay raise for military members in January and a one-time reform of the military pay tables effective July 1

•Setting annual military pay raises at one-half percent above the annual increases in the Employment Cost Index for fiscal 2001 through 2006; this is significant because it will help narrow the gap between private sector wage growth and military pay that is currently estimated at 13.5 percent

•Retirement pay reform giving military members the option to choose between retiring under the pre-1986 retirement plan at 2.5 percent of basic pay per year of service over 20 years (up to a maximum of 75 percent) or remaining under the Redux system and receiving a $30,000 bonus

•Expanding the authority to pay aviation continuation pay, the pilot bonus given to aviation officers, through the 25th year of service; the provision also extends the $25,000 maximum annual amount of the bonus to all contracts, regardless of length

•$1.5 billion in increased funding for military readiness; the Air Force portion of this increase would be $648.2 million.

•$8.49 billion for military construction and family housing, including $380 million for the construction of 2,100 family housing units, more than $800 million for the construction of bachelor enlisted quarters and more than $650 million for vital military construction projects for the Reserve

•Enhanced TRICARE dental benefits for retirees and an expanded dental program for family members and reservists

•A requirement for the Department of Defense to provide funeral honor details, with a minimum of two uniformed military members, one of whom must represent the service of the deceased veteran, for honorably discharged veterans

The bill also authorizes several increases for Air Force procurement, including $1.6 billion for the F-22 Raptor, $54 million for an additional 12 Joint Primary Air Training System aircraft, $20 million for additional Predator unmanned aerial vehicles and multiple modifications for F-15 and F-16 fighters.

Additionally, the conference committee approved several increases for Air Force research and development, including $112.3 million for B-2 bomber upgrades; $30 million for alternate engine development for the Joint Strike Fighter; $15.4 million for B-52 radar upgrades and an increase of $40 million for the Minuteman III Guidance Replacement Program.

"This year, House and Senate conferees confronted especially difficult challenges affecting our nation's security," said Virginia Sen. John Warner, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

"Our armed forces are faced with a measurable decline in readiness, troublesome recruitment and retention problems, aging equipment, and newly emerging threats on the horizon.

"Our forces, while performing with great distinction in the recent conflict in Kosovo and in numerous other deployments around the world, are simply over stretched," he continued. "They are beginning to show the strains that come from overuse.

"The resources authorized in this bill will allow us to begin rebuilding and modernizing our military forces while improving the quality of life for our service men and women and their families," the senator added.

> "*Our forces, while performing with great distinction in the recent conflict in Kosovo and in numerous other deployments around the world, are simply over stretched. They are beginning to show the strains that come from overuse.*"
>
> —Sen. John Warner

# U.S. begins process for Rhein-Main withdrawal

**Air Force Print News**

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany — U.S. and German negotiators signed a preliminary agreement July 27 detailing plans for the withdrawal of U.S. forces from Rhein-Main Air Base, Germany.

Secretary of Defense William Cohen authorized U.S. military negotiations with the Federal Republic of Germany and the Flughafen Frankfurt Main AG.

Representatives from U.S. Air Forces in Europe and the State Department have been negotiating with German government officials and Flughafen representatives since May 1998.

The proposed agreement must undergo a review process by both the American and German governments before a final agreement can be reached.

U.S. procedures involve an initial review by the U.S. European Command officials at Stuttgart, Germany.

The proposal must then be approved by the Department of Defense before going to the Office of Management and Budget and the Congress.

The process is expected to take several weeks.

An official announcement on the proposed withdrawal of U.S. forces from Rhein-Main will be made once both governments complete the review process.

# Farewell

**Four distinguished members of the Kentucky Air Guard were honored for their distinguished careers during a retirement ceremony held on base July 11.**

**Chief Master Sgt. Sharon Carter, Chief Master Sgt. Richard Wilson, Col. Gary Logan and Col. Charles Bruce represented nearly a century of military experience among them.**

Photo by Airman 1st Class Aleica Dennison/KyANG

# Challenge

**Continued from Page 6**

funding. Most of the instructors here also are retired military.

"They all seem to be top-notch people," he added.

The program's main goal is to get its cadets back on the right track, Jett said.

"The idea behind this is to give these kids exposure to social sciences, remedial math, and phonetics so they can learn to read better. We'll turn that around, plus they'll have exposure to personal computers.

"Once they get their GEDs, then they will be taxpayers instead of people who would have committed felonies if they'd continued their current path. Some of them have misdemeanors — nothing greatly significant — but nevertheless down the wrong road. We are trying to curtail that, turn them around and get them on the right road and get them jobs — something that will make them taxpayers instead of tax drainers."

All cadets must be drug-free Kentucky residents with no felony convictions.

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