

Med Group rehearses disaster response with state agencies

Story by

Tech. Sgt. Jefferson Thompson,
173rd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

LAKE OF THE WOODS, Ore. -- Members of the 173rd Medical Group practiced giving life-saving care to a large number of injured in an Oregon Disaster Medical Team sponsored exercise at Lake of the Woods, Ore., May 30-31. A number of other agencies participated including the 304th Rescue Squadron in Portland, Ore., local law enforcement, and first responders.

The scenario unfolded over two days and involved first locating the accident site and then responding to a large number of injured patients, in this case 26 medical dummies decorated with moulage simulating bleeding and various injuries. The accident scenario featured a bus overturned in a remote forest area. Responders assessed each patient and practiced triage, the process of directing care to those who need it the most and medical transport to a staging area where more sophisticated care was available.

Interagency cooperation provided the bedrock for the exercise, mirroring the aftermath of a real emergency response here in the State of Oregon. ODMT planners even brought in ham radio operators to keep communication lines open even with the loss of cell phone towers, land



Army National Guard Maj. Michael Swartz directs the efforts at the accident site as teams practice responding to a mass casualty at Lake of the Woods, Ore., May 31, 2013. Col. Robert Gentry, Oregon State Air Surgeon and former commander of the 173rd Medical Group, right, helps a pararescueman from Portland Air National Guard Base load a moulaged mannequin for transport to more advanced medical care during the exercise. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. Jefferson Thompson)

lines and other means of communication. Those radio operators have proven their value in real-world situations like the 2011 flooding of Vernonia, Ore., and surrounding area, when all other communication, save their own, failed. Since then, many emergency response exercises are designed to include their capability.

In addition to valuable integration, Kingsley medical troops took the opportunity to leverage the event and

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Air National Guard: all in for deployments

Story by

Sgt. 1st Class Jon Soucy
National Guard Bureau

ARLINGTON, Va. -- The National Guard's policy on providing forces was made crystal clear in a recent memo from the National Guard Bureau Chief to the Army and Air Force Chiefs of Staff.

In short, the National Guard is fully accessible and "all in," wrote Gen.

Frank J. Grass.

"We commit the Army National Guard to boots-on-the-ground deployments for one year within a three-year cycle period for unplanned contingency operations and one year within a five-year period for longer, steady-state operations,"

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173rd Medical readiness highest in Nation



Major Paul Anderson, 173rd Medical Group, performs a routine dental exam on Master Sgt. Vaughn Rains, 173rd Security Forces Squadron, with assistance from Tech. Sgt. Barbara Uhlig, at Kingsley Field, Klamath Falls, Ore., April 6, 2013. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Airman 1st Class Penny Hamilton)

reported on a regular basis to provide service leaders and operational commanders the ability to ensure a healthy and fit fighting force ready to deploy.

Kingsley Field has led the way in the implementation of the Individual Medical Readiness (IMR) program. The IMR report submitted by the “Land of No Slack” in June of 2013 (90.3-percent) was the highest in the Department of Defense (DOD).

Who do we recognize for this outstanding achievement? For starters, we should give all of us a pat on the back for making IMR a high priority. But we also need to thank Wing leadership for supporting the IMR program by ensuring the appropriate personnel are available to visit Medical Group staff during UTA and non-UTA hours. Ensuring that these individuals attend to their IMR responsibilities is a major key to program success.

So you are asking yourself, what’s so hard about getting a 90.3-percent rating? Where I went to school a 90.3-percent did not even get you a B+ from an Instructor. That’s because an individual Airman must be “good to go” (green) in all six areas of IMR to be considered green. For example, any deficiency in one area (red) and green in the remaining five areas results in an overall red which counts against the overall Wing IMR statistic. Total percentages in each area don’t add up in nor-

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“Go-Bags” tested

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integrate their go-bag concept. The 173rd Medical Group recently added a significant first response capability instituting a program they call the Medical Rapid Response Team. The overall capability is more than a bag, however and refers to a light and lean response designed to bridge the 72-hour gap known to exist in reaching those in crisis.

The bags themselves are backpacks outfitted with enough medical supplies, food and shelter to make a team of 25 or more people self-sustaining for three days. The concept is the brainchild of Col. Robert Gentry, the State Air Surgeon for the Oregon National Guard and formerly the 173rd Fighter Wing Medical Group Commander.

“One of the biggest threats we face in Oregon is an earthquake on the coast followed by a significant tsunami,” Gentry said. “This equipment package leverages us to be able to respond in a short amount of time with a minimum amount of difficulty to wherever we are needed within those first few hours when casualties are getting sicker or dying.”

And so the thinking went for this mass-casualty exercise ‘why not utilize the go-bags?’ May 30 found Senior Master Sgt. Jarod Taylor dropping off a large stack of the black bags and the medical folks pulling out tents, sleeping bags and mats in preparation for the evening. The next morning they awoke and continued the exercise, assisting the local emergency responders fostering cooperation across four different first response organizations, and honing the new capability to respond on short notice.

Commentary by Col. P. Eric Swanson, 173rd Medical Group Commander

KINGSLEY FIELD, Ore. -- Military member are required to complete certain medical requirements each year in order to ensure readiness for war. Individual Medical Readiness, otherwise known as IMR, consists of the following items: preventative health assessment (PHA), laboratory tests, immunizations, dental exams, profiles, and medical equipment, such as gas mask inserts.

Assessing IMR is a continuous process and must be monitored and

SECAF & CSAF address furloughs for technicians

To the Airmen of the United States Air Force:

As you all know, Department of Defense (DoD) civilian furloughs begin this week. With few exceptions, our civilian Airmen face involuntary furlough one day per week from the pay period starting July 8 through the pay period ending September 21.

Civilian furloughs are a measure of last resort, and we deeply regret that the arbitrary across-the-board cuts imposed by sequestration led to this result.

Despite standing down combat flying units, reducing space and mobility operations, reducing weapon system support, cutting installation support and facility repairs and cancelling most travel, training and exercises, we must still take this painful action.

We recognize that this action inflicts personal and financial hardships on our civilian Airmen and their families. We need all of our great Airmen to do the Nation's work, and furlough is not the way to reward our dedicated civilian workforce for their service.



Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III testifies with a panel of Defense Department witnesses on Capitol Hill, Feb. 12, 2013, during a hearing before the Senate Armed Services Committee about the potential impact of sequestration and a full-year continuing resolution. During the hearing, Welsh said sequestration undermines the Air Force's readiness and responsiveness, jeopardizing the strategic advantages airpower provides. National Guard Bureau Director Gen. Frank Grass, also testified at the hearing. (U.S. Air Force photo/Scott M. Ash)

We're sorry this is happening.

While furloughs have real consequences for civilian Airmen, the reduction in productivity and capability resulting from this action will affect all Airmen. We appreciate your professionalism in dealing with this situation and promise we will continue to work with DoD and Congress to seek repeal of sequestration and an end to the frustration and mission impact it causes. We could not be the

world's greatest Air Force without the contributions of every part of our Total Force - active duty, Guard, Reserve, and civilian Airmen. Thank you for your service to our Air Force and our Nation. We're proud to stand beside you.

-- Eric K. Fanning, Acting Secretary of the Air Force

-- Gen. Mark A. Welsh III, USAF Chief of Staff

173rd tops individual medical readiness in DoD

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mal math to give you an overall IMR. Currently the Air National Guard IMR rating is 82.3-percent, which is considered excellent.

If you have any questions regarding your IMR status, the Air Force has created a way military members can access their medical readiness requirements, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. This link will give members direct access to the pre-deployment health assessment Form

2795, the new deployment resiliency assessment (DRA) and the post-deployment health re-assessment (PDHRA) form. In addition, commanders, unit deployment managers and unit health managers can use this same portal link to navigate to unit level IMR status, unit reports and obtain information on their personnel. In order to access individual information, follow the steps below:

1. Log onto the Air Force Portal.
2. Under "Featured Links," select "Fitness & Health."

3. Then select "Medical Readiness - Deployment Health."

4. Next, the screen will display the ASIMS Web DoD Notice and Consent page. Read and click "ok."

5. The top box is for the individual member. "My Individual Medical Readiness Status" is the first link.

Once again, I want to thank all of you that have contributed to the success of the IMR program. If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact myself or any of the medical group staff at 855-6312.

Multi-agency exercise tests emergency response

Story by
Master Sgt. Jennifer Shirar,
173rd Fighter Wing
Public Affairs

KINGSLEY FIELD, Ore.-- One of our many responsibilities as Airmen is to train for the “what-if.” We spend hours prepping and planning for any number of disasters or incidents that could possibly take place on our base. June 1, members of the 173rd Fighter Wing practiced one of those “what-ifs” in a Major Accident Response Exercise.

Members of the Exercise Evaluation Team in partnership with local law enforcement, the airport, Klamath County Emergency Management, and Klamath County Fire District #1 set up a mock scenario for the 173rd FW to respond to that took approximately six-months to plan.

“We were excited to have many different agencies participate including our community partners, the Red Cross, and the 304th Rescue Squadron” said Capt. Nikki Jackson, EET acting chief.

The premise was an aircraft crash during a large SENTRY EAGLE style open house with multiple civilian casualties. Volunteers from the local community came out to assist with the exercise and play the role of the wounded. They were painted with moulage to replicate mock injuries adding to the realism of the event.

Activity was a buzz across the base as the 173rd responded to the wounded and secured the scene. Unit Control Centers were stood up and accountability for all personnel was taken as both the Crisis Action Team and the Emergency



Oregon Air National Guard Senior Airman Daniel Fowl of the 304th Rescue Squadron assists mock casualties during a major accident response exercise at Kingsley Field, Klamath Falls, Ore. June 1, 2013. (Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Jennifer Shirar)

Operations Center members quickly assessed the situation and responded accordingly.

Multiple side scenarios were set-up, designed to assess all areas of the Wing. Interagency cooperation and communication was tested as members of the Wing worked with local law enforcement and the Oregon Disaster Medical Team. Security Forces and Public Affairs were forced to examine how they would deal with medical on base during an event such as this.

“These exercises allow us to fine tune our response and recovery abilities, ensuring that when an actual event occurs we are able to perform our duties at very high level.” said Senior Master Sgt. Kenneth Aubut, EOC Manager.

Every player involved in the exercise was given a chance to answer that “what-if” and in turn, evaluate how they would respond to a real-life event.

“While it is the job of the EET to grade and score the unit on their response the true measure of success is in the lessons learned by each individual and shop,” said Jackson.

Anatomy of an emergency response

Commentary by
Senior Master Sgt. Kenneth Aubut
Emergency Operations Center
Manager



During any emergency situation the Emergency Operations Center, is activated and staffed with

Emergency Support Functions. These ESFs are subject matter experts from across the base including the maintenance group—Maj. Micah Lambert to the Civil Engineering Squadron—Maj. Tim Bruner.

Their task is assisting on-scene responders with any and all services, supplies and knowledge to save life, limb and property.

The exercise during the June UTA, was just such an occasion and the EOC director, Lt. Col.

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Air National Guard prepared to support deployments



National Guard Sgt. Cullen Wurzer, with the Iowa Army National Guard's Troop B, 1st Squadron, 113th Cavalry Regiment, scans a nearby mountain range during a search of a village in Patwan Province, Afghanistan. (Photo by U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Ashlee Lolkus)

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wrote Grass.

A similar commitment applies to the Air National Guard, with one period of mobilization to three periods of dwell time for unplanned operations and a one-to-five ratio for steady-state operations.

That commitment of forces is also in line with current Air Force and Army force generation requirements and models, said Grass, adding that keeping the Guard in the rotational model for deployments helps maintain a healthy overall force.

“Effective use of the Army (and Air) National Guard should enable the active component to achieve a deploy-to-dwell ratio necessary to maintain a healthy force,” said Grass, who also advocated for use of Guard forces in ongoing and continued operational commitments outside of operations in Afghanistan.

“The Council of Governors, the

adjutants general and I also strongly encourage the Department of Defense and the (individual) services to fully apply (10 USC 12304b) by placing National Guard units into operational use throughout the world against long-term, predictable requirements such as Kosovo, the Sinai, the Horn of Africa, Guantanamo Bay, sustained security force train and assist mission in Afghanistan and special operations deployments elsewhere,” said Grass.

Grass said continued use of the National Guard as an operational force preserves the investment made in the Guard over the past 12 years of deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan. It also benefits both the active and reserve components.

“Doing so allows for increased full-spectrum focus of the active component and the operational pressure necessary for maintaining seasoned leadership within National Guard units,” he explained.

Regardless of deployment dwell

times, Guard leaders also can be counted upon for no-notice events.

“In the event of a national emergency, the National Guard is committed to supporting all requirements for forces regardless of rotational periods, up to the limits imposed by presidential and congressional authority,” said Grass.

Grass, a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, is confident National Guard Soldiers and Airmen will continue to meet future commitments, at home and abroad.

“The National Guard continually demonstrates its willingness and ability to accomplish all assigned missions,” said Grass. “Our well-proven ability to achieve the commitments we give today ensures their worth for the future. The National Guard remains always ready, always there.”

Presidential authority, as well as those of the secretary of defense, should be the governing factor for rotational usage of Guard forces in planning assumptions, cautioned Grass, who cautioned against using other policies intended to stabilize and provide predictability.

“These additional policies and historical voluntary mobilizations should not drive hard and fast assumptions about the future,” said Grass. “Two-year notice, nine-month boots on ground, 30-day individual notice, not more than 50 percent of a state’s force structure deployed at once and other policies were helpful over the last decade, but they should not govern force planning assumptions for future contingencies.”

Memorial Day: What does it mean to you?

**Commentary by Master Sgt. Jennifer Shirar,
173rd Fighter Wing Public Affairs**

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore. -- What does Memorial Day mean for you?

For many, Memorial Day is the unofficial beginning of summer. We fire our grills up and plan trips to the lake—there is palpable excitement as we discuss how to spend the extra-long weekend.

But Memorial Day is much more.

“Memorial Day is a time to reflect on those who have come before us and the sacrifices they made for our country,” said Master Sgt. Michael Shirar from the 173rd Fighter Wing. “I think it is important because those that have made the ultimate sacrifice deserve the respect and admiration of their peers and their fellow citizens.”

Eighteen Airmen from the 173rd Fighter Wing headed to Mount Calvary cemetery in Klamath Falls, Ore., May 22, on a frigid morning to pay their respects to the veterans laid to rest there. They carefully searched the rows of headstones for the names of veterans and solemnly placed an American flag on the graves. When they were done nearly 300 flags waved across the cem-

etry.

This is an annual project for the Airmen of the 173rd Fighter Wing, who have been laying flags on the veterans’ graves on Memorial Day for the last ten years, said event coordinator Master Sgt. David Smith.

There was a general consensus among the Airmen as to why they wanted to be a part of this event.

Master Sgt. Jeff Horton said, “I am here to show my respect for the veterans who came before us.”

“I believe I have a personal responsibility to honor those that have served their country in the past,” added Shirar.

Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, was officially observed May 30, 1868 after General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, proclaimed the creation of the day of remembrance for those who have died in our nation’s service. Flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery in honorarium. It became an official federal holiday in 1971.



Top: U.S. Air National Guard Staff Sgt. Jared Nanneman, 173rd Fighter Wing, places a flag on the graves of local veterans at Mount Calvary Cemetery in Klamath Falls, Ore. May 23, 2013. Members of the 173rd Fighter Wing spent their morning placing flags in honor of Memorial Day. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Jennifer Shirar)

Right: U.S. flags decorate the graves of local veterans at Mount Calvary Cemetery in Klamath Falls, Ore. May 23, 2013. Airmen from the 173rd Fighter Wing spent their morning placing flags in honor of Memorial Day. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Jennifer Shirar)



National Guard service linked to employment

**Story courtesy
National Guard Bureau
Public Affairs**

WASHINGTON -- Serving in the National Guard and Reserve may be one way to improve employment opportunities, according to a recent U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics report.

The report, released by this country's definitive authority on employment issues, stated that Gulf War II-era veterans "who were current or past members of the Reserve and National Guard had an unemployment rate of 7.2-percent." Those vets not affiliated with the Reserve components, the report added, experienced a 13.7-percent unemployment rate. The national average stands at 7.6-percent.

These findings come as no surprise to Col. Wendul Hagler, who works directly for the Chief of the National Guard Bureau, Gen. Frank J. Grass.

"The National Guard is aggressively fighting unemployment for its members across the country," Hagler said. "As a result, our employment rate is about the same as the rest of the nation and even better in certain states and professions," added Hagler. "That's good to know because when our leaders need to call on the National Guard, they don't need to worry about causing employment problems."

National Guard leaders across the nation are leveraging federal and state-unique programs to assist members in job searches. This includes assistance in resume writing, organizing and hosting job fairs – even engaging employers to promote hiring Guard members and veterans alike.

The National Guard has partnered

with multiple agencies to mitigate Guard member employment issues, noted Jim Lamback, the National Guard Bureau's Employer Support Branch chief. The Defense department's Hero-to-Hired (H2H) program, he said, leverages a powerful job search site and online community at no cost to veterans, service members, or employers.

In Missouri alone, more than 4,000 Guard members have embraced federal programs like the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program and Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve, and state initiatives like the Show-Me Heroes Program.

Missouri's success, according to Maj. Gen Steve Danner, adjutant general, began with consolidating family and warrior support programs at their state headquarters in Jefferson City. The move, Danner noted, allowed them maximize responsible resource management and avoid duplication of effort. Since Sept. 11, 2001, the Missouri National Guard has supported nearly 17,600 individual deployments to Iraq, Afghanistan, Kosovo, the Sinai, Qatar and areas around the world.

"Soldiers and Airmen put on the uniform to protect the nation abroad during war and to protect their communities during times of natural disaster," Danner said. "When they aren't wearing the uniform, they're also protecting our national security interests by contributing to our economy through civilian employment. Just as we wouldn't send a Soldier to war without a weapon or send an Airman to fight a flood without a sandbag, we want to make sure we're outfitting our Guardsmen for success in the civilian job market."

Missouri isn't the only National

Guard state making a concerted effort to find their Guard men and women employment.

- In South Carolina, the Department of Employment and Workforce Development have been partnered with the South Carolina National Guard since October 2011. Their efforts have placed more than 1,100 Guard members, saved the state \$9.3 million in unemployment benefits, and reduced National Guard unemployment rates from 16-percent to 3.9-percent.

- The Michigan National Guard continues to develop partnerships with community colleges, trade unions or associations, state agencies, and other professional organizations to provide job and career training to award appropriate credentials upon graduation from programs. A recent partnership apprenticeship program conducted at Camp Grayling graduated 20 gas transmission technicians.

- The Florida Guard Family Career Connection uses Army Guard Soldiers to identify unemployed Guard members at the unit level. These individuals are then connected with their local federal and state employment representatives. To date, the Florida National Guard unemployment rate is 6.2-percent, 2-percent lower than the civilian population.

- The Tennessee National Guard Employment Enhancement Program provides one-on-one support to assist individuals in writing effective resumes, interview techniques, and proven methods of gaining employment. They also push out "job blasts" identifying employment opportunities. State leadership is provided with listings of unemployed Guardsmen on a monthly basis. Their National

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Guardmembers may enjoy higher employment

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Guard's unemployment rate has been reduced by 15-percent.

"We're making a difference, there's no doubt about it," Lamback insisted. "We also have a commitment to take care of our folks and that's important."

Employing a National Guard member, Hagler observed, is a mutu-

ally beneficial proposition.

"Hiring a member of the National Guard helps employers," he said. "Our people know the importance of being on time. They know how to lead and follow, and they are mission-oriented critical thinkers."

National Guard employers seemingly agree. The Department of Labor, who handles Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment

Rights Act queries, reported a 40-percent decrease in National Guard complaints since 2010.

"Unemployment is a readiness issue for Guard and Reserve members," Hagler said. "While our rate is on par with the general population, we're not satisfied. Leaders at all levels are focused on helping our brothers and sisters find the jobs they need."

Kingsley Airmen attend Max Impact leadership Telecast

Story by

**Tech. Sgt. Jefferson Thompson,
173rd Fighter Wing Public Affairs**

A group of Kingsley Airmen attended the Chic-fil-A 2013 Maximum Impact Leadercast hosted by Oregon Institute of Technology, May 10, 2013. The seminar was broadcast live from Atlanta, Ga., and simulcast to locations throughout the U.S. and in other countries.

The theme for this year was "Simply Lead" and stressed fundamental skills leaders must have to be effective. A number of pedigreed leaders such as former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, Navy SEAL Lt. Cmdr. Rorke Denver, Duke Men's Basketball Coach Mike Krzyzewski and many others

provided insight to nearly 800,000 viewers including the ten Kingsley Airmen.

The visit was made possible by a generous grant from the HuRD fund, which stands for Human Resources and Development. According to the fund treasurer Senior Master Sgt. Angela Axberg, "Its purpose is to promote safety, health, and professional development of Kingsley Field employees."

Tech. Sgt. Dane Sherin, a maintenance operations center technician, says he would recommend the telecast for Kingsley Airmen, "without hesitation," adding, "I enjoyed the different perspectives from so



many proven leaders, it was refreshing and inspiring."

Next year's telecast is in the works and it remains to be seen if Kingsley will participate as we did this year. For more information on opportunities like and others watch for Junior Enlisted Council announcements both here in the Chronicle and in Weekly WINGS.

**'Complexity is the enemy
of clarity.'**

**'It's not easy to be simple,
but it's effective.'**

**'Leadership is influence.
Nothing more,
nothing less.'**

--Tech. Sgt. Dane Sherin
on themes he took from the Maximum Impact Leadercast

173rd expands education opportunities

**Commentary by
Master Sgt. Michael Shirar,
Maintenance Training Manger**

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore. -- Good news everybody, viable educational opportunities have returned to the Klamath Basin that can be used towards the completion of a Community College of the Air Force degree!

The Air Force has included an additional standard for promotion for the grades of E-8 & 9 to include the CCAF Associate's Degree. This change goes into effect in October of 2015, and while that may seem like a long way off, it will come all-too-soon for many.

Fortunately for most, with the completion of a handful of general education classes, a CCAF degree is within reach. Most will find that they need to complete a writing, math, social science, and speech ... along with a humanities class or two.

Anyone with AF Portal access can view their CCAF progress at any time. Log onto AF Portal, click the AFVEC- Virtual Education Tab and, on the right hand side, click "my CCAF progress report". This will bring up the program you are currently enrolled in. It will show you your credits already earned as well as a summary of which courses you still need.

There are a wide variety of options available for members to obtain these courses. There are many online schools out there which are friendly to the military lifestyle (and provide credits that CCAF will accept).

But these schools generally represent a significant out-of-pocket expense for those of our members who don't qualify for Federal Tuition

Assistance or GI Bill. Fortunately, wing leadership has been working hard to develop viable options in the local area and they continue to work hard to develop new methods of financial support.

The 173rd Fighter Wing has partnered with Klamath Community College to provide college credit awarding options for our members that CCAF will accept. One of these options is CLEP testing; a process by which members can receive full college credit for courses by simply passing a test.

For military members, CLEP tests are available for a \$20 administrative fee, payable to Klamath Community College. DSST (another form of test-for-credits) are coming soon and these are projected to be administered free for military members. We are also working toward paying the administrative fee for the CLEP tests. We anticipate this process coming to fruition soon and we will announce it, if and when it does.

Wing leadership also endeavors to help pay for KCC classes for members that do not qualify for Federal Tuition Assistance. We will announce more on that as the details emerge. CLEP testing is available now by appointment. All military members can schedule for an exam directly with KCC at any time. KCC will work with you to schedule a convenient time to test. To register for a CLEP, contact Ms. Ellen J. Jackson at (541) 880-2334 or testingcenter@klamathcc.edu

KCC is also developing modified courses specifically designed for our members and will generate enough credits to meet CCAF minimums and will be held at Kingsley Field for our members.



These classes are scheduled to begin this Fall Semester (Sept.) in the evening, and will kick off with a Writing and Speech class. To register for one of these courses (or any subsequent class through KCC) take the following action:

1. Contact your Unit Training Manager and schedule for placement testing. Placement testing is designed to gauge whether or not you currently meet the required level of proficiency to enter a course.

2. Register as a student. To register with KCC, fill out the online application via KCC's web page at www.klamathcc.edu/Admissions

You can register at any time but the sooner the better. Only those with a current registration will be given the limited available seats in these classes. There is no cost or obligation for registering.

3. Register for the class when the Fall Registration Period opens. Classes are projected to cost \$500 and is payable with Federal Tuition Assistance for AGRs. Technicians and DSGs will provide registration information to their Chief who, in-turn,

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New: CLEP testing available for Kingsley Airmen

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submits for special financial assistance for the course. This program is working to ensure that our members not eligible for Tuition Assistance receive at least some coverage for these classes.

START PLANNING NOW!

If you plan to attend any of the placement testing events, CLEP testing, or future classes in the fall, start working with your supervisor now to ensure minimal disruption to mission requirements. As always, the mission

is the priority, however, your chiefs and supervisors are aware that these opportunities are unique and should make every reasonable effort to accommodate these requests.

There will always be something to occupy your time and energies so make this a personal priority! There's no time like the present to take advantage of programs like this and you will always be the strongest advocate for your own career advancement. Don't fall behind, take action now. If you have questions about your requirements for CCAF or would like to

speak with a knowledgeable education specialist, contact your Unit Training manager or contact Mr. Tracy Heap at 541-885-7758 or heap@klamathcc.edu

Mr. Heap will also soon be available on-base at scheduled times to provide one-on-one education counseling services for our members. He is prior military and knowledgeable on a wide range of educational programs and financial aid options available to military members. I recommend that you print out your CCAF Progress Report and bring that to any counseling meetings you schedule.

SECDEF names Guard, Reserve ESGR National Chair

*Story courtesy
National Guard Bureau*



ARLINGTON, Va. -- Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel has selected retired Army Maj. Gen. Paul E. Mock as the national chair for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, a Department of Defense operational committee that seeks to foster a

culture in which all employers support and value the employment and military service of members of the National Guard and Reserve.

ESGR's national chair is an official Defense Department volunteer position.

Mock was to take an oath of office and be sworn in today. The position carries a three-year term and the protocol status of a four-star flag or general officer.

A retired lieutenant with the Los Angeles Police Department, Mock also has extensive experience serving military members and their families through work with the Association of the United States Army, the Fisher House Foundation and the Military Child Education Coalition.

He will lead a team of more than 4,900 volunteers spanning all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands,

Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Jessica L. Wright, acting undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, praised the selection. "Mr. Mock comes to us with a wealth of experience in the employer community, the reserve components and supporting military families," she said. "His leadership and management expertise are a tremendous asset for the Department of Defense."

Almost half of the nation's military force serves in the Guard and Reserve.

"I am humbled by my selection as the national chair for ESGR and excited about furthering employer support for the men and women in the National Guard and Reserve," Mock said. I look forward to supporting ESGR's cadre of volunteers and assisting Mr. Ron Young, ESGR's executive director, in advancing our mission."

Inside the emergency operations nerve center

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Lance McCuiston, sounded the alarm recalling all members to their respective stations. 13 members quickly filed into the EOC, measuring only 20-square-feet with numerous computers, phones, and flat screen monitors, and kicked off a very busy, hot, and sometimes chaotic three hours.

From the onset, the Incident Commander Howard Owens who responded to the site of the incident and is in charge of the initial response effort was in constant contact with the EOC Manager, (yours truly)

Senior Master Sgt. Kenneth “KJ” Aubut. The IC requests everything from vehicles from the Logistics Readiness Squadron to Bio Environmental Troops from the Medical Group.

Owens also provided information about the scene and his next steps to the EOC so that McCuiston could brief the Crisis Action Team and Col. Jeremy Baenen, 173rd Fighter Wing Commander. This also allowed the ESF’s to anticipate needs and be proactive.

The Communications ESF shut down base internet connectivity and Security Forces personnel cordoned off the ejection seats.

If you were to have a live video feed in the EOC and watched



during the first 30 minutes you would witness controlled chaos at its best, it’s like a bee hive. There’s lots of noise between the 13 folks in the room, the radios, and the phones. Then you throw in the runner Tech. Sgt. Chuck Schwarz working his way through the room, getting and giving messages from the field that cannot be sent over radio, phone or computer. Controlled chaos!

Did I mention that every task, every change to the situation, ba-

sically everything that happens in the EOC is recorded? This is done by the aptly named recorder and is probably the busiest job in the EOC. Tech. Sgt. Angie Langfield did a superior job of deciphering what we wanted and what

was needed on the tasker log allowing all ESFs and CAT personnel to stay on track.

The team was able to assert control of the situation by coordinating efforts and getting information to the people who needed it, although there were admittedly a few bumps

along the way. Everyone involved put forth an outstanding effort including Kingsley Fire, 173rd Medical Group, 173rd Security Forces Squadron, Kingsley Field Fire Depart-

ment, Fire District 1, the Oregon Disaster Medical Team from the Portland area, and two pararescue members from Portland Air National Guard Base. All ESF’s worked together with their people through their Unit Control Centers and each and every issue was resolved as quickly as possible.

From the standpoint of the EOC Manager, I can say that though we did have a few bumps the EOC worked just the way it is supposed to.

WARRIOR SPOTLIGHT



Master Sgt. Kimberly Rutledge
173rd Force Support Flight
Formal Schools Manager

Master Sgt. Kimberly Rutledge works in the Force Support Flight as the Formal School Manager where she is the focal point for all formal schools for Kingsley. She coordinates Airmen Leadership School and Non Commissioned Officer Academy dates for all Airmen on base as well as securing dates and providing out-briefings for all Airmen headed to Basic Military Training. Rutledge began her career at Kingsley in 2003 working for personnel, and began working in her current position in July of 2006. She prepares our future Airmen for the new direction in their life and works diligently to meet and exceed the needs and requirements encountered by our Airmen. She keeps Airmen on track for job-essential education and training, validating her instrumental expertise to our base. Sgt. Rutledge is a key member of Team Kingsley.

Master Sgt. Eric Storer
173rd Civil Engineering Squadron
Electrical Power Production NCOIC

Master Sgt. Eric Storer is the non-commissioned officer in charge of the 173rd CES electrical power production shop. Storer is responsible for maintaining and inspecting all of the power generators on base, as well as training personnel to properly use the generators. Additionally, he maintains, inspects, and installs the runway Aircraft Arresting Systems, which is used to stop the F-15s and other military hook equipped aircraft in emergency situations. "This job is extremely rewarding, knowing that what I do will save a pilot's life," said Storer. Storer began his career in 1995 in the Active Duty Air Force as a heavy equipment operator. In June 2003, he joined the Oregon Air National Guard as a traditional guardsman in CE production control. However, he quickly moved into his current AGR position in early 2004. Sgt. Storer's dedication and attention to detail makes him a valuable asset to Team Kingsley.



WARRIOR SPOTLIGHT

Master Sgt. Collin Grandy
173rd Maintenance Group Analysis NCOIC

Master Sgt. Collin Grandy is a maintenance management analyst for the maintenance group. He is responsible for computing and analyzing aircraft and maintenance data from multiple sources, and then presenting it in an understandable and usable product. This data paints a clear picture of the fleet health and is used for future mission planning. Additionally, Grandy is the resource advisor for the MX Group, managing the operation and maintenance funds budget. Grandy's multiple additional duties include security manager, computer and software custodian, and functional support administrator, among others. He began his military career in 1999 as a traditional guardsman for the 173rd Security Forces where he was quickly hired on full time in May of 2001. In March 2010, Grandy decided to make a career change and moved into his current position, while simultaneously completing a Bachelor's degree. A self-motivator, Grandy is an essential member of Team Kingsley.



Tech. Sgt. Tia Williams
**173rd Maintenance Group Aircraft Maintenance
Scheduler**



Tech. Sgt. Tia Williams joined the 173rd Fighter Wing in 2004 as a traditional guardsman in the logistics and readiness squadron. In 2008 she was hired as an aircraft maintenance scheduler with the 173rd Maintenance Operations Flight. As a scheduler, Williams maintains records on each aircraft's history, ranging from projected scheduled maintenance to an entire historical account of a given aircraft. She says the hardest part is balancing the schedule in such a way as to avoid large numbers of aircraft unavailable to the flying mission as they undergo routine maintenance. Williams likens it to a chess match at times, saying that the key is to understand how one area affects another. "You have so many different factors; you can't just look at one facet," says Williams with a smile. Williams attention to detail and positive attitude make her an invaluable member of Team Kingsley.

WARRIOR SPOTLIGHT



*Senior Airman Thomas Howard
173rd Fighter Wing
Aircrew Flight Equipment*

In 2009 Senior Airman Howard decided he needed to make a change in his life. After working in construction for 16 years, Howard made the decision to join the Oregon Air National Guard. He became a member of the Aircrew Flight Equipment shop, where he is responsible for inspecting and maintaining all of the life essential equipment used by the pilots during flight and in the event of ejection. This includes helmets, masks, G-suits, night vision goggles, parachutes, and survival kits. Howard is also responsible for training personnel on the use of these items, as well as local area survival. In 2012, Howard was named the Aircrew Flight Equipment Airman of the Year for the entire National Guard. Howard is a top performer and a true professional. We are proud to call him a member of Team Kingsley.

*Airman 1st Class Penny Hamilton
173rd Fighter Wing Public Affairs
Photojournalist*

Airman 1st Class Penny Hamilton is the 173rd Fighter Wing Public Affairs shop's newest photojournalist. Hamilton has already established a reputation for top performance, completing the Defense Information School as a Distinguished Graduate, supporting numerous temporary duty assignments including a national-level exercise in Wisconsin, the 57th Presidential Inauguration in Washington D.C., and Operation Vigilant Guard in Salem. Hamilton was named the 173rd Fighter Wing Command section Airman of the Year for 2012. Her responsibilities include extensive photography and print journalism assignments. Do not be surprised to see her at many of the newsworthy functions happening on a unit training assembly with her camera in-hand, as she promotes the many aspects of the Kingsley Field mission! When A1C Hamilton is not on military status she is a full-time student at Klamath Community College.



173rd Fighter Wing

Announcements



New Members Welcome to Kingsley Field!

Maj Kevin P. Welch	A1C Marc A. Hawthorne
SSgt Gregory J. Denton	A1C Elizabeth D. Narramore
SrA Stephanie V. Heumann	A1C Ashley Marie M. Vela
A1C Gabriel R. Baker	A1C Wyatt D. Williams
A1C Forrest G. Eldred	

Recent Promotions!

LtCol Geoffrey M. Jensen	SSgt Cheyenne E. Ballard
CMSgt Michael A. Zalunardo	SSgt Rodney D. Clark
SMSgt Bernadine A. Angel	SSgt Christine L. Kerzel
SMSgt Steven L. Bell	SSgt Martin L. Monti
SMSgt Jared C. Johnson	SSgt Anthony T. Tyree
SMSgt Diana S. Junker	SSgt Melissa A. Vancura
SMSgt Wesley B. Lovell	SrA Andrew W. Atkinson
MSgt Osten L. Coaty	SrA Jared A. Boyer
MSgt Gregory J. Havird	SrA Kyle W. Oshea
MSgt Wayne O. Wright	SrA Timothy G. Tecmire
	A1C Zach D. Hamilton

Free Friday Night Movies!!!



**Join us every Friday,
7:00pm at the Kingsley
theater for free movies**

Volunteers are needed to keep this program going. Please contact the Public Affairs office at x5-6677 if you would like to volunteer or learn more about the Friday Night Movies.

Movies subject to change or cancellation without notice.



Protestant and Catholic Services Sunday, July 14

Protestant Service: 7:30 a.m. Family Readiness Area

Catholic Service: 7:30 a.m. LRS conference room

**173d Fighter Wing SARC,
Lt Col Martin Balakas
Call: (541) 885-6198 or
(541) 205-2305**

Retiree Corner

Retirees and their families who need information or assistance with a "Retiree Issue" please contact the Oregon National Guard Retiree Service Office. (Air & Army)
 Located at: Room 231, Anderson Readiness Center
 3225 State Street, Salem OR 97309
 Office Hours: 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM Every Thursday
 Phone: (503) 584-2891
 E-mail: NGORJ1.RSO@ng.army.mil
 Web site: www.orng-smfs.org

**You
are
not
alone**





173rd Fighter Wing flightline on a June 2013 morning. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Jennifer Shirar)

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Wing Public Affairs Officer:

2nd Lt. Heather Bashor

State Public Affairs Officer:

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