

# VANGUARD



Virginia Air National Guard

192nd Fighter Wing

April 2002

## Inside

### **203rd RED HORSE**

Four F-16s from the 192FW (above photo) saluted as a memorial was dedicated (right) to the 18 members of the 203rd RED HORSE Flight who died in a plane crash on March 3, 2001. Story, Page 6.

### **Family readiness**

This month's Vanguard contains a four-page Family Readiness insert.

### **Mini-BX**

The new Tactical Field Exchange is scheduled to be open by the April drill weekend. Page 7.

### **Drill dates**

Here are scheduled UTA dates through September 2002:

April 13-14

May 18-19, June 8-9

July 13-14, Aug. 17-18

Sept. 14-15

Annual Training: Aug. 19-31

## Honoring the fallen





## ABOUT the VANGUARD

*This funded Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for the U.S. military service. Its content does not necessarily reflect the views of, nor is it necessarily endorsed by, the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force, or the Virginia Air National Guard.*

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**Vanguard@varich.ang.af.mil.**

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*Check out the electronic Vanguard on the base Intranet.*

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## Looking for glory?

Not long ago I had the chance to go to Kissimmee, Fla. – you know where it is if you've been to Disney World – to watch some World War II aviators fly their P-51 Mustangs for a video-in-the-making.

Lousy weather restricted the flying and filming, but it did nothing to limit the retelling of war stories.

One Army Air Corps veteran I was talking with, a P-51 maintenance troop, told of the horrendous workloads the maintenance folks faced during the war to keep the airplanes in flyable shape.

They labored 20 hours a day, seven days a week in some stretches, he said. The work was so intense and so demanding that often he would simply catch his short-night's-sleep under the wing of the plane he was working on.

It was during one of those seemingly endless weeks, the man said, that he thought about his life and his reasons for joining the Air Corps – the travel, the excitement, the glory.

What had happened, he asked himself.

Twenty-hour work days. Never a day off while enduring the grit and grime of patching up battle-pocked flying machines.

Where's the glory in that, he wondered?

*Where's the glory?*

\*\*\*

Now is about the time – roughly seven months after the terrorist attacks on the Pentagon and the World Trade Center – that you might be asking yourself the same question.

In the close aftermath of Sept.

11, the entire base worked at a fever pitch. Maintenance, fuels, finance, travel, supply, services, ops, the clinic – I could go on and on – all busted butt to get the job done, no matter how many hours a day it took.

After a few months, our schedules have become more settled, and our sense of urgency may have tended to subside. Recently, however, the 192nd has been given new tasking as part of an Aerospace Expeditionary Force. This means even more missions per day than before – our highest sustained flying tasking ever!

Now we have to refocus and reenergize our commitment to the cause of national defense. It's a tough job, and to do it we have to fall back on our core values – duty, honor, family and country. We need to keep in mind constantly just how important it is that we do the best job we can, day in and day out.

Members of the 192nd Fighter Wing are now spread out across the globe in support of the war against terrorism. Many of you are making great sacrifices. I'm sure there are times when you feel like that Army Air Corps maintenance troop did during World War II.

Oh, yes. Speaking of that airman, after the war he experienced a revelation.

It dawned on him that he might not have ever engaged in an aerial dogfight or led a bombing raid against the enemy, or done any of the other things that legends are made of.

But what he had done during the war had taken guts – he did his job the best he could, often under the most trying of circumstances, day after day after day.

That, he finally figured out, was his glory.

*Col. Stephen R. Hicks*  
*Wing Commander*

## A salute from our friends

### Still at it

Even on the chilliest drill weekend mornings, pupils, their families, teachers and school staff at Seven Pines Elementary School have turned out to show the colors and cheer on arriving Air National Guard members.



Images by SSgt. Dave Buttner/192CE Multimedia



At left, Col. Stephen R. Hicks, 192nd Fighter Wing commander, greets well-wishers at Seven Pines Elementary during the February UTA. The next drill weekend, members of the 192nd Logistics Squadron pooled their money to hand out doughnuts, hot chocolate and coffee to those assembled.



## A First-Hand Look at the WTC



Photo by SSgt. Donald Wayne Morris

**SSgt. Ghanda Ross reflects at the site of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York.**

### Trip to Ground Zero: 'Our goal was to show love'

*By SSgt. Ghanda M. Ross  
192nd Mission Support Flight*

NEW YORK -- Visiting the site of a disaster brings to the surface a bizarre mix of emotions.

You want to help, yet you don't want to get in the way. You want to see, yet you don't want to gawk like a tourist. You want to be brave in honor of those who were so brave, yet you cry anyway.

It was that rush of feelings that confronted SSgt. Donald Wayne Morris and me in December when we made a trip to Ground Zero, the site of the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center's twin towers.

We came here in the spirit of lending a hand, of doing whatever we

could.

CMSgt. David Kinsey, with whom we have been working since Sept. 11, had visited Manhattan earlier and told us of a restaurant a few blocks from Ground Zero. It was being used exclusively to feed the firefighters and police officers who were searching for bodies in the rubble.

Chief Kinsey and a friend had spent a day at the restaurant -- Nino's -- helping out in many ways.

We wanted to do our part.

We served meals, cooked, cleaned and provided other services requested by management.

Our goal was to unconditionally show love, provide service before self, and do our duty by supporting

those individuals who protect society from the harmful elements of mankind.

After working during the midday crunch, we went over to take a first-hand look at Ground Zero.

The devastation was beyond words. Here it was, three months to the day after Sept. 11, and hundreds of people at the site still went about their grisly task of digging for bodies.

It was too much to watch without breaking down into tears.

We left Ground Zero with our hearts filled with prayer for the dead and for their families, filled with genuine admiration for those still laboring, and filled with a greater respect for the value of human life.



# Batter Up!

*By CMSgt. David Kinsey  
Command Chief Master Sergeant  
192d Fighter Wing*

As the Command Chief of the Fighter Wing, I get many questions about and from the first sergeants, chiefs, and other senior master sergeants and master sergeants on the base about getting this or that done.

I love all the great ideas, original thinking and helpful suggestions. Those of you who know me best know I'm always looking for a way to get something done, even if we've never done it that way.

### Good systems in place

But I have to temper that attitude with the reality that we are in the military and we have a system. We have some doggone good systems here at the 192d, and people who work hard to keep them going.

Many of these folks are experts in their fields and recognized across the country. However, we have talent and energy resources that run deeper than the people and groups who usually come to the rescue on project after project.

I'd like to speak specifically to the master sergeants and senior master sergeants on base, full time or drill status, who have accepted positions of leadership by accepting those ranks.

We, the first sergeants and chiefs, need your help.

You are senior NCOs and, I believe, have some obligation to go beyond the call of duty to help make the organization better. We need you to step up to the plate and accept the leadership roles your rank conveys and everyone expects from your rank.

## Now's the time for Top Three enlisted ranks to step up to plate

It's been said that you're not a complete person until you've been involved in something bigger than yourself. Most of you know that feeling.

We have projects, present and upcoming, that need your expertise, energy and leadership because those two, small groups — the first sergeants and the chiefs — simply cannot take those leadership roles in every extracurricular project that comes along.

Let's take one project in particular and maybe, from a successful venture, the core of a Top 3 organization can

with fun and good food. There is a lot of toasting and roasting, and we have permission for beverages other than soft drinks.

Allowable dress will include desert BDUs if you have the complete outfit, so there is an opportunity to show your colors if you've been overseas recently.

You can find out what a grog bowl is. You will leave knowing more people, and knowing more about those people, than when you arrived. The camaraderie will help all of us.

Check out these web sites for recent Dining In celebrations:  
[http://www.au.af.mil/42abw/jec/events/dining\\_in.htm](http://www.au.af.mil/42abw/jec/events/dining_in.htm) (this site has the rules as well), and  
<http://huachuca-www.army.mil/usag/306mibn/photo.htm>

### Small committee assignments

Master and senior master sergeants, we need you to take on small committee assignments and take part in making this come to fruition.

Assignments include things such as making sure enough tables and chairs are set up, ensuring that lighting and a public address system are operational, designing and setting up some type of decorations, setting up a grog bowl, designing and posting signs, collecting reservations and money, determining and purchasing supplies, and giving a hand with many, many other functions.

As you can see, help is needed and, I assure you, you will be as enriched by the experience of volunteering as you will by taking part in the occasion.

Please e-mail SMSgt. Kim Evans at your earliest opportunity. Now's the time to step up to the plate.

**It's been said  
that you're  
not a  
complete  
person until  
you've been  
involved in  
something  
bigger than  
yourself.**



CMSgt. Kinsey

come about and have fun in the process. I'm speaking of a Combat Dining In. Several senior NCOs are trying to make this really fun and team-building project a reality, but they cannot do it alone.

If we break it down into doable parts, it will be something to be proud of and something that can become a regular event -- something the Top 3 can call their own and put their mark on. Esprit de Corps will grow tremendously.

A Combat Dining In is an informal (BDU) dinner for everyone. It follows a format sure to bring everyone closer,

# 203rd RED HORSE dedicates memorial to fallen guardsmen

By Maj. Deborah D. Magaldi

More than 1,000 people turned out last month in rainy, blustery weather to help dedicate a 203rd RED HORSE Flight memorial honoring their 18 brothers and the three Florida Army Guard aviators who perished in a military transport crash a year earlier.

The March 3 ceremony -- exactly one year after the crash -- began at 2 p.m. at the 203rd RED HORSE headquarters at Camp Pendleton, Virginia Beach. More than 350 family members of those who perished, unit members, military and civilian dignitaries, and guests took part. Several of the 28 chaplains who assisted family and unit members in the days, weeks and months after the crash also attended.

Gov. Mark Warner, in his first public appearance as commander in chief of the Virginia National Guard forces, gave the keynote speech.

"This is an occasion when the remarks of a governor...hardly seem adequate," Warner said. "These men were men of courage, judgment and integrity. But most of all, they were men of dedication. We honor them, and we thank their families for service to Virginia and the nation."

Warner commended the lives and sacrifices of those who died in the March 3, 2001, crash. He quoted the words of Confederate Gen. Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson: "The patriot volunteer, fighting for country and his rights, makes the most reliable soldier on earth."

The governor told those at the dedication that the best way to honor the fallen guardsmen was to "support our citizen soldiers." He called upon

everyone to take part in community service organizations that provide a "chain of concern" — the volunteer groups, agencies and churches that provide emergency aid and comfort during and after civil disasters.

Maj. Gen. Paul A. Weaver Jr., who retired recently as director of the Air National Guard, recalled the moment that he received word of the C-23 crash. It was the worst peacetime aviation disaster in the history of the

**"We will feel their presence, and we will always remember."**

*Lt. Col. Thomas Turlip  
Commander,  
203rd RED HORSE Flight*

National Guard, and the worst loss of life in the Virginia National Guard since World War II. Weaver said he hoped the monument would be considered a "living memorial to our kinsmen, who made the supreme sacrifice."

As Lt.Col. Thomas Turlip, 203rd RED HORSE commander, stood to speak, he was hailed with a standing ovation. Representatives of the families came forward and presented him with a frame holding photos of each of the dead guardsmen. After accepting the remembrance, he addressed the gathering: "Now we stand in front of a beautiful living memorial that symbolizes their presence, their service and their commitment."

"As we walk along these magnifi-

cent walkways, we will walk amongst our own American patriots in a very special way. We will feel their presence, and we will always remember."

Both Turlip and the commander of the Florida Army Guard aviation unit, Chief Warrant Officer 5 Joseph McDonough, praised each unit's efforts in the aftermath of the mishap, and the relationships that have grown between the units and their family members.

The memorial takes the form of a reflection or meditation garden complete with the unit's mascot — a life-size, rearing red horse.

The 30,000-square-foot memorial also includes a large bronze Minuteman statue rising from a clear pool in front of a waterfall, and a second red horse. This horse kneels in front of a memorial — a 7,000-pound black granite boulder — with the names of the 21 National Guard men etched into its one polished surface.

Encircling the memorial is a winding path embracing 22 Bradford pear trees; a plaque at the base of each tree honors each one of the guardsmen. The 22nd tree bears a plaque honoring those who died during the terrorist acts of Sept. 11, which took place four days before the groundbreaking of the 203d's memorial on Sept. 15, 2001.

The memorial incorporates ideas from several 203rd members. Using a range of the construction skills found in RED HORSE units, 203rd members, assisted by RED HORSE units from Ohio, Pennsylvania, Florida, Washington, Montana, and Texas, built most of the memorial.

The 18 members of the 203rd unit were returning home from a two-week military construction project at Hurlburt Field, Fla., when the Florida Army Guard C-23, flown by aviators from Detachment 1 of the 171st Aviation Battalion, crashed in a cotton field near Unadilla, in southern Georgia.

# Family Readiness News

Virginia Air National Guard

## Megan's Story

Before September 11, 2001 the 203rd Red Horse had experienced its own tragedy. The 200 member group lost 18 of its members on March 3, 2001 in a plane crash as they were traveling back from training in Florida.

On March 3 of this year, a memorial was dedicated to the lost members and their families. As part of the memorial, a tree was planted for each member.

Before the dedication ceremony, families were able to visit the tree dedicated to their lost loved one. Many of them placed flowers at that site and cried one more time.

But long before that moment was another moment in time at which everything in life that made sense was changed.

For 15-year-old Megan Brown,

daughter of MSgt Jay Brown and wife, Sharon, life as she knew it turned upside down.

Megan was living a typical life of a teenager, feeling a little distance from her parents. She viewed herself as one of those tough girls who never showed her emotions. But then the accident happened.

I asked Megan to share her story with me because I wanted others to know about the sacrifices this young lady made to rise to the occasion when the family of the 203rd Red Horse unit in Virginia Beach suffered its loss last year.

"I will always remember the reaction on my father's face when he got that phone call. When he told me what had happened, he began to cry.

That was the first time I had ever seen my dad in that much pain.

"I had so many things running through my head that I didn't have time to cry. (After a while, I sat down and let my emotions out.)

*Continued on page 3*



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April, 2002

### Special points of interest:

- Plan on shopping 'til you drop at the Sidewalk Sale in April
- Stop by the Grand Opening of the Mini-BX and pick up a few things!
- Visit the Family Readiness tables on drill weekend and meet some of our volunteers.
- Thanks again, Suzanne Bullock and Mechanicsville United Methodist Church for the Easter Cookies!

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## The 2002 Personal and Family Readiness Guide is Available

The Personal Family and Readiness Guide for 2002 has been updated and is ready for distribution!

The P&FR Guide was created as a viable, up-to-date resource handbook with critical information, referrals and references.

It provides points of contacts for benefits and entitlements as well as a checklist to help families cover all bases in preparation for deployments.

To obtain a copy of the P&FR guide, stop by the Family Readiness Office.



## The Virginia Air National Guard And You

Families who become a part of the Virginia Air National Guard receive many hard-to-measure benefits which include a sense of pride in knowing that you are helping your country.

To ensure that your time with the Air Guard is pleasurable and profitable, take these important steps:

- Be sure that your military ID cards are updated to reflect any current changes in activation status. All family members over the age of 10 need to have one.
- Pick up the new Personal and Family Readiness Guide so that you know who to call if the family needs help or in case of an emergency.
- Prepare for family deployments by completing your worksheets in the P&FR Guide.
- Learn military language.
- Learn what to expect from the Air Guard, and what is expected of you!
- Become familiar with your benefits and

entitlements before you need them.

- Volunteer! Get to know other families and make a difference.



## Finances 101?-Part I

For many singles and spouses who have been called up (activated to full time status), finances have become an issue. There may be more money available now or less money to work with than before. So what is a family to do?

The key word is "*budget*". A budget is a money plan. With it you organize and control your financial resources, set and realize goals, and decide in advance how your money will work for you.

If you find that you are one of the lucky families that have more money coming in than be-

fore, budget your expenses so that you are able to live without it! Now is not the time to buy that dream SUV.

Save the difference between the former income and the new income. Review investment vehicles that will meet your goals and make a commitment to continue it even after you re-enter you civilian life.

For example, suppose you are 35 years old and have not begun to save properly. The extra money that comes from your activation brings



\$100 more a month into your family. Instead of spending it, you start the habit of saving it in an investment vehicle that averages around 8% annual rate of return and you continue saving until you are age 65. At retirement, you will have accumulated approximately \$150,000.

That \$150,000 is on top of the other retirement vehicles, like your Thrift Savings Plan or your civilian 401K. What a bonus!

A budget is as simple as it is powerful. Decide to let one work for you!

(Next issue: Part 2 What to do if you have less money than before.)

## Understanding Military Time

Military Time using a 24-hour clock is part of military language. It is easy to understand once you practice a little.

For example, most families have breakfast at 7:00 A.M. During the school year. However, if your family is having breakfast at the military base, they would be eating at 0700 hours, pronounced as "Oh-Seven-hundred" or "Zero-Seven Hundred".

Most children also get home from school at



1600 hours. Sounds like a long day, but the reality is that in "regular time" it is only 4:00 P.M.

There is a hint to figuring out the difference very quickly. After 1:00 P.M. subtract 12

hours. For example: 1300 is 1P.M. (13-12 = 1:00 P.M.)

### What Time is it Really?

1. Baseball practice starts this Saturday at 0800 hours.
2. The dance begins tonight at 1900 hours.
3. Dad's plane is due in tonight at 2200.

Answers: 1) 8 AM 2) 7 PM 3) 10 PM



## Megan's Story, continued

"I wondered how this could happen to my father. Why was God doing this to him?"

"Later that day, my dad called home and asked if my mother and I could come over and help with the families (of the deceased airmen). I was ready to help right away because then I wouldn't feel so helpless. When I got there, I was shocked to see so many people crying over their lost loved ones. I couldn't help but cry.

"Ever since March 3, 2001, I have tried to do all I can to help out in any way at the base. Even though I was just 15 years old, I knew I could do something to help make this situa-

tion a little easier. I was just doing the right thing.

"When I look at myself now, I'm still the same on the outside. But the inside of me has changed. I have learned that no matter the mood you are in, always try to say three easy words...I love you! It could make a difference in someone's day."

Megan coordinated meals for the families immediately after the disaster. She has worked tirelessly beside her mother (and other volunteers) all year right up to the day of the Memorial Dedication.

She is an exceptional young lady who proves that to be a volunteer, the only credential that matters is to have a big heart.

*"When I look at myself now, I'm still the same on the outside. But the inside of me has changed."*

-Megan Brown

## Keeping in Touch with "Hearts Apart!"



For those of you whose military sponsor is deployed to another military installation for more than 30 days, your Family Readiness and Support office is making

new avenues available to you to stay in touch.

We are introducing our **Hearts Apart Morale Call Program**. The purpose of this program is to provide a fast means of communication between military installations within the US

and overseas for family members and sponsors.

The Family Readiness and Support office will set aside time for the family to place one call for 15 minutes per 30 days to the sponsor at the remote location from the Family Readiness Office. Exceptions will be made for family emergencies.

We will also promote the use of the base videophone when practical for one 15-minute call per 45 days to overseas and domestic locations.

Family members will be advised to schedule

an appointment for the call. the Chaplain's Office for the videophone.

If there are special measures that must be addressed to arrange the call, such as a time difference, then those arrangements will be made by the Family Readiness Office prior to establishing the appointment.

Please call the Family Readiness Office at 804-236-7036 for more information.

## Volunteer Opportunities

There are many volunteer opportunities coming up. Please look over your busy schedules and see if there is some time you'd like to give the 192nd.

- Sidewalk Sale: We would like to have a manned Family Readiness Table to expose ourselves to as many families as possible. The hours will be 10 to 5 on Friday April 12 and Saturday April 13.
- BX Grand Opening: We would like to

have an FRG table in front of the new mini-BX on Saturday, April 13. Manning time: 10 am to 2 p.m.

- Babysitting for volunteers: Perhaps you would not mind helping those who help. If children are your specialty, we'd love to talk with you.
- Home Bakers needed: special events benefit from a little TLC that comes in the way of cookies, muffins, and cakes.

If you are gifted in that way, please let us know.

- Seamstresses: We've got something up our sleeves! (Pun intended!)



If you are available for any part of that time period, please call to sign up

## Virginia Air National Guard



### *Family Readiness and Support*

#### Vision

*An enhanced quality of life for National Guard members, their families and the communities in which they live.*

#### Mission

*To establish and facilitate ongoing commander involvement, support and recognition between National Guard families and the National Guard in a partnership that provides the best in both.*



## *Volunteers Are Stepping Up To The Plate-Thanks!!!*

The Family Readiness and support Office wants to thank the many volunteers to have assisted us this past month!

For providing flowers for the 203rd Memorial Dedication: Mary Anne Modlin, Ann Hicks, Judy Wylie, Marie Edwards, Garnett Wood, Pat DeLeon, Wanda Chambliss, SMSgt Dorothy Tatem and the entire CE Office!

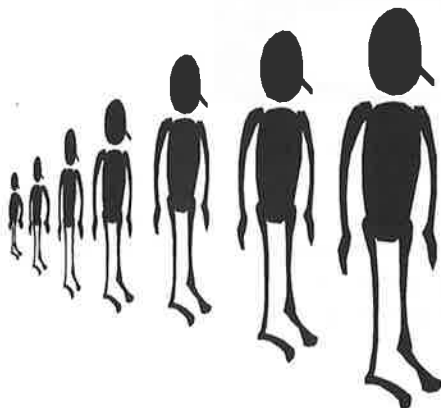
For assistance with the table set-up and break-down, TSgt Shannon Vittone, MSgt Adrienne Smith, SMSgt Dorothy Tatem, SSgt Dona Guillen, MSgt Al Harrison, LTC Gary Wood,

MSgt Bryant Thorpe, SSgt Becky Kerney, TSgt Scott Ewers, TSgt James Cunningham, and SSgt David Martens.

Other volunteers who assisted at the 203rd Memorial Dedication were Ann Hicks, Mary Anne and Cecil Modlin, Chris Wade, and Jessica Wade, Deion Wood and Lisa Wirt.

For assistance in the office: Marie Edwards and Lisa Wirt.

For dedicated hours during drill weekend: Ann Hicks.



*Thank you,  
thank you, thank  
you, thank you,  
thank you!*

# TFE: Now open for your shopping pleasure

By TSgt. Michael Rawlings

Call it what you will -- a BX, a shopette, or a Tactical Field Exchange -- a place to shop for necessities is now right around the corner.

At the request of 192nd Fighter Wing officials, the Army Air Force Exchange Service is providing a mini-BX to the base for a three-month trial period.

Whether or not it stays here depends on how much it's used.

"It's pretty much a case of 'use it or lose it,'" said Lt. Col. Gary A. Wood, 192nd Logistics Squadron commander. Wood was instrumental in arranging to have the mobile BX brought here.

"We'll be open for business by April 1," he said. "Grand opening will be drill weekend. It's a three-month test and we need to demonstrate we need it."

Formally called a Tactical Field Exchange (TFE), the mobile unit will be set up in the parking lot between the front gate and wing headquarters. The parking lot itself will be marked for TFE customers only during business hours.

"We are expecting Army Guard units in the area to use the [TFE] frequently," Wood said. "We expect to have Air Force and Army clothing items. Our Services section will operate it. If proven successful after three months, the BX will take it over themselves and it could grow into a permanent situation."

According to Lt. Col. Ralph Barker, Support Group commander, AAFES officials said the TFE would carry items sold in your typical BX. The initial inventory will be similar to what you would find in the Savannah CRTC BX. Special orders can be placed for items you don't see.



MSgt. Carlos Claudio/192FW Multimedia

**The new Tactical Field Exchange will offer a variety of items similar to those sold in a typical base exchange.**

### Tentative Hours of Operation

#### UTA Weekends:

Saturday	1000 to 1600 hrs
Sunday	1000 to 1500 hrs

#### Daily:

Monday	Closed
Tuesday	1000 to 1400 hrs
Wednesday	1000 to 1400 hrs
Thursday	1000 to 2000 hrs
Friday	1000 to 1400 hrs
Saturday	Closed
Sunday	Closed

*Note: Hours are subject to change.*

### Who can shop?

*The following categories of people are eligible to shop at the base Tactical Field Exchange:*

- Military members with current military ID card.
- Military dependents with a dependent ID card.
- Military retirees with current retiree ID card.

# Short notice can leave you out in the cold

By SSgt. Eric L. Jones  
192nd Services Flight

The number of VaANG personnel requesting billeting at the last minute has increased to the point that it is becoming a problem.

"Last minute," in this case, means one to five days before drill.

This creates a burden on the 192nd Services Office and the hotels to find/block rooms.

We understand that sometimes people may forget to sign up for billeting during the drill weekend, were not present during the previous weekend, or are performing RUTAs or the like.

We also understand that emergencies arise. However, our goal is to reduce the number of people requesting reservations on short notice because they "forgot." The Friday before drill is not the time to ask for a reservation for Friday night.

Before any type of billeting can be authorized, each member must complete a Mileage Certificate and turn it in to the Services Office. Members on active duty or MPA orders must also provide a copy of their orders.

*The following is taken from the  
"Billeting Guidelines Brochure"*  
(Authority: AFI-34-246)

1. The 192 FW/CC and 192 SG/CC have the authority to monitor, set policy, restrict, and expel members from using billeting privileges.

2. You may sign up for billeting on Saturday and Sunday UTA's in the

## *A plane, a pilot, a passenger, a note*

By Linda D. Kozaryn  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, March 8, 2002 -- Flying back to Washington last night after giving a speech in Los Angeles, Pentagon spokeswoman Torie Clarke didn't expect to get a note from the plane's pilot.

"Nice to have you on board," the pilot wrote. "I work at headquarters for the Air Force as the crisis action team duty officer. Just finished duty yesterday as a reservist. I'm working about 15 to 18 days per month for the military, which is keeping me pretty busy, a small price to pay for keeping our way of life secure."

It was signed, "Capt. Rich Lepman from United Airlines. Or, Lt. Col. Rich Lepman from the U.S. Air Force Reserve."

At a Pentagon briefing this morning, Clarke said the note reminded her of the incredible job the National Guard and Reserve are doing in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan and Operation Noble Eagle, the stateside homeland security effort. She said 79,000 Guard and Reserve members have been activated to date and they are now providing a variety of critical services.

"They are serving in Afghanistan. They are serving in Guantanamo Bay. They are working here at home," Clarke told reporters. "We really appreciate what they do. We appreciate the support they get from their employers and their families, and we just wanted to thank them."

Services office, HQ building, room 8.  
During lunch hours on drill weekends,  
you may sign up for billeting in the  
dining hall from 1100-1300 hrs.

3. If you cannot make your reservation during the weekend drill, you may call the services office up to 10 days prior to the next drill to make your reservation. For example: April UTA is April 13-14. If you did not sign up for billeting during March UTA, you may call the services office up until APRIL 3, 2002; which is 10 days before April's UTA. When calling, state the dates you need and if you want a roommate or a single room. The 10-day policy respects the hotel by giving it ample time to reserve the rooms needed. If you fail to make your reservation within 10 days of drill, you must contact your commander to make the reservation.

4. If billeting is needed for days other than drill weekends, you must provide the Services Office with an NGB Form 105 "Authorization For Individual Inactive Duty Training" or a copy of your orders.

5. If you request billeting and do not need it, you are required to cancel your reservation. If on base, stop by or call the services office to cancel. If at home, you may call the Services Office at (804) 236-6315 to cancel. Also, some Air Guard members have called the hotels to cancel with them also. If you do, make sure you get the desk clerk's name, time of call, etc.

**Note: Failure to cancel may result in a two-month suspension of billeting privileges. Also, you may be charged for the room.**

# Even in Bosnia, the weather must go on

*By T.Sgt. Ed Kelleher  
192FW Historian*

Lt. Col. Robert E. "Chuck" Wallace Sr. will go a long way to provide weather support to the Virginia National Guard's 29<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division.

All the way to Tuzla, Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Wallace is commander of the Virginia Air Guard's 200<sup>th</sup> Weather Flight, whose normal mission involves supporting the 29<sup>th</sup>.

When the 29<sup>th</sup> Division was deployed to Bosnia for peace-keeping duty, Wallace explored the possibility of the 200<sup>th</sup> going along as its weather arm. He found that another outfit, the 401<sup>st</sup> Expeditionary Weather Squadron, had been assigned that task.

Ultimately, he volunteered for a 90-day active duty tour as commander of the 401<sup>st</sup>. It was a job that immersed him in the uncertainties of Bosnian winters and the challenges of working with a multinational force that included both NATO and non-NATO forces.

### Risky mountain roads

War-damaged mountain roads that were risky in the best weather were sometimes made impassable in deep winter.

"While I was there they replaced several bridges," Wallace said. "For us, it would have been a two-day job by the Department of Transportation; for them it took six months to a year to even get the materials."

That forced the military to rely heavily on helicopters, and the helicopter pilots in turn relied on accurate weather forecasts.

Wallace arrived at Eagle Base in Tuzla in mid-November and returned to the states in mid-February.

"It snowed right after I got there. All through January we would have snow every couple of days, if not all day long. The maximum snow we got was one foot – I blew that forecast," he said with a laugh. "With the Adriatic [Sea] sitting right there, sometimes it was hard to tell how much snow you were going to get."

For Wallace, who took command of the 200<sup>th</sup> Weather Flight last summer, it was a far cry from teaching eighth-grade science at Park View Middle School in South Hill.

While at Eagle Base, he oversaw the transition of some of the weather observer positions from military personnel to Bosnian citizens. Observers record such things as visibility, cloud height, precipitation and wind speed. They feed that data to weather forecasters, who use it in their calculations.

"The rotation I was on, we were the last to have military



**Lt. Col. Robert E. "Chuck" Wallace (right) poses in Bosnia with Dr. James G. Roche, secretary of the Air Force.**

observers in the field," Wallace said. "We still have our forecasters and our weather officers there, but due to career-field realignment and manpower, [the Air Force] wanted us to get local people trained to a level where they could take military [weather] observations and transmit them. They're doing an excellent job."

Nine Bosnians went through training and eventually replaced six Air Force observers.

"One of my [Bosnian] observers was a lawyer who was working on his doctorate in medicine," Wallace said. "He was very sharp. But he could make more money as a weather observer than as a doctor."

### Impressive airmen, facilities

Wallace said he was impressed both by the quality of the U.S. Air Force personnel stationed at Tuzla and by the physical facilities.

The airmen, he said, "were very high-caliber, very professional, very easy to work with."

"Our facilities were outstanding for a deployed location – basketball gym, multipurpose facility, billeting arrangements. MWR (Morale, Welfare and Recreation) was high on the priority list. Because you were there, you were stuck on base, and you worked at least 12 hours a day, and needed something to take your mind off things a little bit.

"The Air Force looked after their people very well."



## Section Connection

### *A brief note from Australia*

*(This note was posted to the 192FW Internet site, with a request that it be forwarded to Col. Steve Hicks. Brig. Gen. David L. Hudson, the writer's father, was a longtime flight surgeon with the 192FW and retired in 1999 after serving as state air surgeon since 1988. He died in July 2000.)*

Dear Sir,

I would just like to say a very big thank you to yourself and the rest of your squadron for the great send off that you gave my father "Doc" Hudson.

I know that it is just short of two years that he passed away, but the memory of him and all of you guys will always be with me and my family. You should be very proud to have such a professional team working for you.

I can't thank you enough, and I know Dad would have been unbelievably proud of all of you. I know it's taken a long time to write and say thank you, and I apologise for that. You guys keep up the great work.

Thank you again.

Kindest Regards

Peter Hudson  
Canberra Australia

### **Sidewalk sale**

The second 192nd Fighter Wing Sidewalk Sale will be held April 12-13, Friday and Saturday of drill weekend, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the base motor pool. Items from the Fort Lee Commissary will be offered. Spouses and retirees with proper military ID are welcome. Call Angie Wade, Ext. 7036.

## Moving in, moving up...

### FEBRUARY GAINS

SSG Carl D. Moore Sr.  
SSG Clarence L. Kennedy  
SSG Christopher T. Johnson

A1C Gregory C. Walton  
A1C Petril S. Colter  
A1C Lonnie Copeland, Jr.  
A1C Heather R. Rife  
A1C Alison C. Moss  
A1C Alonzo C. Winborne, Jr.  
A1C Percy C. Williams

Amn Richard J. Longo  
Amn Jason A. Odum

### GAINING UNIT

Security Forces  
Maintenance Squadron  
Medical Squadron

AGS  
Operations  
LGS  
Security Forces  
Security Forces  
203<sup>RD</sup> RH

### FEBRUARY PROMOTIONS

CPT Patrick Deconcini  
CPT C. Scott Croxton  
CPT Daniel S. Polanosky

TSG Jerry B. Talley, Jr.

SSG Preston A. Warren  
SSG Daryl S. Gibson  
SSG Derek R. Kahn  
SSG Sean D. Rogers  
SSG Barry A. Ivey  
SSG Lorraine A. Wall  
SSG Gary L. Embrey

SRA Steven S. Craig  
SRA Heidi A. Hinrichs  
SRA Jeffrey S. Coleman  
SRA Vincent A. Davis  
SRA Michael C. Mabry, Sr.  
SRA Steven A. Taylor  
SRA Crystal Gochenour

A1C Derek B. Rillie  
A1C Jason A. Honeycutt  
A1C Wayne B. Gilbert

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## Section Connection

### Air Guard hoops team seeks players, fans

By TSgt. Michael T. Rawlings  
192nd Public Affairs

The Virginia Air National Guard basketball team's season is under way.

As of the March drill, the Fighting Falcons carried a 1-3 won-loss record but led the league in fun.

Games are played at the Defense Supply Center Richmond (Bellwood) on Mondays and Fridays.

"We are having a lot of fun," said MSgt. Albert Harrison of the Transportation Management Office, coach of this year's team.

"Though we lost three, the games have been close. A couple of our new and younger Guardsmen have helped a lot. They have made a difference."

The roster includes a mixture of

old and new members of the Air Guard, as well as a couple of dependents. Dependents need to be at least 18 years of age to participate.

Harrison says that either playing or cheering on the team is a great way to spend an evening.

The remainder of the schedule is published on the base broadcast. The league tournament is scheduled to begin around the first of April.

\* \* \*

### Clinic closed Sunday

The 192nd Medical Squadron will be closed, except for real-world emergencies, on Sunday, April 14, to perform Medical Readiness Training.

Training will include classroom and field exercises.

\* \* \*

### Base gym slated to open this drill weekend

The 192nd Fighter Wing base gym is another step closer to reality. The civil engineers are putting the final touches on the room.

The gym, which will be located in the logistics building (Bldg. 3655), is designed to contain two treadmills, two stair-steppers, three stationary bikes, six weight stations and a utility bench.

The gym is expected to be open by this drill weekend with limited equipment. Some equipment is still on order.

The gym will be available 24 hours a day to base personnel. Restroom and shower facilities will be available.

### ChalleNge prom volunteers needed

The next ChalleNge prom party will be Saturday, June 15, at 7 p.m. at the State Military Reservation in Virginia Beach. The Virginia Air National Guard hosts the party in December and June for the graduating classes. Anyone interested in helping is invited to attend the planning meetings at State Headquarters on May 19 and June 9, both Sundays, at 3 p.m.

The ChalleNge Program is designed to help high school dropouts get their lives back on track, complete a high school general equivalency diploma program, and receive money for follow-on education and job training. Volunteers are needed for the prom party to help with decorating, food preparation and service, cadet photos, and cleanup.

For details, call 1Lt. Toni Vander Spiegel, Ext. 6012.

### Officer Selection Board

The Military Personnel Flight (MPF) is accepting applications from those interested in becoming an officer in the Virginia Air National Guard. The application deadline is Sunday, June 9.

To be eligible, you must meet the following criteria:

**Age:** You must be commissioned before reaching your 35th birthday.

**Education:** A bachelor's degree is desired. Applicants must have at least 90 semester hours for consideration of a waiver.

**Test Requirements:** Applicants must take the Air Force Officer Qualification Test (AFOQT).

For details, call MSgt. John Rollings at (804) 236-6708 or stop by the MPF. Mail applications to: ATTN: MSgt. Rollings, 192 MSF/DPMPE, 50 Falcon Road, Sandston, VA 23150.

### In-residence Professional Military Education

All airmen interested in attending Professional Military Education (PME) In-Residence should visit the Base Education and Training Office (BETO) to complete MPF FORM 10, Formal School Request. Some scheduled classes are full but periodically have last-minute cancellations. Having a list of interested airmen and the form completed will allow the BETO to backfill the vacancies. The first step to attending is completion of the Formal School Request. Contact 2Lt. David R. Lands, education and training officer, Ext. 6590.

## Nourishment for the body and spirit

### April Drill Menus

#### Saturday

BBQ Ribs  
Fried Fish (fried outdoors)  
Macaroni & Cheese  
Baked Beans  
Broccoli  
Cobbler

#### Sunday

Meat Loaf  
Roast Turkey  
Mashed Potatoes  
Green Beans  
Cobbler

### *The Chaplain's Corner*

## Preparing to deploy here or there

Once upon a time there was a man who loved grapes. One day while eating a grape, he bit into a seed and vowed that from that moment on he would buy only "seedless" grapes.

His wife heard his vow and asked, "Do you know why seeds in grapes bug you?"

"Sure," he said, "because I bite into those bitter little things and they scatter all over my mouth!"

Smiling, his wife said, "No, it's because you're too impatient to dig them out first. The seeded grapes really taste better, but they take a little more time."

Taking a little more time is sometimes not such a bad idea.

Have you heard the "American's Prayer"?

It goes like this: "Lord, give me patience... And I want it right now!"

The prophet Isaiah writes, "Those who wait for the Lord will gain new strength."

We live in a hustle-bustle, stress-filled

time. As Guard members, we could be deployed at home or around the world on short notice. These days are not easy, and there is plenty of anxiety around. As we prepare for tomorrow, there are benefits in developing an attitude of patience and "waiting."

According to Isaiah, "...they will mount up on wings like eagles, they will run and not get tired. They will walk and not get weary."

Make patience and "waiting on the Lord" part of your deployment preparations.

Replace the "American's Prayer with this spiritual prayer: "Lord make me mature...And I am willing to wait on you."

Have a "grape" day!

*Lt. Col. Charles A. Smith  
Chaplain, 192FW*

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