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IN FORMATION

187th Fighter Wing

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U.S. AIR FORCE



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ON THE COVER >> *The annual wing memorial ceremony was held in May. Read more about the event at page 5. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Matthew Garrett)*



Tech. Sgt William Humphrey, jumps over a fiery obstacle while participating in the Almighty Mud Run in Billingsley, Ala.. Read more at page 10. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Matthew Garrett)



NEWS FROM THE TOP

Defense Secretary Hagel visits Hawaii, talks total force integration

by Karen Parrish
American Forces Press Service

HONOLULU (AFNS) -- The tight integration in Hawaii between active-duty service members, civilian defense employees and National Guardsmen points to the future of the overall force, Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel told troops at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam here May 30.

"That's as much value added as I think we can get in our system," Hagel said.

An F-22 Raptor served as the secretary's backdrop as he spoke to about 200 personnel representing the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, National Guard and Coast Guard.

Defense officials have previously identified fifth-generation fighter aircraft like the Raptor -- 199 of which are now based in Hawaii -- as essential elements in the new defense strategy, which includes a pivot toward the Asia-Pacific region.

"Thank you, on behalf of our president and our country," the secretary said. "I know sometimes you feel, stuck out here in the Pacific, that no one knows who you are or what you're doing; let me assure you, we do, and we're grateful." Hagel asked the group -- mostly made up of junior enlisted service members -- to also thank their families for the support they give the military.

"I think the families are often just taken for granted, and it's probably as difficult -- maybe more difficult -- for them as it is for you," he noted. "I ... extend my thanks and best wishes."

U.S. forces in the Asia-Pacific region are a "central part of the larger plan" America is pursuing in the Pacific, Hagel said. Hagel's stop in Hawaii is the first leg of a trip that will also take him to Singapore and Brussels.

In Singapore, Hagel will attend the Shangri-La Dialogue, an annual gathering of defense and security experts from across the Pacific region. Navy Adm. Samuel J. Locklear, commander of U.S. Pacific Command, and other senior military leaders from the region will also attend, Hagel noted.

The secretary told troops that one of the points he will make at the conference is that the U.S. rebalance to this region is not only right for the nation, but for its Asian partners and allies.

"For the rest of the world, that doesn't mean we are abandoning our resources anywhere else, or we're retreating from any other part of the world. We're not,"

Hagel said.

When he leaves Singapore, the secretary will fly to Brussels to meet with NATO and International Security Assistance Force partners for talks on the Afghanistan campaign.

"Our interests are global," he added. "But ... I think the opportunities that abound in the world are probably centered as much in the Asia-Pacific as in any (other) one area."

Hagel said the unique opportunities present in the Asia-Pacific region hold "as much potential as maybe ever in the history of man."

He said to realize that potential, leaders in the region must govern wisely, respond to each other wisely, and form coalitions of common interests wisely.

"We all have common interests, (though) our governments are different," he said. "Our cultures are different; some of us look different; our languages are different. But still, the basic common interests of the human being don't change."

People everywhere need food and security, and they value their families, he said.

"I've never found a country yet, or religion, or culture, or tribe, that doesn't have the same feelings about their families," he said. "... We start there. We all need the basics in life to survive. We start there."

Hagel said given these common needs, a simple question follows: "Why can't we all get along?"

The secretary said he likes to ask simple questions, because "we tend to kind of glide over simple things, and ... occasionally make things more complicated than they need to be."

Hagel said "right now" is a defining time for the world, and Pacific nations will have a lot to say "about how this next world order is built out."

The decade after World War II was probably the last time the planet faced such profound social, political and international change, he added.

"The difference is, the United States held most of the cards after World War II," he said. "We don't hold all the cards this time; and by the way, that's good. (It) allows other countries to share responsibilities ... (and) prosper."



DIAMOND TIP OF THE MONTH

In honor of the few who protect the many

by Master Sgt Harry J. Hester, First Sergeant
187th Maintenance Squadron

Webster's dictionary defines the word great as, "markedly superior in character or quality; noble". We use the term to describe land features such as The Great Lakes and The Great Plains; events in time such as The Great Depression; majestic conquerors such as Peter the Great and Alexander the Great. But just what is it that gives these an aura of greatness? Quite simply, each is distinguished from others of their kind.

In the play, "Twelfth Night", Shakespeare wrote, "Be not afraid of greatness: some are born great, some achieve greatness and some have greatness thrust upon them." In the days of monarchies, the throne was passed down through the heirs of the kings and queens. To be born into the royal family and be of the royal bloodline guaranteed greatness simply by societal position and title. This "greatness" was presumed and many times the person behind the title did not live up to the definition.

There are many who have achieved greatness. In all arenas of life, whether in the realm of business, the military, sports, arts, politics, academia, medicine or a myriad others, we acknowledge those who have explored, led, conquered, imagined and discovered ideals and set standards that set them apart for not only their lifetime but for lifetimes to come. Their greatness transcends time as their accomplishments are still admired today.

There are those who do not seek greatness, who are content in the comfort of their daily living; who see greatness as a thing far off and foreign. Sometimes, in those moments of the day-to-day, greatness finds us. I never fail to be amazed when the ordinary find themselves in extraordinary situations and perform great, heroic deeds. When asked why they did what they did, most often they humbly reply, "I didn't do anything special" or "I was only doing my job".

And so it is with us, ordinary citizens and professional members of the profession of arms. We put on the uniform, come to work, do our jobs, day in and day out. And when we are called, we will go, we will fight, we will be willing to make the ultimate sacrifice to defend the freedoms of this great country. Less than 1% of Americans will serve in the United States military. The few do protect the many. Be proud to wear the uniform, of the brass on your collar, of the stripes on your sleeve. For in those, you are distinguished, you are noble, you are great.





AROUND THE PATTERN

Annual Wing Memorial Ceremony



MSGT ROBERT W HEATH	JUNE 12 2011
SSGT JERREL W MADDOX	JUNE 19 2011
SMSGT VAN CATES	AUG 27 2011
SMSGT FRANK DANNER	SEPT 17 2011
MSGT FRED W BOZEMAN	JAN 25 2012
MSGT CLARENCE W SULLIVAN	FEB 13 2012
CMSGT DONALD BRACKIN	MAR 21 2012
SMSGT ROY E LANGLEY	MAR 26 2012
MAJ MACK M WAINWRIGHT JR	APR 30 2012
MSGT EVERETT H KIRKWOOD	AUG 2 2012
MSGT CHARLES V BAZZLE	AUG 28 2012
MSGT MILTON CONWAY	SEPT 17 2012
CMSGT BILLY SELF	JAN 25 2013
TSGT JOHN HARRY	FEB 12 2013
CMSGT WILLIAM C HORNADY	MAR 5 2013
	APR 1 2013



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Sin of Presumption

by Tech .Sgt. Donald McLeod
187th Fighter Wing Chaplain Office

A dog was so faithful that the woman could leave her baby with it and go out to attend other matters. She always returned to find the child soundly asleep with the dog faithfully watching over him. One day something tragic happened.

The woman as usual, left the baby in the “hands” of this faithful dog and went out shopping. When she returned, she discovered rather a nasty scene, there was a total mess. The baby’s cot was dismantled, his nappies and clothes torn to shreds with blood stains all over the bedroom where she left the child and the dog. Shocked, the woman wailed as she began looking for the baby.

All of a sudden, she saw the faithful dog emerging from under the bed. It was covered with blood and licking it’s mouth as if it had just finished a delicious meal. The woman got angry and assumed that the dog had devoured her baby. Without much thought she beat the dog with a wood to death. But as she continued searching for the “remains” of her child, she beheld another scene.

Close to the bed was the baby who, although lying bare on the floor, was safe and under the bed there was the body of a snake. It was torn to pieces in what had been a fierce battle between the snake and the dog which was now dead. Then reality dawned on the woman who now began to understand what took place in her absence. The dog fought to protect the



baby from the ravenous snake.

It was too late for her now to make amends because, in her impatience and anger, she had killed the faithful dog. How often do we misjudged people and tear them to shreds with harsh words and deeds before we have had time to evaluate the situation?

This is called SIN OF PRESUMPTION; Presuming things our way without taking the trouble to find out exactly what the situation really is. A little patience can drastically reduce major lifelong mistakes. Who are you misjudging right now? Don’t think about what others are thinking. Take time to get the whole truth.

Contact the 187th Chaplain’s Office at
334-394-7127. Prayer request or comments can be
sent to our e-mail account at 187FW.HC@ang.af.mil



AROUND THE PATTERN

187th Fighter Wing Career Day





RECRUITING & RETENTION



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

Please help the Recruiting Office help us by telling your story and promoting the Alabama Air National Guard. AFSCs on the National and Local List are listed below that carry the \$20,000.00 NPS Bonus, 1606 GI-Bill, and \$350.00 KICKER and the \$15,000.00 PS Bonus

NATIONAL ENLISTED INCENTIVE AFSC LIST

The National Enlisted Incentive AFSC list below includes all prefixes and shreds.

1C3X1 COMMAND POST
1N0X1 OPERATIONS INTELLIGENCE
2A3X3 TACTICAL AIRCRAFT MAINT
2A3X4 FIGHTER ACFT INT AVIONICS
2A5X1 AEROSPACE MAINTENANCE
2A6X1 AEROSPACE PROPULSION
2T2X1 AIR TRANSPORTATION
2W0X1 MUNITIONS SYSTEMS
2W1X1 AIRCRAFT ARMAMENT SYS
3D1X1 CLIENT SYSTEMS
3D1X3 RF TRANSMISSION SYSTEMS
3E2X1 PAVEMENTS AND CONS EQUIP
4N0X1 AEROSPACE MEDICAL SVC

LOCAL ENLISTED INCENTIVE AFSC LIST:

3E4X1 WATER/FUEL SYSTEMS MAINT
3P9X1 SECURITY FORCES
3E0X2 ELECTRICAL POWER PROD
3D0X2 CYBER SYSTEMS OPERATION

Unit "REFERRAL SHEETS" are available on page 11 to assist with sending prequalified applicants to the Recruiters.

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

Contact Master Sgt. Stanley K. "Ski" Krasinski at
stanley.krasinski@ang.af.mil or call (334) 394-7480



FITNESS EXCELLENCE

Fitness Honors

The following individuals that scored an EXCELLENT on their Fitness Assessment.

Maj. Jason Patten - 100FS
Maj. Steven Strandburg - 100FS
Master Sgt. Hosea Goldsmith - AMXS
Tech. Sgt. Zachary Greene - AMXS
Staff Sgt. Russell Nero - AMXS
Senior Master Sgt. Eric Schuffert - AMXS
Staff Sgt. John Brazell - CERF-P
Staff Sgt. Stephanie Speckman - CES
Staff Sgt. Kelli Miller - CF
Staff Sgt. Wendy Smith - CPFT
Lt. Col. Steven Tindoll - CPFT
Capt. Brandy Brown - FW
Col. Scott Patten - FW

Capt. Frank Prokop - FW
Maj. Courtney Ridner - MDG
Lt. Col. Charles Griggs - MSG
Staff Sgt. Wesley Ward - MSG
Staff Sgt. Fred Griffin - MXS
Staff Sgt. Adam Weaver - MXS
2nd Lt. Caroline Baldwin-Brown - OG
Master Sgt. Tony Mathews - OG
Lt. Col. Christopher Jones - OSF
Senior Master Sgt. Melanie McLeroy - OSF
Senior Airman James Bonds - SFS
Senior Airman David Parnell - SFS
Tech. Sgt. Marquis Webster - SFS

WingFitness Stats (May)

829 Active 187FW Members
266 (32%) EXCELLENT
419 (51%) SATISFACTORY
127 (15%) UNSATISFACTORY



May's Perfect Scores

Senior Master Sgt. Eric Schuffert - AMXS

Tech. Sgt. Zachary Greene - AMXS



AROUND THE PATTERN

187th's 'RedTails' take first place in Mud Run

Story and photos by Tech. Sgt. Matthew Garrett
187th Fighter Wing Public Affairs



Mud, hills, ice water, hills, fire, hills, obstacles, barbed wire, and even more mud and hills. These are some of the challenges faced by members of the 187th Red Tails during the Almighty Mud Run on 18 May in Billingsley Alabama. Team Red Tails took first place at the Mud Run for both fastest and largest team. Over 50 members of the 187th came out to run in the over 3-mile obstacle course. Some of the challenging obstacles that the Red Tails overcame were as physically demanding as they were fun. Members raced through the woods, climbed up walls, jumped over fire, crawled under barbed wire, slogged head-first through muddy pits, swam across a pond, traversed a rope bridge made of cargo netting, and plunged into an ice bath, just to name a few.

The day wasn't all about physical exhaustion, bruises, and finding mud in places you didn't think possible. At its heart, the Almighty Mud Run is about charity and helping others. Money raised by the Almighty Mud Run is going to help adoptive children.

Next up for Team Red Tails is a return to the Spartan Race in October at Gulfport MS, so there is plenty of time to sign up and start practicing your rope climbing ability.



REFERRAL SHEET

NAME OF REFERRAL:

ADDRESS:

PHONE NUMBER:

EMAIL:

REFERRED BY:

Tell us a little bit about yourself or your referral so we can assist you

A	Age :	DOB:
P	Physical Condition: (Surgeries, Medication, Broken Bones, Etc; Explain in remarks below)	Ht: Wt:
P	Prior Service: Branch: Year Separated: (Years of service, Re-enlistment Code; explain in remarks below)	
L	Law Violations: HAVE YOU EVER BEEN CHARGED, ARRESTED, CITED, OR HELD FOR ANY LAW VIOLATION TO INCLUDE TRAFFIC OR VEHICLE INFRACTIONS INCLUDING SEALED RECORDS? (EVEN IF YOU WERE TOLD THAT YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO DISCLOSE) (If yes, explain in remarks below)	
E	High School Attended: Did you graduate or will you graduate: Highest level of education:	Year Grad:
M	Marital Status: Married Single Divorced # of Minor Dependents	

Remarks:



TOUCH & GOS

2013 UTA SCHEDULE

January 12-13
February 9-10
March 2-3
April 13-19

May 4-5
June 1-2
July 13-14
August 3-9

September 14-15
October 5-11
November 2-3
December 7-8

187TH FIGHTER WING



Join us at a Biscuits game!

SATURDAY, JULY 13TH

We want to see you and your family represent the
187th in Riverwalk Stadium !

TICKETS ARE JUST 10!



Use your smartphone
and scan here to order
tickets!



Fun for the **ENTIRE FAMILY!**

- Post-game fireworks
- Big Mo's Dugout
- First Pitch to flight with highest attendance!

Deadline to order is July 8th!

Order your tickets by visiting
www.biscuitsbaseball.com

For more information or to order by phone please contact
Chris Asa, with the Biscuits. 334-323-0375