

## **They flew but never left the ground....**

Adults and scouts from Troop 316, during their Christmas break, visited Pope AFB for a base orientation. The trip started out as just a visit to the C-130 simulator, but turned into a tour of key operational facilities. Each scout experienced the “box” which the simulator is proudly called by its pilots. The scouts made successful landings in the massive 4-engine C-130 workhouse, walking away from every landing, even some that were pretty scary. Over 25 scouts and their leaders toured the cab area of the Air Traffic Control tower, the eyes and ears of the airfield. They watched C-130 Hercules and A-10 Warthogs do touch and go’s, or as the pilots call it “crashing and dashing”. Following the special view from the top of the base, they stopped by the home of the 41<sup>st</sup> Airlift Squadron Blackcats, considered to be one of the premier C-130 airlift squadrons in the world.

Everyone enjoyed their visit and hope to have another chance to visit Pope whose proud motto is, “they put the air...in Army airborne”. Each scout received a personal authentic C-130 certificate stating they safely landed the C-130 simulator.