



# 139TH AIRLIFT WING ANNUAL REPORT 2023



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**Front cover: Maintenance and aircrew Airmen assigned to the 139th Airlift Wing conducted a mass generation of seven C-130 Hercules aircraft at Rosecrans Air National Guard base.**

**Background photo: Airmen stand as they listen to a speech at an award ceremony at Rosecrans Air National Guard Base.**

# WING COMMANDER

As we reflect on the past year's achievements and challenges, I cannot help but be extremely proud of the accomplishments of the men and women of the 139th Airlift Wing. The dedication and hard work of our members is the driving force behind the success of this wing, ensuring we are "First in Global Response, Tactical Airlift, and Homeland Support," while forever being "Always Ready, Ever Willing!"

We will continue to stand ready to answer all calls, protecting our nation, state, and local community. I am honored and proud to be part of this amazing wing, and all of those who represent it, for their hard work, dedication, and professionalism. I am truly humble to lead such an outstanding wing!

In 2023, the 139th continued its high operations tempo. The wing played pivotal roles in two large-scale overseas exercises, Air Defender and Mobility Guardian. The wing also tackled a large-scale readiness exercise, part of the Air Mobility Command's Unit Effectiveness Inspection cycle, validating the wing's ability to survive and operate in a degraded and challenged environment and preparing us for the final inspection of this UEI cycle in March 2024. The 139th continued to make strides with the advancement of our north sight development plan by securing design funding for a new parking apron, a new maintenance facility, and a security and infrastructure project. We continue to position ourselves for the C-130J model recapitalization. This strategic initiative would cement the 139th and St. Joseph into tactical airlift for generations to come. Until we secure C-130J aircraft, we continue to support our current fleet of 10 C-130H2.5 to support our airlift mission, as well as the AATTC, and C-130H Weapons Instructor Course.

Locally, 2023 brought the second iterations of two grassroots initiatives aimed at educating students and community members on the mission and benefits of the 139th Airlift Wing. The Community Leadership Academy, bringing 30+ leaders from the private business sector to engage with Airmen at the wing

continues to be popular amongst the community. By educating local leaders, we can create advocates for our great wing. On top of the Leadership Academy, the 139th also hosted another military career fair that brought in 500 local high school students and administrators to the wing over a three-day period, highlighting the organization as we look to attract and keep mission-ready Airmen. This continues to be wildly successful, bringing to light what the 139th and the Missouri National Guard can offer these students, in terms of skills, benefits, and opportunities to brighten their futures.

Finally, as we move into 2024, we will look to continue to build upon the successes that we have had. Missions will continue and the operations tempo will not slow down, but I know the men and women of the 139th Airlift Wing will meet any challenge head-on and succeed as they always have. I am proud to continue to serve this wing and the men and women that make it the best wing in the Air National Guard. The future is bright for the 139th Airlift Wing, and I look forward to what lies ahead.

Faithfully yours,  
John "Bean" Cluck, Colonel, ANG Commander,  
139th Airlift Wing



**Col. John Cluck**  
**Wing Commander**

**U.S. Air Force C-130 Hercules aircraft assigned to the 139th Airlift Wing and the 152nd Airlift Wing, Nevada National Guard, fly in formation during exercise Air Defender 2023.**

# ECONOMIC IMPACT

<b>Salaries, Wages and Monetary Benefits:</b>	<b>\$66,273,385.00</b>
<b>Education Benefits:</b>	<b>\$5,920,000.00</b>
<b>Construction and Capitol Investment:</b>	<b>\$2,126,002.00</b>
<b>Operations and Maintenance Expenditures:</b>	<b>\$2,259,924.00</b>
<b>AVPOL:</b>	<b>\$3,734,320.00</b>
<b>Weapons System Sustainment:</b>	<b>\$2.138,251.00</b>
<b>Total Expenitures:</b>	<b>\$97,708,628.00</b>
<b>Economic Impact Multiplier *</b>	<b>1.8</b>
<b>Total Impact:</b>	<b>\$175,875,530.40</b>

**\*Education benefits are based on the enlisted personnel pursuing undergraduate education. The total four year process for a bachelor's degree was then broke down annually based on 60% for the total enlisted personnel utilizing their benefits.**

**Airmen of the 139th Comptroller Flight participate in a Large Readiness Exercise(LRE). The finance office handled different financial scenarios to prepare them during the LRE.**

# COMMAND CHIEF



**Command Chief Master Sgt.  
Thomas Triplett**

As I reflect on 2023, I couldn't be prouder of the members of the 139th! We started 2023 with many of our aircraft grounded due to the propeller barrel assembly issue in 2022. Through the grit and determination of 139th members, we were able to receive new propellers and install them very quickly, getting all our aircraft flyable in 2023. The 139th continued to hone our warfighting skills participating in Mobility Guardian and Air Defender.

Locally we completed a large-scale readiness exercise overseen by AMC, SFO training, and familiarization firing for 90% of our members. We answered our nation's call by deploying members to four combatant commands while continually supporting the state of Missouri and our local community.

**Maintenance and aircrew Airmen assigned to the 139th Airlift Wing conducted a mass generation of seven C-130 Hercules aircraft at Rosecrans Air National Guard base.**

The 139th stood up an honor guard flight in 2023, training and equipping 10 members to deliver premier ceremonial honors, inspire the nation and represent all Airmen and Guardians to the world!

We opened our base to the second Community Leadership Academy and two career fairs in 2023 allowing us to showcase the 139th to 30 community leaders and over 500 students.

These are just a few highlights of another incredibly busy, highly successful year for the 139th Airlift Wing. As always, the continued team-work, dedication, and professionalism from every member demonstrates our motto "Always Ready...Ever Willing!"



# OPERATIONS GROUP

**A U.S. Air Force C-130 Hercules aircraft trails behind another C-130 aircraft assigned to the 139th Airlift Wing during exercise Air Defender 2023.**

The 139th Operations Group (OG) enjoyed many successes and faced many challenges during FY23. For the third year in a row, the OG executed 100% of the flying hours program, averaging 1150 sorties per year. OG Crew performed numerous JA/ATT missions including eight Naval Special Warfare JA/ATTs. Over 60 personnel were responsible for planning and executing three OCONUS exercises to include Air Defender, Mobility Guardian, and Silver Arrow.

In a pioneering achievement, the OG became the first C-130H unit in the USAF to attain full certification in total lights-out takeoff and landing operations. Furthermore, it secured the second position in engines-running fueling, marking crucial advancements that support AMC's commitment to facilitating the Department of Defense's strategic pivot to the Pacific.

During FY23, over 16 aerial demonstrations were performed. These efforts contributed to the OG maintaining over 90% manning. The 139th OG was the top performing C-130H unit in ANG MRA airlift missions, completing a total of 30 MRA hauls, culminating in more missions, hours, and cargo flown

than any other ANG C-130H unit.

**Intel and Tactics** had an extremely robust 2023. During this timeframe, Intel directly supported Mobility Guardian, Air Defender and Silver Arrow. Great strides were made in support for the Large Readiness Exercise which saw the intelligence flight highlighted by the AMC Inspection Team for their exceptional support. In this area, the 139th OSS/IN had members perform WIT, PAR, Increment Monitor and CC support functions while successfully implementing the Contingency Intelligence Network apparatus that had the flight separated geographically in a Combat Intelligence Cell, Squadron Intelligence Cell and the Mission Planning Cell; a first in the state of Missouri. This concept was able to be exercised due to the 139th OSS/IN utilizing strong connections with the U.S. Army and Air Combat Command in getting the first ever Air National Guard CIN course that was held at Fort Leavenworth.

The 139th OSS/IN continues to support other intelligence functionalities such as AATTC by providing briefings for the AAMIC, TDL, CATS/MECOC, WIC and ATAC courses, increasing

interoperability. The flight was able to bring manning up to 125% of authorized individuals by recruiting a diverse set of professional Airman who will serve our state and nation for years to come.

**Airfield Management** accomplished much through diligent coordination, teamwork, and strict adherence to health and safety compliance standards, ensuring a safe operational airfield environment. The year started, working through a few minor weather events affecting flying operations, which resulted in zero mission cancellations. Despite numerous construction projects, to include the complete replacement of the main runway, Airfield Management's close working relationship with 139th Civil Engineering Group and the FAA ensured that there were no safety mishaps nor any interruption to the mission. Aircraft parking spot seven was removed and re-poured to install a new drainpipe spanning from the runway through the back end of the parking spot. A complete runway removal and replacement project started in the spring and is scheduled to be completed in January 2024. In December, end-of-year funding was approved to remove and replace all the paint on the ramp. This project will commence in the spring of 2024. As a result of a diligent airfield inspection process zero mission cancellations occurred. Additionally, over 600 flight plans were filed, over 80 NOTAMS were published and over 70 PPRs were issued.

**Aviation Resource Management** maintained aircrew proficiency as Primary COMSEC Responsible Officers for the entire group, AATTC and WIC missions. They assisted with the setup of Special Fuel Operations and AMP-4 training in training profiles. The efforts of ARMS provided the following: 112 AO's, 545 Flight Authorizations, 1,408.6 local flying hours, 100.2 Transportation Working Capital Fund (TWCF) flying hours, 27 TWCF sorties, and over 4,000 training events logged for the year. Members deployed in support of operations Iron Herk, Mobility Guardian, Silver ARROW, Queen Bee, and Air Defender.

**Aircrew Flight Equipment (AFE)** directly supported Mobility Guardian, AMC's largest full-spectrum readiness exercise, mobilizing 3,000 U.S. and allied personnel to support 15,000 forces across the Indo-Pacific. They identified and addressed issues with ACCA procedures, leading to innovative



**The 139th Airlift Wing participated in Operation Mobility Guardian, which evaluated the unit's ability to rapidly deploy and operate in the Pacific Theater of Operations.**

cross-contamination prevention measures during the 2023 Logistic Readiness Exercise. They facilitated equipment and training for night vision devices, certifying 63 aircrew on Specialized Fuel Operations. They were instrumental to mission success during Silver Arrow, accumulating 53.2 fly hours, transporting 55K lbs. of cargo, and facilitating 257 passengers across eight missions.

They exceeded deadlines for new AFE training program requirements, revamping MTL, upgrading a 7-level, and ensuring shop readiness within 30 days. Key personnel maintained 12 aircraft, earning one commission and four decorations in fiscal year 2023. These Airmen played a crucial role in Logistical Readiness Exercise flying operations, conducting rapid red-ball response procedures and achieving 100% effective rates in 20-man life raft survival training with aircrew during a 4-ship scenario.

QA implemented new 11-301V1 guidance, identifying and correcting over 20 minor discrepancies with firm get-well dates. Provided significant support for Air Defender 2023 with one member receiving a Letter of Recognition for facilitating a non-destructive inspection requirement for aircraft recovery using multi-capable airman capabilities.



# AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL

**A Marine KC-130J Aircraft lands on a dirt airfield during the Landing Zone Safety Officer (LZSO) Training Course attended by Airman of the 241st ATCS.**

Over the course of FY23, the 241st Air Traffic Control Squadron tackled numerous challenges. From safeguarding Missouri citizens operating in the National Aerospace System, to deployments, exercises and modernization of new deployable and fixed air traffic control approach landing systems (ATCALs) equipment. No matter the obstacle, the unit's tenacity to persevere and overcome was never questioned.

The 241st team has aggressively pursued modernization efforts for air traffic control and airfield capabilities for Rosecrans Memorial Airport. Supporting the city of St. Joseph with the main runway reconstruction, air traffic controllers and maintainers enabled the safe operations of over 18,000 military and general aviation aircraft. Furthermore, in conjunction with the city of St. Joseph, Mr. Taube and the team have worked hand in hand to enable the forward progress for the construction of a new air traffic control tower slated in March 2024. Finally, with support of the 139th Communications Flight and Civil Engineering Squadron, the efforts Mr. Nicolas, Mr. Antes and newly promoted Chief Master Sgt. Bishop have worked with National Guard Bureau, FAA, and various program offices to acquire a new fixed based radar approach control capability to replace the aging MPN-14K mobile radar.

Meeting the commander's intent for the June

LRE, the Airman set up the mobile tower, conducted post attack reconnaissance sweeps, and exercised the ability to survive and operate in a hostile environment. The unit sent controllers and a maintainer to the Landing Zone Safety Officer (LZSO) in anticipation to UTC changes and new mission sets as the 241st ATCS migrates towards the 241st Contingency Airfield Oper-

**Lt. Col. Nathan Vanhoof meets with Tech Sgt. Jared Vickroy at Al Asad Air Base, Iraq. Members from the 241st deployed to repair and maintain the airfield's navigation and radar equipment.**



ations Squadron (CAOS). These new capabilities will enable support towards forward operating stations as the Air Force morphs to meet new threats and potentials.

Meeting designed operational capability of the 241st for domestic and overseas operations were on full display. Personnel traveled to Florida to assist the 53rd ATCS in the placement of a ATNAVICS mobile radar. Their energies enabled the operational capability of a new USAF weapons system and established the 241st ATCS as the go-to unit for site survey capability. Several members deployed to Qatar, Jordan, and Iraq in support of various overseas contingency operations. These members enabled rapid redeployment exercises within AF-CENT, repositioning aviation assets supporting swift establishment of XAB forward operating bases away from the main operating base. Additionally, air traffic control liaison opportunities to educate the Israeli military in ATC procedures, to enabling airpower over Syria, and finally to directly supporting airfield operations across three locations in Iraq. No matter the hurdles, the men and women of the 241st overcame the trials placed before them.



**A Marine KC-130J Aircraft lands on a dirt airfield during the Landing Zone Safety Officer (LZSO) Training Course attended by Airman of the 241st ATCS.**



# MAINTENANCE GROUP



**Airmen with multiple Air National Guard units, including the 139th Airlift Wing, pose for a group photo in front of a U.S. Air Force C-130J Super Hercules aircraft assigned to the 123rd Airlift Wing, Kentucky National Guard, in a hangar after supporting exercise Air Defender 2023 (AD23), at Wunstorf Air Base, Germany.**

The 139th Maintenance Group had another outstanding year in 2023. The men and women of this group overcame adversity at home and abroad while supporting local ongoing missions and unprecedented joint operations overseas.

The discovery of cracks in the barrel assembly at an overhaul facility led to the grounding of 110 C-130s across the entire C-130H fleet in September of 2022. Despite projections of not having a single flyable aircraft for 18 months, the Maintenance Group was able to make aircraft 1653 one of the first Legacy C130H's fully mission capable by November.

After 21,000 hours of labor, the propulsion section was able to build, test, and install newly overhauled propellers on all the 139th aircraft by July of 2023. In addition, the 139th took ownership of aircraft 1232 and 1238 from the 166th Airlift Wing in Delaware, increasing the fleet to 12 aircraft.

The 139th munitions section conducted 383 Operations that accounted for 445,000 total items which supplied chaff and flare for the Weapons Instructor's

Course, Operation Mobility Guardian, and 180th Smokey Hill range demonstration, in addition to supporting the Advanced Airlift and Tactical Training Center during their May aircrew course. Also, they ensured combat arms had the allocation to support AMC Commander General Mike Minihan's "Mobility Manifesto", enabling every Airman at the 139th to fire ten rounds.

During the June UTA, 139th maintainers participated in a Large-scale Readiness Exercise (LRE). Airmen displayed their knowledge of Mission Oriented Protective Postures for 14 inspectors from the AMC IG office. Our members helped support a simulated deployment of 137 Airmen across the four day drill. Our Airmen were exemplary at performing Pre and Post-Attack Reconnaissance as well as coordinating with the Unit Control Center while generating and recovering aircraft for missions.

In June, the 139th Maintenance Group rallied for Air Defender 2023, a significant display of joint capabilities with other NATO nations against a potential

Russian threat. Nine 139th MXG personnel and one aircraft deployed to Wunstorf AB, Germany, joining 24 European nations and 250 aircraft in the largest trans-Atlantic movement since the Berlin Airlift and the largest in NATO's history. Along with 10 other C-130 units, 338 hours were flown, 1,214 personnel and 1.2 million pounds of cargo hauled, and air-dropped 525 paratroopers and 13,000 pounds of cargo. The maintainers helped to maintain multiple models and configurations of C-130's, including a significant over-G inspection on a C-130J model from the 123rd Airlift Wing which grounded the aircraft.

In July, maintainers prepared aircraft 1652 for exercise Mobility Guardian. The Group deployed 15 maintainers 7,000 miles to the INDOPACOM region and set up a primitive work center while implementing tactics never attempted by our military. The 139th participated in the exercise with 134 other guardsmen. As a unified team, the C130H fleet was able to execute a high volume of extraordinary missions that will rewrite future military tactics. Across 17 missions flown, 139th maintainers supported 77.4 flight hours, 150,800

pounds of cargo, 106 passengers, 20 Observe, Coach and Train Activities, 35 personnel Aeromed Evac'ed, transported Major General John Klein and enabled a 100% Mission Capable Rate. The 139th supported the Air Force's endeavor to overcome the vastness of the Pacific Theater. In all, eight countries operated across a 3,000-mile area to demonstrate their ability to deploy and perform in an area not done since WWII.

The 139th returned to Ramstein Air Base, Germany in September. Through the hard work of the maintainers, Exercise Silver Arrow was successful in performing missions from Ramstein to Cyprus and Incirlik, Turkey for a total of 53 flying hours, 55,000 pounds of cargo and the airdrop of 257 troops.

The 139th is blessed with the support of the St. Joseph community. The unit hosted two career fairs for high school-aged recruits, showcasing potential job opportunities and benefits of joining the unit, providing static displays, demonstrating the unit's capabilities, and engaging the local youth to highlight what the 139th Maintenance Group can do for them as well.

**Crew chiefs from the 139th perform post flight maintenance on a C-130 Hercules in support of Mobility Guardian 23, at Yokota Air Base, Japan.**



# MEDICAL

# GROUP

**The 139th Medical Group completed tactical training from the Coast Tactical Training team at Belt, Montana.**

During the annual training session at the Ranches at Belt Creek, MT, 30 members from the 139th Medical Group engaged in a comprehensive program encompassing tactical weapons training, combat medical training, land navigation, and basic survival training. This multifaceted training regimen not only enhances the units tactical medical readiness but also underscores the 139th Medical Group and its commitment to producing well-rounded and versatile Airmen capable of excelling in a range of operational environments.

The Tactical Combat Casualty Course (TCCC) and National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) are vital training programs maintained by the Medics and Nurses of the Medical Group. TCCC focuses on equipping personnel with the knowledge and skills necessary to provide immediate medical care in high-stress combat situations. This course emphasizes rapid assessment, bleeding control, airway management, and proper use of medical equipment.

On the other hand, NREMT certification ensures that Guard members meet the national standards for emergency medical care. By completing these programs, medical professionals are equipped with the expertise to effectively respond to medical emergencies both on the battlefield and in civilian contexts, demonstrating their commitment to serving and protecting others.

The 139th Medical Group Detach-

**The 139th Medical Group completed tactical training from the Coast Tactical Training team at Belt, Montana.**



ment 1, Missouri Homeland Response Force (HRF), mobilized its main body element to participate in two Culminating Training Events (CTE) this year with Army counterparts to Salina, Kansas (Crisis City) and Fort Leonard Wood. The planning that led up to this exercise was centered around an all-hazards response, National Guard Communication Information Management System (NG-CIMS), common operating picture, technology usage and familiarization. All training days were outlined as being field employment of NG-CIMS equipment, Medical Element (MEDEL) equipment and supplies, Search and Extraction (S&E), Hot Zone Triage (HZE), treatment, Military Control Center (MCC), Fatality Search and Recovery (FSRT), bioenvironmental engineering, public health, and logistics.



**The 139th Medical Group, Detachment 1, pose for a group photo at Crisis City.**

The HRF training events are vital for ensuring the preparedness and effectiveness of our specialized medical element. These events provide realistic scenarios that simulate emergencies and disasters, allowing HRF teams to hone their skills. From chemical spills and natural disasters to terrorist attacks, these exercises test the MEDELs ability to swiftly respond, mitigate threats, and provide critical support to civilian authorities. Through comprehensive training, including search and rescue operations, medical support, and hazardous materials response, the HRF teams develop the situational awareness, decision-making capabilities, and seamless collaboration necessary to protect lives and safeguard communities in times of crisis. These training events serve as crucial opportunities for continuous improvement and readiness, enabling the Missouri HRF to face any challenge



**The 139th Medical Group, Detachment 1, scale down storage containers for training.**

with resilience and expertise.

The 139th Airlift Wing and Mosaic Life Care signed a training agreement on October 2, 2023 at Mosaic Life Care in St. Joseph, Missouri. The agreement will provide medical Airmen with another opportunity to maintain their clinical requirements as medics. Per Air Force requirements, each medic needs 40 clinical hours every two years. Medics from the 139th will be present at Mosaic for clinical and trauma training experience on a rotating basis every drill weekend. The training agreement with Mosaic broadens the opportunity for medical Airmen to maintain their currencies.

**Col. John Cluck and leadership from the 139th Medical Group and Mosaic pose for a photo at the signing of the training agreement.**





**Airmen from the 139th Logistics Readiness Squadron pose for a group photo.**

**Vehicle Maintenance (VM):** Our mechanics supported AATTC and Operations Group during 10 classes and a 139th winter training at Fort Huachuca, Arizona. VM completed 835 work orders, including 1,694 sub-orders, averaging a 91% Vehicle in Commission rate, besting the Air National Guard benchmark of 90%. Our average age of vehicle is 15.73 years. We assisted MXS metal tech shop in modifying two used refrigerated trailers into standard covered trailers making them a more useful asset to units on this wing. We sent two Airmen to Whiteman AFB on 90 days of Title 10 orders to assist with deployment backfill. Conducted the first ever “Vehicle Drive-By” inspection where all blue fleet vehicles were cleaned up by their respective operators and driven through in a parade style fashion to show the LRS commander, the fleet and any commander on base what vehicles their squadron/group uses to complete the mission. Our fleet consists of 191 vehicles not including trailers and golf carts. We spent \$89,998.93, totaling \$471.19 per vehicle of maintenance for the year.

**Ground Transportation (GT):** GT completed 761 GT-Drive-it dispatches, transported 207,522 lbs of cargo, supported 33,795 miles of travel, moved 573 passengers, and provided 180 U-Drive-Its. We updated and maintained over 470 military driver’s licenses. We provided buses and drivers in support of various base tours. During the LRE, GT provided a continuous bus shuttle in the mock deployed location. We accomplished multiple protocol runs including State Command Chief Warrant Officer Chief Folsom and Senator Josh Hawley’s Military Representative and his support staff. GT provided Security Forces with

multiple vehicles in support of their annual firing at Fort Riley, KS. We supported wing leadership with more than 12 vehicles for the Executive Retreat in Manhattan, KS. in September. Our shop upgraded all cargo securement straps for tractor-trailer movements. We sent one Airman to NGB as Chairman of the Ground Transportation Advisory Group, the Headquarters Air Force AD Ground Transportation Leadership Summit and the NGB Ground Transportation Advisory Group Semi-Annual meeting.

**Traffic Management Operations (TMO):** TMO completed multiple documents to ship mission essential cargo, including transportation agent assignments, to Syncada certifying officer, and CBA certifying officer. Multiple C-130 propellers were shipped in wake of prop issue to multiple CONUS and OCONUS locations totaling over 15,000 lbs. We completed a DRMO run to Fort Riley, KS, which yielded over 15 skids of mobility gear at over 8,000 lbs. During the June LRE TMO participated in CMOS manifesting/cargo preparation for the CDF by processing over 25 short tons of wing UTC cargo. TMO prepared for shipment an NGSL and in a quick three day turn around cleared the suspense for shipment from NGB. One Airman was awarded NCOIC of Cargo Operations during deployment.

**Air Transportation Flight (ATF):** For FY23 ATF manifested and processed 1702 passengers, 387.87 tons of cargo, both inbound and outbound, rigged and recovered 574.86 tons of aerial delivery, for the support of 529 aircraft in two geographically separate units. ATF supported 10 Advanced Tactics Aircrew Courses at home station and Fort Huachuca. During this FY ATF had three Airmen

deployed in support of Operation Inherent Resolve to various locations within the theatre of operations. Their efforts helped to thwart terrorism and promoted global democracy by providing aid to Ukraine as well as our nation's allies.

In July of 2023, 27 members from the 139th ATF traveled to Elmendorf, AK, to participate in Deployed Field Training. The training provided real world experience that could not be accomplished at home station. Throughout FY23 ATF provided air transportation support for Air Defender, Mobility Guardian, and Silver Arrow. ATF also participated in our 2nd Annual Port Dawg Memorial Run, memorializing fallen 2T2's from the previous year.

**Logistics Plans (LP):** During FY 23, the LP office was essential in processing and deploying four members from the Maintenance Group, five members from Logistics Readiness Squadron, and eight members from the 241st ATC to five different locations. LP input multiple airlift requests to support squadrons seeking training opportunities outside of what can be offered here at the wing. We also conducted seven UDM meetings for 30 unit deployment managers, one DPWG meeting, several one-on-one trainings and three DCC tabletop exercises preceding the LRE. LP conducted wing readiness training sessions with each readiness monitor. We completed 32 AFJQS trainings out of 51. We carefully selected 33 tons of cargo, created the RI's and Ground Rules and built an DRMD for 150 pax for the LRE. We accomplished training with all unit readiness monitors for May, reporting in preparation of the State of State. LP updated the wing policy on Protection of Deployment and Readiness information. Master Sgt. Julius Dawson completed a SAV over LP and provided LOGMOD training to UDMs. During the fourth quarter, LP coordinated the Mobility Guardian 23 (MG23) exercise, which included meetings, reviewing all country clearance requirements per the FCG and RIs, and assisted AMC to complete an accurate TPFDD for all 51 members, ANG, AFR, and active duty, for their departure to five different locations. Due to numerous inconsistencies with the TPFDD built by AMC, over 90 hours of overtime were accumulated by two members to ensure deployment lines and CED orders were accurate, and members departed on time from the right locations. LP also planned and executed the movement for Silver Arrow 23.

**Material Management (MM):** For the first time in four years we have all the full time staff home station and able to work. Customer service cleared 15,000 documents,

and ran 800 due-ins from Maintenance turn-ins.

During this year 4,500 issues and backorders were processed for aircraft or demand processing. The warehouse had 890 orders for bench stock from the back shops, 256 condition code changes in the warehouse, 9,500 put aways, and 6,000 shipments. The warehouse completed 100 percent inventory of 3981 assets totaling \$4.4 Million. HazMat processed 300 receipts and had over 200 issues and due out release to shops. Mobility Readiness Spares Package (MRSP) had 50 items issued from the kit for multiple operations, TDYs, and home missions. Clothing had 3,000 orders processed totaling \$25,305. Clothing out-processed 14 deployers and assisted in getting 339 assets totaling \$12,500. Mobility processed over 500 Airmen for the LRE, issued 16 mobility bags for operations, and completed a full inventory of all assets totaling 24,267 items with a price of \$2,188,185. Equipment worked on getting Custodian Individual Reports updated with correct information. We received disposition instructions for 389 assets totaling \$1.9 Million. We received 405 assets totaling \$1.7 Million.

**Petroleum, Oils, and Lubricants (POL):** POL has worked with DLA-Energy and Tetra Tech as part of the RMMR program to allocate and update over \$436 thousand in repairs and maintenance to the fuel's facility at no cost to the wing. The fulltime fuels flight worked an additional 100 hours supporting the 139th , AATTC, and WIC, including setting up Electronic Point of Sale codes for all AZ Air Force vehicles. During this fiscal year POL participated in the support of Red Flag and Air Defender. POL was certified in Special Fueling Operations by the 106th LRS and stood up its own SFO program, which is a benchmark program for the POL National Guard Bureau. This program allowed POL to become 100% trained and certified and accomplished 180th Operations Group Mission Essential Tasks. POL successfully prepared and loaded an R-11 refueler onto a C-130H as a part of the Logistics Readiness Exercise. During this exercise POL demonstrated its joint mission capabilities as it performed a Wet Wing Defuel (WWD) on a C-130H and issued to an Army UH-60 in Springfield, MO. The C-130H prop issue increased the amount of samples POL was required to pull and run and decreased the consumption of jet fuel. POL has moved over 1 million gallons of fuel, made over 467 trips to the flight line, drew and analyzed over 6,000 Laboratory samples, and reconciled over 3,000 lines of accounting.



# CIVIL ENGINEER SQUADRON

**Airmen of the 139th Civil Engineering Squadron complete runway repair training at the 119th Wing, Fargo, North Dakota.**

Fiscal Year 2023 saw the Civil Engineer Squadron (CES) navigate a rapidly evolving military landscape, prioritizing both current mission readiness and preparedness for future contingencies.

**Training for Operational Excellence:** The squadron's focus incorporated contingency training simulated through the Disaster Relief Beddown System (DRBS) and a bivouac alongside live-fire exercises for firefighters. This initiative resulted in over 80% completion of Task Qualified Training (TQT) for CE personnel, representing a 10% increase in mission-ready Airmen. Furthermore, CES personnel capitalized on the Regional Training Site (RTS) at Badin, North Carolina, gaining valuable experience with specialized equipment and honing vehicle related skills.

Our fire department practiced airfield firefighting techniques alongside local fire department personnel using a mobile live-fire trainer obtained from the University of Missouri Fire Training Institute. Our state and military firefighters responded to 36 calls for service, including eight aircraft, 15 structural, and four medical emergencies. They also responded to four calls for mutual aid from our community. Our fire prevention section conducted 58 facility fire inspections and issued 13 welding permits. Our Senior Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO) group were all able to attend an ANG Chief Fire Officer Course and the Senior Fire

Officer Summit in Orlando, FL.

**Contributing to Wing Initiatives:** The Wing's bid for C-130J aircraft saw CE actively involved in data updates and facility measurements crucial to the site survey. During the Large-scale Readiness Exercise (LRE), CES's Inspection Team defined evaluation criteria and established the scenario, while the Installation Office of Emergency Management (IOEM) facilitated the CBRN portion.

The IOEM completed a severe weather exercise that allowed members to familiarize themselves with severe weather actions. The IOEM facilitated the Wing Anti-Hijacking Tabletop Exercise covering a worst-case hijacking scenario. The 139th joined SEMA during an earthquake "ShakeOut" drill, highlighting that the 139th sits between two major faults; the Humboldt fault located in Northeast Kansas and Southwest Iowa, along with the New Madrid Seismic Zone, located in southeastern Missouri.

**Securing and Enhancing Base Infrastructure:** CES's dedicated state personnel expertly managed day-to-day maintenance and minor repairs. Notably, 2,145 work orders were completed and over \$2 million executed through the ANG Facilities Operations Maintenance Agreement, encompassing material procurement, drop zone leases, annual contracts, and utility bills. This year our members were able to successfully

inspect 50% total square footage, well above the 20% requirement.

The move to the north end of the runway continued with the ongoing construction of the full motion simulator facility, which is scheduled to be completed in FY24. The Aircraft parking apron was approved to go to design and the team started working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The team also began the programming for the Security and Infrastructure project and the new Maintenance Complex.

In FY2023 there was a renovation to 241st Air Traffic Control facility for Standard Terminal Automation Replacement System (STARS), plumbing repair and a pavement repair project. CES was able to receive funding of almost \$500,000 in end of year funds for projects like new mechanical equipment, small concrete repairs, and epoxy flooring for both hangars. The replacement of runway 17-35 started in the spring and ran throughout the end of the FY into 2024.

The Environmental Office conducted flora/fauna and bat surveys, finalizing a wetlands survey, and overseeing large-scale upgrades to the Air Program



**Firefighters assigned to the 139th Fire Emergency Services, and local civilian agencies conduct a live fire simulation for training purposes.**

Information Management System (APIMS). Furthermore, Phase I Environmental Baseline Surveys for the Tower Lease project were completed, and significant enhancements were made to the Virtual Environmental Management Officer (VEMO) platform. CES's Facility/Resource Management Office played a critical role with over \$5 million executed through various cooperative agreements.

**Ready for the Next Chapter:** Through meticulous training, strategic exercises, and diligent infrastructure management, the Civil Engineer Squadron successfully prepared its personnel and facilities for the evolving demands of the future.

**Airmen of the 139th Civil Engineering Squadron pose for a group photo after completing training at the 119th Wing, Fargo, North Dakota.**





# FORCE SUPPORT SQUADRON

**Tech. Sgt. Phil Curtis and Staff Sgt. Amanda Glise, members of the 139th Honor Guard, replace an old U.S. flag at Mount Mora Cemetery in St. Joseph, Missouri.**

In 2023 the 139th Force Support Squadron continued to charge forward with our mission to provide continual support to members of the 139th Airlift Wing covering all aspects of service to members from their initial enlistment through retirement and beyond. The FSS team demonstrated our resilient spirit in the post pandemic era, and through unrest in the European and Pacific theaters.

Our goal is to provide excellent service to the wing members through multiple capacities. The squadron conducts personnel actions including accessions, re-enlistments, promotions, demotions, separations, retirements, DEERS, passport and ID card operations. The squadron also supports the force by providing meals, fitness, FSRT, lodging, systems access, IPR functions to include AFPAAS, compliance training, formal school training, testing, bonuses. Even with the high operations tempo, FSS continually prepares members for deployments and activations by ensuring all readiness training is complete.

Staff Sgt. Jill Morgan revamped the base's Color

and Honor Guard programs, where they have flourished, and have had many volunteers from the wing to join these programs. Morgan continues to recruit for the program and build bigger teams that are responsible to present our nation and state flags at events as well as provide funeral honors for veterans. The base Honor Guard has performed 11 events year-to-date.

The services team provided 5664 meals through the DFAC, processed over \$177,500 worth of lodging expenses, 3418 Room nights for unit UTA's, and oversaw 716 fitness tests for the wing with no appeals. The services team received 2 MSMs, 3 AFCOMMs, and 3 AFAs for their hard work and dedication to the unit.

The Fatality Search and Recovery Team (FSRT) spent a week in Fort Leonard Wood for a CTE, working with the Army Guard and other government agencies to prepare for real world events. Through continued training and exercises, the FSRT team is ensured to be ready to respond when called upon.

The personnel team processed 289 federal decorations for the wing, in-processed 12 officers and

78 enlisted Airmen and out-processed 91 members through separations, transfers and retirements. The team also processed 193 officer and enlisted promotions, and created 1200 CAC/Chipless cards. The team processed 215 DD214's and 34 military passports. The highlight for this team was revamping and implementing the selective reenlistment program, strength accounting duty status program, blended retirement system continuation pay, service obligation, special duty assignment pay program and the survivor benefits program. All these programs ensure benefits/entitlements for 139th Airlift Wing members and their families.

The base education and training team had another year helping the base maintain its readiness through the education and training requirements. The team executed 2909 MEST days for a total of \$690,000 of resource dollars and 7895 school training days for both our officer and enlisted members for a total of 2.4 million dollars of resource. They also proctored 55 CDC/PME for our unit's members. Career progression is vital to our unit's success, and this team plays an important role in the advancement of our members. This team was paramount in helping modernize and implementing the new MyTraining and CCAF online program. This helps members access their education and training requirements under one umbrella making it easier to navigate and complete.

**Airmen from the 139th Force Support Squadron pose for a photo at Rosecrans Air National Guard Base.**



**High school students from local areas visited the 139th Airlift Wing for the 2023 Career Fair.**

In 2023, the recruiting and retention team gained 83 recruits, putting the wing at 90.5% manning, and the wings retention rate for FY23 holds at 89.6%. The team held two career fairs for high schoolers in April and September at the base, where more than 817 students attended, over 762 contact cards were received from students, garnering 36 leads for possible recruitments so far. This team is also responsible for the student flight program where they inspire the wing's newest members and prepare these members for success at basic training and technical training schools.

2023 was another great year for the FSS team, and we look forward to 2024 and all the opportunities that await for the wing and team.





# SECURITY FORCES

**Airmen from the 139th Security Forces Squadron pose for a photo at Rosecrans Air National Guard Base.**

Significant changes swept through the 139th Security Forces Squadron in 2023. The Squadron celebrated the retirement of Master Sgt. Chris Black and Master Sgt. Matthew Price. Collectively, the duo had more than 63 years of service and experience. For the first time in seven years, the squadron held a change of command ceremony, celebrating Lt. Col. Ricardo Bravo's appointment as the Defense Force Commander. Bravo focused on developing leaders and preparing the squadron future adversaries and mission.

The squadron completed their annual training at Fort Riley, Kansas. They employed night vision devices and conducted low light and night fire machine gun training. For the first time in six years, they conducted known distance night fire training with their primary firearms. During the October RSD, the squadron conducted joint training with the 1-135th Assault Helicopter Battalion. They trained on area security operations and land navigation in the drop zone at Rosecrans Air National Guard Base. The squadron participated in a Joint National Training Center Exercise Program: Sage Eagle.

The U. S. Special Operations Command sponsored exercise teamed defenders from the squadron with the 1st Special Forces Group, conducting drills designed to test permissive to contested environments. The 15 days of training were conducted at Fort Bliss, Texas.

In June, the squadron participated in the wing Local Readiness Exercise, where they self-evaluated their ability to accomplish mission essential tasks. The squadron training and inspection team developed realistic scenarios driven from Air Force Doctrine on Agile Combat Employment. The inspection team was

responsible for orchestrating the evaluation of security forces performing advanced area security operations while harmonizing role players and providing feedback to Airmen. A 34 man team utilized air base defense strategies to secure a high value asset while responding to a full array of contact. The squadron was identified as the top performing squadron of the LRE while Master Sgt. Nagle was recognized as a wing top performer for his role in the Wing Inspection Team. Tech. Stg. Goerge Jasper was recognized by the wing as a top performer for the wing as well.

As part of an AMC General Order, the combat arms team was tasked to develop and execute small arms familiarization for the wing. In less than one month, combat arms provided 615 airmen weapons familiarization training.

While there was a reduction in federal positions, we saw substantial growth in funding and increase in authorizations for our civilian Security Cooperative Agreement employees. Our defenders repeatedly exceeded standards, executing compensatory measures and conducting identity proofing and screening of guests, contractors and vendors. They voluntarily showcased our domestic and contingency operations capability through equipment displays, firearms training simulator demonstrations, enhancing community relations.

This past year was challenging and rewarding for the 139th Security Forces Squadron. Defenders flawlessly executed local, domestic and federal missions simultaneously while ensuring the continued safety and security for the personnel and aircraft assigned to Rosecrans Air National Guard Base.

# COMMUNICATIONS FLIGHT

The ongoing Air Force Communications AFSC reclassification efforts entered its next phase of shred modernization. No longer were we a flight of multiple career fields, but now a combined force of multi-capable communications technicians under the same shred. The reclassification resulted in changes to manning, administration, and training requirements.

The CF continued its normal day-to-day business of keeping the wing's largest weapon system secure and stable, in compliance with Department of Defense and Air Force standards, and ensuring users across the wing had effective applications, tools, and equipment to meet their mission requirements. CF technicians completed critical systems packages, upgrades, and improvements. The cybersurety office successfully completed the two-year Authority to Operate (ATO) package. Without an approved package, the wing would no longer be allowed to connect to the Air Force and Department of Defense networks, bringing the mission to a halt.

Radio transmissions systems technicians completed a \$300K enterprise ops radio modernization project, replacing the outdated radio system to meet the International Civil Aviation Organization's mandate of properly equipping air navigation service providers for ground-to-air communications. This upgrade provides safer, more reliable, and more sustainable communications between ground operations and U.S. government and allied aircraft. Network infrastructure technicians completed a \$1.5M Base Information Transfer Infrastructure (BITI Ban) project. The entire base infrastructure was manually upgraded, to include 6 core nodes and 90 switches to new CISCO equipment with nominal downtime and interruption.

Network operations technicians continued aligning

the base network with the Air Force cloud systems initiative by migrating enterprise servers to the ADX environment and standing up new print, file, application, SharePoint, and network monitoring servers. These upgrades improve accessibility and safeguard over 1.2 TB of wing mission critical data. Client systems technicians imaged and issued 86 laptops, 145 desktops, 6 ruggedized laptops, and refreshed 55 mobile devices, with an estimated value of \$295K. Technicians successfully processed and disposed of over 1,500 outdated network equipment items, totaling \$850K in value.

The Joint Incident Site Communication capability (JISCC) team participated in multiple extensive training exercises and events on the new NGCIMS (National Guard CRE [CBRN Response Enterprise] Information Management System) with the Missouri National Guard Homeland Response Force. JISCC received new data equipment, significantly reducing the size of the equipment and allowing more modular deployment to support events of various scale. The trainings and new equipment allow the team to support a greater variation of federal, state, and civilian partners with faster response times and a more tailored communications support.

In addition to normal mission operations, the CF participated in a large-scale readiness exercise (LRE) during June RSD. CF technicians supported wing units with additional communications systems support, evaluated various aspects of the flight's personnel readiness, and proved the network resiliency capabilities during the exercise. The CF personnel's professionalism, sense of urgency, and positive attitude were noted by the evaluation team. By all measurements, the 139th Communications Flight has performed outstandingly.

**Civic leaders of St. Joseph, Missouri participated in the 139th Airlift Wing's Civic Leadership Academy where they received an in-depth tour of the wing.**

“Turn your wounds into wisdom.” – Oprah Winfrey

Military & Family

# READINESS

The Resiliency Team’s strategic goals for FY23 were to focus on the four pillars of the Comprehensive Airman Fitness (CAF), to aid in the reduction of emotional battles, promote NGB policies related to resiliency and building healthy perceptions of the Resiliency Team’s roles and responsibilities.

This year the Military and Family Readiness Program provided Airman and their families with school supplies worth over \$7,000 through Operation Homefront. Children’s gifts given at the Children’s Christmas Workshop valued at over \$3,000 with over 500 participating individuals. They provided updates and an event on the VA Pact Act with over 45 participants. A Mini Airman’s Attic was developed to help with items that families could not afford. The Giving Tree, with the assistance from the wing first sergeants, was established to assist those that have specific personal needs. A Month of the Military Child event was held to provide recognition and support to the wings children with over 34 participants. A teen group was developed to enhance and grow our teen participation at the wing with over 22 teens in attendance. Disaster preparedness with the American Red Cross was provided for youth and adults.

This year we continued to provide services to include: 40 Coordination and Outreach events serving over 7,495 individuals and over 6880 hours spent; 95 Pre/Post deployment workshop briefings with 760 attendees, 114 Financial Touchpoint Trainings; 22 TAP

Initial Counseling Sessions & Pre-Separation briefings with 20 attendees; 18 Informal Contacts and Services; 8 Leadership Consultations; 13 Personal & Work Life workshops; 1,339 Individual tracked visits; 3 in-person Retire Ready workshops with over 33 in attendance, and four Newcomers briefings completed with 43 in attendance. Volunteer hours this year totaled more than 1000 hours. The Resiliency Team presented five RSD virtual specialized topic groups for the wing with 23 attendees.

The Yellow Ribbon program for first-time deployers with orders over 90 days attended Pre & Post Yellow Ribbon events. For this FY23 there were three in-person pre and post events held at Lake of the Ozarks, St. Louis, Overland Park and a virtual event. Of the 507 attendees, 72 were from the 139th, a total of 396-man hours were spend on the event, with 36 staff and vendors present. The events cost was approximately \$80,444.10.

Our Key Spouse Volunteers continued to support our deployed members and their families with over 300 hours of contact calls to each family member and supplying resources to deployed families. They provided over 700 hours of volunteer time for the wing. Combined with additional volunteer time, over 1000 hours of volunteer efforts were made to the 139th. If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering call us at 816-236-3939.



# CHAPLAIN

**Maj. Jose Martinez gives a speech during his retirement ceremony.**

The Air Force Chaplain Corps' mission and vision is to inspire the readiness of Airmen and their families by "Caring for Airmen more than anyone thinks possible." The 139th Chaplain office has strived to meet this by providing creative/consistent unit engagement, offering vibrant worship opportunities, providing quality strong bonds events and helping build strong and resilient character in our Airmen and their families.

Our current staff consists of two Chaplains and three Religious Affairs Airmen. After 13 years with the 139th and a total of 26 military years (Army and Air), we said a final "thank you and farewell" to Chaplain, Maj. Jose Martinez for his many years of service to God, our country and the 139th Airlift Wing at his retirement. Lt. Col. Thomas Ludwig (Retired) continues to provide Mass for our Catholic community when available; however, we continue to look for a Catholic Priest who could join our unit on a traditional status.

Our Chaplain Corp staff strives to provide the best spiritual support to our Military members and always seeks to be a visible reminder of the Holy wherever we are called to minister. Several members from our office attended the Chaplain Annual Sustainment Training (CAST), a joint training with the State Chaplain, 131st BW Chaplain and Army Chaplains from Missouri Guard Units. We also attended the Senior Religious Support Team Symposium hosted by NGB in Virginia with Chaplains and Religious Affairs Airmen from throughout the U.S.

We hosted two Strong Bonds events; one Air

Guard only and one with the Missouri Army National Guard. Chaplain Fruechting and Chaplain Clary completed the Chaplain leader certification in "The Seven Principles for Making Marriage Work". Several of our enlisted members completed upgrade training to better serve our office and the Airmen of the 139th Airlift Wing.

## Other Accomplishments

### Unit Engagement

- 8,306 members engaged

### Leadership Engagement/Advisement

- 1,456 leaders engaged

### Faith Activities

- 52 services conducted; 26 supported; 805 attended

• **Invocations: 21**

### Counseling

- 189 sessions; 194 members

# INSPECTOR GENERAL



**Airmen from the 139th Airlift Wing are sworn in as members of the Wing Inspection Team.**

The IG office is responsible for overseeing the execution of required annual mission assurance exercises, by-law inspections and Commander's Inspection Program (CCIP) requirements.

In early 2023, Maj. Rob Payeur was appointed the new IG for the wing. Additionally, the office was able to fill all vacancies with the addition MSgt David Vance and Capt Jeremy Palmer.

The biggest muscle movement during 2023 was associated with Operation WESTERN WAVE, a Large Scale Readiness Exercise. As part of this exercise the wing hosted an inspection team from AMC/IG.

Wing Inspection Team (WIT) members were key in the planning and evaluation of this exercise. Without their efforts the exercise would not have provided wing leaderships with actionable data regarding strengths and weaknesses.

The exercise was a success as units across the wing were able to display their ability to generate, employ and sustain in support of a wartime effort.

As we move into 2024 we are implementing plans to enhance how our office supports leaders across the wing to ensure that the wing is ready to answer the call of our state and our nation.



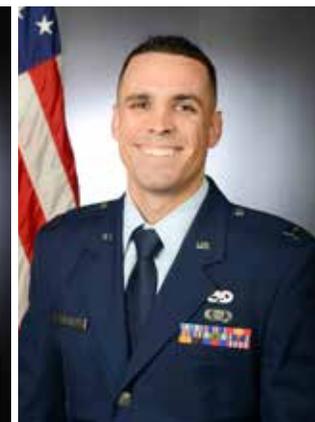
**Senior Master Sgt. Chris Blake**  
IG Superintendent



**Maj. Rob Payeur**  
Inspector General



**Maj. Rhonda Brown**  
Complaints & Resolutions



**Capt. Jeremy Palmer**  
Director of Inspections



**Master Sgt. David Vance**  
Inspections Coordinator

# SAFETY



**Airmen complete a wet-wing defuel on a C-130 Hercules to refuel a UH-60 Blackhawk in conjunction with Missouri Army National Guard counterparts as part of a training exercise.**

2023 was a year dedicated largely to risk management (RM), focused on making educated safety decisions in all operations of the 139th. The 139th Safety Office worked hand-in-hand with commanders and key players in developing RM decision criteria for new mission operations that stemmed from the multi-capable Airman (MCA) and agile combat employment (ACE) concepts.

One of the key new mission sets implemented was specialized fueling operations (SFO). SMSgt Aaron Cluck was instrumental in coordinating and advising with maintenance and operations personnel in implementing RM backed SFO procedures for the 139th to ensure regulatory requirements were met, procedures were established, and proper mitigation and acceptance were put in place.

During the June 2023 large-scale readiness exercise (LRE), SFO proof-of concept integration was accomplished with the MO Army National Guard (MOARNG) in Springfield, MO with great success. Lt. Col. Jason Lehman and Capt. Riley Coats liaised with the MOARNG to integrate operations with the 139th resulting in the rapid refueling of a UH-60 helicopter

from a C-130 Hercules.

In 2023, the 139th Safety Office was once again a proven leader in world-wide operations by having a member deployed ISO of PACAF operations. Master Sgt. Ray Wheeler spent the majority of 2023 at JB Hickam, HI with Joint Task Force-Red Hill as a quality assurance and occupation safety specialist. The

139th sent three members through the Air Reserve Component Chief of Safety (ARCCoS) course. One of them being Lt. Col. Jason Lehman who was chosen to be the new 139th Chief of Safety in the last quarter of 2023. Once again, the wing had a very successful year in the realm of safety. There were no mishaps reported above a class E in flight safety. Mr. Bobby Boswell replaced Ms. Abby Voglewede as the USDA Airport Wildlife Biologist. He quickly transitioned into his new role and continued her excellence in helping to reduce wildlife strikes. In

occupational safety, the wing once again experienced one of the lowest mishap rates. Under Master Sgt. Steven Miller's oversight, the wing continues to excel in in weapons safety by recording zero weapons safety incidents. This has been the trend for the last six years.





# PUBLIC AFFAIRS

**Maintenance and aircrew Airmen conducted a mass generation of seven C-130 Hercules aircraft.**

For public affairs, 2023 started with a media engagement on the wing's first two-ship C-130 formation flight since the H model fleet grounding in late 2022. PA also facilitated a media story on the 180th Airlift Squadron's morale patch which features Patrick Mahomes riding a pony. The patch was designed by the 180th's Staff Sgt. Calvin DuVall. PA also hosted media at the wing's spring career fair.

In May, Staff Sgt. Janae Masoner documented the 139th Civil Engineer Squadron's Rapid Airfield Damage Recovery training in Fargo, N.D. She also escorted local media during U.S. Senator Eric Schmitt's first visit to Rosecrans. During the LRE, Masoner traveled to Springfield, Mo., with POL in order to document wet-wing defueling operations on a C-130 Hercules aircraft to refuel a UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter in conjunction with the Missouri Army National Guard.

In June, Capt. Sean Navarro traveled to Wunstorf Air Base, Germany, to cover the wing's involvement in

**Koda, the wing's support dog, lays on the floor when he was four months old.**



NATO exercise Air Defender 2023. The wing provided one C-130 Hercules aircraft and 25 personnel for this exercise which was the largest gathering of NATO air forces in the history of NATO.

In July, Senior Master Sgt. Michael Crane attended the Public Affairs Communication and Strategy Qualification course at the Defense Information School at Fort Meade, Md. Tech. Sgt. Audrey Chappell covered the 139th Medical Group in Belt, Mt., where they learned survival tactics, trained on firearms and refreshed their combat medical training in order to encompass the multi-capable Airman concept.

Tech. Sgt. Andy Rivera took home first place in the multimedia category of the 2022 NGB PA Media Awards contest. The product was a video featuring the 241st Air Traffic Control Squadron conducting radar training in Hawaii. The PA shop said goodbye to Capt. Adam Miller as he transitioned to the 139th Force Support Squadron.

Collectively, the PA shop accessioned 576 images, 15 news articles, and 7 videos to the Defense Visual Information Distribution Service. Some of those stories include the wing's career fairs, 139th firefighters training alongside St. Joseph Fire Department at the airport, and a large-scale readiness exercise which simulated the deployment of 137 airmen.

As 2024 begins, PA looks forward to more milestones including the Unit Evaluation Inspection, Sound of Speed Air Show and Open House, and other challenges the wing may face!

# ADVANCED AIRLIFT TACTICS

## TRAINING CENTER



**A U.S. Air Force C-17 Globemaster III aircraft assigned to the 16th Airlift Squadron, sits on the flight line of the Advanced Airlift Tactics Training Center, while attending the Advanced Tactics Airlift Course at Fort Huachuca, Arizona.**

The Advanced Airlift Tactics Training Center (AATTC) had an incredibly productive 2023 calendar year. The Training Division executed six different advanced tactical courses with a full schedule, training hundreds of students from AMC, ANG, AFRC, US Space Force and the USMC. The Development Division and AMC's Det 5 were extremely busy supporting the AMC Tactics Improvement Proposal (TIP) process, consulting at AMC's Weapons and Tactics Conference (WEPTAC) and the ARC WEPTAC, as well as a robust schedule training MAF Forces in datalink at AATTC and several Mobile Training Team (MTT)

TDY's. The C-130H Weapons Instructor Course (WIC) graduated valuable Weapons Undergraduates (WUGs) adding significant combat capability to the Air Reserve Component (ARC).

Highlighted success of the AATTC include numerous strategic level engagements with all Mobility Air Force (MAF) components (AMC, ANG, AFRC) to include engagements with AMC/A3T, AMC/A2 and many DV's from AMC. The AATTC staff were able to give multiple AATTC mission briefs and facility tours. All visitors were able to observe the campus, engage with students from CATS/MECOC, view tactical development projects like Datalink and Space Jam to Go, and engage with the Weapons Instructor Course (WIC) students and cadre. A byproduct of that engagement sparked interest for further engagement for a Mobility Datalink Users Course designed to increase warfighter effectiveness.

In July, the AATTC ceased local operations to participate in Operation Mobility Guardian 2023. This was a heavy lift for the AATTC and 139th Air Wing Organizations. AATTC members deployed to five different locations within the INDOPACOM area. Members served as Observer, Coach, Trainer (OCT), Datalink Expert Support, Intel Support, and Aircrew and Maintenance roles (C-130H, 139 AW, MoANG) comprising the C-130H Force Element (FE). Some accomplishments include C-130J FE Deployment, 35.8



**Col. James Couch: AATTC Commandant**



**Air Mobility Command Leadership visits the AATTC.**

hour maximum effort flight from Little Rock AFB, Arkansas to Andersen AFB, Guam. The AATTC Observers flew missions which totaled hundreds of hours in theater. They accomplished AOC tasked movements and exercise training missions such as AE, coalition airdrop, and CSAR support. Another milestone was

days events were well received by all.

In conclusion, the AATTC had begun a significant strategic shift in the year of 2023. In line with the National Security Strategy (NSS) and National Defense Strategy (NDS). The AATTC is creating guidance in strategic documents to maintain tactical relevance. Our training division is focusing on courses which emphasize components of ACE, Multi Capable Airme (MCA), INDOPACOM Scenarios, and potential Peer to Peer conflict with any adversary. The Development Division and AMC Det 5 are working hard on technologies to aid in training MAF Aircrew to successfully operate in the first island chain of IN-DOPACOM. The C-130H WIC is actively posturing its syllabus toward all aspects of ACE. The Mission of the AATTC is to “Increase the warfighting effectiveness and survivability of Mobility Forces.” In 2023, the AATTC epitomized that mission.



**Students attending the Advanced Airlift Mobility Intelligence Course, and loadmasters from Delaware National Guard, walk from the flight line after a training sortie at Fort Huachuca, Arizona.**

**Airmen with the 139th Aerial Port Flight conduct a combat offload method B with a C-130J Hercules aircrew assigned to the 61st Airlift Squadron, who are attending the Advanced Tactics Airlift Course in Fort Huachuca, Arizona.**

the Fortieth-year Anniversary of the founding of the AATTC. Members of the AATTC hosted an open house for AATTC alumni and all members of the 139th AW. We had the special honor to welcome the founding father of AATTC, retired Lt. Colonel Howard Dixon. Col Dixon participated in an AATTC mission brief and interacted with the current cadre. Numerous alumni participated in a chili-cook off contest and a Christmas party later that evening. The





# Training Division

**A U.S. Air Force C-130J Hercules aircraft assigned to the 61st Airlift Squadron, out of Little Rock Air Force Base, lands on Hubbard landing zone, at Fort Huachuca, Arizona while attending the Advanced Tactics Aircrew Course.**

This fiscal year, the AATTC Training Division executed 6 courses and 32 separate classes, providing exceptional, “one of a kind”, training for almost 500 U.S. and Allied students, to include the countries of Denmark, New Zealand, and Japan.

## **Advanced Tactics Aircrew Course (ATAC):**

There were 9 AATTC flying classes this year featuring two and a half days of academics and 9 flying sorties. We trained a total of 132 MAF crewmembers, broken down as follows: AMC-43, ANG-36, AFRC-10, USMC-11, PACAF-5, and Allied-27. *POC Maj Mark Gaines, DSN 356-3767*

**Advanced Airlift Mobility Intelligence Course (AAMIC):** This three-week course, held in conjunction with the ATAC and CATS-MECOC, affords intelligence and aircrew personnel the opportunity to brief, mission plan, and fly together - fostering improved interoperability and increased combat capability. We had a total of 6 AAMIC classes this year with 43 students broken down as follows: AMC-24, ANG-14, AFRC-1, ACC-2, USMC-1, and USAFE-1. *POC Maj Matt Cotter, DSN 356-3546*

## **International Mobility Intelligence Course**

**(IMIC):** This two-week course, held in conjunction with the ATAC, affords intelligence and aircrew personnel the opportunity to brief, mission plan, and fly together - fostering improved Allied interoperability and increased combat capability. This course is based on the original AAMIC. There was 1 IMIC class held this fiscal year, with 11 students trained. *POC Maj Matt Cotter, DSN 356-3546*

## **Mobility Commanders Tactics Course (MCTC):**

The AATTC instructors provided a two-day tactics

refresher for squadron and group commanders, squadron operations officers, and intelligence commanders. MCTC better prepares these officers for their leadership duties and responsibilities while deployed to an area of operations. There were 4 MCTC classes held this fiscal year. A total of 24 leaders were trained broken down as follows: AMC-4, AFRC-7, AETC-1, and ANG-12. *POC Lt Col Mike Gard, DSN 356-3732*

## **Mobility Datalink Manager’s Course (MDMC):**

As units across the MAF continue to be outfitted with Real Time Information in the Cockpit (RTIC), we have seen an exponential increase in requests for training. This course focuses on developing unit level subject matter experts to establish and maintain wing datalink infrastructures and training programs. All MAF datalink systems are taught with emphasis on the Situational Awareness Datalink (SADL) that is being installed on the ARC C-130H fleet, as well as the regular Air Force C-130J and C-17 fleets. This course was offered 6 times this year with 57 attendees broken down as follows: ANG-14, AMC- 26, AFRC-12, USAFE/PACAF-4, other-1. *POC Capt Justin Bigham, DSN 356- 3455*

**Combat Aircrew Tactics Studies / Mobility Electronic Combat Officer Course (CATS/MECOC):** This two-week academic course is an AMCI 11-207 requisite for Tactics Chiefs. There were 6 CATS/MECOC class held this year with a total of 175 CATS-MECOC students trained broken down as follows: AMC-76, ACC-10, ANG-41, AFRC-23, PACAF-8, USAFE-8, AETC-4, AFSOC-4 and USMC-1. *POC Lt Col Kevin Ehresman, DSN 356-3735*

# Development Division

AATTC's Development Division is focused on supporting AMC, AFRC, and ANG efforts in developing, testing, and training relevant tactics based on currently installed equipment, operator needs, and adversary TTPs.

**Tactics Development:** AATTC Development Team began 2023 by providing support to Air Mobility Commands planning cell for Mobility Guardian 2023 held at Scott AFB. This was one of several planning sessions that AATTC Development Teams supported by providing expertise in both defensive and communication systems as well as basic aircraft capabilities.

Senior Master Sgt. Ryan Blake attended the Career Enlisted Aviator Senior Enlisted Leadership Course (CEASELC) on behalf of AATTC and the 180th Airlift Squadron. Both Blake and Lt. Col. Sean Haugsven were part of the initial cadre trained for the C-130H Aviation Modernization Program (AMP). Blake also attended the AMC Stan Eval Board at Scott Air Force Base on behalf of AATTC and the 139th Airlift Wing.

Haugsven and Lt. Col. Dawn Teufel supported the C-130H 3-3/3-1 rewrite, providing updated tactics and processes to the C-130H community. Teufel participated in multiple Cross tells hosted by the Air National Guard Air Force Reserve Command Test Center (AATC) throughout 2023. This is to ensure AATTC maintains its support and awareness of test efforts across the ANG and ARC.

All Development Team members in conjunction with Training Division and Det 5 directly supported AMCs major exercise, Mobility Guardian 2023, for the month of July. Team members were at every location for the exercise as Observe Coach Train (OCT) support to all lines of effort.

Two teams of datalink support were strategic in bringing all Mobility Forces online for the exercise, their hands on efforts singlehandedly provided the Datalink success to all airborne linked tankers and airlift assets.

Haugsven attended MAF WEPTAC as a SME and to provide guidance to AMC staff for all represented MDS. AMC Tactics Review Board (TRB)

Additional support was given to AMC/A3 teams

in running the TRB and adjudication of more than 32 Tactics Improvement Proposals (TIPs) covering new and emerging tactics for all AMC airframes. Multiple members of the Development Team directly supported ARC WEPTAC helping the KC-135, KC-46, C-17, and C-130H/J force prioritize NGREA funding for acquisition of COTS/GOTS equipment. Blake has been AATTCs primary POC for the AMP modification as well as maintaining his role as lead in developing SFO procedures and ABFDS methods.

Multiple Development Team members have worked to advance Space Jam To Go, an onboard GPS jammer to help simulate GPS jamming in any environment. Space Jam has been requested by AATC for development on other platforms and by AMC for C-17. Additionally, all of Development Division gave maximum support to every significant MAF conference this year.

**Electronic Warfare Systems:** All of Development Division provided EW expertise to CATS-MECOC to ensure the course continues to be the preeminent source of knowledge for MAF tacticians around the globe. Haugsven as lead for the C-130H Mission Data File (MDF) for the ARL-69A assisted AATC in final testing of the Advanced Integrated Electronic Combat System (AIECS).

**Datalink:** The Datalink team continued to be on the cutting edge of Datalink development for the MAF. The MDMC has increased student throughput to meet the need for the command as well as utilizing Mobile Training Teams to support multiple KC-135 units as their installs are brought online. Capt. Justin Bigham and Capt. Brian Warner have supported AMC and ARC in all aspects of Tactical Datalink Training encompassing Dynamic Retasking Capability and Real Time Information in Cockpit as well as being heavily involved in shaping the direction of future Datalinks. Mobility Electronic Training Environment (METE) has advanced due to collaboration between both Training and Development Divisions. The Datalink team members were active participants in the Mobility Air Forces Tactical Datalink Program Management Review, helping to shape the future of connectivity.

# C-130H WEAPONS

# INSTRUCTOR COURSE

**Maintenance and aircrew Airmen assigned to the 139th Airlift Wing conducted a mass generation of seven C-130 Hercules aircraft at Rosecrans Air National Guard base.**

The C-130H Weapons School finished 2023 by graduating three new Weapons Officer's from class 23B. Two students were from the 182nd Airlift Wing at Peoria, and one was from the 139th in St. Joseph. From July through December these students planned and flew challenging missions in Missouri, Texas, Florida, Arizona, California, Colorado, and Nevada.

They integrated with other mobility assets like the C-130Js and C-17's as well as every fighter, bomber, and C2 asset in the Air Force. Integration also included working closely with Joint Terminal Air Controllers, Intel, Space, and Cyber WUGs as well.

Cadre supported the J model class and ran the 3-1.C-130 and 3-3.C-130H tactics publication rewrite at Nellis AFB. This time was also used to set the stage for 23B by preparing to execute a new syllabus, and creating training sorites that focus on winning a fight against pacing threats.

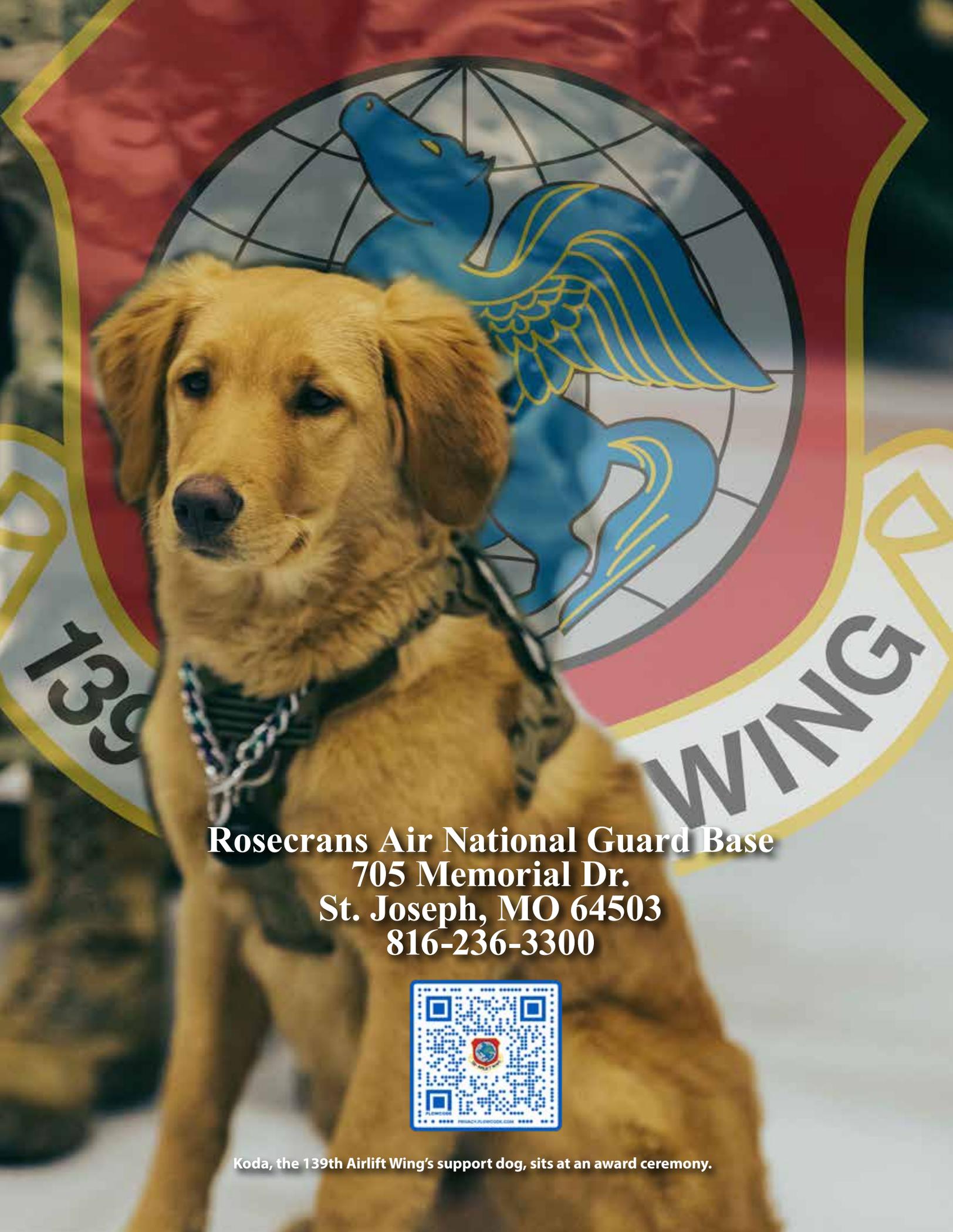
In January, cadre spent two weeks in Texas training to fly the new C-130 avionics upgrade. This upgrade will require significant changes to how the C-130H operates, especially in a tactical environment, and the WIC will be ready as the upgraded aircraft become operational.

One of the major lines of effort last year was to get qualified on Specialized Fueling Operations (SFO) and work with 139th leadership to create safe procedures for doing SFO locally. The success of this effort allowed engines running refueling and defueling to be

added into the syllabus and helped solidify SFO as one of the basic building blocks required for agile combat operations. The H model weapons school also lead the way with minimum altitude capable training. Lessons learned will codified and lead to more survivable threat reactions in future combat operations.

Another milestone for 2023 was the first integration between the Air Force C-130 weapons school and the Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron One (MAWTS-1). This integration led to lessons in integration and well as exposure to different, ways of executing formation, threat reactions, and fuel transfer between running aircraft. This first integration was a big success and will be carried into future classes with the new syllabus.

Under the new syllabus, weapons undergraduates of class 23B, undertook 334 hours of in class academics, 17 written tests, 23 flights, three formal briefings and one master's level paper. The flights started with single ship threat reactions in the Kansas plains and culminated in the Nellis Test and Training Center with a one 90 plus aircraft package integrating fighter, bomber, airlift, space, cyber, and Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance capabilities to execute a Joint Forcible Entry against an array of air and ground threats emulating a peer adversary. These graduates are now prepared to lead their squadrons in future conflicts requiring innovative leaders that are experts in advanced tactics and joint operations.



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**Koda, the 139th Airlift Wing's support dog, sits at an award ceremony.**