



# AIRSCOOP

**104TH FIGHTER WING • MASSACHUSETTS AIR NATIONAL GUARD**

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*Barnes Air National Guard Base*



April 2011

Technical Sgt. Christopher Cekovsky of the 104th Security Forces Squadron fires down range as he demonstrates firing the 9mm pistol at the target. (Photo by Master Sgt. Mark Fortin)



Col. Robert T. Brooks, Jr.

### AIRSCOOP

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Barnes Air National  
Guard Base

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# Commander's column

By Col. Robert T. Brooks, Jr.

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their hard work in preparation for our upcoming UCI and LCAP, all the while taking care of our daily commitments. I know everyone is burning the midnight oil, and I appreciate your diligence, commitment to the unit, and to one another. During these times there is a lot of cross flow of information between units, lots of meetings, requirements, and simply a **lot of new "stuff"**.

Please take notes as we go. If there are regulations that impede us while doing the mission, then we will strive to change it. I have heard Lt. Gen. Wyatt say on more than one occasion, if it does not make sense, we as an ANG will do what we can to fix it. I heard some examples this past Wednesday from a shop chief that definitely sounded extremely cumbersome. The UCI and LCAP are all about **compliance, so for the time being, let's make sure we are in compliance.** When the UCI and LCAP are over, we will **compile our "better way to do things"** and engage with the appropriate people at NGB. If you have suggestions, I request you forward the problem, and the recommended fix, up the chain. With the scarce resources of today, we need to make sure we are working smarter and not harder.

On a positive note, I had a talk three weeks ago with Greg Davis, our Boeing F-15 Technical Representative. His words to me were that when he left this base in a month or so, he will leave knowing there is not a more proactive Maintenance Group anywhere in the USAF, and Greg has been around quite a bit. He specifically talked about how our folks have dug **into the TO's and asked questions that** have not been asked in years. His words also spoke to the fact that while it may be a little slow now with respect to flying, in the long run he felt we would have the best F-15 fleet in the USAF and ANG. Chief Wilson also mentioned to me that Greg has **"earned his money"**. I want to thank Greg for all he has done for the 104<sup>th</sup> Barnestormers for the past few years,

you have been a good friend and you are welcome back anytime. While Greg was speaking specifically about Maintenance, I know every group is being extremely proactive. The lack of a budget and the Continuing Resolution has also made travel extremely cumbersome, I am hopeful Congress will pass a budget before the year ends.

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## Commander's Column (cont)

Speaking of travel, I know we have folks engaged at every level to make things better here on base and for the 104th Fighter Wing. I appreciate your efforts abroad and for fighting the battles on behalf of the 104th, and I want to update everyone as to some take-aways from some of these trips. We were successful in obtaining 62.5 million dollars for 8 new Active Electronic Scanned Array Radars for our fleet, which will keep the F-15 and the 104th relevant for years to come, and we are advocating for more AESA funding as well. At the 1st AF Conference we got some positive news reconfirming Barnes as a strategic location for ASA. We were able to discuss budgets as it related to snow removal and fight the battle to ensure we remain resourced properly. Our CE (including our state employees), with limited resources, did an amazing job this winter at keeping our base operational, despite the vast amount of snow and ice. Our State Employees are a vital part of our team, and they have just completed a difficult transition to their new state payroll system. I want to thank all of you for your patience and commitment to this unit. At a recent 9th AF conference, Operational Tempo and Inspection tempo was a hot topic. We were able to weigh in with an ANG perspective as most of 9th AF is active duty. One take away from that conference was the 9th AF Commander is extremely interested in placing an active association here at Barnes. We will see where that goes, but an additive active association would be a big win for us here (especially relative to our future). One member of our leadership team was able to brief the deputy director of NGB on the maintenance manning issues relative to potential flying hour cuts (in addition to many other Air Dominance issues). Coming out of winter, a new runway resurfacing has risen to a higher priority, and we have folks engaged there. We have folks on **IG teams, SME's, MXG/OG Council Chairs**, you name it, folks are engaged on behalf of the 104th and I thank you for that.

Next week we will deploy to WSEP to evaluate the entire fighter weapon system, from airman to machine to armament. WSEP will evaluate weapon performance from the time it leaves the munitions storage area, through loading, shooting, fly-out, and timeout. Also evaluated will be the performance of aircraft hardware/software and finally the aircrew. This will be a good test for us with our Long Term F-15 fleet, prior to deploying for any potential combat ops.

April is National Sexual Assault Prevention and Awareness month, and this topic, just as suicide awareness, has received a great deal of public attention. We here at Barnes have a program in place and people ready to support any issues that may arise. This issue, just as suicide prevention, takes teamwork and a wingman approach to decrease the negative effects on our unit.

Last week a few of us had to attend a mandatory briefing down at Bradley Air National Guard Base in the morning with Lt. Gen. Wyatt, the Director of the Air National Guard. The theme was return to core values. While 99.5% of the ANG force is doing the right thing, there are some folks who are not. Once that culture sets in a unit, it is hard to stop. Certainly, I do not think we have that problem here in the 104th Fighter Wing, but please be sure you are doing your part and doing the right thing. Examples during the briefing and breakouts were BAH Fraud, fraudulent TDY pay, airmen shipping contraband from the AOR, excessive incentive awards, improper logging of comp time, just to name a few. There was an example of one unit in which 25% of the unit had committed travel fraud – which speaks to the culture of the unit. Our ANG leadership now has to spend a lot of their time simply defending the ANG vice fighting for resources and future missions. One last message was, just because you can do something, does not mean you should do something, something that might create a negative perception for your

unit and the ANG.

What is on the horizon? It looks as if funding will be available for a deployment to Alaska this summer for a portion of the aviation package. Our Expeditionary Combat Support deployments will continue as we have many people engaged abroad right now. The 9th AF Vice Commander said our spring aviation package Air Expeditionary Force deployment is in the planning stages and we should anticipate an opportunity to deploy. We have the Environmental, Occupational, Safety and Health Assessment coming up in September, followed quickly by an Alert Force Evaluation from NORAD IG, and a 9th AF Standardization and Evaluation visit. The Phase 1 Operational Readiness Inspection is projected for approximately Sept. 2013.

Last, but not least – congrats are in order for our nine graduates from NCOA Class 11-3; **Sgt's Brown, Cekovsky, and Christofori** from the **Security Force Squadron, Sgt's Leonard, MacDonald, Pavelchak and Weeks from Maintenance and Sgt's Crane and Savard** from the Civil Engineer Squadron. It sounds like the 104th was running the place as we had four flight leaders, two distinguished graduates (TSgt. Ron Brown and TSgt. Tom MacDonald) a finalists for the Paul H. Lankford Excellence Award (TSgt. Ron Brown). Keep up the great work, be a good wingman up, down, and across your chain of command, and thanks to all of you for being great Americans. I am proud to serve with you.

- Col Brooks





## Chief Master Sergeant's column

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

The last two weeks I have been attending the Chiefs Leadership Course (CLC) 21

March to 1

April. The course is conducted at the Air Force Senior Noncommissioned Officers Academy, Maxwell-Gunter AFB Alabama. The CLC is a required in-residence course, it's the capstone of the enlisted PME, and is for Chiefs and Chief Selects. This facility is incredible; I can tell that the Air Force is really focused on the professional development of our enlisted force. This class is approximately 300 students from Active Duty, Reserve and the Air National Guard. It's interesting to hear our active counterparts talk of the same issues that we have such

as lack of manning, fitness program, funding issues, and communication. We truly are a total force.

The CLC provides Chiefs with strategic-level leadership knowledge that is invaluable to the employment of air and space forces in support of national security. The curriculum consists of approximately 70 hours across three broad domains; developing Chiefs, the expeditionary Chief, and the Chief as a senior enlisted leader/manager. There are some prerequisites to attending, one is called the 360 degree mirror, it's a multi rater feedback about myself from, my supervisor, peers and subordinates. Thank you to those who I sent this to, I owe you one at the PVC. The feedback returned enables me to receive insight from a variety of people about my effectiveness as a leader, visionary, and

manager. I learned a lot about myself, my style of leadership, my strengths and areas for improvement. **Notice, they don't say my weaknesses;** everything here is very positive and is geared towards self learning and improvement. It also gave me insight into my personal life, how I deal with my family, my personal friends, and issues that come to light on a daily basis in life, in general.

Professional Military Education is very important in your enlisted career. It starts as an Airman in Basic, and will continue throughout your military career. Take it seriously, volunteer for schools, fill those squares, and the results will make a difference in both your military career and your personal life.

## Continuing Resolution Act impacts 104th

By Staff Sgt. Matthew Benedetti, Public Affairs Journalist

Captain Wendy Kiepkhears hears an F-15 take off and cringes. As the Budget Officer for the 104th, Kiepkhears is charged with calculating the costs of each flight while finding and allocating the funds to keep the wing operational. Despite the fact operations have increased, her **budget mirrors last year's figure.**

Like many of us, she is forced to do more with less. The Wing is currently operating under the constraints of the Continuing Resolution Authority (CRA). This resolution is a type of appropriations legislation used by Congress to fund government agencies if a formal appropriations bill has not been signed into law by the end of the

Congressional fiscal year.

**"We are reaching the bottom line authority in Operations and Maintenance for the current CRA extension," acknowledged Kiepkhears. "Going forward, orders will be reviewed very closely by the finance office. Any travel order input into the system for travel dates after 8 April may not be approved," she said. "Approval of orders within mid April will depend on funding availability," she said.**

**"Units may have funds at the unit level but if funds are not available at the appropriation level, finance will not be able to approve them-be prudent in your O and M execution needs," she advised.**

**"If**

the CRA is ex-

tended, finance will load the additional authority and continue on a day to day basis. If the CRA is not extended and a government shutdown was necessary, all units will be advised on how to handle the **shutdown," she said.**

Capt. Kiepkhears, a Holyoke native, has been a unit member for 20 years and this period has been the most challenging economic environment in her career.

**"We are proceeding cautiously to keep planes in the air," she said.**





## First Sergeant's column

By Master Sgt. Larry Brace, AMXS First Sgt.

Air Force military customs and courtesies are an important part of our military lives. They're proven traditions that explain what should and should not be done in many situations. Military customs and courtesies go beyond basic politeness. They're the barometer by which we're judged when visited by people from outside our organization. Customs and courtesies ensure proper respect for the chain of command and play an extremely important role in building morale, discipline and mission effectiveness. We should practice military customs and courtesies on a regular basis and by doing so, will present a good first impression to those visiting our organization.

Over the next few months we'll be hosting many visitors from outside the organization. This article isn't a reminder to brush up on our military customs and courtesies for inspections. We should be practicing these

courtesies on a regular basis. I believe, like anything else we prepare for, we should be paying attention and ensuring we're abiding by military customs and courtesies in preparation for the upcoming SAV and UCI.

We all hear that a first impression is a lasting impression. Whether its family members coming on base to see a loved one receive an award, other military members from outside our organization coming here to inspect us, visitors here for the air show, whatever the case may be, we only have one time to make a first and lasting impression. When we follow the military customs and courtesies, we're viewed as a professional disciplined organization.

In addition to military customs and courtesies, clean, orderly work areas present an impression of professionalism and discipline. When inspectors walk through our work areas and around the base, the cleanliness and orderliness of the

base and our work areas will be the first things they see. Obviously, these are not the things that will mean a pass or fail for an inspection. Knowing and being compliant with our programs is critical. Being professional and courteous just gets us off on the right foot.

Adhering to military customs and courtesies is easy. It's being professional, courteous and representing yourself in a manner that honors the men and women of past generations. Whether it's inspectors from outside our organization, air show visitors or someone downtown, let the first, lasting impression be one of professionalism.

Specific information or answers to questions regarding Air Force customs and courtesies can be found in AFPAM 36-2241, chapter 8. Along with customs and courtesies, proper uniform wear goes a long way to setting a positive first impression, please review AFI 36-2903 for more information on proper uniform wear.

## State partnership program hosts Paraguayan leaders

By Maj. Matthew T. Mutti, Wing Executive Staff Officer

The State Partnership program is an important program for the National Guard, in that it partners States with developing countries, encouraging dialog and collaboration.



Massachusetts sister country is Paraguay. Over the past 5 years delegations from Massachusetts and Paraguay have visited each other, pro-

viding support in the realms of education, contingency preparation and medical support.

On March 30th, 4 Paraguayan officials visited Massachusetts and stopped at Barnes during their trip. This delegation included General Humberto Garcete, Chief of Staff Paraguayan Armed Forces, Senator Miguel Saguier, Deputy (Representative) Mario Pintos and Col Candido Nunez, UN representative.

The delegation toured the base, learned about the Air Sovereignty Alert mission and the capabilities of the F-15. The Paraguayan military is growing in size and complexity and this visit is part of their strategic planning process. The



Paraguayan Senator Saguier discusses F-15 operations during his tour. (Photos by SMSgt Robert Sabonis)

group also visited the munitions storage area and life support before heading to speak at the United Nations on their current support mission in Haiti.

# Base Security Forces promote Eagle Eyes program

## By Airman 1st Class Bonnie Harper

Security Forces personnel here are encouraging unit members to be involved in the Eagle Eyes program, which the Air Force Office of Special Investigations created after 9/11 as a means of enhancing anti-terrorism efforts.

This program encourages military personnel and civilians to be additional eyes and ears when it comes to detecting suspicious behavior, said Senior Master Sgt. Thomas Puccio, the Operations Superintendent of the 104th Security Forces Squadron.

Everyone can help fight terrorism by reporting suspicious acts to Security Forces and the direct Eagle Eyes phone line, which are both available 24 hours a day.

**"It's like a force multiplier,"** said Master Sgt. Jose Rijos, a Flight Chief from the 104th Security Forces Squadron.

This program empowers everybody and adds an additional layer of security by providing a toolset to the entire organization, including civilian personnel as well, Rijos said.

Eagle Eyes motto is Watch, Report, Protect. It asks everyone to be alert for suspicious behaviors, on and off base, including the following:

**Surveillance:** Someone recording or monitoring activities, including the use of cameras (both still and video), note taking, drawing diagrams, writing on maps, or using binoculars or any other vision-enhancing device.

**Elicitation:** Anyone or any organization attempting to gain information by mail, fax, telephone or in person about military operations or

people.

**Tests of Security:** Any attempts to measure reaction times to security breaches or to penetrate physical



**U.S. AIR FORCE**  
**EagleEyes**  
**WATCH.REPORT.PROTECT.**

security barriers or procedures.

**Acquiring Supplies:** Purchasing or stealing explosives, weapons, ammunition, uniforms, decals, flight manuals, passes or badges (or the equipment to manufacture them), or any other controlled items.

**Suspicious Persons Out of Place:** **People who don't seem to belong** in the workplace, neighborhood, business establishment or anywhere else. This also includes suspicious border crossings, stowaways aboard ship, or people jumping ship in port.

**Dry Run:** Putting people into position and moving them about without actually committing a terrorist act such as a kidnapping or bombing. An element of this activity could also include mapping out routes and de-

termining the timing of traffic lights and flow.

**Deploying Assets:** People and supplies getting into position to commit the act. This is the last opportunity to alert authorities before the terrorism occurs.

Reported information is immediately processed through the security forces blotter, which is a secured and continuously running program of daily incidents. An AF Form 1668, or Field Interview Card, is also completed, and the recorded information is forwarded and up-channelled to OSI.

OSI is the lead agency for gathering information on suspicious behavior and then further investigating the validity of reports. As Eagle Eye reports and other incidents are entered by Security Forces, emails are automatically sent to notify key personnel, including the operations superintendent, com-

mand chief, commander and the air provost, Rijos said.

This virtual system works as a live feed. Our current setup and digital environment, established Sept. 19, 2010, makes us unique in the Air Force.

**"We are probably one of the only bases in the Air Force doing this type of operation with that [digital system],"** Rijos said.

**"We encourage everyone on base to be a part of Eagle Eyes, because security isn't just Security Forces' business, it's everybody's business,"** Puccio said.

To make an Eagle Eyes report, you can call (781) 377-3937, available 24 hours a day.

## Active Shooter exercise to prepare unit for UCI

By Airman 1st Class Bonnie Harper, Public Affairs Journalist

An active shooter exercise is scheduled to occur in June to prepare the base for the Unit Compliance Inspection in June.

Training for this exercise will begin in April to prepare unit members for the actual simulation in May.

In light of recent shooting incidents, including Columbine, Virginia Tech and Ft. Hood, the Installations and Mission Support section of US Air Force Headquarters is encouraging all bases to initiate active shooter training and exercises on an annual basis.

**"This is imperative,"** said Senior Master Sgt. Thomas Puccio, the Operations Superintendent, 104th Security Forces Squadron. **"This is something that the SECDEF level is directing, that all units, bases-- Air Force, Army, Navy, doesn't matter-- have some type of plan."**

US Air Force Headquarters defines an active shooter scenario as when one



or more subjects participate in a shooting spree, random or systematic, with the intent and means to continuously harm others.

These types of scenarios require preparation including base populous education, an installation response plan, large venues and gathering areas, installation exercises, mutual aid agreements, memorandums of understanding and agreement, and law enforcement training.

**"We've got to know at zero hour how we're going to respond to it, and the only way of doing that is by doing all of these exercises,"** said Master Sgt. Jose Rijos, a flight chief from the 104th Security Forces Squadron. **"That way we know that the measures that we have in place are efficient, that the base knows how to react."**

The installation commander ensures that these exercises are facilitated, whether they are in a tabletop format or an actual simulation, Puccio said.

These exercises will hopefully force us to be compliant in the upcoming UCI, since this has been highlighted as a gradable area, Puccio said.

**"Train as we fight. Fight as we train,"** Rijos said. **"If we are well trained, well equipped, and all of the short folds are identified and addressed, then everybody would know what needs to be done if that unfortunate time comes up."**

## Airman in Focus: Senior Airman Nathaniel Poudrier

By Staff Sgt. Matthew Benedetti, Public Affairs Journalist

Senior Airman Nate Poudrier is in his element as he expertly handles his duties in the structural maintenance shop during a drill weekend. He trades good natured quips with his colleagues in this tight knit unit amid the constant noise generated by the tasks associated with the shop.

He is a full time AGR in the

Aircraft Structural Maintenance Shop. **"We repair any external panels on the aircraft that might crack during a flight, among other related duties,"** said Poudrier.

It is clear that an easy camaraderie exists among the members of the unit and that members are comfortable **working with one another.** **"I like**

**coming here to work with such good people,"** said the Chester, Ma native. **"We have learned a lot from our supervisors and it is good to have them around,"** he said.

His supervisor, Master Sgt. Robert Oleksak is glad to have **him in the unit.** **"He has been an up-and-coming asset to the shop since his return from tech school in September 2008. He has quickly mastered many of the tasks in the career field, and has become one of the go-**



(Photos by Technical Sgt. Melanie Casineau)

**to guys for the newer troops."**

**"He always looks sharp, and is always ready to handle maintenance taskings when dispatched,"** said Master Sgt. Oleksak.



## WSEP exercise 2011

By Staff Sgt. Matthew Benedetti, Public Affairs Journalist

Members of the 104<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing are deploying to Tyndall AFB in Florida for two weeks in April for the Weapons System Evaluation Program (WSEP). This will be the first opportunity for the 104<sup>th</sup> members to test the Operations and Maintenance system while deploying F-15s with people and cargo while loading live munitions with the F-15s.



Air Force Target Drone (File photo)

During the upcoming deployment,

F-15s will employ air-to-air missiles against real world targets.

With many pilots still in transition from the previous A-10 air to ground mission, only about half of all 104<sup>th</sup> F-15 pilots have ever employed an air-to-air missile. **“This is a critical combat skill for all F-15 pilots to be able to maneuver their aircraft to an acceptable Weapons Engagement Zone and employ missiles,”** said Major Shane Nagatani, OIC of the mission.

The capacity at Barnes is limited and this training environment in Florida allows 104<sup>th</sup> pilots to include **Large Force Exercises.** **“I have coordinated Large Force Exercises while we are deployed to Tyndall**

AFB, which will include both fourth generation F-15s/F-16s and fifth



generation F-22s,” said Maj, Nagatani.

**“These training opportunities are rarely seen for the 104<sup>th</sup>, unless we are deployed,”** added Maj, Nagatani.

## OPSEC and unclassified information

By Staff Sgt. Matthew Benedetti, Public Affairs Journalist

As the Wing Operations Security (OPSEC) Program Manager for the 104<sup>th</sup>, **Capt. Glenn Milliken’s** chief concern is monitoring unclassified information originating from the base. Although by itself a piece of unclassified information may be innocuous, combined with another source, a potential threat may emerge. Whether it is a flight roster, maintenance related data or a Facebook posting, **Milliken’s focus is ensuring that unclassified information is handled in a prudent manner.**

**“I worry about an adversary putting the pieces of the puzzle together,”** he said. **“If information is used collectively, it can paint a good picture of what we do.”**

As the chair of the OPSEC working group, he takes an adversarial perspective in order to detect vulnerabilities. A potential enemy will try to determine - *Who we are, What we*



*do, and What limitations exist.*

He urges members to understand the technical limitations pertaining to social media. Facebook for example, has a feature that allows an interested party to locate the geographic area where a user is logged in. For a deployed military member, this information could have dire ramifications and could possibly com-

promise the mission of their unit.

**Milliken’s advice to unit members** relative to OPSEC is to always be cognizant of what you are communicating. **He advises, “Ask yourself whether you would hand the information to the enemy.”**

Master Sgt. Yasser Menwer, the security manager here at Barnes, cautions members on their collective security responsibility. **“What makes us targets is the fact that sometimes we do not realize that saying just a little bit, can many times be too much,”** he said.

**“We also tend to let our guard down because we are not in the desert. We may become very complacent because we are “just” a Guard base. The fact of the matter is that with our Air Sovereignty Alert mission, we become bigger targets instead of less,”** said Menwer.



## It's time to .... Get involved

By Master Sgt. Dominique Chapman, Victim Advocate

April is the month that most of our families celebrate Easter, but if you are not aware, the month of April was also chosen as Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM). The goal of SAAM is to raise public awareness about sexual violence and to educate communities and individuals on how to prevent sexual violence.

As your reading this, think about your Bystander Intervention Training and if you have not attended this training yet, don't worry, you will at some point in your military career. Bystander Intervention is about getting involved and when I speak about involvement I don't mean digging into other people's business. I am talking about pure common sense, using your situational awareness skills.

We have all read the stories or seen them on the evening news each and every day. In Richmond, CA a 15-year-old girl was gang raped and beaten in a schoolyard during a homecoming dance. As many as 20 people witnessed the assault which lasted almost 2 hours. Back in February 2011 Lara Logan, a CBS news reporter, was sexually assaulted by a mob while covering a story in Egypt. She

would not have survived if a group of Egyptian woman did not throw themselves on top of her to protect her from the crowd. In October of 2009, a male Army pilot was sexually assaulted by another male while recovering from his injuries in the hospital. On 3 March

## Sexual Assault Awareness Month

2007, a 17 year old girl was being gang raped at a party thrown by the De Anza baseball team in Cupertino, CA. Three girls from the soccer team who were at the party witnessed the act. They broke down the door to the bedroom and called the police. Not all these stories involved a bystander who intervened, but some did, those women did. They made a choice right then and there to get involved.

Situations such as the above might not always be so obvious, you could be anywhere, at a party with friends, at work, at a buddies house, and see a situation that might not feel right to you. But

the question is, "why don't we get involved"? There are so many reasons; what if you do get involved and someone hates you for it? What if your buddy tells you you're "cock blocking" him? What if you wind up becoming the victim yourself? Sometimes looking the other way

and pretending it's not happening is the easier route. If you don't know the person, especially in teenage points of view, it is hard to see that person as real to you, you don't know them, and as far as you are concerned, that individual is responsible for

themselves. Sometimes the more people that are present to witness an event, the less each individual feels personally responsible for doing something, someone else will take care of it, right?

We have all heard this before, that 15 year old girl in the story above could have been your daughter or sister, that man could have been your brother. These stories and people are real and they affect real lives. Drew Carberry, a director at the National Council on Crime Prevention says that "If you are in a crowd and you look and see that everyone is doing nothing, then doing nothing becomes the norm.

## ANG receives new controlled spending account for government travel

By Airman 1st Class Bonnie Harper, Public Affairs Journalist

The Air National Guard will begin replacing the current government travel cards on April 1 with a new controlled spending account debit card.

The switch is being made due to the extensive and costly management tasks linked with the GTC, according to National Guard Bureau officials.

"Although the GTC and CSA are very similar there are some significant improvements that make the CSA a mission driven travel card," said Master Sgt. Don Hickman, the agency project coordinator here at Barnes.

The new CSA card is the perfect travel product because it can be used by everyone. The GTC requires a credit check, which results in only 75 percent of



Air Force travelers qualifying to use the card. There is no credit check involved with the CSA, allowing 100 percent participation, Hickman said.

The new CSA card comes with a zero balance. Funds are automatically transferred onto individual CSA cards as soon as travel orders are approved.

All personnel that currently hold a GTC will be automatically enrolled into the CSA program if they have a zero balance on their card, and no approved orders for future travel. Once auto enrollment in the new program has occurred, the GTC will be cancelled immediately. Those who do not hold a GTC can apply for a CSA card beginning April 1, Hickman said.

In preparation for this switch, orderly rooms have been asked to confirm mailing and email addresses for all unit members. This necessary information will allow Citibank to mail the new cards to all personnel, and to send email notifications when money is added to individuals' cards, Hickman said.

For more information, please visit [www.airforcetravelcard.transactionservic](http://www.airforcetravelcard.transactionservic)

## A call for help

By Maj. Matthew T. Mutti, Sexual Assault Response Coordinator



Statistics will show that sexual assaults are the most commonly perpetrated violent crime in the United States, more common than aggravated battery, abuse or homicide...many pundits would ask why.

Experts would argue that many people do not report sexual assaults because of the trauma, others argue that social stigmas may make survivors less likely to report the crime.

The Department of Defense has taken an aggressive approach to decrease the risk for military members to

be assaulted through educational campaigns, and in the event a crime is perpetrated, trained resources for the survivor, aiding in their recovery.

The SAPR (Sexual Assault Prevention and Response) program was instituted in 2003 and provides resources for reporting options, support services such as medical and psychological consults, victim advocates that will work to aid the survivor of an assault through the initial report to the point where a prosecution may occur.

Here are some people you can turn

to if you have questions about the SAPR program or need help:

Matt Mutti (413) 568-9151 x 1800

Sandy Wakefield x1183

Dominique Chapman x1300

Marylyn Morales x1408

Jennifer Juteau x1293

Sue Fopiano x1200

Maureen Dickenson x1292

Travis Raby x1602

24-hour help line: (508) 889-6644

## Frequently asked questions of Retail Sales

By Master Sgt. Christopher Hagar, Retail Sales

Question: What are your hours of Operation?

Retail Sales is open on Tuesday from 1300-1630 and during the UTAs from 0815-1100 and 1230-1600 on both days.

Question: Who do I talk to if I have any questions?

The full-time point of contact for Retail Sales is SrA Fabricio Ochoa. During normal Retail Sales hours you can contact him at extension 1255 and when Retail Sales is closed he can be reached at extension 1358 or via email.

Question: Do I need to turn in ABU uniforms and hats?

Yes, if you have an unserviceable hat or ABU uniform you need to bring the item with you prior to ordering another uniform item. Unfortunately, if you do not have the item to turn in, then your form cannot be accepted at Retail Sales. ABU shirts also need to have the nametape, Air Force tape and rank removed before they can be accepted by the Retail Sales Section of supply.

Question: Do you have any uniforms in stock?

Unfortunately, we are unable to stock uniforms unless there is a uniform change. We currently have some ABUs and PT Gear on hand until they are exhausted. We do not stock blues of any

kind.

Question: Where are the Retail Sales order forms and who has to sign them?

LRS Form 16 and LRS Form 16ABU are available both in the Retail Sales office and on the outside of the door if you happen to come by after hours. In addition, many Resource Advisors also have copies of these forms. Both forms need to be signed by the Resource Advisor prior to Retail Sales accepting these forms.

Question: I am on a short notice list for a school or deployment but I **don't have all my required uniform items**. What should I do?

We would recommend that before you sign up for a short notice school date or deployment that you make sure you have all the required uniform items. Force Support Squadron will provide you a list of all required uniform items for your particular school. The most current USCENTAF Reporting Instructions will provide you in detail what you need for your deployment depending on your deployed location. Due to the lead time of the ordering process, Retail Sales needs as much time as possible to allow for the uniforms to come in. We ask for a MINIMUM of 6 weeks. Because we have to rely on outside agencies to get our clothing requests filled, we absolutely cannot guarantee you will get your uniforms in

on time before you depart for a short notice school or deployment. We will exhaust all means to try and accommodate each individual in these circumstances, but sometimes these situations are just out of our control.

Question: Everyone in my shop received the velcro Air Force name-tape and rank tapes for the green fleece jacket except for me or my rank is incorrect. What can I do?

Last September, Barnes ANGB made a one-time purchase for these items due to the recent change in the wearing of the green fleece jacket. If you arrived after September 2010 or your rank changed since the order then we cannot order them. The only options for ordering these items are for the affected individual to purchase the items themselves or your squadron can buy them using organizational money.

Question: I recently got married. Can I order new nametapes for my blues or ABUs?

Unfortunately, the metal engraved brushed satin finish nametag worn on your blues is only bought once per person and the individual is responsible for buying this item if it is needed again. For the laminated ultramarine blue plastic nametag and the ABU nametape, you can submit a form we will order these items.



# Safety: How goes it and UCI preparation

By Senior Master Sgt. Thomas Dumais, Ground Safety

On behalf of the Wing Safety Office we would like to take a minute to say thank you to everyone for doing their part in staying safe during this exceptionally tough winter. Whether it is here at work, driving to and from work, and even at home, safety never takes a rest. Now everyone has their UCI hats on and its full steam ahead once again. Below are some basic elements that you may want to look at and make sure they are up to date and in compliance in regards to your safety programs.

- 1. Is your Job Safety Training Outline (JSTO) up to date and does it have a documented annual review?
- 2. Does your outline include the mandatory items listed in AFI-91-301 Attachment 5?
- 3. Has your section identified who the supervisors are (to include officers) and have they attended Supervisor Safety Training?
- 4. Is Supervisor Safety Training documented on their AF Form 55 section 4?
- 5. Do you have any hazards in your work areas, and if so do you have an AF Form 3 for them or is Wing Safety aware of them?
- 6. Do you have a Job Safety Analysis (JSA) or Risk Management (RM) for non standard tasks or operations without other written guidance (if applicable)? Tool etching, Power tools, etc.
- 7. Have you identified the hazards or potential hazards in

your area and are these hazards identified in block 6 of your AF Form 55 and explained in your JSTO?

- 8. Is everyone that is required to use a fire extinguisher up to date on the required annual training?
- 9. Has your facility performed its annual fire evacuation drill and is it documented on an AF Form 1085?
- 10. Does everyone know what to do to report hazards, Report injuries and mishaps, how to obtain emergency assistance?

“...basic elements that you may want to look at and make sure are up to date and in compliance in regards to your safety programs.”

Although very basic, these are key elements of everyone's safety programs. These items along with your squadron safety reps, shop safety reps, supervision, leadership, Wing Safety, Base Fire, Bioenvironmental Engineering, and Public Health doing their respective jobs all go into making up your safety programs. If anyone requires assistance, feel free to stop in or give Wing Safety a call, we would be glad to help you.

It is also that time of year when everyone needs to check out their vehicles. Are your wipers still OK, or are you looking thought streaks or watching as a flapping piece of rubber almost makes contact with the glass? How have your tires held up to the

beating from our lovely roadways? You get the point! If you cannot do it yourself most of the car parts stores and service providers offer a free inspection. **Don't put off what you know you need to do!**

The last item we want to bring up is Motorcycles. In the past 2 months we can see people are taking their bikes out once again. We can see this by the fatalities in our safety system:

- 26Feb driving fast, impact cement divider, FATAL
- 5Mar Racing, impact street sign, FATAL
- 26Mar operator lost control, departed roadway and thrown, found next day, FATAL.

For the operators out there, please brush up on your skills and take it slow. For the new drivers remember we offer FREE mandatory MSF training. Again, thank you for all you do to keep on “Making it Happen; SAFELY!” The Safety Staff.

This unit has experienced 4 injuries since the last UTA.

- Worker injured moving pylon; Fractured thumb; Situational awareness; No lost time.
- Worker injured during chapel setup; Tripped twisting knee; Inattention; 7 lost work days.
- Worker injured grinding tools; Corneal abrasion; Foreign object, no lost time.
- Worker injured; Slipped off curb; Sprained ankle; Greater than first aid.
- This unit has experienced 1 mishap since the last UTA.
- GMV damaged; Impact bollard while turning; Operator error; \$950



# ATM skimming validated in local area

## By Diebold Incorporated

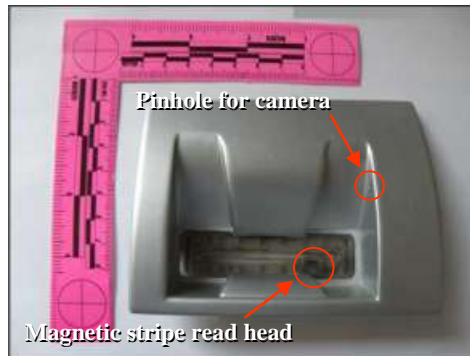
16 March 2011 - Financial Institutions in this area should be especially vigilant for ATM skimming attacks.

**Description:** Several financial institutions in communities surrounding Boston, Massachusetts have recently experienced ATM skimming attacks. This sudden, localized increase in attacks suggests the possibility of an organized crime ring targeting financial institutions in this area.

Attached are photographs of a false bezel with a skimming device from one of the attacks. This attack occurred on an Opteva® 740 ATM with a motorized card reader. The perpetrators used an all-in-one skimming device that includes both the skimmer and the camera built into the false bezel.

The false bezel was placed over the ATM's card reader to capture magnetic stripe card data. The built-in camera points towards the ATM's keypad to capture PINs being entered by consumers as the cards are being skimmed. The pictures below show the outside and inside of the false bezel. Both pho-

tos show the location of the skimmer's magnetic stripe read head. Also shown is the location of the pinhole for the camera.



**Recommendation:** Diebold recommends that financial institutions in this region be on high alert for potential skimming attacks and take precautionary steps to verify their ATMs are free of skimming devices, including more frequent and thorough inspections of ATMs. Additionally, Diebold recommends a multi-layered anti-skimming defense including increased video surveillance, ATM monitoring, PIN pad protection, solutions that detect a skimming device attached to a card reader bezel, and solutions that prevent a skimming device from being effective when placed on an ATM.

**Contact:** Any questions or any information you have concerning this matter should be brought to the attention of: Brent Woodside: Manager, ATM Security Communication and Support Diebold Incorporated: 3800 Tabs Drive, Uniontown, Ohio 44685, 330-498-2724, [brent.woodside@diebold.com](mailto:brent.woodside@diebold.com).

# What is the Service Members Civil Relief Act

## By Ms. Jennifer Armstrong

The Servicemember's Civil Relief Act (SCRA) expanded and improved the former Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act (SSCRA). The SCRA provides a wide range of protections for individuals entering, called to active duty in the military, or deployed service members. It is intended to postpone or suspend certain civil obligations to enable service members to devote full attention to duty and relieve stress on the family members of those deployed service members. A few examples of such obligations you may be protected against are:

- Outstanding credit card debt
- Mortgage payments
- Pending trials
- Taxes
- Terminations of lease

In addition the new law: Expands

current law that protects service members and their families from eviction from housing while on active duty due to non-payment of rents that are \$1,200 per month or less. Under the new provisions this protection would be significantly updated to meet today's higher cost of living covering housing leases up to \$2,932.31 per month and then be adjusted annually to account for inflation.

Provides a service member who receives permanent change of station orders or who is deployed to a new location for 90 days or more the right to terminate a housing lease.

Clarifies and restates existing law that limits to 6 percent interest on credit obligations incurred prior to military service or activation, including credit card debt, for active duty service members. The SCRA unambiguously states that no interest above 6 percent can ac-

crue for credit obligations (that were established prior to active duty or activation) while on active duty, nor can that excess interest become due once the service member leaves active duty instead that portion above 6 percent is permanently forgiven. Furthermore, the monthly payment must be reduced by the amount of interest saved during the covered period.

Note: This law only covers debt incurred prior to military service.

**SCRA Eligibility:** The SCRA covers all Active Duty service members, Reservists and the members of the National Guard while on active duty. The protection begins on the date of entering active duty and generally terminates within 30 to 90 days after the date of discharge from active duty.

For more information:

[www.jointservicessupport.org/fp](http://www.jointservicessupport.org/fp)

# Financial Readiness Frontline Information

By Jennifer Armstrong, NGB Financial Readiness Program Manager

**Veterans Tax Credit Ending The Veteran's Home Buyer Tax Credit** program will soon end. Under the problem, veterans who served overseas in the past two years are probably eligible for an \$8,000 tax credit when purchasing a home. Under the extension passed late last year by Congress for veterans, a contract must be signed by April 30, 2011, but applicants have until June 30, 2011 to close the deal. Veterans should check with their professional tax preparer in regards to their eligibility.

## Full Concurrent Receipt

Legislation has been introduced in both houses of the 112th Congress that would allow qualified military retirees to receive both their VA disability compensation and DoD pensions at the same time. Concurrent receipt of retirement pay and disability compensation has been expanded in recent years, but it still does not apply to military retirees with service-connected disabilities rated less than 50 percent. Sen. Harry Reid, D-Nev., introduced the "Retired Pay Restoration Act of 2011" S. 344 on Feb. 14 to go along with a similar measure, H.R. 333, previously introduced in the House by Rep. Sanford Bishop, D-Ga. H.R. 333 already has 97 cosponsors. Two other House bills also address lifting the ban on concurrent receipt.

**Bank of America Introduces Program to Extend Mortgage Protections for Service members Beyond Active Duty Unique Program Includes Interest Rate Reductions, Targeted Principal Forgiveness, and Dedicated Mortgage Servicing Team to Assist Military Customers.**

Bank of America today announced programs for its mortgage customers serving in the United States military, improving key benefits for those on active duty and extending mortgage protections for service members beyond active duty. The newly introduced programs include a principal forgiveness loan modification program for military borrowers behind on their payments when leaving active duty; a reduced 4 percent interest rate on mortgages for customers who are eligible for Service members Civil Relief Act (SCRA) protection; and a mortgage customer ser-

vice unit dedicated to servicing military customers.

"Our new Military Loan Modification Program builds on our long-standing commitment to the United States military forces and will help address the heavy burden of financial matters at home that can weigh on those who are protecting our freedoms," said Terry Laughlin, executive vice president for Bank of America. "Military men and women face extraordinary circumstances, and they make unique sacrifices for all of us. For these reasons, we want this combination of tools to address their needs and help them when they need it most."

Bank of America's Military Loan Modification Program goes above and beyond existing programs to assist military customers who are leaving active duty domestically or abroad and are struggling to afford their mortgage payment. The program builds on the government's Home Affordable Modification Program (HAMP) and provides a waterfall of solutions starting with principal reduction measures to help customers achieve a more affordable mortgage payment as set forth in the HAMP guidelines:

First, immediate principal forgiveness to reduce the amounts owed related to their mortgage to as low as 100 percent of the current market value. Then, as needed, a reduction of the interest rate, and subsequent extension of the term of the loan to help customers achieve a more affordable mortgage payment.

Beginning April 1, 2011, Bank of America will also offer a 4 percent interest rate on mortgages for active duty military personnel while they are under Service members Civil Relief Act (SCRA) protection. This is lower than the 6 percent rate required by SCRA guidelines. The 4 percent rate will be applicable for the duration of the borrowers' active duty and for 12 months after release.

Bank of America initially will offer the specialized loan modification program and reduced interest rate to distressed military customers with loans owned and serviced by the bank. The bank is engaged in conversations with

investors in other mortgages it services in the interest of expanding these benefits to all the military customers. Participation by those investors is subject to their approval.

Bank of America previously announced it has established a dedicated customer service team for military customers within its mortgage servicing unit. This unit provides service members who have Bank of America mortgages with a single team to contact for assistance with questions or needs related to the bank's full range of mortgage options and related SCRA benefits. The unit is staffed by associates with specialized training and detailed knowledge of SCRA policies and guidelines.

Service members with Bank of America mortgages may reach the dedicated customer service unit at 888.325.5357.

"We recognize the complexity and special considerations of serving customers who are in the military and we are committed to working with the Department of Defense and other stakeholders to help service members who are currently in or exiting active duty and in need of mortgage relief," said Laughlin.

Bank of America has provided specialized financial services to military personnel since 1920 with a long-standing commitment that includes:

Partnership with the Department of Defense providing full-service banking to troops and contractors domestically and overseas, with nearly 80 branches and 300 ATM locations outside the U.S. Employment of more than 5,000 active and veteran U.S. military service members. An employee-based Military Support Affinity Group, which provides networking, mentoring and information forums to help in the advancement and leadership development of service veterans. Nearly \$2 million in grants and other financial support for nonprofit partners who serve military service members, veterans and their families since 2008.

[www.bankofamerica.com](http://www.bankofamerica.com)

SOURCE: Bank of America

## Free Tax Help

During the 2011 Tax Season, the Joint Support Family Assistance Program will be offering all service members and their Families of all components FREE TAX PREPARATION at various locations around Massachusetts.

These sites provide free tax advice, tax preparation and assistance to military members and their Families. Service members and their dependents who served in any component of the Armed Services in 2010 are eligible for this FREE service. Volunteers, certified by the IRS will prepare your return.

Volunteer CPAs, lawyers, and financial planners will review your return prior to e-filing. The process normally takes an hour or you can drop off your tax information and return when it is ready to be e-filed.

This service can save an average of \$200. You can also learn how to put your tax refund to good use.

Sites in Reading, Wellesley, Rehoboth, Chicopee/Springfield, Milford, Worcester and the Mass Military Reservation will be opening on January 25th.

For information or to make an appointment please contact Jonathan Harrington at 508-233-7951 or mafi-financialreadiness@gmail.com or Specialist Jeff Lapointe at (781) 431-0197 or Jefrey.charles.lapointe@us.army.mil.

## Free Financial Assistance

**JONATHAN HARRINGTON**

Personal Financial Consultant

Military & Family Support Center

MAfinancialreadiness@gmail.com

14 Minuteman Lane

Wellesley, MA 02481

888-301-3103 x 7951



## What's My Line Winner!



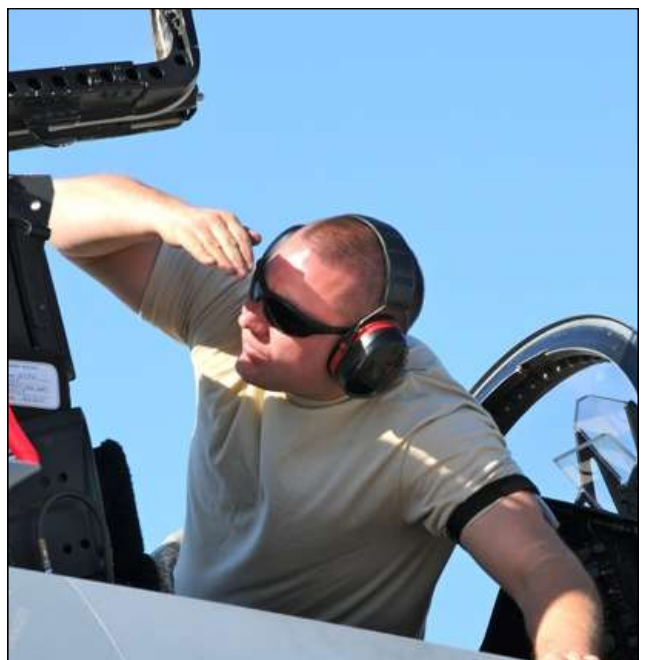
(Photo by Master Sgt. Mark Fortin)

Last month's winner is:  
*"WOW! Look grandpa. It's Bob Hope reincarnated!"*  
 Submitted by CMSgt Wayne Brown.

Last month's runners-up are:  
*"This would be my first choice of who I'd want to represent me".*  
 Submitted by anonymous.

*"You too can be a proud owner of this fine detailed engraved commemorative award, but wait, that's not all...."*  
 Submitted by anonymous.

## What's My Line?



(Photo by technical Sgt. Anthony Mutti)

Submit your funny, creative and appropriate caption for the photo on the right. We will run the winner and a runner-up in next months AirScoop. Submit your entry to: [104fw.pa@ang.af.mil](mailto:104fw.pa@ang.af.mil)



# 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Barnes Fire Charity Golf Tournament

To Benefit:

**Soldiers' Home  
In Holyoke**

Sponsored by:

**Barnes ANG  
Fire Department**

When: **FRIDAY, July 22, 2011**

Where: **Southampton Country Club**, 329 College Highway, Southampton, MA 01073

Cost: \$360 per foursome, (\$90/player)

Includes: Lunch @ the Turn, Buffet Dinner, 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Tournament Hat, Barnes FD Water Bottle, Dozens of Giveaways, and more

Great prizes for Hole in One, Longest Drive, Closest to Line & Closest to Pin.

Take a chance on a Skins Pool, Silent Auction & Raffle Prizes.

Please fill out lower portion and return prior to July 15, 2011

*Shotgun start at 9:30 am, please arrive early for check-in.*

*For questions contact Capt. Larry Buell  
Tel# (413)-568-9151 ext.1781 or (413)-330-9260*

**Make Checks Payable To: "BARNES FIRE CHARITY GOLF"**

**Remit To:**

**Barnes Fire Charity Golf  
104<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing Fire Department  
175 Falcon Drive  
Westfield, MA 01085**

**Captain:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Player 2:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Player 3:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Player 4:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

# For Your Information

## Family Easter Egg Hunt

Where: Building 8, NCO Club

When: April 17, 2010 at 1:00 p.m.

Who: Children age 0 to 10

What: Family Easter Egg Hunt

RSVPs Required? Yes, by April 8th

to MSgt Dimino-Frazer x 1280



## UTA Fitness Testing

All testing will be conducted out of Building 008. Unit fitness Program Managers and Physical Training Leaders are to report 30 minutes prior to the start of testing

Friday - 0800, official testing and remedial testing offered to anyone in military status.

Saturday - 0700, official testing offered (no remedial).

Saturday - 0900, official testing offered (no remedial).

Sunday - 1400, remedial testing offered (no official testers).

All personnel need to show up with the Fitness Questioner filled out and on time.

## Free Tax Filing Software

The Military OneSource Tax Program has begun! The program provides free access to a customized version of the basic H&R Block at Home® electronic tax-filing product. This customized product allows for free federal filing and free state filing (up to three states). In addition, free telephonic tax consultations are available to help with tax-related issues. Visit [www.militaryonesource.com](http://www.militaryonesource.com)

Tax consultants are available 7 days a week from 7 a.m. - 11 p.m. ET by calling the Military OneSource Tax Hotline at 1-800-730-3802.

*\*An important note: Please do not create a user account on the public H&R Block Web site. You will incur a fee if you file using the public H&R Block Web site/product*



**H&R BLOCK®**

## What's Being Served at the Dining Facility?

*Catered by The Cup*

### Saturday

Meatloaf, Country Captain Chicken

Mash Potatoes, Egg Noodles

Peas, Mixed Vegetables

Brown Gravy, Chili, Rolls

Soup: French Onion Soup

Short Order: Hamburg's, Hotdogs, French Fries

### Sunday

Baked Ham, Yankee Pot Roast

Mashed Potatoes, Rice

Peas, Carrots

Brown Gravy, Rolls

Soup: Cream of Broccoli

Short Order: Chicken Sandwich

### Dessert:

Chocolate Chip Cookies, Apple Pie, Vanilla Pudding

Soft Serve Ice Cream

**AGR's, Officer's and Members on Orders - \$4.25**

Mountain Home Air Force Base Yellowstone National Park MWR Country Trailers are now available for booking. Beginning April 1, ANG/AFR and Active Duty members can book their Summer Vacations at Yellowstone National Park through the Mountain Home Air Force Base MWR office. Call (208) 828-6333 for more information.



## Second Annual F.E.A.W.M.

### Federal Career Fair



*Tuesday, April 5, 2011 @ Tower Square*

*2nd Floor Community Room*

*1500 Main Street, Springfield, MA 01103*

The Federal Government recognizes a need to incorporate and recruit a new generation of federal employees. With a projected 600,000 federal vacancies by 2012, we must start recruiting efforts now! The FEAWM is hosting this career fair event to provide an opportunity for federal employers and our communities to meet this challenge.



### Congratulations on your upcoming Retirements

|                |     |               |
|----------------|-----|---------------|
| Brady, John    | MXS | 29 April 2011 |
| Russell, Jason | MDG | 27 May 2011   |
| Kelly, William | CES | 31 May 2011   |

### Religions notes:

Ecumenical time of Prayer & Reflection  
Saturday 0650 – 0720 hrs. in the Avionics Class Rm

Celebration of the Eucharist (**Roman**):  
Saturday, at 1600 in the DFAC

Protestant Services:  
Saturday, 1600 in Bldg 001 Conference Room



### CCTV line up

- Channel 7 - Training videos & Base Info
- Channel 9 - Warrior Network
- Channel 10 - Pentagon Channel



### Ancillary training video schedule

#### Morning 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

#### Afternoon Training Video

- 1300-1340 Forklift Fundamentals and Ops
- 1340-1413 Confined Space Awareness
- 1413-1423 Basic Ladder Safety
- 1423-1453 Lockout/Tagout
- 1453-1501 FOD Prevention
- 1501-1508 Copyright Infringement

### Thank You Brownie Troop 20155



Troop leaders Rachel Hapgood, Christa Robinson and a few of the Brownie Troops deliver Girl Scout cookies to the 104th Fighter Wing's Family Resource Office on March 29, 2011. (photo by SMSgt Rob Sabonis)

### Thank You Brownie Troops 11385 & 40370



CMSgt. (Ret.) Jim Belisle, Sandra Wakefield, of the 104th Family Resources, and Ms. Beth Ahart with another delivery of Girl Scout cookies from the Southampton troops. (photo by SMSgt Rob Sabonis)

# 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.

### April Headlines:

April 1958

SAC activated its 1st ICBM Squadron, the 576th Strategic Missile Squadron, for the Atlas missile at Cooke AFB, Calif.

April 1976

The last C-118A Liftmaster in the active inventory went to Davis- Monthan AFB, Ariz. for storage.

Apr 24, 1962

The U.S. Air Force used an orbiting satellite for the first time to transmit television photographs from Camp Parks, Calif. to Westford, Mass.

April 1972

Air Training Command activates the Community College of the Air Force at Randolph AFB, Texas.

Apr 5, 1988

Eight C-5s and 22 C-141s airlifted 1,300 security specialists from the U.S. to Panama through April 8, where political instability threatened the safety of thousands of Americans. The deployment included 45 missions.

April 1995

The Global Positioning System satellites were declared fully operational. This system provides accurate geographical coordinates.

April 1998

The U. S. Air Force accepted the first of two C-38A aircraft. Two Air National Guard pilots from the 201st Airlift Squadron flew the aircraft from St. Louis to Andrews AFB, Md., to replace the older C-21.

## DoD Planning Berlin- Cuba Callup Medal

On top of the authorization of the "Cold War Medal", the Department of Defense is now considering another medal which would be awarded to all Guardsmen and Reservists called up for the Berlin and Cuba crises.

To be called the Reserve Emergency Service Medal, it would no doubt go to all personnel in this Group who are already eligible for the "Cold War Medal". Neither precludes award of the other.

Final word on the Reserve Emergence Medal is expected during the coming month. About 148,000 who were called up for Berlin in 1961 and 14,200 who were recalled for Cuba last fall would be eligible for this award.

The Army's M-14 is a \$112 rifle that fires the standardized 7.62 mm NATO bullet.



A serious note was added to the gaiety of Holyoke's annual St Patrick's Day parade this year with the 104th Tactical Fighter Group float built around an authentic reproduction of a section of the Berlin Wall. With a large portion of the Group's membership having seen the wall at close quarters from both sides, there were too many expert critics to have it be anything but an accurate replica. Manning the float were 2d Lt Leonard Bannish as the pilot, A2C Whitney Philbrook as the air policeman and TSgt George Keefe in combat gear. The 104th Group participates annually in this event with some 200 marchers, the float, and distinctive vehicles giving the watchers a look at the Air National Guard.



104th Tactical Fighter Group  
Barnes Airport, Westfield, Mass.

Originally Published April 1962

## MASSACHUSETTS AIR NATIONAL GUARD

Barnes Air National Guard Base  
175 Falcon Drive  
Westfield, MA 01805

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[www.westfieldairshow.net](http://www.westfieldairshow.net)



*PRIDE,*  
*PROFESSIONALISM,*  
*PATRIOTISM*

## We're on the Web

[WWW.104FW.ANG.AF.MIL](http://WWW.104FW.ANG.AF.MIL)

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