



# TENTH AIR FORCE *times*

NAS JRB Fort Worth, Texas  
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## FOLLOWING A SON'S FOOTSTEPS

Part 2 *pg. 2*

## FATHER, SON PREP JETS TOGETHER FOR FLIGHT IN IRAQ

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Tenth Air Force Commander Receives

# SECOND STAR



## On the Cover

Major General Coon's promotion was held on February 20, 2009 at the Desert Storm Club. Former Air Force Reserve Commander Lieutenant General (ret) John Bradley was the presiding officer.



by Master Sgt. Shawn David McCowan  
10<sup>th</sup> Air Force Public Affairs

### **Editor's Note:**

*This is the second of a three-part series about SSgt Francisco "Paco" Martinez, a Citizen Airman whose son was killed in Iraq, and how he plans to honor his son's life by protecting others who deploy.*

It would be difficult for most Airmen to tell their family they were willing to travel to a dangerous land where our enemy is waiting to kill us. But it would be all the more difficult when a member of the family had recently been killed in the same place.

Francisco "Paco" Martinez, a member of 610th Security Forces Squadron at Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth, Texas, had to explain the news of his deployment to his wife and

daughter while the memory of his own son's death there was still fresh in their minds.

His wife, Maria, better understood his need to follow his son to Iraq and protect other families' children still fighting there. But Monica, his young daughter, was less prepared to handle the news.

"It really hurt to hear her ask if I was going to ever come home. I took her in my arms and promised to come back, but I know she was afraid because she lost her brother," said Martinez.

In the summer of 2008, Paco was nearing his deployment to the very location of his son's death. Every minute seemed to be an ongoing memory of his time with his son, and how he lost him.

Francisco "Paco" Martinez brought his son, "Paquito"

Martinez, to America from Puerto Rico in 1999. Only 19 years apart in age, they were closer to friends than father and son.

“Paquito and I would go driving and listen to Emerson, Lake and Palmer. He’d get into my ‘old school’ music and then he’d introduce me to newer songs. Sometimes we’d go hang out with viejos... the old folks... listening and dancing to salsa. He helped me bridge the generation gap.”

Paco and his son shared an affinity for technology. They poured over the Fry’s Electronics ads every Friday, and dreamed of owning many of the gadgets in those pages. Soon, that passive interest became serious, and Paquito followed his father into the software business.

After spending some time as Paco’s apprentice in software engineering, Paquito quickly developed into a talented graphics artist. Although he proved himself in his skills, he did not pick up a lucrative contract on his own.

“I used to tease him by telling him, ‘Well, there’s always the military, like your old dad!’ He’d tell me ‘No way.’”

But Paquito did choose to join the Army. To help him prepare, Paco worked out with him and offered encouragement as the time neared to go to Basic Military Training.

In 2002, Paquito called his father to tell him he’d been assigned as a Fire Support Specialist. Although he was not assigned as a computer engineer, he was still excited to serve after his father.

He was sent to Korea for two years and then deployed to Iraq. While there, he found time to contact his father through email and instant messaging.

While working in Irving in 2004, Paco saw many of his associates grow fond of Paquito’s contacts.

“When he’d make it online, my whole office would gather around. He was just that magnetic of a personality. He was bright and cheerful and it drew people in.”

Paco said his co-workers, even the ones who were against the war, found themselves looking forward to emails and messages with Paquito. He had become all of their “son.”

In March 2005, Paquito’s emails began to get fewer, and less descriptive. His father could tell things were getting more tense there, and although it worried Paco, he kept faith in the purpose in his son’s mission.

“I always believed that the Lord has a purpose for all of us, and that it’s all held together. We just don’t always know that purpose at the time.”

On March 18, Paco got a sobering email from his son. Four of his son’s friends were killed in a recent attack on American forces. He was being sent to patrol the area and gather their remains. He wrote that he could hear the fighting on the front lines and wanted to do more to help.



He ended with, “I can hear my friends dying out there.”

Paco quickly wrote his son back, encouraging him to stay focused, while he empathized about the loss of his battlefield friends.

Feeling the need to help, Paquito got himself assigned to serving warrants and conducting foot patrols. On March 20, he was assigned to escort Radioso reporter, Gina Cavallero.

At the moment he was called away from his computer to accomplish that escort duty, he was three emails away from his father’s encouraging response.

He never read that email.

Later that day, while Ms. Cavallero was reporting from a small village, an enemy sniper attacked their group. Paquito was mortally wounded, and died later that day.

Ms. Cavallero found Paco a few months later. She asked to meet with him, to share with him the loss of his son as the last civilian to see him alive. Paco said the meeting helped him cope.”

“I feel blessed because meeting with Ms. Cavallero gave me some closure. She could tell me everything, and at least I could have all my questions answered.”

Even though he was able to gain understanding of his loss in a special way, he says nothing will completely give him closure because of their close relationship.

“I still talk to him at his gravesite. We look over the Fry’s ads together, and I tell him about the fun new things coming out. I always tell him how much I miss him and his company. He was my best friend. I don’t think going to the place he died will offer closure either, but making sure all those other sons and daughters come home safely might get me closer.”

The close bond they shared has stayed with Paco, down to the smallest details.

“Most of the clothes I wear now are his clothes.”

As he drove to the base in the summer of 2008, those clothes included the uniform of an American servicemember deploying to Iraq.

# The American Airman

by Chief Master Sgt. Leslie Morrissette  
10th Air Force Command Chief

You will not find their names etched in granite or marble stone; or on neatly placed placards with accompanying pictures lining the hallways and corridors of the Air Force's numerous buildings and edifices; nor recorded in great literary text and canonized in the books of our Air Force history noting their contributions to the Air Force or the Air Force Reserve Command. They are simple men in character but were multifaceted Airmen in their vision, duty, commitment, and service to our nation.

They are men who displayed a quiet resolve and sincere appreciation for the positions they held. Maybe their steadfastness was due to the fact they came of age and answered the call of duty, while so many others of their era shunned the uniform they wore and deplored their service to a nation engaged in an unpopular war. It could have been they simply had pride in what they did which led them to ensure the generation to follow in their footsteps would be well prepared to carry out the duties required, expected, and demanded of the American Airmen. Whatever their reasons, the one thing they understood was they had an obligation to make a difference.

Soldiering is my lineage...infantrymen, paratroopers, and rangers from the Great War to the present war. I grew up in a family of soldiers, I was a soldier but today I am an American Airmen, and proud of it...Air Force blue...through and through. My chiefs are the shoulders of the giants I stand on. No, you will not find their names written in any books of historical significance. But they shared the knowledge, the pride, and the meaning of what it really means to be an American Airmen with me and hundreds of others.

As your Tenth Air Force Command Chief, it is my privilege to serve with you in the world's greatest and most lethal Air Force and my honor to walk shoulder-to-shoulder among the world's greatest Airmen, all inclusive...active duty, Guard, reserve, retired, and civilians.

Because of airmen like you our Air Force remains vigilant and strong. Our brothers and sisters are serving all over the world, participating in the many on-going operations, delivering precise intelligence, ordnance, supplies, fuel, and other effects to support the combat commanders worldwide; flying satellites, sitting air defense and missile alert and leading vehicle convoy operations.

The American Airmen is not just a position within the construct of our nation's military ranks--rather the American Airmen is a state of being, a state of mind. It is a consciousness or should I say an attitude that you are a part of something great, something noble...noble not in term of aristocratic, but service... with a deep sense of pride where we place duty, the mission, and honor above personal comfort or safety.

Since 1947 when the Air Force became an independent service there have been more than six million of you to don Air Force blue...six million people who have joined the United States Air Force and serve as Airmen. I'm proud to be, like you are, among that vast number. We have inherited an Air Force left to us through the vision, blood, and sacrifices of the heroes and the legends that came before us. And among these heroes and legends were many enlisted airmen.

But you ask for no special thanks in return for your unwavering commitment to serve, your devotion to duty, your sacrifices to ensure America remains the land of the free and the home of the brave. Yet, someone once said "We often take for granted the very things that most deserve our gratitude." I offer you and your families my special thanks. I have seen many great airmen in my career, and I'm sure there will be many more to follow.

Remember this simple truth; the Airmen of tomorrow will only be as good as we prepare them today. Take a moment to reflect on your service, duty, and commitment and then ask, "Am I upholding the tradition and legacy of what it means to be an American Airman?" My prayer is that God will continue to bless you, our leaders, the United States of America, and the greatest Airmen and Air Force in the World.





*Air Force Reservists MSgt. Darrel Brownlee (left) and his son, SrA. Kevin Brownlee, are serving together in the same F-16 aircraft maintenance unit at Joint Base Balad, Iraq, during an 80-day rotation, the Air Force announced Feb. 2, 2009. The Brownlees are deployed from 301st Fighter Wing, Fort Worth, Tex. (Air Force photo SrA. Tiffany Trojca)*

## Father, Son Prep Jets Together for Flight in Iraq

by Staff Sgt. John Gordinier

332nd Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

**2/2/2009 - JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq** -- An F-16 Fighting Falcon from the 301st Fighter Wing, Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth, Texas, pulls into a hangar for alert-status preparation.

A frenzy of crew chiefs work together to get the aircraft turned around quickly for the next go. Among the crew chiefs, a master sergeant and a senior airman with the same last name on their nametapes work side-by-side preparing the jet for the fight.

Master Sgt. Darrel Brownlee and his son, Senior Airman Kevin Brownlee, Air Force reservists in the 332nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron aircraft maintenance unit, recently deployed here for an 80-day rotation from their hometown of Fort Worth.

"It's great working with my son. He finally does what I tell him to do," Sergeant Brownlee said jokingly while staring at his son with a grin. "We work very well together, and it's great to have family by my side during this deployment.

"At first, it was just me deploying and my wife, Troy Lynn, was a little bothered by that," the master sergeant said. "Later, we found out Kevin was going as well. Needless to say, my wife blamed me a little at first, but she got over it pretty fast."

"I have a good time working with my dad because I get to

teach him something every once in a while," Airman Brownlee responded, poking fun back at his dad. "My dad didn't push me into the Air Force at all, it was my decision, and I'm very happy with my experience thus far. Not many people can say they work on F-16 fighter jets."

Sergeant Brownlee spent seven years of active-duty and seventeen years in the Air Force Reserve. His son has been a reservist for three years.

"Sergeant and Airman Brownlee are the epitome of dedication and service," said Capt. Robert Mehan, officer in charge of the aircraft maintenance unit. "They help complete the total-force chain. As Citizen Airmen, they bring the same combat capability our active-duty Air Force counterparts bring to the (area of responsibility) without missing a beat."

Crew chief duties are different in Balad compared to most other locations because here they work around aircraft with live munitions. Here, they are all loaded. Here, crew chiefs work any aircraft in order to support the flying mission, while back home, they are assigned to specific jets.

Being a crew chief at Balad is rewarding, according to Sergeant Brownlee. At most bases across the United States, a crew chief is responsible for one aircraft and its maintainers. In the area of responsibility, all crew chiefs work together as a team to make sure each alert jet that comes through is safely and quickly turned around or fully armed for mission success.

"We're proud to be part of that," Airman Brownlee quickly added.

Pausing, Sergeant Brownlee said, "It's good to see him confident in his work."

## NAF NEWS BRIEFS

### Best Kept Secret In North Texas

It is that time of year again when the engines roar, tires squeal, and cars crash on the best quarter mile dirt track in North Texas. Come out to Boyd Raceway in Boyd Texas just off of 730 south of 114 in Boyd or go north on 730 from Hwy 199 in Azle. Show your Military ID (retired, active, reserve, guard, or dependant) for free admission. The racing is fun. The snack bar has great food. Gates open at 6pm racing starts at 8pm every Friday starting March 6. Please see website for race dates & times. <http://www.boydraceway.net>

### 2009 Air Force Reserve/Air National Guard Teen Leadership Summits

We are thrilled to announce we have received funding for two Air Force Reserve/Air National Guard Teen Leadership Summits this year. Marketing materials to include postcards and posters are being mailed to your Command Chief for distribution to the First Sergeants and other applicable base agencies. The application deadline is April 6th- application and criteria are located at the following website: [www.georgia4h.org/AFRANGTeenSummit](http://www.georgia4h.org/AFRANGTeenSummit). We appreciate your support in promoting this outstanding opportunity to our teens.

Below you will find more detailed information about each summit:

- July 13-17, 2009 - Wahsega 4-H Center, Dahlonega, GA (site of the 2008 Summit)
- Attendees will be flown into Atlanta-Hartsfield International Airport. This Summit will focus on developing an awareness of programs and services available to AF Reserve and Air National Guard dependents. Activities include high/low ropes course, rock climbing, white water rafting, environmental education and leadership classes.
- July 27-31, 2009 - Jekyll Island 4-H Center, Jekyll Island, GA
- Attendees will be flown into Jacksonville International Airport. This Summit will build upon information gained at the first Summit so attendees should come with a basic understanding of programs and services available to them as dependents of AFR/ANG. Speak Out for Military Kids training will be provided as well as programs focused on ocean/marsh life and the local history. Activities will include sea kayaking/canoeing, dolphin tours, biking, a day at Cumberland Island National Seashore, leadership activities and more.

The AFR/ANG Teen Leadership Summits are open to all 15-18 year old dependent teens of current Air Force Reserve or Air National Guard members. Applicants will be required to complete the 2009 AFR/ANG Teen Leadership Summit application to include essay questions and Code of Conduct.

### Changes to Vehicle Operations

Due to the recent changes as seen below in AFI 24-301 VEHICLE OPERATIONS paragraph 8.4 states that any individual operating a Government Motor Vehicle (GMV), this includes the GSA van assigned to 10th AF now requires to have in their possession an AF Form 2293, U.S. Air Force Motor Vehicle Operator Identification Card (government license).

*8.4. Licensing: Operation of GMVs (owned, leased or rented) requires possession of an AF Form 2293, U.S. Air Force Motor Vehicle Operator Identification Card. International driver licenses cannot be used in lieu of the AF Form 2293, except as indicated in Paragraphs 8.5.2. and 8.14. All personnel must have a valid state motor vehicle license and a valid AF Form 2293 in their possession while operating a GMV. Note: For entry, award, and retention of the 2T1X1 Vehicle Operator/Dispatcher Air Force Specialty (AFS), personnel must possess a valid state driver's license.*

If you plan to operate any government owned or leased motor vehicles on this installation you must contact the 301st Transportation Squadron (Dispatch Office) NLT June 1, 2009.

### New Time in Grade Requirement for O-5 and O-6 Retirements

Effective March 22, 2007, the Secretary of the Air Force authorized the reduction of the three-year time in grade requirement for reserve colonels and lieutenant colonels to retire in grade to no less than two years. This provision specifically applies to:

Reserve personnel in the grade of lieutenant colonel who are affected by force structure changes, all colonels, and all otherwise eligible AGR and ART personnel. (Note: limitation for lieutenant colonels due to force structure changes does not apply to AGR lieutenant colonel applicants; all eligible AGR personnel in the grade of lieutenant colonel and colonel may apply.) There are unique AGR and ART criteria outlined in paragraphs 7 (AGR) and 8 (ART) in addition to all other requirements in this message.

This authority is not retroactive and shall not apply to any previous retirements. The policy and procedure outlined in this message are effective immediately.

## TRAINING CORNER

### 10th AF/A1T CoP

Please click this hyperlink for the <https://afkm.wpafb.af.mil/ASPs/docman/DOCMain.asp?Tab=0&FolderID=OO-SC-RC-18-4-6&Filter=OO-SC-RC-18>

### Quarterly Training Meeting Dates

All Supervisors and Training Monitors are required to attend quarterly training meetings per AFI 36-2201V3 Para 6.1.8.

All meetings will be 1300-1330 hours, 10th AF upstairs Conference Room 231.

Next Meeting: **April 4, 2009**

### Ancillary Training

Status of Training Reports have been updated. Please go to <P:\DP-Personnel\TRAINING ROSTER DP\Ancillary> to see if you are due required training.

### Fit Test Requirement for Attending PME and Formal Training...**Correction!**

The rules for both PME and Formal training are the same: you must have a current fitness assessment (FA) within twelve months that will **not expire** during school attendance. If you scored less than 75.00 on your annual AF Fitness Assessment, you must pre-coordinate your attendance with the your Unit Commander and school via the AFRC Liaison at least two weeks prior to class start date.

NOTE: Even if you passed your fitness assessment, sister services included, you must turn-in that paperwork on day one. Students who arrive with an uncoordinated FA failure will be returned to station at their unit's expense.

### Training Tidbit of the Month/Air Force Training Record (AFTR) Implementation

ALL AFRC members (Officers and Enlisted) must submit an AF Form 101 (military status) or SF182 (civilian status) for ALL schools. When in doubt have the member fill out the appropriate form and the Wing Training office will process via MILPDS/OTA and contact AFRC course owners when needed.

Please let your member know not to contact AFRC, ACC, AETC etc. for any reason, they must and should go through the Wing Training office for any Formal School. We understand that some members are contacted directly by the course owners; however, we still need to route requests via the Wing Training office up to AFRC Formal Schools.

## CCAF Partnership with GEM

WHAT IS GEM? General Education Mobile (GEM) is an exciting new partnership between CCAF and civilian academic institutions

- GEM offers “clustered” General Education courses to meet CCAF AAS degree requirements
- Courses are offered in mobile (distance) learning format: anytime, anywhere availability
- Reduces the impact of deployments, PCS, and family commitments

### Why GEM?

Average graduation time for CCAF students is >10 years; Gen-Ed courses are typically the last taken

- GEM eases student course selection and registration via single-point access on the Air Force Virtual Education Center (AFVEC).
- Facilitates student planning across entire Gen-Ed curriculum—motivates student to complete courses on a self-paced timeline.
- Program completion “contract” will assure course availability and encourage timely student completion of the Gen-Ed curriculum.
- GEM goal is to reduce the average CCAF graduation time to less than six years
- GEM features partnerships with community colleges to offer education focused on freshman/sophomore level instruction at a lower per-credit tuition assistance cost

### How Will GEM Work?

GEM will be delivered via the Air Force Portal and AFVEC

- GEM will feature a familiar look and feel as the successful AU-ABC platform
- Students will conveniently search for schools that meet their needs and preferences
- GEM will feature integrated search, registration, course enrollment, tuition assistance, and transcript ordering processes

### When Will GEM Be Available?

GEM will be available to the field for enrollments on March 2, 2009

**MEDICAL/DENTAL APPOINTMENTS**

Appt Date	Name	Appt Type
3/7/09 7:00	ARTHUR ROBERT S	Long Fly
3/7/09 7:00	SOLOMON WADE C	Long Fly
3/7/09 9:10	BATTLE MICHAEL A	Long Nonfly
3/7/09 9:10	RIMMER LAWRENCE V	Long Nonfly
3/7/09 9:10	JACOBS GARY M	Long Nonfly
3/7/09 9:30	SPRATLEY VICKIE L	Long Nonfly
3/7/09 9:50	PERRY EDWARD R	Long Nonfly
3/8/09 8:20	DANKERT DARREN A	Dental Exam
3/8/09 8:20	GRAVES KIMBERLY M	Dental Exam
3/8/09 9:20	CIOFFERO KYLE J	Dental Exam
3/8/09 9:20	HAYES KELLI D	Dental Exam
3/8/09 9:20	MC CALL HORTENSE C	Dental Exam
3/8/09 9:20	MEADOWS DONALD W	Dental Exam
3/8/09 9:40	MUMAW BARBARA L	Dental Exam
3/8/09 10:00	BRANTLEY JAMES S JR	Dental Exam
3/8/09 10:00	ROWLANDS LARA P	Dental Exam
3/8/09 10:20	GLENN GERALD D	Dental Exam
3/8/09 10:20	HOUCK RICHARD G JR	Dental Exam
3/8/09 10:40	SMITH WALTER L	Dental Exam

**NEWCOMERS**

MSgt Lewis Llyod - A4

MSgt Renee Murphy - A3

Maj Justin Broughton - A3

**PROMOTIONS**

CMSgt Roy Hale

SMSgt Marcos Farias

**UTA SCHEDULE DATES**

4-5 Apr 2009

11-12 Jul 2009

2-3 May 2009

1-2 Aug 2009

6-7 Jun 2009

12-13 Sep 2009

**MARCH UTA SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

Saturday – 7 Mar

0630-0700

Sign In

1545-1615

Sign Out

Sunday – 8 Mar

0630-0700

Sign In

1000

SORTS Meeting, CC Conference Rm

1300-1400

AFPAAS Training, Conference Rm 231

1545-1615

Sign Out

TENTH AIR FORCE  
*times*

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