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187th Fighter Wing

Vol. 2, No. 1 January 2013

www.187fw.ang.af.mil



U.S. AIR FORCE



IN FORMATION is the official publication of the 187th Fighter Wing, Alabama Air National Guard. Contents of this publication are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the Department of the Air Force, or the National Guard. The content is edited, prepared and provided by the 187th Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office, Montgomery Regional Airport Guard Base. All photographs are Air Force/ AL ANG photographs unless otherwise indicated.

187TH FIGHTER WING

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187th Fighter Wing Commander

Col. Samuel Black

ON THE COVER >> *HAPPY NEW YEAR!*

187th Fighter Wing Vice Commander

Col. Scott Patten

187th Fighter Wing Command Chief

Chief Master Sgt. Lindsey McCall

Chief of Public Affairs

Maj. Clare Reed

Staff

Tech. Sgt. Chris Baldwin

Tech. Sgt. Jeff Foster

Tech. Sgt. Monique Randall



Submission deadline for the February 2013 publication is February 7. Articles must be submitted electronically to 187FW.PA@ang.af.mil. For more information, contact Public Affairs at (334) 394-7157.

Did you make new year's resolutions? Are you sticking to them?
(Stock Photo)



Hotaling named next Air National Guard Command Chief



(Official Photo)

TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. -- Chief Master Sgt. James Hotaling from the Continental U.S. NORAD Region-1st Air Force here was named as the Air National Guard's next command chief today.

As ANG command chief, Hotaling will serve as the senior advisor to Lt. Gen. Sid Clarke, the incoming director of the Air National Guard, on matters concerning the readiness, morale, welfare, proper use and progress of more than 90,000 enlisted Airmen.

Hotaling succeeds Chief Master Sgt. Christopher Muncy, who retired in September after serving almost four years as the Air National Guard's command chief.

"This is a bittersweet moment for my family and I," said Hotaling. "On one hand I am excited to be moving on to bigger challenges serving our Air National Guard, but on the other I will miss the camaraderie and friendships I have established during my short time here at First Air Force." Hotaling will be the Air Guard's

11th command chief. Prior to July 1998, the title was "senior enlisted advisor."

Hotaling currently serves as command chief for the Continental U.S. NORAD Region-1st Air Force (Air Forces Northern). He previously spent nearly 24 years in various Air Force Special Tactics and leadership positions. He also serves as a member of the Air Guard's Enlisted Field Advisory Council and the Combat Control Association.

Hotaling is a native of North Carolina where he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in 1987 and joined the Oregon Air National Guard in 2003.

A reception was held following the ceremony.

AF releases new 'vision' document

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- The Air Force released a new Vision document today outlining the force's vision and way forward.

"Focused on 'Airmen, Mission, and Innovation,' I believe this short document captures what today's Air Force is all about and where I think we ought to focus on for tomorrow," said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III in an email to all Airmen.

"We are the greatest air force in the world because of our Airmen--Active, Reserve, Guard, and Civilian--to remain the greatest, we must make our team even stronger," the Vision states.

The Vision discusses the Air Force's enduring contributions of air and space superiority; intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance; rapid global mobility; global strike; and command and control and the need to strengthen them.

"We already combine our air, space, and cyber forces to maximize these enduring contributions, but the way we execute these five calling cards must continually evolve as we strive to increase our asymmetric advantage," the Vision says. "Our Airmen's ability to rethink the battle while incorporating new technologies will improve the varied ways our Air Force accomplishes its missions.

"Every Airman should constantly look for smarter ways to do business. The person closest to the problem is often the one with the best solution. Leaders should empower Airmen to think creatively, find new solutions, and make decisions," according to the Vision.

The Vision concludes with a call to action for all Airmen to tell their story, being proud of who they are, what they do, and how well they accomplish the mission



Change...

by Master Sgt. Steve Huffman
187th Fighter Wing Chaplains Office

With the New Year upon us, it has been said that nothing is certain but death and taxes. I would like you to consider a third certainty...change. Just as we were getting use to an 'empty nest', our daughter moves home with the grandbaby and a dog after an awful divorce. Or after 20 years of work on day shift we are moved to night shift indefinitely. A job loss, a loved one passes away or a dear friend moves away and we struggle to adjust.

Change is most certain in life. Yet change does not have to represent a negative force in our lives. The birth of a child, coming home again after a deployment, visiting a distant relative or buddy, or that vacation to an unusual location can all bring excitement and refreshing to our spirits.

The word of God tells the story of Jesus; his miraculous birth, his escape from the hands of King Herod (who tried to kill him), his growing up in the town of Nazareth and of his mission to deliver God's plan for eternal life. These events bring great joy and excitement. Yet Jesus is arrested and falsely accused. He is put on trial and crucified. Oh what sadness this change brings.

But more change is on the way. Death could not consume him and the grave could not hold him. Resurrection Day arrived. Jesus is alive. Joy unspeakable! Every promise from God's word is true! Hope beyond despair is now at our access. Every morning the faithfulness of God is renewed.

It has also been said that life is 10% of what happens to us and 90% of our response to these events. This seems about right to me. We have a fresh opportunity every day to make lemon aid from the lemons we are served. Say a prayer, ask for God's guidance and favor, do your best, reach out and help your neighbor; you'll find life is an adventure and God's help is available in our times of need.



You may contact the 187th Chaplain's Office at 334-394-7268. Prayer request or comments can be sent to our email account at 187FW.HC@ang.af.mil



ANTITERRORISM

Protecting Dannelly Field is every Airman's responsibility

Courtesy of the 187th Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

“What does the Anti-terrorism and Force Protection program have to do with me?” and “How can anything I do really affect the safety of neighbors, the installation, or my unit's mission?” These are questions not always answered in a manner that raises an individuals' level of awareness to recognize their place in what has to be a team effort.

We have seen evidence how alert and aware individuals can thwart a terrorist incident; and unfortunately, we have also seen the results of the failure of people to notice or report sightings of suspicious persons conducting surveillance of a future target. There have been many instances where attacks were carried out by domestic and international terrorists, causing death and destruction. But, I can also quickly point, that many planned attacks against our nation have been thwarted by individuals whose situational awareness allowed them to identify terrorists in the early phases of their attacks.

The potential for 'our base, which also includes our local communities, to identify people, actions, events, or items that are out of place is huge. With little more than a conscious effort to identify our surroundings, we could exponentially increase the size of the anti-terrorism and force protection footprint to encompass not just Dannelly Field, but the areas in which we live. We all live in the community, drive to the store, restaurant or mall, or at some point travel to neighboring metropolitans. This is our home, and this is the environment where terrorists seek to operate. We are strong, and with everyone actively engaged in this environment, terrorists will find a greatly decreased chance for success. Interrupting the terrorists' planning cycle is the best way to ensure they opt for a different target rather than risk capture. By hardening our local communities and the installation, we can keep our families safe and ensure we are always mission capable.

NEVER LOSE SIGHT OF THE CRITICAL ROLE YOU PLAY IN THE FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM.

Detecting this type of terrorist activity is crucial and

is everyone's responsibility validating the tremendous importance of our Eagle Eyes Program and the absolute necessity of accomplishing our RAMs (Random Antiterrorism Measures) correctly and on time. **BE ALERT, REPORT ANY SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY BY CALLING 394-7277**



U.S. AIR FORCE EagleEyes

WATCH.REPORT.PROTECT.





AROUND THE PATTERN

DoD Launches Redesigned Transition Assistance Program

The Transition Assistance Program (TAP) has been redesigned into a comprehensive, mandatory program through the efforts of an interagency team from the Department of Defense (DoD), Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Department of Labor (DOL), Department of Education (ED), Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Office of Personnel Management (OPM) and the Small Business Administration (SBA). The redesigned TAP, known as Transition Goals Plans Success (GPS) or Transition GPS, changes the current program from a discontinuous set of activities into a cohesive, modular, outcome based program that provides opportunities and aids in successful transition into a “career ready” civilian. Transition GPS bolsters and standardizes the transition services that Service members receive prior to separating from the military to make them employment ready as well as being prepared to enter into higher education, attend career technical training, or start their own business. Transition GPS is a major overhaul of the 20-year-old TAP, as part of the VOW to Hire Heroes Act of 2011, and includes modules on financial planning that provide information and tools to identify financial responsibilities; Mili-

tary Occupational Code (MOC) Crosswalk that translate military skills, training, and experience into civilian sector skills language; VA Benefits Briefing that informs Service members of their veteran benefits options; developing an Individual Transition Plan (ITP) that is a tailored plan with supporting documents, reviewed by a transition staff member, as evidence of preparation for transition and ability to meet post-separation goals; and an improved Department of Labor Employment Workshop that provides information and assistance with developing a resume as well as obtaining a “Gold Card” to receive priority services at any Career One-Stop Center in the country, career guidance, job and training referrals. In addition to the modules, there are optional tracks a Service member can take based on their needs assessment. The optional tracks are education, career technical training and entrepreneurship. Piloting of Transition GPS began at a few DoD installations on July 9, 2012. Transition GPS is expected to replace the old TAP by the end of 2013. For the Air National Guard (ANG), all Airmen who return from 180+ days on Title 10 orders on/after 1 Oct 12 will fulfill TAP/Transition GPS requirements,

preferably at one of the two ANG Hubs: 136th, Fort Worth, TX, or the 161st, Phoenix, AZ. TAP/Transition GPS will be funded similar to the Yellow Ribbon Program, where NGB sends Special Training (ST) days and funds (Mil Pers & O&M) to the wing to cover TDY expenses for attendance. Funds are not available for spouses or retiring/separating AGR’s/Technicians. TAP/Transition GPS also includes the following target population: airmen who are 18 to 24 years, have completed their first term of enlistment, are involuntarily separated due to force shaping or rapidly separate from military service. TAP/Transition GPS is a set of activities specifically designed to ensure separating Service members have a targeted set of knowledge, skills, documentation, and assistance required in order to make a smooth and successful transition back into civilian life. Air National Guard Service members should direct questions to the Airman and Family Readiness Program Office.

Additional Airman and Family Programs information located on page 11.

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AROUND THE PATTERN

187th Maintainers exceed Total AF standard for “Combat Shield”



Members of the Combat Shield Team were recognized during wing stand-up on Friday, 11 January. (Photo by Maj Clare Reed)

The 187th Fighter Wing exceeded the Total AF average by during Combat Shield, which began December 3, to review the wing’s ability to maintain a constant deterrent against aggression.

Combat Shield, a two-day electronic warfare assessment program hosted by the 53rd Electronic Warfare Group, based at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., primarily assists wing commanders in determining a unit’s level of electronic warfare readiness.

The results of the The Total Air Force (combined Air Force components --the active duty, reserves and air guard) averaged a 73% percent pass rate in FY12. The 187 FW pass rate was 87%. Additionally, jammer ground checks for the total force averaged 76%. The 187 FW earned a 83% pass rate.

While Combat Shield officials have previously stressed that the assessment is not a test, evaluation or inspection of a unit’s electronic warfare components, countermeasure pods and radar warning receivers, officials thoroughly review the systems to ensure they are fully-mission capable.

The pods and RWRs are checked for anomalies that can surface after an aircraft returns from flight. Even though F-16s are capable of pulling nine-G maneuvers, cables and wiring within the aircraft, over time, can suffer from fatigue. And

wiring within each pod, together with determining any flaws within the systems, could potentially be an area of concern.

“For some units, Combat Shield is just a requirement. For my ECM guys, it is a culture. We want our pilots to know that they are flying the most capable combat aircraft in every way,” said Senior Master Sgt William Rhodes, ERM superintendent. Who also attributes the high ratings to both the ERM and Avionics being “already up to par.”

“We don’t settle for the standard,” said Senior Master Sgt Eric Schuffert, Avionics superintendent.

Schuffert also recognized the entire Specialist Flight and ECM shop for the results of Combat Shield. “Although we had several individuals participate in the actual testing, this is a year long, group effort that makes this such a success.





RETENTION OFFICE



VISION

The vision of the 187th Fighter Wing Retention Office is to ensure the right people are in the right job at the right time. Utilization of retention resources will enable the retention team to retain qualified ANG members within the force structure which in turn will assist the Alabama Air National Guard's effort to meet and/or exceed its ANG mission.

MISSION

The mission of the 187th Fighter Wing Retention Office is to utilize all retention resources in motivating and guiding all members toward their full potential in the Alabama Air National Guard. Utilization of these resources will result in an outstanding performance and identify and eliminate career irritants.



187th Fighter Wing Retention Office

*A motto for life: "People like hot fries!"
-CMSAF Robert D. Gaylor (Ret)*

1) IMPORTANT NOTE: To help expedite the TEB approval process, any of the following documents can be submitted to the ROM/RRNCO, verifying Post 9/11 GI Bill service eligibility:

- a. VA Certificate of Eligibility (COE)
- b. ARPC Letter of Certification (LOE)
- c. eBenefits Eligibility Screen Shot
- d. DD 214s showing service authority (Title 10 and/or Title 32 502(f) AGR)
- e. AGR Orders (Current AGRs only).

2) We received confirmation recently from the VA that effective August 1, 2012, the VA is only paying the kicker under Chapter 33 if the claimant relinquished the benefit for which they were kicker eligible.

Therefore, if the member has a 1606 kicker, they would only receive payment after 8/1/12 if they relinquished 1606.

If the member relinquished 1607 or Ch 30, then they would no longer receive kicker payments.

3) Please go to our Share Point:

<https://eis.ang.af.mil/org/187FW/Post%20911%20GI%20BillChapter%2033%20Information/Forms/AllItems.aspx> for the most recent information from NGB to include the current application and transfer procedures. There, you will also find slide shows for the POST 9-11 IMPROVEMENTS, POST 9-11 TITLE 32 AGR, and ARPC LOC. More information concerning the Post 9/11 GI Bill / Chapter 33 benefit or any of the other GI Bill Chapter benefits can be found at www.gibill.va.gov.

Contact Stan Krasinski at stan.krasinski@ang.af.mil or call (334) 394-7375



AIRMAN'S CREED

*I am an American Airman,
I am a Warrior;
I have answered my nation's call.*

*I am an American Airman.
My mission is to fly, fight and win.
I am faithful to a proud heritage,
A tradition of honor,
And a legacy of valor.*

*I am an American Airman,
Guardian of freedom and justice,
My nation's sword and shield,
Its sentry and avenger.
I defend my country with my life.*

*I am an American Airman;
Wingman, leader, warrior.
I will never leave an Airman behind,
I will never falter
and I will not fail.*

Photo by Tech. Sgt. Chris Baldwin

Martin Luther King Jr.

Jan. 15, 1929 – April 4, 1968





Wings names Outstanding Airmen winners



**SNCO of the Year: SMSgt Ann Moody
187th Civil Engineering Squadron**



**NCO: SSgt Mia M. Powell
187th Security Forces Squadron**



**Airman: SrA Lance B. Williamson
187th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron**



**First Sgt: MSgt David E. Betts
187th Medical Group**

(Photos by TSgt Chris Baldwin)





myPers

Did you know...myPers Can Assist You with Your Retirement Process?

Are you a Regular Air Force, Air National Guard, Air Force Reserve or AF Civilian member nearing retirement eligibility and asking yourself, “Where do I begin?” The answer to that question is myPers.

The myPers website is a total force source for personnel information and services. It’s available 24/7 and is where you can find answers to your questions and conduct personnel business online when it is convenient for you.

To get started on your retirement quest, log on to the myPers website at mypers.af.mil. As myPers

is personalized, the information you see upon entry is tailored to your Air Force affiliation. Once there navigate to the “Learn More About” section on the left side of the page and click on the “Retirement” link. Your component’s Retirement Home Page provides everything you need--from information on eligibility and the application process, frequently asked questions (FAQs), and relevant online service tools --to benefits/entitlements and other guidance you may need surrounding a retirement from service.

Go check it out!
mypers.af.mil

Airman and Family Programs Resources (cont'd)

Airmen and Family Program Office (A&FRP)

A&FRP services are designed to maintain and support mission readiness by assisting individuals and families to adapt to the challenges and demands of military life and expeditionary operations. Support includes:

- * Deployment Support for single and married Airmen and their families.
 - Pre-deployment briefings and consultations
 - Deployment/Sustainment services
 - Re-deployment/Reintegration briefings
 - Post-deployment follow-up services focus on the well-being of members and their family
- * Air Force Wounded Warrior Program (AFW2)
- * Key Spouse Program
- * Personal Financial Management
- * Transition Assistance Program (TAP)/Transition GPS
- * Military Family Life Consultants

Sittercity -helps you find experienced babysitters and nannies in your area. And with features like detailed profiles, background checks, references and reviews, we make the process safe and easy. www.sittercity.com

Joint Services Support - This portal, and its program sub-portals, is designed to give you a “one stop shopping” location where you can get important information on a variety of programs that have been created to support you - <http://www.jointservicessupport.org>

Military One Source - whether its help with child care, personal finances, emotional support during deployments, relocation information, or resources needed for special circumstances, Military One-Source is there for military personnel and their families... 24/7/365! - <https://www.militaryonesource.com/skins/MOS/home.aspx>

[com/skins/MOS/home.aspx](http://www.militaryonesource.com/skins/MOS/home.aspx)

Military HOMEFRONT - is the official Department of Defense web site for reliable Quality of Life information designed to help troops and their families, leaders and service providers. Whether you live the military lifestyle or support those who do, you’ll find what you need! - <http://www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil/>

Turbo Tap - is Department of Defense’s official website providing information for servicemembers on transitioning from military service. This site is also supported by the Departments of Labor and Veterans Affairs. TurboTAP.org is intended to supplement the services offered by the Transition Assistance Offices and other groups. - <http://www.turbotap.org>



TOUCH & GOS

2013 UTA SCHEDULE

January 12-13	May 4-5	September 14-15
February 9-10	June 1-2	October 5-11
March 2-3	July 13-14	November 2-3
April 13-19	August 3-4	December 7-8

* *Apr: 13-16 (UTA) and 17-19 (AT) / Oct: 5-6 (UTA) and 7-11 (AT)*

TOBACCO USE POLICY

Effective 1 Oct. 2012, use of tobacco inside of 187 FW facilities is prohibited. Please see your supervisor for additional information and/or guidance.

NEW BASE NUMBERS

Many base numbers have changed in the last few months, please check your directory before dialing.

CHAPEL SERVICE

Chapel Service will be held, Sunday, Jan 13, 0800, in bldg 1502, 1st floor. Contact the Chaplain's Office for additional information.

GTC/TRAVEL REMINDER

DoD travelers are reminded that use of the Government Travel Cards is mandatory. Also please be reminded that travel vouchers are to be submitted within five days upon return from travel.

AIHREA Youth Ambassador Opportunity

DEADLINE : JAN 31, 2013



The American Indian Health Research & Education Alliance (AIHREA) partners/collaborates with American Indian peoples, nations, communities and organizations to improve the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual well-being of American Indians throughout the United States through quality participatory research and educational programs.

Applications are currently being accepted for AIHREA's Youth Ambassador Program. Deadline is January 31, 2013.

Selected ambassador will serve for one year and will be paid for his/her efforts; 4 High School Students (2 male, 2 female; \$500/year), 4 college students (2 male, 2 female; \$1,000/year), 4 Graduate students (2 male, 2 female; \$1,500/year).

Ambassadors will promote American Indian Health Research and Education Alliance and AIHREA's projects.

See the AIHREA website for more details: www.aihrea.org