

Chronology
Of the Air National Guard
In
2005 Hurricane Rescue and Relief Operations
19 August – 29 November 2005



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Preface

When Hurricane Katrina arrived in Louisiana on 29 August 2005, it became one of the worst natural disasters ever to strike the United States. It caused nearly \$81 billion in damages, making it the costliest hurricane in US history. Hurricane Katrina was also the third deadliest storm to strike the United States. Over 1,830 people died in the five states affected by the storm. Katrina also prompted the largest military response to a natural disaster in US history. The following chronology documents the activities of the Air National Guard (ANG) in supporting hurricane relief operations for Katrina as well as Hurricanes Rita and Wilma.

The Air National Guard's response to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita continues a long tradition of National Guard airmen supporting civil authorities. This tradition began in April 1927 when John Martineau, the Governor of Arkansas called up the 154th Observation Squadron, Arkansas National Guard to assist with rescue and relief efforts to victims of the devastating 1927 Mississippi River flood.

The sources used to compile this chronology come mainly from the Air National Guard Crisis Action Team located at the Air National Guard Readiness Center, Andrews Air Force Base, Maryland. Due to the large volume of documents, it took over a year for one person to sift through the documents and build a detailed and accurate chronology of the Air National Guard's activities in Katrina relief efforts. It would have been extremely difficult to collect these documents without the help of the members assigned to the Air National Guard Readiness Center, and the help from various Functional Managers who manned the Crisis Action Team during the relief efforts.

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**19 August
2005**

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld approved a standing Execute Order for US military forces to prepare for the 2005 hurricane season. This order authorized US Northern Command (NORTHCOM) to coordinate directly with Military Departments and Defense Coordinating Officers on the selection of military bases to support the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).¹

24 Aug

The National Hurricane Center issued a hurricane warning for the Southeastern Florida coast as a tropical depression strengthened into Tropical Storm Katrina over the Central Bahamas. Planning and coordinating teleconferences began among representatives from the Department of Defense (DoD), FEMA, the National Guard Bureau (NGB) and NORTHCOM. The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (CJCS) issued a warning order for all military commands and services to begin preparing to support hurricane relief assistance.²

25 Aug

Hurricane Katrina made landfall in Miami-Dade and Broward Counties on Florida's East Coast as a Category 1 storm (80 mph winds). It moved southwestward across South Florida, dumping over a foot of rain, knocking over trees and power lines, and damaging homes and businesses in its path. After crossing South Florida, Katrina entered the Gulf of Mexico where it continued to strengthen.³

Florida's National Guard Joint Operation Center (JOC) reported 800 Florida National Guard personnel were in State Active Duty (SAD) supporting hurricane relief operations. An additional 1,700 National Guard personnel were in SAD in Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi. Less than 1,000 were Air Guard personnel.⁴

25 Aug
(continued)

National Guard Bureau's-Domestic Operations Directorate (J3) held a planning teleconference with the JOC's in Florida, Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, NORTHCOM, FEMA and Forces Command. Florida's JOC reported they were preparing high wheel vehicles and relief aid distribution points in anticipation of floods and power outages, and did not anticipate storm damage beyond the capability of the Florida National Guard. Joint Operation Centers in Alabama, North Carolina, South Carolina, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Georgia monitored the storm's progress and were ready to offer support through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC).⁵

Air National Guard's Finance Management Directorate coordinated with the NGB Acquisitions Office to establish remote contracting and finance support operations for hurricane relief.⁶

The CJCS issued a Planning Order to have the Regional Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officer, the Defense Coordinating Officer, and a State Emergency Liaison Officer deploy to Florida.⁷

26 Aug

Hurricane Katrina moved west and into the Gulf of Mexico where it grew to a Category 2 storm.⁸

The 125th Fighter Wing, Detachment 1, Florida Air National Guard (ANG), located at Key West Naval Air Station (NAS) came off Response Posture Immediate status due to Hurricane Katrina. Unit aircraft kept at the Key West NAS were securely tied-down.⁹

26 Aug

(continued)

National Guard Bureau-J3 held another planning teleconference with the JOC's in Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, North Carolina, South Carolina, Kentucky, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, and West Virginia. In addition, representatives from NORTHCOM, FEMA, Forces Command (FORSCOM), and First Air Force participated in the teleconference. The Florida JOC reported they had approximately 950 Florida National Guard personnel in SAD in South Florida supporting civil authorities in Dade, Monroe, and Broward counties. A logistical distribution center opened at the Palm Beach County Fair Grounds.¹⁰

Phase II of Florida's National Guard mobilization planning for hurricane relief operations went into effect for the Panhandle region. An additional 1,250 Florida Guardsmen in SAD mobilized to support security and humanitarian relief operations.¹¹

27 Aug

The National Hurricane Center upgraded Hurricane Katrina to a Category 3 storm (115 mph winds).¹²

The National Weather Service predicted Hurricane Katrina would make landfall along the Southeast coast of Louisiana on Monday morning, 29 August. This prediction caused a shift in hurricane relief planning for all JOCs in the Southeastern states. Alabama's JOC and the State's Emergency Management Agency requested an NGB Liaison Officer.¹³

Barksdale Air Force Base (AFB) near Shreveport, Louisiana and NAS Meridian, Mississippi, became FEMA Operational Staging Bases for pre-staging FEMA supplies prior to Katrina making landfall.¹⁴

27 Aug
(continued)

Kathleen Blanco, the Governor of Louisiana, declared a state of emergency and activated the Louisiana National Guard while the Mayor of New Orleans, Ray Nagin, urged residents to evacuate from the city's low-lying areas. The Louisiana JOC reported approximately 1,500 personnel were in SAD. In addition to distributing cots at pre-established public shelters, Louisiana National Guard personnel assisted the Louisiana State Police with public evacuation. Louisiana JOC coordinated with nearby states to acquire additional National Guard helicopters. No plan was made to relocate the Louisiana JOC.¹⁵

Haley Barbour, the Governor of Mississippi, declared a state of emergency and activated the Mississippi National Guard. The Mississippi National Guard expected 1,400 personnel to be in SAD by the following day.¹⁶

The 159th Fighter Wing, Louisiana ANG, evacuated seventeen of its twenty-one assigned F-15 aircraft from NAS New Orleans due to Hurricane Katrina.¹⁷

28 Aug

Hurricane Katrina grew to a Category 5 storm (160 mph winds), 250 miles south-southeast of the mouth of the Mississippi River. Katrina's winds reached their peak intensity of 175 mph winds. Later in the day, Katrina turned northwest and then north, heading for Louisiana. The Governors of Mississippi, Louisiana, and Alabama ordered additional Guard members to SAD. The Florida JOC reported four Air Guard personnel were in SAD supporting hurricane rescue and relief operations.¹⁸

Maxwell AFB, Montgomery, Alabama was a FEMA operational staging base. Haley Barbour, the Governor of Mississippi, issued evacuation orders for the Mississippi coast.¹⁹

28 Aug
(continued)

National Guard Bureau JOC received a request from FEMA to provide two National Guard UH-60 helicopters to fly a survey team to assess the storm damage and determine where in Jackson, Mississippi to establish an operating location. The Mississippi JOC concurred with the request.²⁰

Mayor Nagin ordered a mandatory evacuation of New Orleans.²¹

The Louisiana JOC reported 4,000 National Guard members, both Army and Air, were in SAD. Louisiana Army Guard personnel manned regional special needs shelters and assisted State Police with public evacuation in the New Orleans area. Louisiana's JOC established an alternate JOC, but made no plans to move from their primary site at Jackson Barracks. They reported to the NGB JOC that they needed bottled water, Meals Ready Eat (MRE)'s, cots, and high-water vehicles. The Louisiana JOC did not submit formal requests for these items.²²

President Bush issued a "Disaster Declaration" for Florida. Approximately 700 Florida National Guard personnel were in SAD to support rescue and relief operations in South Florida. The Florida JOC anticipated a reduction in Guard personnel in SAD as activities returned to normal. They also confirmed they had 1,000 cots ready for shipment to support Louisiana or Mississippi. National Guard Bureau's J4 (Logistics) coordinated the movement.²³

Robert Riley, the Governor of Alabama, declared a state of emergency. The Alabama JOC continued to coordinate with the Alabama Emergency Management Agency in planning for hurricane response and recovery. Approximately thirty National Guard personnel were in SAD filling sandbags and Liaison Officer duties.²⁴

28 Aug
(continued)

Mississippi's JOC reported 1,200 soldiers were in SAD to help with debris removal, security, and logistics distribution. They expected an additional 800 to 1,000 National Guard personnel placed in SAD by 29 August. Based on severe weather predictions for Mississippi, the state JOC anticipated a need for additional law enforcement and humanitarian assistance support from surrounding states.²⁵

The ANG Crises Action Team (CAT) directed all ANG units affected by the hurricane to initiate their Hurricane Aircraft Relocation Plan.²⁶

The 172^d Airlift Wing, Mississippi ANG, evacuated their C-17 aircraft from Allen C. Thompson Field in Jackson, Mississippi. One C-17A aircraft went to Charleston AFB, South Carolina, and two aircraft remained in the hangar at Thompson Field. The units remaining five aircraft were overseas.²⁷

In the midst of aircraft evacuation, the Mississippi JOC notified the 172^d Airlift Wing and the 183^d Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron to prepare to fly an air evacuation mission. On this date, the 172nd Airlift Wing had forty personnel in SAD. The National Guard had 4,091 personnel deployed in the Gulf region.²⁸

The 186th Air Refueling Wing, Mississippi ANG, evacuated seven of its ten assigned KC-135R aircraft to Tinker AFB, Oklahoma and Carswell AFB, Texas. Its remaining three aircraft were placed in the base hangar at Key Field, Mississippi. The unit's lone RC-26B aircraft evacuated to Meecham Field, Ft Worth, Texas.²⁹

The 117th Air Refueling Wing, Alabama ANG, evacuated one of its nine assigned KC-135R aircraft to MacDill AFB, Florida. Three non-flyable aircraft remained at Birmingham International Airport (IAP). The units' five remaining aircraft were overseas.³⁰

29 Aug

The National Weather Service downgraded Hurricane Katrina to a Category 4 hurricane (145 mph winds) when it made landfall in Plaquemines Parish near Buras, Louisiana at 0610 hours Central Daylight Time. The storm continued northward and made a second landfall as a Category 3 hurricane near the Louisiana-Mississippi border with maximum wind gusts at 125 mph.³¹

Before making damage assessments and identifying support requirements, all states in the area affected by Hurricane Katrina waited for the hurricane to abate.³²

President Bush issued a “Disaster Declaration” for Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi.³³

On this date, NORTHCOM issued an Execute Order to Maxwell AFB to serve as an Operational Staging Base. Mississippi and Louisiana continued to call for additional help from neighboring states.³⁴

A FEMA request was submitted to DoD for five helicopters for search and rescue, storm damage assessment, and to provide air transportation for civilian swift water rescue teams for Louisiana.³⁵

The ANG CAT expanded to twenty-four hour operations from its standard twelve-hour shift to support hurricane rescue and relief operations. It also established lines of communications with FEMA, the NGB JOC, and the JOC’s in Louisiana, Alabama, and Mississippi.³⁶

Various functional cells in the ANG CAT identified Communications, Civil Engineer, and Security Forces as the first critical capabilities required for hurricane relief efforts.³⁷

29 Aug

(continued)

The US Air Force issued Finance code ESP-5C to track costs related to Hurricane Katrina relief operations. The Air National Guard-Finance Management Office requested the Air Force Finance Management Office to issue additional funding tracking codes for costs incurred while supporting FEMA.³⁸

The 214th Engineering & Installation Squadron, Louisiana ANG, moved all of its expensive equipment from Jackson Barracks to Hammond, Louisiana. The unit also deployed twenty-four personnel to Hammond and thirty personnel to set up communications. An additional thirty personnel deployed to NAS New Orleans to set up communications capability.³⁹

The United States First Army began plans to establish JTF-Katrina. Barksdale AFB and NAS Meridian were chosen as the JTF-Katrina base operating locations for hurricane relief.⁴⁰

Fifty Air Guard medical personnel assigned to the 149th Medical Group, Texas ANG, deployed to Baton Rouge, Louisiana to help establish a Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, or High Yield Explosive (CBRNE) Enhanced Response Force Package (CERFP) medical facility.⁴¹

30 Aug

The 186th Air Refueling Wing, Mississippi ANG, reported that preliminary damage to Key Field, Mississippi included roof damage to numerous buildings, several destroyed awnings, and that a large section of the base perimeter fence was knocked down.⁴²

The Deputy Secretary of Defense and the CJCS gave verbal authorization to NORTHCOM to assume operational control of all federal resources necessary to support rescue and relief operations in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.⁴³

30 Aug

(continued)

Two of New Orleans's levees, the 17th Street levee and the Surekote levee broke, flooding eighty percent of the city. Flood waters heavily damaged road networks, buildings, electric power plants, water, and fuel facilities. Governor Blanco considered the devastation worse than she had feared. Massive flooding forced residents to evacuate immediately. The National Guard had 4,725 personnel in SAD to assist local rescue agencies and State police with building shelters, and providing security and medical support at the Superdome. Health and Human Services Secretary, Michael O. Leavitt, declared a health emergency in the Gulf area.⁴⁴

Neighboring states to Louisiana and Mississippi offered assistance to the stricken states based on a pre-existing EMAC.⁴⁵

Joint Task Force-Katrina, was activated by NORTHCOM with three primary operating bases established at Camp Beauregard, Louisiana; Jackson, Mississippi, and Maxwell AFB, Alabama. Lieutenant General Russ Honoré was appointed commander of the Joint Task Force-Katrina with his headquarters located at Camp Shelby, Mississippi.⁴⁶

The DoD validated a FEMA request for a deployable 500 bed hospital equipped with surge capability. Department of Defense prepared to deploy the Expeditionary Medical System (EMEDS) with a capacity to treat 3,000 to 5,000 people.⁴⁷

Twenty-three ANG medical personnel deployed to NAS New Orleans to operate an EMEDS hospital. Naval Air Station New Orleans became a forward operating base for Army and Air National Guard, Navy, Marine, and Air Force personnel working in New Orleans. The base was also a staging area for security patrols in the city.⁴⁸

30 Aug

(continued)

United States Transportation Command put all Air Force C-5, C-17, and C-130 aircraft on alert. The ANG placed thirty airlift and tanker aircraft on alert. Maxwell AFB was placed on a “Be Prepared To” status as the Airport of Embarkation/Debarcation and coordinated Tactical Airlift Control-Element planning location for the Air Force.⁴⁹

The ANG launched its first hurricane relief mission. A C-17 and crew assigned to the 172^d Airlift Wing, Mississippi ANG, flew a mission that airlifted eighty-five civilians from Gulfport, Mississippi, to Kelly AFB, Texas and litters from Kelly AFB to New Orleans IAP. The crew flew the mission in Title 10 orders.⁵⁰

A C-130 aircraft and crew assigned to the 118th Airlift Wing, Tennessee ANG, and an air-medical evacuation crew assigned to the 183^d Air Evacuation Squadron, Mississippi ANG, evacuated sixty-two US military retirees from the Gulfport Combat Readiness Training Center (CRTC), Mississippi to Andrews AFB, Maryland.⁵¹

A C-130 aircraft and flight crew assigned to the 127th Wing, Michigan ANG, and an air evacuation crew assigned to the 137th Air Evacuation Squadron, Oklahoma ANG, evacuated 143 Veterans Administration hospital patients to Jackson, Mississippi.⁵²

The ANG CAT tasked one KC-135R aircraft and crew assigned to the 101st Air Refueling Wing, Maine ANG, to airlift four heavy-duty nylon slings used for UH-60 lift operations to Louisiana.⁵³

Rick Perry, the Governor of Texas, activated the 136th Security Forces Squadron, Texas ANG. In addition, three C-130H aircraft assigned to the 136th Airlift Wing, Texas ANG, were activated to transport the Texas ANG Security Forces personnel to Louisiana. Texas’s JOC reported 147 ANG Security Forces Squadron personnel were in SAD.⁵⁴

30 Aug

(continued)

The Mississippi JOC placed a Mississippi ANG RC-26B aircraft on alert for a hurricane relief mission. Meanwhile, Texas ANG RC-26B aircraft began flying support and reconnaissance missions in the hurricane stricken area.⁵⁵

Fifty-six members of the 236th Combat Communications Squadron, Louisiana ANG, remained at home station in Hammond, Louisiana to provide communication support to the newly established state command center. An additional thirty-three unit personnel deployed to NAS New Orleans and the Superdome. They deployed with their TSC-93 Satellite Communications equipment and their Theater Deployable Communication Equipment to provide communications capability from the Superdome.⁵⁶

On this date, the ANG CAT reported 783 ANG personnel were in SAD for hurricane Katrina rescue and relief efforts.⁵⁷

Over 9,000,000 pounds of ice, 195,000 cases of water, and 600,000 MREs were available to FEMA. The National Guard had 6,032 personnel mobilized for hurricane relief operations and 1,000 active duty military personnel were mobilized.⁵⁸

On this date, ANG helicopter crews rescued 100 hurricane victims. In addition, Air Guard pararescuemen, operating Zodiac* boats rescued 500 victims.⁵⁹

**30 Aug –
16 Sep**

The ANG deployed seven RC-26B aircraft and nine crews from Arizona, Texas, Mississippi, Wisconsin, Alabama, New York, West Virginia, and Florida to the Gulf coast region for hurricane relief operations. In seventeen days of air operations, Air Guard RC-26 crews flew fifty-five missions, 139 sorties, and 297 flight hours in support of Hurricane Katrina relief efforts.⁶⁰

* Zodiac is a common term used to describe the Combat Rubber Raider Craft (CRRC) operated by Air Force pararescue forces in peace time water and underwater search, recovery, and rescue operations.

31 Aug

President Bush declared a federal state of emergency for Louisiana and Mississippi.⁶¹

Governor Barbour ordered mandatory state mobilization for all Mississippi National Guard and Air National Guard personnel. The state government anticipated hurricane relief sustainment operations for up to sixty days. The National Guard had 2,747 personnel mobilized to help with debris removal, law enforcement support, shelter and medical support.⁶²

Joint Task Force-Katrina identified the land area affected by Hurricane Katrina as the Joint Operational Area. This area included Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Georgia.⁶³

The governors of Louisiana and Mississippi requested additional National Guard forces through EMAC.⁶⁴

Air Guard units in the Southeast experienced critical network disruptions due to circuit damage in New Orleans, Louisiana, and Meridian, Mississippi, caused by Hurricane Katrina. Message traffic in and out of the region was degraded to non-existent capability for many units. The ANG Network Operations Center (NOSC) and the Air Force NOSC worked with the Defense Information System Agency to identify viable solutions.⁶⁵

The 221st Combat Communications Squadron, Texas ANG, deployed in SAD to Louisiana where they deployed their Iridium Phone communications package to Hammond, Louisiana and to the Superdome in New Orleans.⁶⁶

Colorado, Pennsylvania, and Texas deployed their Interim SATCOM Incident Site Communications Sets (ISISCS) to Louisiana and Mississippi. Missouri placed their two ISISCS on alert for deployment to the Gulf Coast.⁶⁷

31 Aug

(continued)

A C-5A aircraft assigned to the 105th Airlift Wing, New York ANG, flew a relief mission. The mission required the crew to fly to March Air Reserve Base, California to pick-up and transport FEMA personnel, relief supplies and equipment to Lafayette Regional Airport in Louisiana.⁶⁸

Two C-130 aircraft assigned to the 166th Airlift Wing, Delaware ANG, airlifted 100 Delaware Army National Guard Military Police to Jackson, Mississippi.⁶⁹

Three C-130J aircraft assigned to the 175th Wing (WG), Maryland ANG, airlifted 150 Maryland Army National Guard Military Police to Jackson, Mississippi.⁷⁰

Two C-130 aircraft assigned to the 123^d Airlift Wing, Kentucky ANG, airlifted approximately 190,000 sandbags to NAS New Orleans. The crews flew this mission in SAD status.⁷¹

Three C-130 aircraft assigned to the 137th Airlift Wing, Oklahoma ANG, airlifted 145 Oklahoma Army National Guard personnel to NAS New Orleans.⁷²

One C-130 aircraft assigned to the 152^d Airlift Wing, Nevada ANG, transported thirty medical support personnel from Kelly AFB, Texas, to Baton Rouge, Louisiana.⁷³

Twelve transportation specialists assigned to the 145th Airlift Wing, North Carolina ANG, deployed to Louisiana.⁷⁴

Twenty personnel assigned to the 143^d Airlift Wing, Rhode Island ANG, deployed to Louisiana to support hurricane relief efforts.⁷⁵

31 Aug

(continued)

The 172^d Airlift Wing, Mississippi ANG, deployed five air-medical evacuation crews (25 personnel), three In-Flight kits,[‡] and twenty-seven ground support personnel to Gulfport CRTC, Mississippi, in Title 32 status to support hurricane relief efforts.⁷⁶

Two C-130 aircraft assigned to the 118th Airlift Wing, Tennessee ANG, transported ANG Security Forces personnel to Gulfport CRTC. Gulfport CRTC was the main operating base for ANG sustainment, patient staging and air evacuation.⁷⁷

The ANG CAT filled a NORTHCOM request for a Combat Weather Team and a Weather Forecaster. The 133^d Airlift Wing, Minnesota ANG, deployed three Combat Weather personnel in Title 10 status to NAS New Orleans, and the 113th Wing, District of Columbia ANG, deployed one Weather Forecaster in Title 10 status to Ft Gillem, Georgia.⁷⁸

One C-17 aircraft assigned to the 172^d Airlift Wing, Mississippi ANG, flew an air evacuation mission from New Orleans IAP to Kelly AFB, Texas. The air evacuations crew, assigned to the 183^d Air Evacuation Squadron did not have information about the number of patients needing transport, the special equipment needed, or aircraft configuration required. Unfortunately, FEMA representatives were unaware of the C-17s arrival or the capabilities of the air evacuation squadron. The triage team, and evacuation and transportation processes were poorly organized. There was no documentation of the patients' names, diagnoses, classification, treatment received, or treatment needed. Some patients arrived on the aircraft parking ramp on litters while other patients who needed litters had none. The C-17 crew had no extra litters to distribute. The crew returned to their home station at Jackson, Mississippi, on 2 September.⁷⁹

[‡] An In-Flight kit consists of a series of litters (stretchers) and medical supplies and equipment used to sustain life while transporting sick or wounded patients onboard an aircraft. In-Flight kits are universally configured to allow easy installation in any type of airlift aircraft.

31 Aug

(continued)

One C-130 aircraft assigned to the 118th Airlift Wing, Tennessee ANG, air evacuated approximately forty Veterans Hospital medical patients from NAS New Orleans and delivered them to Ellington Field, Texas.⁸⁰

One C-130 aircraft assigned to the 127th Wing, Michigan ANG, flew to Nashville, Tennessee to pick-up an air evacuation crew assigned to the 118th Airlift Wing, to evacuate approximately sixty-eight medical patients from NAS New Orleans. However, the mission was delayed because of an in-flight emergency caused by an engine problem. The aircraft diverted back to Nashville, Tennessee.⁸¹

One C-130 aircraft assigned to the 127th Wing, Michigan ANG, flew to Oklahoma City, Oklahoma to pick up an air evacuation crew assigned to the 137th Airlift Wing, Oklahoma ANG to evacuate approximately forty-three patients from NAS New Orleans and deliver them to Jackson, Mississippi.⁸²

The 122^d Air Support Operations Squadron, Louisiana ANG, deployed sixty personnel in SAD to provide SATCOM-Radio Relay capability at NAS New Orleans; Zephyr Field; Baton Rouge, and Slidell, Louisiana.⁸³

The 123^d Special Tactics Squadron, Kentucky ANG, deployed thirteen pararescuemen, combat controllers, and combat weather personnel in SAD to NAS New Orleans as part of the Louisiana-Kentucky EMAC.⁸⁴

Eight pararescuemen from the 106th Rescue Wing, New York ANG, deployed in Title 10 status to Jackson, Mississippi. Approximately twenty-two HH-60 helicopters assigned to the ANG, active duty Air Force, and Air Force Reserve rescue units operated at NAS Jackson.⁸⁵

The Air National Guard Readiness Center deployed a Medical Planner in Title 10 status to Camp Shelby, Mississippi.⁸⁶

31 Aug

(continued) The Air National Guard CAT reported 700 ANG Civil Engineer and 350 RED HORSE[♦] personnel were available for state activation to support hurricane relief efforts.⁸⁷

The 186th Air Refueling Wing, Mississippi ANG, deployed one Airfield Manager in Title 32 status to Gulfport CRTC to augment the four CRTC airfield managers.⁸⁸

Fifty medical personnel from the 149th Fighter Wing, Texas ANG, deployed in SAD to Baton Rouge, Louisiana to assist in establishing a Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear or High Yield Explosive Enhanced Response Force Package.⁸⁹

Eleven personnel from the 280th Combat Communications Squadron, Alabama ANG, deployed to Ocean Springs, Mississippi, to support hurricane relief efforts.⁹⁰

The 259th Air Traffic Control Squadron, Louisiana ANG, deployed their Mobile Control Tower and fifty-two personnel in SAD to the Superdome in New Orleans.⁹¹

Twenty Security Forces personnel from the 166th Airlift Wing, Delaware ANG, deployed in SAD to Jackson, Mississippi. The ANG Security Force functional cell at the Air Guard Readiness Center reported it had received phone calls from seventeen Security Forces Squadrons across the country volunteering to participate in hurricane relief operations.⁹²

Fifty-two personnel from the 162^d Combat Communications Group, California ANG deployed in SAD to New Orleans to help with security in the city.⁹³

The 226th Combat Communications Group, Alabama ANG, deployed ten personnel to Mobile, Alabama.⁹⁴

[♦] Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron Engineers-RED HORSE

31 Aug

(continued)

The 204th Security Forces Squadron, Texas ANG, deployed 150 personnel in SAD to Camp Beauregard, Louisiana to provide base security.⁹⁵

On this date, 813 Air Guard personnel were in SAD supporting hurricane rescue and relief operations. Mississippi had 558 personnel; Louisiana had 214; Florida had eleven, Colorado had five, and Texas had twenty five personnel in SAD.⁹⁶

The National Guard Bureau JOC reported 9,994 National Guard personnel were in the Joint Operations Area supporting hurricane rescue and relief operations. Based on the EMAC agreements, over 320,000 National Guard personnel, including Air Guard personnel and equipment from all fifty-four states and territories, were available to support hurricane relief operations.⁹⁷

1 Sep

Kathleen Blanco, Governor of Louisiana, signed a request for assistance from all Gulf states.⁹⁸

President Bush met with Defense Secretary Rumsfeld and Lieutenant General H. Stephen Blum, Chief of the National Guard Bureau to discuss hurricane relief.⁹⁹

The Secretary of Defense approved a request for assistance from the Louisiana governor.¹⁰⁰

The ANG CAT reported forty-eight aircraft (thirty-nine C-130 and nine KC-135) from twenty-one states were available for hurricane relief missions.¹⁰¹

An EMEDS hospital and an air evacuation support element became operational at New Orleans IAP. Air Guard security forces from Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, and Virginia provided base security at the airport.¹⁰²

1 Sep
(continued)

One C-130 aircraft assigned to the 145th Airlift Wing, North Carolina ANG, airlifted equipment to NAS New Orleans.¹⁰³

Air Mobility Command reported it had fifteen air evacuation crews on alert for hurricane relief efforts. The ANG CAT sent its air evacuation crews to Kelly AFB to augment a Total Force air evacuation operation. Twenty-six of the fifty-seven air evacuation crews at Kelly AFB were ANG.¹⁰⁴

The 183^d Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, Mississippi ANG, deployed forty personnel to Gulfport CRTC for ground medical support. In addition, ANG EMEDS at Gulfport CRTC provided aerospace medicine, preventive medicine, primary, emergency, and critical care for a population of five thousand people.¹⁰⁵

Four C-130 aircraft assigned to the 136th Airlift Wing, Texas ANG, airlifted 367 Texas National Guard MPs and ANG Security Forces personnel to NAS New Orleans. One aircraft had to fly two sorties to transport 145 security forces personnel to their destination.¹⁰⁶

Two C-130 aircraft assigned to the 189th Airlift Wing, Arkansas ANG, airlifted equipment from Walnut Ridge, Arkansas to NAS New Orleans.¹⁰⁷

One C-130 aircraft assigned to the 146th Airlift Wing, California ANG, deployed to NAS New Orleans on an Aeromedical evacuation mission.¹⁰⁸

One C-130 aircraft assigned to the 139th Airlift Wing, Missouri ANG, flew an Aeromedical evacuation mission to NAS New Orleans.¹⁰⁹

1 Sep

(continued)

Two C-130 aircraft assigned to the 118th Airlift Wing, Tennessee ANG, flew an Aeromedical evacuation mission to New Orleans IAP.¹¹⁰

One C-130 aircraft assigned to the 179th Airlift Wing, Ohio ANG, airlifted thirty-seven Ohio National Guard soldiers to Laurel, Mississippi.¹¹¹

The 115th Fighter Wing, Wisconsin ANG, deployed its RC-26B aircraft and six personnel to Ellington Field, Texas to support hurricane relief efforts.¹¹²

The 123^d Special Tactics Squadron, Kentucky ANG, deployed nine personnel to NAS New Orleans. Thirteen unit personnel (seven PJs and six CCTs) had already deployed to New Orleans.¹¹³

Chief Master Sergeant Pat Malone, deployed team leader for the 123^d Special Tactics Squadron submitted a request for additional rescue assets through the Louisiana JOC. The NGB JOC and the ANG CAT notified the Alaska JOC of the request for additional rescue assets. Five rescue personnel and equipment assigned to 176th Wing, Alaska ANG, deployed to NAS New Orleans. In addition, the Oregon JOC deployed four Combat Controllers assigned to the 125th Special Tactics Squadron, Oregon ANG, to NAS New Orleans to assist the 123^d Special Tactics Squadron with directing helicopter traffic.¹¹⁴

The 106th Rescue Wing, New York ANG, deployed two HH-60 helicopters and twelve personnel in Title 10 status to Jackson, Mississippi.¹¹⁵

The 128th Air Refueling Wing, Wisconsin ANG, deployed fifteen personnel to Louisiana to support hurricane relief efforts.¹¹⁶

1 Sep

(continued) On this date, ANG pararescuemen saved forty-eight victims by helicopter and 250 victims by boat. Air National Guard Combat Controllers* directed 750 helicopter sorties that evacuated 3,000 victims.¹¹⁷

Fourteen personnel assigned to the 165th Civil Engineer Squadron (CES) Georgia ANG, and thirty-five personnel assigned to the 116 CES, Georgia ANG, deployed to Gulfport CRTC to assist with base reconstitution. Seventy Texas ANG Security Forces personnel deployed to Louisiana and twenty-five Delaware ANG, Security Forces personnel deployed to Mississippi.¹¹⁸

The Indiana Joint Forces Headquarters placed eighty-seven members of the 122^d Fighter Wing, Indiana ANG, in SAD to support security and relief operations.¹¹⁹

The NGB reported that 11,776 National Guard personnel were mobilized for hurricane rescue and relief operations. This number included 864 ANG personnel.¹²⁰

2 Sep

Alabama Governor Robert Riley requested approval from the Office of the Secretary of Defense for Title 32 status for the state's National Guard troops supporting hurricane relief efforts.¹²¹

The ANG CAT began to produce daily briefings on ANG operations dealing with hurricane relief efforts.¹²²

* Air Force combat controllers are Battlefield Airmen assigned to special tactics squadrons. They are trained special operations forces and certified Federal Aviation Administration air traffic controllers. Although their mission is to deploy undetected into combat and hostile environments to establish assault zones or airfields, and call in air strikes, combat controllers can establish effective air traffic control during humanitarian missions.

2 Sep

(continued)

The ANG CAT reported that a Contingency Response Group-Element (CRGE) and an Aerial Port Squadron (APS) from the 137th Airlift Wing, Oklahoma ANG, and the 136th Airlift Wing, Texas ANG, became operational at Gulfport CRTC. The 118 CRGE, Tennessee ANG, became operational at Stennis IAP in Mississippi to support hurricane relief efforts. Stennis IAP was an airlift off-load and receiving center for hurricane relief operations.¹²³

The ANG CAT filled a NORTHCOM request for an ANG Combat Weather Team. Three Combat Weather personnel from Detachment 1, Washington ANG, and two Weather Forecasters from the 121st Air Refueling Wing, Ohio ANG, and the 175th Wing, Maryland ANG, deployed in Title 10 status to Baton Rouge, Louisiana.¹²⁴

The Air National Guard Financial Management Directorate coordinated with the Air Expeditionary Force (AEF) Center at Langley AFB, Virginia to assess Contracting and Finance support requirements and posture for relief operations in the Gulf region. The US Air Force Financial Management Directorate issued an Emergency and Special Program code "1G" to track FEMA reimbursable costs.¹²⁵

The NGB JOC directed all ANG Security Forces personnel who were not mission essential for home station security to deploy to the hurricane stricken area to support hurricane relief efforts. At this point in hurricane relief operations, 353 ANG Security Forces personnel from eighteen units were deployed to Louisiana and Mississippi. In addition, sixty-five Air Guard Combat Communications personnel were deployed to the region to augment security operations.¹²⁶

Sixty-one C-130s, forty KC-135 and two C-5 aircraft from thirty-two states were reported by the ANG CAT as available for hurricane relief missions.¹²⁷

2 Sep

(continued) Eleven medical personnel assigned to the 113th Wing, District of Columbia ANG, deployed to NAS New Orleans to support EMEDS operations.¹²⁸

Twelve members of the 272^d Engineering & Installation Squadron, Texas ANG, deployed in SAD to New Orleans to provide support for hurricane relief efforts.¹²⁹

Nine Civil Engineer personnel assigned to the 163rd Air Refueling Wing, California ANG, deployed to New Orleans to help with reconstruction.¹³⁰

One HC-130 aircraft assigned to the 106th Rescue Wing deployed to Hurlburt Field, Florida to provide helicopter aerial refueling support over New Orleans.¹³¹

Thirty-eight Civil Engineer personnel assigned to the 188th Fighter Wing, Arkansas ANG, and the 166th Airlift Wing, Delaware ANG deployed to Gulfport CRTIC to help rebuild the base. Twenty-one ANG Services personnel also deployed to Gulfport to augment the four Services personnel already on-site.¹³²

The 123^d Intelligence Squadron, Arkansas ANG, deployed two Intelligence Analysts to Shreveport, Louisiana. An additional six Imagery Analysts were mobilized at home station to support RC-26 operations.¹³³

The 152^d Intelligence Squadron, Nevada ANG, deployed two Imagery Analysts to McEntire Air National Guard Base (ANGB), South Carolina to support Commercial Satellite Imagery operations related to hurricane relief efforts.¹³⁴

Seventy personnel from the 255th Air Control Squadron, Mississippi ANG, were activated in SAD at home station to help with debris removal and to provide Satellite Communications and Radio Relay capability. The unit reported fifty personnel unaccounted for due to the storm.¹³⁵

2 Sep

(continued) The 165th Air Support Operations Squadron, Georgia ANG, deployed ten personnel to Jackson Barracks, Louisiana to provide SATCOM and Radio relay capability.¹³⁶

On this date, three ANG RC-26B aircraft began flying support and reconnaissance missions for hurricane relief efforts in the Joint Operations Area.¹³⁷

Sixty personnel from the 128th Air Control Squadron, Wisconsin ANG, deployed in SAD to Louisiana to support hurricane relief operations.¹³⁸

Nine members of the 115th Security Forces Squadron, 115th Fighter Wing, Wisconsin ANG, were placed in SAD to support hurricane recovery and security operations.¹³⁹

Eighty ANG medical personnel deployed to NAS New Orleans to help support hurricane relief efforts.¹⁴⁰

On this date, Air Guard pararescuemen made fifty-one air rescues and 160 boat rescues. Air Guard Combat Controllers directed 950 helicopter landing sorties to evacuate 7,000 victims.¹⁴¹

The 202^d Engineer & Installation Squadron, Georgia ANG, deployed twelve personnel and two trucks to Gulfport CRTIC to support hurricane relief efforts.¹⁴²

The 269th Combat Communications Squadron, Ohio ANG, deployed thirty personnel in SAD to Stennis IAP, Mississippi to provide communication support for hurricane relief efforts.¹⁴³

The NGB reported 16,928 National Guard personnel were mobilized for hurricane relief efforts in the Gulf region. This number included 916 Air Guard personnel.¹⁴⁴

2 Sep

(continued) On this date, Air Guard airlift aircraft flew 389 sorties and transported 4,409 passengers, and airlifted 1,650 tons of cargo in a single day. This was the most productive day ANG airlift aircraft had in supporting Hurricane Katrina relief efforts. Air Guard airlift units had flown three months worth of normally scheduled sorties in three days.¹⁴⁵

3 Sep

President Bush visited the Gulf Coast.¹⁴⁶

By this date, the governors of forty states had called their respective National Guard units to SAD and deployed them to the hurricane stricken area to support the governors of Louisiana and Mississippi. Almost 27,000 National Guard personnel deployed to the region where they provided security, assisted with food and water distribution, and conducted search and rescue missions in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida.¹⁴⁷

The 153^d Airlift Wing, Wyoming ANG, and the 145th Airlift Wing, North Carolina ANG, established the 153^d Air Expeditionary Group at Pensacola NAS, Florida, to provide airborne firefighting capability for JTF-Katrina. To accomplish this mission, each unit deployed in Title 10 status and with its C-130 aircraft equipped with the Modular Airborne Firefighting System (MAFFS) to combat grass fires.¹⁴⁸

Fifty-two members from the 283^d Combat Communication Squadron, Georgia ANG, deployed in SAD to Lyman, Mississippi to provide Satellite Communications and telephone switch capability in the state.¹⁴⁹

The 133^d Airlift Wing, Minnesota ANG, deployed one Aeromedical evacuation crew (five personnel) and one In-Flight kit to Kelly AFB, Texas in SAD to support hurricane relief efforts in Louisiana.¹⁵⁰

3 Sep

(continued)

A three person ANG Combat Weather Team assigned to the 133rd Airlift Wing, Minnesota ANG, deployed in Title 10 (active duty) status to NAS New Orleans. In addition, one ANG Weather Forecaster assigned to the 113th Wing, District of Columbia ANG deployed in Title 10 status to Ft Gillem, Georgia.¹⁵¹

Three Aeromedical Evacuation crews (fifteen personnel) and two In-Flights kits from the 109th Airlift Wing, New York ANG, deployed in SAD status to Kelly AFB, Texas to support hurricane relief efforts in Louisiana.¹⁵²

The Louisiana JOC coordinated with the California JOC, the NGB JOC, and the ANG CAT to have the 129th Rescue Wing, California ANG, provide additional rescue personnel and equipment. Twelve pararescuemen personnel deployed to NAS New Orleans.¹⁵³

One MC-130P aircraft from the 129th Rescue Wing transported unit pararescuemen personnel and swift water rescue equipment to NAS New Orleans. An additional C-130J from the 146th Airlift Wing based at NAS Point Mugu, California transported additional 129th Rescue Wing pararescuemen personnel and equipment. By this time, Air Guard rescue assets deployed to New Orleans included twelve zodiac boats and Air Guard Combat Controllers who operated three helicopter Landing Zones. Air Guard rescue personnel were expected to remain deployed for approximately fourteen days. Air Guard pararescuemen and combat controllers deployed to the hurricane stricken area came from the 123^d Special Tactics Squadron, Kentucky ANG; 125th Special Tactics Squadron, Oregon ANG; 129th Rescue Wing, California ANG, and the 212th Rescue Squadron, Alaska ANG. The 106th Rescue Wing, New York ANG, deployed to Jackson, Mississippi and Hurlburt Field, Florida.¹⁵⁴

The ANG CAT sent additional Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance capable aircraft to the Joint Operations Area.¹⁵⁵

3 Sep

(continued) Forty ANG Aeromedical Evacuation personnel and four vehicles deployed to NAS New Orleans.¹⁵⁶

Six ANG medical personnel deployed from Alpena, Michigan to Gulfport CRTC to set up an EMEDS hospital.¹⁵⁷

Air Guard airlift aircraft air-dropped MREs and bottled water to hurricane survivors along the Gulf Coast. On this day, ANG airlift crews flew 116 missions in one day.¹⁵⁸

The 136th Airlift Wing, Texas ANG, deployed three multi-media personnel in SAD to NAS New Orleans to document the hurricane relief operation.¹⁵⁹

Seven C-130 aircraft assigned to the 189th Airlift Wing, Arkansas ANG, evacuated 593 patients from Louis Armstrong IAP in New Orleans, Louisiana to Ft Smith, Arkansas. The 189th Airlift Wing flew twenty-nine sorties to complete the evacuation mission.¹⁶⁰

On this date, ANG pararescuemen made nine air saves and 250 boat saves. Air Guard combat controllers directed 250 helicopter landing sorties to evacuate 850 victims.¹⁶¹

Kathleen Blanco, the governor of Louisiana, declined dual status option with the JTF-Katrina Commander.¹⁶²

The 202^d RED HORSE Squadron, Florida ANG, deployed fifty-seven personnel to Bay of St. Louis, Mississippi for base camp construction.¹⁶³

The 123^d Contingency Response Group-Element, Kentucky ANG reported they were operational with mobile Command and Control (C2) equipment and personnel at Alexandria Airport in Louisiana.¹⁶⁴

3 Sep

(continued)

On this date, 113 Air Guard Security Forces personnel from New Jersey, District of Columbia, Wisconsin, Tennessee, West Virginia, Montana, Utah, Wyoming, and Oregon deployed to NAS New Orleans. Twelve Security Forces personnel from the 182nd Airlift Wing, Illinois ANG, deployed to Mississippi. Thirty seven ANG Services personnel deployed to Gulfport CRTC.¹⁶⁵

The 221st Combat Communication Squadron, Texas ANG, deployed fifty personnel in SAD to NAS New Orleans.¹⁶⁶

Fifty six personnel assigned to the 138th Fighter Wing, Oklahoma ANG, were placed in SAD by the Adjutant General of Oklahoma through the Oklahoma State Joint Operations Center. The personnel deployed to Camp Gruber, Oklahoma to support hurricane relief operations.¹⁶⁷

Air National Guard airlift aircraft flew 871 sorties, transported 9,068 people, and airlifted 4,075 tons of cargo since the beginning of hurricane rescue and relief operations.¹⁶⁸

The NGB JOC reported 22,624 National Guard personnel had deployed to the joint operations area. A total of 27,255 US military personnel were in the area to support hurricane relief efforts.¹⁶⁹

4 Sep

President Bush ordered an additional 7,200 active duty forces to the Gulf area.¹⁷⁰

An ANG Combat Weather Team comprising three personnel from Detachment 1, Washington ANG, deployed in Title 10 status to Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Upon arrival, JTF-Katrina sent them to Stennis IAP.¹⁷¹

As of this date, Air Guard Aeromedical Evacuation crews had evacuated 736 hurricane victims from the hurricane stricken area.¹⁷²

4 Sep

(continued) The 175th Wing, Maryland ANG, deployed one Weather Forecaster in Title 10 status to Baton Rouge, Louisiana.¹⁷³

Forty-four personnel from the 134th Air Control Squadron, Kansas ANG, deployed in SAD to Louisiana. Thirty-two members went to Alexandria and twelve went to Hammond, Louisiana.¹⁷⁴

A C-130 Scathe View[†] aircraft assigned to the 192nd Airlift Squadron, 152^d Airlift Wing, Nevada ANG, was activated to support hurricane relief operations. The 152^d Airlift Wing deployed their Scathe View aircraft and crews to Maxwell AFB, Alabama.¹⁷⁵

The 152^d Intelligence Squadron, Nevada ANG, deployed two Intelligence Officers to NAS New Orleans to serve as Intelligence Liaison Officers for JTF-Katrina Scathe View missions.¹⁷⁶

The 192^d Airlift Squadron flew its first Scathe View mission in support of hurricane relief operations.¹⁷⁷

On this date, ANG pararescuemen made forty-two air saves, 436 boat saves, and sixty ground saves. Since the beginning of hurricane rescue operations, Air Guard pararescuemen made 538 saves and Air Guard Combat Controllers directed 1,200 helicopters landing sorties that evacuated 850 victims.¹⁷⁸

[†] Scathe View provides real-time imagery of the ground both day and night via electro-optical and infrared sensors mounted on the aircraft. The sensors transmitted imagery to a ground-based display system for analysis. The 192nd Airlift Squadron, 152^d Airlift Wing, Nevada ANG operates specially modified C-130H aircraft to perform aerial reconnaissance missions. Scathe View assisted in search and rescue missions and provided aerial mapping of the stricken area.

4 Sep

(continued) An HC-130 aircraft assigned to the 106th Rescue Wing, New York ANG, flew an eight hour mission, and off-loaded 10,000 pounds of fuel to five Air Force HH-60 helicopters in airborne refueling operations.¹⁷⁹

On this date, Air National Guard airlift aircraft flew 785 sorties, transported 12,854 people, and airlifted 39,013 tons of cargo in support of hurricane relief operations.¹⁸⁰

The 110th Fighter Wing, Michigan ANG, deployed forty-four Civil Engineer personnel to Gulfport CRTC to assist rebuilding the base. Numerous equipment assets from Battle Creek (generators, environmental control units) arrived at Camp Shelby, Mississippi to support the establishment of a forward staging area.¹⁸¹

Thirty Civil Engineer personnel from the 149th Fighter Wing, Texas ANG, deployed to NAS New Orleans.¹⁸²

Seventy-seven ANG Security Forces personnel from Kentucky, Minnesota, and Oregon deployed to Louisiana. The Indiana JOC deployed thirteen Indiana ANG Security Forces personnel to Mississippi.¹⁸³

Thirty-two Aerial Port Squadron personnel from the 137th Airlift Wing, Oklahoma ANG, and the 165th Airlift Wing, Georgia ANG, deployed in Title 32 status to Gulfport CRTC.¹⁸⁴

The 123^d Airlift Wing, Kentucky ANG, deployed fifteen Aerial Port Squadron personnel in Title 32 status to Alexandria IAP, Louisiana to support hurricane relief efforts.¹⁸⁵

The 231st Combat Communications Squadron, Maryland ANG, deployed thirty-five personnel in SAD to Camp Beauregard, Louisiana to provide SATCOM communications for hurricane relief operations.¹⁸⁶

4 Sep

(continued) The 122nd Fighter Wing, Indiana ANG, deployed two personnel to Camp Shelby, Mississippi to help support hurricane relief efforts.¹⁸⁷

Rick Perry, the Governor of Texas, activated the Texas National Guard. The NGB JOC reported 29,187 National Guard personnel deployed to the Gulf region. Over 40,139 US military personnel were supporting hurricane Katrina relief efforts.¹⁸⁸

5 Sep

The 149th Fighter Wing, Texas ANG, deployed thirteen personnel to NAS New Orleans to augment security forces.¹⁸⁹

Air Guard Aeromedical Evacuation crews evacuated eleven hurricane victims.¹⁹⁰

Kathleen Blanco, the Governor of Louisiana, requested that the Office of the Secretary of Defense grant Title 32 status for Louisiana National Guard and Air National Guard personnel. Migrating National Guard personnel to Title-32 status from State Active Duty status relieved State governments of the financial burden of paying benefits to the members by having the federal government fund the mobilization of the National Guard for hurricane relief duties. Title 32 status permitted Governors to retain operational and legal control over its National Guard forces. The Secretary of Defense approved the Governor's Title 32 request, but for all National and Air National Guard members mobilized for hurricane relief efforts.¹⁹¹

Thirty-seven ANG Security Forces personnel from Massachusetts, Georgia, and Maryland deployed to Louisiana. Forty-seven ANG Security Forces personnel from New York and North Carolina deployed to Mississippi.¹⁹²

Twenty-one personnel assigned to the 248th Air Traffic Control Squadron, Mississippi ANG, returned to their home station at Key Field. They were deployed to Gulfport CRTC for hurricane relief operations.¹⁹³

5 Sep

(continued) Forty-eight Oregon ANG personnel assigned to the 272nd Combat Communications Squadron, 116th Air Control Squadron, 270th Air Traffic Control Squadron, and the 125th Special Tactics Squadron deployed in SAD to NAS New Orleans to help provide a variety of communications capability for the city.¹⁹⁴

The 109th Airlift Wing, New York ANG, deployed three Aerial Port squadron personnel in Title 32 orders to NAS New Orleans to support hurricane relief efforts.¹⁹⁵

The 133^d Airlift Wing, Minnesota ANG, deployed fifteen Contingency Response Group-Element personnel in Title 32 status to Dallas, Texas to support hurricane relief efforts.¹⁹⁶

A total of 120 Civil Engineer personnel from the 140th Wing, Colorado ANG and the 119th Fighter Wing, North Dakota ANG deployed to Gulfport CRTC to help rebuild the base.¹⁹⁷

The 136th Airlift Wing, Texas ANG, deployed fifteen Civil Engineer personnel to NAS New Orleans to support humanitarian aid operations.¹⁹⁸

Ten personnel assigned to the 166th Airlift Wing, Delaware ANG returned to their home station at New Castle County Airport. They had been deployed to New Orleans IAP to augment a Mobile Aeromedical Evacuation Staging Facility.¹⁹⁹

An HC-130 assigned to the 106th Rescue Wing, New York ANG, flew to Jackson Air National Guard Base, Mississippi to deliver HH-60 helicopter parts and nine maintenance personnel. The aircraft also flew to Hurlburt Field, Florida to deliver HC-130 parts for the unit aircraft deployed to Hurlburt.²⁰⁰

5 Sep

(continued) Combat Controllers from the 123rd Special Tactics Squadron, Kentucky ANG, had to abandon helicopter landing zone Buffalo in New Orleans due to gunfire.²⁰¹

Thirty-five ANG Special Operations personnel had deployed to the joint operations area to perform search and rescue operations. Eighteen pararescuemen, twelve combat controllers, and five mission support personnel assigned to the 123rd Special Tactics Squadron, Kentucky ANG; 125th Special Tactics Squadron, Oregon ANG; 212th Rescue Squadron, Alaska ANG; 129th Rescue Wing, California ANG, and the 106th Rescue Wing, New York ANG.²⁰²

Chief Master Sergeant Pat Malone, 123^d Special Tactics Squadron, Kentucky ANG, expressed his concerns to the ANG CAT about the health hazards his rescue team were facing in New Orleans. Contaminated flood waters in the city contained of a mixture of sewage, fuel, oil, hazardous materials, and animal and human corpses. Chief Malone made it a requirement for his people to get complete physicals including blood tests for any possible diseases upon their return home.²⁰³

On this date, ANG Pararescuemen logged 100 boat saves, and twenty-six ground saves. Air Guard Combat Controllers logged eighty-seven helicopter landing sorties that evacuated 150 victims²⁰⁴

Since 1 September, Air Guard Combat Controllers had directed 3,169 helicopter landing sorties that evacuated 11,827 hurricane victims at multiple landing zones in the New Orleans area. In addition, ANG Pararescuemen saved 1,306 hurricane victims.²⁰⁵

As of this date, 32,760 National Guard personnel mobilized for hurricane relief efforts. A total of 47,964 US military personnel participated in hurricane relief efforts.²⁰⁶

5 Sep

(continued) As of this date, ANG airlift crews had flown 1,449 sorties, transported 15,769 passengers, and delivered 6,335 tons of cargo in support of hurricane relief operations.²⁰⁷

6 Sep

Through coordination between the NGB JOC, JTF-Katrina and the ANG CAT, Air Guard pararescuemen and Combat Controllers were released from hurricane relief duties, and were directed to return to their home stations. Their release was due to the arrival of civilian rescue and relief agencies in the joint operations area. Prolonged periods of exposure to the contaminated waters in New Orleans caused many ANG rescue personnel to develop medical problems.²⁰⁸

Two C-130 aircraft assigned to the 145th Airlift Wing, North Carolina ANG, deployed to NAS Pensacola, Florida to provide JTF-Katrina with Modular Airborne Fire Fighting (MAFFS) capability to fight fires in the New Orleans area.²⁰⁹

The 133^d Contingency Response Group-Element, Minnesota ANG, moved from NAS Dallas, Texas to NAS New Orleans to establish a mobile Command and Control airfield operations and airflow support.²¹⁰

Thirty-three Aerial Port Squadron personnel from the 136th Airlift Wing, Texas ANG, deployed in Title 32 status to NAS New Orleans.²¹¹

The 186th Civil Engineer Squadron, Mississippi ANG, completed the buildup of three Federal Medical Shelter Facilities. One facility located at Meridian, Mississippi had the capacity to hold 750 patient beds.²¹²

Seven personnel and equipment from the 203^d RED HORSE Squadron, Virginia ANG, deployed to NAS New Orleans.²¹³

6 Sep

(continued) The 185th Air Refueling Wing, Iowa ANG, deployed ten Civil Engineer personnel to NAS New Orleans to support hurricane relief efforts.²¹⁴

The 113th Wing, District of Columbia ANG, deployed one Weather Forecaster in Title 10 status to Baton Rouge, Louisiana.²¹⁵

Twelve Aerial Port Squadron personnel from the 109th Airlift Wing, New York ANG, deployed in Title 32 status to Stennis IAP.²¹⁶

The 134th Air Control Squadron, Kansas ANG, deployed forty-one personnel to Louisiana to provide microwave voice and data communications for Joint Task Force-Pelican.²¹⁷

On this date, ANG pararescuemen made six air-rescue saves and Combat Controllers directed eighty helicopter landing sorties that evacuated 100 victims.²¹⁸

As of this date, the NGB JOC reported 30,146 National Guard personnel mobilized for hurricane relief efforts. A total of 55,563 US military personnel participated in hurricane relief.²¹⁹

7 Sep

Acting Deputy Secretary of Defense Gordon England approved the use of federal funds “for use of the National Guard in Title 32 U.S. Code status to support Hurricane Katrina disaster relief efforts retroactive to 29 August 2005.”²²⁰

The 125th Fighter Wing, Florida ANG, evacuated one C-130E and five F-15A aircraft from their home station at Jacksonville IAP to NAS Key West in response to Tropical Storm Ophelia. Their remaining fourteen assigned aircraft were placed in hangars at Jacksonville IAP.²²¹

7 Sep

(continued)

All DoD Joint Task Force-Katrina forces operating in the hurricane stricken area were directed by NORTHCOM to implement Force Protection Condition-Bravo. The reason for the change was to protect personnel and safeguard DoD resources deployed to the Gulf region while minimizing manpower needed for security. Included in the hurricane stricken area were Louisiana, Mississippi, and the Alabama counties of Mobile, Choctaw, Baldwin, Sumter, Clarke, and Washington.²²²

Alexandria IAP in New Orleans, Louisiana implemented Force Protection Condition-Bravo.²²³

Gulfport CRTC, Mississippi ANG, implemented Force Protection Condition-Bravo.²²⁴

The 172^d Airlift Wing, Mississippi ANG, implemented Force Protection Condition-Bravo for Allen Thompson Field, Mississippi.²²⁵

The 159th Fighter Wing, Louisiana ANG, implemented Force Protection Condition-Bravo at NAS New Orleans.²²⁶

A C-40 aircraft assigned to the 201st Airlift Squadron, 113th Wing, District of Columbia ANG, airlifted eighty-one NGB personnel to Gulfport, Mississippi and New Orleans, Louisiana to assess hurricane recovery and relief requirements.²²⁷

Three Security Forces personnel from the 124th Wing, Idaho ANG deployed to Louisiana.²²⁸

Air National Guard Fire-Fighting personnel from the 133^d Airlift Wing, Minnesota ANG, and the 165th Airlift Wing, Georgia ANG, deployed to Stennis IAP, to help establish around-the-clock airport fire protection operations.²²⁹

7 Sep

(continued) The 136th Airlift Wing, Texas ANG, deployed eight Aerial Port Squadron personnel in Title 32 status to Stennis IAP.²³⁰

The 162^d Fighter Wing, Arizona ANG, deployed one Weather Forecaster to NAS New Orleans from Baton Rouge, Louisiana.²³¹

Four members of the 226th Combat Communications Group, Alabama ANG, deployed to Ocean Springs, Mississippi to support hurricane relief efforts.²³²

The 166th Airlift Wing, Delaware ANG; 137th Airlift Wing, Oklahoma ANG, and the 145th Airlift Wing, North Carolina ANG, deployed heavy and medium support vehicles to Gulfport CRTS to support hurricane relief efforts.²³³

The 107th Air refueling Wing, New York ANG, deployed one airfield manager in Title 32 orders to Stennis IAP.²³⁴

Air National Guard pararescuemen and combat controllers departed NAS New Orleans and arrived in Louisville, Kentucky. While in Louisville, members assigned to rescue and special tactics units from Alaska, California, and Oregon were billeted in a hotel where they cleaned up and got some badly needed sleep. They decontaminated, cleaned, and dried their equipment for two days before they departed for their respective home stations.²³⁵

Three pararescuemen from the 106th Rescue Wing returned to their home station at Francis S. Gabreski Airport, New York. They had been deployed to Jackson, Mississippi.²³⁶

7 Sep

(continued) Twelve pararescuemen from the 129th Rescue Wing, California ANG, returned to their home station at Moffett Field.²³⁷

One HH-60G helicopter and crew assigned to the 106th rescue Wing, New York ANG, was released by the Rescue Operations Center and returned to their home station at Francis S. Gabreski Airport, New York. The helicopter and crew had been deployed to Jackson, Mississippi.²³⁸

As of this date, the NGB JOC reported 45,420 National Guard personnel had been mobilized for hurricane relief efforts.²³⁹

On this date, ANG pararescuemen logged five air saves. Since Hurricane Katrina relief operations began, ANG Pararescuemen personnel made 161 air-rescue saves; 1,196 boat saves, and eighty-six ground saves. Air National Guard Combat Controllers directed 3,249 helicopter landing sorties to evacuate 11,927 hurricane victims.²⁴⁰

On this date, ANG airlift aircraft flew 183 sorties, transported 745 passengers, and airlifted 492 pounds of cargo in support of hurricane relief efforts. Since the beginning of the hurricane relief mission, ANG airlift aircraft logged over 3,000 flight hours in support of the mission.²⁴¹

8 Sep

The 146th Airlift Wing, California ANG, deployed twenty-four Aerial Port Squadron personnel in Title 32 status to Ellington Field, Texas to provide mobile command and control airfield operations in support of hurricane relief efforts.²⁴²

The 218th Engineering & Installation Squadron, Missouri ANG, deployed nine personnel in SAD to NAS New Orleans to help provide communications support for hurricane relief operations.²⁴³

8 Sep

(continued)

Four combat controllers assigned to the 125th Special Tactics Squadron, Oregon ANG, returned to their home station at Portland Airport.²⁴⁴

The Aeromedical Evacuation Planning and Execution Function returned to normal operations at the ANG CAT. During Hurricane Katrina relief operations, the Air National Guard Aeromedical Evacuation system played a significant role in the heavy surge of patients needing evacuation from the New Orleans region. Overall, Air National Guard Aeromedical Evacuation personnel and active duty Air Force Aeromedical Evacuation crews evacuated over 2,500 patients from New Orleans during the first week of hurricane relief operations. However, beyond 8 September, Aeromedical Evacuation planners were doubtful that there would be a demand to manage a large scale evacuation operation because of the low number of patient evacuations required at Gulfport and Biloxi, Mississippi areas.²⁴⁵

Eight Aeromedical Evacuation members assigned to the 118th Airlift Wing, Tennessee ANG, and the 145th Airlift Wing, North Carolina ANG, returned to their respective home stations at Nashville Airport, Tennessee and Charlotte-Douglas Airport, North Carolina. The Aeromedical Evacuation personnel had deployed to New Orleans IAP to support an Aeromedical Evacuation Liaison Team.²⁴⁶

9 Sep

On this date, ANG airlift aircraft flew sixty-two sorties, transported 114 passengers, and airlifted 319 tons of cargo in support of hurricane relief efforts.²⁴⁷

The ANG Command Center reported that the 159th Fighter Wing, Louisiana ANG, based at NAS New Orleans had recovered electrical power for the base and could use most of the base facilities to conduct hurricane relief operations and billet personnel. The unit's seventeen evacuated F-15 aircraft remained at NAS Ft Worth, Texas.²⁴⁸

9 Sep

(continued) One HH-60 aircraft and eight personnel assigned to the 106th Rescue Wing returned to home station at Francis Gabreski Airport, New York. The aircraft and personnel had deployed to Jackson, Mississippi.²⁴⁹

Eight 172^d Airlift Wing, Mississippi ANG, personnel returned to their home station at Allen C. Thompson Field, Mississippi. They had deployed to Gulfport CRTC to provide Aeromedical Evacuation ground support.²⁵⁰

Forty-one Security Forces personnel assigned to the 188th Fighter Wing, Arkansas ANG, returned to their home station at Ft Smith Airport, Arkansas. They had deployed to Ft Chaffee, Arkansas.²⁵¹

9-10 Sep

Two airfield managers assigned to the 131st Fighter Wing, Missouri ANG, and the 137th Airlift Wing, Oklahoma ANG, deployed in Title 32 orders to Gulfport CRTC to augment the cadre of airfield managers deployed to this location.²⁵²

10 Sep

Lieutenant General H. Steven Blum, Chief of the National Guard Bureau, authorized the 137th Airlift Wing, Oklahoma ANG, to airlift employees of the Oklahoma Gas & Electric Company to NAS New Orleans to replace hurricane relief personnel who had been in New Orleans since 31 August.²⁵³

One HC-130 aircraft and seven personnel assigned to the 106th Rescue Wing, New York ANG, returned to home station at Francis Gabreski Airport. They had deployed to Hurlburt Field, Florida to support JTF-Katrina hurricane relief operations.²⁵⁴

Thirteen ANG Security Forces personnel assigned to the Northeast Air Defense Sector, New York ANG, returned to home station in Rome, New York. They had deployed in Title 32 status to NAS New Orleans.²⁵⁵

10 Sep

(continued) Five pararescuemen assigned to the 210th Rescue Squadron, Alaska ANG, returned to home station at Kulis.²⁵⁶

11 Sep

Thirteen maintenance personnel assigned to the 106th Rescue Wing, New York ANG, returned to home station at Francis Gabreski Airport.²⁵⁷

The 169th Fighter Wing, McEntire Air National Guard Base, South Carolina ANG; the 145th Airlift Wing, Charlotte-Douglas IAP, North Carolina ANG, and the 165th Airlift Wing, Savannah IAP, Georgia ANG decided not to implement hurricane evacuation plans due to Hurricane Ophelia.²⁵⁸

Two members assigned to the 255th Air Control Squadron, Mississippi ANG, concluded their involvement with hurricane relief support at Gulfport CRTC. ²⁵⁹

Six Services Flight personnel from the 117th Air Refueling Wing, Alabama ANG, returned to their home station at Birmingham Airport. The members had deployed in Title 32 status to Gulfport CRTC.²⁶⁰

The 226th Combat Communications Group, Alabama ANG, deployed fourteen personnel in SAD to Camp Shelby, Mississippi to support hurricane relief efforts.²⁶¹

Thirty-two ANG Security Forces personnel assigned to the 151st Air Refueling Wing, Utah ANG, and the 166th Airlift Wing, Delaware ANG, returned to their home stations at Salt Lake City Airport, Utah, and New Castle County Airport, Delaware.²⁶²

12 Sep

Five personnel assigned to the 172nd Airlift Wing, Mississippi ANG, returned to home station in Jackson. They had deployed to Gulfport CRTC to help provide ground support for the Aeromedical Evacuation mission.²⁶³

12 Sep

(continued) Sixteen Aerial Port Squadron personnel from the 118th Airlift Wing, Tennessee ANG, and the 143rd Airlift Wing, Rhode Island ANG, deployed in Title 32 status to Stennis IAP, Mississippi.²⁶⁴

The 219 Engineering & Installation Squadron, Oklahoma ANG, deployed three personnel in Title 32 to NAS JRB New Orleans to help establish initial communications capability.²⁶⁵

Fifty-two members of the 259th Air Traffic Control Squadron, Louisiana ANG, returned to home station in Alexandria.²⁶⁶

First Air Force at Tyndall AFB, Florida notified the NGB JOC that the Scathe View C-130 aircraft mission and all associated personnel had been given orders to return to Nevada. The 82^d Airborne Division and the 601st Air Intelligence Squadron did not issue any additional taskings for the Scathe View weapons system.²⁶⁷

13 Sep

On this date, ANG aircraft flew thirty sorties, transported 708 people, and airlifted 165 tons of cargo in support of hurricane relief operations.²⁶⁸

Scathe View C-130 operations ended.²⁶⁹

Thirty-five Security Forces personnel from the 108th Air Refueling Wing returned to home station at McGuire AFB, New Jersey. They had deployed to St. John's Parish, Louisiana.²⁷⁰

Thirty-nine Security Forces personnel from the 136th Airlift Wing, Texas ANG, returned to home station at NAS Ft Worth, Texas. The members had deployed to NAS New Orleans.²⁷¹

13 Sep

(continued)

Fifteen Security Forces personnel from the 147th Fighter Wing, Texas ANG, returned to home station at Ellington Field. Unit members had deployed to NAS New Orleans.²⁷²

Thirty Security Forces personnel from the 148th Fighter Wing, Minnesota ANG, returned to home station at Duluth Airport. Unit members had deployed to Camp Ripley, Minnesota.²⁷³

Forty-eight Security Forces personnel from the 149th Fighter Wing, Texas ANG, returned to home station at Kelly Field. They had deployed to Louisiana Fourche, Louisiana.²⁷⁴

Five Contingency Response Group-Element personnel from the 123rd Airlift Wing, Kentucky ANG, returned to home station at Standiford Field. They had deployed to Alexandria, Louisiana.²⁷⁵

14 Sep

On this date, ANG aircraft flew fifty-two sorties and transported 564 people, and airlifted 147 tons of cargo in support of hurricane relief efforts.²⁷⁶

Scathe View personnel from the 152^d Airlift Wing, Nevada ANG, returned from NAS New Orleans and Maxwell AFB, Alabama to home station in Reno, Nevada.²⁷⁷

Volk Field CRTC, Wisconsin ANG, deployed one airfield manager to Gulfport CRTC.²⁷⁸

On this date, 108 ANG Security Forces personnel returned to their respective home stations.²⁷⁹

The 220th Engineering & Installation Squadron, Ohio ANG, deployed three personnel in SAD to Camp Shelby, Mississippi to help establish initial communications capability.²⁸⁰

14 Sep

(continued)

One RC-26B aircraft and five personnel assigned to the 115th Fighter Wing, Wisconsin ANG, returned to home station at Truax Field, Wisconsin. During their deployment, the RC-26 crew flew seventeen sorties and forty eight flying hours in support of hurricane relief efforts.²⁸¹

15 Sep

On this date, the ANG CAT reported that 4,065 ANG personnel were in Title 32 status supporting hurricane relief efforts.²⁸²

All DoD Joint Task Forces-Katrina forces in the Joint Operations Area were directed by NORTHCOM to implement Force Protection Condition-Alpha.²⁸³

The 159th Fighter Wing, Louisiana ANG, implemented Force Protection Condition-Alpha at NAS New Orleans.²⁸⁴

The 172^d Airlift Wing, Mississippi ANG, implemented Force Protection Condition-Alpha at Allen Thompson Field, Mississippi.²⁸⁵

Gulfport CRTC, Mississippi ANG, implemented Force Protection Condition-Alpha at its location.²⁸⁶

The 123^d Tanker Airlift Control-Element (TALCE), Kentucky ANG, implemented Force Protection Condition-Alpha at Alexandria, Louisiana.²⁸⁷

The 186th Air Refueling Wing, Mississippi ANG, implemented Force Protection Condition-Alpha at Key Field, Mississippi.²⁸⁸

One C-130 and an Aeromedical Evacuation crew assigned to the 133rd Airlift Wing, Minnesota ANG, returned to home station at Minneapolis-St Paul Airport, Minnesota. Unit aircraft and crewmembers had deployed to Kelly AFB, Texas in Title 32 status for hurricane relief operations.²⁸⁹

15 Sep

(continued)

One C-130 and two Aeromedical Evacuation crews assigned to the 109th Airlift Wing, New York ANG, returned to home station at Schenectady County Airport, New York. Unit aircraft and members were deployed in Title 32 status to Kelly AFB, Texas for hurricane relief operations.²⁹⁰

The 137th Airlift Wing, Oklahoma ANG, deployed three Aeromedical Evacuation personnel in Title 32 status to Kelly AFB, Texas to support hurricane relief efforts.²⁹¹

Thirty-six ANG Security Forces personnel redeployed to their respective home stations.²⁹²

16 Sep

The immediate response phase of Hurricane Katrina relief operations ended as the focus shifted to redeployment and sustainment requirements. To meet sustainment requirements, the NGB issued a memorandum to the Adjutants General of all states and territories about Airlift Policy for Hurricane Katrina redeployment and sustainment missions.²⁹³

Hurricane Ophelia continued to affect the eastern North Carolina coast with strong wind gusts and heavy rain. Cape Lookout, North Carolina reported wind gusts as high as 92 mph on Wednesday evening (14 September). At 5 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on Thursday (15 September), the center of Hurricane Ophelia's eye was located about 60 miles east-northeast of Cape Lookout. The storm was a Category 1 hurricane with maximum sustained winds of 75 mph, and the National Weather Service estimated total rainfall total at twelve to fifteen inches. Although Hurricane Ophelia never made landfall, it traveled north and close enough to the shore for residents to feel the effects of the storm. As a result, a tropical storm watch was issued for southeastern Massachusetts, including Cape Cod.²⁹⁴

16 Sep

(continued) Stennis International Airport in Louisiana was designated a FEMA staging area and a mass airlift loading and unloading site. Eighty-nine ANG personnel worked at this location.²⁹⁵

One airfield manager and fifteen ANG Security Forces personnel returned to their respective home stations.²⁹⁶

The NGB JOC reported that ANG EMEDS personnel treated over 11,000 patients throughout the Gulf region since the beginning of the relief operation. Often ANG EMED provided the only medical facility operating in remote areas, such as in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi.²⁹⁷

The NGB JOC reported that 45,213 National Guard personnel were mobilized for hurricane relief efforts. This included 3,452 ANG personnel.²⁹⁸

17 Sep

The National Weather Service reported Tropical Storm Ophelia was accelerating toward the northeastern United States at 21 mph. The storm delivered gusty winds and heavy downpours to parts of coastal New England. Ophelia lost its tropical characteristics and became an extra-tropical as it moved towards Nova Scotia. A tropical storm warning was in effect from Woods Hole, Massachusetts, eastward and northward to Cape Cod, Plymouth, and the islands of Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket.²⁹⁹

The ANG CAT reported 102 Security Forces personnel returned to their respective home stations.³⁰⁰

The ANG Medical Outreach Program based at Gulfport CRTIC vaccinated 3,274 members of the local population since the beginning of hurricane relief operations. Air Guard medical operations at Gulfport were supported by 102 medical personnel from the 117th Medical Group, Alabama ANG; 172^d Medical Group, Mississippi ANG; 186th Medical Group, Mississippi ANG, and the 190th Medical Group, Kansas ANG.³⁰¹

18 Sep

Tropical Depression-Eighteen, identified by the National Weather Service, was located 390 miles east-southeast of Nassau, Bahamas. Forecasters expected the disturbance to strengthen into a tropical storm (Rita) within the next 24 hours.³⁰²

Rick Perry, the Texas Governor, issued a recall of all Texas forces and equipment from Louisiana and Mississippi in preparation for Tropical Storm Rita.³⁰³

The 145th Airlift Wing, North Carolina ANG, deployed thirty-seven personnel from the 156th Airlift Squadron to NAS Pensacola, Florida to participate in Modular Airborne Fire Fighting System operations supporting JTF-Katrina.³⁰⁴

A C-130J aircraft assigned to the 175th Wing, Maryland ANG, logged sixty-seven sorties in twenty-five missions and 164 flying hours in support of hurricane relief operations. Since the beginning of relief operations, the 175th Airlift Wing had transported 698 military personnel, 379 civilian personnel and airlifted 137 tons of cargo.³⁰⁵

On this date, Air Guard airlift aircraft flew twenty-five sorties, transported 393 passengers, and airlifted 104 tons of cargo. Total Air National Guard airlift sorties flown since the beginning of the operation was 2,660 sorties. Also, ANG had transported 25,359 passengers, and airlifted 9,540 tons of cargo.³⁰⁶

The ANG CAT reported 3,212 personnel were participating in hurricane recovery operations.³⁰⁷

19 Sep

In response to Tropical Storm Rita, the 125th Fighter Wing, Detachment 1, Florida ANG, located at NAS Key West, evacuated its F-15A fighters to Jacksonville IAP, Florida; its personnel evacuated to Miami. The 125th Fighter Wing coordinated the evacuation with First Air Force, the Southeast Air Defense Sector, and the North American Aerospace Defense Command.³⁰⁸

19 Sep

(continued)

On this date, Air Guard airlift aircraft began flying relief missions in preparation for the arrival of Tropical Storm Rita. The ANG flew three airlift sorties to transport sixty passengers to preposition hurricane relief assets in Texas.³⁰⁹

The 101st Air Refueling Wing, Maine ANG, deployed eleven Security Forces personnel to Gulfport CRTC.³¹⁰

Sixty-two Air Guard EMEDS personnel deployed from Gulfport CRTC to St. Bay, Mississippi in preparation for the arrival of Tropical Storm Rita.³¹¹

Twelve personnel from the 280th Combat Communications Squadron, Alabama ANG, deployed from Ocean Springs, Mississippi to Lafayette Airport, Louisiana in preparation for Tropical Storm Rita.³¹²

The ANG CAT reported 4,672 personnel were supporting hurricane relief efforts.³¹³

20 Sep

Twelve ANG Security Forces personnel returned to their respective home stations.³¹⁴

To date, ANG EMEDS personnel had treated nearly 13,000 patients affected by Hurricane Katrina and vaccinated 4,500 local citizens in the Gulf Port, Mississippi area.³¹⁵

The 147th Fighter Wing, Texas ANG, evacuated eight assigned F-16 aircraft and one C-26 aircraft from Ellington Field to Kirtland AFB, New Mexico in response to the projected path of Hurricane Rita.³¹⁶

20 Sep

(continued)

The 146th Airlift Wing, California ANG, deployed its Tanker Airlift Control-Element to Ellington Field to support hurricane rescue and relief operations. However, due to the arrival of Hurricane Rita, all 146th Airlift Wing personnel evacuated back to home station at Channel Islands Air National Guard Station, California.³¹⁷

A C-130 assigned to the 145th Airlift Wing, North Carolina ANG, evacuated twenty-five patients from the Florida Keys in advance of the arrival of Tropical Storm Rita.³¹⁸

21 Sep

The National Hurricane Center issued an advisory on Hurricane Rita, a Category 5 storm with maximum sustained winds of 165 miles per hour. Meteorologists predicted that a high pressure system might shift west to east as the pressure system weakened, allowing the storm to turn west-northwest. As a result, the National Hurricane Center predicted the core of Rita would make landfall over the Texas coast.³¹⁹

Sixty-three Security Forces personnel returned to their assigned home stations. The ANG had 3,420 personnel deployed to Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama where they participated in hurricane relief efforts.³²⁰

22 Sep

The 118th Contingency Response Group-Element, Tennessee ANG, returned to home station at Nashville Airport. They had deployed to Stennis IAP, Mississippi.³²¹

The 146th Contingency Response Group-Element, California ANG, returned to home station at Channel Air National Guard Station, California. They had deployed to Ellington Field, Texas.³²²

22 Sep

(continued)

The Air National Guard Command Center reported two E-8 aircraft assigned to the 116th Air Control Wing, Georgia ANG, had evacuated from the maintenance depot facility at Lake Charles, Louisiana in response to the arrival of Hurricane Rita.³²³

On this date, the Air National Guard CAT reported 3,467 personnel were participating in hurricane relief operations in Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas, and Florida.³²⁴

By this date, Air Guard medical teams had vaccinated over 18,000 people throughout the Gulf region since the beginning of the relief operation.³²⁵

Air Guard airlift crews flew twenty sorties in transporting 455 passengers and thirty tons of cargo in support of Hurricane Rita relief operations.³²⁶

23 Sep

The Texas JOC requested Air Guard rescue aviation, pararescuemen, combat control, special tactics, and associated equipment and support personnel to deploy to Texas to sustain mission capability for Hurricane Rita rescue efforts.³²⁷

A C-130H aircraft assigned to the 145th Airlift Wing, North Carolina ANG, flew an Aeromedical Evacuation mission in support of the Florida Emergency Management Agency. The mission required the crew to pick up ambulatory patients from temporary shelter and return them home to Key West.³²⁸

The 136th Contingency Response Group-Element, Texas ANG, deployed to Ellington Field, Texas with its mobile command and control equipment and personnel.³²⁹

Fifty-one 283rd Combat Communications Squadron, Georgia ANG, personnel returned to home station in Dobbins, Georgia.³³⁰

23 Sep

(continued)

155 Air Guard SFS personnel from various units redeployed to their home stations.³³¹

Air Guard airlift aircraft flew twenty-seven sorties in transporting 257 passengers and ninety tons of cargo in support of Hurricane Rita relief operations. Air Guard rescue aircraft flew two sorties, but made no rescues.³³²

24 Sep

Hurricane Rita made landfall at 0340 hours Central Standard Time near the Louisiana-Texas border.³³³

A three-person antenna team from the 205th Engineering & Installation Squadron, Texas ANG deployed to Randolph AFB, Texas to support hurricane relief efforts.³³⁴

Three C-130 aircraft assigned to the 136th Airlift Wing, Texas ANG, delivered twenty-one personnel and twenty-five tons of cargo to Ellington Field, Texas in order to pre-position Aerial Port capability in preparation for Hurricane Rita's arrival. The 136th Airlift Wing deployed its Tanker Airlift Control-Element and Aerial Port Squadron personnel to Ellington Field, Texas to establish command and control and aerial port control. Ellington Field became the main operating base for Hurricane Rita rescue and relief operations.³³⁵

The Air National Guard CAT reported twenty-two ANG Security Forces personnel returned to their respective home stations.³³⁶

The 129th Rescue Wing, California ANG, deployed one MC-130P and one HH-60G aircraft and crew to Texas to support Joint Task Force-Rita. The MC-130 flew to Austin, Texas and the HH-60G flew to Odessa, Texas. Both aircraft were pre-positioned for possible search and rescue missions and mass care missions in response to Hurricane Rita.³³⁷

24 Sep

(continued)

Air Guard airlift aircraft flew six sorties in transporting twenty-one passengers and twenty-five tons of cargo in support of Hurricane Rita relief operations. Air Guard rescue aircraft flew six sorties, but made no rescues because no rescues were required.³³⁸

25 Sep

On this date, Air Guard airlift aircraft flew thirteen sorties, transporting eighty-one passengers and ninety tons of cargo in support of Hurricane Rita relief operations. Of the thirteen sorties flown on this day, Air Guard C-130 aircraft flew ten sorties, and C-5 aircraft flew the remaining three sorties. Since 19 September, Air Guard airlift aircraft had flown sixty-nine sorties and transported 874 passengers and 235 tons of cargo in support of Hurricane Rita relief operations. Furthermore, Air Guard rescue aircraft flew seven sorties, but made no rescues on this day.³³⁹

Four Air Guard Combat Controllers assigned to the 123^d Special Tactics Squadron, Kentucky ANG, directed 225 helicopter landing sorties in support of Hurricane Rita rescue and relief operations at Chennault International Airport, Lake Charles, Louisiana. At 2200 hours, Central Standard Time, they passed the duties to an Army Air-Traffic-Control team.³⁴⁰

The ANG deployed fifty-two pararescue personnel to support Hurricane Rita relief operations in Louisiana, Texas, Florida, and Mississippi. Pararescue personnel came from the 123^d Special Tactics Squadron, Kentucky ANG; 125th Special Tactics Squadron, Oregon ANG; 106th Rescue Wing, New York ANG, and the 210th Rescue Squadron, Alaska ANG.³⁴¹

The 123^d Air Control Squadron, Ohio ANG, deployed eighteen communications personnel to Alexandria, Louisiana to support Hurricane Rita recovery operations.³⁴²

26 Sep

On this date, Air Guard airlift aircraft flew five sorties and transported sixty-seven passengers, and sixteen tons of cargo in support of Hurricane Rita relief operations.³⁴³

26 Sep

(continued)

The 123^d Contingency Response Group-Element, Kentucky ANG, deployed to Alexandria, Louisiana with its mobile Command & Control equipment and personnel.³⁴⁴

All personnel and equipment of the 123^d Special Tactical Squadron, Kentucky ANG, and deployed to Lake Charles, Louisiana for Hurricane Rita rescue operations returned to home station at Standiford, Kentucky.³⁴⁵

Two C-130 MAFFS aircraft assigned to the 145th Airlift Wing, North Carolina ANG, were relieved from MAFFS operations by JTF-Katrina. Both aircraft and unit personnel returned to home station at Charlotte-Douglas IAP.³⁴⁶

27 Sep

On this date, Air Guard airlift aircraft flew twelve sorties in transporting sixty-eight tons of cargo in support of Hurricane Rita relief operations. Air Guard rescue aircraft flew two sorties, but made no rescues.³⁴⁷

The 265th Combat Communications Squadron, Maine ANG, deployed seventeen personnel to Camp Beauregard, Louisiana to provide communications support for hurricane relief operations.³⁴⁸

Fifty-four members assigned to the 228th Combat Communications Squadron, Tennessee ANG; 263^d Combat Communications Squadron, North Carolina ANG, and the 267th Combat Communications Squadron, Massachusetts ANG, deployed in Title 32 status to Alexandria, Louisiana to provide communications support for hurricane relief operations.³⁴⁹

28 Sep

Eleven Air Guard Security Forces personnel returned to their respective home stations.³⁵⁰

The 184th Air Refueling Wing, Kansas ANG, deployed eighteen Security Forces personnel to NAS New Orleans.³⁵¹

28 Sep

(continued)

Fourteen members of the 232^d Combat Communications Squadron, Alabama ANG, deployed to Lake Charles, Louisiana to provide communications support for hurricane relief operations.³⁵²

Air Guard airlift aircraft flew twenty sorties in transporting thirty-eight passengers and seventy-seven tons of cargo in support of Hurricane Rita relief operations.³⁵³

29 Sep

Seven 115th Security Forces personnel, Wisconsin ANG, deployed to Alexandria, Louisiana for hurricane relief operations.³⁵⁴

Air Guard airlift aircraft flew seven sorties and airlifted nine passengers and thirty-seven tons of cargo in support of Hurricane Rita relief operations.³⁵⁵

30 Sep

Air Guard airlift aircraft flew four sorties and airlifted twenty-six passengers and nine tons of cargo in support of Hurricane Rita relief operations.³⁵⁶

Air Guard EMEDS treated 13,743 patients at six locations in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas. The Air Guard had deployed 278 medical personnel to support EMEDS operations.³⁵⁷

Since the beginning of supporting Hurricanes Katrina and Rita relief operations in Louisiana, Texas, Mississippi, and Alabama, the Air Guard had 6,079 personnel participating in relief operations.³⁵⁸

1 Oct

Air Guard airlift aircraft flew one sortie and airlifted fifty-seven passengers and twelve tons of cargo in support of Hurricane Rita relief operations.³⁵⁹

- 2 Oct** Air Guard airlift aircraft flew six sorties and airlifted seventy tons of cargo in support of Hurricane Rita relief operations.³⁶⁰
- 4 Oct** Air Guard airlift aircraft flew four sorties and airlifted fifty-three passengers and sixteen tons of cargo in support of Hurricane Rita relief operations.³⁶¹
- 7 Oct** Air Guard airlift aircraft flew three sorties and airlifted six passengers and five tons of cargo in support of Hurricane Rita relief operations.³⁶²
- 28 Oct** A C-130 assigned to the 139th Airlift Wing, Missouri ANG, airlifted seventeen members of the 156th Aerial Port Flight, Puerto Rico ANG, to NAS New Orleans to participate in hurricane relief operations. The 156th Aerial Port Flight deployed to New Orleans to fulfill their two-week annual training requirement.³⁶³
- 1 Nov** The 153^d Air Expeditionary Group was inactivated from federal service and returned to state control.³⁶⁴
- 29 Nov** A C-130 assigned to the 165th Airlift Wing airlifted thirty-six personnel from NAS New Orleans to St Croix Island, US Virgin Islands.³⁶⁵

**30 Aug –
29 Nov**

Total ANG airlift sorties flown during Katrina and Rita rescue and relief operations: 4,132.³⁶⁶

Total passengers airlifted by ANG aircraft during Katrina and Rita rescue and relief operations: 34,639.

Total number of hurricane evacuees airlifted by the ANG: 2,046.

Total number of civilians evacuated by ANG Combat Controllers via helicopter during Hurricanes Katrina and Rita rescue and relief operations: 23,604.

Total cargo airlifted by ANG aircraft during Katrina and Rita rescue and relief operations: 11,496 tons.

Total number of patients air-evacuated by ANG Aeromedical Evacuation crews during Katrina and Rita rescue and relief operations: 823.

Total number of patients treated by ANG EMEDS: 14,966. This total includes the 6,326 patients given immunization shots by ANG Community Outreach teams.³⁶⁷

Abbreviations

ACC	Air Combat Command
ACS	Air Control Squadron
AE	Air-medical Evacuation
AMC	Air Mobility Command
ANG	Air National Guard
APS	Aerial Port Squadron
ARW	Air Refueling Wing
AS	Airlift Squadron
AW	Airlift Wing
CAT	Crisis Action Team
CBCS	Combat Communication Squadron
CCT	Combat Controller
CRRC	Combat Rubber Raider Craft
CRGE	Contingency Response Group-Element
CRTC	Combat Readiness Training Center
DEPSECDEF	Deputy Secretary of Defense
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
EMAC	Emergency Management Assistance Compact
EMEDS	Expeditionary Medical System
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FORSCOM	Forces Command
FW	Fighter Wing
FPCON	Force Protection Condition
IAP	International Airport
JOA	Joint Operations Area
JOC	Joint Operations Center
JFCOM	Joint Forces Command
JFHQ	Joint Forces Headquarters
JTF	Joint Task Force
JRB	Joint Reserve Base
MAFFS	Modular Airborne Fire Fighting System
NAS	Naval Air Station
NGB	National Guard Bureau
NORTHCOM	Northern Command
PJ	Pararescuemen
RED HORSE	Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron Engineers
RQS	Rescue Squadron
RQW	Rescue Wing
SAD	State Active Duty
SFS	Security Forces Squadron
STS	Special Tactics Squadron
TALCE	Tanker Airlift Control-Element

TRANSCOM
USACE

Transportation Command
US Army Corps of Engineers

Notes

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⁴ National Guard Bureau Joint Operations Center, "Hurricane Katrina Comprehensive Timeline," 7 September 2005; Air National Guard Readiness Center Crisis Action Team Briefing, "Total Air National Guard Contribution since 26 August 2005," 16 September 2005; Headquarters Air Force, "Hurricane Katrina Strategic Events Timeline," 15 September 2005.

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⁶ National Guard Bureau Joint Operations Center, "Hurricane Katrina Comprehensive Timeline," 7 September 2005.

⁷ *Ibid.*

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⁹ Air National Guard Command Center Operations Summary (OPSUM), 27 August 2005.

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¹² National Guard Bureau J33 Message, "Katrina Executive Summary #8," 27 August 2005.

¹³ *Ibid.*

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¹⁹ National Guard Bureau Joint Operations Center, "Hurricane Katrina Comprehensive Timeline," 7 September 2005.

²⁰ National Guard Bureau Joint Operations Center, "Katrina Executive Summary #9," 28 August 2005.

²¹ *Ibid*.

²² *Ibid*.

²³ *Ibid*.

²⁴ National Guard Bureau Joint Operations Center, "Hurricane Katrina Comprehensive Timeline," 7 September 2005; Air National Guard Crisis Action Team Hurricane Katrina Briefing, 15 September 2005; National Guard Bureau Joint Operations Center, "Katrina Executive Summary #9," 28 August 2005.

²⁵ National Guard Bureau Joint Operations Center, “Katrina Executive Summary #9,” 28 August 2005.

²⁶ National Guard Bureau Joint Operations Center, “Hurricane Katrina Comprehensive Timeline,” 7 September 2005.

²⁷ *Ibid*; Air National Guard Command Center Operations Summary, 29 August 2005.

²⁸ Air National Guard Crisis Action Team Hurricane Katrina Briefing, 15 September 2005.

²⁹ Air National Guard Command Center Operations Summary, 29 August 2005.

³⁰ *Ibid*; Air National Guard Command Center Operations Summary, 30 August 2005.

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³² National Guard Bureau Joint Operations Center, “Katrina Executive Summary #10,” 29 August 2005.

³³ National Guard Bureau Joint Operations Center, “Hurricane Katrina Comprehensive Timeline,” 7 September 2005.

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³⁵ *Ibid*.

³⁶ *Ibid*; Air National Guard Crisis Action Team Hurricane Katrina Briefing, 15 September 2005.

³⁷ National Guard Bureau Joint Operations Center, “Katrina Executive Summary #10,” 29 August 2005.

³⁸ National Guard Bureau Joint Operations Center, Hurricane Katrina Comprehensive Timeline, 7 September 2005.

³⁹ Air National Guard Crisis Action Team Hurricane Katrina Briefing, 31 August 2005; *Ibid*, 15 September 2005.

⁴⁰ National Guard Bureau Joint Operations Center, "Hurricane Katrina Comprehensive Timeline," 7 September 2005.

⁴¹ *Ibid*; Air National Guard Crisis Action Team Hurricane Katrina Briefing, 31 August 2005; Air National Guard Crisis Action Team Hurricane Katrina Briefing, "Medical Support to Louisiana," 2 September 2005.

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⁴⁴ *Ibid*.

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⁴⁶ *Ibid*.

⁴⁷ *Ibid*.

⁴⁸ National Guard Bureau Joint Operations Center, "Hurricane Katrina Comprehensive Timeline," 7 September 2005; Air National Guard Crisis Action Team Hurricane Katrina Briefing, 19 September 2005.

⁴⁹ *See note above*; Air National Guard Crisis Action Team Hurricane Katrina Briefing, 31 August 2005.

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⁵³ *Ibid*

⁵⁴ Air National Guard Command Center, "Update-Personnel Activation-136AW," 31 August 2005; Air National Guard Crisis Action Team Hurricane Katrina Briefing, 31 August 2005.

⁵⁵ National Guard Bureau Joint Operations Center, “Hurricane Katrina Comprehensive Timeline,” 7 September 2005.

⁵⁶ Air National Guard Crisis Action Team Hurricane Katrina Briefing, 31 August 2005; *Ibid*, 15 September 2005.

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⁵⁹ Major Lorraine Januzelli, NGB-PA, to Lt Gen Daniel James III, NGB/CF, et Alabama., “National Guard Update on Katrina Response,” 4 September 2005; U.S. Air Force Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures (AF TTP) 3-3.8, “Combat Fundamental: Guardian Angel and Special Tactics Forces,” 1 July 2006.

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⁶⁷ *Ibid*.

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⁷⁷ *Ibid*, 19 September 2005.

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⁸² *See note above*.

⁸³ National Guard Bureau Joint Operations Center, “Hurricane Katrina Comprehensive Timeline,” 7 September 2005.

⁸⁴ *Ibid*; National Guard Bureau Update Briefing, 1 September 2005.

⁸⁵ *Ibid*; Air National Guard Crisis Action Team-Special Operations Cell, “ANG CAT SPEC OPS Log,” n.d.

⁸⁶ *Ibid*.

⁸⁷ Air National Guard Crisis Action Team Hurricane Katrina Briefing, 31 August 2005.

⁸⁸ *Ibid*, 15 September 2005.

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⁹⁰ Air National Guard Crisis Action Team Hurricane Katrina Briefing, 15 September 2005.

⁹¹ *Ibid*, 31 August 2005; National Guard Bureau Joint Operations Center, "Hurricane Katrina Comprehensive Timeline," 7 September 2005.

⁹² Air National Guard Crisis Action Team Hurricane Katrina Briefing, 31 August 2005; National Guard Bureau Update Briefing, 1 September 2005.

⁹³ Air National Guard Crisis Action Team Hurricane Katrina Briefing, 15 September 2005.

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¹⁰¹ Air National Guard Crisis Action Team -Airlift Cell, "ANG Aircraft Total by State, 1-7 September 2005.

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¹⁰³ National Guard Bureau Update Briefing, 1 September 2005.

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¹⁰⁵ Air National Guard Crisis Action Team Hurricane Katrina Briefing, 15 September 2005.

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¹⁰⁹ *Ibid.*

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