

123rd SERVICES FLIGHT

LINEAGE

STATIONS

Louisville, KY

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

Captain Rodney O. Boyd

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Eleven members of the 123rd Services Flight honed their combat skills by completing Services Combat Training at Dobbins ARB, Ga. Three key personnel supported the Maryland (Baltimore) Air National Guard in providing food service support during their ORI in Savanna, Ga. Two Services' personnel were invited to serve on the Disney Award evaluation team, where they evaluated several ANG Services units nationwide. The Disney Award is awarded to the best Services unit in the Air National Guard.

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HURRICANE KATRINA/RITA RELIEF EFFORTS:

On 29 August 2005, Hurricane Katrina swept through Louisiana and Mississippi, leaving a wide swath of destruction. That same afternoon, two Kentucky Air National Guard aircrews scheduled to fly routine local training sorties were tasked to fly the first hurricane relief sorties into Navy New Orleans airfield and by 31 August the 123d Special Tactics Squadron was conducting search and rescue and helicopter evacuation operations in New Orleans with seven pararescue personnel, six FAAcertified combat/air traffic controllers and four Zodiac rescue boats. By the end of September, Kentucky Air Guard personnel had reinforced the unit's reputation as a world-class organization with an outstanding record of support to Katrina victims. Twenty-four members of the 123d STS took control of Air National Guard rescue operations from 31 Aug-8 Sep, managing additional STS personnel from the Alaska, California, New York and Oregon Air National Guard, establishing temporary control of the Navy New Orleans airport tower, and operating round-the-clock rescue and evacuation operations. They evacuated 10,635 people by helicopter, 1,206 by boat and 86 by motor vehicle. Additionally, on 23 September 15 members of the 123d STS deployed to Meridian, Miss. to await the landfall of the hurricane season's second Category Five hurricane, Rita, in Texas. Rita made landfall on 24 Sep but did not pack the destructive force of Katrina, so the STS personnel were released to return home and prepare for the 123d STS' first quarter 05 to Afghanistan. Thirty-one personnel from the 123d Security Forces Squadron under Capt. Mary Decker deployed to New Orleans initially, then on to Baton Rouge to provide security for the state of Louisiana from 1 to 24 Sep at multiple locations, including the Baton Rouge Convention Center and the Louisiana State University football stadium. From 29 August through 30 September, Kentucky Air National Guard aircrews flew 91 Hurricane Katrina relief sorties for 166.3 flight hours, carrying 414 military and 414 civilian passengers and 321.2 tons of cargo. The 123d Operations Group kept aircraft and crews on alert for hurricane relief operations throughout the month of September. Lieutenant Colonel Ronald Whelan of the 123d Operations Group served as Air Liaison Officer to the Louisiana Air National Guard in Baton Rouge from 22-29 Sep. The 123d Contingency Response Group (CRG, consisting 15 members of the 123d Aerial Port Squadron and nine members of the 123d Tanker Airlift Control Element [TALCE], under the command of Maj. Kevin Morris) handled airfield operations at the main Hurricane Katrina airfield hub of Belle Chase, Louisiana from 1 to 24 Sep and in Alexandria, Louisiana from 26 Sep into October. Seven members of the 123d Services Squadron deployed on 6 September to Gulfport, Miss. CRTC to provide dining facility services to deployed servicemen and remained in place through 30 Sep. The 123d Medical Group deployed detachments of nine personnel under Col. Richard Kimbler to Baton Rouge from 6 to 24 Sep, three personnel to Camp Shelby, Miss. from 5 Sep to 15 Oct and two personnel to Belle Chase from 20 Sep to 4 Oct. The Medical Group assigned 10 staff members to work with the Veterans Administration and local volunteers to train them to handle litters and other details for patients expected to arrive in Louisville through the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS). Seventy-five patients arrived at the base by C-130 airlift shortly after midnight the morning of 24 Sep, were processed in at the main maintenance

hangar and transported to various local hospitals. Wing Chaplain (Lieutenant Colonel) Thomas Curry led a two-person Religious Support Team to Natchez, Miss. from 6-18 Sep 05 to assist both soldiers and civilians.

123 SVF ORI Support Apr (05) 3 Savannah CRTC

123 SVF Services Combat Tng Jun (05) 11 Dobbins ARB

123 SVF Hurricane Relief Sep-Oct 05 7 Gulfport CRTC, MS

Air Force Order of Battle

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Sources