

# 123 MEDICAL GROUP



## MISSION

## LINEAGE

123 Medical Group  
123 Tactical Hospital  
123 Medical Group  
123 Medical Squadron

## STATIONS

Louisville, KY

## ASSIGNMENTS

123 Airlift Wing

## COMMANDERS

Maj Jerome A. Cope, 1951-1953  
Maj Harold E. Kleinert, 1953-1955  
LTC Harold Graves, 1955-1964  
LTC Harold E. Kleinert, 1964-1966  
LTC Donald HarXXXX, 1966-1968  
LTC Samuel Cooper, 1969-1971  
LTC John M. Karibo, 1971  
Colonel John D. Moore

## HONORS

**Service Streamers**

**Campaign Streamers**

## Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

### Decorations

### EMBLEM



### MOTTO

### NICKNAME

### OPERATIONS

On March 1 1954 the Medical Group became the 123d Tactical Hospital, a designation which continues to this time.

1968 Orders for the 123d Tac Recon Wing and all other units of the Ky-ANG (except for State Headquarters) called for 24 months active duty, unless sooner relieved. Kentucky units affected by the call (with their gaining commands in parentheses) were: Hq, 123d Tac Recon Wing (TAC) Hq, 123d Tac Recon Group (TAC) 165th Tac Recon Squadron 123d Tac Hospital 123d Combat Support Squadron 123d Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron 123d Supply Squadron 123d Communications Flight (AFCS) 165th Weather Flight (AWS-MAC) At that point it also became clear that a number of members of the KyANG would not be moved to Richards-Gebaur with the Wing. The Group Headquarters would be shelved for the time being, the 165th Tac Recon Squadron would be greatly enlarged as an "augmented" squadron, and the 123d Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron would be reorganized and redesignated as a Field Maintenance Squadron. The Combat Support Squadron, Weather Flight, Communications Flight, Tac Hospital, and Supply Squadron would all be inactivated "for the duration."

The Tactical Hospital, always a proud unit of the KyANG, was called upon during field training to hear a cry for help. A soldier at nearby Camp McCoy, Wise., was severely injured in a military vehicle accident. He was brought to Volk Field by helicopter and cared for by the Tac

Hospital until a med evacuation aircraft could get through severe weather to pick him up. The soldier later recovered at an Army hospital.

Another activity of the Tac Hospital has been physical exams for underprivileged children attending Guard-sponsored youth camp each summer for several years. Hospital staff performed 70 physicals for camp youth so they could go to camp.

Yet another example of fine work done by the Hospital occurred in the winter when ice-covered roads isolated an asthmatic girl at Nelson County, Ky. The hospital commander, Maj John M. Karibo, who is a specialist in children's allergies as well as a flight surgeon, sent an Army helicopter after the girl. A waiting ambulance met the helicopter at Shewmaker and rushed her to a Louisville hospital for recovery.

Members of the base's Fire Department taught various levels of HazMat training to the Ft Knox responders. A member of the Civil Engineer Readiness Flight taught the Louisville Fire Department Chemical and Biological Detection techniques and served as an evaluator for a Domestic Preparedness Exercise held by the City of Louisville. The 123rd Medical Squadron directly supported the mission of the Kentucky Air National Guard throughout the past year by providing more than 500 physical and dental exams, immunizations, and ancillary services such as x-rays, laboratory tests, electrocardiographs, pulmonary function tests and optometry examinations. The medical squadron gave 4,274 immunizations and 1,323 anthrax vaccines since the start of the program. In addition, the squadron conducted monthly mandatory random drug screening and periodic AIDS testing.

The medical mobility mission of the hospital is to provide, upon mobilization, manpower augmentation for a fixed medical treatment facility. With the increasing real world threats terrorism and biological threats, the training emphasis during this reporting period was on the Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) at the first ever ANG Medical Cold Weather Survival Training. This training was conducted at the Combat Readiness Training Center in Alpena, Michigan in February 2000. After 123rd MDS personnel received extensive classroom instruction on winter survival techniques and concepts of operations in a cold weather environment, 19 unit members deployed, set up field shelters, and learned field craft necessary for survival in cold weather conditions. This training also included Weapons of Mass Destruction tabletop exercises in conjunction with their field and air transport exercise training. Lessons learned from last year's Turkey Trot Exercise at the Wendell H. Ford Regional Training Center enhanced their skills in providing perimeter security and retrieving wounded troops from the enemy territory for trauma care and medical evacuation.

The 123rd Medical Squadron has also supported Wing and Air National Guard tasked AEF deployments to Seeb, Oman as well as joint Army/Air medical support efforts for Operation Alaska Road, Ketchikan, AK. With the draw down of Kentucky Army Guard medical units, the 123rd Medical Squadron has become the state's primary military medical response unit. The 123rd MDS has been an active participant in local response planning for Weapons of Mass Destruction and in the activation of a Rapid Assessment and Initial Decontamination (RAID)

light team for the state of Kentucky. In May 2000, the Air Force Inspection Agency visited the 123rd Medical Squadron and awarded them a very high rating for services and care provided to the numerous Wing organizations.

In December 04, the 123d Medical Group established a mobile In-Place Patient Decon Team with the capability to move patients exposed to chemical/biological agents through decontamination before placing into a medical treatment facility. The team is available for use throughout Kentucky, as well as medical needs. Through the Health Technician Advisory Council (HTAC) for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region 4, unit representatives helped organize Region 4 (Southeast states) classes to implement automated programs to better process flying waivers and initial physicals. The 123d Medical Group deployed three individuals to Task Force Grizzly (Border Patrol in Southern California) medical support to troops and the U.S. Border Patrol 25 June – 9 July. The Group implemented an annual dental exam program and completed over 85 percent of the wing starting from scratch – successfully address the number one issue that makes personnel non-deployable. Twelve personnel from the Nursing corps completed Nursing Service Top-Star Trauma Training in St. Louis, Missouri, qualifying them for wartime casualty medical treatment tasking.

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Air Force Unit Histories

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Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.