

# 139th Airlift Wing

## Annual Report



2024



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Cover: A “double wall of fire” pyrotechnic display, is triggered behind F-16 Fighting Falcon fighter jets, assigned to the Air Force Thunderbirds during the Speed of Sound Airshow, at Rosecrans on September 15, 2024. The explosion was part of the “Tora, Tora, Tora” Commemorative Air Force’s performance. The air show was hosted by the 139th Airlift Wing, and city of St. Joseph to thank the community for their support. The air show committee estimated around 50,000 people attended during the weekend performances in which the Thunderbirds were featured.

# Wing Commander

I am proud to report that 2024 was another year of exceptional achievement for the 139th Airlift Wing. Our commitment to excellence, innovation, and teamwork resonated across every unit and mission, solidifying our position as a premier C-130H wing within the Air National Guard. While each unit demonstrated excellence throughout the entire year, I would like to take a minute to highlight a few achievements from a few units now.

We often focus on the mission our own unit is tasked with and I encourage you to see how each unit is an integral part of the wing and its commitment to being Always Ready...Ever Willing!

**The 139th Operations Group** demonstrated dedicated commitment to readiness through exercises like the Key West Fly-Away and the Aircrew Maximum Endurance Exercise, culminating in a successful deployment to Djibouti in support of Operation EAST AFRICA COUNTER-TERRORISM.

**The 139th Maintenance Group**, despite limited personnel, ensured mission success by overcoming challenges like hail damage to aircraft and supporting a demanding operational tempo, including a 40-hour sortie and participation in Exercise Tarang Shakti 24 with the Indian Air Force.

**The 139th Medical Group** enhanced medical readiness by implementing MEDIC-X training and strengthening international partnerships through the Missouri/Panama State Partnership Program.

**The Logistics Readiness Squadron** excelled during the Unit Effectiveness Inspection and supported critical missions, including the Sound of Speed Airshow.

**The Civil Engineer Squadron**, with new leadership at the helm, thrived during the Unit Effectiveness Inspection, enhanced warfighting capabilities during a deployment for training to Yokota Air Base, Japan, and fostered community partnerships during events like the Sound of Speed Airshow.

**The Force Support Squadron**, embodying their "Cradle to Grave" motto, provided unwavering support to wing members, with notable achievements in personnel actions, recruiting and retention, and honor guard services.

**The Security Forces Squadron**, under new leadership, prioritized training for Great Power Competition, participating in exercises like Sage Eagle and ensuring

airtight security for events like the Sound of Speed Airshow.

**The Communications Squadron**, adapting to leadership changes and infrastructure upgrades, ensured network security, supported the Joint Incident Site Communication Capability mission, and benefited from valuable training during a deployment to Yokota Air Base, Japan.

Finally, the **Advanced Airlift Tactics Training Center** trained hundreds of students from various branches and international partners, supporting AMC initiatives, and forging strategic partnerships with the Indian Air Force and the United Arab Emirates.

The accomplishments detailed in this report are a testament to the hard work, dedication, and professionalism of every member of the 139th Airlift Wing. They are also a testament to the ability of each unit playing a vital role in what the Wing brings to the Airlift World.

We enter 2025 with unwavering confidence in our ability to meet any challenge and execute our mission with excellence. I will continue reiterate my intent and 3 charges as we get after 2025:

**Charge 1:** Know where you come from and know who you are. Ask yourself that question right now, Who are you?

**Charge 2:** Control what you can control.

**Charge 3:** Have an absolute warrior mentality in everything you do.

Faithfully yours,

Col. Barrett "Scooter" Golden  
Wing Commander





# Economic Impact

## Fiscal Year 2024

Salaries, Wages, and Monetary Benefits	\$85,784,000.00
Education Benefits*	\$18,653,088.00
Construction and Capital Investment	\$2,178,825.00
Operations and Maintenance Expenditures	\$2,578,192.00
Military Personnel (MilPers) Expenditures	\$31,933,000.00
AVPOL Aviation petroleum, oil, & lubricants	\$3,664,226.00
Weapon System Sustainment	\$28,320,000.00
 Total Expenditures	 \$173,111,331.00
Economic Impact Multiplier **	1.243936
Total Impact	\$215,339,416.64

\* Education benefits are based on the number of students who attend AATTC courses, multiplied by the respective course length, and then multiplied by the local cost of \$166 for lodging and ME&I.



**Col. Barrett Golden talks with Maj. Gen. Bryony Terrell, special assistant to the director of the Air National Guard, at Rosecrans on Jan. 21, 2025. During her visit, Terrell met with wing leadership and toured the base to learn about the 139th Airlift Wing's current initiatives.**



# Command Chief

As we reflect on the past year, we are proud to highlight our achievements. The year 2024 was marked by significant events, deployments, and community engagements that demonstrated our commitment to excellence and service.

We successfully completed our Unit Evaluation Inspection, showcasing our operational readiness. We executed a seven-plane elephant walk, demonstrating our airpower capabilities, and conducted endurance missions that tested the ability of our Airmen and aircraft to perform in the most challenging conditions. The 139th Airlift Wing answered the nation's call and completed a successful deployment to AFRICOM in support of Operation New Normal.

We participated in State Partnership Program activities, fostering relationships with partner nations and promoting mutual understanding. Additionally, we hosted a career fair and a Community Leadership Academy, providing students and local leaders with an up-close look at what the 139th AW has to offer.

Another highlight of 2024 was the opportunity to host the Sound of Speed Airshow, headlined by the Thunderbirds. The airshow attracted over 30,000 spectators and culminated in the 139th AW being named the 2024 Military Base Airshow of the Year by the Thunderbirds!



**Command Chief Master Sgt.  
Thomas Triplett**

As we look back on 2024, we are proud of the many accomplishments and milestones achieved by our team. From operational successes to community engagements, we have demonstrated our commitment to excellence and service. We are grateful for the opportunities to engage with our community, develop our skills, and fulfill our mission. We look forward to continuing to serve and make a positive impact in the years to come.



**The Outstanding Airmen of the Year: Airman 1st Class Zoey Prussman, Outstanding Airman; Tech. Sgt. Demi Turner, Outstanding Non-Commissioned Officer; Master Sgt. Michael Dudzinski, Outstanding Senior Non-Commissioned Officer; Master Sgt. Heidi Ponder, Outstanding First Sergeant; Capt. Adam Miller, Outstanding Company Grade Officer; and Maj. Josh Rohrer, Outstanding Field Grade Officer.**



# 139th Operations Group

The 139th Operations Group has completed another outstanding year, marked by significant accomplishments and milestones. As a critical component of the 139th Airlift Wing, our group has continued to demonstrate its commitment to excellence, innovation, and teamwork. Our mission is to generate and sustain combat-ready aircrews, capable of executing a wide range of operations in support of domestic operations, national defense and humanitarian efforts.

The 139th Operations Group focused on operational readiness during the Key West Fly-Away in April 2024. Four aircraft, six aircrews, along with support and maintenance personnel deployed to Key West Naval Air Station, Florida. The intent was execution of a large force exercise prior to deployment. The group accomplished AFRICOM deployment training requirements to include personnel airdrop, combat offloads, and other readiness training items focused on preparing for the upcoming AEF deployment. Training included integration with F-15s from the 125th Fighter

Wing and personnel airdrops with SOCSOUTH and SOCCENT jumpers.

**Innovative Training Initiatives:** The 139 Operations Group planned and executed an Aircrew Maximum Endurance Exercise in July 2024. The intent was to “explode into theater” with a simulated rapid aircraft deployment to a Pacific island destination. Sortie legs were set to mirror those that would be required en route to the Pacific with the aircraft only landing for fuel at each location. During their 29-hour mission, two aircrews flew a total of 23 hours and 6,676 nautical miles to accomplish this monumental task.

**Successful Deployment:** Our group successfully deployed to Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti, in late summer 2024 in support of Operation EAST AFRICA COUNTER-TERRORISM. The four aircraft package was assigned to the 75th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron and executed missions throughout the Horn of Africa region demonstrating our ability to rapidly respond to emerging requirements and operate in a dy-



**Airmen completed a max endurance operation at Rosecrans on July 10, 2024. This max endurance operation was a 29 hour mission with three fuel stops designed to test the aircrew's endurance.**



## Operational Highlights

- 25 NGB Mission Readiness Airlift missions
- 7 Joint Airborne / Air Transportability Training missions
- 8 Aerial Events
- Aeromedical Evacuation training in Oklahoma City
- 4 missions transporting a mobile control tower in support of Air Education and Training Command
- 3 multi-day Off-Station Trainers
- 3 Exercises
  - SENTRY ALOHA (Hawaii)
  - TARANG SHAKTI (India)
  - IRON SWAT (Philippines)

of cargo, and provided transport for 2,238 passengers and six aeromedical evacuation patients.

As we look to the future, the 139th Operations Group is poised to continue its tradition of excellence. We will focus innovative training initiatives to ensure our personnel and aircrews remain at the forefront of operational capability. We are committed to supporting missions worldwide and contributing to the success of our national defense. The 139th Operations Group has had an outstanding year, marked by significant accomplishments and milestones. We are proud of our personnel's dedication, expertise, and commitment to excellence. As we move forward, we will continue to strive for excellence, embracing new challenges and opportunities, and upholding the highest standards of performance and readiness.

namic environment. During the deployment, members of the 75th EAS flew 1,344.6 hours, moved 1,402 tons



**Airmen refuel a C-130H Hercules aircraft on Feb. 13, 2024, at Rosecrans. Aircrews conducted a 41-hour sortie in which the aircraft engines ran continuously for 45 hours and the aircraft was refueled three times. This type of training enhances the wing's warfighting capability by pushing the limits of the aircraft and personnel.**



# 241st Air Traffic Control Squadron



**The 241st set up and maintain the newly-constructed TRN-50 Deployable Instrument Landing System (D-ILS) at Rosecrans Nov. 7, 2024.**

The 241 ATCS tackled numerous challenges in 2024. From safeguarding Missouri citizens operating in the National Aerospace System, multiple MAJCOM inspections, equipment replacement, enabling the operational testing and evaluation (OT&E) and modernization of a new deployable air traffic control approach landing systems (DATCALs) equipment, and multiple exercises, the unit's tenacity to persevere is always on display.

During this period, there were numerous opportunities for growth as well as modernization for the organization. Efforts between our Community Alliance, Civil Engineers, and Air Force commenced in 2019 for the construction of a new \$15 million air traffic control tower and terminal complex with the fruits of these labors commencing in 2024, to provide a safer operating facility for the City of St. Joseph, Buchanan County, and the state of Missouri. In partnership with NGB, the 139th and the 241st have taken the first steps in standing up a new radar approach control facility by remodeling the unit's main building to receive Standard Terminal Automation Replacement System (STARS) radar equipment. Furthermore, the unit received the last MPN-14K radar from depot to replace the older system on station. The efforts of both maintenance and operations personnel swapped out the systems and successfully passed flight checks conducted by the Federal Aviation Administration. The 241st is the only unit since 2018 to effectively replace

and flight check its mobile radar. Finally, the acquisition of the new Landing Zone Safety Officer (LZSO) Unit Type Code is the first tangible sign towards the reorganization of the 241st Air Traffic Control Squadron to the 241st Combat Airfield Operations Squadron (CAOS).

In March, the unit was inspected by both Air Mobility Command and National Guard Bureau encompassing the Unit Effectiveness Inspection and Airfield Operations Compliance Verification where the men and women obtained an "EFFECTIVE" rating from both inspecting agencies. The men and women traveled to various exercises CONUS and overseas locations supporting PACOM, EUCOM and NORTHCOM requirements with air traffic control, logistics and administrative services. Due to reconstruction of two runway supervisory units at Laughlin Air Force Base, the unit deployed the MSN-7 mobile tower on two different occasions via C-130. These efforts afforded the 47th Flying Training Wing to continue its Undergraduate Pilot Training mission and enabled the \$900K construction project, 4,600 sorties and the graduation of 60 pilots. Lastly, supporting Air Force Flight Standards Agency, we are sustaining the OT&E of THALES light deployable instrument landing system with the unit's localizer, site survey and maintenance capabilities.



**The 241st took their mobile tower to Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas, on two separate occasions.**





**Capt. Lamont Wood, a pilot assigned to the 180th Airlift Squadron briefs Airmen about their flight at Rosecrans Aug. 25, 2024. Airmen and aircraft from the wing deployed to U.S. Africa Command's area of responsibility.**



**A C-130 Hercules aircraft prepares to take off at Rosecrans Aug. 25, 2024. Airmen and aircraft from the wing deployed to U.S. Africa Command's area of responsibility.**



**A C-130 Hercules aircraft assigned to the 139th Airlift Wing takes off at Rosecrans Aug. 25, 2024. Airmen and aircraft from the wing deployed to U.S. Africa Command's area of responsibility.**



# 139th Maintenance Group

The 139th Maintenance Group had a busy year in 2024 with multiple cross-country trips and a significant workload at home, but they rose to the occasion once again as they set the standard for C-130H operations despite limited personnel. In October the group, through significant effort, was able to make a seven ship “Elephant Walk” possible in an outstanding display of the unit’s capabilities. This impressive showing of the Hercules aircraft showed the nation what the unit was able to accomplish. The unit also showcased the versatility of the airframe by flying an unheard of 40-hour sortie. Maintainers were on station around the clock with multiple aircraft maintainers flying with the crew as well. Through the dedication of maintenance personnel, the crew was able to fly aircraft 1653 for 40 consecutive hours with over 45 hours spent with engines running.

The unit was then faced with another challenge with the pending Unit Effectiveness Inspection. Maintainers spent months preparing their work areas for inspection to meet Air Force standards. Through a grueling four-day RSD, full-time and traditional Guardsmen alike came together to cement an “Effective” rating from Air Mobility Command. Their

efforts were crucial for the future of the Wing as it continues its mission of bringing the C-130J aircraft to St. Joseph. Maintainers also traveled to Charleston, West Virginia in December to ascertain the necessary equipment and space required to gain these aircraft. The 139th has always had fruitful relationships with other C-130 units and this cooperation was vital for a future transition to a new airframe. The group also hosted the NGB A4 Production Assessment Team in January which solidified solid maintenance practices, lean logistics, and efficient mission support. All these endeavors are part of a massive push from the 139th to secure the new C-130J aircraft.

139th Maintainers also faced strenuous challenges in their day-to-day operations. In March, the St. Joseph area was struck with serious hail damage resulting in seven aircraft being rendered non mission capable. To expedite the maintenance process, two depot maintenance engineers arrived on scene within three days to expedite the maintenance process allowing three 139th Maintainers to swiftly map all the dents on each of the aircraft resulting in nearly 6,000 total dents. Across the entire fleet, 12 elevator trim tabs were damaged as well as two elevators- one of



**The 139th MXG poses for a photo in front of the Newlon Hangar at Rosecrans on June 9, 2024.**



which needed to be replaced- three aileron trim tabs and one aileron. These repairs took approximately 15 days and the use of ten different Maintainers involving four shops. Furthermore, all new trim tabs had to be weighed and had to be within a certain weight range of the one being removed. Failing that criteria would require an additional day of maintenance to verify the balance of that flight control and that it was within tolerance with the new part installed. In addition, those flight control surfaces that were not replaced due to availability issues had to be inspected every 100 flight hours by two individuals. The number of dents to be inspected would require an additional day per aircraft. This was a monumental effort by the unit and Air Force engineering to rapidly increase tail availability. Three different aircraft also required engine removals in only a three-month timespan. Aircraft 1796 had a turbine changed with the same engine being reinstalled on the aircraft in only three days, while aircraft 1793 and 1238 required an engine change for Reduction Gearbox issues. The Propulsion Section utilized the expert technical advice from their Rolls-Royce Field Service Representative and the Vibration Program at Kirtland Air Force Base to make the decision to remove these engines for back shop repair.

The 139th took on numerous off-station ventures as well. The adaptability of the unit was displayed as they generated four aircraft for a flyaway to Key West, Florida in April. Numerous traditional Guardsmen traveled on this exercise to increase their experience and provide valuable support in a humid, saltwater environment. 139th Maintainers also guaranteed the performance of their aircraft so that 139th Civil Engineering was able to complete their mission at Yokota Air Base, Japan during the month of June. The 139th's readiness enabled a smooth transport for CE personnel across the Pacific. Additionally in June, members participated in Maintenance University at Volk Field, Wisconsin to sharpen the skills for the instructors and students alike in an off-station environment. These courses help train young Airmen to better perform their tasks in unfamiliar situations and expand on the Multi-Capable Airmen concept. The 139th also participated in an unprecedented joint venture with the Indian Air Force in Tarang Shakti 24. This exercise proved the capability of the 139th Maintainers and crew in a trip halfway around the world working with allied partners. Maintainers overcame multiple hurdles

Other Maintenance Actions	
• Isochronal Inspections	7
• Home Station Checks	5
• Post-Depot Inspections	1
• Aircraft Wash	15
• Flying Hours	2284.3
• Sorties	934
• Overall Aircraft Availability	59.04%
• Mission Capability	71%

on aircraft 1652 to complete their mission, returning home after nearly three weeks out of the country.

In Operation New Normal, 62 Maintenance personnel deployed in a four-ship generation to Africa as the 139th took their rotation downrange bringing with them 44.36 tons of cargo. Maintainers worked tirelessly to facilitate the deployment, guaranteeing four aircraft (and two spares) were mission ready to operate 24 hours a day in an austere environment. Airmen enabled these aircraft to depart without a hitch in August of 2024 for an Aerospace Expeditionary Force deployment in excess of six months returning by the end of the year. The departure of these Airmen has left a large gap in personnel at home station, and resident full-time members have answered the call. The full-time force has handled the extra load admirably, while bringing on traditional Guardsmen in a temporary capacity to perform the mission at home.

Finally, the 139th would not be able to accomplish as much as it does without the support of the public. After sending an aircraft in support to Jefferson City, Missouri as a static display, maintainers assisted in the hosting of the 2024 Sound of Speed Airshow. 139th Maintainers spent significant amount of time in setting up the centerline for the Air Force Thunderbirds before the show. They worked incessantly at cleaning the flight line and our facilities in preparation for hosting thousands of members of the public. They coordinated with members of the Thunderbirds maintenance and crew, and several of the other performing aircraft crews, and quickly cleaned up the entire base so we could resume normal operations as soon as possible. The dedication and flexibility of maintainers guaranteed that this biennial air show was a success and that we presented a strong representation of our unit to the public that we serve.

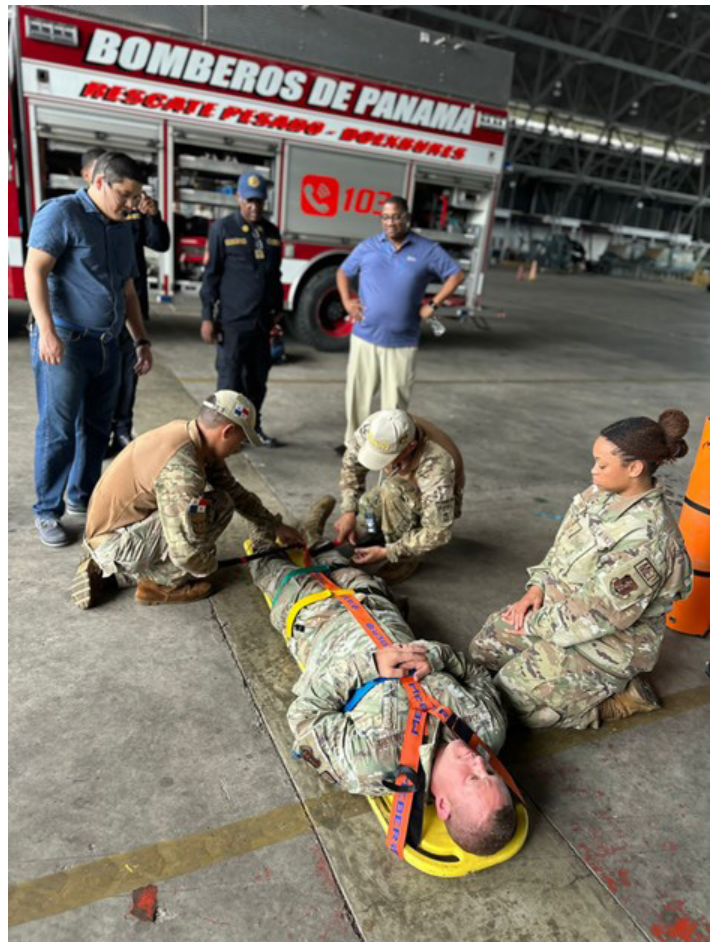


# 139th Medical Group

The 139th Medical Group (MDG) marked a major milestone in its commitment to medical readiness, successfully completing the first two modules of the new required MEDIC-X training during the MDG annual training event. This comprehensive training is designed to equip all medical personnel, to include even non-clinical personnel, with 52 essential skills, aiming to prepare them for the dynamic challenges of future combat operations.

By bridging the skill gap between different medical AFSCs, MEDIC-X ensures that every Airman, regardless of their role or expertise, is proficient in a wide range of critical skills. Some of the clinical skills learned in the first two modules included being able to perform Military Acute Concussion Evaluation (MACE), perform spinal immobilization, establishing and maintaining patient airways.

The 139th MDG's accomplishment demonstrates its dedication to maintaining a highly adaptable and effective medical force. The successful integration



of MEDIC-X training into the annual training event highlights the group's proactive approach to staying ahead of the curve in medical readiness and preparedness.

Three members from the 139th MDG were selected to participate in the Missouri/Panama State Partnership Program and were able to spend about a week in Panama City, Panama. The selected members were Master Sgt. Ekpe, Capt. Antes and Lt. Col. Miller.

In January 2024, Capt. Audra Antes along with Dr. Kimberly Barragan (131st DPH), Capt. Max Rodgers (MOARNG J7 Exercise Plans Officer / Master Fitness Trainer), and Capt. Chris Barrett (MONG H2F) participated in the Missouri State Partnership to Panama City, Panama. Our task was to provide the Holistic Health and Fitness (H2F) training with Panamanian first responders and subject matter experts. Attendees were members of the National Police of Panama, National Aeronaval Service of



**Airmen from the 139th Medical Group's Detachment 1, the 139th Joint Incident Site Communications Capability and the 139th Fatality Search and Recovery Team, Missouri Air National Guard, pose for a group photo at the Crisis City Regional Training Center in Salina, Kansas, July 15-19, 2024. Airmen spent four days at the Crisis City Regional Training Center in Salina, Kansas, demonstrating overall readiness in response to a simulated disaster for an external evaluation.**





Panama, National Border Service, and National Civil Protection System.

The attendees had varying professional backgrounds to include psychologists, social workers, special operators/police, search and rescue, and medics. This team was able to share information in methods and training for stress management before, during and post incident, mental health, team communication, physical fitness, morale, and welfare. Panamanian members were eager to bring topics discussed and share with their 11+ specialty areas. Culturally, our team was able to learn about their professions, and the expectations and demands of their jobs and the effects on their personal and professional lives. Despite cultural and language differences, many commonalities were discovered between our groups in the struggles we face emotionally, mentally, and personally while performing our duties.

Master Sgt. Ekpe and Lt. Col. Miller went in June 2024 and were tasked with developing a week long training event over Causality Evacuation, Patient Stabilization, and Patient Packaging. Ekpe and Miller ,along with two members from the 131st Bomb Wing, educated civilian firefighter, water rescue personnel, special forces operators, medical providers, and counter drug enforcement officers on the basic stabilization and packaging for injured individuals focusing on the methods used by the Missouri Air National Guard medical teams. The training provided was based roughly on Tier 1 TCCC and utilized the MARCH Algorithm for stabilization. Ekpe used her extensive training in search and extraction to train and demonstrate patient packaging techniques needed for transportation of individual to higher levels of care.



Members communicated using real time interpretation services which was a unique and fascinating experience. These members were able to experience the Panamanian Culture, the city, and the engineering marvel that is the Panama Canal.

In July 2024, Missouri National Guard's Homeland Response Force (HRF) underwent a rigorous External Evaluation (EXEVAL) at 'Crisis City.' This intensive training tested their ability to manage chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and high-yield explosives (CBRNE) emergencies. The HRF's dedication and skill ensure they are ready to support civil authorities in times of crisis. Every three years the 139th Medical Group's Detachment 1 is put to the test on pre-hospital and field treatment during an external evaluation. The detachment spent four days at the Crisis City Regional Training Center in Salina, Kansas, demonstrating overall readiness in response to a simulated disaster.



# 139th Logistics Readiness Squadron

This year, the Logistics Readiness Squadron's achievements were instrumental to the 139th Airlift Wing's success. The squadron's commitment to excellence and preparedness was evident during the Unit Effectiveness Inspection. Additionally, the squadron's participation in high-level national exercises and its support for critical special operations and emergency response missions underscores its vital role in enhancing the Air Force's overall readiness and response capabilities. The squadron also participated in a range of other notable events, including night vision familiarization training, a 40-hour maximum endurance exercise, an AEF deployment, an AFSOC real-world mobilization and hurricane evacuation, and the Sound of Speed Airshow.

The Material Management (MM) section has also had a successful year, reaching 100% manning for the first time in more than a decade. They meticulously managed a high volume of assets, processing over 39,000 line items valued at \$3.5 million, executing thousands of issues, shipments, and condition code changes, and diligently maintaining accurate

inventory records. Their efforts extended to supporting deployments and training exercises, with the team building and breaking down over 150 mobility bags, processing deployments for over 200 personnel, and providing CBRNE training and equipment maintenance.

The Petroleum, Oils, and Lubricants (POL) section showcased exceptional resourcefulness and commitment in FY24. Despite a 33% reduction in full-time personnel, the team secured over \$333K in facility repairs and maintenance at no cost to the 139th through strategic partnerships. They provided unwavering support, contributing an additional 252 hours to ensure operational readiness across the 139th, AATTC, and WIC. This included crucial support for AEF (STRAT AIR) and AATTC/180th OG exercises. The POL team also played a vital role in the Sound of Speed Airshow, executing 48 refuels and dispensing over 39,000 gallons of Jet A fuel, demonstrating their ability to handle large-scale logistical demands exceeding \$157,000. Through efficient resource allocation, steadfast dedication, and proactive



**Airmen assigned to the 139th Logistics Readiness Squadron load a C-130 aircraft propeller onto a C-5M Super Galaxy cargo aircraft at Rosecrans Aug. 30, 2024. The C-5 aircraft was used to transport Airmen and equipment from the 139th Airlift Wing for an overseas deployment.**





**Airmen assigned to the 139th Logistics Readiness Squadron's petroleum, oils and lubricants (POL) office engage in speed drills at Rosecrans on April 6, 2024. The drills were crafted to increase the airmen's speed in aircraft refueling while also serving as a morale-boosting competition.**

personnel management, the POL section overcame obstacles to deliver exceptional fuel operations support throughout FY24.

The Vehicle Maintenance (VM) team demonstrated exceptional proficiency and dedication, achieving a 90% Vehicle in Commission rate despite managing a fleet with an average age of 12 years. They successfully completed a significant workload of 530 work orders and acquired five new vehicles to enhance operational capacity. The team prioritized professional development by sending eight airmen to deployed field training and received zero write-ups during the UEI, showcasing their commitment to excellence. The team provided crucial transportation support for the Sound of Speed Air Show, demonstrating their ability to contribute to high-visibility events. They efficiently transported 60 rental cars and 70 golf carts on and off the base without any accountability issues.

The Air Transportation Function (ATF) excelled this past year, demonstrating exceptional performance in multiple domains. They directly enabled the successful launch of numerous C-130 aircraft by providing crucial aerial delivery support, cargo handling, and drop zone recovery, processing 154 short tons of equipment and supporting 475 aircraft

operations. Their outstanding work earned them recognition as an "Outstanding Flight" with zero discrepancies during the UEI. Beyond operational achievements, ATF fostered camaraderie and celebrated heritage by hosting the Annual Drill Celebration and first-ever 139th "Dawg Call," recognizing Senior Master Sgt. Heintz as "Hurricane Dawg" which now makes him one of only 600 to ever receive the national recognition.

The Logistics Plans (Log Plans) successfully executed a wide range of deployment operations, including a large-scale Aviation Package deployment involving 155 personnel and 40.4 short tons of cargo. They also facilitated deployments for rotational assignments and exercises like Agile Flag, Operation Deep Freeze, and Valiant Shield. In addition to deployment execution, Log Plans completed the 2024 Base Support Plan, engaged in valuable training at Hurlburt Field, and collaborated with a JFHQ auditor to ensure program compliance.

The Transportation Management Office (TMO) collaborated closely with Material Management and Security Forces to efficiently ship over \$100K worth of weapons, resolving a 6-month backlog. They also coordinated with the 241st to provide the necessary manifests and hazardous materials declarations for a TACAN radar system ordered by the president for overseas shipment. Expanding their capabilities, the TMO scheduled and executed 5 Global Operational Passenger (GOPAX) flights for over 200 passengers at a cost of \$400K to support Aerospace Expeditionary Force (AEF) rotation training - a first for the unit. Additionally, the TMO worked diligently in the Contingency Deployment Function (CDF) to manifest over 30 AEF deployment Unit Type Code (UTC) increments totaling more than 100 short tons.



**LRS conducted night vision goggle training as part of a multi-capable airmen training event.**

# 139th Civil Engineer Squadron

The start of the fiscal year ushered in a new era in the leadership team of the CES when Chief Master Sgt. Tom Sweere and First Sergeant, Master Sgt. Heidi Ponder were welcomed to the team. Both members came to us from the 139th Operations Group. With the new leadership team in place, the CE squadron looked into 2024 with anticipation of the busy year to come.

The first major milestone in the year was the Unit Effectiveness Inspection (UEI), that took place in March. In the preceding months prior to this inspection, our unit worked with our members to ensure that we were maintaining our compliance in every area of operation. As part of the UEI, the Wing also hosted another inspection team prior to the arrival of the UEI for the Environmental and Safety Inspection team. This in-depth inspection of the Wing's environmental program is a direct reflection on our full-time environmental team in CE and coordination with the rest of the Wing to ensure that we are staying in compliance with the myriads of environmental laws and regulations.

Our second milestone event of the year enhanced the warfighting capabilities of our Airmen and those assigned to Yokota AFB during a deployment for training (DFT). CES planned and executed the DFT for 76 Airmen, including Airmen from other squadrons.

Throughout the DFT, our Emergency Management (EM) section professionally showcased our capabilities, not only with tenant 374th CES/CEX and duration staff from Minnesota's 133rd CES/CEX personnel but also with the Japan Ground Self Defense Force – Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical First Division. The EM team achieved a significant training milestone, completing 84 PTP tasks, delivered CBRN Defense Training, and conducted a thorough CBRN Defense Plan Review. The 139th Fire Emergency Services (FES) completed a range of training exercises, including structural live fire drills, high-rise rope rescue operations, active shooter hostile environment response (ASHER), advanced vehicle extrication, and confined space rescue techniques. The team also had the opportunity to integrate with the tenant 374th CES/FES, further



**CE Airmen lay concrete at Yokota Air Base, Japan on June 10, 2024. The project extended the ramp to accommodate 10 C-130J Hercules aircraft.**

developing their skills and knowledge. The Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration (HVAC) section, led by Master Sgt. Aaron Bartch, invested in the development of our junior Airmen through collaborative training with the 374th CES/HVAC section. This investment yielded significant dividends, as our Airmen gained hands-on experience maintaining and repairing critical equipment, including HVAC systems, chillers, and air handlers. Finally, the Pavements and Construction Equipment section left their mark on Yokota AFB with the flawless execution of the Foxtrot apron expansion project. Master Sgt. Issac Meyers managed a team of 66 Airmen, across six CES disciplines, poured 590 cubic meters of portland cement concrete well in advance of its deadline saving the Air Force \$733k. CES trainers facilitated over 11,608 hours of training requirements and 1,172 training tasks.

139th Fire Emergency Services continued to foster a strong partnership with Fort Leavenworth, providing state employees and remaining military personnel with the opportunity to participate in live fire exercises during the October RSD. This collaboration allowed participants to engage in valuable structural live fire drills and flashover training, enhancing their emergency response skills and knowledge. The 139th FES also collaborated with community partners, including BCEMS, SJFD, and MO-DMAT, to ensure comprehensive emergency service coverage. This



partnership resulted in a successful airshow without any major incidents, and provided pyrotechnic support for the Tora Tora Tora event, with the Rapid Intervention Vehicle and driver assigned to assist the team.

The Installation Office of Emergency Management has successfully planned and executed several exercises, including the Sound of Speed Airshow and 139th Open House Major Accident Response tabletop and full-scale exercises, and Exercise MAYHEM that included Terrorist Use of CBRNE, anti-terrorism, anti-hacking, FPCON, continuity of operations plan, active shooter, perimeter incursion and lock down. The team has also coordinated CBRN training with international partners and maintains external relationships with regional Air National Guard units to ensure cross-pollination of best practices. In addition to its operational accomplishments, the IOEM has also demonstrated its commitment to the Whole Airman Concept. The team collaborated with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to identify over 15 hazardous chemicals in abandoned warehouses and coordinated preplanning with 30 external agencies in support for the Sound of Speed Airshow. The IOEM also contributes to the Missouri Region H Local Emergency Planning Committee, providing valuable insights and expertise to support emergency management efforts in the region. A member attended the ANG Disaster Capability Priorities Conference assisting the flag officer decision-making processes in support of domestic operations, demonstrating strategic thinking and problem-solving abilities. The IOEM actively supports MONG Joint Operations Center Force Flow Working Group, enhancing development of rapid disaster response teams.

We are proud that Tech. Sgt. Kloepping, the IOEM NCOIC, and his family were selected to attend the White House Joining of Forces Holiday Reception on December 2. This event is a remarkable distinction and a truly unique opportunity for Kloepping to represent our unit, the 3E9s, and the Air National Guard on a national stage.

The 139th CES successfully executed various cooperative agreements, including \$2.5 million in federal and state dollars for ANG Facilities Operations & Maintenance Agreement 1021. This agreement included emergent repairs, annual contracts, Drop



### **139th firefighters take part in live fire training at Yokota Air Base, Japan, June 16, 2024.**

Zone Leases, and Master Plan Lease, as well as base-wide utilities. The 139th CES also oversaw all Preventative Maintenance and repair procurement actions for the installation.

Additionally, the 139th CES executed \$106,000 in federal and state dollars for ANG Environmental Agreement 1022, \$2,508,000 in federal dollars for ANG Fire Protection Agreement 1024, and \$500,000 in federal dollars for ANG Facilities Sustainment, Restoration and Modernization Program Agreement 1031. The latter included execution of projects such as building renovations, repairs, and upgrades.

In terms of CE funds, the 139th CES executed a total of \$15,271,834, which included \$5,614,000 in cooperative agreement funds, \$43,000 in O&M funds, \$197,500 in additional local SRM funds, \$657,334 in SRM expenditures, and \$8,760,000 in design funds.

The Facility/Resource Management Office, led by Sarah Caraway, highlighted by the BUILDER program's success and the team's accountability and obligation of SRM dollars within suspense periods. This accomplishment earned an additional \$44,000 SRM bonus, demonstrating the team's effective management of resources. She played a critical role, with over \$5 million executed through various cooperative agreements.

In FY2025, the focus will continue on readiness, training, exercise enhancement and advancing the North Base relocation plan.

# 139th Force Support Squadron

In 2024 the FSS team on-boarded 2nd Lt. Kaleb Stout to the Personnel Flight. Stout comes from the 241st ATCS, bringing over 18 years of service to the FSS team. Capt. Ashley Ribbens joins the team as the new Director of Personnel, replacing Maj. Ben Hedley who took a role at the National Guard Bureau.

The 139th Force Support Squadron takes our motto “Cradle to Grave” very seriously as we continually demonstrate by our actions. The past year has certainly brought some new challenges as well as some recurring ones. Through the unrest in Europe and Asia the FSS team demonstrated our resilient spirit as we continued to accomplish our core missions in a difficult, uncertain and ever-changing environment.

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 and bonuses. Even with the high operations tempo, FSS continually prepares members for deployments and activations by ensuring all readiness training is complete.

Tech. Sgt. Jill Helton leads the base's Color and Honor Guard programs. The Wing is extremely proud of the work that Helton and her team have done and their accomplishments with this program. The base Color Guard performed 8 events, while the Honor Guard performed 11 Fallen Airmen military funeral honors. Helton was awarded the Air National Guard Base Honor Guard Program Manager of the Year by National Guard Bureau.

The Services team led by Senior Master Sgt. Lynn Henderson provided 4,040 meals through the DFAC, processed over \$164,000 worth of lodging expenses, 2,886 Room nights for unit UTAs, and oversaw 784 fitness tests for the wing with no appeals. The Services team received 1 MAJCOM level award, 1 Wing level award, 1 MSM, 2 ASAMs and multiple certificates and coins for their hard work and dedication to the unit.

The Fatality Search and Recovery Team (FSRT) led by Capt. Jessica Coleman and Master Sgt. Cliff Scroggins, spent a week in Salina, Kansas, for the FTE, working with the Army Guard and other government agencies to prepare for real world events. This exercise tested the units' readiness capability to respond to incidents. Through continued training and exercises, the FSRT team is ensured to be ready to respond when called upon.



**Brig. Gen. Patrick Lanaghan, Assistant Adjutant General - Air, MONG, coins Master Sgt. Sephrina King Dec. 6, 2024. King was coined for processing most of the deployers in the past 7 years.**



Under the leadership of Senior Master Sgt. Bernadine Eastridge, the Personnel team had a remarkable year filled with numerous achievements. Key highlights included: Processing the arrival of 8 new officers and 109 enlisted airmen, while bidding farewell to 81 members who separated, transferred, or retired; facilitating 221 promotions for both officers and enlisted personnel; issuing and managing 1,298 Common Access Cards (CAC) and US ID cards; Processing 370 DD214 forms, resolving 50 missing contingency duty histories, and correcting 100 duty status errors and 4,800 temporary duty (TDY) history verifications. One of the team's most notable accomplishments was the distribution of an impressive 1,100 awards and decorations, as well as 370 Certificates of Release or Discharge from Active Duty. This ensured that members and their families received the benefits and entitlements they were eligible for through the Veterans Administration. Additionally, the team secured over \$60,000 in benefits for members through Special Duty Assignment Pay Actions and Blended Retirement System Continuation Pay Actions. They also provided training to the wing command support staff on the new myEval system, which is used for officer and enlisted evaluations. Overall, the Personnel team's efforts played a crucial role in ensuring that the 139th Airlift Wing members and their families received the benefits and entitlements they deserved.

The Base Education and Training team led by Senior Master Sgt. Janette King had another year helping the base maintain its readiness through the education and training requirements. The team executed 3,819 MEST days for a total of \$142,000 and 16,325 school training days for both our officer and enlisted members for a total of \$934,000. They also proctored 70 CDC/PME, AFOQT, and AFCT exams for our unit's members. Career progression is vital to our unit's success, and this team plays a vital 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.

Master Sgts. Danielle Dewey and Krystalyn Coy's recruiting and retention team have done a great job keeping the base manned. Their teams have done a



**Airmen from the 139th Honor Guard walk in the Leavenworth County Veterans Day Parade on November 11, 2024, in Leavenworth, Kansas.**

tremendous job with recruiting and retention for the wing. In 2024 the team gained 119 recruits, putting the wing at 90.6% manning, and Coy reported that the wings retention rate for FY24 holds at 91.4%. The team held a career fair for high schoolers in April at the base where more than 530 students attended and over 400 contact cards were received from students. Additionally, they attended several high school events and manned an Airshow station. Tech. Sgt. Michael Seckman brought home the Missouri Top Recruiter award this year with 50 ascensions alone. This team is also responsible for the student flight program where they inspire the wing's newest members, preparing these members for success at basic training and technical training schools.

2024 was another great year for the FSS team, and we look forward to 2025 and all the opportunities that await for the wing and team.

# 139th Security Forces Squadron

The squadron celebrated the retirement of Chief Master Sgt. Matthew Martindell as their Senior Enlisted Leader and Security Forces Manager, who spent over 25 years assigned to the 139th Air Wing. Martindell helped shape culture and develop Defenders, leaving the squadron with a legacy of professionalism, subject matter expertise in force protection and anti-terrorism, and the required lethality to meet current and future mission objectives. The squadron also enlisted four non prior service members, 10 prior service members, and graduated Tech. Sgt. Jose Romero and Staff Sgt. Gabrielle Hulett from the grueling Phoenix Raven course. All these items combined helped Lt. Col. Bravo align his Mission, Vision and Intent to the current National Defense Strategy, focusing on developing leaders and preparing the squadron for the Great Power Competition.

The squadron acted on Lt. Col. Bravo's direction, as evident during their annual training at Fort Riley, Kansas and deployed for training event to Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER), Alaska. The squadron employed night vision devices and conducted low light and night fire machine gun training at Fort Riley. Additionally, they conducted known distance night fire training with their primary firearms, including heavy weapons. At JBER, 40 Defenders practiced land navigation in the harsh Alaskan wilderness, erected structures for sleeping, practiced field craft, and small unit tactics. During the February and March RSDs, the squadron conducted Domestic Operations training and honed their skills in the new Defender's weapons qualification course. They also trained on react to contact drills, ambushes, and shoot, move and communicate procedures in the drop zone at Rosecrans Air National Guard Base. The squadron then participated in a joint training operation with the Weapons Instructor Course and practiced ingress and egress from a C-130, airfield security, and communications in degraded conditions. In September, the squadron provided airtight security for the 2024 Sound of Speed Airshow, enabling the performance of over 17 acts, enjoyed by approximately 55K attendees.

The squadron then participated in a Joint National Training Center Exercise Program, Sage Eagle, in October 2024. The United States Special Operations



## **Defenders conduct Formational Order Movements training at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, on July 14, 2024.**

Command sponsored exercise teamed defenders from the 139th SFS with the 1st Special Forces Group, conducting drills designed to test permissive to contested environments to test them for deployment. The 15 days of demanding training was conducted at Fort Bliss, Texas. This was the second time the unit was selected for participation. Additionally, Tech. Sgt. Kale Thieme was selected as the liaison for Exercise Tinman, in Smokey Hill, Kansas, where 200 Defenders from four units will exercise and rehearse air base ground defense, recapture and recovery procedures on objectives, and medical evacuation procedures in hostile environments.

They facilitated security for the installation hosting two career fair events, a family day and numerous community engagements and military ceremonies. Our Defenders repeatedly exceeded standards, executing compensatory measures and conducting identity proofing and screening of guests, contractors and vendors. They showcased our domestic and contingency operations capability through equipment displays and firearms training simulator demonstrations. Ultimately, this enabled outreach to the community that led to over 40 potential leads for recruiting.



# 139th Communications Squadron

Entering 2024, the 139th Communications Squadron (CS) prepared for the Capstone Unit Effectiveness Inspection (UEI). As always, manpower in conjunction with compliance and readiness requires a balance to ensure mission efficacy. The UEI identified areas within the Communications Squadron that required attention as well as validated areas of strength. The UEI presented opportunities for improvement and yielded a more effective unit. The squadron met the challenge with enthusiasm and squadron leadership is proud of the way our members have worked through the identified challenges.

2024 also brought a squadron commander change as Lt. Col. Larimore transferred to the U.S. Air Force Reserve, leading to a promotion to colonel. We congratulate him and are thankful for his leadership. Maj. Owen Compton was appointed the interim commander for the squadron. He's done an outstanding job leading the unit and found funding for a backlog of squadron initiatives. Compton will continue to lend his steady hand to the squadron during the interim.

Maintaining the Wing's largest weapon system (the base network) takes a lot of planning and man-hours. The CS is responsible for ensuring our equipment is current and secure. In that effort, the CS migrated nine virtual servers to a new platform, issued 163 laptops, 169 desktops, 100 tablets, 24 iPads and 24 iPhones. Nearly each item issued resulted in the return of an old item that required all data to be removed and hardware disposed of. Finally, all software and system configurations for all equipment on the network must be continually monitored and updated to meet all current and future security requirements.

Our year would not be complete without addressing the Joint Incident Site Communication Capability (JISCC) DOMOPS mission. This year, the JISCC supported an Army National Guard training exercise at Fort Leonard Wood in March, facilitating cold-weather training and sister-service interoperability. The JISCC also attended the Region 7 HRF's CTE in Neosho, Missouri, to prepare for our first EXEVAL in July. Finally, the JISCC completed its first EXEVAL in Salina, Kansas. Having passed



**Tech. Sgt. J.D. Culp, an infrastructure non-commissioned officer in charge assigned to the 139th Communications Squadron performed his annual training at Yokota Air Base, Japan, June 12, 2024. He is a cancer survivor and student at the University of Central Missouri where he is on the wrestling team.**

the evaluation, we are now available to support missions both real world and exercise within the U.S.

The CS deployed 13 members for annual training to Yokota Air Base, Japan. Every career field within in the CS was represented, resulting in valuable, real world, hands-on training. Not only was it beneficial for those who deployed, but they brought information back to those who stayed behind. There was plenty of time to get out and see the culture and for team building. Events like this are critical for career field training while providing an indispensable boost to unit morale.

As we reflect over the last couple years, we've moved to a new building, changed leadership, changed from a flight to a squadron, changed AFSCs, upgraded our entire network infrastructure, and supported the wing mission all while maintaining a high readiness posture. By all measures, the CS has performed in an outstanding manner and looks forward to future endeavors.

# Military & Family Readiness



**Koda, the 139th Airlift Wing's support dog, sits in the back of a C-130 Hercules aircraft at Rosecrans on Aug 20, 2024. Koda has boosted Airmen morale and served with the 139th for a year.**

The Resiliency Team strategic goals for FY24 were to focus on mission readiness through the four pillars of Comprehensive Airman Fitness: aid in the reduction of emotional battles, promote NGB policies related to resiliency, promote self-empowering personal morals & values, and build resilient Airman by asking the question regularly, "How can I help?" The team continued to work hard at addressing these goals through our monthly Resiliency Center Newsletter "Piece of the Puzzle", through online virtual workshops and discussion groups. We shared articles that focus on the four pillars of CAF, including events

happening at the wing and resources that assist our Airmen and their families.

Military and Family Readiness Program (M&FRP), with the assistance from Operation Home front, provided Airmen and their families school supplies worth over \$10,000 and children's gifts at the "Children's Christmas Workshop" valued at over \$5,000. This year's events included an Easter egg coloring contest for the White House, with eight participants and a massage event hosted by the Airman & Family Readiness Association with over 28 participants. The A&FR Association supported deployers with over 90 participants by providing deployment packages with mixed goodies, and Battle Buddy Bears were ordered for over 40 individual Airmen's children. We hosted "Bring Your Child to Work Day" April 1 and had about 15 children attend. The 139th AW Teen group redeveloped participant and leaders while two new teens went to State Training this year. We also combined forces with the Missouri Army Youth Program and with assistance from AFR Association we were able to send over 20 children to a skiing event in February.

This year we continued to provide services to include: 70 Coordination and Outreach events serving over 30,954 individuals with over 9,720 hours spent; 137 Pre/Post deployment workshop briefs with 751 attendees, 65 Financial Touchpoint Trainings with 270 attendees; 5 TAP Initial Counseling Sessions & Preseparation briefings; 20 Informal Contacts and Services; 14 Leadership Consultations; 14 Personal & Work Life workshops; 1,267 Individual tracked visits; one in-person Retire Ready workshop was held with over 31 in attendance and four Newcomers briefings completed with 36 in attendance. Volunteer hours this year totaled more than 374.

Our Key Support Liaisons and Volunteers continued to support our deployed members and their families by making over 150 hours of contact calls to each family and supplying resources and/or assistance to deployed families. We now have a wing support dog named Koda that graduated from his training for service and support who comes to the wing to assist those who may need a little love and attention.



# Chaplain

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. We are in the process of retraining Master Sgt. Bethany Juergens into our enlisted force as a Religious Affairs Airman and recruiting two more Chaplains (one from the community and one from within the ranks of the 139th). We were excited to be able to promote Staff Sgt. Seth Hummer to technical sergeant.

Our Chaplain Corps 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 and Army Chaplains from Missouri Guard units. Chaplain, Capt. Jeremy Fruechting conducted one Strong Bonds event for 18 couples, focusing on, “The Seven Principles for Making Marriage Work.” It



was a tremendous success. Staff Sgt. Vivian Wharton was selected to go to Panama on a short TDY as an interpreter for our State Partnership Program (SPP). Chaplain, Lt. Col. Marty Clary took a Title 5 position on base as the Integrated Primary Prevention Specialist after serving as the 139th full-time Chaplain for four years. He will retire militarily in 2025 after 25 years of military service in the Kansas Army National Guard and the Missouri Air National Guard.



# Safety



The wing safety office continues to make significant strides in enhancing employee safety, not only within the wing but also across the broader Air Force and Air National Guard. These efforts are having a lasting impact, reinforcing the importance of a strong safety culture throughout the force.

Master Sgt. Wheeler recently volunteered for a short-notice tasking to Ramstein Air Base, Germany, in support of USAFE/AFAFRICA, further demonstrating the dedication and adaptability of the wing safety team. Additionally, Senior Master Sgt. Cluck was selected as the Chief of Occupational Safety for Region 6, which encompasses all New England states. His leadership and expertise in safety operations led to his well-deserved promotion to Chief Master Sergeant in December.

During the wing's Unit Effectiveness Inspection, inspectors from all three disciplines evaluated the effectiveness of the mishap prevention program, awarding it a grade of "Met and Effective" with no deficiencies identified. Master Sgt. Steven Miller was recognized as an outstanding performer in the Safety Program Evaluation portion of the inspection for his pivotal role in improving the Weapons Safety Program.

As a result of their exceptional performance during the UEI, Cluck and Miller were requested to evaluate and assist the 130th Airlift Wing safety office, leading to the identification and resolution of



**The safety office collaborated closely with the Tora Tora Tora pyrotechnics team to ensure a safe and spectacular display during the air show.**

numerous potential deficiencies while strengthening overall program knowledge and effectiveness. Additionally, Miller provided two weeks of assistance to the 172d Airlift Wing, where his efforts led to the identification and mitigation of two significant hazards and a dramatic improvement in program knowledge and weapons safety program management.

As the wing continues to enhance combat effectiveness, airmen are encouraged to lean into and accept more risk when necessary. Risk management remains a critical component of sound decision-making, ensuring that operations remain safe while fostering adaptability and resilience in the face of new challenges.



# Public Affairs

During the 2024 fiscal year, the 139th Public Affairs office produced and archived over 1,000 images, 24 videos, 21 news articles, two graphics, and one publication to the Defense Visual Information Distribution System. These productions document the missions, exercises, and training operations undertaken by the wing throughout the year.

Among the most notable productions was a video showcasing a seven-aircraft C-130 formation, which garnered over 1.4 million views on the National Guard Bureau (NGB) Facebook page. Additionally, coverage of the 41-hour sortie was widely shared across all echelons of the chain of command, including at state, NGB, and the Department of Defense.

During this period, our Facebook posts reached approximately 4 million users, largely driven by the increased production of video reels. One particularly successful reel, featuring the 139th Civil Engineer Squadron constructing an aircraft parking ramp at Yokota Air Base, Japan, amassed 1.5 million views. We also leveraged Instagram's collaboration feature, partnering with State Headquarters, the Air National Guard (ANG), and other relevant organizations to expand our outreach.

On the community engagement front, we facili-

tated a Junior ROTC orientation flight and two civic leader flights—one for local educators and another for business leaders. Additionally, we hosted eight base tours, welcoming approximately 600 guests. More than half of these visitors participated in a Boy Scout Jamboree, where scouts camped on private property near the airport.

During this time frame, we responded to 74 inquiries via the wing's website and 136 inquiries from the Sound of Speed Facebook page. We collaborated with the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds to create an air show public service announcement and coordinated with the Make-A-Wish Foundation to invite two families to the air show, where they had the opportunity to meet the Thunderbirds team.

Furthermore, we handled 14 media inquiries and 15 news articles about the 139th were published as a result of our media engagements.

The 139th Public Affairs team will continue building on this success, embracing innovation, and expanding our reach. We remain committed to showcasing the wing's mission and impact with excellence and engagement.



**A C-130H Hercules waits to be refueled on Feb. 13, 2024. Aircrews conducted a 41-hour sortie in which the aircraft engines ran continuously for 45 hours and the aircraft was refueled three times.**

# Advanced Airlift Tactics Training Center



The Advanced Airlift Tactics Training Center had an extremely productive 2024 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, USMC and International Partners.

The Development Division and AMC's Det 5 were extremely busy supporting the AMC Tactics Improvement Proposal process, consulting at AMC's Weapons and Tactics Conference and the ARC WEPTAC, as well as a robust schedule training Mobility Air Forces in datalink both at AATTC and a Mobile Training Team TDY. The C-130H Weapons Instructor Course organized countless MAF summits increasing the survivability of the Warfighter while preparing for WIC class 25A. This class will lead to graduating valuable Weapons Undergraduates adding significant combat



**Col. James Couch**  
**AATTC Commandant**

capability to the Air Reserve Component.

The AATTC is again answering the call and working to train the MAF fleet by developing and facilitating the historic Mobility Datalink Users Course. This course will instruct all Mobility Datalink Users and Support Personnel on how to connect and employ Datalink in accordance with AMC directives. The initial business model is heavily based on MTT's and later will transition into fly-in's to be held at AATTC's primary location in St. Joseph, Mo. Eventually simulator-based training will be the standard, as procurement efforts are proving fruitful, and state-of-the-art hardware will soon be available to our instructors. We also train munitions Airmen at AATTC. We have revived the Weapons Task Qualification Managers Course (WTQM) as a regional MTT course created by our munitions subject matter experts to ensure that Mobility Munitions professionals become experts in flare and chaff loading and usage.



**A U.S. Air Force C-5M Super Galaxy assigned to the 22nd Airlift Squadron, sets on the flight line at Fort Huachuca, Arizona, January 23, 2024.**





### **Members of the United Arab Emirates Armed Forces tour Rosecrans on Aug. 15, 2024.**

Highlighted successes of the AATTC include numerous strategic level engagements with all 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 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 WIC students and cadre. In February, AATTC hosted over 100 guests for a Data Link Users Group conference that addressed Tactical Data Link issues nowhere else being discussed. A final high visibility event was the combined 4th / 22nd Air Force Combat Planning Council. This council attracted over 150 Reservists to determine the focus of future capabilities of the AFRC fleet.

The AATTC is also forging relationships with the Indian Air Force. In March, the Indian Air Commodore visited our facility and met with AATTC and 139th AW leadership. The day also included a demonstration flight of the esteemed "Slingshot" Sortie complete with A-10 escort.

This effort generated enough momentum to justify the AATTC and members of the 139th AW led by Col. Ryan Stepp traveling to India to take part in the Tarang Shakti exercise. Remarkably during the return trip from India, AATTC cadre participated in Pentagon-lead Operator Engagement Talks with United Arab Emirates senior leadership in Abu Dhabi. The effort of the AATTC solidifies another AMC initiative of ensuring the capability to fight China from multiple fronts and brainstorming with our allies in the region

how to use multiple airfields for survivability.

Another international milestone was supporting the UAE with an Air Worthiness Inspection at Al Reef Air Base in Abu Dhabi. The AATTC provided a pilot, loadmaster, and maintenance subject matter experts to validate their maintenance and operations safety programs. These robust efforts helped to highlight the operational involvement between the AATTC and our multiple international partners and assists in building long-term allied relationships. These gestures also led to UAE senior leadership traveling to Missouri to visit 139th AW facilities and meeting with senior Missouri ANG and AFRC leadership.

In conclusion, the AATTC had begun a significant strategic shift in the year of 2024. In line with the National Security Strategy and National Defense Strategy. The AATTC is creating guidance in strategic documents to maintain tactical relevance. Our training division is focusing on courses which emphasize components of Great Power Competition, ACE, Multi Capable Airmen, 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 INDOPACOM. The C-130H WIC is actively posturing its syllabus toward all aspects of GPC and ACE. The Mission of the AATTC is to "Increase the warfighting effectiveness and survivability of Mobility Forces." In 2024, the AATTC epitomized that mission.



### **Members of the Indian Air Force fly with the AATTC on March 21, 2024.**



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