





Col. Robert T. Brooks, Jr.

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## Commander's column

By Col. Robert T. Brooks, Jr.

Barnestormers;

In 1940, Winston Churchill made his famous wartime speech in which he said "Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few". He was referring to the ongoing efforts of the Royal Air Pilots who were at the time fighting the Battle of Britain, the pivotal air battle with the German Luftwaffe with Britain expecting a German invasion. The pilots became known as "The Few". "The Few' stopped the Germans from attempting an invasion of the British homeland.

Over the past year our tempo has been extremely high, yet we accomplished every single objective we set out to accomplish. Can we do better? Yes. Can we improve? Yes. Are there more challenges ahead? Yes. Will the operational tempo slow down? No. That is the world we live in today. The shift from the Strategic Reserve to an Operational Reserve combined with two wars, past DOD budget cuts, potential future DOD budget cuts, and Domestic Ops within the state and Nation, I do not expect our Operational Tempo to slow down. It is what it is. What can we do?

We can focus on ourselves - what we can control, improve upon ourselves as a unit, and make the most of every opportunity given to us. We have a slight break in the inspection tempo, and can now better focus on our AFSC and war fighting skills. We have proved over the past year we are among the most Respected Fighter Wings in the CAF when it comes to inspections. Now we have the unique opportunity to prove it again with our aviation package and our AEF. We are prepping for a Red Flag and a major AEF; we have the chance to prove we are the best again both at Red Flag and overseas. If you are going to do something, you might as well be the best at it. None of this can happen without good leadership and solid followership. There are plenty of folks stepping up to the plate, are you improving as an individual and helping the team? An indicator of good leadership is doing a great job with what you are responsible for and having the ability to demand that people do things the right way.

While we are out of inspection cycles, we are having a Jan Phase 2 ORE to help prepare for our Oct 2013 combined phase 1 and phase 2 ORI. We will be the first ANG Air Dominance unit to execute the new combined inspection. This will be a tough nut to crack, so we cannot afford to pay lip service to the Jan ORE. Ensure you are doing your part in this preparation phase for the ORE.

I believe one of our weak areas as a wing is mentoring our force. Building a solid team requires mentoring each person on that

team, from top to bottom. I'd like everyone to use December to mentor those in your chain of command. This is also a great time to ask for feedback up the chain. Mentoring involves feedback - whether it is positive or negative or both. Mentoring also means showing the person a path that will help them achieve their individual goals. There is absolutely nothing wrong with ambition, the key is how you achieve your goals. Do you make the journey with class? It is the journey that is important, not the final destination. Commanders and supervisors should know their people's goals, and help them achieve those professional goals (within reason!). We can also use this time for wellness check on our fellow wingmen, as the suicide rate historically goes up during this time of

I want to thank everyone for their commitment to this unit and to one another. While we are not facing the same challenges of 1940 Great Britain, we are facing difficult challenges in the US military. The key is not to focus on the negative aspects of these challenges, but the positive aspects. With every negative there is a positive, and it is up to us to seize the day and the initiative. Your family's service to the 104th and our nation should not be underestimated, ensure you are fostering the required time with them and ensure they know they are an integral part of our team. I believe you all and your families are 'The Few' of our generation, and it is my honor to serve you as your commander. Have a Great Holiday and Christmas Season, and a Happy New Year.

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## Chief Master Sergeant's column

By Chief Master Sgt. Todd Fappiano, Command Chief Master Sgt.

It's been a year since I accepted this new position from Chief Reale, and in the past year I have tried my best to learn

about the function of this office from the commanders and the Airmen I serve. I have been gaining insight everyday as to what I am responsible for; so far, there is a clear similarity between what the commanders want and the enlisted members want.

I like to look at it from the 4 C's: Communicate, Collaborate. and 2 more C's: aCCountability.

I am beginning to gage my success as your Command Chief by how well I work within the C's; do I pass information up-down and across the chain of command (communicate). Do I facilitate cross-talk, team-building and

brain storming. Finding better ways of my 29 years of military service that doing business (collaborate) and lastly are we, as a wing, maintaining standards (accountability). my 29 years of military service that the best way to establish and keep standards is to self-police and look of for each other. There is nothing in-

As for communicating, I continue to stress that the most important part of communication is to get feedback. If the person giving the message never gets feedback from the receiver, it is not effective communication. Members at all levels need to ensure the communication is bi-lateral, not oneway.

Within the realm of collaborating, this is where we, as a wing, are pretty solid. We are willing to try new things and share among ourselves, as well as other units. I am very proud of the work we have done to improve collaboration, but we also need to be conscious that we don't re-invent the wheel just to re-invent it.

As for ensuring accountability, this is a role that I embrace, and one we all should embrace. I have found in

the best way to establish and keep standards is to self-police and look out for each other. There is nothing inherently wrong with making mistakes, as long as they are not malicious or deliberate (we all make mistakes). Where the problems begin to fester is when people are not held accountable, and or don't receive feedback for what they have done wrong. It is hard to give feedback if we don't give it, but if feedback and mentoring become part of the culture, it will become easier, and more expected. We can only be a good as the feedback we receive.

Continue to help me help you, and thank you for the support you have given me throughout my first year. I look forward to a new year of challenges, and a new year of accomplishments



## First Sergeant's column

By Master Sgt. Timothy R. Mutti, Medical Group First Sgt.

The holiday time is upon us, and for most families like mine, it is

a time for joy, but at the same time, a time for stress.

One of the most important things we can do during this season is make some time to take care of ourselves while we take care of others. There are a lot of stressors that creep up during the holidays. I understand that we are in tough economic times, and that this time of year can be extremely draining on the wallet. Not only is it the time of year for giving, but the cost of daily living has also increased exponentially, allowing for the perfect storm as it pertains to stress. Competing interests of pleasing others, paying bills and family drama often ensues, and can at times be very overwhelming. Without taking care of oneself, the stress level may become unbearable, and may lead to negative outcomes.

Without any of the additional holiday costs: presents, decorations, food; winter is typically the most expensive season due to heating costs and increased electrical use. It is important to remember you are not alone.

If there is any time in which you feel you need, or could need assistance... don't wait to the last moment, act now. There are many programs in which I (the First Sgts) and/or family support can assist you with. Sometime a little help is all we need to get back on our feet and/or relieve some stress. Statistics would indicate that the winter months are the most depressing months. The lack of sunlight, the increased stress from family expectations and financial pressures lead to more depression related emergency calls. With that said, we, as Wingmen, need to help make sure that we don't let each other add to the statistics.

Let me end with some sage advice

and insight: looking out for yourself is not always easy, especially as a military member. We are taught at a young age that we are supposed to be selfless... but not taking care of yourself will actually affect more things than just yourself; it will affect your work and affect your personnel lives/relationships.

Remember that the holidays should be filled with love and joy, not stress and depression. I encourage everyone to spend time with your friends and love ones and enjoy a chance to relax. As we all saw, 2011 was another one of those crazy years, and the outlook for 2012 indicates it to will not disappoint folks eager to take on new challenges. We, as a wing, need each and every one of you in the game, so if there is anything we can do...just let us know.

With that, I wish all of you and your families a great and safe holiday season, and a Happy New Year.

## Air Force leaders collaborate on total force future

by Col. Bob Thompson, Air Force Reserve Public Affairs

Air Force senior leaders are looking Association in September. at ways to balance the ratio of regular and Reserve Component Airmen to create the most effective and efficient combat capability in austere budget

Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley is leading collaborative efforts between active, Reserve and Guard leaders to find the right force composition that will ensure the total force remains healthy and viable.

"Finding the right balance of regular, Reserve and Guard forces is the key to maintaining future Air Force capabilities during dramatic period of budget austerity," said Air Force Chief of Staff Norton Schwartz.

Of the forces serving on active duty today in the combat air forces, 58 percent are active-duty Airmen and 42 percent are from the reserve component - made up of Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard - according to Donley in a speech to the Air Force

The total force leaders are working together to determine the right forcemix for the active and reserve components, one that will be economical, sustainable and meet the nation's and combatant commanders' requirements.

"One of our biggest lessons learned is that we do have access to reserve component Airmen on short notice," Schwartz said. "They have stepped up to the plate every time we've called to perform both daily operations, as well as strategic surges."

right mix of regular and reserve component Airmen is to make it easier to move in and out of active-duty status so our Airmen can serve our country, retain successful careers and still save taxpayers' money, Schwartz said.

"Our Reserve and Guard programs are exceptionally efficient and costeffective," he said. "Twenty years of combat have taught us that we rely on

Reserve Airmen to answer the call of service when our nation needs them."

At a recent meeting at Bolling Air Force Base, Md., Donley conferred with Schwartz as well as Undersecretary of the Air Force Erin Conaton, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower and Reserve Affairs Daniel Ginsberg, Air Force Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Phillip M. Breedlove, Gen. Craig R. McKinley Jr., the chief of the National Guard Bureau; Lt. Gen. Charles E. Stenner Jr., the chief of the Air Force Reserve; and Lt. Gen. Harry M. Another key link to maintaining the Wyatt III, the Director of the Air National Guard.

> "We need to capitalize on the incredible synergy we gain from reserve and regular Air Force Airmen working as one team," Schwartz said. "With the proper balance, I know we can create the strategic depth and an immediateresponse force that is efficient, effective and has a combat capability second to none."



## Chaplain's Corner

By Capt. (Fr.) Ken Devoie, 104FW/HC

is now in the rear-view mirror. Christmas and New Year's are rushing toward us. This can be a crazy and stressful sea-

son for many people. The Joy of the season can be thwarted by many external pressures (expenses of buying gifts, utility costs rise in cold months, possible death or anniversary of a death of a loved one, job stressors, lack of time to get things done and a myriad of other possible issues). So, how do we keep joy, or put joy back into the Christmas Season? Well, the answer is easier to articulate than to implement...

In the Hebrew & Christian Scriptures, God tells Moses that His name is "I AM." Well that's nice Fr. Ken! But what does this have to do with my stress and the busy-ness of my life? When God says that He is "I AM," He is not saying that He is the God of "I

Greetings! Thanksgiving Was" or "I Will Be." God is in the eternal Now - the "I AM.". There is no past and there is no future, just now. So here is the point... We, as human beings, do not know how to live in the moment (the NOW). We spend our lives looking behind ourselves playing the "would of, could of, and should of" game in our head and struggling with regrets of the missed moments, opportunities or mistakes. The reality is that none of us can change the past- it is gone forever. We also live with anxieties about what tomorrow will bring – our calendars are full. The interesting thing is; the future is rushing toward us already. It is coming whether we like it or not. There is nothing we can do to stop it from coming. When we spend our time focused on tomorrow, we, in fact, are running toward that future that is already rushing at us. Ok, Fr. Ken...get on with it! My point is; when we spend

our lives looking at the past, that we cannot change, and worrying about the future, that is not yet, we waste the moment, we waste TODAY. If we constantly are living in the regrets and thoughts of the past and the worries of the future, we are being poor stewards of the right NOW. We miss the moment that God has given us to live right now. To find true balance in life, or the peace and joy that seems to allude most people, we need to spend more time in the NOW – we need to learn to enter into the "I AM" of who God is. This is the meaning of the celebration of Christmas. That God became man, so that man could become like God... Live today, yesterday is gone, and tomorrow is not yet. Please be assured of my thoughts and prayers for you and your loved one's this Holy Season. Merry Christmas and Happy Chanukah!

## Thanks for the turkeys, Ammo Can drive tradition by Staff Sgt. Matthew Benedetti, Public Affairs Journalist

What would Thanksgiving be without a turkey meal?

Members of the 104th Fighter Wing have been asking themselves that same question for the past 6 years, and each time they ask...they are reminded that there are families in our community that may not be able to have a traditional thanksgiving meal without a little help.

(Photograph by Maj. Matthew Mutti)

That is why members of the Wing contribute to the 104th Ammo Can Drive every year,.

The wing members contribute annually to this charity, raising money to support the annual turkey donation which goes to 104 families in the local area, that is 1564lbs of turkeys. In addition, the Ammo Can



(Photograph by Senior Master Sgt. Robert Sabonis)

drive has collected countless tons of non-perishable food items in the past 21 years.

This year Ms. Luz Rodriguez, Ms. Anita Barnes and Ms. Gail LaGasse from the Westfield Salvation Army accepted the turkeys.

"We look forward to this donation year after year," said LaGasse. "We cannot express how thankful the

families are who receive these donations." She added that the members of the 104th truly make a difference in their community.

This year's Ammo-Can drive will take place during the December Unit Training Assembly, where members will be collecting donations and sharing holiday cheer. This event will mark the 22nd year of the charity event.

We greatly appreciate the outpouring of support and generosity that the members of the 104th

have demonstrated consistently over the past 22 years," said Chief Master Sgt. Al Reale, 104FW Ammo Section Superintendant. "You never know what you're going to see the Ammo folks doing when you arrive to the gate on December UTA...but I guarantee it'll be entertaining,"

The Ammo Can Drive has also

become one of the traditions of the Ammo unit. Members of this tight-knit bunch often utilize outrageous and comical costumes to entertain the base members as they arrive for Drill. The staple can-food collectors include a 6 ft. tall Winnie the Pooh and a Santa-hat wearing gorilla. The Ammo unit has fun all while supporting a good cause.



(Photograph by Senior Master Sgt. Robert Sabonis)

"I look forward to coming to drill in December, knowing I will be greeted by an Ammo troop, and a story-book character, rallying the unit to support the community...a great event and a lot of fun." said Senior Airman Luis Colon, member of the Maintenance Squadron.



(Photograph by Senior Master Sgt. Robert Sabonis)

## Col. Sean Collins provides invaluable service to Afghanistan by Staff Sgt. Matthew Benedetti, Public Affairs Journalist

"In war we see things that are not would be distinct but equally imporseen anywhere else but in a combat area," said Col. Collins when asked about his experiences in Afghanistan.

The commander of the 104th Fighter Wing Medical Group, and an Assistant Professor at the University of Massachusetts Medical School in Worcester, Collins was tasked with ensuring that care and research protocols were adhered to during his six month deployment. As a member of the Joint Combat Casualty Research Team (JC2RT) comprised of researchers at different levels, Collins traveled throughout the region to fulfill his mission of overseeing clinical research to find the most effective methods to treat wounded personnel. He was the lone Air Force member assigned to the Army hospital on Camp Dwyer, a Marine base located in the Garmsir District in Helmand Province. "The mission of the team was to foster development and ongoing aspects of clinical research," he said.

tant.

"They are doing a lot of research on the use of tourniquets," he added. The quote is representative of the not uncommon wounds sustained by many service members engaged in the ongoing fight in Southwest Asia.

A Southwick resident, Collins has been a member of the 104th for several years. He is a nurse practitioner, holds a doctorate in clinical research and was selected for the assignment due to his expertise. His professionalism, firm demeanor and affable personality embody the spirit of the modern day Guardsman.

Situated in the "desert of death', temperatures at Camp Dwyer often reached 130 degrees."If you had a generator go down, you were cooking," he recalled. The front line level 3 trauma center received patients directly from the battlefield, and personnel often developed innovative procedures to ensure that acutely injured service members were expeditiously treated. One example is the

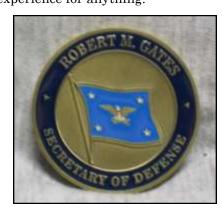
> 'walking blood bank' which allows soldiers to donate blood immediately as the situation required. "Unlike the United States, there is not the luxury of a stockpile of blood, personnel would give blood that would be screened and administered to patients often within minutes of being donated," said Collins. This data will be recorded and analyzed to better enhance the process.

His tent was adjacent to the helipad and he would hear the Chinooks coming in all day and night. MASH was his preferred show growing up, and he would iden-

tify with Hawkeye Pierce, his favorite character during these moments. "Hawkeye hated war and to see injury to the human body, but would do his duty and everything he could to save lives," he recalled. At night, after a 16 hour day, he would unwind while working on research by playing hits of the 1980's. "Everyone loved it, except one doctor who would joke, "how can you listen to that stuff?," he fondly remembered.

His proudest moment may have been being awarded an Army Achievement Medal by the base Command Sergeant Major. Col. Collins taught an ASVAB class to soldiers several times a week to help them improve their scores and advance their careers. Each soldier demonstrated marked improvement and showed their appreciation for all his varied efforts by nominating Collins for the award. "I was thrilled. It was so important to me because those soldiers put me in for it. I am going to wear it proudly," he said. "It was a true joint experience," he added.

Collins was proud of his service as part of the JC2RT and to wear the Air Force uniform. "Deployment is a sacrifice, but more for my family. I am always busy working, researching and taking care of patients, and I love it. I know they are worried about me, and I am not there at home. Whether it is a good day or bad day, it was rewarding deployment," said Collins. "I wouldn't have traded the experience for anything."





Col Collins (right) awarded a coin from the former Secretary of Defense, the Honorable Robert Gates (right) (Staff photo)

A veteran of two previous Iraq deployments, including a tour in which he earned an Air Achievement Medal, Collin's role at Camp Dwyer

## Oakdale Dental supports troops overseas By Maj. Matthew T. Mutti, 104FW Wing Executive Staff Officer

It may seem like Halloween was months ago, but for members of the wing who are deployed overseas, Halloween arrived just a few weeks ago...a little late, but filled with more treats then they would typically have seen in a few years of Trick or Treating, thanks to the team at Oakdale Dental Associates.



(Photograph by Technical Sgt. Melanie Casineau)

For the third year, the team at Oakdale Dental collected Halloween candy to be sent overseas to support

our men and women who are away from home.

This event has grown exponentially over the years, and this year nearly 500 lbs. of candy was collected. That is approximately double the amount collected the first year of the program.

"This is my favorite time of the year," said Ms. Karen Arble, the event founder and hygienist at Oakdale Dental. "We love to hear how much our men and women overseas enjoy receiving these Halloween care packages."

The Dentist office teams up with WMAS Radio and the Family Readiness Group from Barnes to collect candy from the community. The dentist office collects the candy from the youth in the area, exchanging it for a chance to win prizes like passes to Six Flags or an iPad. The FRG in turn works with The Package Store in Southampton to send out the

packages overseas to members who are currently in harms way.

"One of the most difficult part of receiving donations is to be able to send them overseas," said Mrs.

Sandy Wakefield, the Airman and Family Readiness Coordinator. "The FRG looks to corporate sponsors like Peoples and United Bank, who sponsored the shipping cost for the candy".



(Photograph by Technical Sgt. Melanie Casineau)

## Tie one on for safety

## By Senior Master Sgt. Thomas Dumais, Wing Safety

The "Tie One On For Safety" campaign began in 1986 and is MADD's longest running and most visible public awareness project. MADD's annual "Tie One On For Safety" campaign calls for motorists to display a red ribbon on their cars in support of law enforcement crackdown efforts and as a pledge to drive safe and sober.



(Photograph by Senior Master Sgt. Robert Sabonis)

The campaign runs through New Year's Day — one of the most dangerous times of the year on U.S. roads and highways. The red ribbon symbolizes a pledge to drive safe, sober and buckled up over the holiday season, and serves as a reminder to other motorists to do the same.

Each year nationally, more than 1,000 people typically die between Thanksgiving and New Year's in drunk driving crashes, and more than 2,000 are killed in drunk driving crashes and/or crashes where safety belts were not used. Also, an estimated 500,000 people are injured in alcohol-related crashes each year. Alcohol-related crashes cost the American public an estimated \$114.3 billion, and people other than the drunk driver paid \$71.6 billion of that amount.

In support of this effort, the



104th Wing Safety staff has asked all base personnel to pledge to drive safe and sober throughout the holiday season. Last UTA, the Safety staff was at the base dining facility handing out red ribbons to each member in hopes they would tie them to their car antennas or key chains to show their support of the campaign to stop drunk driving. On Friday, 4 Nov, Col. Brooks showed his support and pledged to drive safe and sober by tying a red ribbon to his vehicle antenna. If you did not receive a ribbon and would like one, feel free to stop by the Safety office and someone would be more than happy to assist you.

## Native American heritage month

Contributed by nativeamericanheritagemonth.gov

November was National American Indian Heritage Month.

This observance was first celebrated as American Indian Day in New York State back in May 1916. In 1990 President George H. W. Bush designated the month of November as "National American Indian Heritage Month" to honor the many contributions and accomplishments of American Indians and Alaska Natives. This year's theme is "Service, Honor, Respect: Strengthening Our Cultures and Communities."

American Indians lived in America for thousands of years before European explorers arrived in the Americas in the 1400 and 1500s. American Indians are the original Americans. They have family and tribal connections with the original peoples of North, South, and Central America, and many still maintain tribal affiliations or community attachment.

Currently, there are 565 federally-recognized American Indian and Alaska Native tribes, and more than 100 state-recognized tribes across the United States. Although the number of Americans identifying themselves as exclusively Native American or Alaska Native increased 18.4% in the past ten years, this number makes up roughly only .9% of the total US population (2.78 million).

American Indians and Alaska Natives have helped lead the way in our country's fight and struggle for freedom and security. In World War I, 12,000 American Indians joined the ranks of the armed forces-even though it wasn't until 1924 that Congress granted American Indians U.S. citizenship. Their unique combat abilities and survival skills, which frustrated opponents for generations, became invaluable to the nation's combat success. In World War II, approximately 44,000 American Indians served our nation.

In 2001, Congress honored a group of World War II veterans who provided a unique service to the nation's war effort by serving as Code Talkers, as non-speakers found it difficult to distinguish the unfamiliar sounds used in the Navajo language.

The original twenty-nine Navajo "code talkers" received the Congressional Gold Medal in July of that year, and subsequent code talkers have received the Congressional Silver Medal. Their unbreakable code helped the US Marine Corps battle across the Pacific from 1942 to 1945. Until 1968, they and their code remained secret. Their contributions helped our nation during a time of need and their efforts are recognized outside of the USA in global history

books. For all American Indian veterans, the honor of defending their country, their tribes and their way of life has always been paramount.

Americans have the opportunity to reflect and honor the legacy of our American Indians and Alaska Native Americans for their contributions to our history with their vibrant and rich cultural community and strong heritage.

Our American Indian and Alaska Native American family were the first to contribute to the tapestry that makes us American.

Let us celebrate this month by broadening our knowledge base of the heritage, history, art, and traditions of the American Indian and Alaskan Native peoples.

Recent Medal of Honor Recipients

World War II
1st Lt Jack Montgomery
2nd LT Ernest Childers
2nd Lt Van Barefoot
Commander Ernest E. Evans
Private 1st Class John Reese Jr.

Korean War Private 1st Class Charles George Captain Raymond Harvey Corporal Mitchell Red Cloud Jr.





## Safety: How goes it

### By Senior Master Sgt. Thomas Dumais, Ground Safety

Our unit has experienced 1 injury since the last newsletter.

1. Worker slipped on shelter floor; bruised knee; slip/fall; no lost time

The unit experienced four (2) mishaps since the last newsletter.

- 1. A/C dropped objects; rudder hinge nuts; unknown, no damage
- A/C engine FOD; fan blades nicked; unknown, blended blades

As we approach the winter months, we need to prepare ourselves and our work areas for the ice and snow which is right around the corner. Last winter we experienced seven (7) slips and falls due to ice and snow, and although we would like to see this number be zero (0), we would be happy to see it at least be reduced to no more than three (3). To accomplish this we need everyone's help.

The first item of business is to first ensure we address and control the hazard itself, which in our case, is the ice and snow on our walkways, parking lots, and doorways. This means we have to have in place a plan in place to

keep these areas as clear and as treated as possible. This at many buildings will mean certain sections will have certain responsibilities for keeping the walkways clear and treated. It also means that each doorway needs to be provided with ice melt and an shovel. The whole idea here is that if you don't provide people the tools to do the job, the job won't get done.

So there you have it, you have addressed the hazards, assigned responsibilities and provided the people with the tools to help control the hazard, but before we call it guits and move on, we need to make sure we educate the masses on their part in this as well. Yes, there is stuff at the doors, but do they know it's their responsibility to use it? Do they also know that if they come across an area that is slippery to report it so it can be taken care of BE-FORE someone slips and falls? Everyone needs to know that no one is expecting them to shovel and sand the main road, but what we do expect is for them to report it so it can be addressed.

The last item in our puzzle of reduc-

ing slips and falls on the ice and snow is education. You see, just like driving in the snow, it takes a few times to once again master the skill required to not end up in the ditch with your vehicle. The same is true for not ending up on your butt on the ice and snow! Items like never exit your vehicle rapidly. At most times your feet near the heater vents is enough to cause your traction level to be reduced to slightly above Jell-O on a freshly waxed floor! We also have to educate ourselves to slow down and learn how to walk on this sheet of glass waiting to test your bone tensile strength.

Keeping yourself upright at times can be a challenge no matter what the surface condition. The added slickness of snow and ice mandates our attention, control, and respect. If we choose to ignore it, we have to be ready for the inevitable slip fall, and hopefully no major injury.

Have a SAFE and Happy Holiday! Your Safety Staff

# Operation: "Slip NOT"

2011/2012







The First STEP in SAFETY is the One You Take!

Step SAFELY!

## Veterans welcomed on Veteran's Day

By Staff Sqt. Matthew Benedetti, 104th FW/ Public Affairs



(Photograph by Technical Sgt. Melanie Casineau)

Richard Lane, an Army veteran, beamed as he talked about his experiences serving in Panama and the South Pacific in the early 1940's. Sam Stratton, a soldier for twenty years, looked away as he recalled the grim nature of combat on the Korean Peninsula, and then flashed a broad smile as he discussed his tour in Finland as an Army attaché.

Both men, well into their 8th decade, were among a group of twenty veterans who relaxed and enjoyed

lunch with the Airmen of the 104th Fighter Wing at Barnes ANGB on 5 November 2011.

After a delicious meal of turkey, ham and mashed potatoes provided by Services, the group from the Holyoke Soldiers Home took in a tour of the base. The group was accompanied by Coleman Nee, Secretary of Veteran's Services for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Executive Officer Maj. Matt Mutti conducted the tour with an extensive breadth of institutional knowledge that was highlighted by viewing the launch and recovery of F-15 fighter jets near the flight line.

As an aircraft took off he remarked, "That is the sound of freedom."

The veterans were energized by the experience, "I am delighted to be at the 104th. It is great to be here with all of these Airmen," said Richard Lane. "I love to come out to the air shows and it is great to be back on base," added the Boston native.

Stratton retired after 20 years as a Sergeant 1st Class and encourages young people to join the military. "There are so

many benefits to serving in the military," he said.

Secretary Nee was pleased to visit Barnes, "The Massachusetts Air and Army National Guard forces at Barnes ANGB are true professionals in every sense of the word. The dedication, expertise and leadership that I witnessed during my tour gave me an even greater sense of pride in what these remarkable men and women are doing for our Commonwealth and Country every day," he said.

"I was especially touched by the kindness and warm reception that the 104th gave to the veterans from the Holyoke Soldier Home. They were moved, and it was a fantastic day for all of us," he added.



(Photograph by Technical Sgt. Melanie Casineau)

## CFC; still time to give By Maj. Dave Mendoza, Force Support Squadron Commander

We are off and running with the 2011 campaign. The Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) began 50 years ago when on March 18, 1961; President John F. Kennedy signed Executive Order 10927 that would create the CFC. In the years that followed, thanks to the generosity of Federal Employees, the CFC has raised nearly \$7 billion dollars for charitable organizations.

Here at Barnes we have had great participation from all the squadrons on base. So far during this campaign we have sponsored an Ice Cream Scoop-a-

thon, Chili Cook-off, Breakfast Buffet, Mexican themed lunch, Workout Challenge featuring Cross-Fit, and a Burger Burn. In the upcoming weeks we will see a Salad Bar, w/ Soup and Baked Potato, 5K Jingle Bell Fun Run and Hot Dog and Chili buffet.

Special thanks to all the squadron CFC representatives for their hard work: Trish Lemire, Todd Canedy, Chris Jones, Maryanne Walts, Pat Connor, Tony Dultz, Dom Chapman, Tina Scobie, Judy Flores, Bill Butman, Cynthia Watkins and Nina Gutierrez.

If interested in donating, Please see

your squadron rep, or use the CFC website, <a href="http://www.westernmacfc.org/">http://www.westernmacfc.org/</a> as your campaign resource, as we have lots of useful information for donors and agency coordinators.

As we celebrate "50 years of Giving" through the CFC, please join with us again to support the work of our participating charitable organizations.



## ...Proud to be part of Guard by Staff Sqt. Fabricio Ochoa, 104 FW/Civil Engineering

As I packed my blues in my suit case a day before taking a flight down to Baltimore to attend the Joint Senior Leadership conference, my wife asked me "what is this conference about again...?" my answer was "well, there are going to be a bunch of hot shots talking about Air Force stuff..." Obviously, I was not really aware what this conference was truly about, I was just excited and a bit nervous because I was going to be traveling with the wing commander. To be honest, I felt a little intimidated by my companions and the idea of attending a conference surrounded by Generals, Colonels, Command Chiefs, and State Command Chiefs (to name a few); I guess I just wanted to leave a good impression and most importantly, try to absorb as much information as possible. It wasn't until the first day of the conference that I slowly started realizing how important and indispensable this event is for the future of the National Guard. Our Future not only depends on Generals and Colonels making good decisions but it also depends on everyone's ability, to assimilate and incorporate our core values to our everyday life.

As most of us know, the current state of our economy is not the most ideal; there are multiple budget cuts that will affect everyone in our country including the military. When Gen. Craig R. McKinley, the Chief of the National Guard Bureau, approached the podium he clearly emphasized the need for everyone's involvement in order to combat the possibility of major cuts while staying capable and relevant to our Nation's defense. Even an Airman basic can have a huge impact on cost saving measures and efficiency programs in the Air Force, by having the right attitude and keeping with the core values. Doing more with less is not easy; however, the time calls for it. We mustn't forget that it is important for us to be conscientious when performing our jobs as airmen, from a pencil or printing paper to an expensive piece of equipment or a government vehicle, we must avoid waste, home front as a response to one of the fraud and abuse. We are required to follow standards and regulations to put out the best product while at the same time maintaining good care of our assets. As I sat in the audience, I realized that everything I do at my job and how I carry out my duties matters to the overall strategy in accomplishing our individual goals, the wing goals and ultimately the National Guard goals.

One of Gen. Martin E.

Dempsey's focus points was to:

"Achieve our national objectives in the current conflicts". These objectives could not be achieved without the total involvement of young airmen and junior NCOs. Here at Barnes, we have great potential all throughout the base, great people, great airmen, great be chosen as the first junior NCO to family and we must continue striving for the best. Gen Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff said "If one goes to work in the morning thinking about the Air Force Core Values, the product this person will put out will be an excellent one by default. When it comes to the profession of arms "Trust" is a key part for success; as airmen, we must trust each other to do our jobs to the best of our abilities. Applying excellence in all we do will increase our chances of success; as we go from squadron to squadron, from section to section across the base we can't help but notice how interrelated our jobs are, and how much we depend on each other. We must "Keep faith in

Another speaker who had a great impact on me was The Honorable Leon E. Panetta, Secretary of Defense; he highlighted his respect and appreciation for the National Guard. Men and women of the NG have proven to be an extreme respond force. According to Mr. Panetta "more than 370,000 guardsmen have been deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan since 2001, many of them multiple times..." unfortunately about 670 have given their lives in the fight against terrorism. And here at the

our military family".

most recent natural disasters, Hurricane Irene," approximately 8,000 guardsmen from 18 states were deployed with equipment pre-positioned to ensure that it was available for their use" Mr. Panetta said. This is what we do as members of the National Guard, this could be you deploying, and this could be you responding to natural disasters. This facts really show how relevant we are and how important it is for us to standby as well prepared as possible, and I see that we can only accomplish this by taking our training seriously, by applying excellence in all we do to our everyday lives during the week and during UTA weekends.

It was truly a great privilege to accompany the wing's leadership in attending the Joint Senior Leadership Conference, an event of immense caliber. It was an eye opening experience which has given me the opportunity to evaluate myself as NCO and determine my own personal involvement and the role I choose to take on as member of National Guard and as a member of Barnes ANGB. Our Air force core values are key elements of our military lives, however, Integrity First, Service Before Self, and Excellence in All We Do, are values that we can apply even to our civilian lives. To all my fellow Junior NCOs and young Airmen, keep in mind that it is up to each one of us to take the initiative and advantage of the great opportunities we have by being part of the National Guard, by being part of The 104th Fighter Wing, we must choose and understand our roles, learn how to follow so one day you can lead. Like my Squadron Commander, LT Col Boyer, told me once "hold yourself against the highest standards and then project that image onto others". Become a leader who will make the difference.

### For Your Information

## Holiday Vacation Bowling

The 104th Family Readiness Group is sponsoring FREE bowling for Military Families (children over 5)

On Wednesday December 28

At 11:00 AM at Westover ARB

The event includes lunch

Parents are welcome to bowl with their children but RSVPs are required, contact:

Beth St. Clair at 413-245-6615 or stcpublic@charter.net

Sandy Wakefield at 413-568-9151 x 6981183

Sandra.wakefield@ang.af.mil

#### What's being served at the

Dining Facility?

Saturday

LUNCH! 1100-1300

Entree – Shrimp Cocktail, Chicken Piccata OR Prime Beef w/ (Au jus) OR Stuffed Shells with Garlic Mashed Potatoes OR Long grain Wild Rice and Green Beans OR Carrots.

Short Order-Stuffed shells

AGR's, Officer's and Members on Orders - \$7.00

Sunday

BRUNCH! 0900-1300

Bacon, Sausage, Eggs, (Boiled or Scrambled), Oven Browned Potatoes, French Toast Sticks, Chicken Piccata, Prime Rib, Shrimp Scampi, Chili

AGR's, Officer's and Members on Orders - \$4.85

#### MA JFHQ Job Listing

POSITION TITLE: Service Staff Augmentation Team Member (SV/C2)

MIN/MAX GRADE: Min Grade is TSgt (E-6) who is immediately promotable to MSgt (E-7).

LOCATION: MA JFHQ, Milford, MA / (Hanscom AFB, MA in 2012)

CLOSING DATE: 31 Oct 2011

WHO MAY APPLY: All Traditional Guard members of the Massachusetts Air National Guard or members eligible for transfer into the Massachusetts Air National Guard, with the Services AFSC, or willing to cross train into Services AFSC, in the grade of Technical Sergeant (promotable to Master Sergeant) or current Master Sergeant... Military Technicians or Active Guard Reservists are not eligible to fill the SV/C2 position. The SV/C2 positions are funded by NGB for Traditional Guard members only.

#### GENERAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

SV/C2 members coordinate, facilitate and synchronize efforts in support of their states within the FEMA region for natural disasters,

National Special Security Events, exercises and domestic activities as it relates to Services functions in Food, Lodging, Readiness and Fatality Management.

SV/C2 members are capable of deploying on 28 hour notice to provide HQ Staff Augmentation at component, Major Command or at a Services Readiness Center supporting contingency/wartime operations.

#### SPECIFIC DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Maintain training requirements and records for all team members. Must research internet and social media outlets for training opportunities, potential disaster response incidents, and information to update Monthly Operational Report (MOR).

QUALIFICATIONS:

- $\blacksquare$  Must posse as or cross-train to Services AFSC (3M0X1).
- □ Must possess ? skill-level.
- □ Must meet medical and fitness requirements
  □ Strong verbal and written communication

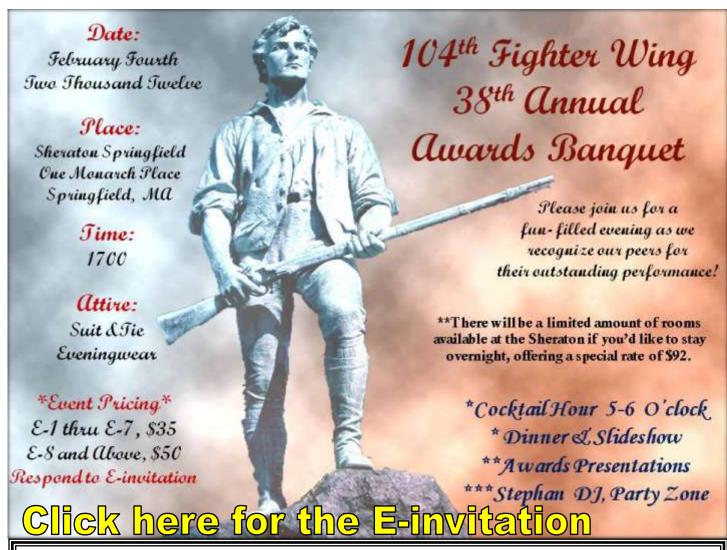
TRAINING REQUIREMENTS:

- □ Must complete National Incident Mana eement System (NIMS) training.
- Must complete Contingency Wartime Planning Course.
- **D Must complete Deliberate and Crisis Action**Planning and Execution Segments (DCAPES)
  Program
- □ Joint Operation Center (JOC) 101 Training.

APPLICATION AND CLOSING DATE: Application will include civilian and military resume, current records review listing, a current Fitness Assessment, a letter indicating the applicant's reasons for desiring the position, and a letters of recommendation. Please be sure to include current contact information (phone and email).

Applications can be mailed to: Lt Col Susan Hebert ANG JFHQ 50 Maple St. Milford MA 01757 or emailed to: susan.hebert@ang.af.mil or shebe104@yahoo.com.

MA JFHQ highly recommends Services personnel from FEMA Region 1, (VT, NH, ME, MA, CT and RI) to apply for this position. A diverse group of potential applicants gives us the opportunity to select the most qualified individual to represent FEMA Region 1.



Dear BarneStormers and Families:

It is that time of the year again to recognize our accomplishments of 2011!

The 104th Fighter Wing 38th Annual Awards Banquet is rapidly approaching. This spectacular event will be held Saturday, February 4, 2012. The venue we have chosen this year is The Sheraton, Springfield. Cocktail hour will begin at 5, followed by dinner, a year in review presentation, awards, dancing, and much more!

This is going to be a night to remember, so prepare your eveningwear and show your spouse or date a won-derful time!

As you all know, from the words of Col. Brooks, we here at the 104th Fighter Wing have accomplished a tremendous amount of work this year. Terminology used to describe this unit during the 7 INSPECTIONS we went through, included words like: "Outstanding, Superior, Complies, Highest Grade Possible, and Mission Ready".

I know every individual here at Barnes has a sense of pride that cannot be extinguished, and that is what sets us apart from other units. Let's enjoy this time together and celebrate all that we've accomplished by congratulating each other on a job well-done!

Hope to see you all at this year's Awards Banquet!

RSVP Here: <a href="https://einvitations.afit.edu/2012AwardsBanquet/anim.cfm">https://einvitations.afit.edu/2012AwardsBanquet/anim.cfm</a>

Sincerely;

The Award Banquet Planning Committee

#### Welcome to new members

Knapp, Heather	AMXS	19 Oct 2011
Devine, Justin	AMXS	25 Oct 2011
Williamson, Victoria	LRS	26 Oct 2011
Carney, Bryan	AMXS	27 Oct 2011
Colburn, Neal	CES	27 Oct 2011

#### Congratulations on your Retirements

Febus, Gilbert	LRS	11 Dec 2011
Daley, Joseph	FW	30 Dec 2011
Carnevale, Joseph	SFS	1 Jan 2012
Patnode, Richard	MXS	1 Feb 2012

#### Religions notes:

#### Ecumenical time of Prayer & Reflection

Saturday 0650 - 0720 hrs. in Chaplain's Office Protestant Services:

Saturday, 1600 in Bldg 001 Conference Room Catholic Services:

Saturday, 1600 in Bldg Base Chapel (\*\* BLDG 12)

#### CCTV broadcast line up

Channel 7 - Training videos & Base Info

Channel 9 - Warrior Network

Channel 10 - Pentagon Channel



#### Ancillary training schedule - channel 7

<u>Morning</u>	Training Video
0900-0940	Forklift Fundamentals and Ops
0940-1013	Confined Space Awareness
1013-1023	Basic Ladder Safety
1023-1053	Lockout/Tagout
1053-1101	FOD Prevention
1101-1108	Copyright Infringement
<u>Afternoon</u>	Training Video
<u>Afternoon</u> 1300-1340	<u>Training Video</u> Forklift Fundamentals and Ops
1300-1340	Forklift Fundamentals and Ops
1300-1340 1340-1413	Forklift Fundamentals and Ops Confined Space Awareness
1300-1340 1340-1413 1413-1423	Forklift Fundamentals and Ops Confined Space Awareness Basic Ladder Safety
1300-1340 1340-1413 1413-1423 1423-1453	Forklift Fundamentals and Ops Confined Space Awareness Basic Ladder Safety Lockout/Tagout

## Congratulations on your Promotions

#### To Senior Airman (E-4)

Barry Headlee, 104FW FSS
Daniel Lorenzatti, 104FW MXS
Francisco Rivera, 104FW AMXS
Thomas Silva, 104FW MXS
John Tourtellotte, 104FW CES
Mathew Velky, 104FW AMXS



#### To Staff Sqt. (E-5)

Eric Chan, 104FW OG Angel Ericks, 104FW AMXS Kevin Kasper, 104FW MXS William McGee, 104FW MXS



#### To Technical Sqt. (E-6)

David Karam, 104FW LRS



## <u>To Lt. Col. (O-5)</u>

Steven Dougherty, 104FW MSG





## Wing Safety asks you to "Tie One On for Safety" this Holiday Season!

At the DFAC Saturday during lunch, the Wing Safety office will be handing out red ribbons for you to tie to your vehicle or keys to signify you support this signature MADD event. There hope is it will be a reminder to you to help keep you, and your families safe this Holiday Season

Tie One On For Safety (Thanksgiving 2011 to New Year's Day 2012)

**"Tie One on for Safety"** is MADD's largest community awareness campaign that advocates for people to drive safe, sober, and buckled up during the holiday season. Drivers display a red ribbon in a visible location on their vehicles or tied to their car keys to show family, friends, and loved ones that they support safer roads free from drunk driving and dangerous driving.



#### This Month in History

The back cover of the AirScoop is dedicated to the history of the unit and the Air Force. We will feature historic covers or articles from the archives and highlight a few historic headlines. (side note) From 1947 to 1954 the Base Newspaper was named the Thunderbolt. The first official Copy of the AirScoop was published in January 1954.

#### December Historical Events

Dec 1, 1941 - The Civil Air Patrol is created

Dec 12, 1953 - In the rocket-powered Bell X-1A, which a B-29 bomber dropped over Edwards AFB, Calif., Maj. Charles E. Yeager attained a speed of 1,650 mph, or Mach 2.44.

Dec 3, 1963 - President Johnson designated NASA and other facilities at Cape Canaveral as the John F. Kennedy Space Center.

Dec 18, 1969 - The Air Force Missile Development Center completed the first guided launch of an AGM-65 Maverick air-to-surface television-guided missile.

Dec 19, 1973 - The U.S. Air Force approved the procurement of 52 A-10 Thunderbolt production aircraft, associated engines, and GAU-8A 30 mm gun systems. This followed a successful flight evaluation fly-off of the A-10 with the A-7D Corsair.

Dec 18, 1975 - First F-15 Eagle delivered to the 1st Tactical Fighter Wing at Langley AFB, Va.

Dec 6, 1983 - The National Transonic Tunnel, a wind tunnel to test ultra-fast aircraft, is dedicated at Langley AFB, Va

Dec 11, 1986 - The F-15E dual-role fighter made its first flight at St. Louis, Mo.



## USAF Releasing Syracuse Group before Christmas



## Key Mission Personnel Announced; Hawaii Exercise Mere Month Away

Plans for the forthcoming participa-ion of this Group in Execute Com-mando Elite in Hawaii are porting inner by the day as the event, a mere our weeks away, moves closer. Col Edward D Slasienski, com-randers of the 104th Group, will be the exercise commander. His staff the exercise commander. His staff

nander of the 10 sith Group, will be in exercise commander. His staff nchubes Li Col Bruno J Grabovsky as third of operations, Li Col Edwin J talkkowski as chief of maintenance, is Col Alexander R Robertson as chief of supply and Li Col Edward J Rumanowski as chief of support services and personned, all filling innctions which are the equivalent of heir positions within the Group.

The airborne command post supervising the operation will be staffed by hig Gen John J Steffanik, whig commander, and Cape Francis D Paluca of appreciations.

mander, and Capt Prancis D Paluca of perations.

Although the Westfield group is runninally staffing the exercise for the flart four weeks and the Otti group the second four, there is worm slight admixture of personnel. The 104th is supplying the eigenal spaces kil for the whole two-month period, so the supply function is manned entitiely by Westfield personnel, the latter period being under the direction of Lt Col John J Heckler, commander of the supply squadron here. Col John J Sevila, wing DO, will serve as bounch control officers for the full geriod as will Capt Michael Kelley of the 102d Group as armament officer. Selection of airmen to cound out the mission's personnel total is well

under way and announcement will be made as soon as selections are com-

niete.

The six F-54 fighter aircraft slated to go all the way to Hawaii will be piloted by Cot Statienski, Cot Grabovsky, Mij Robert W Baker, and Capta William G Gebow, Stave F Montgomery and Malcolm J Sone. Two more jets will be flown part way as alsemates. The fighters will make the trip in two legs of about six hours each, stopping overnight at McClellan AFB is California, flying each leg mostop with mid-air refueling by KC-135 flying tankers.

The initial support team and the tractical support element will depart from Barnes on Jamary 10, while the su-rootes support team will leave on the 11th. Each of the three units will contain about 20 personnel.

The support personnel and equipment will be flown in five C-130 transports which will also put down at McClellan AFB. Both the transcontinent and the transcontine to take about eight hour sevented to take about eight hour The six F-84 fighter aircraft slated

neutal and the transoceanic legs are expected to take about eight hours such.

World War II veterans who have not already used their slightlity for GJ. loans and whose individual slightlity has not expired are reminded that the final cut-off data for their participation in the GJ. loan received the last scended to.

## Captain Tracks Go to Pair in **Group Operations**

Two pilots here share the officer promotion list between themselves by virtue of advancing to captainness on the same data. Both are also filling air operations officer positions in the 104th Group headquarters, positions for which they are each rated as fully outsided.

for which they are each rated as fully qualified.

Capt Stephen F Hooper joined the 131st here in 1963 and went to pilot training at Vance AFB, Oklahoma, shortly after, followed by advance fighter textice at Nellis AFB, Nevada, and forward air controller school at Hoelbert Fleid, Florida, He is currently stated to attend the seven-month aircraft maintenance officer course at Chanase AFB, Illinois, Price to joining the ANG, be had attended Westfield State College for two years.

Cang Banclay, G. Hoye, joigned, the., 131st in 1966 after three years in the Rhode Island Air Guard, during which time he had attended flight transing at Laughtin AFB, Foxas, advance fighter tractics at Nellis, and deep was survival ractics at Nellis, and deep was survival

tactics at Nellis, and deep sea survival school at Homestead AFB, Fla. He is a graduate of Yale with a bachelor of arts degree in history.

It will be a merrier Christmas I the "Boys from Syracuse" this ye since the President's announceme hast most hist the 174th Tacts Fighter Group will be released fix cottee duty this Friday, December : The 174th, which is part of c wing, was called up in May connection with the Air Force build following the Pueblo crists.

Called in at the same time a stated to be released at the same tax as well ware Airguardsman from it.

siated to be refessed at the same di-as well were Airguardsman from t 175th Group at Baltimore and t 189th Tac Recon Geoup of Lit Rock, Arkamas. Only the group hei quatters, fighter squadrons and ma-teration squadrons were called fire Syracuse and Baltimore, while tensies group complex from Lit Rock was activated.

Original plane called for the office and airmore to be released from a tive disty during the Aprill-June 19 time-frame.

The 176th and 178th TPGe.

time-frame.

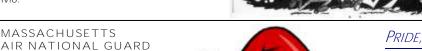
The 174th and 175th TFGs equipped with F-88 fighters—ha filled a Forward Air Controller/4.

Laisen Officer training role at Ca ton AFB, N. M. The Air Force as this training mission can now assumed by regular categoriest unusing the T/AT-48 aircraft, long us to the Air Force as a let train the training the T-AT-48 aircraft, long us to the Air Force as a let train.

assumed by regular component unusing the TAT-33 sicrears, long us by the Air Force as a jet train. The 154th Tactical Recommissan Sq. (TRS) of the 189th TRC hompore four-month oversees toor at Itam AR, Japan, and will be replaced another mobilized ANG unit, it 19th TRS, presently stationed Richards-Gebaur AFR, Mc. On Oct. 2 Secretary of Defense Cia. Mc. Clifford announced actions by it Air Force which would "return all ti Air Noticaed Guard and Air For Reserve units and personnel, mobilized any of the said it action would affect about 10,000 m together with their equipment. Secretary Clifford's statement so one accommodical evenuation squadrand three serial port equadrance would be denoblized by the set of the year these combat units on duty in the Pacific area were to be replaced it regular Air Force equadrance were the difficulty of the server in the server of the Air Force reserve i were meditied by the set of the year these combat units on duty in the Pacific area were to be replaced it regular Air Force equaterns of the USS Pacific. The resuance called up in May to most addit Air Force requirements in South Air Force requirements in South Air Force requirements in South Air Force requirements.

USS Pueblo. The remainder called up in May to meet addit Air Force requirements in South Asia and other areas. Certain units were deployed Korea and SEA. Other units deployed to bases within the COS thereby freeing regular Air B squadrans for overvess assignm. Some reserves personnel were later. d as individuals, both in and overseas, to meet

(Continued on Page Three)



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www.104fw.ang.af.mil

Social Media Sites: www.facebook.com/barnesang www.twitter.com/104fighterwing www.flickr.com/photos/barnesangb











We're on the Web

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