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On the Cover



Senior Airman Levi McKay, 302nd SFS fire-team member, takes aim during an ORE at Volk Field, Wis, (U.S. Air Force/Staff Sgt. Derrick Gildner)

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302nd AW Web sites

- · Internal https://wwwmil.afrc. af.mil/302aw/welcome.htm
- External http://www.302aw. afrc.af.mil

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Will humankind survive?

By Col. James W. Guver 302nd ASTS Commander

A person could develop impressions that humankind is threatened by a new wave of pestilence and plagues. News stories scream of avian flu epidemics, flesh-eating killer bacteria, resurgent multi-drug resistant tuberculosis,

and this week, "Superstaph." Will humankind survive?

Fortunately, humans verv resilient beings, and seem to adapt quickly. Most of these threats have been around for a long time. Avian flu wiped out a turkey farm in Utah in the 1980's; TB has been around humans since biblical times.

What has changed is the mobility of people and the possibility of spreading germs

around the world in days rather than the months or years it took during previous eras.

The Spanish Influenza epidemic of 1916-1920 was caused by a flu virus, not too different from the flu viruses present today, but worldwide more people died from the infection or complications of the influenza than were injured or died in World War I.

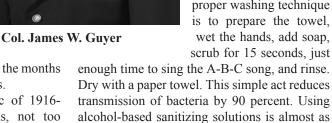
More soldiers on both sides of the battlefield were incapacitated by the flu than by injury or enemy action. Researchers studying this epidemic point to the movement of troops around the world as a key factor in the spread of the illness; the poor hygiene of troops on the ships and the battlegrounds coupled with the disruption of common sanitation measures such as clean water and toilets as causes of the severe impact of the illness.

What lessons can be applied to today's environment? Jet travel has shrunk the world, and diseases move with people. Germs seem to be adapting to the new antibiotics as fast as they are patented. But following the measures our mothers tried to teach us can decrease the spread of illness – even "superbugs."

"Cover your mouth when you cough" reduces transmission of viruses and bacteria by 75 percent Using a Kleenex to cover your mouth stops

> 90percent of respiratory virus transmission and 99 percent of bacteria such as tuberculosis.

> "Wash your hands before you eat and after going to the bathroom. diarrhea, hepatitis, and Handwashing worms. is the most effective tool against the potent bacteria, including the flesh-eating bacteria and the "Superstaph." The proper washing technique is to prepare the towel, wet the hands, add soap,



In many aspects, we are using the same measures to keep the population healthy today as was used in the early 20th century. Disrupt the movement of germs through immunization of people who may carry them from one person to another. Use barriers such as hand washing and paper tissues to keep infected persons from spreading their bugs to those around them. Monitor closely for outbreaks of illness and containments.

If the transmission of infection from one person to another is interrupted at any point, the spread of illness can be curtailed. The health of our families and our communities lie with each of us.

Wing Commander Col. James J. Muscatell Jr. **Chief of Public Affairs** Maj. James Wilson **Public Affairs Officer**

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Reservists pull together during exercise

By Maj. James R. Wilson Front Range Flyer

The 302nd Airlift Wing completed week-long a Operational Readiness Exercise in late September which tested the unit's deployment capabilities and chemical warfare readiness.

More than 400 members "deployed" from Peterson to Volk Field's Combat Readiness Training Center in central Wisconsin Sept. 24-30. Once there, Airmen from Colorado teamed up with Reservists from the 914th Airlift Wing, Niagara Falls, N.Y., in a test of their warfighting capabilities.

The exercise was designed to prepare Airmen for an Operational Readiness Inspection later this year by officials from Air Mobility Command.

"I'm pleased with most of what I saw (during the exercise)," said Col. James J. Muscatell, Jr., 302nd Airlift Wing commander. "There was a sense of urgency throughout and the attitude was awesome. Those are two traits that will carry us far during our inspection in December."

While a vital ingredient in the wing's formula for success, the colonel is quick to acknowledge the units won't be able to get through the ORI on attitude alone.

"We'll concentrate our training over the next two months on the lessons we learned at Volk Field as well as the write-ups noted by the evaluation team," said Colonel Muscatell.

"We made some mistakes because the approach for a readiness exercise is not the same as an actual deployment. It takes time to iron out all of the wrinkles, but there's no doubt in my mind that the 302nd will be ready to respond when it counts."

The first phase of the exercise began Sept. 23 with members palletizing their equipment and processing through a deployment line, a measure intended to validate that an individual's affairs are indeed in order.



Senior Master Sgt. Milo Scott. 302nd Airlift wing plans office, downloads cargo from one of the wing's returning aircraft. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. David D. Morton)

Next, wing members made their way to the flightline replete with Kevlar helmets, flack vests and canteens before boarding a C-130 and heading for the "battlefield."

Once in Wisconsin, Peterson Airmen met up with their counterparts from New York and solidified their approach for the ensuing conflict.

The exercise included involving chemical attacks, contamination, self aid and buddy care, evacuations, sniper attacks and more. The ability of both wings to survive and operate was tested early and often, but teamwork and perseverance paid off and the enemy was defeated in the

For many, the experience at Volk Field was eye-opening.

"It was definitely a worthwhile experience," said Tech. Sgt. Pete Witczak, 302nd Maintenance Squadron propulsion flight technician. "While there are a few areas that I think we need more training in, I think overall [the propulsion section] has a pretty good handle on things."

Sergeant Witczak, who is also a security forces augmentee for the exercise, noted the vital role of communication in determining how the individual and organization responds during an exercise.

"[For the wing to succeed], everyone really needs to pay close attention to the scenario as it unfolds," said Sergeant Witczak. "For example, if a Unit Control Center reports an Unexploded Ordnance in sector Delta, people need to have a clear mental picture of what that message carries. If they do, it will enable them to convey more accurate and timely information to those who need to receive those reports from the field."

A traditional reservist who is participating in his first ORE with the Air Force Reserve, Sergeant Witczak believes his section is working hard to excel in December when it matters most.

"I think we're prepared," he said. "We still have to take care of a few details that may have been overlooked or were identified as shortcomings [in Wisconsin]. But we've been preparing for this for quite some time and I know we'll be ready once the ORI arrives."

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The 302nd AW ORI is Dec. 1-8.





302nd Airlift Wing gets a fighter

By Tech. Sgt. David D. Morton Front Range Flyer

Often times it's not the size of the dog in the fight, but the size of the fight in the dog. The widely-used sports expression certainly can be applied to one reserve member of the 302nd Civil Engineer Squadron.

Laquion Rodriquez, 302nd CE Heating Ventilation Air Conditioning journeyman, is a member of a 10-man Peterson Air Force Base boxing team that competed in a three-team boxing tournament. It included a local boxing club and the Air Force boxing team from F.E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyo. this summer.

The team won four of the six three-round matches to win the tournament and secure medals for the achievement. Members of the winning team included one welter-weight, one light heavy-weight, two super heavy-weight and two middle-weight boxers.

Peterson AFB boxing recently achieved varsity-level accreditation after being a boxing club for the last five months and is looking to expand to at least 20 to 25 boxers.

Rodriguez, who stands 5'8" tall and weighs 152 pounds, competed in the welter-weight classification during his first-ever boxing competition, and floored his opponent, Airman First Class Jess Elliot, 30th Airlift Squadron, from F.E. Warren AFB three times within 25 seconds of the initial three-minute round for what he hopes will be the first of many technical knockouts throughout his boxing career. The fight was called at the start of the second round.

"The fight went quick, and my coach was pretty impressed with my first round," said Rodriguez who became interested in boxing as a 14-year old boy growing up in Sun Valley Calif., and followed the careers of former heavy-weight champion Mike Tyson and middle-weight contender Bernard Hopkins. "I want to take this as far as I can. Whatever doors open for me is where I want to go."

The first door to open for him was when he met Staff Sgt. Travis Hoff, a former 21st CES locksmith, who recently transferred to Cannon AFB, N.M., and encouraged Rodriquez to try out for the boxing team when an opening became available. Sergeant Hoff is also a member of the PAFB boxing team.

"We worked out together for nearly two hours every evening while I was on active duty orders," said Rodriguez. "He knew of my desire and interest in boxing."

Rodriquez, who didn't participant in sports while attending Palm Dale High School, continues to work out five times weekly with the Woy Walker Four Corner Boxing team in New Mexico.

His motivation comes from a desire to participate in an upcoming Golden Gloves tournament scheduled for Mesquite, Texas, in April 2008.

Should he fare well there, he would progress to a regional boxing tournament in Denver, Colo. The top fighters from regional sites throughout the country advance to meet in a National Boxing tournament.

"I think he has the talent to progress into the amateur ranks and compete in USA sanctioned fights," said Master Sgt. Manny Perez, 21st Services Squadron, Asst. General Manager of lodging and coach for the PAFB boxing team. "He listens well, and has natural skills.

"You have to be dedicated and intense," added Sergeant Perez, who works his fighters out five to six times a week. "Every day is a different regiment. You have to work on the cardio, the abdominal muscles, and punching technique."

Rodriguez could not have selected a better mentor. Perez knows his way around the fight game. Aside from boxing as a kid and early in his military career, the sergeant is credited with creating a boxing team at Ali Al Salem AB, Kuwait while assigned on deployment. His team competed against Army and Navy boxing teams deployed throughout the region. Through the years, he has trained numerous Airmen who wanted a strong disciplined work-out and were looking for a good way to stay in shape, as well as a means of self-defense.

"Our workouts for the base boxing team are tough," added the sergeant. "We've had over 70 people in and out of our program since we've began."

Rodriguez is currently preparing for the second fight of his young boxing career



Staff Sgt. Laquion Rodriquez, 302nd CES, is trainir AFB and a Golden Gloves event next April, whi professional boxer with 11 boxing matches to her c U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. David D. Morton

which will be held Nov. 10 at F.E. Warren AFB.

Other teams participating will include Offutt AFB., Neb. and Ellsworth AFB. S.D.

Another successful outing would move Rodriquez's young career to 2-0, and one step closer to fighting in Golden Gloves.

Anyone interesting in trying out for the base boxing team can leave their name at the base gymnasium, or contact Master Sgt. Perez direct at 556-6295, or email at manuel.perez@peterson.af.mil.



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Boxing professional eyes world-title

By Tech. Sgt. David D. Morton Front Range Flyer

To say Elisha Olivas is goal-driven person is an understatement. As a senior airman serving in the Air Force Reserve with the



ng for a upcoming boxing tournament at F.E.Warren ile Senior Airman Elisha Olivas, 302nd LRS is a credit, and preparing to fight for a world-boxing title.

302nd Logistics Readiness Squadron at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo., she has already achieved one goal she identified for her military career when named the Air Force Air Reserve Component Services Airman of the Year for 2006.

The recognition came shortly after a deployment to Al Dhafra, Air Base in the United Arab Emirates. During her 120-day stay overseas, Olivas was a member of the base honor guard, an associate for the USO, drill-team member, part of a base search and recovery unit and taught a kick-

boxing class.

Teaching kick-boxing was the easy part for the 31-year old mother of two young children. She's a professional boxer who has been around the sport for 13 years, has 11 fights to her credit, and has aspirations of being a world-champion.

The 14th ranked female boxer in the world and first woman fighter to ever turn professional in Colorado didn't have a hard time getting involved with the sport at an early age.

"I was looking for a way to lose weight for ballet, and I found boxing," said Olivas. "I fell in love with the sport and it was easily affordable." While attending Abraham Lincoln High School in Denver, Olivas competed in basketball, swimming and soccer all the while lettering in track and cheerleading.

It was boxing, though, that seemed to capture her attention more than any other extra-curricular activity. Her training began at the 20th Street gymnasium in Denver, a facility well known as a place where local police officers would teach disadvantaged youth the sport in an effort to keep them off the streets, away from neighborhood gangs and out of trouble.

Olivas won a Denver-based Golden Gloves event in 1998, placed fifth as an amateur in the 1999 boxing nationals and turned professional the same year. Her first fight in the 118-pound weight class was a draw, but it gave her the incentive to continue in the fight game.

"One of my first bouts was when I fought a fighter known as the Pink Panther (bantamweight Elizabeth Mongue) in Ignacio, Colo. She was a national champion over and over," said Olivas. "I held my own with her, and the experience gave me a good feeling."

That good feeling still inspires Olivas who has only taken periodic breaks from the sport to raise her two young children.

Her last fight contracted by Dibella Entertainment, was held in the Grand Ballroom, Madison Square Garden in New York City, N.Y. on Nov. 15, 2006 against Noriko Kariya from Vancouver, Canada. If the last name sounds familiar, Kariya,

is the sister of former Colorado Avalanche left- winger, Paul Kariya, who now wears the uniform of the National Hockey League's St. Louis Blues. "I lost the fight," said Olivas. "But felt I could and probably should have beaten her."

Though she lost the bout with Kariya, Olivas prepares for each fight not knowing the strengths or weaknesses of each opponent. "I don't like to know who or where I'm fighting." said Olivas. "It will set you up for failure if you have a preconceived idea of what each fighter will do. Eventually, I figure it out. I respect whoever gets in the ring and ready for whatever they throw at me. You know they're a fighter, they're hungry and you have to respect them.

"My coach respects my decision not to know what other fighters will do prior to the match," added Olivas. "However, he does scout them and trains me accordingly."

Olivas' coach is Basheer Abdullah, All-Army coach and Team USA's head coach for the 2004 Olympics in Sydney, Australia. "I love him, he's great and calls me his daughter," said Olivas. "He trains me every day for six weeks before a fight. Boxing is a full-time job. You have to eat, sleep and drink it. Boxing keeps me calm, peaceful and serene. It gives me a better outlook on life, and keeps the little things little."

Her attitude and goal-driven nature could help her achieve her boxing aspirations. "I want to get into the top 10 and stay there," said Olivas. "I want to finish this with a bang, and I want to knock out three or four quick fights. get a world title, defend it, and maybe fight for two or three more years. But that will be up to my coach."

"She has great passion for the sport and is willing to make the sacrifices it takes to be successful." said Abdullah. "It depends on how long she remains dedicated to it. We'll set the goals to get her there, and take it one day at a time. But the ultimate goal for her is a world-title. We have excellent chemistry, respect and belief for one another, and she's a great human being, not just a great athlete. All I have to do is give her the tools to succeed, but she has the potential to be a world-champion."



AFRC unit fighting California fires

By Maj. James R. Wilson

Front Range Flyer

The Air Force Reserve sent two of its designated firefighting C-130H3 aircraft to

help battle the raging wildfires in Southern California.

The National Interagency Fire Center in Boise, Idaho, requested Department of Defense assistance in fighting the fires which put the wheels in motion for the mobilization of about 30 reservists from Peterson AFB. The aircraft arrived Oct. 23 at Point Mugu Naval Air Station, Calif., where they joined other military aircraft providing additional firefighting capabilities.

"The Air Force Reserve has had this mission for roughly 15 years," said Capt. Brian McReynolds, a C-130 pilot and member of the Colorado Springs-based unit. "We have the right people and the safest equipment available for this mission. This is what we love to do."

The planes departed with the Modular Airborne Firefighting System in place. When loaded inside the cargo bay, MAFFS

units convert the aircraft from a transporter to an aerial tanker capable of dispersing fire-retardant slurry to extinguish wildfires. The Airmen said they would begin flying missions in California early Oct. 24 if they



An Air Force Reserve C-130 equipped with the Modular Airborne Firefighting System departs Peterson Air Force Base, Colo., en route to Point Mugu Naval Air Station, Calif. to assist in firefighting efforts. (U.S. Air Force photo/Maj. James R. Wilson)

could.

"We'll hit the ground right away," said Lt. Col. Dave Condit, the Air Force Reserve's MAFFS program coordinator at Peterson. "We may have to wait until the winds die down just a little bit. As soon as the winds permit us to get in close to the fire, [we'll start flying our missions]."

Crewmembers certified with the MAFFS equipment said their objective is not to put

the fire out. Rather, they follow the lead of aviators from the U.S. Forest Service to lay lines of containment.

"We have a host of support specialists on the ground to help keep us flying," said the colonel. "It's sort of like a NASCAR pit stop.

When we roll into the pits, we'll stop our engines. [The ground crew] will run up, refill the aircraft with fuel, slurry and compressed air, which we need to pump the retardant out. Then we'll get back in the air as quickly as we can."

The process for replenishing the aircraft can be performed in 8 to 12 minutes, according to officials from Peterson. It is repeated as often as necessary to sustain firefighting op-

erations throughout each daylight hour.

All of the MAFFS equipped-flying units are currently in the Air Force's air reserve

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AFRC tests new external applicant recruitment tool

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, TEXAS (AFPN) – External applicants interested in working for the Air Force may have an easier road to travel because of a new recruitment tool, said Air Force Personned Center officials at Randolph Air Force Base. The new tool, USA Staffing, is a human resources hiring tool that is integrated with the federal government's official employment information Web site, USAJOBS.

"USA Staffing will help make the application and referral process faster and easier," said John Steenbock, the debuty director of the civilian force integration.

Current Air Force civilian employees will not see any change in how they are considered for internal recruitment announcements at the present time. Both USA Staffing's application Manager and USA-JOBS offer easy-to-use job application features and are fully Web-based.

"You can configure their services just like you want them and you'll be able to do all the job-hunting you want," Mr. Steenbock said. "Both USA Staffing and USAJOBS are specific to federal employment, which helps ensure we match

the right people to the right jobs."

USAJOBS provides job search tools that automatically notify an applicant by e-mail about job opportunities by category, federal agency, key words, location, salary range or pay grade. It also serves as an online resource center that provides tips on writing resumes and focusing on knowledge, skill and abilities.

It contains suggestions that can help sharpen interviewing skills, a frequently asked questions section, a glossary to terms and tutorials, and veteran's employment resources. USA Staffing's application manager stores information such as name, address, phone number, e-mail address and Social Security number. These are kept in an account profile and are automatically inserted into subsequent applications. The profie is easily updated as well.

"The Air Force offers a wide vairety of career opportunities that are posted on USAJOBS daily," Mr. Steenbock said. "USA Staffing makes it even easier to find that perfect Air Force job."

Interested applicants can go to http://www.usajobs.gov for more details.

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News to Use

Personnel Center simplifies retirement

Retirees can review their Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, DD Form 214, online via the new vMPF application on the Air Force Personnel Center Web site.

Corrections can be made with AFPC online at http://ask.afpc.randolph.af.mil. Click on vMPF Self-Service Applications, or call toll free, 1-800-616-3775. See www.

af.mil/news/story for more information.

E-Pubs migrate to AF Web

The Air Force Departmental Publishing Office, or e-Pubs, officially migrated under the Air Force Public Web program and is now accessible at http://www.e-publishing. af.mil. A link to the new e-Pubs Web site is available on Air Force Link at www. af.mil.



Retirements

Tech. Sgt. Barta Sherrelle, 302nd ASTS Master Sgt. Ronald Denmon, 8th SWS Master Sgt. Sean Leonard, 731st MSG Tech. Sgt. Bruce Nelson, 310th SFS Master Sgt. Gregory Pagan, 19th SOPS Senior Master Sgt. Jimmy Ward, 39th APS

Newcomers

302nd Logistics Readiness Squadron

Airman 1st Class Valencia Banks Senior Airman Matthew Robbins Airman 1st Class Dana Vandegrift

302nd Civil Enginner Squadron

Staff Sgt. Stephanie Bonin Senior Airman Jimin Lee Maj. Heather Mitchell Staff Sgt. Nocolas Reed

710th Security Forces Squadton

Staff Sgt. Douglas Broadwater

302nd Operations Support Flight

Airman 1st Class Matthew Carruthers

302nd Aeromedical Staging Squadron

Senior Airman Eric Costen

Staff Sgt. Dorothy Craven Airman Basic Gabriel Fowler

302nd Services Flight

Airman 1st Class Devin Cruz Staff Sgt. Ramon Oaxaca

19th Space Operations Squadron

Captain James Erminger

310th Mission Support Group

Master Sgt. Andrea Fisher

302nd Maintenance Squadron

Senior Airman Gary Florea

Senior Airman Thomas Vorrath

18th Space Control Squadron

Staff Sgt. Shaunita Harris

(S

310th Space Group Tech. Sgt. Shannon Heimbach

710th Security Forces Squadron

Tech Sgt. Robert Hobart

302nd Airlift Wing

Senior Airman Tia Kancilia

310th Mission Support Squadron

Senior Airman Sally Kennerson

302nd Aircraft

Maintenance Squadron

Staff Sgt. Walter Lee

Reserve National Security

Space Institute

Lt. Col. William Mathews

6th Space Operations Squadron

1st Lt. Patty Shane

Captain Chirstopher Williams

310th Mission Support Squadron

Captain Nicole Pfirrmann

39th Aerial Port Squadron

Senior Airman James Schenck

18th Space Control Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Melanie Sekerak

26th Space Aggressor Squadron

Captain Michael Sheets

18th Space Control Squadron

Maj. Mark Stafford
310th Security Forces Squadron

2nd Lt. Brian Young

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310th Promotions

6th Space Operations Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Joshua Burger

7th Space Operations Sqaudron

Master Sgt. Norman Reich

14th Test Squadron

Master Sgt. Christopher Jones

19th Space Operations Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Isadore Montle

Master Sgt. Raymond Soliz

310th Mission Support Squadron

Airman Zalea Tamar

310th Medical Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Bobby Adams Maj. Michael Harms

Staff Sgt. Jaylon Sybert Airman 1st Class Cassandra Hays

302nd Promotions

39th Aerial Port Squadron

Staff Sgt. Giovanni Hernandez Senior Airman Richelle Jones Senior Airman Eric Pettibone

Airman 1st Class John Lamberson

Senior Airman Robert Sappington

Senior Airman Nhatan Tran

Senior Airman Jeremy Mustian

302nd Logistics

Readiness Squadron

Staff Sgt. Courtneay Wojt Tech Sgt. Matthew Smith Airman James Baxendale

302nd Security Forces Squadron

Staff Sgt. Billy Overstreet

302nd Civil Engineer Squadron

Staff Sgt. Bradley McCurdy

302nd Maintenance Squadron

Tech Sgt. Randy Lojewski Staff Sgt. Joseph Chavez

302nd Operations Support Flight

Staff Sgt. Christiana Gonzalez

Happy Thanksgiving



November 22





A Peterson Air Force Base, Colo, C-130 Hercules dispenses fire retardant liquid during a Modular Airborne Firefighting System mission in Klamath Falls, Ore. in August 2006. A MAFFS unit can discharge its load--3,000 gallons weighing 28,000 pounds--in a little over five seconds. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech Sgt. Lee Harshman)

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components – three in the Air National Guard and one in the Air Force Reserve. By law, MAFFS can only be activated when all other resources have been exhausted.

"We let the civilian tanker fleet take care of the issues first," said Colonel Condit. "If they need assistance, that's when the Department of Defense will roll in. We don't compete for business with civilian [aerial firefighting] companies. Usually if you see us taking off, you know the situation is pretty critical."

MAFFS crews are re-certified every year during a weeklong training with Forest Service aviation and operations specialists.

The typical aerial firefighting mission is inherently dangerous, which is why the Air Force Reserve unit at Peterson only selects the most experienced aviators for the duty.

"We've got people that wait for years to get an opportunity to get certified for this mission," said the colonel. "The unit only takes the most experienced aircrew, and we go through a lot of training and preparation for this.

"Our target altitude is 150 feet above the ground, which is very low for an aircraft this size," he said. "It's a hazardous mission, but we train for it and we're [definitely] prepared. We have a long and proud history

of supporting contingencies overseas, but it's always great to be able to support the United States in the United States."

Last year, the 302nd's MA-FFS mission at Peterson was activated by the Forest Service

to fight wildfires in the Pacific Northwest. The 302nd flew 18 sorties against fires in Idaho, Nevada and Oregon, dropping 48,600 gallons of retardant. (Air Force Reserve Command News Service)



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