The 161st Air Refueling Wing - Phoenix, Arizona The COPPERHEAD

161st Air Refueling Wing



Arizona Air National Guard

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Chief's Corner

It has been my pleasure to be the 161st Command Chief for the last year. I move forward to another exciting opportunity working at headquarters, but my heart and mind will be on the outstanding enlisted force with whom I've served in this great Wing.

As I reflect back on some of the highlights, I must applaud the group of dedicated first sergeants who tirelessly look after their troops and work to help them maintain a work, life and military balance.

In addition to these senior NCOs, I can only exude pride and admiration for the group of individuals who made it their mission to establish, promote, and take action as a Junior Enlisted Council.

The sand volleyball court will



stand as a tribute to and constant reminder of their efforts and accomplishments. I also salute my friend and colleague Chief Johnny Smith as he takes command and wish him much success as he takes charge of the greatest airmen around. I believe in my fellow Copperheads beyond our call of duty and service. I believe in us

own—Wingmen all around.
Best wishes, Chief Jim Nedved

as a family that takes care of its

On the Cover

Senior Airman Jason Garner of the 161st Air Refueling Wing Security Forces Squadron on the flight line. Garner was chosen as Airman of the Year for the 161st. U.S. Air Force Photo by Master Sgt. Kelly M. Deitloff

On the Back

A U.S. Air Force F-16 Fighting Falcon from the 140th Fighter Wing, Buckley, Colo., detaches from a KC-135 Stratotanker from the 161st Air Refueling Wing, Phoenix, Ariz., after refueling over Brazil in support of CRUZEX, November 12, 2010,. Both wings participated CRUZEX V, or Cruzeiro Do Sul (Southern Cross). CRUZEX is a multi-national combined exercise involving the Air Forces of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, France and Uruguay, and observers from numerous other countries with more than 82 aircraft and almost 3,000 Airmen involved. U.S. Air Force Photo by Master Sgt. Kelly M. Deitloff



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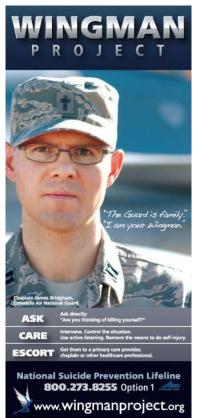


Wing Commander's Message

By Col. Steve Balser







Senior leaders Air Force-wide stress the importance of pursuing development education and professional military education (PME) for the officer and enlisted corps. As I watch over the development of the Wing, I understand it will only become as great as its people.

We are faced with greater challenges as our personal lives become more involved, as the **economy throws us curve balls, and the constant adage of 'doing more with less." In** uncertain times, we might wonder where we should focus and invest. One sure return on investment is in yourself and your PME. As you take charge and responsibility for your military career, completing the next steps and requirements to obtain rank will pay in dividends for years to come.

As we continue to prepare for our Operational Readiness Inspection and other Wing milestones, it is the responsibility of each and every member of the unit to be up-to-date with their ADLS and IMR requirements, as well as a current passing percentage on their fitness test. These are the simple things we can do as individuals to ensure the 161st is successful and prepared to meet the demands of its mission.

While it is important to take ownership of our careers and responsibilities, I also understand we cannot do everything alone. We need to help, support, and mentor one another and live the principles of being a good Wingman. The Wingman Project, where you can learn more at www.wingmanproject.org, promotes the theme of "The Guard is family." This statement does not ring more true for the men and women of the 161st. I encourage each of our members and their families to learn more about being a Wingman and lookout for the health, welfare, and morale of your fellow Copperheads.

Our operations tempo continues to be high as we are on track to fly 3,900 hours this year. To help you understand the magnitude of the support the 161st provides for its CONUS and OCONUS tasks, a typical active duty refueling wing flies 5,000 hours per year with more than a dozen aircraft while we perform nearly equal tasks with only eight. This high rate of missions and flights can only be attributed to the dedication of a superior team of maintenance, flight crews, and support staff that keep us in the game and we continue to come out as winners.

As an integrated base of traditional, technicians, and AGRs, I understand that at times some things and some people get overlooked or go by unnoticed for opportunities to contribute. This is where I extend the challenge to everyone to step up and stand out as someone who is determined to take control of their future and advancement with the Wing.

There are opportunities to volunteer and in some cases get paid for assisting with events like the West Mitchell Junior ROTC Drill Competition, being a member of the Honor Guard, joining the Junior Enlisted Council, and assisting with the Awards and Decorations program in the Wing. These are just a small number of things you can do to gain knowledge, recognition and experience. Use your chain of command and start asking how you can get involved and take your career to the next level.

As always, I want to recognize everyone for their efforts and thank you for contributing to the mission and success of the Wing.

Look out for your fellow Copperhead, be safe, and be a great Wingman!



Service before self lands Arizona colonel Legion of Merit Award

By 1Lt Matt Murphy



"She is a leader behaving like a leader. My most proud thought is that she does nothing for herself," said Brigadier General Michael Colangelo, Commander Air National Guard-Arizona as he presented the Legion of Merit to Colonel Wanda Wright, Director of Staff for the Arizona Air National Guard.

The Legion of Merit is one of only two United States military decorations to be issued as a neck order, the other being the Medal of Honor. The prestigious award is given for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services and achievements. A special award ceremony was held November 7, 2010 at the Arizona National Guard Headquarters in Phoenix, Arizona to recognize Col. Wright's accomplishments.

An Air Force Academy graduate, Col. Wright spent the first five years of her military career in the fulltime Air Force. She said five years to the day; she switched over to the Air National Guard and for 17 years served in the 162nd Fighter Wing in Tucson before taking her position in Phoenix at the National Guard headquarters in 2005. With plans to retire in the next six months, she will have almost 28 years of service, leaving a also left an impression on

legacy of one of the Air Force primary core values: Service before self.

"She's a punch you in the mouth kind of colonel," says Gen. Colangelo of his colleague and friend who he describes as his right hand and that of his predecessors as well. He describes Col. Wright the same way the former Commander of the Arizona Air National Guard, saying there is none better and "one equals ten. No one better, no one more serious about taking care of our national guardsman." He added, "The simple fact is, Col. Wright is one of the most professional and productive individuals he knows.'

Col. Wright showed humility

about receiving the award by deflecting the recognition of her efforts with focus on her mission as Director of Staff, her team, and the many lives touched during her tenure. "[The award is a] nice surprise. It does validate that you've done good work, but that is my purpose for being here. To provide good customer service to over 2,500 people," said Col. Wright. "The ceremony is not so much about the award as it is seeing the people in the room that have helped me and those that I helped, those I mentored, and those who mentored me - that is the real

award ' In her award citation, Col. Wright is credited for her service as Director of Staff responsible for programs supporting more 2,500 personnel, orchestrating relief efforts for hurricanes Katrina and Rita, leading over 4,000 air personnel providing assistance to United States Customs and Border Patrol with immigration issues, and serving as a lead member developing partnerships with the guard and multiple medical and first responder agencies. During her service, Col. Wright



Brigadier General Michael Colangelo, Commander Air National Guard-Arizona poses with Colonel Wanda Wright, Director of Staff for the Arizona Air National Guard after receiving the Legion of Merit medal at a special award ceremony held at Phoenix National Guard Headquarters Nov. 7, 2010.

community and family. She describes a work/life balance as difficult on the best of days, but still manages to leave her mark. Husband and fellow guardsman (retired) Curt Clark said, "This award is a reflection of all her hard work and dedication. General Colangelo said it best when he said she does nothing for herself." Daughter Jordan, 11, said, "It's awesome and makes me feel all bubbly inside." While her son Tyler, 14, said, "She feels great about it and I feel great about it too." Her friends and neighbors Wayne and Jenifer Hendrix attended the ceremony and said they were honored to be considered part of her family. "We are very proud to be associated with someone who serves," said Wayne Hendrix. The Legion of Merit award represents a long and distinguished career of service for Col. Wright. In the next six months or so, she says she will move on to "greener pastures" as she retires from one phase of service and looks forward to sharing what she has learned in

another field to serve the next generation of future guardsmen. Col. Wright looks forward to a future with the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps as a high school instructor where she can honor her family's tradition of educators and pay tribute to her parents. She describes her parents as people who love her and raised her in the best way and publicly dedicated her medal to them during the ceremony.

Emails from her mother, father, and siblings were read congratulating Col. Wright on her achievements. Col. Wright's father also retired at the rank of colonel in his military service.

She views her retirement as a "winwin" for many as her legacy will be remembered and her vacancy gives the opportunity for others to move up behind her. "I feel good people will be promoted," says Col. Wright. This attitude and statement is just one more example of her helping others and honoring the core value of service before self.



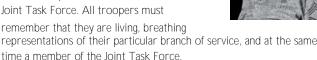
Trooper to Trooper—Chief Master Sergeant Castro Discusses Integrity

(From The Wire—A JTF Journal)

Integrity, a primary core value of the Air Force, and Army is comparable to the core value of Honor celebrated by the Navy, Marines, and Coast Guard. The Air Force views Integrity as an essential personal trait defined as, "The willingness to do what is right even when no one is looking." It is the "moral compass"— the inner voice; the voice of self-control; the basis for the trust imperative in today's military. It is much more than a minimum standard for us to abide, it is a lofty goal only to be achieved by continued determination and dedication to doing what is right any and every time without fail. To quote former Secretary of the Air Force Sheila Widnall, the first woman to head one of the country's military branches, "Core values make the military what it is; without them, we cannot succeed. They are the values that instill confidence, earn lasting respect, and create willing followers. They are the values that anchor resolve in the most difficult situations. They are the values that buttress mental and physical courage when we enter combat. In essence, they are the pillars of professionalism that provide the foundation for military leadership at every level."

Growing up our parents, family, and community, through actions and mentoring, instilled in each of us a sense of right and wrong. These value traits became the foundation of our personal principles used to make constructive choices for the rest of our lives. Similarly, the Core Values of our respective branches of service also create an unquestionable moral rubric, which if lived by ensures that all

decisions, no matter how important or trivial, will be decided properly and without compromise. The ability to consistently make proper decisions allows us to be unsurpassed in mission completion and excellence here in the Joint Task Force. All troopers must



Being a trooper adds an extra layer of significance to all decisions, as no one wants to do any action that they will later regret and which will disgrace not only themselves, but their branch of service and the Joint Task Force as a whole. Alexander the Great once said, "Upon the conduct of each, depends the fate of all." Though this quote was said thousands of years ago, it has never been truer than here in the Joint Task Force. We must exemplify, through the integrity of our actions and the quality of our deeds, that we are unquestionably here to serve our mission, our fellow trooper and our country as a whole. Integrity, the willingness to do what is right even when no one is looking. The value that reminds us that completing a mission without moral compromise is just as important as the mission itself.

(Published in The Wire, December 17, 2010 while Chief Castro, a member of the 161st, served as the 474th ECES Chief Enlisted Manager in Cuba.)

COPPERHEADS SOUND OFF—Ouestion of the Ouarter

If you could be a cyborg (a cybernetic organism with both biological and artificial parts), what body part would you replace and why?



Staff Sgt. John Baltz 161st Chaplain 's Asst.

"I would replace my arm with a super-strength robotic arm so I could crush things and people in a fit of rage."



Tech Sgt. Cynthia
Bustamante,
161st Executive Asst.

"I would replace my brain with a super computer so that I could multi-task."



Master Sgt. Jaime Acevedo 161st Recruiting Office Supervisor

"I would want super eyes so I could see at night and be aware of my surroundings."



Airman 1st Class Jason Smith, 161st Crew Chief

"Mechanical arms so I don't have to use a fork -lift to lift massive things."



Staff Sgt. Heather Fetz, 161st Plans and Scheduling

"Supersonic hearing so I can hear what my teenagers are doing in the middle of the night."



Chaplain's Corner

By Chaplain (Capt.) Eric Brown

There's a scripture, found way at the back of the Bible, where God says, "behold, I am making all things new." (Revelations 21:5). This little bit of prophesy, a tiny bit of promise, is dear to my heart. I pull this scripture out and remember the promise from time to time. I usually find this scripture when I've had a bad day, or a string of bad luck, or when I'm ready for my world to change. Maybe you want to learn it and use it, too.

For many people, 2010 was a difficult year. In addition to the regular, every-day kind of difficulties (broken down cars, paying the bills, illnesses, relationship ups-and -downs, kids in trouble, traffic tickets and the like), I know people who lost jobs, experienced deployments, lost houses and more. The house that I am living in, for example, I purchased out of foreclosure. This means that, for the people who used to live in my house, 2010 had a very bad year. I have a friend who was out of work for 9 of the last 12 months;

A New Year... A New Beginning

2010 was a rotten year. I have a family member who has been working on a temporary contract for the last year. She doesn't know whether or not she'll have a job next month and is constantly worried. Maybe 2010 was a bad year for you, too.

As we move into 2011, I want to invite you to remember my little scripture, God's little promise. God says, "behold, I'm making all things new." As we move into the New Year, remember that the old is passed and the new has begun. You may have experienced a rotten year but that year is finished. The New Year is here, and it's not yet determined. Your New

Year is just beginning and it is full of opportunity.

What does God's promise mean? Even those who are not religious can understand that we have a myriad of new opportunities ahead of us. Each morning begins full of possibility. Often we cannot see the new possibilities because there are too many old responsibilities weighing down on us. We went to bed worried and concerned about all our troubles. Yet the truth is, every day you have new opportunities, will meet new people, and travel new paths. The world is, indeed, new. As a Christian, I believe that God is the creator of all these new possibilities.

If each day is new, how much more new is there in a New Year? If you are ready to leave the old year behind and move into the New Year, hooray! If last year was rotten for you, it's done: hooray! You have a wealth of new ahead of you. Your job is to claim those new opportunities and those new choices. God is creating all things new. Let's find some of those new things in this New Year.

Chaplain Brown is one of our Chaplains. You can reach him at 480-620-4864.

161st Ironmen Take Air Force Fitness to Higher Level

By Staff Sergeant Michael Matkin

Airmen from the 161st Air Refueling Wing recently competed in the Ironman competition putting their heart, soul and body through a grueling race, which includes a 2.4-mile swim, a 110mile bike ride and a 26.2-mile run.

To prepare for the competition, the four 161 ARW participants attempted to train in all aspects of the race.

"[I] trained approximately I 5 to 18 hours per week for past six months - swimming before work, running at lunch and biking to and from work two to three times a week; weekends usually consisted of a long bike ride on Saturday and a long run on Sunday," said Col. Aaron Vangelisti, 161 ARW Operations

Group Commander.

The intense training was also motivation to finish the race, said Maj. Dustin Baker 161 ARW Operations Group aircraft commander who dedicated his training and the race to the memory of his mother who passed away last October. "If I didn't finish [the competition] I would have had to do it again, because I couldn't have slept with myself not having at least finished. [Finishing the competition] was the culmination of almost a year of training, so it was a relief when I finished the race."

Colonel Vangelisti agreed,

"There was no way I was going to fail after having dedicated so

much time to training. Plus, my fellow training partners never would have let me live it down."

Major Baker said having something to motivate participants to finish is a big aspect to the race.

"The Ironman really is a mental race, I have heard it said that you better have a pretty compelling reason for wanting to finish, because at some point on the run your body is going to have a pretty compelling reason for you to stop."

A compelling reason to participate and finish the Ironman competition is simply that it is a great way to stay motivated to maintain a fitness regimen, said Colonel Vangelisti.



Maj. Dustin Baker

"Anyone who thinks this would be an impossible feat for them to personally achieve should

Continued on Page 7



Air Force Safety Tips—Airmen Taking Care of Airmen



(AFSC) News:

During the long lasting days of winter when the weather is bad, we have some time to reflect. So today, let us reflect on one of the primary causes of mishaps of all kinds.

Carelessness: Have you ever done anything stupid, something that you know puts you at increased risk of injury? When you realize how stupid you were, whether you got hurt or not, do you ask yourself, "Why did I ever do that?" For your own future preservation, this should be a very important question for you to answer. Consider the fact that approximately 20% of injuries are due to unsafe conditions and 80% are caused by unsafe acts. If you realize that most unsafe conditions are brought about by human failure, then virtually all accidents are brought about by unsafe acts. Why did you do

something in an unsafe manner? To answer this question, you will need to put personal defenses aside and know that blame may lie within yourself. Also realize that there may be more than one reason for your actions and others may be involved.

If you knew the proper, safe way to the do the job, then you cannot claim ignorance. What is left, whether you like it or not, is carelessness. So what can cause you to temporarily disregard your own safety?

External Pressure: "Let's get this job done!" Usually this pressure comes from your direct supervisor. Disregarding safe practices is not going to save enough time to make a significant difference. However, any accident or injury is guaranteed to have an effect. As a matter of fact, when the pressure is applied, it is worthwhile to pay more attention to safety because we know from experience; such situations frequently lead to more accidents.

Bad Habits: You fail to follow the established procedure and you don't get hurt (or you were not caught) this time. Psychologically, this is a reward and so you do it again and again and again. But it is also fool's gold. The more times you do this behavior, the more the odds stack against you. You know, sooner or later, something is going to happen. There is only one way to stop it - stop taking shortcuts. Do yourself a favor and follow the established procedures.

Internal Pressure: There is just so much to do and not enough time!" Are you self-motivated and self-directed? Most employers love this type of individual, but your single-minded determination to get the job done may cause you to lose sight of the dangers around you. Think of it this way, you will not finish the job if you get hurt. You may finish the job if you don't get hurt. Therefore, first, prevent injury. Second, work to complete the job. Make sense?

Attitude: "This safety stuff doesn't apply to me!" So what makes you so special? A study of mine accidents involving supervisors showed that they were injured when they personally failed to apply the safety standards they were to enforce. Did the fact that they were supervisors protect them from injury? No! Humans are humans; Rich or poor; Black or white; Men or women; Strong or weak. There is nothing in your status that will protect you from injury except following the safe procedure.

Remember, safety is no more than doing the job the right way, every day.

Preventing fatalities starts with preventing mishaps. Preventing mishaps starts with preventing the unsafe conditions and the unsafe actions that lead to those mishaps. While most of us do not feel comfortable taking an objective look at ourselves, it is sometimes exactly what is required to change the thing that endangers us the most.

Ironmen Cont.

consider this," he said. "During the bicycle portion of the competition I saw a gentleman with one leg - an above the knee amputee and he was doing extremely well. I also saw a 60 year old woman running with a prosthetic - she was a below the knee amputee, and she defeated me on the swim and the bike portions. These two folks, and many others, made me realize that the human body and spirit is capable of achieving great things - all you got to do is develop a plan, commit and execute."

Other 161st participants from the Operations Group included Lt. Col. Hoyt Slocum and Capt. Erik Wichmann.





(Left) Lt. Col. Hoyt Slocum thinking to himself, "Am I really wearing tights?" (Right) Capt. Erik Wichmann and Col. Aaron Vangelisti smilling after the race, but no one is sure if it is because they are glad they finished or because Capt. Wichmann is wearing a cape.



Airmen train with multinational force during CRUZEXV

By Staff Sergeant Michael Matkin

More than 150 Airmen and seven aircraft represented the United States for the first time in Brazil's air exercise CRUZEX V.

CRUZEX, or Cruzeiro Do Sul (Southern Cross), is a multinational combined exercise involving the Air Forces of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, France and Uruguay, and observers from numerous other countries with more than 82 aircraft and almost 3,000 Airmen involved.

U.S. participation in this multinational event was at the invitation of the Brazilian Air Force and was years in the making.

The two-week exercise focuses on building strong partnerships with Airmen from across Latin America and France while ensuring that Airmen are prepared to assist the international community as part

of U.N.-type coalition efforts. It is another example of the U.S. Air Force partnering with other nations to train and work together in the future, said Brigadier General Trulan A. Eyre, exercise co-director, deployed from the 140th WG, Buckley, Colorado .

This ability to train together as a coalition of nations is the goal of CRUZEX V. To facilitate this training, a scenario was created mandating that the different countries involved work as a synergistic team to accomplish a mission. In the scenario, there are three major components involving fictional countries - the Blue forces operating out of Natal and Recife, Brazil against Red forces. A simulated U.N. Security Council resolution with a Peace Enforcement Force and international coalition is in effect. The Combined Air Operations Center will exercise a simulated

air campaign involving fictional scenarios.

"The exercise, initially designed to standardize actions in a coalition scenario based on NATO structure, has become the most important promoter of integration among our Air Forces," said Lieutenant-Brigadier Juniti Saito, Brazilian Air Force Commander. "The continuous practice of combined activities offers the opportunity to expand the bonds of mutual confidence, nurturing relationships and creating a harmonious environment for all participants."

"Together each of our Air Forces will benefit from the opportunity to fly together, train and share our common Airmen culture," added General Eyre.

"When I notice the highest level of professionalism and the

enthusiasm of all who contribute to make CRUZEX possible, I am convinced, even more, that the intense technological evolution is only possible thanks to an exponential rate of human development," said Lieutenant-Brigadier Saito. "Undoubtedly, the environment of responsibility and friendship contributes to our operational progress, joining forces and assuring the best fulfillment of our missions."

The USAF units participating are: The 161st Air Refueling Wing, Phoenix, Arizona, flying a KC-135 and the 140th WG, Buckley, Colorado, flying six F-16 Fighting Falcons, along with members of Air Forces Southern.

Help Wanted

We need your ideas, comments, suggestions and submissions for stories, question of the quarter, photo opportunities, etc.

If you have a unique citizen/airman story we would like to hear about it.

Please contact the Public Affairs Office by emailing 2nd Lt. Matt Murphy matthew.murphy.1@ang.af.mil

Or Staff Sgt. Michael Matkin

See Story at right

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Ron Prosise, 140th Wing chaplain, interacts with a local student. A group of more than 15 airmen visited the local school of Eliah Maia do Rego, Natal Brazil, building community relations during CRUZEX V. During the visit the airmen interacted with the students on an informal basis; distributed small gifts and took group pictures. CRU-ZEX V, or Cruzeiro Do Sul (Southern Cross), is a multi-national combined exercise involving the Air Forces of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, France and Uruguay, , and observers from numerous other countries with more than 82 aircraft and almost 3,000 Airmen involved. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Michael Matkin)





Airmen Visit Local Brazilian School

By Staff Sgt. Michael Matkin

U.S. Airmen participated in the Brazilian lead multi-national exercise CRUZEX V spent time yesterday with students at a local school here.

A group of more than 15 airmen visited Eliah Maia do Rego Elementary School. During the visit, the airmen interacted with the students on an informal basis distributing small gifts and taking group pictures.

"Everybody was real excited to be with you and of course they also really enjoyed receiving the gifts; however, they especially enjoyed having the chance to talk with all of you and ask questions," said Albino Sobrinnho, a principal of another school who came out to the event to assist the local principal because she doesn't speak English.

One of the visiting airmen agreed. "I loved interacting with the kids, they were a lot of fun to be around and they all had smiles on their faces," said

Senior Airman Shawn Whetstone, 140th Wing fuel systems mechanic. "It was really fun when they sang Happy Birthday to one of the airmen in both Portuguese and English and you could tell that the kids were having fun singing as well."

The visit wasn't just entertaining it was also educational, said Allan Michael Jalescoutinho, a student at the school, who said he has learned English from talking with English speakers at his church. "It was a real pleasure having the occasion to visit with you. It is has been a very good opportunity for me and the rest of the students to expand our world view."

"Expanding the world view and improving relations between countries is one of the primary purposes of the U.S. Air Force's participation in CRUZEX V," said Lt. Col. Paul Aguirre, 161st Air Refueling Wing executive officer and acting public affairs officer for the exercise.



Airmen pose with students at a local school in Natal, Brasil. A group of more than 15 airmen visited the local school of Eliah Maia do Rego building community relations during CRUZEX V. During the visit the airmen interacted with the students on an informal basis: distributed small gifts and took group pictures. CRUZEX V, or Cruzeiro Do Sul (Southern Cross), is a multi-national combined exercise involving the AirForces of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, France and Uruguay, , and observers from numerous other countries with more than 82 aircraft and almost 3,000 Airmen involved. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Michael Malkin)

"We have had the opportunity to build relationships on a military level with Brazil and other countries, but this was an opportunity to build relationship on an interpersonal level," said Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Ron Prosise, 140th Wing chaplain. "It was a good opportunity to leave these students with a very good impression of who we are, not only as a military, but as individual Americans."

Principal Sobrinnho agreed, "This exchange of information is also important for our relations. For the students, it is interaction and understanding between Brazilians and Americans; it is very important for their education. It is especially important because of globalization. This sharing of cultures means we are now closer through a shared culture."

After the event the airmen said it was one of the best parts of the trip.

"It made me proud to be in the

Air Force and the Air National Guard," said Airman Whetstone. "It was for opportunities like this that I joined."

CRUZEX V, or Cruzeiro Do Sul (Southern Cross), is a multinational combined exercise involving the Air Forces of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, France and Uruguay, and observers from numerous other countries with more than 82 aircraft and almost 3.000 Airmen involved.

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161st Civil Engineers Show Their Work at Guantanomo

Photos Courtesy of Capt Simon A Amavisca, USSOUTHCOM JTFGTMO





Photo Above

Left to right: Lt Col Jeffrey Garland, SSgt Michael Brown, SSgt Jimmy Poland, MSgt Redentor Felt, SSgt Luis Morales, Gen Doug Fraser (South Comm Commander), Capt Simon Amavisca, CMSgt David Castro, MSgt Thomas Parsley

Photo at Left

Left to Right: SSgt Luis Morales, Gen Doug Fraser, MSgt Thomas Parsley – briefing South Command Commander of the construction project progress.

Members of the 161st Civil Engineering group are serving in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Their





Antiterrorism/Force Protection U.S. Air Force Eagle Eyes

- Everyone military or civilian, can have a positive effect in thwarting terrorism
- Everyone at the 161 ARW and the surrounding community play a part on our anti-terrorism team
 - Your eyes and ears are critical weapons in the war against terrorism
 - You can report suspicious activity 24 hours a day via this program
 - Your information is immediately shared with appropriate law enforcement agencies and military commanders for immediate action.

"Every Airmen is a Sensor"

- Know what to look for:
 - Surveillance The act of someone recording or monitoring activities using camera equipment, taking notes, drawing maps or using binoculars or any other vision enhancement devices.
 - Elicitation Anyone or any organization attempting to gain information or in person about military operations or its personnel.
- Test of Security Any attempts to measure reaction times to security breaches or to penetrate
 physical security barriers.
 - Acquiring Supplies Purchasing, or even stealing weapons, explosives, uniforms, vehicle decals and even Department of Defense identification media.
 - Suspicious Persons out of Place People who just don't seem to belong there. This could
 be the individual asking questions you know they do not have the need to know. An individual sitting outside the base perimeter fence in their car watching personnel entering
 and exiting the base.
 - Dry Runs Putting people in position and moving them about without actually committing the terrorist act.
 - Deploying Assets This would be the final behavior before the terrorist act. People and supplies are put in place to commit the terrorist act. This would also be your last chance to alert authorities before terrorism occurs.

Be aware, Be Alert and report suspicious activity or behavior immediately to (602)-302-9133





December 2010 Family Day















Fall Festival and Family Day Photos courtesy of the 161st Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs Team.



WHAT CAN A WILL DO FOR YOU?



A will is a legal document you use to dispose of your property at your death. It may also name people to do important jobs, such as a personal representative or executor of your estate, a trustee if you have established a trust, and guardians for minor children. The maker of the will is called the testator. To be valid, a will must comply with specific legal requirements. If you die without a will, the intestacy law of the state where you were domiciled at death will determine who should receive your property. Your domicile is the state where you were a legal resident and is not necessarily the state where you lived when you died. Each state has an "intestacy statute" that will determine how to dispose of your estate if you die without a valid will. While generally, this means that your spouse and child(ren) inherit your property or estate, the proportion of the estate each inherits may not match your wishes. For example, if you die without a will in certain states and leave a surviving spouse and

children, your children will inherit a portion of your estate. Your surviving spouse will only inherit everything if you are not survived by any children or grandchildren. The portion your children inherit is not available to your spouse for his or her needs. This may not be the disposition that you have in mind.

These same "intestacy statutes" also specify who will be in charge of the estate (called your personal representative or executor) and guide a judge in deciding who will be guardians for your minor children. Little flexibility in these laws exists to provide for special needs or family security – something you can do if you write a will. While not everyone needs to create a will in order to ensure that their wishes are carried out at their death, you should consult with an attorney to determine if a will is needed.

O: WHO CAN MAKE A WILL?

A: Any person 18 years old or older and of sound mind can make a will. These two basic requirements must be met but there are other factors that are important as well. The person should be free of coercion, that is they are making the will because they want to do it, not because someone else wants them to, and have an awareness of his or her assets and possessions and family members (regardless of whether the family members are included in the will or not).

Q: CAN ASSETS BE GIVEN TO WHOMEVER I NAME?

A: This is generally true, with two notable exceptions. In most States, the surviving spouse can choose to receive a fixed share of the estate regardless of what the will states. This may not apply if a spouse receives property by means other than the will, such as life insurance proceeds. Also in some States, a child born after the will is signed takes a share of the estate as if no will existed, unless it's made clear that the testator intended to exclude the child. Also see DOES A WILL DISPOSE OF ALL MY PROPERTY?

Q: DOES A WILL DISPOSE OF ALL MY PROPERTY?

A: No. Certain types of assets pass automatically at death according to statute or beneficiary designations.

- 1. Life insurance: Money from a life insurance policy goes to the person named as a beneficiary on the policy.
- 2. Retirement plans: Money from a retirement plan is paid to the beneficiary you named in the plan. This includes a 401(k) account, thrift savings plan, or an individual retirement arrangement (IRA).
- 3. Property owned as a joint tenant with right of survivorship: If you own real estate, cars, bank accounts, or other property with someone else as a joint tenant with right of survivorship, the co-owner inherits your share when you die by operation of law.
- 4. Living trust: Any property that you place in a living trust during your lifetime passes according to the trust.
- 5. A spouse's half of community property: In a community property state (Arizona, California, Idaho, Louisiana, Nevada, New Mexico, Texas, Washington, and Wisconsin, etc.) real estate and possessions acquired during marriage are owned equally by each spouse. Your will distributes only your half of the community property. It may dispose of all of your separate property, that is, possessions and property you brought into the marriage along with gifts and inheritances you received during marriage.
- 6. "Transfer on death" or "Pay on death" accounts: Some bank accounts and security accounts may be held with a beneficiary designation such as "transfer on death". Other assets, such as U.S. savings bonds, may be held in a form directing those assets to be "paid on death" to a named beneficiary.

Q: CAN I LEAVE PROPERTY TO MINOR CHILDREN IN MY WILL?

A: Yes, minor children (children under 18 years or age) can inherit property. However, depending on the type of personal property, an adult must manage it until the child becomes an adult. Your will can name someone to manage the property for the minor, thus avoiding the need for a court-appointment quardianship. You can name either a custodian, property quardian, or trustee depending on your wishes regarding distribution.

Q: CAN I CHANGE MY WILL?

A: Yes. Frequently, a will is changed because the person has changed his mind about how to divide personal property, who he wants as his personal



representative, trustee, or guardian, or because a beneficiary has been born or has died. As a general rule, a will has to be signed and witnessed before it is legally effective. You may use a codicil to make simple changes. A codicil is a legal document that is added to your will and it must be prepared with the same formalities as your will. Never cross out words, or write on your original will as this may invalidate it.

Q: WHEN SHOULD I REVIEW OR CHANGE MY WILL?

A: You should think about changing your will when:

- 1. you get married or divorced
- 2. there is a birth or death in your family that affects your plan in your will
- 3. you have a large increase or decrease in the value of your property
- 4. the person you name as executor, guardian, or trustee dies or becomes unavailable to serve
- 5. estate tax law changes
- you change your state of legal residence
- 7. you decide to change how you want your property distributed.

Q: WHAT HAPPENS TO MY WILL IF I GET DIVORCED? IF I GET MARRIED?

Make an appointment

with the JAG

UTA Weekends

Call 602-302-9054

Capt. Neal Rodak,

Staff Judge Advocate

MSqt. Lori Jung and

TSqt Lisa Gonzalez

Paralegals

A: Under some State laws, if you get divorced after you've written a will the spouse named in the will is automatically eliminated as a beneficiary under the will when the divorce is final. Your ex-spouse may still inherit other assets by operation of law or statute. If you marry after you've written a will your spouse receives the same share he or she would have received without a will unless the will makes clear that the omission was intentional or if the spouse was provided for outside the will. An intentional omission doesn't change the rights of the spouse to take a fixed share unless such rights have been relinquished in a marital agreement. You should discuss a change in your marital situation with a legal assistance attorney to evaluate whether you need to change or prepare a will.

Q: HOW LONG IS A WILL VALID?

A: Until you revoke it by destroying it or you prepare and execute a new will.

Q: WHO SHOULD KNOW ABOUT MY WILL?

A: Your personal representative (the person you named in your will to administer your estate), and your spouse or other responsible close friends and relatives. You should keep your will in a safe place, such as a locked fireproof box at your residence. If you use a bank safe deposit box, check to make sure the bank will not seal the box or limit access to it upon your death.

Q: WHAT ELSE DOES A WILL DO BESIDES DISTRIBUTE PROPERTY?

A: Through a will, you can nominate who will be the personal representative (administrator, executor) of your estate. You can set up a trust for long term management of assets and for the protection and security of your surviving family members and nominate a trustee. You can nominate a guardian for your minor children, although there are some restrictions on this right. You can minimize or eliminate federal and state estate taxes. A well-drafted will can often reduce the time and expense of administering an estate.

Q: CAN I SAVE TAXES BY USING A WILL?

A: This depends on the size of the estate and other factors. A will has the potential to provide tax savings when properly prepared. A will can also reduce tax liability in future generations, if not in the present generation. It is a common misunderstanding that "avoiding probate" saves taxes. Probate and taxes are separate matters.

Q: CAN I WRITE MY OWN WILL?

A: Most states generally recognize wills that are handwritten and signed by the testator; these are known as holographic wills. You may also be tempted to use a fill in the blank form purchased from a bookstore or on-line software to draft your will. These forms are often out of date and may not conform to the laws of your state. While you may save money now, your beneficiaries may pay for it at your death. The drafting of a will requires special skills and it would be prudent to have this done by an attorney. If you are entitled to military legal assistance, you can consult with an attorney and have a will drafted for you at a military legal assistance office free of charge.

The material in this handout represents general legal principles. The law is continually changing: although the information in the handout was current as of the date it was drafted, some provisions in this pamphlet may have changed. It is always best to consult an attorney about your legal rights and responsibilities regarding your particular case.



Got a Problem? The IG Can Help!



Inspector General (IG) Major Denise Sweeney

(602) 302-9331 / DSN: 853-9331 Located 161 ARW HQ Building 10

In keeping with our wingman stand-down, this article is devoted to another resource that you may not be familiar with - the IG office and AFI 90-301. Often times, visits to my office end up as "referrals", "assists", or "transfers" - rather than the ever present association with the IG office -"complaints". Many issues are brought to the attention of the IG that don't necessarily belong in the "lane" of the complaints resolution process. These referrals, assists, and transfers are generally easy thanks to AFI 90-301. The most current version of this instruction includes a cover memorandum dated 10 Aug 10 - be certain to reference this newest version.

AFI 90-301 is a helpful tool for any commander, first sergeant, supervisor, mentor...really, anyone. The AFI makes it easy to refer airmen to the correct agency on and around our base - based on the nature of the issue. WHY?

It's simple. It is written very prescriptive in nature - especially Table 2.5 (Page 49). Simply locate the "Type of Complaint" that you have and next to it on the chart is

the "Referral Agency" and the accompanying AFI. For example, if a fellow airmen had an issue involving an ANG retention matter, where would you send them? To the IG? While I am happy to assist, I would end up referring them to the correct agency on base which, in this instance, would be the command staff. Additionally, ANGI 36-2606, Selective Retention of Air National Guard Officer and Enlisted Personnel and ANGI 36-2607, Air National Guard Retention Program are listed as resources. This table is a great resource that will help you get to the solution faster.

The IG office is here to help whether as a sounding board or a referral resource. Most of my time spent meeting with fellow airmen is not complaint related at all, so please don't let the IG "stigma" keep you away - I stand ready to serve the 161st. If there is something troubling you, please seek assistance from the IG office without fear of reprisal or retaliation. 602-302-9331 or denise.sweeney@ang.af.mil



Above: TSgt. Sean Kelly from Aircrew Flight Equipment fits a pilot with his safety equipment. TSgt. Kelly is the 161st NCO of the year.

Below: SMSgt. Judy Dillman in her office mentoring one of her troops. SMSgt. Dillman is the 161st First Sergeant of the year (U.S. Air Force photos/Master Sgt. Kelly Deitloff)



STRONG BONDS COUPLES RETREAT

Featuring the Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage curriculum



(Video preview: http://www.laughyourway.com/video-library/)

Building Ready Families

Whether you've celebrated one anniversary or twenty, as an ANG couple you can anticipate more excitement - and expect more challenges - than the average civilian couple.

That's why the Strong Bonds Couples program was developed.

The Strong Bonds Couples Weekend Retreat is designed to strengthen relationships, inspire hope and rekindle marriages – even start the journey of healing for relationships under fire. This retreat not only offers a FREE getaway for you and your spouse, but you will gain practical, useful information based on world-class curriculum developed from years of research.

CONTACT INFO: Chaplain, Capt Lance SchraderLance.Schrader@gmail.com - 602.471.0516

HURTS ONE. AFFECTS ALL.



PREVENTING SEXUAL ASSAULT IS EVERYONE'S DUTY.

SARC Information

PAUL R. AGUIRRE, Lt. Col., AZ ANG 161 ARW/CCE 602-302-9449 (DSN 853) 602-768-4384



















Annual Holiday Party a Night of Food and Fun

By 1st Lt. Matt Murphy



In true holiday fashion, 161st Air Refueling enlisted and officer corps enjoyed an evening of food and fun at the Hilton Pointe at Squaw Peak in Phoenix.

As one of the primary organizers of the annual holiday party, Capt.

Tamela Demik said, "This is a great opportunity for members of the unit to get to know each other in a relaxed environment. There is no rank and everyone enjoys dinner as part of the greater 161st family."

Demik and other organizers made an effort to encourage and promote the

party by offering a significantly reduced rate to the junior enlisted corps giving them a chance to enjoy an evening out that included dinner, dancing and a silent auction.

Some members of the 161st make it a family affair. Carla Smith, wife of Chief Johnny Smith said, "This is such a nice way to get

to know more of the people in the unit and their families. " Joining the Chief and his wife was their son Airman First Class Jason Smith and his date.

(See the Smith family photo on next page top left.)





Page 19

Annual Holiday Party a Night of Food and Fun

















combat trafficking in persons

Be a voice...



sex slaves and child prostitutes - human faces of modern day slavery

Photographs Courtey of the Department of Justice, The Protection Project at Johns Hopkins University - SAIS, and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

report human trafficking

e-mail us at hotline@dodig.osd.mil

"There's a special evil in the abuse and exploitation of the most innocent and vulnerable. The victims of sex trade see little of life before they see the worst of life - an underground of brutality and lonely fear. Those who patronize this industry debase themselves and deepen the misery of others. And governments that tolerate this trade are tolerating a form of slavery."

President George W. Bush September 23, 2003



To report fraud, waste, mismanagement, and abuse of authority within the Department of Defense.

Send written complaints to: Defense Hotline, The Pentagon, Washington, D.C. 20301-1900 800.424.9098 Commercial: 703.604.8799 www.dodig.osd.mil/hotline



Meet the 161st Air Refueling Wing Human Resource Advisor

Senior Master Sergeant Terry was born in Buffalo, New York. She moved to Arizona in the mid 70's and attended and graduated from Mesa High School. She has earned four college degrees. She has a Bachelor of Science Degree from Grand Canyon University, in Public Safety; a Masters of Education Degree from Northern Arizona University, in Counseling/ Human Relations; and two Associate Degrees in Logistics and Human Resources from the Community College of the Air Force.

Sergeant Terry has held many professional jobs. She is a licensed cosmetologist and worked as a hair dresser for eight years. She worked two years as a Correctional Officers with the Arizona Department of Corrections and has more than 20 years as a Phoenix Police Officer/ Lieutenant.

Sergeant Terry enlisted into the United States Army Reserves in 1987 for an eight years commitment. After completion of Basic Training, she attended technical training for Motor Transport Operator at Fort Dix, New Jersey and later attended technical training to become an

Administrative Specialist. Her first and final assignments were with the 348th Transportation Unit in Phoenix, Arizona. In between, she served two years with the US Army Reserves First Military Intelligence Unit also in Phoenix, Arizona. She left the Army Reserves in 1995 as a Sergeant with a solid foundation in core values and leadership.

Sergeant Terry chose to extend her military career and in 1995 enlisted in the Arizona Air National Guard, 161st Air Refueling Wing at Sky Harbor Airport, Phoenix, Arizona. She retrained into the Supply Management career field and graduated from the United States Air Force Supply Management Apprentice Course in 1996. Sergeant Terry worked many

sergeant Terry worked many areas in the Logistics Flight and was the Logistics Readiness Squadron First Sergeant from 2005 until 2010. She is currently working as the 161st Air Refueling Wing (ARW) Human Resources Advisor (HRA). As a champion for diversity, a Senior Noncommission Officer (SNCO) and a Lieutenant with the Phoenix Police Department,

Sergeant Terry brings over 23 years of leadership experience and a wide-range of community and organizational involvement. She has invested energy and enthusiasm in the development and delivery of training programs in diversity, leadership, and organizational change.

She is known for enhancing the Air National Guard culture by promoting individuals' personal and professional opportunities, simply by carrying out my own responsibilities and providing successful mentoring. Her key strengths are in organization, communication, counseling, and project management. She is flexible, detail-oriented, and posses strong problem solving skills. As a self-motivated individual, she has a positive attitude and a successful record of accomplishments in leadership, quality improvements, personnel morale and motivation. Professionally, Sergeant Terry has taken on a leadership role in the squadron. Sergeant Terry is a role model and her mentoring qualities are evident. As a member of the Base Honor Guard, she displays disciplines and a high level of esprit-de-corp. With less than



Senior Master Sergeant Barbara Terry 161 ARW Human Resource Advisor



two years of being eligible she became a graduate of the Webbased SNCO Academy course. She always maintains a personal ANG Fitness Assessment Level of "Excellent" with a current score of 99.8.

Sergeant Terry is available to assist unit members with a variety of services and training. She can be reached by email Barbara.terry@ang.af.mil or her cell at 480-326-6006

Force Support Squadron Merger Keeps Servicemembers on the Leading Edge

By Staff Sergeant Michael Matkin

The 161st Air Refueling Wing activated the 161st Force Support Squadron during a ceremony here Oct. 6, 2010.

The ceremony saw the joining of two flights into one squadron, the 161st Services Flight and the 161st Mission Support Flight. "We celebrate the past as we consolidate two flights, and we celebrate the future by passing command of a new squadron to its Commander," said Chief Master Sgt. Enrique Rivera, 161st Mission Support Group Chief. He continued, "Today's ceremony is somewhat unique as we will witness the joining of two flights into one squadron. The [servicemembers] from both flights will join together and

form the new force support team."

Col. Kyle Kobashigawa, 161st Mission Support Group Commander thanked the commander of the previously separated flights:

"1st Lt. Jeffrey D Robertson, thank you for your past service as the 161st Services Flight Commander and your continual service as a leader in the new Force Support Squadron. Maj. Lorri Conley, thank you for working to ensure a smooth transition in combining the Services Flight into the new Force Support Squadron."

The new organization is the result of an ongoing Air Forcewide merger of mission support

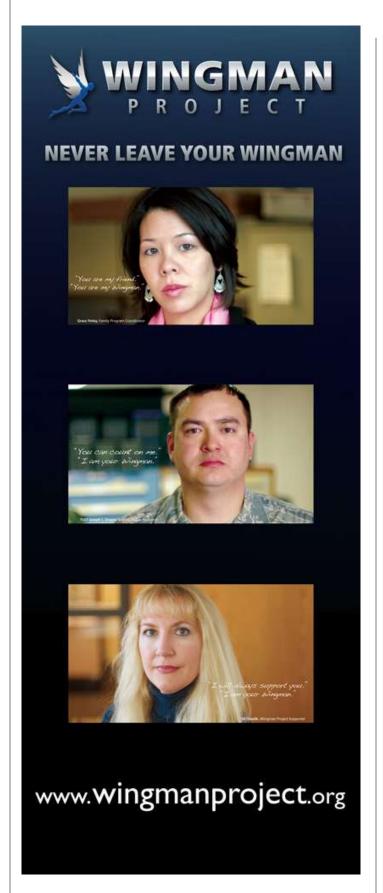
and services and is expected to be completed in 2010.
"Both flights served a unique and different purpose, but both provided support to airmen from the beginning of their careers to the end, as well as everything in-between," said Maj. Lorri Conley, 161 FSS Commander. "The new squadron will keep us on the leading edge - ready to go into battle, and return safe and sound."

"Today is a special day and will be a stepping stone into the future," said 1st Lt. Jeffrey Robertson, Services and Readiness Officer In Charge.



The occupational badge for the new 38F Force Support Air Force Specialty Code incorporates the torch from the services badge and the delta from the manpower and personnel badge. Force support officers are now authorized to wear the new badge at the expertise level basic, senior (shown) or master - attained in their legacy career field. All Force support officers must begin wearing the badge by Aug. 1. (U.S. Air Force illustration/Capt. Thomas Oziemblowsky)









VISIT US ON THE WEB!

The official web site of the 161st Air Refueling Wing is located at

http://www.161arw.ang.af.mil

For questions, submissions, or general inquiries, please contact the Public Affairs Office by emailing

1st Lt. Matt Murphy

matthew.murphy.1@ang.af.mil

Or Staff Sgt. Michael Matkin

Michael.matkin@ang.af.mil



ANNOUNCEMENTS and OPPPORTUNITIES

PANG Patriots Scholarship

Applications are available throughout the year for two semester awards of \$500, from the Phoenix Air National Guard Patriots interest group. Applicants can be any enlisted member in good standing of the 161 ARW, and working toward their first baccalaureate degree. Applicants must carry seven hours minimum and maintain at lease a 2.5-4.0 grade point average. The next application deadline is Nov. 15, 2010. For an application and more information, Contact Glenn Klassen at 602-302-9199, or glenn.klassen@ang.af.mil.

Tutoring Available

TUTORING: Free and unlimited tutoring, in a variety of subjects, is now available online for all service members and their families. A new service provided by the Department of Defense matches youths and adults with certified, professional tutors at Tutor.com http://www.tutor.com/military-programs. This assistance is available for all branches of the service.

Tutors can assist students in more than 16 subjects as well as standardized tests. Tutors will also work with parents desiring instruction on effectively tutoring their children. Military service members and their dependents around the world can work with a certified, professional tutor online 24/7 to get help with homework, studying, test prep, resume writing and more.



Check out our video news stories on the web at http://www.161arw.ang.af.mil

DRILL and EVENT SCHEDULE

Remaining UTA for 2011

March 5-6

April 2-3

May 14-15

June 4-5

July 9-10

August 13-14

September 10-11

October 1-2

November 5-6

December 3-4

Upcoming Events

Airmen of the Year Banquet March 5

UCI and HIS re-inspection: May 13-16

ORI: 5-16 June 2012

Operational Readiness Training Program

War Skills Combat Lab, held at Volk Field May 20th through the 26th, 2011.

Full Scale Exercise, held at Volk Field Aug. 14th through the 20th, 2011.

Operational Readiness Exercise, held in Alpena April 14th through the 20th, 2012.

Nuclear Operational Readiness Inspection, held at the 161 ARW, June 5th through the 8th, 2012.

Operational Readiness Inspection, held at Volk Field

June 9th through the 16th, 2012.





Arizona Air National Guard

3200 E. Old Tower Road Phoenix, Arizona 85034

> Phone: 602-302-9235 Fax: 602-302-9199

Home of the 161st Copperheads!

We 're on the web!

www.161arw.ang.af.mil

Our Mission

The 161st Air Refueling Wing is postured to respond to the needs of the Governor of Arizona and the President of the United States on a moment's notice. Our primary mission is to provide aerial refueling of military aircraft and transportation of personnel, patients and cargo anywhere, anytime. We also have many enabling mission sets to include trained aircrews, aircraft maintenance professionals, a medical group, civil engineering, security forces, logistics readiness, services and more. We deploy hundreds of people every year to support the nations needs and are committed to our citizen airman culture.

OUR VISION: Flexibility - Integrity - Readiness - Sustainability - Teamwork
FIRST to exceed the needs and expectations of our community, state, and nation.

