

192D TACTICAL FIGHTER GROUP

VANGUARD



VIRGINIA AIR NATIONAL GUARD

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June 1987

MESSAGE FROM MAJOR GENERAL JOHN B. CONAWAY, DIRECTOR, AIR NATIONAL GUARD

Our highest congratulations to the winners of the 1986 Outstanding Unit

- 107th Tactical Control Squadron, Arizona ANG
- 119th Tactical Control Flight, Tennessee ANG
- 120th Fighter Inteceptor Group, Montana ANG
- 123rd Tactical Reconnaissance Wg Kentucky ANG
- 129th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group, California ANG 130th Tactical Airlift Group,
- West Virginia ANG
- 132nd Tactical Fighter Wing. Iowa ANG
- 133rd Tactical Control Flight, Iowa ANG
- 142nd Fighter Interceptor Group. Oregon ANG
- 154th Composite Group, Hawaii ANG
- 172nd Tactical Airlift Group, Mississippi ANG
- 182nd Tactical Air Support Gp, Illinois ANG
- 185th Tactical Fighter Group. Iowa ANG
- 192nd Tactical Fighter Group, Virginia ANG

The competition was keen, and the success of this program is of vital importance to the Air National Guard.

My congratulations to all units that participated in this year's program. Continue your efforts to provide the Air National Guard with only the best.

Award elements will be sent to the state headquarters for presentation at an appropriate ceremony.





Col Coke, Group Commander is shown receiving the 1986 Outstanding Unit Citation from MG Castles, State Adjutant General.

Rickenbacker wins Savannah Showdown '87

By TSG Ed Kelleher

The 121st Tactical Fighter Wing from Rickenbacker AFB, Ohio, won the Savannah Showdown '87 at Travis Field, Georgia.

The 121TFW will represent the 9th Air Force in worldwide Gunsmoke competition later this year at Nellis AFB, Nevada.

Rickenbacker used superior accuracy and problem-free airplanes to beat runnerup Toledo by 150.75 Rickenbacker's winning points. total was 4,629.5 points.

BG Keith Kramer, Rickenbacker's wing commander, was elated for two His home unit won the reasons. Savannah shootout for the third time in four tries, (1981, 1983, 1987), and the second and third place teams are tactical fighter groups in his wing.

Kramer attributed the strong showing to "teamwork, obviously, and dedication by the air crews and maintenance personnel". Another element for Rickenbacker was "peaking at the right time", he

"I predicted that this would be a two-point spread between Albuquerque and the 121st", Kramer said. Albuquerque, like some of the other

teams, encountered bad luck with weapons and finished 184.25 points behind Rickenbacker. The 180TFG from Toledo took advantage of Albuquerque's lapse to slip ahead into second place.

Col Tom Pape Lt of the Rickenbacker unit, the event's individual Top Gun, was the only pilot to score 600 points or more in both the morning and afternoon events. His 1,259.75 point total for the shootout was 48.75 points ahead of runnerup Lt Col Tom Wittman of the 150TFG from Albuquerque.

Rickenbacker outscored its nearest competitor by more than 100 points in the "pop-up" events -- the the

second mission of the day. said the 121TFW's emphasis on practicing pop-ups, plus "a lot of good guys working on the airplanes", proved the margin of victory.

Pop-ups require a pilot to approach the target at a low altitude, climb quickly and drop his bombs or strafe within a few seconds.

The 192TFG finished fourth, followed by the 178TFG. from Springfield, Ohio, and the 112TFG from Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.

Critics call the B-1B a "Flying Edsel". The crews who would fly it into combat don't agree. Who do you suppose is right?

Lately, the B-1B has been surrounded in controversy as self-proclaimed "experts" have misrepresented its performance and capabilities by applying unrealistic and artificial operational criteria.

The central and overriding fact is that the B-1B is on alert, today, at Dyess AFB, Texas. And the first B-1B to Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota, has been delivered. It is, today, adding to this nation's strategic deterrence. It can, today, deliver large payloads over intercontinental ranges. It can, today, penetrate sophisticated defenses at high speeds and low altitudes. The United States' strategic triad of land based ICBMs, sea-launched ballistic missiles, and the manned bomber keeps reminding the Soviets that they cannot mount a successful "first strike" without a devastating retaliatory response by our strategic forces. The diversity of our triad has increased our margin of safety and stability in crises because an enemy would have to neutralize all three legs to be safe from retaliation.

To be effective, a deterrent must be credible. The B-1B is just that. The B-1B was designed as a nearterm follow-on for the B-52. It gives our manned bomber portion of the triad the quantum improvements in the strategic penetration role needed until the advanced technology bomber enters the inventory in the 1990's. The B-1B penetrates enemy airspace at markedly lower altitudes, and at speeds more than 50 percent greater than the B-52. It carries a larger payload and delivers it with much improved

curacy. And, most importantly, it has a radar cross section 1/100th that of the B-52, greatly improving its survivability.

Five years ago, President Reagan said the B-1B would play a prominent part in his strategic modernization plan, with 100 aircraft being built --the last one to be delivered in the spring of 1988.

That was the plan and it remains

But with any new concept, idea or invention, some problems have developed. Problems are a normal part of the development and test processes for any new system. For a new airplane -- including an airplane as sophisticated as the B-1B -- problems are an accepted part of putting it all together.

Nonetheless, the B-1B's critics have become more vocal recently.

Because these critics learned what what we already knew; flight tests identify problems.

It seems the planned flight test program, which is designed to identify and fix deficiencies in complex subsystems, is doing exactly that. Previously, the B-l was tested extensively to verify airworthiness and the validity of the design. And there are absolutely no questions among the informed on that score.

Testing is now focused on subsystems. Most of the problems have been identified and fixed. These include early problems with fuel leaks and the software in the terrain-following radar. None of this is intended to dismiss the importance of fixing all deficiencies.

One area where more work is required is with the defensive avionics system. It will take longer than originally planned to develop the full potential of the defensive avionics to deal with the most sophisticated future threats.

In the meantime, the aircraft is performing its intended mission, today, against today's threats.

To date, the B-1B is a program the Air Force can be justly proud of. We remain on the production schedule and are within the president's certified cost for the program. Putting the airplane on alert in less than 5 years from program goahead is another major accomplishment.

The B-1B, like the B-52 before it, now provides a significant contribution to our peace and security. And it will continue to do so for the projected 30 years of its life. That's important to know. Especially when so many impatient critics and uniformed detractors seem to have missed the point completely.

This funded Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the VANGUARD are not necessarily the officials views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force, or the Virginia Air National Guard.

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192d Tactical Fighter Group Virginia Air National Guard

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Senior Enlisted Advisor's Report

By CMS Dave Lutz

Senior Enlisted Advisor

With no Vanguard or UTA in May, I am forced to do a lot of catching up with this month's article. I recently attended the ANG Senior NCO Conference in Knoxville, the Virginia National Guard Enlisted Conference in Roanoke, and our Virginia Senior NCO Conference at Camp Pendleton (SMR). If you add the two April UTAs to these, you can see that the schedule has been a little tight!

The ANG Senior NCO Conference is an annual affair and is essentially a two-day briefing on NGB activities (present & planned) given by Major General Conaway and his staff. It is attended by the Senoir Enlisted Advisors from all the states and territories as well as selected Senior NCOs from the units of each

state. It really is a chance to compare notes with others in comparable positions. CMS Murphy, SMS Mantlo, and SMS Fuller (from the 203rd) accompanied me this year.

This year's NG Enlisted Association Conference was, as usual, well organized and as usaual, poorly attenced by you air guards-men! "Green Suiters" out numbered "Blue Suiters" by 525 to 2! I don't know what has to be done to get you interested in this active organization. This conference is a fun weekend for members and their spouses and is highlighted by a full dress military ball. Ask TSgt Robert Lamb about it. He and his wife attended and were much impressed. Sergeant Lamb was the 1986 Guardsman of the Year, and at the conference received the Virginia Bronze Star, a Minuteman Trophy, and a \$50.00 savings bond honoring his accomplishment.

The first Virginia Senior NCO Conference at SMR went very well thanks to the efforts of all that attended and particularly the extra efforts of Bill Murphy and Jim Gwaltney. The 41 attendees really got into the agenda item discussions. Any time a Virginia guardsman has to be reminded twice

that happy hour has started, he has to be totally involved!! A full report on the conference is being assembled and a briefing on its suggestions and recommendations is being prepared. More on this later.

The employer support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) program has the potential of being one of the best retention tools presently available, but has been one in which the Virginia Air Guard has taken little interest. I have asked each squadron commander to appoint a monitor for this program to aid in a drive to take advantage of this valuable tool. I urge you non-technicians to review this program with your squadron monitor and consider recommending your employer for a Guard-Support Certificate if you haven't done so previously. There will be a meeting of all squadron monitors in the State Headquarters conference room at 1400 hours on the Saturday, 6 June UTA.

Now that the new commissary program is in effect, I would like to hear from you who have taken advantage of it, any problems?

The qualified E-8s & E9s who are interested in being the next Senior Enlisted Advisor have been asked to have their resume and cover letter to BG Mattox by 6 June so that interviews and selection can be made on 7 June. This will give me a chance to work with the selected individual until my retirement in August.



Airman Beth Martin receives the Virginia Commendation Medal from BG Alvah Mattox the Assistant Adjutant General for Air. Airman Martin was an honor graduate from Basic Military Training and is assigned to State Headquarters.



NOTICE

All squadron commanders have been asked to appoint squadron monitors for the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve program. There will be a meeting of these squadron monitors in the State Headquarters conference room at 1400 on Saturday 6 June 1987.

Personnel processing for those deploying to Red Flag on 13 June 1987, will be conducted in the Dining Hall on Saturday, 6 June 1987 at 1400 hours. Processing is MANDATORY for those scheduled to deploy.

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS:

Be sure to file a new W-4 with Military Pay immediately. Copies of W-4s are available through the Orderly Room and can be routed to Military Pay through normal distribution.

The Virginia Air National Guard Retired Association meeting will be held in the State Headquarters Conference Room on 11 June 1987 at

Attention personnel who ordered the A7 Models! They are ready to be picked up in Operations. See Mrs. Donner or Major Haynes.

Applications for State Tuition Assistance for the Fall 87 Semester/Quarter must be submitted no later than July UTA. This is for courses beginning 15 August or beyond. Applications can be obtained from MSgt John Rollings, Base Career Advisor, ext. 318. Red Horse personnel can obtain an application from MSgt Larry Harris in the Headquarters building.

FATHER'S DAY



Beaming with pride, a young military dad receives a tearful greeting from his baby daughter.

SOCIAL ACTIONS

By 2Lt Steve Wrenn

There is a natural tendency to declare a judgement of classes of people or things based on scant knowledge. Life is so short and the demands upon us for practical adjustment to everyday situations so great that we often cannot allow what we do not know to interfere with our daily lives. We must decide, sometimes quickly, whether something is "good or bad" by classes since we cannot weigh each object in the world by itself. Unfortunately, the information on which we base these decisions is often faulty.

When we speak of prejudice, we must realize that every generalization is not a prejudice. Some are misconceptions based on wrong information; i.e. an erroneous prejudgment. If a person is capable of correcting erroneous prejudgments in the light of new evidence, the person might not be considered Prejudgments become prejudiced. prejudices only if they are not reversible when exposed to new knowledge. A prejudice, unlike a misconception, is actively resistant to all evidence that would change it. Prejudiced individuals will almost certainly claim they have sufficient warrant for their views and tend to grow emotional, sometimes highly, when a prejudice is threatened with a contradiction. Thus, a big dif-ference between an ordinary pre-judgment and prejudice is that one can discuss and correct a prejudgment without this 'emotional resistance.

We must not allow our prejudgments to turn into prejudices, but instead be flexible and open-minded when introduced to new information. Remember, prejudice is not strictly a race issue, but also draws its nourishment from conditions such as economic exploitation, social structure, social norms, fears, aggressions, sex conflicts, and more.

Tickets, tickets, tickets

DISCOUNT TICKETS, JAMESTOWN FESTIVAL PARK AND YORKTOWN'S VICTOR CENTER

The Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation is offering a special discount on admission to Jamestown Festival Park and the Yorktown Victory Center to members of the Virginia National Guard.

Any National Guard member who Jamestown Festival Park visits Victory. Center and/or Yorktown present his/her valid should. National Guard identification card at the ticket desk at either museum to receive a discount. The regular and discounted rates for Guard personnel are as follows:

Jamestown Festival Park OR Yorktown Victory Center

 Reg. Rates
 NG Rates

 Adults (6-12)
 \$5.00 \$4.50 \$2.25

Jamestown Festival Park
AND
Yorktown Victory Center

	Reg. Rates	NG Rates
Adults	\$8.00	\$7.00
(6-12)	\$4.00	\$3.50

This offer is valid until December 31, 1987. The discount is extended to the Guard member presenting identification and accompanying members of his/her immediate family. There is no limit to the number of times the discount may be used during the year. This discount was made possible through an inquiry of a Guard member in the Norfolk area. Other Guard members may wish to contact local recreational, historical and tourist attractions to inquire about discounts for members of the National Guard. POC is State Affairs Officer, Mary Public Sunderlin, (804) 344-4103.

NEW IN '87





Busch Gardens Amusement Park is offering special discount tickets to members of the Virginia Air National Guard and their families, that can be used anytime during the season. The regular one day admission price of \$16.95 has been reduced to \$13.25 per ticket, a savings of \$3.70 per ticket. Tickets will bear no specified date for use so they can be used any day of the season.

Tickets can be purchased from MSgt John Rollings, Base Career Advisor, or by mailing a check written to: VaANG Contingency Fund and mailed to 192d TFG, P.O. Box 297, Sandston, Va 23150-0297, ATTN: MSgt John Rollings.

We appreciate the continued support of Busch Gardens and are always exploring avenues for additional benefits for our personnel. I hope your summer activities will include a visit to Busch Gardens.

Kings Dominion

Doswell, VA 23047 • (804) 876-5000

KINGS DOMINION'S GUARD WEEKEND

Kings Dominion is offering special discount tickets to members of the Virginia Air National Guard and their families that can be used any day during the entire season. The regular one day admission price of \$15.95 has been reduced to \$11.75, a savings of \$4.20 per ticket. Tickets will bear no specified date for use. They can be used any day of the 1987 season.

Also Kings Dominion is sponsoring a "Virginia National Guard Weekend" on September 5, 6, and 7, 1987. The regular one day admission price of \$15.95 has been reduced to \$8.95, a savings of \$7.00 per ticket. These special weekend tickets will be good only on these 3 days. No uniforms will be required. Tickets for the "National Guard Weekend" or the "any day" tickets can be purchased from MSgt John Rollings, Base Career Advisor.

Meredith named Recruiter of the Year

By SMS Charlie Udriet

The Virginia Air National Guard Recruiter of the Year for fiscal year 1986 is Technical Sergeant Lloyd L. Meredith. Meredith has done an outstanding job since becoming a recruiter with the Virginia Air Guard. He averaged 5 recruits a month during fiscal year 1986, well above the national average of 3. He also had the largest single month of enlistments since 1978 by a recruiter, which was 12. On top of that he has entered 36 individuals into BMT during the last two years, with no eliminations. I know you all join me in congratulating Lloyd on his superior performance and selection. Sergeant Meredith will receive the Virginia National Guard Commendation Medal, a Certificate of Commendation from the Governor and Adjutant General, and a Certificate of appreciation from the Chief of Staff for his outstanding achievements. TSgt Meredith also was awarded the Air Force Achievement Medal for outstanding service to the Air Guard recruiting program, 1 October 1984 to 5 February 1987. Lloyd is certainly an example for us all to follow and we thank him for the long hours and hard work he has given to recruiting and the Virginia Air National Guard.

SMOKING is a mark of distinction!

CONTRACTING CORNER

WHO CAN OBLIGATE THE GOVERNMENT?

Only those persons duly appointed as Contracting Officers are authorized to issue contracts or otherwise obligate the government for the purchase of supplies or services. Individuals appointed to these positions are responsible ONLY for their own acts and are prohibited from ratifying the unauthorized acts of others. DON'T JEOPARDIZE YOUR MILITARY CAREER BY ENGAGING IN UNAUTHORIZED CONTRACTING PROCEDURES! NEXT MONTH: UNAUTHORIZED PURCHASES.

Personnel Update

OFFICER APPLICATIONS BEING ACCEPTED

The CBPO is currently accepting applications from individuals who are interested in obtaining a commission in the unit. The 192d TFG Commander's policy for filling vacant non-rated/non-professional positions within the unit is that a pool of applicants be established at the beginning of each fiscal year (1 October). The pool will consist of 6 individuals. These 6 individuals will be selected from all applications received, and those who meet the necessary qualification requirements. Individuals who are placed in the pool are reminded that should they not be selected for a vacant position during the year, they must reapply the following year. They are not automatically retained in the pool at the beginning of the new fiscal year. Some of the basic requirements for a commission are as

1. AGE: Individuals approaching the maximum commissioning age must have their application initiated NLT their 34th birthday. Absolutely no age waivers will be considered.

2. EDUCATION: A bachelors degree is desired. Waivers of education will be considered. Requirements for a waiver will be explained to you in detail by a CBPO representative.

3. TEST REQUIREMENTS: All applicants must take the Air Force Officer Qualifying Test. If you have previously tested, your test scores cannot be more than 2 years old. If so, you must retest. Please contact the CBPO immediately to schedule a time. Required qualifying score requirements will be explained by a CBPO representative. Deadline for submission of application is 1 July 1987. Applications received after that date will not be considered. If applicants qualify on the AFOQT, they will be required to furnish the

CBPO additional documents/information to be put before the selection board for review. Failure to furnish the required information within the specified date will result in the application not being considered.

For those individuals interested in becoming officers in the VaANG, contact CMS Norman, MSG Brown, or SSG Odom of the CBPO, Ext. 381/309. PROMOTIONS

This is a reminder that all Deserving Airmen Promotion requests to the grades of E-6/E-7 must be submitted to the CBPO NLT 1 August 1987. Any requests received after that date will not be accepted.

Deserving Airmen Promotion requests to the grade of E-5 may be submitted monthly IAW ANGR 39-29. If you have any questions concerning promotions, please contact CMS Norman, MSG Brown, or SSG Odom, CBPO, Ext. 309/381.

UNDERGRADUATE PILOT TRAINING

The CBPO is currently accepting applications from individuals who are interested in obtaining an Undergraduate Pilot Training (UPT) position for fiscal year 89. Applicants must complete AMS and enter undergraduate flying training before reaching age 27 1/2. Those individuals interested in applying, please contact CMS Norman, MSG Brown, or SSG Odom of the CBPO, Ext. 381/309 for further details. Deadline for submission of applications is 1 July 1987.

AIR FORCE AID SOCIETY

The Air Force Aid Society spent more than \$20 million to help more than 33,000 people during 1986. People with the rank of Technical Sergeant or below received the majority of the aid society's interest-free loans and grants.

Of particular importance to members of the Air National Guard are the guaranteed student loan and parent loan programs, which helped more than 4,000 people last year.

Since 1942, the Air Force Aid Society has been the Air Force's official charity. The society relies heavily on personal contributions, which totaled \$4.5 million in 1986.

In recent years, the 192d Tactical Fighter Group has stayed at or near the top of the list of reserve force organizations donating to the society.

2 out of 3 not good enough

By Captain Paul Kitchen

Friday afternoon and a meritorious early secure brought a beautiful blue sky, and a weekend forecast for two days of pure sun that made me feel happly just to be alive. My adrenaline was pumping just thinking of the spring weekend ahead. Driving home, I could see that my passenger was equally entranced in the thought. HEY! WHAT'S THAT GUY DOING! SCREECH! CRASH! -- silence. What in the world happened? looked to my passenger to see him slouched in his seat, the front dash smashed in and the windshield shat-He was semi-conscious after slamming against the window and dash. "Jim, are you okay?" "Yeah, I think so", he mumbled. My thoughts then turned to myself. I'm still in my seat, upright, hands on the steering wheel. Jim is hurt pretty bad, but I feel fine. My sunglasses are still on!

Just then it hit me....My seatbelt. I had my seatbelt on. The man in the car who had hit us was already out of his car to assist us. Hey, he looks okay too. "Are you okay?", he asked. "Yeah, I'm fine", I said, "but we need to get some help for my friend." This guy either had his seatbelt on or he does this for living, I thought. I then asked him if he was okay and he said he was fine. "I had my seatbelt on."

I could hardly believe it. It happened so fast. The noise was so sickening, yet I was fine, the other guy was fine, but my passenger was pretty banged up. It is hard to even relate to you the almost religious feeling I had in thanking myself for putting on that seatbelt, especially as I stood there watching my friend go through all that pain. It was as graphic a scene as one could imagine -- what a difference wearing seatbelts can make! The

saying "two out of three isn't bad",
unfortunately doesn't apply here....
just ask my friend!

Oh by the way, I just settled with the other guy's insurance company. My late model BMW will be replaced and Jim will be receiving two jars of Porcelana to cover his bruises! PLEASE BUCKLE UP.

Are you putting me on?

ON THE SUPPLY SIDE

Military clothing, it's impact on Air Guard personnel

All enlisted individuals in the Virginia Air Guard are entitled to in the uniform clothing issue from Base Supply (Retail Sales). This is a great benefit for all of us! All that is required is a valid military ID. card and the turn in of the article being replaced. We strive to give fast, accurate and courteous service to all our customers. On occasion service is interrupted due to funding or materiel shortages. When this occurs your patience is required until the situation is rectified. Base Supply is responsible for providing clothing to over 1000 individuals in the Virginia Air Guard including GSUs. This is quite a workload and an expensive one too! Just think about it, a full issue of clothing for males and females average over \$400 per person. It doesn't take a mathematical genius to realize we spend a few bucks to supply clothing to everyone! With this in mind, please keep your military clothing in good condition for maximum life span. Don't order needlessly because the money you are spending is your tax dollars.

Included in this article is a list of all MANDATORY clothing items which YOU are required to have ready, serviceable and complete at all times. Please review this list and if you have a question or problem contact us at extension 525. That number again is 525!

Our hours of operation in Retail Sales on UTAs are: 0900-1600 Saturday, and 0800-1400 Sunday. Yes, we are open during lunch for your convenience!

PERSONAL CLOTHING - MALE AIRMEN

1-Bag Duffel 1-Belt Ctn Web Blue 1-Belt Ctn Web Blue w/ Blk Clip 1-Boot Combat 1-Buckle Black 1-Buckle Nickel Silver 1-Cap Gar Trop W1 B1 2-Cap Hot Weather OG 1-Cap Svc Trop W1 B1 1-Cover Svc Cap 3-Drawers Ctn White 1-Gloves Leather Blk Wl Lined 4-Handkerchief White 1-Insignia BOS US 4-Insignia Distg USAF Subdued 4-Insignia GR E-2(3")/E-3 4-Insignia GR E-2(4")/E-3 4-Insignia GR E-2(4")E-3 Sub 2-Insignia GR E-2 Metal/E-3

1-Insignia Svc Cap
4-Insignia Tape Individual
2-Name Tag
1-Necktie WI Blue
3-Shirt Ctn/Poly OG
3-Shirt Man's Ctn/Poly SS
2-Shirt Man's LS w/ Epaulets
1-Shoe Dress Black
4-Socks Ctn/Nyl Blk
4-Socks Ctn/Nyl WI Blk
2-Towel Bath
3-Trousers Ctn/Ply OG
3-Trousers WI Trop Blue
3-Undershirts Ctn White

PERSONAL CLOTHING - FEMALE AIRMEN

1-Bag Duffel 1-Belt Ctn Web Bl 1-Buckle Black 1-Cap Hot Weather 1-Coat(Pant Suit) Blue 1-Gloves Lea Blk Lined 1-Handbag Plastic Blk 1-Insignia Beret & Svc Cap 1-Insignia Bos US 4-Insignia Dist USAF Subdued 4-Insignia GR E-2(3") E-3 4-Insignia GR E-2(3") E-3 Sub 4-Insignia Gr E-2(Metal) E-3 4-Insignia Tape Idividual 1-Liner Raincoat Blk 2-Name Tag 1-Raincoat Ctn/Poly w/ Epaulets 3-Shirt Ctn/Poly Dur S/s 2-Shirt Ctn/Poly LS 2-Shirt Ctn/Poly OG 2-Shoes Oxford Blk 2-Skirt Poly/Wl Blue 2-Slacks(Pants Suit) Blue 2-Slacks Ctn/Poly OG 4-Socks Ctn/Nylon Blk 1-Towel Bath Ctn Wht 2-Undershirt Ctn Wht 2-Beret Blue

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VIRGINIA AIR NATIONAL GUARD

HEADQUARTERS, 192D TACTICAL FIGHTER GROUP RICHMOND INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT SANDSTON, VIRGINIA 23150-0297 -

REPLY TO ATTN OF:

192 TFG/Commander

22 May 1987

SUBJECT:

Ninth Air Force A-7 Shootoff

To: All 192 TFG Personnel

On 6-8 May 87 at Savannah, Georgia, the VaANG hosted the 9th Air Force A-7 Competition to determine which unit would proceed to Nellis AFB for Gunsmoke '87 Competition. Although the 192 TFG did not win the competition, we did demonstrate that the Virginia Air National Guard is a "class act" across the board. As host, we supported the operation and competition in an outstanding manner.

The grand finale was the awards ceremony on 9 May. The ceremony was the best the VaANG has put on to date. Every unit and guest bestowed great praise upon our hospitality and the outstanding quality of the event. The camaraderie, the cohesiveness, and the outstanding positive attitude of the unit sets the mark for all other units to attain. It would surprise me if any unit reaches the mark we demonstrated on 9 May 87.

The number of individuals to thank is too great to list. This may sound cliche, but it is not. All too often the quarterback gets the praise while the center, guards, and tackles get dirty. I realize the amount of labor involved to put on such a show and from the bottom of my heart I appreciate each and every individual's contribution. The Virginia Air National Guard already has an outstanding reputation nationwide and your effort throughout the competion will spectacularly add to our reputation as "one of the best".

Thank you.

HARTWELL F. COKE, IV, Colonel, VaANG

Commander

