

HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

NGB TURNS 375

HOMETOWN HEROES



INFORMATION

187th Fighter Wing

Vol. 1, No. 1 January 2012



HAPPY NEW YEAR

www.187fw.ang.af.mil



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187TH FIGHTER WING

Montgomery Regional Air Guard Base
5187 Selma Highway
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187th Fighter Wing Commander

Col. Samuel Black

187th Fighter Wing Vice Commander

Col. Scott Patten

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ON THE COVER >> *Family members at 187th Fighter Wing holiday celebration participate in games and activities planned through Airman and Family Readiness. More than 893 military members and thier families attended the event.*



Multiple construction projects are underway at Montgomery Regional Air Guard Base. Estimated completion is set for 2013. Continue to check *In Formation* for a more indepth look into the wing's progress.



187th Fighter Wing welcomes new commander

(Courtesy of 187th Office of Public Affairs)

Maj. Gen. Paul D. Brown, Jr., commander of the Alabama Air National Guard, announced that Col. Samuel Black was selected to serve as the commander of the 187th Fighter Wing on Saturday, Oct. 14, during the base's monthly training formation at Montgomery Regional Air Guard Base. Col. Black, a native of Deatsville, Ala., most recently served as Director of Operations at the State Headquarters of the Alabama Air National Guard. He rejoins that 187th Fighter Wing where he previously commanded the 160th Fighter

Squadron, which was re-designated the 100th Fighter Squadron during his tenure. The name change was made in 2007 to honor the legacy of the famed Tuskegee Airmen. As the new wing commander, Col. Black is responsible for more than \$98 million in base property and an annual budget of more than \$80 million.

"I am humbled by the opportunity to serve the great people of the 187th Fighter Wing" said Col. Black.

He is a 1986 graduate of Auburn University, and is a command pilot

with more than 3,000 flying hours. In his civilian career, he is a commercial pilot for Delta Air Lines. Col. Scott Patten, the fighter wing's vice commander, has been selected to serve as air commander. Patten will be responsible for commanding the daily operations of the wing in a full-time capacity. He has served as vice commander since June 2010, and Patten is a command pilot with more than 3,850 flying hours. And He has flown 114 combat missions and logged more than 450 combat hours.

Senior Guard General becomes member of Joint Chiefs

(Courtesy of Air Force News)

The chief of the National Guard Bureau is a statutory member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

With the stroke of a pen, the same month the nation's oldest military institution celebrated its 375th birthday, President Barack Obama signed legislation that includes a provision adding the CNGB to the Joint Chiefs on Dec. 31, 2011.

The provision -- part of the fiscal year 2012 National Defense Authorization Act -- ushers in a change some National Guard historians have called the most significant development since the Militia Act of 1903 codified the modern day dual-status structure of the Guard. "We are grateful for the efforts the

executive and legislative bodies have gone to in placing the chief of the National Guard Bureau on the Joint Chiefs of Staff," said Air Force Gen. Craig McKinley, the chief of the National Guard Bureau.

"We look forward to working alongside the other Joint Chiefs to provide our nation's senior leaders with a fuller picture of the non-federalized National Guard as it serves in support of homeland defense and civil support missions," McKinley said.

The provision is part of an annual federal law that has for the last half-century specified the Defense Department budget.

The 2012 NDAA authorizes \$670 billion in spending for Defense Department programs and Energy Department nuclear weapons programs.

Other provisions of the bill that affect the National Guard include re-establishing the position of vice-chief of the National Guard Bureau at the three-star level while rescinding the two-star position of director of the NGB's joint staff.

The bill also requires that National Guard general officers be considered for command of Army North and Air Force North and authorizes funding for the National Guard State Partnership Program.



Freezable Moments

By Ch Brandy Brown, Captain
280th Combat Communications Squadron

You have filled my heart with more happiness than others have when there is much grain and wine! ~Psalm 4:7

Have you ever had a freezable moment? Have you ever been placed in a specific time and place or with certain people and you think, “If I could keep this moment locked right here, I would freeze it forever.” I have. I’ve had many.

It’s when your favorite pet did something silly and you laughed so hard you thought your sides would split. It’s when a child shrieks with delight that you just walked through the door and then runs with reckless abandon to jump in your arms laughing, overjoyed that you’ve arrived. It’s sitting with a cherished friend having at your favorite hang-out sharing “remember when” stories. It’s moments right before the end of a loved one’s life where you hold a hand, share a smile, shed a tear, offer loving words...

We all have our moments we wish we could freeze-frame in time. Those moments are blessings. And blessings come from our Creator, God. The Scriptures are full of blessings; Psalms and Proverbs in the Wisdom books of the Old Testament are a great start to find those blessings. May your freezable moments outweigh and outlast

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

Federal Health Alliance helps ensure individual readiness

By Maj. Marian Heninburg
187th Medical Group

FEDS HEAL is a program designed to assist Guard members, who don’t have a personal dentist, maintain Dental Readiness.

This is not for a cleaning and routine activities normally accomplished by a dentist during a bi-annual exam. The purpose of FEDS HEAL is to ensure the dental readiness of our troops by providing exams that will ultimately determine the status of a member’s dental health.

There are many options provided to help our members maintain dental readiness and/or health. The insurance provider Concordia will provide two dental cleanings per year which is included in the \$12.69/month premium. The provider would also complete the required dental forms that must be turned into the Medical Group annually as a record of dental readiness.

The second option is to have 50 people sign up for FEDS HEAL and then a provider will come to the base to provide the exams free of charge to the member. It is a must to have 50 people commit, prior to the actual date that

the provider is coming and then it is a must that those 50 people keep their appointment at the medical group on the appointed day. The FEDS HEAL provider will accomplish the exam to determine the members dental class status. This will be annotated on the required forms.

The third option is to obtain a FEDS HEAL appointment in the city where you live. If it is more convenient for you to see a dental provider during the week, in the city, in which you live just contact CMSgt John Rowe at 394-7144 or TSgt Devin Boggan at 394-7258 to get an appointment set up with a FEDS HEAL provider at your convenience.



Eagle Eyes: Security is everyone’s responsibility

(Courtesy of the 187th Fighter Wing Antiterrorism Office)

The Air Force Eagle Eyes Program is referenced in nearly every “In Formation” article published relating to antiterrorism. This is not by accident as it is a reminder of the key role we play in combating terrorism. This month’s article will be a review of exactly what the “Eagle Eyes” program entails so all of us, as key players to the success of the program, clearly understand its intent and how it works. First “Eagle Eyes” is an Air Force initiative designed to include the eyes and ears of all Air Force members, their families as well as all citizens. This participation is very crucial for the “Eagle Eyes” program to be effective. Eagle Eyes participants must have an understanding of the activities terrorists engage to plan and execute their attacks. “Eagle Eyes” is a worldwide Air Force neighborhood watch against terrorism. This is extremely important as it arms us with knowledge to recognize and thwart potential terrorist attacks. By learning the categories of suspicious behavior which, I will identify below, and being alert to your surroundings you can be a key in preventing a terrorist attack. The categories are as follows:

1. Surveillance – This is simply someone recording or monitoring facilities or activities such as video taping a military base or flying activity or being observed drawing diagrams or taking pictures of the base.
2. Elicitation – an attempt to gain information about a military base, its personnel or operations. This can be done in person, by fax, mail or telephone. A good example would be a convenience store owner near a base asking you very pointed and specific questions about flying operations, upcoming deployments or personnel at the base.
3. Test of security – This includes attempts to measure reaction times during attempted security breaches such as shaking or kicking a perimeter fence to see how long it will take to react or actual attempts to penetrate physical security barriers to test security strengths and weaknesses.
4. Acquiring supplies – Purchasing or stealing explosives fertilizer, weapons, ammunition and military uniforms.
5. Suspicious persons out of place – People around the workplace, near bases or businesses, who do not or give the perception they do not need to be there. This is hard to definitively identify but if it “quacks like a

duck it probably is a duck”. In other words if it looks or act suspicious there is a good chance it is suspicious so report it.

6. Dry run - Involves actually putting possible terrorist into position and actually moving them around to rehearse the execution of the actual attack.

7. Deploying assets – This is the actual act of people and supplies getting into position to execute the attack. This is the last chance for an alert individual to prevent the attack accentuating the importance of being aware of your surroundings to the degree one can recognize unusual or suspicious activity.

Report any suspicious activity such unauthorized attempts to access classified or sensitive data, anyone advocating support for a terrorist organization, any contacts that may suggest extremist group recruitment, suspicious behavior possibly associated with terrorist activity, and any type of suspicious activity or base surveillance.

Each one of you could possibly be the key to preventing a terrorist attack. This is why each of you is a vital part of our “Eagle Eyes” program, the neighborhood watch for the Air Force. Remember if you see something say something. Stay alert and report any suspicious activity by calling (334) 394-7277.



U.S. AIR FORCE
EagleEyes
WATCH.REPORT.PROTECT.

WING HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

DECEMBER 10, 2011





AROUND THE PATTERN

Hometown Heroes program honors Citizen-Airmen

A Hometown Heroes Salute program was held on December 10, 2011 to honor 187th Air Guard members who have deployed since 9/11.

This program, which has been described as the largest recognition endeavor in Air Guard history, in cooperation with the states, recognizes Airmen who deployed for more than 30 consecutive days for Operations Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom and all other contingency operations.



Command Chief Master Sergeant of the Air National Guard, Chief Christopher Muncy, was present.



Maj. Gen. Paul D. Brown, Jr., commander of the Alabama Air National Guard, right, was in attendance to accompany Col. Sam Black, commander of the 187th Fighter Wing and Command Chief Master Sgt. Micheal Cone while presenting awards to members being recognized during the hometown heroes salute.

187th Guardsman and spouse rope honors at Armed Forces Rodeo

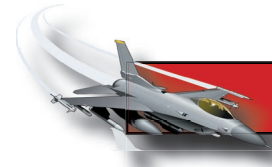


Dr Rhonda Ellison, CERFP Public Health Officer and Veterinarian, competed in the Professional Armed Forces Rodeo Association (PAFRA) World Finals. She represented the AL Air National Guard CERFP and did exceptional well in Team roping. The event was held from 25-27 November, in Midland, Texas.

Dr Ellison team ropes with her husband, Kenny. During the event, they placed 4th in round two, 1st in round three and 3rd in the Average. This allowed her Kenny to win 1st in the Year End and Dr Ellison to be runner. The PAFRA website displaying year end results can be found at: <http://www.pafra2000.com>

PAFRA is a professional Rodeo Association established in 2000 which allows all branches of the military coming to compete in one place during the World Finals. Points are awarded all year long while competing in other rodeos. The top 15 contestants at the end of October are eligible to participate in the Finals and compete in the World Finals.

After the Finals, the World Champion is recognized and her husband received First Place honor in Team Roping Heeling and Dr Ellison received reserve World Champion in Team Roping Heading.



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.*

CONGRATULATIONS
Chief Master Sgt Lindsey McCall



187th Fighter Wing Command Chief Master Sgt.

ESGR Freedom Award nominations due 16 Jan (Courtesy of the 187th Fighter Wing Anti-terrorism Office)

ARLINGTON, Va. – Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), a Defense Department agency, is calling on Guard and Reserve members to nominate their supportive employers for the 2012 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award before the January 16 deadline. The Freedom Award is the Defense Department's highest recognition for civilian employers supporting Guard and Reserve members. All employers - large, small and public - are eligible to receive the honor. Guard and Reserve members, or a family member acting on their behalf, may nominate their employers at www.FreedomAward.mil.

"Even as our nation scales down our combat missions abroad, Guard and Reserve members and their employers remain a critical component in our national security equation," said James Rebholz, ESGR National Chair. "Just as our country has heavily relied on the more than one million men and women of the Guard and Reserve, these service members have counted on their employers for support and encouragement. I encourage all Guardsmen and Reservists

to nominate their supportive employers today, so our Nation may acknowledge their extraordinary efforts."

This year, ESGR's Freedom Award website provides additional guidance to make it easier and faster for Guardsmen and Reservists to submit information about their supportive employers. Suggestions include ways for a service member to best tell the story of their employer's support. Service members who have previously nominated their employers for the Freedom Award are encouraged to do so again. The Department of Defense recognizes nominees, semi-finalists and finalists each year, and all employers who have not received the award in the past ten years are eligible. One Freedom Award recipient was recognized as a semi-finalist or finalist for three years prior to being honored as a recipient last year.

The 2012 recipients will be announced in early summer and honored in Washington, D.C. during a special ceremony in the fall. Past recipients have met with the President of the United States and

Secretary of Defense.

About Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) and the Freedom Award:
The Freedom Award was instituted in 1996 under the auspices of ESGR to recognize exceptional support from the employer community. In the years since, 160 employers have been honored with the award. ESGR was established in 1972 to develop and maintain employer support for Guard and Reserve service. ESGR advocates relevant initiatives, recognizes outstanding support, increases awareness of applicable laws and resolves conflicts between service members and employers. Paramount to ESGR's mission is encouraging employment of Guardsmen and Reservists who bring integrity, global perspective and proven leadership to the civilian workforce.

For questions or interviews regarding the Freedom Award, please visit www.FreedomAward.mil or contact Beth Sherman, ESGR Public Affairs, at 703-696-1171, ext. 539 or by email at ESGR-PA@osd.mil.

National Guard Association 2012 Membership Drive Underway

Are you a member of the National Guard Association of Alabama? The mission of the National Guard Association of Alabama is to promote the homeland of America by insuring the Alabama Army and Air National Guard has the necessary personnel, equipment, and infrastructure to carry out assigned missions.

In addition, the National Guard Association of Alabama:

- * Educates the public with regard to the role of the Army and Air National Guard in homeland security and homeland defense
- * Promotes the welfare of individual Guardpersons
- * Aids the Alabama State Military Department in acquisition and modernization of equipment
- * Provides communication with the business community to improve understanding and support of the mission of the National Guard
- * Works in conjunction with the National Guard Association of the United States to accomplish its mission

For more information visit: <http://www.ngaal.com>. Support the organizations that support YOU!

Even with cuts, military will remain capable, official says

by Jim Garamone

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Defense Department officials will use the military strategy guidance that President Barack Obama announced yesterday to tie numbers to the department's fiscal 2013 budget request, Pentagon Press Secretary George Little said Jan. 6.

The budget request is expected to be delivered to Capitol Hill in early February.

Officials will use the strategy review to set funding levels and priorities as the department seeks to trim \$487 billion through fiscal 2022, Little said.

In a meeting with reporters, Little corrected what he said was a misperception in media coverage that the strategy guidance means the U.S. military will be able to handle only one war going forward.

"The document did not say that we are going down to fight one war," he

said. "What the document said was that we are prepared to address a full spectrum of threats. This country is poised to take on more than one national security challenge at a time."

The military will be postured to defeat aggression and take on challenges from other countries and nonstate actors, he added.

"That is an inviolable principle on the way ahead on our defense strategy," Little said. "It is simply wrong to suggest that we are going back to some one-war construct -- if that ever existed."

Being able to fight two wars has been an important pillar in military doctrine, Little said. Still, the nation must adapt as the threats change and the security landscape has changed.

"We have threats that can come from nation states, we have threats that can come from nonstate actors like

al-Qaida," he said. "We have to be flexible enough and adaptable enough to address contingencies that arise from any of those sources."

"Let me be very clear," he continued. "If we take on more than one threat from a state or nonstate actor, we will be prepared to address those threats, and we will win."

Not everything the Defense Department has done has been tied to a two-war strategy, Little noted.

"We are prepared today to deal with various contingencies," he explained. "There may be new problems that might arise, and new domains. We are thinking ahead, and that is the proper thing to do."

"No one should leave this room thinking that we will only be able to fight one war at a time," he continued. "That is not what the strategic guidance outlines."

National Guard celebrates more than 375 years of service

The military organization we know today as the National Guard came into existence with a direct declaration on December 13, 1636. On this date, the Massachusetts General Court in Salem, for the first time in the history of the North American continent, established that all able-bodied men between the ages of 16 and 60 were required to join the militia. The North, South, and East Regiments were established with this order. The decree excluded ministers and judges. Simply stated, citizen-soldiers who mustered for military training could be and would be called upon to fight when needed.

(Excerpt taken from www.ang.af.mil)



The First Muster in spring 1637; this took place after the December 13, 1636 Massachusetts General Court declaration established three regiments within the colony to defend against enemy attack and preserve settlements, established in the English militia tradition.



TOUCH & GOS

2012 UTA SCHEDULE

January 7-8	May 5-6	September 15-16
February 2-5	June 2-3	October 20-21
March 3-4	July 14-15	November 3-4
April 14-15	August None	December 1-2

DATES TO REMEMBER

Feb 3-6 LCAP
Feb 4-5 UCI
March 3 Wing Dining Out (Embassy Suites)
TBD Wing Bowling Tournament

SPEAKERS' BUREAU

Interested in joining the Alabama National Guard Speakers' Bureau? Contact 187 FW/PA for additional details at (334) 394-7292.

NGB HQ VISIT

Any members interested in visiting the National Guard Bureau headquarters in Washington, DC, 6-8 Mar, should contact the Wing Command Section for additional information. All attendees are required to wear blues for the entire trip. Seats are limited.

GTC/ TRAVEL REMINDER

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

CHAPEL SERVICE

Chapel Service will be held, Sunday, Jan 8, 0800, in building 1501 (Dining Facility). Contact the Chaplain's Office at 334-394-7268 for additional information.

Best Wishes

Command Chief Master Sgt. Cone

