

Airmen fuel Operation Deep Freeze

By Staff Sgt. Eric Burks
 62nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Airmen from the 446th and 62nd Airlift Wings assigned to the 304th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron in support of Operation Deep Freeze completed the first operational C-17 Globemaster III airdrop to the Antarctic Gamburtsev Mountain Province Nov. 26. Thirty bundles of fuel and other supplies were delivered to a scientific camp in the province, one of the most remote locations on earth.

"The success of this mission was a full total force partnership," said Chief Master Sgt. James Masura, deployed from the 446th AW as the 304th EAS superintendent. "We combined experts from the active duty, reserves, civilians, contractors, National

Science Foundation and the New Zealand Defense Forces. This small team worked extremely hard to ensure we put the cargo on the surface to ensure completion of this ground-breaking science project."

Capt. Joe O'Rourke, a 7th Airlift Squadron pilot deployed to ODF helped develop the AGAP missions. He said the airdrop is a quick and efficient way to deliver resources to the camp -- better than any other platform available.

"Without our delivery of that fuel, these scientists who are trekking out to the AGAP campsite from the South Pole would have had to carry that fuel with them, or a second trip would have been necessary from McMurdo Station over land carrying literally thousands of gallons of fuel," he said.

In just three hours, the captain said,

Airmen delivered what would take days or weeks to accomplish through any other means.

"The C-17 has revolutionized Antarctic logistics and this is another example of how we've leveraged our strategic airlift capability to support the National Science Foundation's tactical requirements," said Lt. Col. Jim McGann, 304th EAS commander.

"Airdropping the fuel enables critical global climate research to continue in remote locations. Without it, the project (involving six countries at a cost of more than \$40 million) would fail. And support like this, even in the most hostile environment on the planet, is what Team McChord does best,"

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Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Kim Allain

Col. Jan Moore-Harbert, left, the commander of the 446th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, and Tunisian army Lt. Col. Khaled Lamine, carve turkeys at the head table during a Thanksgiving dinner prepared by U.S. servicemembers for Tunisian servicemembers at Kharrouba Air Base, Tunisia, Nov. 12. The dinner was part of the opening ceremonies for Operation Medlite 2008, a medical training exercise with participants from the U.S. Air Force and Army and the Tunisian army.

Sharing tradition, skills in Tunisia

By Staff Sgt. Grant Saylor
 Wing Public Affairs

Five Reservists from the 446th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron returned in November from Tunisia where they were deployed for two weeks in support of Medlite 2008.

Medlite is a joint training exercise partnering AES personnel from Air Force Reserve Command with medical troops from the Tunisian air force.

This is the sixth year the 446th AES has participated in this exercise. It is designed to share aeromedical knowledge and practices, and foster relations between American and Tunisian forces.

"The real focus of this mission was to further establish the partnership between the U.S. and Tunisia," said Col. Jan Moore-Harbert, commander of the 446th AES.

"I think we made an excellent impression and enhanced our roles as medical professionals and ambassadors of goodwill," she said.

The Medlite exercise is a critical learning tool for the Tunisians because it gives their aeromedical personnel the opportunity to receive specialized training from the U.S. Air Force. It allows Tunisian personnel to make the request

See TUNISIA, Page 3

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Jan. 19 is the deadline for articles in the February issue of **The 446th Associate Press.**

All articles and photographs must be turned in to the 446th Airlift Wing Public Affairs office, Bldg. 1214, Room 124 by 4 p.m.

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All photos are Air Force unless otherwise indicated.

New year full of activity

Looking ahead to the New Year, it is a calendar full of training, inspections and an ongoing global mission.

In February, we will focus on honing our deployment skills again, with our host wing, during one of the exercises leading up to the October 2009 Operational Readiness Inspection. This event plus two more exercises, at our fly away location, will be our opportunities to prepare to show Air Mobility Command inspectors our capability to perform our mission to the standards set by the command and the Air Force.

In March, we are hosting the 446th AW Annual Awards Banquet at the McChord Consolidated Clubs to recognize unit and individual excellence of the past year. We will also recognize the wing Employer of the Year and the Spouse of the Year for their support of their Reservists and our mission. I encourage everyone to attend and help us acknowledge our award winners.

In April and again in September, the wing will host Employer Orientation Day. The event, which is held twice a year, is part of a successful program to educate one of our most important audiences about the value the Air Force Reserve has to this country

and how valuable the support of civilian employers is to our successful accomplishment of the mission.

In July, McChord hosts AMC's biannual mobility competition, Rodeo, and many of you will be assisting the 62nd Airlift Wing in their hosting duties or be a part of the 446th Airlift Wing Rodeo team. There is a lot of hard work involved in putting something of Rodeo's magnitude on, but the experience is exciting and a great opportunity to learn from, and teach, the other competitors.

In August, wing will honor families by having a wing-wide Family Day event. It will be a wonderful day to share the Reserve side of our lives with the people who sacrifice the most to support us. The day will include a picnic, spouse orientation flights, and information on programs for Reservists and their families. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend.

In October, the initial phase of joint basing will begin and we will begin the transition to Joint Base Lewis-McChord. To most of you, the change will be transparent. There have been a lot of meetings and orientation events going on for the last few months. Joint basing, for the last couple of years, has been an ongoing



Col. William Flanigan

ing process of integration and planning to ensure a smooth transition to the newly formed installation. I really appreciate all the effort behind the scenes to make this transition successful.

Of course, these events are in addition to the heavy training and operational workload that all of you manage during the course of a year. All of you contribute to the 446th AW being so highly thought of in the Air Force Reserve Command and the Air Force. It is you who makes it all work so well, and I am looking forward to working with you all in the New Year.

Best wishes to you and your family from me and my family. We hope your New Year is a safe, healthy and happy one.



Reserve physicals now less taxing

By Tech. Sgt. Jake Chappelle
Wing Public Affairs

For active-duty Air Force members, getting a physical might not be a walk on the beach, but it usually isn't a difficult process.

All an active-duty Airman has to do is schedule the exam for a Preventative Health Assessment with his or her provider, show up to the appointment, have the physical administered and they're done, said Chief Master Sgt. Minett Fernandez, 446th Aerospace Medicine Squadron superintendent.

Unfortunately, the Reserve doesn't have that luxury.

"We have a day to squeeze in the work that the active duty spreads over 30," said Chief Fernandez.

Because of the shift to one primary UTA each month, the 446th AMDS formed an executive committee to plan ways to continuously improve the wait times, said Senior Master Sgt. William Robison, 446th AMDS superintendent of clinical operations.

"Cattle call is a common physical exam process approach throughout (Reserve) wing physical exam units," said Sergeant Robison.

In a cattle call, the idea is typically to bounce from exam station to exam station until all of the squares are filled - sort of like a scavenger hunt, according to Sergeant Robison.

"The trouble with the cattle call is the amount of time spent waiting in some areas and the amount of people who end up crowd-

ing one or two exam stations," he said.

One big change is the elimination of the cattle call and scheduling Airmen for specific show times for their physicals.

Instead of having everyone show up at 7:30 a.m., people are now scheduled in groups of four to arrive at a specific time.

"We performed in-depth studies of our resources. These resources include our equipment and provider capacities, and the logistics of moving physical exam patients from one point to the next," said Sergeant Robison. "In doing so, we realized we could improve things by bringing people in as small appointment groups."

Wing Reservists scheduled for physical exams must show up 10 minutes prior to their appointment, but will be graced up to five minutes after the scheduled show time before being deemed a no-show.

Another important factor is the 446th AMDS administration personnel, said Chief Fernandez. They man the front desk



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Jake Chappelle

Reservists from the 446th Airlift Wing wait in the 62nd Airlift Wing clinic for their names to be called to begin their physical exams.

and control the flow of the patients to each station, such as immunizations, the lab, or electrocardiogram. When the front desk delegates the patient to each station, they distribute them so each station doesn't get overwhelmed.

See PHYSICALS, Page 7

Tunisia

Continued from Page 1

for the type of training they want the Americans to supply. AFRC then responds by putting out the call for medical personnel who specialize in the selected fields.

This tailored training means the Tunisians take this exercise very seriously, especially with the terrorist threats facing their country, said Maj. C.J. Newhouse, the 446th AES patient safety officer. "They are extremely motivated to make sure they get the best training

possible so that their troops, in turn, get the best medical care possible.

The exercise was so highly regarded that Tunisia sent one physician and one nurse from every military installation in the country to the Medlite exercise, which was held in the northernmost city of Bizerte on the Mediterranean Sea.

While deployed, Major Newhouse visited the military medical hospital in the capital city of Tunis and was impressed

to find it had many of the same capabilities of American military hospitals.

While the exercise helps Tunisia, it also gives Reservists valuable interaction with members of a foreign military.

"It was a great opportunity for us to get out of our comfort zone and learn the differences between our cultures," said Capt. Joe Foss, a flight nurse with the 446th AES. "It helped us to realize we need to be flexible as a force."

The Tunisians have already requested the help of the 446th AES again for 2009 and Colonel Moore-Harbert will help lead the initial planning committee set to begin meeting in February.

"There are so many opportunities we have as members of the Air Force Reserve to learn, and to be able to bring back that knowledge to share with our squadrons and family," said Colonel Moore-Harbert.



Courtesy photo from Argos Georgia. Ltd

After successfully airdropping critical engine parts Jan. 5, 2008 to the stranded Argos Georgia, the McChord C-17 flown by a crew of Reserve and active-duty Airmen from the 446th and 62nd Airlift Wings heads for Christchurch, New Zealand.



Photo by Abner Guzman

Reservists from the 446th Airlift Wing participating in the Pacific Lifeline exercise work their way through a deployment line Jan 25, 2008.

Tech. Sgt. Michael Pate (left), Tech. Sgt. Richard Shumate (middle), and Staff Sgt. Shaun Feero, all from the 446th Security Forces Squadron, stand tall and ready to roll in front of one of their new Mine Resistant Ambush Protected armored vehicles. The three NCO's were deployed in July 2008 with the 506th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, Kirkuk Regional Air Base, Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The three NCOs are expected to return in March 2009.

Photo by Master Sgt. Mark Japuncha



2008: A y

By Airman First Class Patrick Cabellon
Wing Public Affairs

The 446th Airlift Wing's past year has been filled with hard work and many accomplishments. Airmen from every career field went above and beyond the call of duty to ensure every task was handled and completed at 110 percent.

The flying squadrons kicked off 2008 with international media coverage by answering the call for help from a stranded fishing trawler in Antarctica.

The Argos Georgia, a British fishing trawler, lost all main power Dec. 24 and was frozen in the ice flow off the Ross Ice Shelf of Antarctica. A C-17 flown mostly by 446th AW Airmen airdropped a new engine and supplies to the stranded ship Jan. 5. The Argos Georgia crew were able to fix the trawler and continue on with their mission.

The month of February took more than 150 McChord Reservists from eight units to three different islands in Hawaii to support the Department of Defense exercise Pacific Lifeline.

The exercise was designed to test the Air Force's ability to respond to a humanitarian assistance or disaster response scenario anywhere in the Pacific.

In April, a total force aircrew from McChord made history during the last Operation Deep Freeze mission of the 2007-2008 season. The mid-April flight is the closest to winter a Deep Freeze crew has ever landed in Antarctica. The research team retrieved from the ice were studying light-driven life in Antarctica's permanently frozen lakes. This required them to push their field time as close to winter as possible in order to have the proper conditions for their experiments.

The 446th Airlift Wing took part in another large-scale medical exercise May 5 and 6.

Ultimate Caduceus was one of nine simultaneous exercises taking place across the nation to test how civilians respond to a mass casualty incident.

Over two days, 446th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron Reservists placed and off-loaded 152 simulated patients from a C-130 flown by the Minnesota Air

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Year in review of success

al Guard's 133rd Airlift Wing. The
 vists also assisted the Army in an en-
 nning off load of 16 patients from
 H-60 Black Hawks.

June, the wing celebrated the 50th
 ersary of the 446th Aeromedical
 ation Squadron and noted the squad-
 -historical accomplishments dating
 o when it was the 40th Aeromedical
 ation Squadron from 1958-1996.

he McChord Air Expo 2008 held
 9 and 20 doubled previous expo
 s and set a new attendance record for
 ise. After the turnstile numbers were
 l, more than 375,000 community
 ers passed through the gates to learn
 about the 446th Airlift Wing's criti-
 e in McChord's mission and the Air
 Reserve.

ot only did the wing put a C-17 and
 crews on display, but we also show-
 several squadrons and flights as well
 air equipment giving the public and
 th look at what we do daily.

ptember brought about warm feel-
 f the heart as Reservists from the
 Airlift Wing delivered hope, in the
 of a bright yellow fire truck, and
 al supplies to a village in the central
 can state of Jalisco.

he donated cargo was flown Sept. 19
 crew of two pilots and three loadmas-
 om the 728th Airlift Squadron as
 f the Denton Amendment program,
 allows free transport of non-gov-
 nt relief supplies earmarked for
 nitarian assistance.

owever, the mission wouldn't have
 d at all if it weren't for the yearlong
 d-the-scenes efforts of the 446th
 tions Support Flight, which helped
 inate the operation.

October, the 446th Maintenance
 o deployed more than 30 Airmen to
 rt Operations Iraqi and Enduring
 om.

he versatile maintainers were as-
 d everything from transient alert and
 ine maintenance, to controlling and
 ing more than 150-plus fixed wing
 tary flights per day.

November, 26 Reservists from
 6th Airlift Control Flight and 86th
 ort Squadron partnered with the
 al Emergency Management Agency

members from Washington Urban Search
 & Rescue Task Force One in a joint train-
 ing exercise. The last time the agencies
 worked together was in 2001 in response
 to the attacks on the World Trade Center.

We wrapped up the year 2008 with yet
 more deployments – about 180 Reservists
 from the wing started deploying to various
 locations in support of Operations Iraqi
 Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

Deployments, and operational readi-
 ness inspection, Air Mobility Command's
 Rodeo, and much more are on the horizon
 for the 446th AW we enter 2009.



Photo by Airman First Class Patrick Cabellon
**Tech. Sgt. Norman Bolds, a chaplains as-
 sistant for the 446th Airlift Wing Chaplains
 Office, sets up for a religious service.
 Mission support agencies such as the
 chaplains remained busy throughout the
 year support Reservists and families,
 particularly during deployments.**



Photo by Airman First Class Patrick Cabellon
**Staff Sgt. Mark Wilson, 728th Airlift Squadron
 loadmaster, lowers the ramp on a C-17. Air-
 crews from the 446th Airlift Wing flew 13,326.5
 hours in 2008**



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Jake Chappelle
**Staff Sgt. Christopher Parcasio, left, was
 presented with a large check in 2008 for
 one of his many ideas submitted to im-
 prove processes and save the Air Force
 money.**

SOARS



Days to remember

Jan. 8, 1977
 The first YC-141B (stretched C-141A Starlifter) rolls out of the Lockheed-Georgia Marietta plant. It is 23.3 feet longer than the original C-141A and capable of in-flight refueling.

Promotions

Master Sergeant

Richard Reed, 446th CES
 Michael Silva, 446th AMXS
 Franky Valentin, 446th AMDS

Technical Sergeant

Jennifer Baker, 446th AMDS
 Rebeca Forgey, 446th CES
 Albert Malave, 446th AES
 Matthew McCabe, 446th ASTS
 Raymond Meyers, 97th AS

Staff Sergeant

Austin Adams, 446th AMXS
 Becky Bailey, 446th AES
 Deidre Barry, 446th MXS
 Timothy Britz Jr., 446th AMXS
 Michael Dunn, 86th APS
 David Edmiston, 86th APS
 Shawn Lundgren, 446th CES
 Jack Montez, 446th SFS
 Tymothy Noles, 446th AMXS
 Shauna Rosa, 86th APS
 Palmer Sather, 446 CES
 Charles Smith, 446th MXS
 Joseph Zinneker, 97th AS

Senior Airman

Andrue Morris, 446th MXS
 Christopher Reyes, 446th AMDS
 BJ Saye, 86th APS

Newcomers

Captain

Jenny Alderen, 446th ASTS
 Sarah Dempsey, 446th AMXS
 Nathan Foster, 446th SFS
 Abraham Perras, 728th AS

Master Sergeant

Travis Hargitt, 446th CES

Technical Sergeant

Michelle Alston, 446th MOF

Staff Sergeant

Oscar Aguilar, 36th APS
 Juanita Elliott, 446th AES
 Jason Foerster, 36th APS
 Melissa Garrido, 446th ASTS
 Jessica Gianoli, 446th MXS
 Jennifer Hall, 86th APS
 Logan Madlin, 446th CES
 David Peters, 446th AMXS
 Jill Peterson, 446th AES
 Jared Simpach, 86th APS
 Katherine Simpach, 36th APS
 Jessica Smith, 446th MXS
 Ryan Thomson, 446th AMXS

Senior Airman

Isaac Calip, 446th MXS
 Guillermo Cartagena, 446th ASTS

Michael Chapman, 446th SFS
 Kimberly Dixon, 446th SVF
 Scott Hampton, 36th APS
 Casey Harrison, 446th AMXS
 Jonathan Medhus, 446th AMXS
 Brandon Prest, 446th LRF
 Wendy Russell, 86th APS

Airman First Class

Derran Hertz, 446th MXS
 Kristopher Hixenbaugh, 36th APS
 Ashley Klukas, 446th ASTS
 Dustin McCann, 36th APS
 Ashely Miller, 446th AMDS
 Ryan Perry, 728th AS

Retirements

Colonel

Quinton Glen, 97th AS

Senior Master Sergeant

Brian Alley, 446th CES

Master Sergeant

Richard Cadle, 446th AMXS
 Richarda Carlson, 446th MXS
 John Manley, 446th MXS
 Eddie Owens, 446th SFS
 Terrill Skaw, 446th AMXS

Technical Sergeant

Thomas Bowers, 446th ASTS



Photo by Airman First Class Patrick Cabellon

Look out!

Staff Sergeant Mark Wilson, 728th Airlift Squadron, takes a look out the back of a C-17 at McChord AFB. He is one of more than 2,400 Citizen Airmen serving our nation with the 446th Airlift Wing.

Just Briefly

What is one of your goals for 2009?

Service

To be a better father.



◆ *Staff Sgt. Lawrence Denis*
446th Logistics Readiness Flight

Trade

To graduate with my masters degree.



◆ *Lori Brooks*
446th Airlift Wing

Degree

Fitness. My goal is to be more dedicated to going to the gym.



◆ *Brandy Adams*
446th Logistics Readiness Flight

Skill

I want to pay down credit cards and stay in shape.



◆ *Master Sgt. Mark DeVaney*
446th Aerospace Medicine Squadron

Nominate spouse and employer for annual wing awards

Spouse of the Year and Employer of the Year nominations are now being accepted. For details, go to the news section of the wing's public Web page at www.446aw.afrc.af.mil. Deadline is Feb. 8.

Three enlisted Reservists earn quarterly award recognition

Winners of the last quarterly awards for enlisted Reservists are: Airman- Senior Airman Alyssa Brandaberry, 728th Airlift Squadron; NCO - Staff Sgt. Shawn Feero, 446th SFS; and Senior NCO - Master Sgt. Kurt Schafer, 446th Maintenance Squadron.

Women in aviation sought as mentors for Seattle program

Women with careers in aviation are being sought as mentors for a program in Seattle on March 13. This is a one day program called Women Fly!, established to assist girls interested in aviation careers

Physicals

Continued from Page 3

The effort to significantly improve and eliminate waste was three-fold.

"We stripped away duplication and simplified the exam process steps. As an example, we centralized vision screening in our optometry clinic," Sergeant Robison explains.

"Next, we studied the amount of time, number and type of available medical personnel and the amount of equipment on hand to establish a tangible clinical capacity."

"Finally, we scrutinized the timing and order that each step would be accomplished, so that we would not have groups running into each other at stations and creating bottle necks," said Sergeant Robison.

The 446th AMDS also recruits the assistance of the 446th Aeromedical Staging Squadron.

"We truly have support from the 446th Aeromedical Staging Squadron because they provide us with physicians and medical technicians," said Chief Fernandez. "It also benefits ASTS because this counts for their training."

While AMDS is doing its part to make the physical process go smoother, Airman can also make the process easier.

It all starts with the unit health monitors, said Master Sgt. Brad Clarke, 446th AMDS

get information on the various careers available. You can sign up to be a mentor by e-mailing anna.sullivan@mcchord.af.mil (please put Women Fly! Volunteer in the subject line).

Retraining option into equal opportunity career field available

The 446th MEO office is seeking persons to re-train into the equal opportunity career field. MEO's purpose is to improve mission effectiveness by assisting commanders at all levels in conducting human relations programs.

Candidates can either be an E-5 or E-6 with a minimum 5-level certification in their current career field.

To apply, send a letter of Interest explaining why you would be a great fit in the equal opportunity career field, a current resume, both military and civilian, two military references and two civilian references to james.briggs1@mcchord.af.mil. This job announcement is subject to closure at anytime pending a qualified candidate is found. For more information, go to the 446th MEO Sharepoint page.

NCO in charge of physical examination.

"They let us know who's going to be at the clinic each UTA Saturday. They have to review everyone who's coming in and let us know who needs what exams," said Sergeant Clarke.

Good communication with everyone involved is also important, said Chief Fernandez. A lot of Reservists don't realize that there is a scheduled show time for their physical. If an Airman is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. then they should arrive to receive their records at 8:30 a.m. Arriving earlier or later only complicates and prolongs the process.

Another way Airmen can be more prepared for their physicals is to complete their questionnaires with ample time to be scheduled for a physical exam, said Sergeant Robison. Reservists with short physical years should make sure they are seen by a civilian dentist to get their DD Form 2813 filled out before the month of the physical. More simply, if you do your questionnaire and turn in your dental form on time, the process can go a lot smoother, said Chief Fernandez.

If the physical process goes as easy as possible, it'll get members back to their jobs and their training a lot quicker, said Sergeant Clarke.

For questions about your physical, contact your unit health monitor.

Airdrop

Continued from Page 1

said the colonel.

The mission was flown as part of Operation Deep Freeze, a U.S. Pacific Command Joint Task Force Support Forces Antarctica mission. Headquartered at Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, and led by 13th Air Force, JTF SFA's mission is to provide air- and sealift support to the National Science Foundation and U.S. Antarctic Program.

A total of four airdrops have now delivered supplies to the scientific campsite on the north side of the Gamburtsev province, a chain of mountains the size of the European Alps buried under five kilometers of ice.

Scientists believe the Gamburtsev Mountains are the point of origin of the East Antarctic ice sheet and may be home to some of the oldest ice on the conti-

nent, said Captain. O'Rourke.

"They are trying to determine the nature of that ice and also the nature of the geophysical event that caused the uplift of the mountains, whether it was volcanic, tectonic, or otherwise," he said.

The U.S. military's support to ODF began in 1955. Through this program, McChord Airmen provide airlift support in an extremely adverse environment, sometimes landing the C-17 on a six-foot thick ice runway to deliver supplies to the NSF from August through February each season.

During the 2007-2008 season, McChord C-17s flew 57 missions to McMurdo Station, Antarctica, from Christchurch carrying more than 3.1 million pounds of cargo and more than 2,800 passengers. On the return missions from the frozen sea shelf of McMurdo, C-17 aircrews flew more than 850,000 pounds of cargo and 2,700 passengers back to Christchurch.

On Sept. 11, McChord Airmen made the first-ever night vision goggle landing on the Antarctic continent, demonstrating the capability to fly missions there year-round. Five months out of the year, the Antarctic shelf is in complete darkness.

"The success of this mission was a full total force partnership."

Chief Master Sgt. James Masura

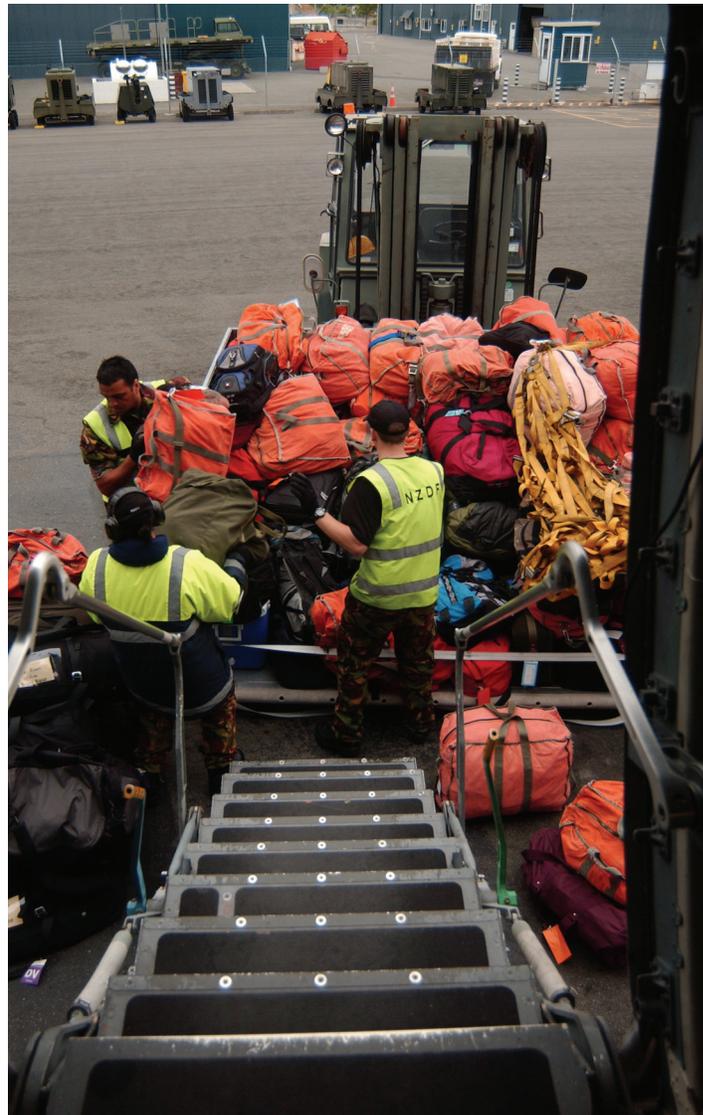


Photo by Staff Sgt. Eric Burks
Members of the New Zealand Defence Force prepare to load baggage on a C-17 Globemaster III prior to an Operation Deep Freeze mission to Antarctica Dec. 1.

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