

VANGUARD

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After years of hard work and tremendous sacrifice, members of the 352d Fighter Group gather around a radio to hear the report announcing the end of World War II. Salvo, the 352d's canine mascot, was smuggled back to the United States in one young man's duffel bag after the war. The Virginia Air National Guard traces its lineage to one of the 352d's fighter squadrons. For more about the 352d Fighter Group and its upcoming reunion, see pages 2 and 6-9.

Historical photos in this edition courtesy of Samuel L. Sox Jr., Friends of the 352d Fighter Group

Wing honors WWII heritage with special event

More than 100 World War II Army Air Forces veterans and nearly 300 of their family members will gather at the 192d Fighter Wing on Saturday, Sept. 23.

The veterans are the remaining survivors of the 352d Fighter Group, one of the most decorated and illustrious aviation units of WWII.

This will be the last reunion held by 352d veterans--kind of a last get together and final hurrah--due to their advancing age and dwindling numbers. The 192d Fighter Wing is hosting the reunion because the Wing takes its military lineage directly from the 328th Fighter Squadron--one of the three units comprising the 352d Fighter Group. "This is a great way for the

192d to celebrate its rich heritage and say 'thank you' to a very special group of aviation heroes," says 192d Wing commander, Col. Steve Hicks.

The 352d members and their family members will arrive at the Guard base around 10 on the morning of Sept. 23. From 10-11 a.m. all base members, our 352d guests, and other distinguished visitors will be able to socialize in the Maintenance Hangar. A number of historical and current aviation exhibits will be on display in the Hangar. A Wing F-16, as well as a vintage P-51 and a P-47, sporting the original color scheme of the 352d's "Bluenosed Bastards of Bodney" will be on display. An audiovisual presentation of WWII photos of the 352d

will be shown and a living WWII encampment (re-enactment) will be set up. Our guests will eat lunch in the Hangar. Afterward, a Wing F-16 and a P-51 Mustang will perform a flying demonstration in the air over the flightline for everyone's enjoyment.

From there base members and our guests will be escorted to the Wing Operations building. The base is planning this special event to honor the 352d and their fallen brothers who served our country with honor and distinction. Base leaders will dedicate the Operations building in honor of Maj. George E. Preddy Jr., the leading Mustang ace of WWII and the commander of the 328th Fighter Squadron.

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Commander's Call

Those Bluenosed Bastards of Bodney!

When Reichsmarschall Hermann Goering, head of the German Luftwaffe in WWII, was questioned about the heavy losses of his famed fighter force, he exclaimed, "It's those 'bluenosed bastards of Bodney'." He was referring to the American 352d Fighter Group that flew bluenosed P-51 Mustangs out of Bodney, England. Upon hearing this story, the Bluenosers adopted this dubious title with great pride.

They were one of the most famous fighter groups of WWII. They were part of the "Mighty Eighth Air Force" and flew fighter escort for our heavy bombers in the European Theater of Operations. Flying 420 combat missions, 115,673 sorties and 59,387 combat hours, the 352d destroyed 776 enemy aircraft between September 1943 and April 1945. The group had 28 aces, among them two of the USAF's all-time high-scoring aces. One of the most famous was Maj. George E. Preddy Jr., the highest-scoring ace in the P-51 and the third-highest scoring ace in the European Theater of Operations. On Christmas Day 1944, Preddy was tragically killed by our own ground forces while defending our troops at the Battle of the Bulge.

A total of 310 pilots served in the 352d Fighter Group and 79 were killed in action. That equates to a 25 percent combat loss rate. These young men, average age of 22, were fighting the most formidable fighter force ever assembled. The German Luftwaffe was composed of highly skilled pilots and seasoned combat veterans. Against all odds, our young American airmen persevered and won the war. Of the 310 Bluenosers who served in the WWII, 120 had aerial victories, with 28 confirmed aces.

Today, these once-young aviators and the men who

labored so hard on the ground to keep the planes in the air are now in their 70s and 80s. Time, like the war itself, has taken its toll on this proud group. Its numbers are dwindling. On Sept. 23, the remaining members are coming from all parts of the country to our unit to celebrate their 15th and final reunion.

Why the last hurrah? As they advance in years, the veterans of the 352d feel unable to continue their reunions. And why are they having the reunion at our unit? The heritage of the Virginia Air National Guard rests on the brave spirits of the "Bluenosed Bastards of Bodney." The 328th Fighter Squadron, commanded by Major Preddy, was one of three squadrons in the 352d Fighter Group. The group was inactivated after the war, but on May 24, 1946, the 328th was redesignated the 149th Fighter Squadron, Virginia Air National Guard.

The Virginia Air National Guard has one of the proudest heritages in the United States Air Force. A generation of young airmen and their ground support crews fought to save the world from the evil forces of fascism and imperialism. They sacrificed their lives so that we could enjoy prosperity and freedom. America owes this generation a great debt of gratitude. Don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to meet these men. Show them how much we appreciate their service and sacrifice. Our unit is indeed honored to host such a distinguished group.



Col. Stephen R. Hicks

Wing honors WWII heritage with special event

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Then 192d Maintenance members will dedicate a plaque to the tireless work of the 352d's crew chiefs and aircraft maintenance men. A Missing Man Formation flyby will highlight the dedication ceremony.

After the ceremony, members of the 352d and their families will board their buses and return to the Sheraton Park South Hotel for the rest of their reunion activities.

All Guard members are invited to attend the 10-11 social hour in the

Maintenance Hangar and the dedication ceremony in front of Base Ops. Base members are also invited to the after-lunch flying demonstration. Lunch in the hangar is reserved for 352d reunion guests, distinguished visitors and invited base members.

VANGUARD

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The Vanguard is printed monthly and the deadline for submitting stories and photos is Sunday noon of the drill weekend of the month before you would like to see the item in print. Check out the electronic Vanguard on the base Intranet Web page and visit the VaANG on its Web site at www.varich.ang.af.mil.



Moment of Reflection

What is in a day?

God has said that we cannot change the days of our past, nor know the days of our future -- we can only know today, this Day. As a matter of record, we can only live today, this present Day. We cannot live the days

that are gone, nor can we experience the days of our future. We can only live today! But, many people try to regain the past, and sadly are left with empty thoughts of how things "used to be," even pondering "what could have been." Still others try to live their lives in the future. Yes, I think that we should be wise and plan for our futures, but I wonder how many plans were in the mind of John F. Kennedy, Jr.

No, today is the only day that can be lived. I think the Lord wants us to realize this when His Word says, "This is the Day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it." God has given us an incredible gift, aptly named "the Present," in which we are to live our lives. And when we join this gift with promises of God that say,

"I will never leave you" and "with God all things are possible," then our Day, today, becomes a Day filled with wonder, anticipation, possibility, potential, and life. One Day, the boy David picked up a rock and a giant fell. One Day, Moses said "no" to Pharaoh and the course of two nations changed forever. One Day, Mary said "Yes" and the world received a Savior. One Day... One Day...

The awesome thing about our God is that He takes ordinary people and does extraordinary things with them -- and it all starts today!

So, what do you want to do today? What do you want to be today? God is there with an outstretched hand calling, "Take my hand and let's conquer the stars!"

Chaplain David Kelley

DOD surveys reserve members, spouses

Between August and November, the Department of Defense is conducting its first comprehensive satisfaction survey of military reserve force personnel and their spouses in eight years. The survey is being mailed to 75,000 Reserve and National Guard members. A different questionnaire is being sent to 43,000 spouses. In a first for the reserves, recipients are able to return the written questionnaires or respond via the Internet.

"The surveys are an important tool because, in recent years, the increased use of the National Guard and Reserve has resulted in many of these personnel spending more time away from their families and full-time civilian employment," said Charles L. Cragin, principal deputy assistant secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs. "They also face the real possibility of being called to active duty for extended periods, creating some unique quality-of-life concerns."

The surveys will gather information on a wide range of programs, policies and issues affecting reserve force members and spouses. Survey responses will provide a comprehensive look at morale, civilian work,

economic issues, military training, military benefits and programs, mobilizations and deployments, plans to leave or continue in the military, and member and family characteristics. The effort complements the recently fielded "1999 Surveys of Active Duty Personnel and Spouses."

There are 863,698 personnel serving as Selected Reservists in the seven Reserve forces: the Air Force Reserve, Air National Guard, Army Reserve, Army National Guard, Naval Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve and Coast Guard Reserve.

The member questionnaire will be mailed to drilling reservists, individual mobilization augmentees and full-time support personnel. Members up to the rank of O-6, with at least six months of service, are eligible to be surveyed.

The sample population was determined by component, pay grade, gender, marital status, military occupation, and program status — drilling reservists, full-time support personnel, IMAs. Individuals were selected at random within these groups to ensure adequate sample sizes for subgroups of particular interest. Spouses of members were selected separately from

members — sampling was of individuals rather than couples. Consequently, a spouse could be sampled whether or not the member is.

The Office of the Secretary of Defense (Reserve Affairs) will use the findings from these surveys to address reservists' concerns and inform policy officials about unit and family readiness issues, military job satisfaction and mobilization experiences. The information will also be used to respond to queries from Congress, the White House, and the news media. Survey results will be published and available on the World Wide Web by the spring of 2001.

"As a department, we must continually strive to do a better job of recognizing and dealing with issues that can adversely affect reserve component members and their families," said Cragin. "Our ultimate objective is to craft policies that benefit reservists and, at the same time, protect our national security interests. The empirical data we gain from these surveys is critical to accomplishing this." (Armed Forces Press Service)

F-16 incentive flight program up, running

With the return of the F-16D (two-seater) from depot maintenance, the Wing Incentive Flight Program has started up again. The program is managed by the First Sergeant Council and Col. Tony Haynes, 192d Vice Wing Commander.

Recently, there has been some miscommunication about the nomination and selection process for an incentive flight. This article is to clarify the process for everyone. A "nomination" does not necessarily mean you are selected. A matrix has been developed by Colonel Haynes to determine the number of "nominations" a squadron may submit per quarter. If a squadron is large, such as Maintenance, more quotas are available as opposed to a smaller squadron, such as the Medical Squadron. The nomination/selection process is as follows:

1. All incentive ride "nominations" must be endorsed by their squadron commander and forwarded to the respective first sergeant.

2. The first sergeant forwards the "nomination" to SMSgt. Susanne

Dates (FW) who in turn, submits all "nominations" (with endorsement) to Colonel Haynes.

3. If a squadron submits more than its designated number of "nominations," Colonel Haynes will then become the final selecting official for a flight.

4. Supervisors can continue to recommend their personnel for a flight; however, the commander of that squadron is the only endorsement Colonel Haynes will accept.

5. A letter is sent to the unit member stating approval/disapproval status.

6. Selection letters contain specific instructions for scheduling

Life Support training and a flight physical.

7. Flight physicals are only good for 14 days (Recent Change).

8. Life Support training is only good for 72 hours.

9. Once training has been accomplished, the unit member notifies the Wing Operations (OPS) Scheduler (Maj. Mark McCauley).

Hopefully, this will help unit members understand the nomination and selection process for an incentive flight. If you have any additional questions, contact your first sergeant.

by SMSgt. Susanne Dates
FW/Ops Gp First Sgt.

FIRST SERGEANT COUNCIL

Fighter Wing & Operations Group--SMSgt. Susanne Dates
Support Group--MSgt. Barry Coleman
Medical Squadron--MSgt. Rich Green
Maintenance Squadron--MSgt. Sherry Hankins
Logistics Squadron--MSgt. Tony Harris
Civil Engineering Squadron--MSgt. Dave Scott
Logistics Squadron--MSgt. Bryant Thorpe
Security Forces Squadron--MSgt. Toni Vincent

Know procedures for checking on pay

Virginia Air Guard members with questions about their military pay or military travel pay must follow the applicable procedures when making pay queries to the 192d Finance office.

Military Pay queries:

--Members must wait 10 business days after proper documentation is provided to the Finance office, (i.e. certified orders, certified NGB Form 105).

--After 10 business days, please call the Denver Pay Hotline at 1-800-755-7413.

--First time callers must establish a Personal Identification Number (PIN), but the call should take no more than five minutes.

--The Hotline is an automated number, available 24 hours a day,

seven days a week. Information available includes pay dates and amounts, direct deposit and address information, list of allotments, current leave balance for active duty only, debt balance information, federal and state tax data, and re-issue of W-2 forms for the prior tax year.

Travel Pay queries:

--Members must wait 10 business days after travel voucher is submitted to Finance office.

--After 10 business days, please call your financial institution (bank) for deposit date and amount.

--Remember, when submitting a Travel Voucher, it must be accompanied by two copies of ALL orders needed to cover the Travel Voucher (including amendments to original

order). The Travel Voucher must also include an itemized lodging receipt, ATM receipts (for Government Travel card only), airline ticket receipts, any conference or registration fee receipts, and any other receipts over \$74.99.

--If you have accomplished all the above steps and still require assistance, call or visit the base Finance office, Military Pay, 236-6314 and Travel Pay, 236-6382. The Finance office takes walk-in and phone-in queries from 1:30-3:30 p.m. daily during the week. A person may leave voice mail anytime, but calls are responded to only during the above stated times. If you have questions, or a pay emergency, contact Maj. Michael Woody at 236-6592.

Ready to meet the challenges of the job

Thorpe becomes Logistics Sq. First Sgt.

Although MSgt. Stuart Bryant Thorpe Jr., has been with the 192d Logistics Squadron almost his entire ANG career, he considers his newest job as one of his most challenging. Thorpe recently accepted the reins as the Logistics Squadron first sergeant and according to him, this job is an excellent opportunity for him to do more for the troops and make a difference within the unit.

"I was very excited and honored to have been selected as the Logistics Squadron first sergeant," exclaimed a very happy Sergeant Thorpe. "It can be a very demanding job, but a good chance to be involved in all the decision making within a squadron."

Thorpe furthered his first sergeant education recently by attending the First Sergeant Academy at Maxwell AFB, Alabama. He views the rigorous course as a great opportunity and exceptional experience, to help him in his new job. "I learned a lot about what it takes to be a good first sergeant and they prepared me for tackling just about any challenge," he said.

According to the Mechanicsville, Va., native, good first sergeants must be good listeners and caring. They must make themselves available at any time and if they don't have an answer for someone, they will find it.

"A good first sergeant stresses camaraderie and teamwork within a unit," continued Sergeant Thorpe. "My main mission is the morale and welfare of the troops. I visit each work center in my squadron each drill weekend and am prepared to listen to people's needs. I am available 24 hours a day 7 days a week if that's what it takes!"

Lt.Col. Gary A. Wood, Logistics Squadron commander, had nothing but praise for his newest first sergeant. "Sergeant Thorpe makes a wonderful first sergeant because he's very people-oriented. He cares about people and their well being. He's also a very



Courtesy photo from 192d Logistics Sq.

MSgt. Stuart Bryant Thorpe (2nd from left) poses for a First Sergeant Academy graduation photo with his commander, Lt.Col. Gary Wood (left); CMSgt. Ray Bassetti, VaANG Command Chief Master Sergeant; and MSgt. Susanne Dates, 192d Fighter Wing First Sergeant.

easy person to talk to which is a quality necessary in being a first sergeant," said Colonel Wood.

The military has been a big part of Sergeant Thorpe's life for a long time. He first joined the 192d in 1971 and spent 6 years here. He got out for 7 years, but in 1984 decided he wanted to reenlist again and has been with the unit ever since. His entire career has been in supply except for a 6 month period he spent with the Security Forces Squadron. He has been the Logistics Squadron first sergeant officially since September 1999.

In his civilian life, Thorpe has spent the past 27 years as a contract administrator with the Virginia Department of Transportation. He claims his first sergeant qualities and training help him out in his civilian job as well. "You have to have good communication skills when dealing with the public," he commented. "People can tell by the tone of your voice whether you care or not."

When not busy with his civilian job or his Guard commitments, the sergeant has been happily married for 22 years, with one son and 2 grandchildren. He enjoys travelling and is an

active softball player with the Guard team. He plays golf when he can, and also is a deacon for the Christian Church in Mechanicsville. He helps with the base's Lunch Buddy Program and stays busy with the Squadron Member Recognition Program. Thorpe plans to retire after his tour as first sergeant and according to him, that puts a nice ending on his career here.

"I have many memories to take with me of my ANG experience," noted the sergeant. "In 1991, our softball team was national champions in the 35 and over division. That was a great experience. Graduating from the first sergeant academy was also an experience I'll never forget!"

When asked for words of wisdom for the troops, the sergeant said, "Know your chain of command. Also, always remember your first sergeant is always available, and people can come to me in complete confidence."

And although he's only donned his first sergeant cap a short while, early indications are Sergeant Thorpe is well on his way to any challenge his new job may offer.

A Last 'Hurrah' for the Bluenosers!

By TSgt. Ed Kelleher
Historian, 192d Fighter Wing

The 352d Fighter Group Association is an organization devoted to preserving the history of the 352d Fighter Group — “The Bluenosed Bastards of Bodney” — and honoring those who made great sacrifices to preserve our freedom.

The 328th Fighter Squadron was one of three fighter squadrons that comprised the 352d Fighter Group during World War II. On May 24, 1946, the 328th was redesignated the 149th Fighter Squadron and allotted to the Air National Guard. The following February the squadron was assigned to the Virginia Air National Guard.

The commander of the 328th at the time of his death was Maj. George E. Preddy Jr., a young North Carolinian who was the top P-51 Mustang ace of the war. In one day, Aug. 6, 1944, Preddy scored six kills, for which he earned the Distinguished Service Cross. He was credited with a total of 23.83 kills in the Mustang, three more in the P-47 Thunderbolt and several



Lt. Robert H. “Punchy” Powell Jr. (chairman of the 352d reunion committee), proudly displayed his state heritage on the nose of his P-51.

more German aircraft destroyed on the ground. Preddy was killed by friendly fire on Christmas Day, 1944, while leading the 328th on a low-level patrol. He had already scored two kills that day before being hit by Allied anti-aircraft fire.

The 149th is entitled to the honors and lineage of the 328th. Because of that link, leaders of the Virginia Air National Guard decided to honor the veterans and deceased members of the 352d in “A Gathering of Heroes,” a celebration of their



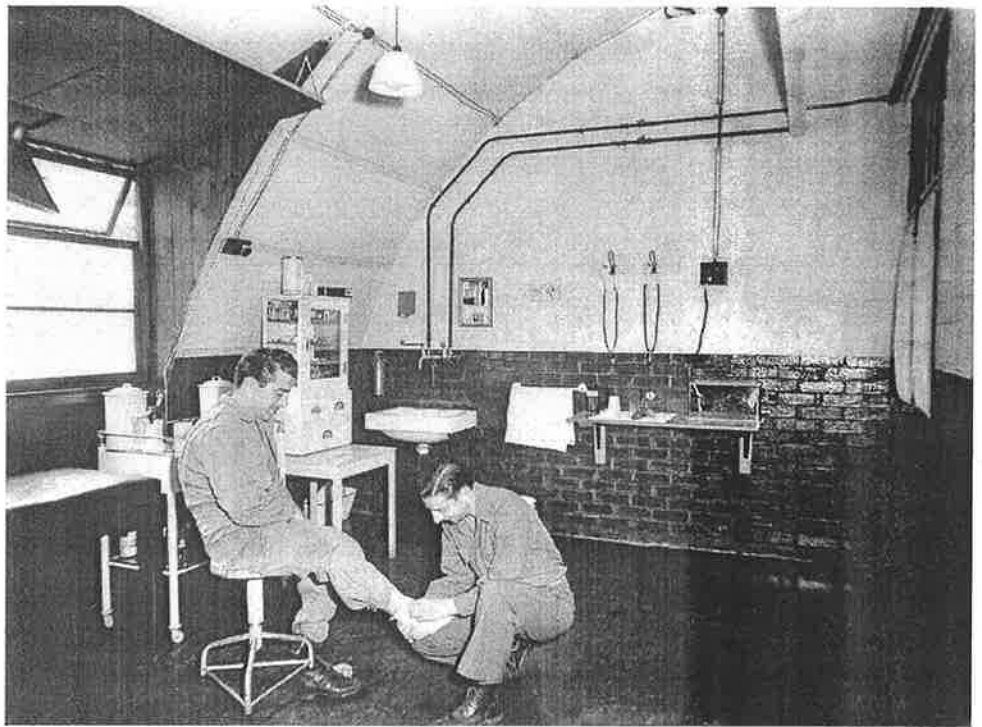
The original group of 328th Fighter Squadron pilots posed with a P-47 Thunderbolt.

service to our country, on Saturday, Sept. 23. The day's activities at the Guard base in Sandston are part of a four-day affair in Richmond that the 352d is billing as its final reunion.

Bob "Punchy" Powell, historian for the association, is co-author of the 352d's history, "The Bluenosed Bastards of Bodney."

"When Tom Ivie and I first started work on the 352d history, I managed to locate about 1,100 of our veterans living and the families of some 700 more," Powell said. "There were about 300 we were never able to find, alive or deceased." He estimates that about 600 are still living.

More than 100 veterans of the 352d have signed up to attend the reunion. "Most of these will have their spouses with them," Powell added. "Many are bringing one or more of their children or grandchildren, and this we feel is particularly important, since that has been a major goal of our association — to give these younger generations an opportunity to know more about the contributions their dads and grandfathers (made) during World



The hazards of war kept the medics busy at sick call.

War II and to provide them an opportunity to learn that freedom is never free."

In all, the association expects between 350 and 400 people — veterans, associates and relatives — to

attend the reunion. Here's a sprinkling of who is planning to attend:

Lt. Gen. Charles C. Pattillo and **Maj. Gen. Cuthbert A. Pattillo**, both

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The 328th Fighter Squadron's aircraft refueling crew ready for duty! Refueling crews were as essential to mission success as the pilots.



Capt. "Stormy" Gysper plotted the weather for the group.

Continued from page 7

retired career Air Force officers. The brothers, Atlanta natives, flew combat with the 352d during the war, remained in the service and helped form the Air Force's first aerobatic team, The Skyblazers. They subsequently flew on the first Thunderbird team. They were recently inducted into the Georgia Aviation Hall of Fame at the Museum of Aviation in Warner-Robins, GA.

Robert H. "Punchy" Powell Jr., a West Virginia native who is de-

scribed in the 352d newsletter, "The Bluenoser," as "quite small and regularly getting bounced by the bigger boys in junior high school until he joined the boxing team and became a Golden Gloves flyweight champion" in West Virginia. "Punchy" became his handle and it followed him into college and the service. He is chairman of the reunion committee and one of the organizers of the 352d Fighter Group Association.

Troy White, an aviation artist whose "Bluenoser Series" includes

more than a half-dozen paintings of 352d aircraft in action. One of his earlier paintings, a portrait of Maj. George Preddy, hangs in the 8th Air Force Heritage Museum in Savannah.

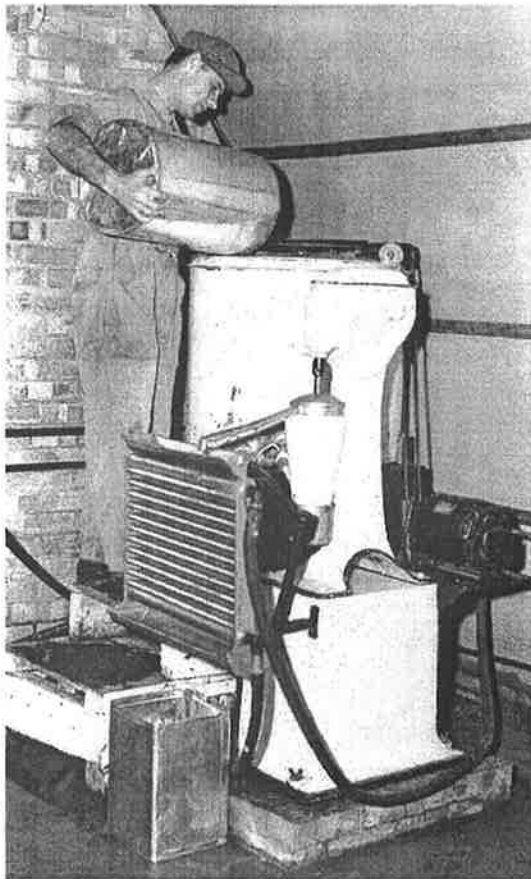
Joe MacDougald, a member of a group of computer-based "virtual pilots" who have been adopted by the 352d Fighter Group Association as "Friends of the 352d." He maintains a colorful Web site for the Association, and these "virtual pilots" plan and execute realistic air battles on the Internet. Some of them plan to demonstrate their computer flying skills at the Richmond reunion.

Dan Rutledge, 33, a general manager for United Van Lines and a private pilot whose dreams of a military aviation career were wiped out by an auto accident. "Flying in a virtual squadron like the 352d lets me honor the job you and your mates did 55 years ago and (gives me) an opportunity to give something back to the veterans who actually flew the skies of war..."

Joe Noah of Clarksville, VA, a cousin of Maj. George E. Preddy Jr., and founder of the Preddy Memorial Foundation. Along with Samuel L.

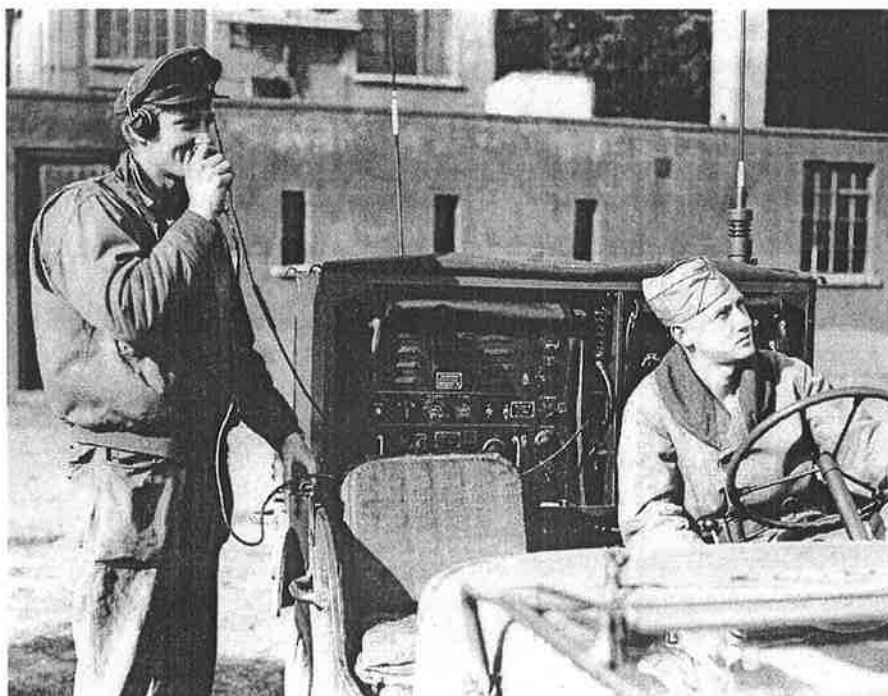


Not even war kept the members of the 352d Fighter Group from experiencing a staple of military life – the military formation and pass-in-review.



Even in wartime, the troops got their ice cream (home made).

The Stars and Stripes flew daily at Bodney when the 352d was stationed there.

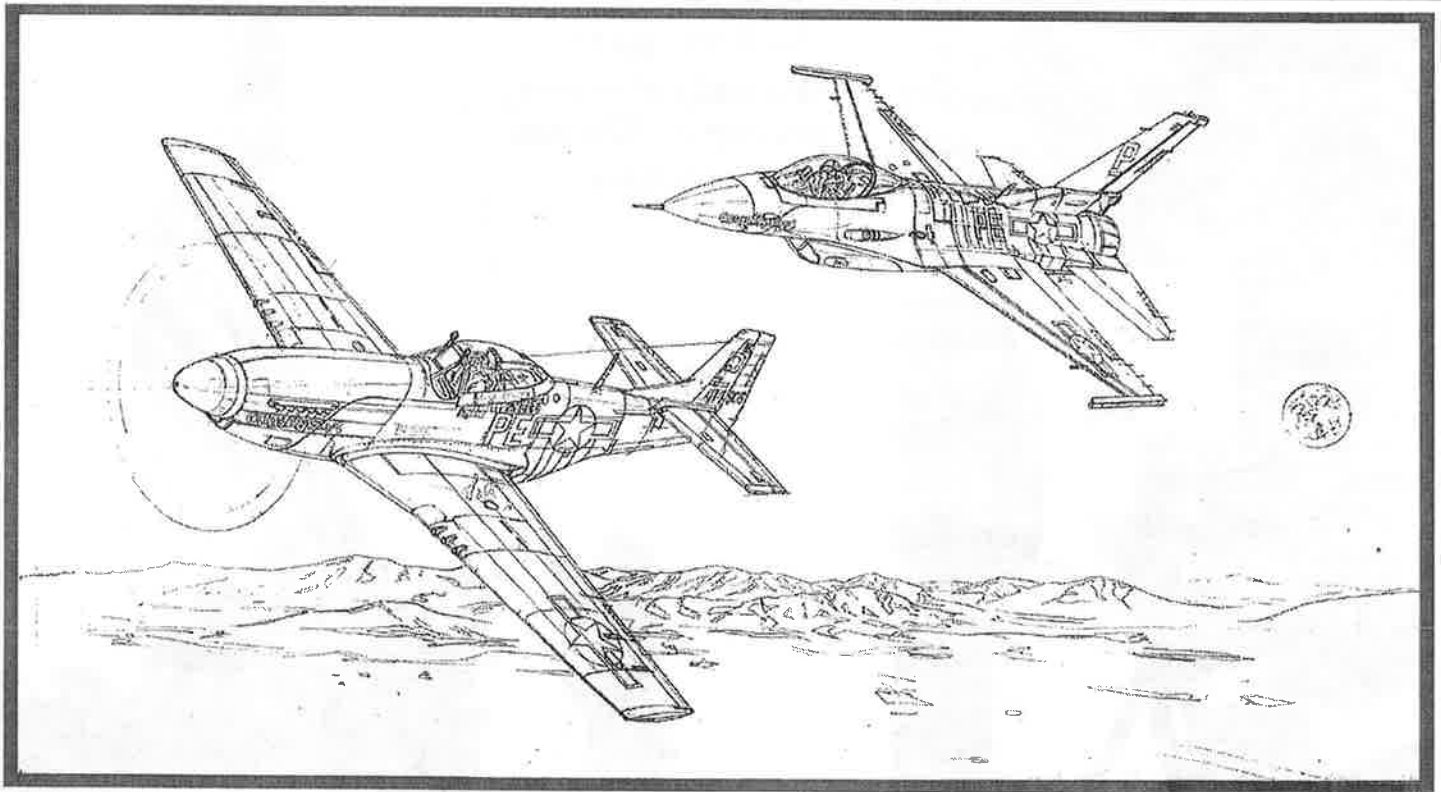


The runway mobile communications vehicle hasn't changed all that much since the war.

Sox Jr., Noah wrote "George Preddy: Top Mustang Ace," a book published by the foundation.

Bill Espie, a 352d "associate" and member of a British organization called Friends of the Eighth (FOTE) Air Force. He and another FOTE member, a British policeman named Robert Smart, make arrangements for 352d members who visit Bodney, England, where the unit was based during much of the war.

Art "Snoots" Snyder, crew chief for Maj. George Preddy's last Mustang, a P-51D named Cripes A'Mighty. Snyder did some barbering on the side, and he figured it paid to advertise, so he painted a barber pole on the plane's cowling!



Concept sketch for original painting "Spirit of Bodney" by AF Heritage Artist Peter Wells. Reprinted with the artist's permission.

Air Force artist creates original painting for reunion

A limited edition fine-art print by Peter Wells commemorating the last reunion of the 352d Fighter Group, hosted by the Virginia Air National Guard, is nearing completion. The pencil rendering above depicts the artist's concept for the final full-color print of Maj. George E. Preddy's "Cripes A'Mighty" flying lead formation with one of the 192d Fighter Wing's F-16C Falcons, painted in the 352d's distinctive bluenose color scheme of late 1944.

Unit members interested in having a lithographic print of this original painting may contact Maj. Carl Bess, ext. 6776. The first 250 prints will be \$30 each and will be countersigned and numbered by the artist. Unsigned and unnumbered prints of this limited edition piece of Air Force and unit heritage art will be available for \$25 each.

The final image size is approximately 26"X14" and is being printed on pH-neutral, archival quality paper.

The final painting will be pre-

sented to the VaANG, by the artist, during the 352d's reunion visit to the 192d on Sept. 23.

The creator of the "Spirit of Bodney," Peter Wells, is a self-taught artist. His career began as an advertising illustrator in 1977. His talents grew and in 1987 he became a successful freelance artist, working mostly with airbrushed acrylics.

Wells specializes in tight, realistic

renderings. Over the years, his clients have included some of the largest companies in the nation.

In 1991 he joined the Air Force Art Program, bringing together his passion for aviation and his skills as an artist in what he describes as "the perfect union." Since that time he has donated four original paintings to the Air Force Art Collection.

352d/192d commemorative coins available at reunion

Only 250 352d Fighter Group/192d Fighter Wing commemorative coins will be available for sale during the Sept. 23-24 drill weekend.

The coins will cost \$10 each. For more information about purchasing one of these collector's pieces, contact CMSgt. Frank Stanley, ext. 6725



Doctor, pilot, guardsman

Base honors life, accomplishments of Dr. Dave Hudson



Doc Hudson's passions included helping people and flying; he accomplished both during his tenure with the Virginia Air National Guard. Doc Hudson retired from the VaANG last year after serving as the VaANG State Air Surgeon since 1988.

Archive image from 192CF/
Multimedia office

On July 9th the Virginia Air Guard bid farewell to Brig.Gen. Dave Hudson with a beautiful memorial service at the base.

The testimonials from his coworkers, friends, and family were fitting tributes to the role he played in so many of the lives of the large number of attendees. Eloquent words measured his accomplishments and hinted at the sacrifices that he accepted to make the Virginia Guard a better place.

When "Doc" Hudson came to the Guard, he had already completed a successful military career and a quarter century of medical practice. Yet his love for the Guard drove him to start over at the bottom, and accept challenges few at his venerability would be willing to take on. Over his now seemingly brief two decades of service with us, he guided a clinic bereft of doctors to one more than

doubled in size and staffed with up to a half dozen physicians.

But there must be a better measure of his impact than mere statistics, and we best revert to the lyrical. In his moving memorial service, Doc departed the fix a final time to the strains of his native land's unofficial anthem, *Waltzing Matilda*. *Waltzing Matilda* was not an Aussie dance hall girl. In the late 1800s, the harsh, sparsely populated Australian Outback was a difficult place for a craftsman to earn his credentials. A sheepshearer, for instance, would have to travel among the widely-distanced stations ("going on the waltz") to gain his experience and reputation. He'd carry his blanket (a "matilda") and bedroll with him, and was soon tagged as a "waltzing matilda". Doc earned his medical and military credentials on a half-century waltz that covered continents literally a world apart.

In that same desert Outback, water was a precious resource, and a waterhole (*billabong*) was vital. It provided sustenance and refreshment, and was a gathering place for people and creatures alike. It kept them alive. For Dave Hudson, the Virginia Air Guard was his *billabong*: It sustained him, refreshed him, and always drew him back. It kept him alive, and helped keep us alive, too.

Doc Hudson is gone now from the mortal earth, but for those of us who knew him and whom he tended to, the last words of his recessional perhaps sum up his passage among us:

"And his ghost may be heard as you ride along that billabong, 'You'll come a-waltzing, Matilda, with me!'"

G'bye mate; you were always fair-dinkum.

Col. Bill Campenni
VaANG (Ret.)

Education vital to professional, personal growth

Base Training office ready to serve you

To build a successful career in the VaANG what should you do?

Seek out the Base Training Office! SMSgt. D. Michael Gates, NCOIC of the Base Training Office, states the importance of career training. "Our primary function is to handle everything associated with career training. This includes Air Force Specialty Code (AFSC), Professional Military Education (PME), and Community College of the Air Force (CCAF) training. Training is our business."

Gates along with SSgt. Patty A. Lapolt, Education Manager, are assigned full-time to the office and are eager to assist those who need it. Testing is available during the week. The lines can get long during drill weekends. This is when the traditional

office staff arrives and shares their expertise.

LtCol. Lori D. Leonard, Education Officer, pushes PME. "You can ensure a good career in the Guard by actively participating in your military education, especially PME. It is essential for promotion."

MSgt. Judith E. Brandon, Training Advisor, handles customer service for the office and compiles statistics on people served. She reiterates the importance of training and seeking guidance. "Seek help and remember that one person is an island," she says.

The Base Training staff appreciates the relatively recent addition of base training down days to the Wing's drill schedule. Gates says it has given other offices and duty sections time to prepare for the staff assistance visits that his office conducts.

The base training office is responsible for advising on CCAF, upgrade requirements, promotions, AFSC training and cross training, PME, training schedules, Staff Assistance Visits, end of course testing and more. Needless to say, the breadth of Education Office activities impact the entire base and each individual assigned here.

It would be a wise career move to remain in contact with base training. To find out where you stand or if you are up-to-date, just stop by their office in the Wing Headquarters building (#3652) or call the office at ext. 6590.

Gates summed it up best saying, "If you don't have a trained airman, you don't have an airman."

by TSgt. Michael Rawlings
Public Affairs office



The Base Training office staff includes (left to right): MSgt. Judith Brandon, SSgt. Patty Lapolt, SSgt. Tim Taylor, SrA. Angelique Dickerson, TSgt. Sandra

Nicholson, and (seated) Lt.Col. Lori Leonard and SMSgt. Michael Gates.

Personnel Actions

Accessions for May 2000

A1C Donald J. Moore, 203d StuFlt
 SSGT. Darren M. McMahan, 192d AGS
 SSGT. Robert Taylor, 192d AGS
 SrA. Kelly M. Mason, 200th WF
 SrA. Joshua D. Raney, 192d CES
 A1C Joseph K. Feaga, 192d StuFlt
 TSgt. Barry L. Doss, 192d MDS
 SrA. James Call, 192d StuFlt
 SrA. Dave A. Jones, 192d AGS
 SrA. Steve A. Taylor, 192d SFS
 A1C Bradford J. Boone, 192d AGS

Promotions for May 2000

Sgt. Ronald L. Swinton, 192d MDS
 SrA. Gregory T. Chew, 192d MDS
 Sgt. Patrick D. Beagle, 192d MDS
 SrA. Jamie L. Muniz, 192d MDS

Retirements for May 2000

SMSGT. Donald Duke, 192d LGS
 TSgt. Samuel Moore, 192d SFS

VaANG StHq announces (E-9) Command CMSgt. vacancy

CMSgt. Raymond L. Bassetti, the VaANG State Command Chief Master Sergeant, will soon complete his three year tour and will be leaving the position.

The State Command Chief Master Sergeant's duties include advising the Adjutant General of Virginia, and the Deputy Adjutant General for Air, on matters concerning welfare, morale, and compliance of regulations of the enlisted force. For a complete list of duties and responsibilities and qualifications applicants must meet, please refer to ANGI 36-2109.

Anyone interested in applying for the position must be a Chief Master Sergeant or promotable Senior Master Sergeant. Interested applicants must submit a letter of interest, with a resume to the VaANG State Headquarters, attention CMSgt. Raymond Bassetti, no later than the close of business, Sunday, Sept. 10, 2000 (UTA weekend). No packages received after this deadline will be considered. Full time technicians or Active Guard Reserve (AGR) applicants must have approval of their immediate supervisor and commander.

Candidates will be notified of the date, place, and time to appear before a selection board. The individual selected will fill the position effective Oct. 1, 2000.

Nominations for top enlisted Wing members sought for annual award

Col. Tony Haynes, 192d Vice Wing Commander, asks supervisors to start identifying their top troops for 2000.

The Outstanding Airman of the Year Program is covered by ANGI 36-2805, dated July 1, 1996. Nominations for Outstanding Airman, Noncommissioned Officer (NCO) and Senior NCO are based upon achievement taking place during the current calendar year for the period of Jan. 1 through Oct. 31. Each Group commander may nominate one individual in each of the three categories: Airman, NCO and SNCO. Group commanders must forward nominations to the Vice Wing Commander prior to the November drill (Nov. 4). A Wing selection board will meet during the November drill and forward the Wing-level winners to the VaANG StHq.

192d Fighter Wing Headquarters Section announces MSgt. vacancy

---192d Fighter Wing Orderly Room 7-level, 3A071 Information Management vacancy.

---High profile position requires hard-working selfstarter who will report directly to Wing Commander.

---Individual will handle management of FW Orderly Room, oversee file management of all FW staff offices, manage commander's schedule on drill weekends, establish and manage training schedule for FW staff offices, etc.

---Ideal candidate will have outstanding interpersonal and communication skills; excellent organizational skills

---Interested applicants must submit a letter of interest & resume to Lt.Col. Rick Turner or SMSgt. Mary Gamache, 192d FW Headquarters by noon Saturday, Sept. 9.

---For more information contact Turner at ext.6763 or Gamache at ext. 6302.

Important for both men, women

Know, understand reproductive hazards

Many factors can affect our reproductive health and ability to produce healthy children, including radiation, chemicals, certain drugs, cigarettes, some viruses, and alcohol.

We may be exposed to these factors at work, at home, or in the community. Exposure to these health factors can cause reproductive or developmental problems such as infertility, miscarriage, birth defects, low birth weight, abnormal growth and development, and childhood cancer.

In the past, most public health prevention efforts were focused on the mother's exposures. Recently however, it has become clear that the process of bearing healthy children relies on a complex series of coordinated events in the father, the mother, and the fetus. Consequently, both men and women are subject to reproductive hazards, and exposures to either parent, even before conception, may affect the normal development of a child.

Although this information may be alarming to prospective parents, the good news is that many such exposures are readily preventable.

The Air Force is concerned about the protection and health of the unborn

child. Public Health has established a program for managing pregnancy in the workplace.

The first step is CONFIRMING PREGNANCY EARLY. Some jobs may entail exposures to chemical or physical agents such as ionizing radiation (which may be damaging to the unborn child). The greatest risk from chemicals to the fetus is during the first 13 weeks of pregnancy. Female workers who have chemical exposures must understand the necessity of confirming pregnancy at the earliest possible time. A urine test can be done to confirm pregnancy as early as 10 days after the first day of the missed menstrual period. For Active Guard Reserve (AGR) personnel, this testing can be done through a military OB/GYN clinic (for authorized personnel). Technician workers not authorized military medical care should see their family physician for pregnancy confirmation.

Upon confirmation of pregnancy, all female members will be directed to the 192d Medical Squadron for a pregnancy consultation and enrollment in the Fetal Protection Program. Public Health personnel will brief the individual on the potential hazards of the

work environment. The individual is interviewed and a job statement is requested from the immediate supervisor. If necessary, the Bioenvironmental Engineering Section (BES) investigates the individual's work environment.

Recommendations based upon the findings and Public Health review is forwarded to the military member's health care provider. The health care provider uses this information for any restrictions to be included in the member duty profile.

For further information contact Public Health 236-6558.

by TSgt. Jason Yetter
NCOIC, Public Health



Look for upcoming
Year of the Family
activities in the
September Vanguard

On the Menu

Join the 192d Services staff for great food and socializing at the Dining Facility this drill weekend.

Saturday Aug. 26

- Grilled Steaks
- Baked Potatoes w/butter & sour cream
- Seasoned French Fried Potatoes
- Saute'ed Onions & Mushrooms
- Herb Seasoned Green Beans
- Salad Bar w/Asst'd Dressings
- Breads & Butter
- Beverages
- Dessert & Ice Cream

Sunday Aug. 27

- Savannah Georgia-style Low Country Boil
- Boiled Shrimp
- Boiled Sausage
- Boiled Red Potatoes
- Corn-on-the-Cob
- Baked Honey Chicken Breast
- Salad Bar w/Asst'd Dressings
- Breads & Butter
- Beverages
- Dessert & Ice Cream

Get tickets now for Hangar Dance

Tickets are now on sale for the Year of the Family Hangar Dance. The event is open to all members of the Virginia Air National Guard and their spouses or dates. The dance will take place in the 192d's main Maintenance Hangar from 7-11 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 23.

Tickets are \$5 per person and are available through all base chief master sergeants. The evening will include a cash bar from 7-8 p.m. and light hors d'oeuvres. LtCol. Freddie Baylor will be spinning tunes for dancing and listening pleasure.

Help base meet its blood drive goal on Saturday, Aug. 26

The next base quarterly blood drive will be Saturday, Aug. 26, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. To register the day of the blood drive, go to the base Chapel located in the Wing Headquarters building. To schedule an appointment in advance, call SMSgt. Mary Gamache, ext. 6302. The Virginia Blood Services' Blood Mobile will be parked outside of the Wing Headquarters building (#3652).

"Our goal is 30 pints. Come support the Virginia Blood Service," Gamache asks.

Base gets new computer virus detection software

The base recently updated its computer virus detection software. If your computer has been off since the June drill, please expect a short delay when you bring your system on line for the August drill. Your computer will uninstall McAfee Virus Scan and load the new software, Norton AntiVirus. This will take about 15 minutes and the machine will need to be rebooted after uninstalling McAfee and again after installing Norton AntiVirus.

Folks getting billeting rooms over drill weekends, be advised: Next drill weekend (nights of 8 & 9 Sept.) all billeting reservations will be at the Days Inn off of exit 45 on I-95. This is about 1 mile south of the I-95/I-295 intersection south of Petersburg. Local hotels (Sandston area) are unavailable due to race weekend at Richmond International Raceway.

*Thank you, from the
192d FW Services staff*

192d FW drill schedule & VaANG Calendar of Events

August

26-27: UTA (Should pay NLT Sept. 8)

26: Saturday: Blood Drive; 192d returns from Green Flag deployment to Nellis AFB, Nev.; Base Training office conducts CDC End-of-Course testing from 1-5 p.m. No testing on Sunday due to Training Down Day

27: Training Down Day

19-23: Enlisted Association (EANGUS) National Conference, Bismarck, N.D.

September

9-10: UTA (Should pay NLT Sept. 22)

12-19: National Guard Association (NGAUS) 121st General Conference in Atlantic City, N.J.

22: Friday: 2-4:30 p.m., P-51 Chaser Open House (mini open house: Parking ramp, Maintenance Hangar will be open to the public for viewing the P-51, P-47 and F-16 prepped for the next day's 352d Fighter Group reunion). Come on out, bring the family, friends, aviation buffs and your camera.

23-24: UTA (Should pay NLT Oct. 6)

23: World War II heroes honored (352d Fighter Group reunion)

23: Year of the Family Hangar Dance

October

14-15: UTA

12-17: Unit Compliance Inspection (UCI)

November

4-5: UTA

December

2-3: UTA

This calendar reflects the drill/annual training schedule of the 192d Fighter Wing, and includes other VaANG events. If you have an event you would like to add to the calendar, call Public Affairs at ext. 6388, or visit the PA office during drill weekends (Wing Headquarters building, room 30--across from the Recruiters' offices).

The September Vanguard will publish the official order with the complete fiscal year 2001 Unit Training Assembly (UTA) schedule.

Remember to complete SATE training during August drill

Security Awareness Training and Education (SATE) training is now available and all Virginia Air Guard members with a computer account must take the current SATE Computer Based Training by **Sept. 1**. This deadline gives us one drill weekend to accomplish this requirement, points out MSgt. Hutt Williams, base SATE manager.

The location of the SATE training module is <http://www/cf/NEWSATECBT/cgi-bin/nph-index.pl>. This link has been added to Start, Intranet Links or Start, Network Applications, Training, Sate Training, SATE Training (the scores will also be located on this link in the very near future).

On the Exam Results Sheet there are two options. One says to "Click here to end your computer based training session" and the other says "Click here to return to the Main Menu." In order for a person to show up in the database as having passed the SATE Test (minimum 70%), you **must** click on the option "Click here to end your Computer Based Training session." If you click on File and Close/Exit or click on the "X" in the upper right hand corner to close out of SATE, then your score gets recorded as 0 (a zero), and since it's not a passing score it won't show up in the database.

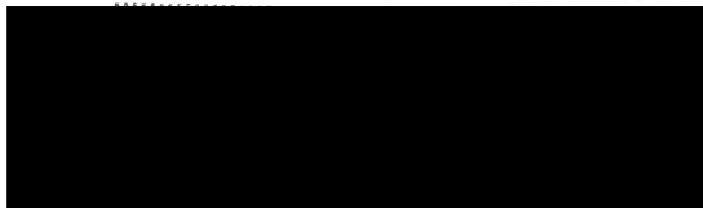
Anyone not showing up in the database and not having a copy of their test results on file with their Unit SATE manager documentation, will have to take the SATE test over again.

What's Inside your August Vanguard...

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Note from Editor

This issue of the Vanguard is for the Aug. 26-27 and Sept. 9-10 drill weekends. The next Vanguard will be published for the Sept. 23-24 drill weekend. The deadline for submitting material for the Sept. 23-24 Vanguard is 4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 27. For more information contact the Public Affairs office, ext. 6388.



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