



**146th Airlift Wing  
Office of Public Affairs  
California Air National Guard  
Channel Islands ANG Station, California**

*For Immediate Release*

*May 5, 2004*

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## **'City of Santa Barbara' takes to the air in fight against Cachuma fire**

The "City of Santa Barbara" has taken to the air to help fight the Cachuma fire burning in the Los Padres National Forest.

The City of Santa Barbara, in this case, is an Air National Guard C-130E Hercules operated by the 146th Airlift Wing at Port Hueneme's Channel Islands Air National Guard Station.

The airplane, dedicated to the city in a ceremony at the base and with the name painted above the crew door, was outfitted for aerial firefighting yesterday afternoon and flew its first mission today.

For its firefighting role this week, the airplane is also known as MAFFS 6 owing to the prominent orange 6's painted on it for easier identification over fires. The "City of Fillmore" is MAFFS 4.

The City of Santa Barbara is also one of the few C-130s at Channel Islands wearing nose art, a tradition on American military aircraft begun during World War II.

Crew chief Tech. Sgt. Hermilo Guerrero said he had the famed winged horse Pegasus added to the airplane's nose a few years ago. It's a tribute, he said, to his days as a marathon runner representing the National Guard and the shoes that kept his feet healthy as he trained for more than a dozen races -- Nike Air Pegasus.

**more – more – more**

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Today, Santa Barbara has its own winged steed carrying heroes into battle as Pegasus did the Greek gods.

For further information contact public affairs officer, at (805) 986-7496.

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