

The BoarsTale



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Special Edition

Tribute to Maj Gen Scott Hammond Commander, GA Air National Guard

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Maj Gen Scott Hammond

Major General Scott Hammond Set to Close Eventful Era of Air Guard History

Extraordinary Change a Constant During General's Tenure

Courtesy Col (Ret.) Ken Baldowski

Clay National Guard Center, GA, June 23, 2010 July 24th brings to a close an era which historians might well argue was among the most challenging in the Georgia Air Guard's 70-year history. Major General Scott A. Hammond, Commander of the 3000 member organization since 2003, prepares to retire at ceremonies set for July 23rd and 24th at Robins Air Force Base.

The Hammond years in Georgia were years of significant organizational and doctrinal changes. The pace and scope of these changes were, at times, feverish. Georgia was the testbed for new missions, new aircraft, new concepts and whole new organizational structures. When appointed as Commander in 2003 by Governor Sonny Perdue, Hammond became the youngest Air Guard commander in Georgia history, and immediately provided a steady "hand-on-the-stick" approach to cope with the pace of change demanded to meet the operational needs of wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Please see *Tribute* on page 2

Tribute continues from page 1

Hammond, the son of a fighter pilot, was born in Ohio. He received an appointment to the U.S. Air Force Academy and left as a distinguished graduate in 1975. Following pilot training at Williams Air Force Base, AZ, he became an instructor in the T-38 Talon. After a brief stint at the Pentagon, Hammond was given the opportunity to fly the F-15 Eagle. "I had always wanted to fly fighters, so this was an absolute dream come true", says the general with boyish enthusiasm. During his last years on active duty he flew the high performance fighter in Red Flag exercises and during employments all over the world. It was in fact his love for this jet that motivated his departure from active duty. In 1985, Georgia was set to convert from F-4's to Eagles and wanted to know if he was interested in remaining in the cockpit as an F-15 conversion instructor. He jumped at the chance and never looked back.

Throughout the late 80's and early 90's, he held numerous leadership positions in the 116th Fighter Wing, and was selected for the team representing the entire Air National Guard at the prestigious worldwide William Tell air-to-air gunnery competition. His tenure in the F-15 eventually culminated in what he considered the best job ever, as Commander of the 128th Fighter Squadron. In 1994, when the unit received word that they were to lose the venerable Eagle, Hammond actually considered retiring, figuring that nothing could ever match the satisfaction of the position he was leaving.



"I am grateful beyond words that I was talked into staying", says Hammond. He later became Vice Commander of the newly organized 116th Bomb Wing in 1998, begun at Robins AFB as the doors to the fighter wing closed at Dobbins. "Culturally, our organization was inherently change-capable," Hammond explains. "The greater challenge we faced at the time was not the mission change, but the relocation of the unit, forcing every one of our members to decide whether they would remain in the Guard". This move of 116th personnel and equipment was the largest and most expensive unit relocation in the history of the National Guard. Additionally, the fighter legacy of the 116th gave way to that of a strategic bombing mission in America's most advanced supersonic bomber, the B-1.

As fighter pilots learn, changes come at you quickly, and in 2002, the 116th received yet another new mission and new aircraft, the E-8C Joint STARS, but this time with a twist: the J-STARS wing would combine, for the first time in Air Force history, active duty and guard personnel under the same command umbrella. Furthermore, this was to be done during uninterrupted deployment overseas in support of the Global War on Terrorism. With unique differences in organization and doctrine, Hammond helped to successfully guide the evolution of the blended 116th Air Control Wing in ways few Air Force leaders thought possible. The wing went on to receive additional Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards over the next five years, ultimately reaching a total of fourteen, more than any unit in the Air Force or Air National Guard. Of note, no other US aircraft has flown more sorties over the Middle East than Georgia's Joint STARS.



Hammond's vision for the Georgia Air Guard impacted the nine GSU (Geographically Separated Units) around the state. In 2009, he stood up the first new ANG unit in more than half a century. The 139th Intelligence Squadron was activated at Fort Gordon, GA providing detailed intelligence products to military services and many national agencies. Hammond also helped to manage a 50 percent downsizing of the Dobbins' 283rd Combat Communications Squadron, and assisted with significant operational and facility improvements to Georgia's CRTC in Savannah.

As the Assistant Adjutant General for Air, Hammond advocated efforts to create a new Joint Force Headquarters, leveraging the combined strengths of both the Army and the Air for the state of Georgia.

Hammond points proudly to the fact that every ANG unit in the state has received at least one national Air Force outstanding unit award over the past five years, and every unit has had at least one major inspection with superior results. "This is a testament to the quality of our airmen at every rank, and I'm especially proud of the commitment of the commanders, leaders, and senior NCOs that I'm leaving behind".

Tribute continues from page 2

“We’ve become an organization of operational excellence in every criteria by which we are measured,” Hammond confidently states. “We have met or have exceeded all of our wartime commitments. And consider this: during my entire tenure as a general officer, I have not had to deal with a single formal IG complaint or congressional investigation. This speaks volumes for the integrity of our commanders in each and every one of our organizations”.



Asked his greatest thrill as a fighter pilot, Hammond confesses with some hesitancy, “No self-respecting fighter pilot would answer the question this way, but I remember vividly the handful of mistakes I’ve made flying the F-15 that scared the absolute daylights out of me, like losing sight of an adversary, or when two of my wingmen collided at 500 mph over the North Georgia mountains. Those events are seared in my mind”.

But as significant as these events were, Hammond confides that they are far outweighed by countless pleasurable moments he experienced in the fighter. He speaks excitedly about how incredible it was to fly an airplane with the raw power of the Eagle. “It’s the coolest roller coaster ride times ten, and to hop in an F-15, point the nose straight up, and accelerate... that was something I experienced on a regular basis... unbelievable!” “Also, I’ll always hold close to my heart the camaraderie of my fellow pilots, the 20-30 of my closest friends on earth, vibrantly alive enjoying the afterglow of a successful mission, ORI, or exercise”.



**Maj Gen Hammond and
Mrs. Cindy Hammond**

Hammond, a senior pilot with Delta, and wife Cindy will continue their involvement with the Air Guard through participation in NGAUS, the Air Force Association and the Air Force Academy alumni organization. His love for flying high performance aircraft is not only his vocation but also his avocation as he continues to fly his Zlin aerobatic aircraft from the grass airstrip near his home in Villa Rica.

Maj Gen Hammond and his HQs Troops



The Hammond era will be recorded as a time of significant change in the Air Guard, and it’s through his vision and direction that a definitive course for the Georgia Air Guard has been set far into the future. Despite his significant successes during this eventful time, Hammond simply notes, “If I have done my job right, I won’t be missed for a minute”.

Agenda

**Headquarters GA ANG
Unit Training Assembly
24-25 July 2010
Maj Gen Hammond Presiding**

Time		
Topics/Attendees		
Location		
24 July 2010		
0815	Change of Command Practice/All Formation Participants (Report to CMSgt Shipman)*See List Below **Contact Staff for travel orders if needed for 23-24 Jul 10	Century of Flight Hanger, RAFB Museum
1000	Change of Command Practice	Century of Flight Hanger, RAFB Museum
1030	Change of Command/All Non-Formation HQ Personnel (Report to Lt Col Marren) **Contact Staff for travel orders if needed for 24 Jul 10	Century of Flight Hanger, RAFB Museum
1100-1300	HQ GAN ANG Change of Command/Maj Gen Hammond's Retirement Ceremony	Century of Flight Hanger, RAFB Museum
1630	Release	
	25 July 2010	NOTE: 139IS SAV: Is Postponed
0800	Roll Call/Assemble	Finch Bldg
0800	Enlisted Promotion Board	Conf Room, Finch Bldg
0800	Officer Promotion Board	Lt Col Jones' Office
0830	Chapel Services	Chapel
0900-1200	Staff work	
1200-1230	Lunch	Piccadilly
1230-1330	Staff Briefing	Conf Room, Finch Bldg
1330-1400	KPI Briefing	Conf Room, Finch Bldg
1400-1500	Staff Work	
1500-1600	Hotwash	Conf Room,
1630	Release	"Good Drill"

NOTES: None

* Schedule is subject to change due to late developments

New Commander Announced for 116th Air Control Wing

Courtesy ,116th Air Control Wing (ACC), Joint STARS Public Affairs

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, GA – Col. Jeffrey A. Herd took command of the 116th Air Control Wing at a ceremony on July 8 at Robins AFB. The ceremony was officiated by Major General Terry T. Nesbitt, the Adjutant General of Georgia and Major General William L. Holland, Commander, 9th Air Force. Col. Herd is coming to the 116th from Offutt AFB, Neb., where he was the Commander of the 55th Operations Group. In that position he was responsible for the execution of worldwide reconnaissance, command and control, presidential support and treaty verification missions directed by the President and Secretary of Defense, Joint Chiefs of Staff, unified commanders, and national intelligence agencies. The group has eleven squadrons operating seven separate models of aircraft and is the largest operations group in Air Combat Command. The Colonel is a Master Navigator with 2,900+ flight hours and 300+ combat hours. He received his commission from Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps, with a Bachelor of Science degree in business from Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio in June 1987.

As wing commander of the 116th Air Control Wing, Col. Herd will be responsible for the worldwide employment of the E-8C Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System aircraft. The wing combines the talents of more than 2,600 Air National Guard, active-duty Airmen, Army personnel and civilian contractors into a single cohesive unit. Col. Herd will be taking command from Brigadier General Thomas R. Moore, who has commanded the 116th Air Control Wing since March 07. Gen. Moore will be taking over as the Commander of the Georgia Air National Guard at a ceremony later in July.

Air Guard Change of Command Ceremony

The Change of Command for Georgia Air National Guard will take place on Saturday, 24 July 2010 at 11:00 hours at the Museum of Aviation, Century of Flight. The ceremony will honor Maj Gen Scott A. Hammond, Outgoing Commander, GA Air National Guard and Brig Gen Thomas R. Moore, Incoming Commander. Major General Terry T. Nesbitt, the Adjutant General of Georgia will officiate. The event will be attended by Mrs. Letha Nesbitt, wife of the MG William T. Nesbitt, and several family members to include Mrs. Cindy Hammond wife of Maj Gen Hammond. Maj Gen Hammond's mother (Margaret) and sons (Josh and Chris) will also be attending. Brig Gen Moore's family members that will attend include wife (Mrs. Paula Moore) and sons (Rhett and Tyler).

Upon relinquishing command and in front of the entire formation, Maj Hammond will be awarded the Oglethorpe Distinguished Service Medal. The wing formation will consist of officers, NCOs and Airmen who have served with Major General Hammond and who will serve with Brigadier General Moore.

The men and women of the Georgia Air National Guard are proud to have served with Maj Gen Hammond; we wish him and his family Godspeed in their retirement. We also welcome the Moore family as Brigadier General Moore assumes his new duties as Commander, of the Georgia Air National Guard.

Major General Hammond's Retirement Ceremony begins immediately following the Change of Command ceremony.

Change of Command Participants: (ABUs unless individually notified of service dress)

Col Bill Day	Lt Col Joel Howle	Lt Col Rebecca Gray
Maj Chris Goldsmith	1Lt Evelyn Rivera	CMSgt Bill Pinkney
CMSgt Leslie Allen	CMSgt Jodie Browder	CMSgt Oliver Gills
SMSgt Perri Hays	MSgt William Spear	MSgt Barbara Smith
MSgt Danyal Colbert-Gaiters	MSgt Michael Hollis	MSgt LaQue Banks
MSgt Michelle Golson	TSgt Martha Roman	TSgt Corelle Plummer
TSgt Regina Frank-Singleton	SSgt Kim Jackson	

CHAPLAINS CORNER

By MSgt Clint Smith

Major General Scott Hammond: Our Organization Has Been Blessed

The importance of God's providence and timing are evident in any organization as leaders emerge. The Georgia Air National Guard has been blessed and strengthened as a result of the leadership of Major General Scott Hammond. An Air Force Academy graduate, Hammond is a wise man with great institutional knowledge. His proactive approach to visiting units and engaging personnel in the field has produced a solid environment for airmen to excel.

Personally, I have great respect for Major General Hammond's decision to place greater emphasis on the National Guard historical program. He understands the importance of preserving the artifacts and legacies of airmen of the past because we can learn so much and we are duty bound to carry on the mission in the same spirit and dedication as those that came before us.

Major General Hammond has ensured that Headquarters, the Band, and the 283 CBCS have a time for worship through our monthly chapel service. Despite the hectic schedule of a unit training assembly, he understands that a voluntary time to gather for worship makes for a stronger unit.

The times are indeed a challenging era: The Global War on Terror, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, the Joint Force infrastructure, state missions, and evolving technology. And yet, with his steady temperament, unique sense of humor, balanced perspective between optimism and realism, Major General Hammond has provided strong leadership.

Obviously, Hammond's experience in the commercial airline industry has contributed to his keen business sense as well as a distinct skill set necessary to engage the civilian populace.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY (July and August)

July 11 MSgt Clint Smith
 July 11 TSgt Carlos Bonilla
 July 19 Col Jay Peno
 July 21 TSgt Darendra Rogers
 July 26 Lt Col James Marren
 July 27 Lt Col Jean Specht
 July 29 Lt Col Joel Howle

 Aug 05 MSgt Noah Brock
 Aug 17 Maj Andre Campbell
 Aug 24 MG Scott Hammond
 Aug 31 CMSgt Leslie Allen

ST HQ GA ANG PROMOTION BOARD SCHEDULES 25 JULY 2010

OFFICER PROMOTION BOARD MEMBERS

COL MICHAEL GASPER 116 ACW - PRESIDENT
 LT COL SHERRY ELIASON 165 AW - MEMBER
 LT COL JON SHOWALTER 165 AW - MEMBER
 CAPT MIA JACOBS 116 AW - RECORDER

MEMBERS MEETING THE OFFICER BOARD

MAJOR KURT STEGNER 116 ACW - 0830
 CAPT SHANNON MORRIS 116 ACW - Package Only
 CAPT RICHARD SMITH 116 ACW - Package Only
 CAPT PHILLIP MALONE 128 ACC - Package Only
 CAPT JASON SCOTT 128 ACC - Package Only
 CAPT BILLY CARTER, JR 128 ACC - Package Only
 CAPT PHILLIP BATTEN 128 ACC - Package Only

ENLISTED PROMOTION BOARD MEMBERS

MAJOR RALPH CURRIER 116 AW - PRESIDENT
 MSGT MICHAEL BEST 165 AW - MEMBER
 MSGT RICHARD RIFE 117 ACS - MEMBER

MEMBERS MEETING THE ENLISTED BOARD

UTA chapel Service:
Sunday, July 25 at 0830 hrs in the Base Chapel
Read Psalm 75

HISTORIAN COLUMN

Major General Scott Hammond: He Made History

by MSgt Clint Smith

As we reflect on the career of Major General Scott Hammond, one must realize his love for flying and respect for aviation as a science. Maj Gen Hammond's foresight and perspective on the role of aviation might best be summarized by Iven Rendall in the documentary film maker's monologue at the beginning of his acclaimed series, 'Reaching for the Skies':

"As a piece of applied science, the aeroplane has a place alongside the wheel, gunpowder, the printing press and the steam engine as one of the great levers of change in world history. The effect of aircraft on the way we live has been profound: they have shrunk the world, mingling previously isolated cultures, they have added a menacing dimension to warfare, spawned new technologies, created new economic zones and given us a toehold in space."

Maj Gen Hammond's recognition of the impact that the Air National Guard is having in the Total Force equation of the Air Force led to his decision to place greater emphasis on historical preservation at Headquarters in the post-September 11 era. Maj Gen Hammond is a student of history. During nearly every UTA in recent years, he would stump everyone with a piece of aviation history. A graduate of the United States Air Force Academy, MG Hammond has undoubtedly been inspired by the words shared in 1955 upon the founding of the school by Air Force Secretary Harold E. Talbott:

"The Air Force Academy is built upon a proud foundation and so it should be. For the Academy is a bridge to the future, gleaming with promise of peace in a stable, sane world . . . Our airpower has kept the peace . . . it is keeping the peace, God willing, it will keep on doing so. This Academy, we are founding today, will carry forward that great effort".

Maj Gen Hammond's love for flying, and particularly the F-15 fighter, reached its zenith when he landed his dream job as Commander of the 128th Fighter Squadron. The organization received Federal recognition on 20 August 1946 at Marietta Army Air Base, thus becoming the first post war Georgia National Guard-Air unit.

HISTORIAN COLUMN CONTINUES

'Cat Shoulder Patch'

dates back to when the unit was designated as the 840th Bombardment Squadron in the early 1940s.



'William Tell Patch'

One of the highlights of Maj Gen Hammond's tenure with the 116 TFW was his selection as a member of the first Air National Guard F-15 unit to be selected for worldwide fighter competition in the prestigious William Tell-88, at Tyndall AFB, Florida.

William Tell is the air-to-air combat competition involving the finest fighter units in the Air Force. The competition challenged the ability of fighter units to accomplish air superiority and strategic defensive missions in a realistic combat environment. The competition tested not only air crews but also weapons controller teams, aircraft maintenance and load specialists in the basic combat skills required to accomplish fighter missions in an air-to-air offensive and defensive role.



The stand up of the 139th Intelligence Squadron at Fort Gordon in Augusta was a landmark event in the history of the Georgia Air National Guard. MG Hammond understood the importance of intelligence in the 21st century as civilian and military organizations work together to safeguard America's security.

The challenges have been many in the last decade as the Georgia Air National Guard has reacted to the Global War on Terror and the Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Major General Scott Hammond has reacted with strong, inspiring leadership. His background and his own history making experiences have created a legacy for us to draw upon for inspiration as well as to set a blueprint for the future.

Mrs. Cindy, Thanks for your Continued Support

Major General Hammond is a loving husband, father, and son. Cindy, his wife, is a gracious and kind woman who has befriended all of us. We will always have fond memories of the experiences everyone shared at family day events and Christmas parties. Her support and understanding have been an essential element of Major General Hammond's successful ability to balance his National Guard responsibilities with his civilian commitments. It places a great burden on any family. The entire Headquarters unit conveys a deep expression of gratitude for the support of Cindy Hammond.

As the Hammonds move on to the next chapter in their lives, we pray for good health and happiness for their entire family.



Mrs. Cindy Hammond
First Lady of the GA Air Guard

Air Guard Achievements - Around the State

ANG Hometown Heroes

Story by 1st Lt Sarah Meinecke, Hometown
Hero Program Administrator

The 165th Airlift Wing honored more than 300 of its members on June 6 in a Hometown Heroes Award Ceremony. Each airman who had deployed for more than thirty days since Sept. 11, 2001 was honored with a framed Letter of Appreciation signed by the Air National Guard (ANG) Director, General Craig R. McKinley and the Command Chief Master Sergeant Richard Smith.

The ANG Hometown Heroes Salute campaign was authorized by General McKinley, Chief of the National Guard Bureau in August 2008. The purpose of the campaign is to “celebrate and honor our Airmen, families, communities and those special supporters who have significantly contributed to supporting our Airmen and the ANG’s mission.”

The program was cut into three tiers of awards, the first of which was deemed “Catch-Up.” This phase honored all eligible airmen who deployed for more than 30 days from September 11, 2001 through December 31, 2008. In addition to the framed Letter of Appreciation, the honorees also received pen sets for their spouse or significant other, dog tags for their children and coin medallions for themselves.

The second tier includes a framed American Flag with inset coins for succeeding deployments that ranged from 180-365 consecutive days, and the third tier is an Eagle Statue with inset coins to recognize deployments of more than 366 consecutive days.

The 165th AW saluted a total of 315 unit members who were eligible under the first tier guidelines. Since 2001, the unit has been on several deployments to places such as Afghanistan, Iraq, Oman, Kuwait, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkey, Puerto Rico and Germany.



Pictured (L-R): Tech Sgt Delton Johnson, a flight engineer; Maj Ron Aldrich, Maintenance; Tech Sgt Josue Pabon, Maintenance; Senior Amn Kate Johnson, Ariel Ports; Colonel Jesse Simmons, 165th AW Commander; Tech Sgt Cedric Beamon, Maintenance; Tech Sgt Carlos Chisholm, Security Forces; Major Jonathon Drew, Pilot.

Georgia Air Guard Commander Set to Retire

Comments from Staff Members and Others...

You will be
greatly missed!
Mrs. Victoria
Hightower

I want you to grow
back your mustache.
State Command
Chief Camp

You are Top Gun!
And Cindy is the Best!
Enjoy your retirement.
Major Jackie Jackson

The trouble with
retirement is that you
never get a day off.--
Abe Lemons—Enjoy
your free time!!
Lt Col Jones

You are a true
patriot!
MSgt Clint Smith

It's been an honor
working with you!
TSgt Corelle
Plummer

You will always be a
Recruiter! Thanks so
much for everything.
SMSgt Rick
Hamilton

I have enjoyed being
a part of your team.
Best wishes on your
retirement.
SSgt Kim Jackson

You have always
"Aimed High" TSgt
Carlos Bonilla



Perhaps longer than most of our Georgia guard members, I've had the privilege of watching General Hammond over many years. From his arrival at the 128th Fighter Squadron, the leadership qualities have emerged. Let the record show that there is still a place for integrity, professionalism, and compassion as a basis for effective command. Although this may be an end to our relationship as my commander, he will remain a mentor and more importantly a friend.
Col (Dr.) John Mullins

It was great joining you on our great adventure to AFGAN!
CSM Nelson

Sir, it's been a pleasure
working with you for
the last 20 years—all
the way from working
fighter intercepts to
strategic planning for
the GA ANG. You're
the best.
Thanks,
Joe Ferrero

Don't let this be the last
chapter of your book of
life. There is so much
more work for you to
do. Take the next step
today. Continue to
LEAD...
CCMSgt (Ret)
Betty Morgan

I appreciate you
opening your home for
us on multiple
occasions and for never
hesitating to recognize
members throughout
the state. And for
letting us share Cindy
MSgt Barbara Smith

Enjoy your new found
freedom with open
wings.
Best Wishes!
MSgt Laque Banks

Good luck and see you on
the line!
Lt Col James Marren