



# Louisiana National Guard Timeline of Significant Events Hurricane Katrina



## TASK FORCE PELICAN



7 DEC 05

## LANG Timeline of Significant Events Hurricane Katrina

### 25 Aug 05

- **1400** COL Keeling coordinated 3ea 6000 gal fuel tankers from LA Air National Guard to be positioned at Hammond Airport.

### 26 Aug 05 (D-3)

- COL Keeling initiated Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) requests for four CH-47s, two UH-60s with hoists and Aviation Intermediate Maintenance (AVIM) assets.
- COL Keeling ordered initial aircraft and crew selection for evacuation and response staging.
- **1200** COL Keeling ordered personnel to JFHQ JOC and establishes TF Eagle
- **1500** COL Keeling published FRAGO for Katrina to Aviation OPORD STORM SURGE and provided initial logistics forecast to J4.
- **1558** COL Dabadie sent email to key personnel to set up a preparatory meeting that afternoon:

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Dabadie, Stephen COL

**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2005 3:58 PM

**To:** Sheridan, Joanne; Baillie, Kenneth T.; Aycock, David N.; Santos, Pat; Soileau, John COL; Marze, Jay COL; Kincanon, Lance; Fink, Robert A.; Arbour, Paul; Lacoste, Lloyd COL; May, Louis COL; Pugh, John COL; Schneider, Pete (LTC); Erickson, Dirk; Mooney, Gary (CPT); Wood, Michael COL; Oliver, Clifford COL; Stuckey, Ronnie D.(COL); Schmidt, Lester R. COL; Landreneau, Chad; Wellmeyer, Henry P.; Ball, Jonathan (LTC); Mouton, Douglas J.; Keeling, Barry; Aldridge, William; Salcido, Mary LtCol; Kling, John; Nomey, Roy I. COL; Deville, Mike; Ducote, Randy L.; Bordelon, Daniel P.

**Cc:** Downer, Hunt (BG); Morrow, John R.; Curtis, Glenn (COL); Landreneau, Bennett MG

**Subject:** HURRICANE KATRINA

ALL,

Hurricane Katrina continues move in a W/SW direction. She is getting stronger and larger. The NHC predicts landfall o/a Mon AM at Cat IV.

The projection continues to move more westward. The projection cone now includes portions of S/E LA. With the current projected path tropical storm winds or worse could affect portions of S/E LA to include the NO Metro area.

This storm has become a much more serious threat to LA in the last few hours than expected. Some models show the hurricane projection further west. It is therefore essential that we begin planning should we have to respond.

The J3 will notify you of an initial huddle / conference call this afternoon in order to set the conditions for a response.

Scd

- **1600** Katrina track shifts west. It became evident that Louisiana and the Greater New Orleans area were in danger of impact by Hurricane Katrina. COL Dabadie called a meeting with COL Curtis, COL Aycock and COL Santos to initiate the emergency response plan.
- JOC published FRAGO 07 to LANG Emergency Ops Plan which initiated the pre-positioning of personnel and equipment previously identified in the plan.
- **1700** COL Keeling unable to coordinate hangar space for aircraft at either Baton Rouge Airport or Hammond Airport. Coordination was made for hangar space at airports at Beaumont and Houston.
- **1800** COL Dabadie conducted meeting/conference call with all staff and MACOMs to review status of storm, review support requirements and activate the LANG for response operations.
- COL Keeling ordered OH-58s for direct support of Contraflow.
- MACOMs and Staffs initiated call up procedures for leaders and key personnel

## LANG Timeline of Significant Events Hurricane Katrina

### 27 Aug 05

- **0700** LANG activated all three JOCs (Primary at JB, Alternate at Gillis Long Center, Rear at Cp Beauregard) at Level 3 staffing
- **0800** All MACOMs initiated troop call up and 24-hour operations.
- COL Keeling began EMAC coordination with FL and TX for AVN support. COL Aycock began coordination with those states for ground force support.
- **1100** LANG deployed LNOs to 13 parishes and LOHSEP
- **1100** MAJ Baldwin and members of SRT conducted leaders recon of Superdome
- In accordance with plan, TF Eagle deployed remaining required troops and aviation assigned to support LSP Contraflow
- **1200** TF Eagle repositioned HEMMT Tankers from Esler to Hammond. Aircraft configuration and PCIs complete. OH-58s begin Contraflow mission.
- **1300** TF Eagle executed pre-storm aircraft missions
- JOC published FRAGO 08 which adjusted the pre-staged equipment and personnel
- JOC published FRAGO 09 which further adjusted the pre-staged equipment and personnel
- JOC published FRAGO 10 which organized Superdome security TFs
- State EOC requested LANG Commo and Security support
- COL Keeling reorganized army aviation assets into Task Force (TF) Eagle consisting of personnel and equipment from the State Aviation Office (SAO) staff, 204th Air Traffic Services Group, 1-244th Avn Regt, 812th Medical Company(-)(AA), Detachment (DET) 2 106th AVIM, Reconnaissance and Interdiction Detachment (RAID), and Operational Airlift Support (OSA) DET 38. The TF Tactical Operations Center (TOC) was established at Jackson Barracks in support of the State's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and "jumped" a Tactical Command Post (TAC) to Esler Field in Pineville, LA. Initiated plan for a roving helicopter cell consisting of four UH-60s and two UH-1s along with Command and Control (C2); this cell would re-position so they could move in immediately behind the storm and begin flying rescue missions in New Orleans as soon as the winds allowed.
- 159<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing evacuated F-15s to Ft. Worth. ANG re-located C-130 to Little Rock, AR
- **1500 (approximate)** TF Castle initiated deployment of troops to support LSP Contraflow plan and shelters IAW standing plans. TAC relocated to Jackson Barracks for forward command and control.
- SRT main element deployed to Jackson Barracks
- LANG Troop Buildup - 3085

### 28 Aug 05

- Continued deployment of forces in support of existing plans
- **0700** SRT arrived at Superdome. It should be noted that this was the sixth time for the SRT to deploy to the Superdome in support of civil authorities in the past four years.
  - The first SRT deployment to the Superdome was in support of the US Secret Service for a National Security Special Event (NSSE). This was Superbowl XXXVI (2002 – Command and Control of 500 Guardsmen).
  - The second SRT deployment to the Superdome was in support of the New Orleans Police Department (NOPD) for the NCAA Final Four Championship tournament (2003 – 50 SRT personnel).
  - The third SRT deployment to the Superdome was in support of the FBI and NOPD for the NCAA National Championship Sugarbowl (2004 – Command and Control of 175 Guardsmen as they conducted pat-down searches, metal detector searches, and package inspections for the 75,000 citizens in attendance.
  - The fourth SRT deployment to the Superdome was in support of the NOPD for Hurricane Ivan in its use as a Special Needs Shelter (2004 – Command and Control of 100 Guardsmen).
  - The fifth SRT deployment to the Superdome was in support of NOPD for Hurricane Dennis in its use as a Special Needs Shelter (2005 – Command and Control of 50 Guardsmen)

## LANG Timeline of Significant Events Hurricane Katrina

- **0800** LANG MEDCOM personnel arrived at Superdome in accordance with the State of Louisiana Emergency Preparedness Plan. The MEDCOM (which is a component of the Louisiana Army National Guard) deployed 38 unit personnel to the Louisiana Superdome on 28 Aug 05, including 3 physicians, 5 nurses and 30 other medical personnel. Company A/111 Medical Company also deployed 18 soldiers to the Superdome in support of the LA MED COM. Co A/111 component included 1 physician, 1 nurse, 2 physician assistants, and 14 medics. Additionally, 15 medical personnel and physicians from the LA Air National Guard deployed and worked in conjunction with the MEDCOM to provide medical support at the Superdome. The LANG medical complement at the Superdome totaled 71 medical personnel.
- TF Eagle TOC relocated from Bldg 37 to the JOC in Bldg 35 at Jackson Barracks.
- JOC published FRAGO 11 which dictated endstate LANG troop numbers
- JOC published FRAGO 12 which outlined staging plan for Commo/Engr assessment teams
- JOC published FRAGO 13 which established JTF Pelican HQ, Log, En, SAR TF
- **1000** City of New Orleans opened Superdome as Special Needs Shelter. Approximately 300 initial critical care evacuees arrived at Superdome. MEDCOM team accepted approximately 500 special needs patients by the end of the day.
- The 225<sup>th</sup> Engr Gp mobilized and deployed approximately 1485 soldiers in accordance with the LANG Emergency Procedures OPLAN. The 225<sup>th</sup> moved approximately 220 soldiers to the Superdome to assist with security operations. The 225<sup>th</sup> deployed approximately 120 troops to NOPD and approximately 64 soldiers to Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Department to assist with evacuations and security missions. The 225<sup>th</sup> deployed approximately 300 soldiers to conduct security missions in support of shelters throughout the state and to the Louisiana State Police to support contra-flow. The remaining 225<sup>th</sup> engineer forces staged outside Katrina's path (South Central and North Louisiana) ready to move in after landfall.
- **1100** 527th deployed an advance party to the Superdome to link up with the SRT. Lights, running water, toilets, and air conditioning were available.
- **1200** City of New Orleans opened Superdome as Shelter of Last Resort. Lights, running water, toilets and air-conditioning were available. First evacuees arrived with their own food and water.
- **1300** TF Eagle completes evacuation of Lakefront Airport (AASF#1). COL Keeling coordinated with NGB for EMAC aviation support for Aviation Intermediate Maintenance Company, 2 UH-60s w/hoist, 4 CH-47 aircraft, and discusses the possible need for additional support. EMAC request initiated through LOHSEP.
- **1500** TF Eagle relocates roving aircraft to Houston.
- TF Castle soldiers assigned to NOPD linked up with their counterparts and moved to Hilton to ride out storm.
- **1600** TF Eagle completes all refueling and ground support equipment placement. Completes augmentation of LSA and TAC CP for Army aviation assets.
- 159th Fighter Wing deployed 100 personnel for security operations at the Superdome.
- Additional 159th deployments were East Jefferson Hospital, bus drivers to Plaquemines Parish, High-water vehicles and airmen to St. Bernard, LOHSEP support, fuel and flat bed trucks to Hammond, and ASOS teams throughout South Louisiana.
- **1700** TF Castle forward operations (approximately 6 personnel) arrived at the Superdome with mission of command and control of security. There were approximately 2,500 evacuees there at that time.
- LANG delivers 9,792 MREs and 13,440 (1) liter bottles of water out of its contingency stock to the Louisiana Superdome in support of shelter operations. Additionally, aviation and transportation units in the New Orleans area possessed 5,560 (1)-liter bottles of water and 400 MREs.
- LANG Troop Buildup – 3396

### 29 Aug 05

- **0400** City of New Orleans lost power. LANG JOC continued to operate on backup generator
- **0600** Katrina made landfall
- At the Superdome, there were an estimated 10,000-12,000 evacuees with a LA National Guard Special Reaction Team (SRT) in place to provide security and order.

## LANG Timeline of Significant Events Hurricane Katrina

- During the storm, rain began to fall inside the Superdome and several holes appeared in the roof. After consulting with Superdome officials, a decision was made to move the shelter population from stadium seating out of fear that the Superdome's roof might collapse. Consequently, the shelter population was moved to the Plaza level walkway and various elevated walkways inside the Superdome.
- First EMAC support arrived (helicopters from OK)
- **1300** LANG directed 62nd CST to relocate their Unified Command Suite to the Superdome to provide communications support to the JTF.
- **1400** Disruption of natural gas triggered the decision point for the LANG to relocate the JOC from Jackson Barracks to the Superdome. The following is a personal account from a LANG member, COL(R) Santos: "After we lost power in the JOC we transferred command and control to the Alternate JOC located at the Gillis W. Long Center in Carville, LA. This transfer went very smoothly as it was practiced just a few weeks prior during Hurricane Dennis. After relocating to the Superdome I assembled my team to reassume command and control from the Alternate JOC. This transfer of control from the Alternate JOC to the relocated Primary JOC was smoothly accomplished. These transfers of strategic control during the middle of a catastrophic event were executed exactly as we had trained and exercised."
- **1500** LANG began SAR missions with Superdome as primary SAR evac shelter. A prime example of the early SAR efforts is contained in this narrative by BG Brod Veillon: "Monday morning the water rose to 10 feet. I reached the location (Jackson Barracks Area B parking lot) where the LANG and LDWF had pre-positioned boats. The boats were floating with their trailers attached. I send out a small boat with guardsman to use bolt cutters to cut the boats loose from their trailers. A guardsman went into the water and cut each boat loose. We then brought them to Jackson Barracks HQ Building to use for SAR. Mid afternoon on Monday as the wind subsided and the rain ended we set out with 6 boats to search for people who might need help. I found hundreds of people on rooftops calling for help. As I filled my boat at one house, a lady told us that her neighbor was in her attic next door and needed help. We docked at the house and looked into the attic vent. She was there and needed help. We cut a hole in her roof and pulled her to safety. We then proceeded to the St. Bernard court house where we unloaded and found many, many people who had made their way there. I left 4 boats for the parish government to use and returned to Jackson Barracks." This is a single account of the hundreds of events that took place by the LANG immediately following the storm.
- **1500** CST arrived at Superdome to establish Unified Command Suite and mobile command post at Superdome providing SATCOMs, radio comms, and connectivity to JTF Pelican and FEMA.
- **1630** Launched aircraft from Baton Rouge to New Orleans to initiate reconnaissance and rescue
- **1800** LANG JOC jumped to Superdome as the center of gravity shifts. COL Beron flew from Jackson Barracks to the Superdome as the lead element of JTF Pelican. Upon arrival, SRT reported approximately 10,000-12,000 evacuees were on site. JTF Pelican, TF SAR, TF LOG, and TF Engineer operate out of Superdome. Remainder of JTF Pelican and TF Eagle relocated from Jackson Barracks to Superdome bringing the National Guard force to approximately 700. The "Eagle's Nest" as it became known was initiated to coordinate aviation missions. Search and rescue operations continued. There were over 150 National Guard and Army helicopters plus Coast Guard, Navy, USMC, Air Force and civilian aircraft operating. In the first 48 hours the Louisiana Army National Guard flew 323 hours, rescued 2,662 citizens, transported an additional 2,273 personnel from evacuation points after initial rescue, moved 127 tons of cargo, and 70 tons of Class I.
- 159th Fighter Wing began unloading aircraft in preparation for the largest peacetime air operation in the history of the US.
- LANG co-located a Forward Operating Base with FEMA Regional Staging Area at Zephyr Field. ANG directed the operations on that FOB.
- Late evening hours CST completed set up of Unified Command Suite and mobile command post at Superdome. Provided SATCOMs, radio comms, and connectivity to JTF Pelican and FEMA.
- **2200** TF EAGLE completed establishment of the Joint Air Operations Center and EAGLE Base at Superdome Heliport with the assistance of the airport manager, Norm Umholtz.
- NG Troop Buildup – 4549

## LANG Timeline of Significant Events Hurricane Katrina

### 30 Aug 05

- **0630** Launched aircraft from Hammond for Search and Rescue.
- **0800** COL Beron assumed command of TF Security.
- LANG completed move to Superdome
- **1000** TF EAGLE converted Superdome parking lot into heliport by removing light poles and the cars that were parked on the upper level of the parking structure. Launched remaining aircraft from Baton Rouge for Search and Rescue.
- More EMAC forces arrived
- Requested additional EMAC assistance through NGB
- Initial coordination of federal DoD response between MG Landreneau and LTG Honore
- SAR operations continued.
- “Eagle’s Nest” was in full operation. This fixed base operation provided operational commercial telephones and limited internet capabilities. These communications provided a capability which kept aviation operations effective. Aviation assets were able to provide Class I needed of evacuees at the Superdome and fly in additional security forces to maintain control of the crowds. When the USN and USCG personnel joined the “Eagle’s Nest” team the TOC became a Joint Operations Center (JOC). The loss of generator power was of major concern because of rising water due to breaches in the levee system. TF Eagle became heavily engaged in plugging the breach in the 17th Street Canal which was over 100’ long and 25’ deep. The first EMAC aircraft arrived, UH-60s from the Oklahoma National Guard and UH-60s and CH-47s from Texas. The Louisiana Army National Guard flew 128.0 Flight Hours, 512 Sorties, Class 1 66 Tons, Cargo 99 Tons, 1st Contact Rescue 366, 2nd Contact Rescue 303, 1st and 2nd Contact Total 669.
  - Sample Action: Baptist hospital called for evacuation of neonatal patients in incubators. TF EAGLE crews evacuated 11 patients and incubators to Baton Rouge Hospital.
  - Sample Action: Rooftop evacuation 4 juveniles and 2 adults one adult was a paraplegic.
  - Sample Action: 11 ventilator patients were air evacuated from VA Hospital. The patients were loaded onto air mattresses and loaded onto a linen truck while being hand bagged ventilated and then loaded onto the waiting aircraft at the Superdome.
- About half of the external walkway surrounding the Superdome on the Plaza level was made available to the shelter population.
- Emergency power was by generators only. Lights were at a minimum. Running water and plumbing had failed. 29,960 MREs and 48,490 bottles of water were issued. Approximately 24,000 evacuees were present. The Louisiana National Guard provided roving patrols, guards at check points, security of the food and water distribution points and sections of plaza were restricted.
  - An example of one of the many heroic acts by National Guardsmen that day involves Corporal Howland. As a result of the storm, the Superdome lost power and the rising waters threatened the safety of the only generator operating the safety lighting to the building. This limited lighting was vital to the security of the Dome and it was feared a power loss would send the evacuees into anarchy. The JOC immediately had water pumps and sandbags airlifted to the Superdome to protect the generator from the floodwaters; however, the pump hose was not long enough to reach the outer wall. Corporal Howland immediately planned and executed a mission acquiring the fire hoses from within the Superdome to support the pumps, thus allowing continued operation to protect the generator. Corporal Howland sacrificed his own personal safety in extreme conditions of waist deep water around the clock to ensure the generator was fully functional. Due to Corporal Howland’s ability to act quickly and without direction, the Superdome never lost power.
- LANG used Chaplains, Judge Advocates, and Public Affairs, and members of the crowd to talk to people, share factual information, dispel rumors, and distribute food and water to the non-ambulatory.
- Med Com realized that all the special needs patients had to be moved from the Dome as the conditions were deteriorating (no sanitation, no lights, plumbing overflowing, floors wet from plumbing and from rain coming through holes in the ceilings). The Med Com personnel began

## LANG Timeline of Significant Events Hurricane Katrina

transporting all the special needs patients (500 plus, many in wheelchairs and on stretchers) to the arena. .

- 300,000 MREs, 397,000 liter bottles water
- NG Troop Buildup – 5207

### 31 Aug 05

- **0630** TF Castle dispatched approximately 135 soldiers to the Alario Center in Jefferson Parish. They immediately received a mission to repair a breach in the west side of the 17<sup>th</sup> Street Levee. A few hours later, approximately 60 soldiers and 20 high-water vehicles were dispatched to the Superdome to assist in the evacuation of Special Needs patients.
- 225<sup>th</sup> Engineer Group HQ (Rear) dispatched from Camp Beauregard to LaPlace, LA to facilitate and coordinate evacuation efforts from the Greater New Orleans area. This assistance was provided to FEMA contracted bus representatives on site, the LA Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (for fuel), the Louisiana State Police, and, later, to the US 5<sup>th</sup> Army. A truck stop in LaPlace was used as a staging area for FEMA contracted buses. Fuel, MREs, and water were eventually temporarily staged to support evacuees' needs.
- TF EAGLE: Rescue operations were coordinated with CAPT Jones, USCG, and sectors were assigned using major roads and waterways as boundaries. 16 additional EMAC aircraft arrived from TX, GA, and FL putting the total National Guard Aircraft at 35 rotary-wing and 2 fixed-wing aircraft. The LA and OK aircraft flew 137 hours, 548 Sorties, moved 680 patients, 2791 rescued citizens, 89 tons of cargo and sand bags, 170 tons of Class I, and hoisted 128 personnel. 1st Contact Rescue 2304, 2nd Contact Rescue 1991, 1st and 2nd Contact Total 4295.
  - Sample Action: Rooftop rescue of Chalmette Hospital patients and the hospital administrator. Chalmette Hospital Administrator was flown to Superdome to coordinate follow-on evacuation missions.
  - Sample Action: A woman in labor who was hemorrhaging and facing certain death but for her evacuation to the Pete Maravich Assembly Center by National Guard UH-60.
- LANG received reports from evacuees of rumors circulating through the crowd (evacuees would start riots and/or fires if the buses did not come)
- The LANG completed moving the patients from the Superdome to the Arena.
- **2100** Approximately six busloads of special needs patients were evacuated from the Superdome. Patients were transported from the staging area on high-water vehicles to the bus station and transferred to FEMA buses for evacuation. LANG support to this operation continued in the following days until the majority of evacuees were moved from the Greater New Orleans area.
- Late evening: Small smoldering fire in Superdome. Fire Department extinguished the fire.
- 278,000 MREs, 252,000 liter bottles water
- NG Troop Buildup – 5321

### 1 Sep 05

- LANG estimates approximately 30,000 evacuees on site in Superdome requiring evacuation.
- **1000** Superdome evacuation began (24/7 operations both by ground and air assets).
- Late evening: Received request from City of New Orleans to secure and evacuate Morial Convention Center in conjunction with NOPD to start on 2 Sep 05.
- Large concentrations of people seeking evacuation were gathering in dry areas. NG aviation executed 219 hours, 876 Sorties, moved 1,197 medical transfers, 5,341 passengers, 248 tons of cargo and sand bags, 217 tons of Class I, Cargo 248 Tons, hoisted 206 rescued citizens to safety. 1st Contact Rescue 2915, 2nd Contact Rescue 3529, 1st and 2nd Contact Total 6444. A first contact rescue occurred when the aircrew was the first responder to rescue citizens or evacuate medical patients. A second contact rescue occurred when the aircrew transports citizen to an evacuation point after initial rescue.
  - Sample Action: Evacuated patients from St. Bernard Parish Jail, 20 of which were in critical condition.
  - Sample Action: Memorial Baptist Hospital had no electricity and placed an urgent request to immediately evacuate 60 patients.

## LANG Timeline of Significant Events Hurricane Katrina

- Sample Action: 1-244th crew in conjunction with Los Angeles County firemen hovered close to rooftop to allow a fireman to jump onto the roof and chop through roof with an axe to rescue 4 people. At the next house the fireman repeated his "axe" rescue and saved an additional 10 people.
- 741,000 MREs, 738,000 liter bottles water
- NG Troop Buildup – 6692

### 2 Sep 05

- **0800** BG Jones (JTF Commander) briefed LTC Thibodeaux (TF Commander) on Convention Center rescue mission.
- **1100** National Guard forces staged troops at intersection of Poydras and Loyola.
- **1100** LTC Thibodeaux met with NOPD Chief Compass and Deputy Chief Riley.
- **1200** 1000 NG forces (LA, TX, OK, NV, and AR) move toward Convention Center.
- **1230** Convention Center secured with no incidents.
- **1500** Relief operations began (food and water distribution as well as medical evacuation by air).
- The Superdome was at capacity, so all evacuees were being dropped at the "Cloverleaf" (the intersection of I-10 and Causeway Blvd). The primary focus was on the mission of saving lives. Civilian air ambulance operations were at a peak evacuating seriously ill people. Food and water was delivered wherever the need existed. Crews targeted people gathered in large numbers and dropped off MREs and water. Flooded areas were targeted to include New Orleans East, St. Bernard Parish, and the 7-9th Wards in New Orleans. National Guard aircraft flew 309 hours, 1236 Sorties, moved 1234 medical transfers, 6989 passengers, 167 tons of cargo, 112 tons of Class I, 169 hoist operations, 1st Contact Rescue 3439, 2nd Contact Rescue 4753, 1st and 2nd Contact Total 8192.
  - Sample Action: Conducted hoist operations where medics on hoist had to go through window of home and rescued a family of four.
  - Sample Action: While using night vision goggles crew noticed lights coming from a rooftop. The rooftop had 35 children with ages ranging 2 weeks old to 10 years old. All children were evacuated in one sortie.
- Colonel Beron assigned the task of clearing the Superdome to 1st Battalion, 148th Infantry, Ohio National Guard — a unit assigned to Task Force Security. Colonel Beron instructed its commander, LTC Ellis, to bring a clearing force to the highest point in the Superdome and begin clearing down to the ground floor as soon as evacuation of the Superdome was completed.
- 397,000 MREs, 1,013,000 liter bottles water
- NG Troop Buildup – 7835

### 3 Sep 05

- **1000** Convention Center evacuation began.
- **1300** Superdome evacuation completed
- **1500** LTC Ellis assigned approximately 300 of his soldiers to clear the Superdome. The clearing process lasted approximately four hours. Following the clearing process, the exterior doors were secured.
- **1800** Convention Center evacuation completed: Total 19,000 (2,000 via ferry, 14,000 via bus, 3,000 critical care medical patients via helicopter).
- **1830** This is a personal account by a LANG member, LTC Thibodeaux, of the tremendous success of the Convention Center mission: "At 1830 I reported in to the JOC that the Convention Center was cleared and mission complete. It was at this point I was able to reflect on the thousands of acts of heroism by National Guard members from all over the country. I felt a great pride in the fact that the National Guard had saved the lives of 70,000 people through search and rescue, relief, and evacuation. The National Guard has a mission of supporting civil authorities during times of crisis. We were prepared to conduct this mission and did so in a dynamic manner. It is my belief that this unified effort was the reason for this tremendous success."
- **2200** Convention Center turned over to Civil Authorities.

## LANG Timeline of Significant Events Hurricane Katrina

- TF EAGLE 255.0 Flight Hours, 1020 Sorties Flown, Class 1 105 Tons, Cargo 144 Tons, 1st Contact Rescue 4734, 2nd Contact Rescue 4258, 1st and 2nd Contact Total 8992.
  - Sample Action: Citizens with special needs were air lifted from Morial Convention Center.
- 253,000 MREs, 302,000 liter bottles water
- NG Troop Buildup – 8820

### 4 Sep 05

- **1200** FEMA DMORT teams collected six deceased evacuees from Superdome.
- COL Beron assigned LTC Ellis to escort the FEMA official through the Superdome. They agreed to meet at the Superdome's loading dock in order to hand over the six bodies stored there. After a search of approximately 45 minutes, the group met at the Superdome's loading dock. The FEMA official confirmed that the Superdome was clear.
- TF EAGLE 338.0 Flight Hours, 1352 Sorties Flown, Class 1 147 Tons, Cargo 84 Tons, 1st Contact Rescue 2810, 2nd Contact Rescue 2823, 1st and 2nd Contact Total 5633.
  - Sample Action: Initial transition to C2 and Congressional Support.
  - Sample Action: Conducted Recon of Entergy Bldg for dropping generators on building. Sling loaded generators to top of building for 911 repeater antenna power.
- By afternoon, TF Castle consolidated command and control operations at the Alario Center. From that point forward, they conducted route clearance and debris removal missions in surrounding parishes.
- 312,000 MREs, 401,000 liter bottles water
- NG Troop Buildup – 10,803

### 5 Sep 05

- JTF Pelican published OPORD 01-0805 (Katrina) which established Parish TFs
- The Air Guard medical team departed the Superdome.
- TF EAGLE began preparation to move operations to Belle Chase NAS. TF EAGLE 254.0 Flight Hours, 1016 Sorties Flown, Class 1 140 Tons, Cargo 104 Tons, 1st Contact Rescue 3134, 2nd Contact Rescue 3519, 1st and 2nd Contact Total 6653.
- NG Troop Buildup – 19,399

### 6 Sep 05

- JTF Pelican published FRAGO 01 (Katrina) which readjusted Task Organization
- JTF Pelican moved to Gillis W. Long Center, Carville, LA
- **1000** Superdome turned over to 82nd Airborne and Civil Authorities
- MEDCOM ultimately provided emergency care for 500 special needs patients and 1,200-1,500 general population patients.
- TF EAGLE 276.0 Flight Hours, 1104 Sorties Flown, Class 1 339 Tons, Cargo 195 Tons, 1st Contact Rescue 2685, 2nd Contact Rescue 3097, 1st and 2nd Contact Total 5782.
- NG Troop Buildup – 21,079

### 7 Sep 05

- JTF Pelican published FRAGO 02 (Katrina) which pushed LNOs from TF Santa Fe to parishes
- JTF Pelican published FRAGO 03 (Katrina) which provided security assets to Red Cross shelters
- TF EAGLE 294.0 Flight Hours, 1176 Sorties Flown, Class 1 166 Tons, Cargo 181 Tons, 1st Contact Rescue 4028, 2nd Contact Rescue 4263, 1st and 2nd Contact Total 8291.
- NG Troop Buildup – 24,773

### 8 Sep 05

- JTF Pelican published FRAGO 04 (Katrina) which established security locations in parishes
- JTF Pelican published FRAGO 05 (Katrina) directed commodities distribution support

## LANG Timeline of Significant Events Hurricane Katrina

- JTF Pelican published FRAGO 06 (Katrina) directed handover of Red Cross mission support from Santa Fe to Defender
- TF EAGLE Transfer of Eagles Nest from Superdome to Belle Chase NAS.
- TF EAGLE 207.0 Flight Hours, 828 Sorties Flown, Class 1 7 Tons, Cargo 72 Tons, 1st Contact Rescue 13, 2nd Contact Rescue 13, 1st and 2nd Contact Total 26.
- NG Troop Buildup – 25,412

### 9 Sep 05

- TF EAGLE 73.0 Flight Hours, 292 Sorties Flown, Class 1 3 Tons, Cargo 14 Tons, 1st Contact Rescue 61, 2nd Contact Rescue 128, 1st and 2nd Contact Total 189.
- JTF Pelican published FRAGO 07 (Katrina) changed BUB and AVN priorities
- NG Troop Buildup – 25,914

### 10 Sep 05

- TF EAGLE by this date TF EAGLE consisted of organic Louisiana aircraft and aircraft from 11 other States
- Rescue Coordination Center stood up TF EAGLE supports with MEDEVAC 1st up/2nd up.
- TF EAGLE 45.0 Flight Hours, 180 Sorties Flown, Class 1 0 Tons, Cargo 1 Tons, 1st Contact Rescue 26, 2nd Contact Rescue 59, 1st and 2nd Contact Total 85.
- JTF Pelican published FRAGO 08 to (Katrina) established coordination relationship between JTF Pelican and AC Forces
- NG Troop Buildup – 26,044

### 11 Sep 05

- TF EAGLE 56.0 Flight Hours, 224 Sorties Flown, Class 1 0 Tons, Cargo 3 Tons, 1st Contact Rescue 36, 2nd Contact Rescue 74, 1st and 2nd Contact Total 110.
- NG Troop Buildup – 26,168

### 12 Sep 05

- TF EAGLE 97.0 Flight Hours, 388 Sorties Flown, Class 1 1 Ton, Cargo 25 Tons, 1st Contact Rescue 27, 2nd Contact Rescue 60, 1st and 2nd Contact Total 87.
- NG Troop Buildup – 26,201

### 13 Sep 05

- TF EAGLE 62.0 Flight Hours, 248 Sorties Flown, Class 1 1 Tons, Cargo 19 Tons, 1st Contact Rescue 23, 2nd Contact Rescue 45, 1st and 2nd Contact Total 68.
- JTF Pelican published FRAGO 09 (Katrina) released LANG assets from TF Santa Fe control
- NG Troop Buildup – 26,268

### 14 Sep 05

- TF EAGLE 59.0 Flight Hours, 236 Sorties Flown, Class 1 0 Tons, Cargo 65 Tons, 1st Contact Rescue 17, 2nd Contact Rescue 35, 1st and 2nd Contact Total 52.
- NG Troop Buildup – 26,320

## LANG Timeline of Significant Events Hurricane Katrina

### 15 Sep 05

- TF EAGLE 62.0 Flight Hours, 248 Sorties Flown, Class 1 0 Tons, Cargo 0 Tons, 1st Contact Rescue 16, 2nd Contact Rescue 36, 1st and 2nd Contact Total 52.
- JTF Pelican published FRAGO 10 (Katrina) released additional LANG assets from TF Santa Fe control
- NG Troop Buildup – 26620

### 17 Sep 05

- JTF Pelican published FRAGO 11 (Katrina) established redeployment requirements for non-LANG units

### 19 Sep 05

- JTF Pelican published FRAGO 12 (Katrina) established redeployment requirements for non-LANG units
- JTF Pelican published MOD 01 to FRAGO 12 (Katrina) established redeployment requirements for non-LANG units

### 20 Sep 05

- JTF Pelican published FRAGO 13 (Katrina) directed pre-positioning of equipment and personnel for Hurricane Rita
- JTF Pelican published FRAGO 14 (Katrina) directed pre-staging equipment and personnel

### 22 Sep 05

- JTF Pelican published FRAGO 15 (Katrina) established TF Rita
- This is a personal account of a LANG member, MAJ Dancer: “As we began to prepare for another major hurricane I looked back on the number of missions that the National Guard had conducted to date. Based on my expertise as the LANG JOC Operations Officer for the past five years, a “typical” hurricane response by the National Guard might entail anywhere from 200 to 300 missions. During this response the National Guard had been tasked with over 1,000 missions from the Louisiana Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness. This number does not include the thousands of missions conducted by Guardsmen working directly for local government that were not tracked at the JTF level. The magnitude of this storm had tested the National Guard and demonstrated that we were able to respond in an effective and timely manner. This was a testament to the strength and flexibility of the soldiers, airmen, and leadership of the National Guard.”
- Members of 256th Infantry Brigade return from Iraq and begin to integrate into the Joint Operations Center

### 23 Sep 05

- JTF Pelican published FRAGO 16 (Katrina) repositioned JTF Pelican assets

### 24 Sep 05

- Hurricane Rita makes landfall in Southwest Louisiana
- JTF Pelican published FRAGO 17 (Katrina) directed reconnaissance of Hurricane Rita affected areas

### 25 Sep 05

- BG Basilica assumes command of JTF Pelican from BG Jones
- JTF Pelican published FRAGO 18 (Katrina) directed SAR in support of Rita
- JTF Pelican published FRAGO 19 (Katrina) established TF Claims Officers)

### 26 Sep 05

- JTF Pelican published FRAGO 20 (Katrina) directed re-alignment of commo assets (ASOS)

## LANG Timeline of Significant Events Hurricane Katrina

- JTF Pelican published FRAGO 21 (Katrina) integrated Air Force recon teams into damage assessment efforts
- JTF Pelican published FRAGO 22 (Katrina) established command relationships

### **27 Sep 05**

- JTF Pelican published FRAGO 23 (Katrina) directed logistical support to hurricane affected area

### **28 Sep 05**

- JTF Pelican published FRAGO 24 (Katrina) contaminated water advisory alert
- JTF Pelican published FRAGO 25 (Katrina) directed re-alignment of JTF Pelican into four geographic regions

### **29 Sep 05**

- JTF Pelican published FRAGO 26 (Katrina) established new reporting format