

VIRGINIA AIR NATIONAL GUARD
Headquarters, 192d Tactical Fighter Group
Richmond International Airport
Sandston, Virginia 23150

SPECIAL ORDER
A-25-Va

20 October 1987

1. UP Sec 502, Title 32, USC Sec 206, Title 37, USC; ANGR 50-01 and 192TFGR 50-01. All members of the 192d Tactical Fighter Group and assigned units, are hereby ordered to attend all Unit Training Assemblies shown on this training schedule at Richmond IAP, Sandston, VA 23150.

UTAs

07 Nov 87	Mobility Exercise
08 Nov 87	Flying & OJT in sections.
05 & 06 Dec 87	
09 & 10 Jan 88	
06 & 07 Feb 88	
27 & 28 Feb 88	12-26 March 1988 - Annual Field Training
09 & 10 Apr 88	
14 & 15 May 88	
11 & 12 Jun 88	
09 & 10 Jul 88	
13 & 14 Aug 88	
17 & 18 Sep 88	
01 & 02 Oct 88	
05 & 06 Nov 88	
03 & 04 Dec 88	

2. AM Assemblies will be 0800-1200 (Sat) 0700-1100 (Sun) and PM Assemblies will be 1300-1700 (Sat) 1200-1600 (Sun), with the following exceptions: Assembly for one flight of Food Service Personnel will be as follows: AM 0630-1030 (Sat) 0530-0930 (Sun), PM 1100-1530 (Sat) 1000-1430 (Sun). Additional duty hours to cover special work requirements such as pre-flight, post-flight, etc, will be scheduled by each unit as required. Each UTA will be no less than four hours duration excluding lunch periods.

3. Uniform will be fatigues for non-flying personnel on Saturday, 7 November 1987. Uniform will be lightweight blues or fatigues on Sunday, 8 November 1987.

4. Excused absences from UTAs must be for reasonable cause and must be mutually arranged in advance by the individual and his/her commander. To be excused, an absence must be made up thru Equivalent Training (EQT) or Split Unit Training Assembly (SUTA). SUTAs must be performed for the convenience of the government and in the same month as the UTA. EQTs with pay must be performed within 60 days after scheduled UTA, but within the same fiscal quarter. Only four EQTs (1 weekend) with pay are permitted each Fiscal Year.

FOR THE COMMANDER


HERBERT C. CHILDRESS, SMSgt, VaANG
Support Services Supervisor

DIST: "A" Plus 1 Ea: TAC/ADUBO; TAC/CRFG;
9th AF/CRFG & IG; NGB/XOS & TE; 1913th ISG/CC
(AFCC); 1st TFW/DO; 1st SUPS/CC; 127th
TFW/DA; 1st CSG/DPMD.



192D TACTICAL FIGHTER GROUP

VANGUARD

VIRGINIA AIR NATIONAL GUARD



31st Year, No. 11

Richmond IAP, Sandston, Virginia

November 1987

Avionics

Hodges and Brown to retire

SMSGt George W. Hodges, Jr., Weapons Control System Supervisor, retired from the Virginia Air National Guard on 1 October 1987 after a 21 year career.

George, a Henrico county resident living in Highland Springs, joined the Guard in 1966 and soon became a full time technician. He worked in the Avionics Branch of 192d CAMS and maintained weapons delivery systems on F-84s, F-105s, and A-7 aircraft. His positive, cooperative attitude and dedication were invaluable assets to the unit. His technical expertise and demonstrated job competence were called upon on many important deployments. Some of his most important assignments were with the Gunsmoke teams of 1983 and 1985, and his involvement in 30mm gun pod testing at Nellis AFB in 1984. Recently he was awarded the Air Force Commendation Medal for his outstanding service. He served as Squadron Career Advisor for Avionics and helped the unit on numerous community service projects. He was also a member of the Base Pistol Team until 1986.

He is married to the former Barbara Anne Critz. They have five children; four girls and one boy, and two grandsons. George is a member of Newbridge Baptist Church where he is a deacon, and sings in the choir and quartet. His hobbies include Nascar racing, fishing, crabbing, pistol shooting, and motorcycling (preferably on a Harley Davidson Sportster).

At the present time George has been diagnosed as having cancer. This would seem to be an unbearable burden for the average person. George indicated that his personal relationship with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and the support he receives from his many friends, give him a positive attitude, and makes his burdens much easier to bear.

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MSgt Bobby Mantlo (beneath airplane) readies a fire hose to douse the Shurleys after their return from gunnery range.

John Shurley's last/first flight

By TSG Ed Kelleher

LtCol John R. Shurley III had logged more than 4,000 hours in jet fighters, including 214 combat missions over Vietnam. He wanted to make his final flight a special one.

That he did.

Colonel Shurley, until recently, was commander of the 149th Tactical Fighter Squadron. At 49, he was about to make a career change. From now on, he would be "flying a desk" as commander of the newly formed 192d Mission Support Squadron. His 27 years as a fighter pilot had come to an end.

For his final flight piloting a jet fighter, Colonel Shurley made two dreams come true, his and his son's. He flew a two-seat model with his son, Jay, in the back seat. This particular aircraft also happened to be Colonel Shurley's aircraft "Rebel Rider" with his name on the aircraft.

Senior Airman John G. "Jay" Shurley, as an electronic warfare countermeasures specialist in the Virginia Air Guard, was eligible for an orientation flight. He had never

flown with his father in a jet fighter.

"When I first thought about planning for my last flight I had thought that I would fly "Rebel Rider" with Dennis Hendricks in the back seat." TSgt Dennis Hendricks is the crew chief for "Rebel Rider". Shurley and Hendricks have been together as pilot and crew chief with the "Rebel Rider" nose art on three different airplanes, including an F-105, for about nine years. "However, when I realized my son was eligible for an orientation flight, I knew this was an opportunity I could not let pass. TSgt Hendricks had previously had an orientation flight, and that made my decision easier."

"I think maybe had I been flying by myself that I would have been somewhat remorseful about it being my last flight, wondering if I were doing the right thing," Colonel Shurley said. However, he said, "I'd have to honestly say that I was so thrilled about the opportunity to have my son fly with me that it

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Hodges and Brown...

We in the Virginia Air National Guard wish George and his family the very best. May the Lord bless him.



SMS George W. Hodges Jr.

MSgt William R. Brown will be retiring from the Virginia Air Guard on 21 November 1987. Sergeant Brown has been with the VaANG since 1963 and will be retiring with 33 years total service. He has been assigned as the 192d CAMS Avionics Branch Chief since 1981. During that period the branch has received nothing less than excellent ratings on UEIs and ORIs.

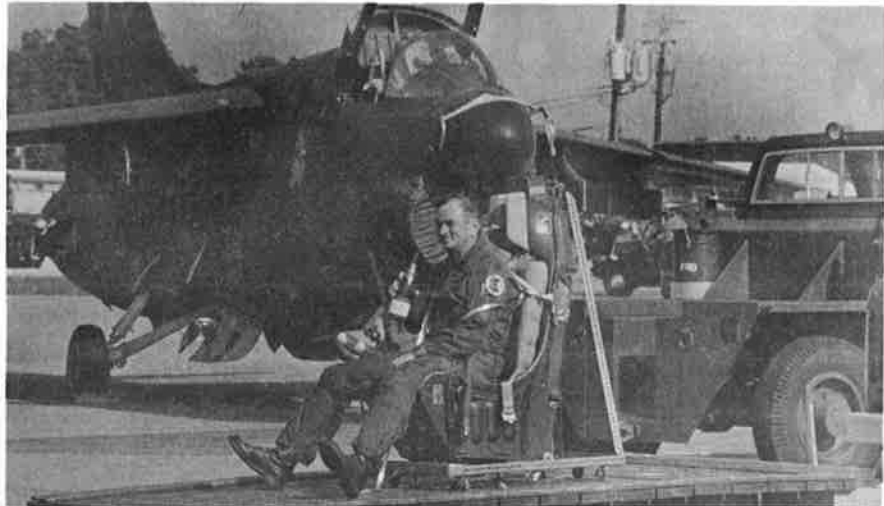
Bill is married to the former Dorothy Snoddy and they reside in Highland Springs. They have three children, one girl and two boys. He is a member of Newbridge Baptist Church and his hobbies are golfing and traveling. When asked about his plans for the future, he replied, "just enjoying myself".



MSG William R. Brown

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Shurley...



Col. John R. Shurley III gets champagne and ceremonial ride to operations building in ejection seat.

never sank in that it was my last flight."

The Shurleys took off September 23 leading three other A-7s on a training mission to the Navy's Dare County bombing range in North Carolina. Shurley the father dropped six bombs, four of them direct hits. Shurley the son was impressed.

Jay Shurley, hampered by poor eyesight, has known since childhood that it would be futile to aspire to do what his dad did for a living -- fly fighters.

"I knew all along I'd never be able to fly," the younger Shurley said. "That (flight) was a dream come true. When my dad told me I was going to get to fly,...at first I didn't believe him, I guess because I didn't want my hopes to get high."

Then he realized his father was serious about the offer.

"I told everybody I knew, I was so excited. And the more I talked about it the more excited I got. Before I went up, I was so nervous I thought I was going to get sick," Airman Shurley said.

"Once we got under way, my stomach settled down," he said. "Dad explained what the pilots should be watching for on all the instruments. He let me take the controls for a little while."

The emotional impact of the moment didn't escape Colonel Shurley either.

"I considered it the chance of a lifetime for the two of us to fly together," he said.

If his farewell flight marked the end of an era for John Shurley, it

also cemented a personal bond between him and his son.

"When we landed, I almost wanted to cry because I didn't want it to end," Airman Shurley said. "And then I almost got a grip on what my dad must be feeling, knowing that he'd done it all his life. And for me it was just this one time. Knowing it might be my last one, too, it was kind of tough."

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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Virginia Air National Guard

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Enlisted Advisor's Report

By SMS Edgar Waldron
Senior Enlisted Advisor

Did you know the Virginia Air National Guard has the only Guard or Reserve Weather Squadron in existence?

The 200th Weather Squadron, located at Langley Air Force Base, Virginia is unique. It never takes an observation or puts out a forecast. The primary mission of the 200th is to provide guidance and assist the 38 weather flights which are scattered across the country in achieving operational readiness.

The Weather Squadron consists of 12 people, headed up by LtCol Thomas Week as the commander and LtCol Nathaniel Williams, the Administrative officer, who pointed out that nearly all of the weather flights are dedicated to Army support, from the foot soldier to full divisions. This means that our weather people must learn skills in survival, map reading, wearing gas masks, camouflage, and putting up tents. They must also develop and arrange for classes in such things as documenting the phases of Army training and reporting unit manning against the wartime tasking. Being the coordination focal point requires that the 200th represent the weather program and the Guard Bureau in many planning conferences and work sessions. Adding a half dozen or so of these meetings to a schedule which already includes about 24 assistance visits each year to flights they support, both at home and at annual field training, keep the twelve folks of the 200th hopping. A special thanks go to them for making my visit there both educational and enjoyable.

A word of thanks to all members of the Virginia Air National Guard who nominated their employer for special recognition through the awards program sponsored by the National

Committee For Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (EGR). The third quarter of 1987 was a huge success, with 80 employers nominated, each of whom will receive a certificate of appreciation. Nominations may be submitted at any time. There is no cut off date, and the program is a continuing effort. If you haven't done so already, let's show our sincere appreciation to those employers who support a strong Guard by recommending them for an EGR certificate.



CMS Mebane is shown receiving his new stripes from Chief of Staff VaANG Col Al Washington (right) and Senior Enlisted Advisor SMS Edgar Waldron.

Mebane promoted to Chief Master Sergeant

By Maj Sally Morger

The Virginia Air Guard's historical annals acquired another entry last month when William "Bill" Mebane became the first black member to be promoted to Chief Master Sergeant.

Mebane joined the Virginia Guard's 200th Weather Squadron at Langley AFB in 1971 following a four-year stint with the Air Force. In 1983 he transferred to State Headquarters where he is the unit's acting first

sergeant and the administrative superintendent for the chief of staff and assistant adjutant general for air. He attended the NCO Academy in Knoxville, Tennessee, and completed the Senior NCO Academy by correspondence.

The chief lives in Hampton with his wife Roberta and son Darnell. Out of uniform, Mebane is the assistant principal at Smithfield High School in Smithfield.

News Briefs

VaANG RETIREE'S ASSOCIATION ** NEWS **

The Virginia Air National Guard Retired Association will have a covered dish dinner at 1830, 12 November 1987 at Club 149. Meat (roast beef and ham), tossed salad and beverages will be purchased with funds from the Association treasury and prepared by SMSgt (Ret) Germain, assisted by the Entertainment Committee. Members and their spouses should bring a covered dish of their choice to this function. The meeting will be held after dinner.

ATTENTION CLUB MEMBERS

There will be a general club membership meeting on 3 December 1987 at 1700 in the club. The main purpose of this meeting is to elect new club council members.

STATE TUITION ASSISTANCE

Applications for State Tuition Assistance for the Winter quarter/Spring semester must be submitted no later than the November UTA. This is for courses beginning 15 December or beyond. Applications can be obtained from MSgt John Rollings, Base Career Advisor. RED HORSE personnel can obtain applications from MSgt Larry Harris.

LITHOGRAPHS AVAILABLE

The base public affairs office has recently received a new collection of Air Force lithographs. Sections who want copies for their offices or work areas can stop by the Public Affairs Office in the O&T Building and pick up some.

40th Anniversary Celebration

The Virginia Air National Guard celebrated its 40th Anniversary with a cake-cutting ceremony during the October UTA. Brig Gen Alvah S. Mattox, Jr., deputy adjutant general for air, and Colonel Hartwell F. Coke, IV, commander of the 192 Tactical Fighter Group, the Virginia Air Guard's flying unit, cut a cake baked for the occasion by the unit's food service personnel.

Additional ceremonies included attaching the streamer of the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award to the 192 TFG's guidon. The unit received the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

earlier this year for its performance in 1985 and 1986.

The Virginia Air Guard traces its history back to the end of World War II when the Pentagon notified Gov Bill Tuck that an Air National Guard unit would be assigned to Virginia. The adjutant general of Virginia, Gen S. Gardner Waller, appointed an organizing committee of leading area Air Force reserve officers. The committee was headed by Col Ivor Massey. The unit received both federal recognition and its first aircraft, F-47 Thunderbolts, in the summer of 1947.

Unit members enjoy the anniversary cake.



THE VIRGINIA NATIONAL GUARD COMMENDATION MEDAL

The members of the 192d TFG Awards Board for the Virginia National Guard Commendation Medal (VaNGCM) have been pleased with the increase in the number of award packages received within the past 12 months. Board members encourage recommendations for the VaNGCM to outstanding members of the VaANG and look forward to receiving more. Mission readiness could not be maintained without the contributions and dedication of the individuals.

As stated in VaANGR 900-8, Decorations, Awards, and Honors, the criteria for the VaNGCM are:

- The VaNGCM may be awarded for an outstanding act, achievement, or service rendered by any commissioned officer, warrant officer, enlisted person or civilian, to, or on behalf of, the Virginia National Guard.

- This award shall recognize those individuals, military and civilian whose outstanding acts, exemplary services, and/or achievements are worthy of recognition, and which were accomplished with distinction.

- The Commendation Medal may be awarded to individuals who have performed periods of service in an outstanding manner above that required in the normal performance of their duty.

- The required act, achievement or service, while of a lesser degree than that required for the award of the Virginia National Guard Bronze Star, must, nevertheless, have been outstanding to the extent that it warrants special recognition.

- The Virginia National Guard Commendation Medal shall be awarded to the enlisted person selected as the Best Soldier/NCO of the Year by a Selection Board to be appointed annually by the Adjutant General of Virginia. (Ref: VaANGR 672-10 and VaANGR 900-7).

It is suggested that squadron commanders recommend award of the VaNGCM to individuals who graduate with honors from BMT, Tech and PME schools. These members and their outstanding accomplishments are truly worthy of recognition as they eminently represent the 192d TFG and the state of Virginia while on active duty.

Regardless of rank or position anyone can nominate another individual for award of the VaNGCM. For further details contact SSgt Karol Crane, ext 310.

Depressing Fact

Alcohol is a depressant. It slows a driver's ability to think and react.

Group is restructured

By Maj Frank McNally
Public Affairs Officer

The National Guard Bureau has restructured its Air National Guard groups, resulting in a number of new command assignments in the Virginia Air National Guard.

The Virginia Air Guard's main component, the 192 Tactical Fighter Group, has added a fourth deputy commander to its command structure - deputy commander for support.

The objective of the restructuring is to have all of the unit's service-oriented organizations report to one commander.

Reporting to the new deputy commander for support are the commander of the Civil Engineering Squadron and the commander of the Mission Support Squadron, a newly created unit composed of the Consolidated Base Personnel Office, Social Actions, Base Training, Services Flight, Legal Services, the Base Administration office (now called Customer Support) and the Weapons System Security Flight. The chaplain, staff judge advocate, historian and public affairs office also report to the deputy commander for support.

LtCol Autry N. Noblitt, formerly commander of the Combat Support Squadron, has been named deputy commander for support.

LtCol John R. Shurley III, formerly commander of the 149 Tactical Fighter Squadron, has been named commander of the Mission Support Squadron. His executive officer is Maj Lawrence A. Cousins, formerly base administration chief.

In other organizational changes, Maj David G. Phillips Jr. has been named commander of the Resource Management Squadron. His job includes some duties previously performed by LtCol Basil H. Evans Jr., who served as both deputy commander for resources and commander of the Resources Management Squadron. Phillips now reports to Evans, who continues his duties as deputy commander for resources.

LtCol Terry Maynard succeeded Shurley as commander of the 149 Tactical Fighter Squadron. LtCol William C. Jones Jr., who was chief of standardization and evaluation for the fighter squadron, succeeded Maynard as squadron operations officer.



RETIREMENTS PRIOR TO AGE 60

Ref: Msg dated 271605Z Jul 87

Hq ARPC has advised that they are receiving telephone calls indicating that members are being barred from applying for retirement unless they have their certificate of eligibility (20-year letter) in hand. Although ANGR 39-10 conveys that meaning, that is not the intent. For those who elect retirement, send applications (AF Form 131) at least 60 days, but no more than 90 days prior to the date the member contends he/she has the necessary time for retirement. However, in the absence of the certificate of eligibility, the CBPO representative should call ARPC/DPAR Retirement Branch to alert them to the forthcoming application. As an added precaution, and to preclude any misunderstanding, a statement in the remarks section of the retirement action notice to the effect of, "If 20 years of satisfactory service have not been completed as of the effective date then this transaction is null and void", is suggested. This will alert ARPC's Retirement Branch to fully audit the record and notify the unit if that date is not valid.



Chaplain's Corner

By Chaplain Smith

From the ancient times of the Old Testament, God's people have set aside time for fasting and for feasting, for mourning and for praising. Our country sets aside a day for feasting and thanking God for His generous bounty toward us. Thanksgiving is that day in November. How do we spend it? Blessed are we if Thanksgiving can be a day of edifying worship, prayer, and praise, and of joyful feasting and family reunions!

It would be a good practice to reflect on all God's blessings to us by making a list of the things we receive from His generous hand. Whether our list is long or short is not the point of thankfulness - a recognition of God as the source of everything. "Come Thankful People Come", and reflect on who our God is and His blessing, even if our outward circumstances leave much to be desired.

Attack Response Exercise accomplishes necessary training

The 192 TFG conducted an attack response exercise during the October UTA. The exercise is part of the unit's preparation for the upcoming Operational Readiness Inspection in March 1988.

"We accomplished what we set out to do," Maj Ray Turner, group training officer, said Sunday afternoon during a recap of the exercise activities.

"Everyone is now thinking chemical protection suits and the buddy system," Turner said. "What we did Sunday was a good first shot at preparing ourselves for the ORI. There was some confusion over some of the scenarios, but we should be able to get the bugs out of our operation by being a little more attentive to details. We need to show a greater sense of urgency for the ORI."

A mobility exercise will be conducted during the November drill to prepare the unit for that part of the ORI. About 200 Guardsmen will be asked to process through the mobility line. Flu shots will also be given as part of the processing.

Drug abuse and the Guard

By 2Lt Robert Namiot
Social Actions Office

Lately, some of us have been asking the question, "Why is the Guard so concerned with drug testing?"

There are several good answers to this question. Let's look at them.

First, and most obvious, is that the use, sale, or transport of illegal substances on military bases is forbidden by regulations. A pretty good reason in itself, don't you think? Since the Virginia Air Guard began a year ago, four airmen have been discharged as a result of traces of drugs showing up in their systems. But there is more, much more.

How about the health and well-being of the drug user and people the user has contact with? Last year, for the first time, there were more recorded hospital admissions in one month for the treatment of cocaine abuse than for the treatment of alcohol abuse! Clearly, drug usage seriously affects one's health, both mental and physical. If a Guard member is sick and unable to do the job because of the effects of drug abuse, then the person has become a liability to the Guard.

Statistics reveal that people influenced by drugs can, at best, function at about 65 percent of their normal level. Considering the element of danger in some jobs performed by Air Guard personnel, I don't think 65 percent is good enough! Would you like to load a bomb, fight a fire, drive a forklift, service electrical equipment or fuel a plane with someone who is performing at a fraction of normal level? NOT ME!

Another area affected by drug usage is productivity. Drug users,

in general, lose three times as much job time for health reasons as the average worker. Keeping lost time to a minimum is a major factor in the Guard's ability to achieve its mission objectives.

So then, why is the Guard so interested in the drug testing program? They cost us in time, health, safety, performance, and money. These things can prevent the Air National Guard from working most effectively to achieve its goals.

WEARING THE COMBAT READINESS MEDAL

The medal is awarded to Air Force active duty, Guard and Reserve members and members of other services who are certified as combat ready while working with a weapon system.

The medal is awarded now for completing 24 months of qualifying service and a bronze oak leaf cluster is awarded for each additional 24 months of service. Previously, the medal was awarded after 36 months of qualifying service.

The change resulted from a 1986 model installation program proposal.

All qualifying service prior to Oct 1, 1985, will be applied first under the previous 36-month eligibility criteria. Up to 24 months of service accumulated prior to Oct 1, 1985, may be carried over and applied to the new eligibility criteria.

For additional information, contact your Consolidated Base Personnel Office.



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