Airmen support Canada in arctic

Tech. Sgt. Catharine Schmidt
NEW YORK NATIONAL GUARD

Fifty Airmen from the New York Air National Guard’s 109th Airlift Wing and two LC-130 ski-equipped aircraft are in the High Arctic supporting the Canadian Forces annual Operation Nunalivut exercise in Canada’s Nunavut Territory.

It is the third year that the New York Airmen, based at Stratton Air National Guard Base near Schenectady, N.Y., have participated in the Canadian military exercise.

The New York Air National Guard team is operating out of three locations during the exercise - Resolute Bay; Thule Air Base, Greenland; and Little Cornwallis Island which is about 50 miles Northwest of Resolute.

The Canadian exercise began on April 1 and wraps up on April 22.

Shortly after arriving, maintainers and operations Airmen began establishing a skiway camp to support LC-130 flight operations. The first LC-130 landed on the skiway today, April 14. A skiway is snow area cleared so that ski-equipped planes can land there.

The team preparing the skiway consists of eight Airmen from the 109th Airlift Wing who are also training four Canadian engineers on how to prepare a skiway for large aircraft.

“We’re the only team in the world that does this,” New York Air National Guard Major Matthew Sala told the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. He is one of the Airmen from the 109th Air Wing preparing the skiway.

“Our aircraft is the only C-130 in the entire world that has skis on it and can land in the Arctic and Antarctic,” Sala told the CBC.

The Canadians have skied-equipped Twin Otter aircraft which don’t have the lift capacity or range the 109th LC-130s have.

The LC-130s are able to provide up to 9,000 pounds of cargo per flight as opposed to 1,200 pounds the Canadians’ Twin Otters can carry.

The LC-130 is able to transport in one trip what the Twin Otters would need 10 flights to move.

The 109th will help bring fuel and supplies to the forward-deployed locations during the exercise.

During Operation Nunalivut 2015 the wing’s Airman flew 26 missions, transporting 91,000 pounds of cargo and 49 passengers.

“Our support for Operation Nunalivut allows us to demonstrate our full range of polar expeditionary airlift capabilities in a joint U.S. and Canadian

See CANADA Page 22

Only rain belongs in drains

60th Civil Engineer Squadron

If you have ever looked along the side of a parking lot, you have probably noticed the metal grates along curbs. Or perhaps the concrete ditches along highway medians? Have you ever wondered where the water that flows into these structures goes?

These metal grates, in-takes and drainage ditches are part of municipal storm water conveyance systems. These storm drains remove water off streets to prevent flooding. Allowing anything other than clean storm water in the drain is against the law.

Typically, the water entering storm drains is not treated and therefore best management practices to reduce conveyance of pollutants with stormwater is of paramount importance. In urban areas, the rainwater that flows off rooftops and across sidewalks, roadways and parking lots, collects pollutants from these surfaces. The storm water can sweep up pollutants like pet waste, automotive oil, lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides. Sediments from construction sites and street litter, like candy bar wrappers or cigarette butts, can also be transported.

Just a single quart of spilled engine oil can contaminate up to 2 million gallons of drinking water, or create an oil slick up to eight acres in size, says The Ocean Conservancy. This pollution is carried along with the water to a nearby stream, river or ocean, without any treatment. In some communities, heavy rainstorms can overwhelm storm drains and result in high levels of pollution that are capable of closing beaches and other recreational water bodies.

Storm water pollution is the No. 1 source of water pollution in the United States and, according to Heal the Bay, urban runoff is the largest source of pollution to coastal waters in Southern California. Impermeable surfaces like asphalt and concrete prevent rainwater from percolating through the ground where it can be naturally mitigated or cleaned before reaching surface waters.

Grassy or xeriscaped areas help to filter and clean storm water and reduce storm water flow. In urban areas, just an inch of rainfall can result in more than one billion gallons of storm water flowing into storm drain systems.

On base, storm water is managed through the base’s Phase II Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Permit, which is administered by the State of California Water Resources Control Board. Storm water that enters a drain is not treated. Anything that flows into a storm drain is released to Union Creek on base.

As an operator of a small MS4 permit, Travis is required to minimize runoff to the maximum extent possible, and keep discharge clean by doing its part to protect water quality. That means the use of best management practices for reducing storm water runoff and implementing pollution prevention measures are important for keeping storm water clean. Here are some ways you can do your part to keep what flows down our storm drains clean.

What can you do?
• Never dump anything down storm drains.
• Never throw trash out a car window or onto a street. Use a trash can.
• Clean up after your pet and dispose of waste in trash cans.

See DRAINS Page 25
DRAINS

From Page 9

- Help clean up street litter if you see it.
- Use a broom not a hose to clean off hard surfaces.
- If you see a clogged storm drain, remove the debris or notify the storm water manager on base.
- Working on cars or lawnmowers at home?

Anonymity

From Page 12

to 274637. Users will receive a text with a tipster identity code, to report information. Tips can also be submitted online at the AFOSI website, www.osi.af.mil. Scroll to the middle of the page under "Air Force OSI Spotlights" and click "OSI Anonymous Tip Line." This will allow users to submit a web form.

Finally, those civilian and military service members with smartphones such as iPhones or Droids can download the TipSubmit Smartphone App. To submit a tip, choose "Manually Select an Agency," "USA," "Federal Agency," and then "Air Force Office of Special Investigations." Once you select AFOSI, you will be prompted to create a password, after which you choose "New Tip." Then, just fill out the form with as much information as possible and click "Submit Tip."

For more information or to speak with an agent, call AFOSI, Detachment 303 at 707-424-6904.

New Jersey

From Page 12

operations."

He went on to explain each of those four specific areas.

"Readiness gives us the ability to meet the demand of rapidly evolving crisis and the endurance to persist," Everhart said. "Our Airmen are our most precious resources, so we must grow and develop them intentionally to lead tomorrow's Air Force for success."

The general also stressed the Air Force is aware of the need to grow, adding the force is the smallest it has ever been since its establishment.

"Although we had to endure difficult cuts in the past couple of years, I can tell you with absolute confidence that our senior leaders are committed to making sure we have enough Airmen to accomplish the mission," said Everhart. "The Secretary of the Air Force and Chief of Staff of the Air Force testified to Congress last month that we'll see a modest increase in the total force from 311,000 to 317,000 Airmen, and they intend to incrementally increase the force to meet rising demands. But that will depend on various factors, including whether we can recruit the right talent. Make no mistake, you are part of an elite team right now."

Both Everhart and Frey encouraged all Airmen within the command to brag about what they do and to be proud each and every day adding that they both love being able to brag about "their Airmen."

"Every 2.8 minutes there is an AMC aircraft taking off, 365 days a year," said Frey. "We deliver no matter what, but without Airmen we don't have power and air power is not generated without great Airmen. Airmen make it happen."

Visit Travis at FACEBOOK.com/TravisAirForceBase

Tailwind 25

Customer Relations Associate

Job Location: Travis AFB – Base Supply Store
Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

The customer relations associate supports base store operations by performing general duties including customer notification, customer service, stocking shelves and light housekeeping.

Qualifications:

- Must be legally blind but have some sight
- High School graduate or equivalent preferred.
- Good communication and interpersonal skills and ability to work well with others.
- Basic computer skills; MS Outlook and Point of Sales System.
- Must be able to lift 25 pounds.
- Ability to spend up to 80% of work time standing or moving within the store. Physical activities include bending, stooping, lifting and walking on a frequent basis.

For immediate consideration, submit completed employment application (download from www.stlb.net) or call toll-free 1-888-255-8011, x108 for more information. Excellent employee benefits offered.

The mission of South Texas Lighthouse for the Blind is to educate, employ and empower people with blindness.

Looking to load up? Try SWAP ADS
Drop off at bldg. 51. Ads appear for one week. Submission does not guarantee publication.