

THUNDERBUMPER

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Send submissions to 114 FW/PA or e-mail to PA.114FW@sdsiou.ang.af.mil.

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On the cover...

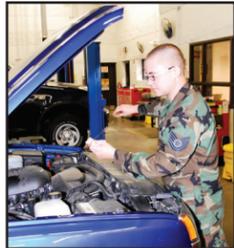


PHOTO BY MASTER SGT. CHRIS STEWART
Tech. Sgt. Nick Larson, 114th LRS Special Vehicle Maintenance Mechanic, performs maintenance on a government vehicle during the June UTA.

A word from the commander

BY COL. RUSS WALZ, 114 FIGHTER WING COMMANDER

As we enter the summer season, I want to make sure to thank everyone for the great contributions each one of you brings to this organization. The militia has never been more important to this nation, and you, the members of the 114th Fighter Wing, stand out as the best!

Soon after re-deploying from our previous AEF, Maintenance Group and Logistics Readiness Squadron were faced with a Logistics Standardization and Evaluation Program, LSEP, inspection. Their hard work led to an impressive 99 percent 'complies' in Critical Areas. The Air National Guard average is 96 percent. They also received over 93 percent in performance task qualifications where the ANG average is 75 percent. The team stated this was the best inspection in the last three years. Congratulations!

Three months later we had 60 inspectors here from the ACC Office of the Inspector General for our Unit Compliance Inspection. The unit received outstanding results and the positive feedback I got from inspectors was truly impressive. Just to give you an idea of how great all of you did in this formal inspection, I compiled the results of Fighter Wings who were inspected in the last three years, and the 114th FW was the best! We also had three areas, Maintenance Group's Dull Sword program, LRS Mobility Weapons and Vehicle Operations Control programs, rated as the "best seen to date." Congratulations!

See pages 6-7 for a list of UCI Superior Performers

Read this: Important info for July UTA

As you should now know, the South Dakota Air National Guard will be hosting the 2009 Sioux Falls Airshow during the upcoming UTA, July 25 and 26.

There will be no access to the base after 7 a.m. both days. On-base parking will be limited so plan to arrive early. Overflow parking will be available in the grass area south of the Crash Station, Building 16.

Any vehicle traffic leaving the base between 4 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. will utilize the perimeter road and exit at the north end of the airport onto Minnesota Avenue.

There will be an Air Show Sponsor and VIP Appreciation event in Building 24 Friday evening, July 24, starting at 5 p.m. Air Show

June marks another great milestone and wing goal. It took us only 15 months to grow the nearly 100 positions that resulted in the 15 to 18 PAA increase. 100 percent unit end-strength was accomplished nine months ahead of schedule thanks to an unbelievable effort not only by our recruiting and retention staff but by all unit members. Congratulations!

Mission accomplishment is the foundation of why the Wing exists and you do it better than most. Our sortie production and mission capable rates lead all ANG F-16 units. It centers around hard work, attention to detail, and pride in what you do. We accomplish this while successfully meeting 100 percent of ONE tasking for the Combatant Commander Northern Command with our 'No Fail' deployed Air Sovereignty Alert mission. We accomplish this while preparing for another 'No Fail' AEF later this year. Mission accomplishment takes everyone doing their job and you do it superbly!

Summer is a great time in South Dakota and I know many of you were deployed last summer with our AEF. I hope you all enjoy the sun, warmth and activities with friends and family. Remember this is a critical time of year where preventable accidents occur at a much higher rate than normal. Be on the lookout for potential dangerous situations and take action to stop them before they happen. Thanks for everything you do for this nation and have a great summer!

performers will be in attendance, including the Navy Blue Angels and Raptor pilots. Limited tickets are available and may be purchased for \$6 through your 1st Sergeant or from Master Sgt. Sara Hilmo. She can be reached at 988-5702.

A SDANG event to include the dedication of the Operations Building honoring Maj. Gen. Phil Killey will be held Saturday evening July 25 starting at 5 p.m. with a program at 6 p.m. Food will be provided by the Air National Guard Softball Tournament Committee at a cost of \$5.

The SDANG will also be hosting a VIP area during the Air Show on Saturday and Sunday near Building 24.

Diversity workshop focuses on raising the bar in life

BY COMMAND CHIEF MASTER SGT. LANE MUNGER

If you've ever watched the number 88 pit crew work when Dale Jr. pulls in, then you've just seen a high performance team in action. Laser focused, working interdependently as a fine honed team. They are good... no... they are great at what they do!

We all strive to be the best at what we do, and the 114th Fighter Wing continually demonstrates our effectiveness as a cohesive team when put to the test. The recent UCI proved that. Our next challenge is to become that high performance team that encompasses so much more than what we sometimes give.

Recently, I was fortunate enough to accompany a group of women and men from our unit on a journey. A journey that would ask us to look at ourselves, face some personal obstacles and barriers that may be preventing us from fostering an environment that would transform our unit into a truly high performance team. We were on a journey to become Diversity Champions.

Now wait, keep reading... this is not your grandmother's diversity. Don't get caught up on the title and begin to argue what diversity is and isn't. Championing diversity is a movement, a change in your thinking to recognize those who put their oar in the water to pull the boat

along without necessarily being the captain. Champions intentionally demonstrate mutual respect, inclusion, understanding and purposeful appreciation of others, leaving no one behind in the process. It is a set of conscious practices; practicing mutual respect for qualities and experiences that are different from our own. It is the process for turning a good team into a high performance team.

Over the course of three days of high-paced interaction with the instructors, fellow Dakota Stampede members and ourselves, the light began to grow brighter and brighter. There is a better way of doing business, of thinking, or caring... it's all about choice... the one thing every human has.

Time and space is limited to fully explain the value of this course on a personal as well as an organizational note. However, if I have sparked your curiosity, then talk to one of those who dared to journey forth and discovered a cornerstone of knowledge that can help make our organization like the 88 pit crew. Hopefully, others within the unit will soon be given this opportunity for discovery. If you are one of those, seize it, welcome it... it is well worth the journey.



PHOTO BY JOCELYN LITTLE
SDANG members pose for a group photo during the Diversity Champions Workshop.

Diversity Champions, make your move

BY SENIOR MASTER SGT. JENNIFER M. REECY, 114TH FW HUMAN RESOURCE ADVISOR

The Diversity Champions Workshop is often mistaken for only gender and racial differences. Diversity is much bigger than that! It is about shifting paradigms and 'raising the bar' in life. The Dakota Stampede did just that at the recent Diversity Champions Workshop. They raised the bar so high they left energized, they gave of themselves, and they remained fully engaged in all the discussions and processes. They raised the bar each day by taking themselves one step higher into peak performance as leaders in the great SDANG and leaders in life.

The Dakota Stampede internalized that 'in change there is power.' We must grow and change as leaders, recognize that we are not limited by our barriers, and remain faithful to our core values. Champions cannot 'talk right, but go left.'

A Zulu folk saying states: "A person is a person because of other people." We are in this existence and in the SDANG together. What makes us human is that we share the world with other people. We are people having a human experience. And in this experience everyone

adds value. Simply put, people are people because of other people.

You may even see the Diversity Champions greeting you with a "Sawa Bona" which means "I see you." Your response is: "Sikhona!" or "I am here." Until you see me, I am not here. When you see me, you bring me into existence. This Ubuntu Spirit is about respect, human dignity, and compassion for others. We invoke each other's potential by our willingness to see the essence of each other. As Diversity Champions we are charged to never allow people in our lives to be invisible.

The SDANG made an investment in our Diversity Champions. Now, the return on investment for our organization is our champions going back to the SDANG to share this gift. The Dakota Stampede Champions are stronger leaders and team builders because of the information and knowledge gained in the 3-day workshop. Learning without application means nothing. Seek these individuals out for



PHOTO BY JOCELYN LITTLE
Tech. Sgt. Brian Hamilton and Rachel Vanderzee, work their way through hoops during an exercise.

coaching, growth and mentorship.

We will deliver on our promise of many 'Interdependent pieces that reinforce one another, consistently applied over a long period of time.' But, what will the point of breakthrough be at the 114th FW? What must we do to get all hands pushing on the flywheel in championing diversity, not occasionally, but in a sustained and consistent manner? The Dakota Stampede Champions are here as spirited examples to lead the challenge and to keep the 'push on the flywheel' alive!

Chaplain's Corner: *Ministry in Southwest Asia*

BY CHAPLAIN (MAJ) DAVID E. STEVENS



PHOTO BY CHIEF MASTER SGT. LEMUEL CASILLAS

How does one briefly summarize the work of a chaplain at an undisclosed location in Southwest Asia, a high impact base with a 24/7 mission known as the 379 AEW? I can honestly say that it defies simple and brief

descriptions but let me try to paint a concise picture.

As Air Guard chaplain of the 114 FW, I am proud to serve as senior Catholic chaplain as part of a team of eight Chaplains and four Chaplain assistants (CA). Victory Chapel is the physical center of our worship and offices, but we are not contained to that space. We might just as easily be found in the Memorial Plaza, affectionately know as the "Bra" or driving out to the flight line for visitation in our mini "Shepherd 1 and 2" vehicles. The chapel remains open for business 24/7 so as to meet the needs of our more than 8,000 coming off duty at all hours.

Worship and spiritual education: First and foremost, chaplains exist to ensure the constitutional right to freedom of religion while serving in the Armed Forces. Whatever one's spiritual tradition, the chaplains are either leading worship services or accommodating lay leadership and providing space for groups to gather. Traditional times and space do not always connect with troops who might find it hard to attend due to operations tempo. Our solution. The Protestant chaplains have a 1 a.m. Service for those working the odd shift hours. The Catholics also take our 7 p.m. worship service to the Mall: a place to shop, sip cool lattes and find prayer refreshment at weekend Mass. Spiritual growth also means opportunities for Bible studies and other faith education. We

provide twenty-four different classes as part of our Grand Slam Spiritual Growth Plan. Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University is so popular that six different classes are offered at various days and times.

Counseling: Troops of all branches of the Armed Forces wander into our offices at all hours of the day. At times it is simply to chat with a chaplain about nothing in particular, and other times, the issues are more serious. During the initial briefing upon arrival, the chaplain reminds them of the important fact of confidentiality. The chaplain is a safe person to go to, out of the chain of command. Deployment brings with it a whole set of stresses that must be dealt with because we know that "mission comes first." We are far away from spouses, children and other support systems. Each military personnel must find ways of coping with long weeks and hours of week, new living habits (Did you remember to bring your reflective belt everywhere you go?) and other more serious events back home that we are helpless to control on this side of the globe. Chaplains make it a priority to be available any time, any place to keep our troops healthy in body, mind and soul.

Transit ministry and ministry of presence: One of the unpredictable elements of life here in the desert is that we are a hub of troops passing through downrange and returning from downrange, on their way home. Our Victory Chapel complex by extension is a place to stop in. We service a quiet place called Jack's where the coffee pot is always on, cold water and sodas in the refrigerator and a quiet place to hang out. Chaplain teams passing through know that they can find us for ministry of welcome, access to a shower and laundry facilities and conversation with fellow chaplains. Our chaplain team wants to be known for hospitality and passionate ministry, a reminder of the holy in this fast paced mission that does not sleep.

From CSAF: *Cyberspace operations culture change*

GEN. NORTON A. SCHWARTZ, USAF CHIEF OF STAFF

In executing our Air Force mission of fly, fight and win, our Airmen, civilians and contractors, knowingly or unknowingly, engage daily on the cyber battlefield. Computers and personal electronic devices connected to our networks can simultaneously be powerful tools and critical vulnerabilities.

At times, our networks have been compromised by multiple means: malware hidden in emails, virus-corrupted thumb drives, and media moved incorrectly between networks. We can prevent these events with due consideration and proper procedures, but in the past, we've regarded network protection and security as the "comm guy's job," and as a user inconvenience. This must no longer be the case.

Today, we forge a long overdue Air Force cultural change. Cyber operations reinforce and enable everything we do, from administrative functions to combat operations. We must treat our computers and networks similarly to our aircraft, satellites and missiles. To this end, operations and maintenance will follow standards governed by a tight system of regulations and technical orders. Compliance with time critical software updates will gain new emphasis and commanders will be held accountable. Command and control relationships will be revised to correctly align authorities and responsibilities. MAJCOMs and subordinate commanders will no longer "own" networks, but will be responsible for their portion of the larger Air Force Global Information Grid. Air Force Space Command will champion our cyber force development and operations.

I have signed a directive memo making an unequivocal statement about the importance of compliance with network related technical orders. This guidance will improve safety and efficiency on the AF-GIG and provide commanders a clear enforcement/disciplinary mechanism. MTOs, NTOs, and CCOs issued by the AFNETOPS/CC now have the same authority as aircraft maintenance technical orders and lawful general orders. I expect this change will increase compliance with network technical orders across the Air Force.

As Airmen, civilians and contractors, you must understand your responsibility in this cultural change. Each time you use a networked device, you are on patrol for our Nation. You must be alert for and report suspicious emails, websites and suspicious attachments. Mission needs may require you to "sneaker-net" information, but you must follow safe and approved procedures for moving critical data. You must not upload data from personal devices for any reason. While training programs communicate information on network security, we depend on you to execute responsibly. When irresponsible acts occur, I expect commanders to enforce our standards.

This change is not easy, but compliance enables us to defend our networks in the face of increasing threats. Networks are a shared resource and a risk assumed by one is a risk exposed to all. Our Air Force must move to a system of tight network control, personal responsibility, and accountability as we execute our global mission on behalf of our Nation.

Medical Moment: *Outsmart summer sun at any age*



COMPILED BY LT. COL. RUTH SIEM

From young children to teens to mature adults, there are dozens of simple ways to make skin cancer prevention a healthy habit.

These tips from Carol Drucker, MD, a dermatologist at The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center, help reduce risk by starting early:

For babies and young children

- Sunscreen should not be applied to babies younger than 6 months. Instead, cover babies and limit direct exposure to the sun.

- Make applying a waterproof sunscreen part of a toddler's routine before getting dressed every day. Don't rely on the day care providers to apply sunscreen.

- Try not to schedule outdoor activity between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. and seek playgrounds where shade from trees or awnings is plentiful. If your children have to be outdoors during these hours, be sure they're protected from the sun with a hat, sunglasses, and sunscreen.

- Add SPF to the weekly wash. Relatively inexpensive products are available to put in the wash to add SPF protection to normal clothing for up to 20 washes.

For teens

- Teen girls who wear makeup should choose products that include sunscreen. This painless step provides valuable protection they don't even know is there.

- Quit tanning beds. They emit the same harmful UV rays as sunlight and are used at dangerous rates. Try spray-on tan for teens who insist on getting color.

- Wear hats as a trendy accessory.

For adults

- Be aware that the window glass in cars does not block all the sun's harmful rays, making the driver's left side more prone to sun damage. Apply sunscreen before long car rides or install shades or specialized tinting in car windows.

- Sun-proof your hair. The top of the head becomes more at risk for sun damage as hair thins or if the hair is parted. Choose hairsprays, shampoos, and conditioners with SPF.

- Apply sunscreen to often-forgotten areas—the top of ears, back of hands, neck and toes.

- Wind intensifies sun damage. Be careful during water sports or windy days at the beach when the chapping and burning effect of the wind acts as an additive to UV rays and can increase risk of burning.

Mark your calendars!

July 25-26 - Sioux Falls Air Show

August UTA - Fitness Testing

August 12-16 - National Softball Tourney

August 15-16 - AG Golf Tournament

Retiree Coffee Dates

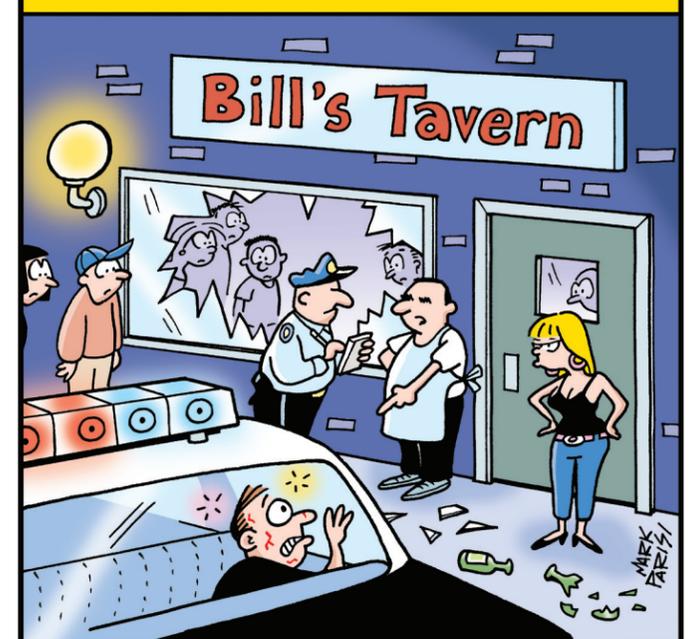
July 14

August 11

September 15

That Guy.com

REASON #622 NOT TO BE THAT GUY:



WAVING GOODBYE

South Dakota Air National Guard Golf Tournament

Monday, September 14

8:30 Shotgun start at Elmwood Golf Course

Two person scramble format

\$45 per person

Price includes carts, mulligans, and lunch at the base club immediately afterwards.

Registration is open to current members, retired members and one-time members of the South Dakota Air National Guard.

Sign up with Craig Vanderzee 988-5942

114th Fighter Wing Unit Compliance Inspection Superior Performers

Individual Recipients

| | |
|--|----------|
| Maj. Brandon W. Eskam | 175 FS |
| Capt. Steven R. Schultz | 175 FS |
| Senior Master Sgt. Russell D. Crawford | 114 AMXS |
| Master Sgt. Patrick T. Baustian | 114 CF |
| Master Sgt. Mark L. Flaskey | 114 LRS |
| Master Sgt. Jeanne M. Gacke | 114 SFS |
| Master Sgt. Tracy L. Heibult | 114 LRS |
| Master Sgt. Steven R. Jansen | 114 OSF |
| Master Sgt. Gregory P. Johnson | 114 MSG |
| Master Sgt. Leroy A. Lohmiller | 114 AMXS |
| Master Sgt. Kurtis C. Lunstra | 114 MSG |
| Master Sgt. Jeffrey J. Nelson | 114 AMXS |
| Master Sgt. Daniel J. Ruesch | 114 CF |
| Master Sgt. Jerrad K. Snyder | 114 SFS |
| Master Sgt. Debra K. Tunge | 114 SFS |
| Master Sgt. James D. Volden | 114 CES |
| Master Sgt. Steven J. Wochnick | 114 LRS |
| Tech. Sgt. Michael J. Bertrand | 114 MXS |
| Tech. Sgt. Charles H. Fincher | 114 LRS |



PHOTO BY MASTER SGT. NANCY AUSLAND
Tech. Sgt. Charlie Fincher, 114th LRS Storage and Issue clerk, poses for a photo after receiving a superior performance rating.

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| Tech. Sgt. Juan C. Harrington | 114 MOF |
| Tech. Sgt. Adam J. Punt | 114 FW |
| Tech. Sgt. Thomas J. Risty | 114 CF |
| Tech. Sgt. Michael D. Rollag | 114 MXS |
| Tech. Sgt. Kyle J. Tobin | 114 MXS |
| Tech. Sgt. Roger A. Vearrier | 114 MXS |
| Tech. Sgt. Michael S. Witte | 114 MXS |
| Staff Sgt. Gregory D. Arp | 114 AMXS |
| Staff Sgt. Amanda K. Beck | 114 LRS |
| Staff Sgt. Nathan C. Blom | 114 MXS |
| Staff Sgt. Brandon J. Burkhardt | 114 MXS |
| Staff Sgt. Barrett J. Gapp | 114 MXS |
| Staff Sgt. Heather M. Henderson | 114 MOF |
| Staff Sgt. Mark S. Kreul | 114 OSF |
| Staff Sgt. Joshua L. Nelson | 114 MXS |
| Staff Sgt. Drew A. Popham | 114 OSF |
| Staff Sgt. Emily M. Wallum | 114 FW |
| Senior Airman Erin J. Bobeldyk | 114 FW |
| Senior Airman Brian H. Vanhill | 114 LRS |
| Civilian Gerald C. Ball | 114 CES |



PHOTO BY MASTER SGT. NANCY AUSLAND
Tech. Sgt. Thomas "TJ" Risty, 114th CF Knowledge Operations manager, poses for a photo after receiving a superior performance rating.

Team Recipients

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Aircrew Flight Equipment Team | 175 FS |
| Avionics Flightline Team | 114 AMXS |
| Combat Arms Team | 114 SFS |
| Command Post Team | 114 FW |
| Egress Shop Team | 114 MXS |
| Electronic Counter Measures Shop Team | 114 MXS |
| Fuels Checkpoint Team | 114 LRS |
| Fuel Systems Shop Team | 114 MXS |
| Intelligence Team | 114 OSF |
| Mobility Weapons Team | 114 LRS |
| Traffic Management Team | 114 LRS |
| Travel Pay Team | 114 FW |
| Vehicle Maintenance Team | 114 LRS |
| Vehicle Operations Compliance Team | 114 LRS |



PHOTO BY MASTER SGT. CHRIS STEWART
175th FS Aircrew Flight Equipment team poses for a group photo after receiving a team superior performance rating.



New Civil Engineer building nearing completion

BY STAFF SGT. MIRANDA SKILES

Change isn't always a positive sign of progress. But if the ever-changing atmosphere of Joe Foss Field is any indication, change for the SDANG means growing and moving forward.

There are a few buildings on base that are pretty old. In fact, Hangar 40 and Building 47 have been around since WWII. The latter, built in 1942, has always been home to the Civil Engineer squadron. By the end of this year, CE will have a new place to call home.

Construction of the new facility started in October 2008, just east of where Building 47 currently resides. The \$7.5 million project is currently about 60 percent complete and should be finished by the end of November.

Though the main reason for the new building was due to the age of the current one, the size of Building 47 is also an issue. During a UTA, there are about 75 Airmen using the building at any given time. The current facility does not have an area large enough to house the entire squadron for roll call and commander's calls. They hold those large group meetings in the garage. The new building will have a classroom large enough for the whole squadron including the fire department.

Lt Col. Al Punt, Commander 114 CES, said he is really looking forward to the new location for the better training facilities and extra space.

Building 49, as it will be known, will give CE an additional 8,200 sq. ft. of space. The administration area and shop will take up all 24,200 sq. ft. of the building that is currently being constructed. There will also be a 6,000 sq. ft. cold storage facility (Building 46) that will be built as soon as the current project is finished.

The 66-year-old Building 47 will be torn down in fiscal year 2010. There are not any plans for that area at this time. It will be planted with grass and left open until it is deemed necessary to put a new building in its place.

At the rate that Joe Foss Field changes, it may not be long before something new is erected on the former site of Building 47.



TOP AND BOTTOM PHOTOS BY MASTER SGT. NANCY AUSLAND
MIDDLE PHOTO BY LT. COL. REID CHRISTOPHERSON

Top: The current CE building. Middle: Senator John Thune attended the groundbreaking ceremony for the new CE building in October 2008. Attendees L to R: Lt. Col. Al Punt, Jeff Nelson (Baldrige & Nelson Architects), Eric Bursch (Representative Herseht-Sandlin's office), Amy Bilka-Skilbred (Senator Johnson's office), Senator John Thune, 1st Lt. Lance Niewenhuis, Regan Leafstedt (Golden Rule Construction), Buck Boterman (former CE physical plant manager). Bottom: A work in progress, the new CE building May 15.

114th FW trains in Canada during Maple Flag 42

BY MASTER SGT. JOHN ASSELIN, MAPLE FLAG 42 U.S. FORCES PUBLIC AFFAIRS

COLD LAKE, Alberta – Aircraft and crews from the U.S. Air Force are participating with a combined force in Canada as part of Maple Flag 42, providing pilots and crews with realistic air combat training.

Phase two of the exercise started June 1 and runs through June 12. Sponsored by the Canadian Forces 4 Wing and held at Cold Lake, Maple Flag provides realistic air combat training for pilots, according to Canadian Forces Maj. Carl Cottrell, Maple Flag commander.

“Maple Flag is similar to Red Flag in where we provide junior pilots with their first 10 sorties in a combat environment,” he said. “We have also migrated to a more joint force to conduct operations with a large force deployment and support a joint component on the ground. It is representative of the modern battlefield.”

Participating in Maple Flag also gives U.S. units an extra dimension of training they couldn't get at Red Flag, said Col. Mike Meyers, U.S. Expeditionary Forces commander here.

“It's a different scenario and a different place,” the colonel, who is deployed from the South Dakota Air National Guard, said. “We deploy out of the country, so we get the whole expeditionary piece. Instead of working with our allies in the states, we work with them in their backyard.”

Participants in phase two of the exercise include units from Mountain Home AFB, Idaho, the South Dakota Air National Guard, Tinker AFB, Okla., Nellis AFB, Nev., Canadian Forces, Singapore, Great Britain and the Netherlands.

Working with different units and forces from other countries creates new training opportunities for pilots participating in the exercise, according to Capt. Jeremy Doochen, a South Dakota Air National Guard pilot with the 174th Fighter Squadron from Sioux Falls, S.D.

“We're used to working with our unit, so we have to get used to working with other units and countries,” Doochen said. “We're used to flying

with only six of our own aircraft out there, here we are working with other groups. You really have to have situational awareness of what the other groups are doing – there is so much going on out there. We're also working with dissimilar aircraft – you don't know who the bad guys are until they are close. It's good training.”

Although phase two is still in the first few days, positive feedback was received from phase one participants, Cottrell said.

“The first phase was quite a success – we've received praise from the participants,” he said. “Phase two is motoring along and the participants are getting good training.” Phase one ran May 18-29.

Maple Flag was developed in 1978 in response to the finding that most wartime aircraft losses occurred during an aircrew's first ten combat missions. The exercise provides junior aircrews with these critical first 10 missions, allowing them to train for large coalition operations in a structured academic environment.



PHOTO BY SENIOR AIRMAN LARRY E. REID JR.

Staff Sgt. Adam Dolney, 114th FW Crew Chief, examines the exhaust in preparation for a training mission during exercise Maple Flag 42 June 4. Maple Flag is a Canadian-sponsored and ACC-supported exercise, that provides aircrews simulated air and ground combat training to coalition forces in a NATO environment.



PHOTO BY SENIOR AIRMAN LARRY E. REID JR.

Capt. Jeremy Doochen inserts an Air Combat Maneuvering Instrumentation card inside his right wing June 4 as Staff Sgt. Derek Lauer, 114th Phase Docks, looks on. The ACMI card enables Maple Flag observers and mission planners to track pilots in real time during their simulated air wars.

Joshua Tiede, a Parkston eighth-grader, received the Young Hero award June 6 at Joe Foss Field. After the presentation, Lt. Col. Nate Alholinna, 175th FS commander, presented Josh with a 175th unit patch. The South Dakota National Guard Enlisted Association sponsors the Young Heroes program to honor children who have displayed courage and bravery while battling a life-threatening disease, illness or injury.

