



Integrity First - Service Before Self - Excellence In All We Do

Virginia Air National Guard

192d Fighter Wing

June 2003



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**News:** Get the latest news from Family Readiness. *Pull-out*

## REPUBLIC F-105D "THUNDERCHIEF"

IN 1951, REPUBLIC AVIATION BEGAN A PROJECT TO DEVELOP A SUPERSONIC TACTICAL FIGHTER-BOMBER TO REPLACE THE F-84F. THE RESULT WAS THE F-105 "THUNDERCHIEF", LATER AFFECTIONATELY NICKNAMED "THUD". THE PROTOTYPE, YF-105A, FIRST FLEW ON OCTOBER 22, 1955, BUT THE FIRST F-105D DID NOT FLY UNTIL JUNE 9, 1959. F-105s WERE PRODUCED IN THE SINGLE SEAT -B AND -D SERIES, AND IN THE TWO SEAT F-105F MODEL. LATER, SOME -Fs WERE MODIFIED TO BECOME F-105Gs. A TOTAL OF 833 THUNDERCHIEFS OF ALL TYPES WERE BUILT, INCLUDING 610 F-105Ds.

THE F-105D COULD CARRY OVER 12,000 POUNDS OF ORDNANCE, A HEAVIER BOMB LOAD THAN A WORLD WAR II B-17. THE F-105D WAS EXTENSIVELY USED IN THE VIETNAM WAR. IT FLEW 75% OF THE AIR STRIKES AGAINST NORTH VIETNAM DURING THE FIRST FOUR YEARS IT OPERATED IN THAT THEATER. F-105 AIRCREWS SHOT DOWN A TOTAL OF 27 & 1/2 MIG-17s, SHARING ONE WITH THE CREW OF AN F-4D.

THIS AIRCRAFT, SERIAL NUMBER 61-0050, SERVED IN THE VIRGINIA AIR NATIONAL GUARD FROM 1971 UNTIL 1981. THE LAST F-105D WAS WITHDRAWN FROM SERVICE WITH THE AIR FORCE RESERVES ON FEBRUARY 25, 1984.

"THIS AIRCRAFT IS THE PROPERTY OF THE USAF MUSEUM PROGRAM"

Archive Photos



## ABOUT the VANGUARD

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*We can be reached at **(804) 236-6388**.*

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

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#### Chief, Public Affairs Editor-in-Chief

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TSgt. Michael Rawlings

TSgt. Sabrina Reynolds-James

#### Photographic Support

Multimedia Support Center

.....

### Next UTA:

**June 7-8**

#### Cover:

An archive photo of an airborne F-105 as it passes the base hangar.

Ever have that feeling that someone out there is watching over you?

It's a pretty comforting thought, especially for members of the Armed Forces subject to being sent God-knows-where to do the nation's bidding.

You can fly the sleekest F-16s, carry the finest equipment, be supported by the latest in technology, and still want to know that somebody back home is thinking about you.

Well, I found out a few weeks ago that no matter how far away you might be, somebody is thinking of you.

And not just thinking.

Her name is Ersell Brinser, and she's got you on her mind constantly. There are many others like her who weave an unseen nationwide fabric of emotional support for all of us in uniform.

The difference is that Mrs. Brinser's fabric is tangible, colorful and extremely patriotic. She spends her time crocheting the Stars and Stripes, the American flag.

But I'm getting ahead of myself. Let me explain how I came upon this remarkable woman.

I was invited to give a talk at the Masonic Home, off Nine Mile Road just a few miles from here. It's a sprawling, well-managed retirement home for Masons and their spouses.

As a speaker, you never know exactly how your presentation is going over, and many of the people in the audience were in their 80s or older. But I felt reasonably confident that the talk had gone well.

Then, just after I finished, I got upstaged.

Totally.

By Ersell Brinser, an 87-year-old woman who wanted to give me something to take back to the base!

It was a beautifully crocheted 52-by-39-inch flag – the Stars and Stripes in vibrant red, white and blue yarn.

Mrs. Brinser didn't stop there. For a couple of minutes, she explained the symbolic values behind the national colors and what the flag meant to her.

Turns out that Mrs. Brinser has crocheted reproductions of Old Glory several times, and she's given away every one. Now she's making a giant-sized flag for the entrance to McGuire Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

Not only that. For the past five years she's been crocheting red, white and blue lap robes. She geared up into nearly full-time production after Sept. 11, 2001, and has given away hundreds by now.

"After the president said we're going to war, I started crocheting flags," she said.

While crocheting, Mrs. Brinser kept up with Operation Iraqi Freedom on television and in the newspapers. A combination of three stitches is called a shell, and she would give a name to each shell in honor of servicemen serving in the war effort.

So there I stood listening to this story with a great big lump in my throat, realizing that while I had been talking about patriotism, here was a real patriot, a silent patriot who is thinking about us all the time.

Her handiwork will be displayed on the wall outside my office, symbolic of the support we enjoy from so many wonderful people – many of whom we don't even know.

If you're ever deployed somewhere, or on the flight line working in 100-degree temperatures or freezing cold, and you're feeling alone or under-appreciated, just remember that the Ersell Brinsers of the world are thinking about you.

It's a mighty comforting thought. Sincerely,

*Colonel Stephen R. Hicks,*  
Wing Commander

## Air Force eases Stop Loss restrictions

WASHINGTON (AFPN) – Air Force personnel officials announced May 14 the release of more than half of the Air Force Specialty Codes previously restricted from retirement or separation under the Stop Loss program.

Following a review of operational requirements, 31 officer and 20 enlisted career fields were identified for release from Stop Loss, the officials said.

The officer career fields released from Stop Loss restrictions are: 11BX, 11EX, 11FX, 11HX, 11KX, 12BX, 12EX, 12FX, 12KX, 12RX, 12TX, 13BX, 13DXA, 13DXB, 32EX, 43EX, 43HX, 43TX, 44EX, 44MX, 45AX, 45BX, 45SX, 46FX, 46MX, 46NXX, 46SX, 48AX, 48GX, 48RX and 51JX.

The enlisted career fields released from Stop Loss restrictions are: 1C2XX, 1C4XX, 1S0XX, 1T1XX, 3E000, 3E0X2, 3E4X1, 3E4X2, 3E5X1, 3E7X1, 3E8X1, 3E9X1, 3H0X1, 3N0XX, 4A1XX, 4A2XX, 4B0XX, 4E0XX, 4H0XX and 5J0X1.

The Air Force announced Stop Loss, a Defense Department program designed to retain members of the Armed Forces beyond their established dates of separation or retirement, for 99 AFSCs and deployed airmen on March 13. The move was aimed at ensuring personnel levels were adequate to meet upcoming contingencies.

"It was not an action that we took lightly," said Dr. James G. Roche, secretary of the Air Force. "It was designed to preserve Air Force skills essential to supporting the global war on terrorism and operations in Iraq."

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper pointed out that service officials have continually maintained that they would use Stop Loss only as long as necessary to accomplish the mission.

"We've re-evaluated our requirements and are releasing these AFSCs because Stop-Loss is inconsistent with the fundamental principles of voluntary service," Jumper said.

Maj. Teresa Forest, chief of Air Force retirements and separation policy at the Pentagon, said this announcement is the result of an in-depth review.

"A number of different factors went into the review process," Forest said. "We had to consider the balance between the active duty and Air Reserve Component, as well as the need to remain responsive to changing events worldwide."

Deployed active duty, Guard and Reserve airmen whose AFSCs are released from Stop Loss will not be allowed to retire or separate until their deployment is completed, Forest said. Air Reserve Component airmen who are mobilized, but not deployed, will be demobilized according to ARC policy.

The actual "termination" of Stop Loss has yet to be determined because the Air Force and the combatant commanders still need certain skills to directly support the war in Iraq, Forest said.

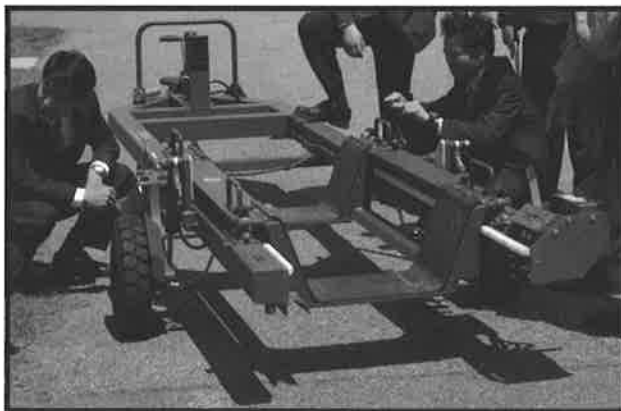
More career fields will likely be released later, she said, based on input from different levels around the Air Force. If airmen experience a severe hardship caused by Stop Loss, they can apply for a waiver through their chain of command.

"Many families have had to put their plans on hold because of Stop Loss," Forest said. "We will make every effort to balance their needs with our commitment to operational requirements."

Additional information is available at installation military personnel flights.



ANG Director Lt. Gen. Daniel James proudly displays the 352nd Fighter Squadron patch that was presented to him by the 192nd Fighter Wing Commander Stephen Hicks. The men are flanked by Virginia Air National Guard ranking members.



Taiwanese Air Force members check out a TARS loader with cradle.

Both photos by MSgt Carlos Claudio, Multimedia

## Anthrax/Smallpox Vaccines

With the increased threat that now exists throughout the world and the possibility of the 192d participating in an upcoming AEF rotation, we have to make sure we are prepared to meet any mission we may be tasked with. Part of that preparation has to be to ensure we are ready to face the possibility of being exposed to certain biological agents that might be used against us. Two of the more prominent threats are from Anthrax and Smallpox.

Anthrax is a top choice for use as a biological-warfare agent. The most deadly form of anthrax, inhalational anthrax, is the form most expected on the battlefield. Without medical care, about 95% of non-immunized individuals will die from exposure to it. Fortunately there is a safe and effective vaccine for anthrax. The National Academy of Sciences and six panels of civilian scientists confirm that anthrax vaccine works and is safe. ([www.nap.edu/catalog/10310.html](http://www.nap.edu/catalog/10310.html))

The other major threat is Smallpox. Smallpox is a very serious disease; it is contagious and sometimes fatal.



About 3 out of 10 people infected with smallpox will die. Survivors are often scarred and, in rare cases may be blinded. Smallpox vaccine contains live vaccinia virus (not smallpox virus) to protect against smallpox. This same vaccine was given to millions of Americans, including Service Members during World War I, World War II, and until the 1980s. The World Health Organization (WHO) used smallpox vaccine to eradicate natural smallpox from the planet. After a single smallpox vaccination, about 95% of people develop protection within 10 days. Once vaccinated, you have to get re-vaccinated once every 10 years to maintain it's effectiveness.

There is a chance that the 192d will be expected to be ready for possible participation in an upcoming AEF rotation. If called upon to do this, we will have to undergo Anthrax and Smallpox vaccinations. Many of our fellow Air Guardsmen in the 203d have already gone through this. We need to be aware of the potential for us to have to do this and be ready for it.

## Parking Issues

Parking on the 192d Fighter Wing has recently got to the point that something had to be done to protect government facilities.



Parking behind the Engine Shop 1

With the increased FPCON conditions that limit parking within close range of critical facilities, many spaces were lost to barricades and stand-off distances. Effective immediately, Security Forces will once again be ticketing and strictly enforcing parking on this installation. Vehicles parked on the grass, in fire lanes, parked in non-marked spaces and other violations will be ticketed. All Security Forces incidents are now documented in the USAF wide Security Forces Management Information System. (SFMIS) These violations can be seen at any installation and likewise can be viewed at our base. Parking violations will be routed through the member's commander for action and then annotated in SFMIS. Please help ensure your own safety by not blocking fire lanes and other avenues for emergency vehicles by parking properly. Any violations that you witness or questions that you have may be directed to Central Security Control at extension 6360. (24hrs)

Photo by Frank Brina

## Chaplain's Corner - by Ch(Maj) Ed Moran

### The critical days of summer -- remember to be safe and take God along!

Movement from spring into summer means many things to different people: graduations, weddings, vacation bible school, multisport competitions, time away on vacation or even a deployment. All of these special activities can conspire to make this a busy time in the face of warming weather that invites us to enjoy more of the outdoors. We will soon be entering the critical days of summer when accident rates escalate and throughout the command you will hear a continued call to remember to be safe.

Appeals to safety can remain abstract and disconnected from our lives unless we can translate them into concrete actions such as remembering to do preventive maintenance on a vehicle before taking that long vacation journey or checking out the boat for updated fire extinguishers and flotation devices before enjoying a day on the water. Safety is an attitude that can be translated to the mundane and everyday: wearing hearing and eye protection when mowing the lawn, donning helmets for all those family biking outings, using sunscreen

to reduce the risk of skin cancer when out and exposed to the sun, remembering to hydrate when engaging in vigorous activities, and using the buddy system when swimming, especially where there are swift currents. Planning safety into all you do can make the difference between a great time or a tragic accident.

While we spend time and resources on safety in the unit, we must find ways to translate such an attitude into our civilian lives and our recreation. Take some time to review what you plan to do in the next month. Then ask yourself how to make these activities safer. Safety is left out many times because it's not planned into what we do. Write down these suggestions and then see how best to implement them.

Remember, too, that while you're away on vacation, your church community still needs your support. Parishes don't take vacations from bills. Plan to make your donation before you leave. It will go a long way to keep things financially stable at your church.

Safety enhances the blessings we have received while it refines and strengthens the stewardship which has been entrusted to us. Be aware of the upcoming critical days of summer. Plan to be safe and always invite God into all of your activities, be they work or play.

### MOVING IN, MOVING UP, MOVING ON

#### May Promotions

2<sup>ND</sup> Lt. Mark W. Widener  
SMS Jay N. Ellis  
MSG Stephen R. Gamache  
SSG James G. Caprara  
SSG Benjamin A. Rettig  
SSG William R. Rudy  
SRA Angelique Dickerson  
SRA Thomas W. Harper  
SRA Fernandus R. Branch  
SRA Kendrick A. Hall  
SRA Denise P. James  
SRA Cynthia A. Meekins  
SRA Michael J. Soroka  
A1C Jeffrey W. Castello  
A1C Lloyd M. Rawles  
A1C Benjamin J. Rieker  
A1C Andrew L. Wiggins

#### To

1<sup>ST</sup> Lt.  
CMS  
SMS  
TSG  
TSG  
TSG  
SSG  
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SRA  
SRA

#### May Gains

SSG Allen E. Ewell, Jr.  
SSG James R. Goodard  
SSG Brian K. Gray  
SSG Jeffery D. Kaylor  
SSG Marcus A. Marquez  
SRA Lawrence S. Lee  
SRA Jermaine A. Cathort  
A1C Dan Bates, III  
A1C Adam M. Bowen  
A1C Derek E. Chandler  
A1C Joseph H. Hatheway  
A1C Michael S. Justice  
A1C Adam E. Thornton  
Airman Basic Abraham J. Anderson  
Airman Basic Edward K. Dix  
Airman Basic Jonathan Hernandez

#### May Retirements

TSG Carol Harris

#### Unit

Maintenance Sq.  
Logistics Sq.  
203<sup>RD</sup> Red Horse Sq.  
Weather Flight  
Logistics Sq.  
Maintenance Sq.  
Services Flight  
149<sup>TH</sup> Fighter Sq.  
Security Forces  
Maintenance Sq.  
Civil Engineering Sq.  
Civil Engineering Sq.  
Civil Engineering Sq.  
Civil Engineering Sq.  
Security Forces  
Maintenance Sq.

#### Unit

Fighter Wing

# News You Can Use/Announcements



## Wanted -- Individuals to Serve on the 192FW Honor Guard

The 192d Fighter Wing is recharging its Honor Guard program.

Volunteers should be willing to attend a three-week in-residence course and make at least a two-year commitment to support requests for Honor Guard participation in funerals and civic and military activities.

Those selected will be provided with uniforms and training in compliance with Air Force directives.

Certified Honor Guard personnel will be compensated for duties to which they are assigned. They must project a professional Air Force image and comply with Air Force weight standards.

The Honor Guard program is also looking for a coordinator, preferably an E-7 or higher. The coordinator will work directly with the 192d Services Flight in managing the program. Selection requires concurrence from the applicant's section supervisor and unit commander.

Anyone interested in volunteering for the program should see 1Lt Dan Gibbons in the Services Flight office or call him at Ext. 6115.

## DAC "Meet & Greet Cookout"

The DAC will hold a "Meet & Greet Cookout" on Aug. 9, 1730-2030, after the Saturday drill. Air Guard families and friends are invited. Contact TSgt Wall at Ext. 6633 or SSgt Dickerson at Ext. 6894 to confirm attendance..

## Trained Crisis Responder

A Trained Crisis Responder (TCR) course will be offered on Wednesday and Thursday, July 16-17, in the Civil Engineering Training Room, Bldg 3629, Room 11, starting at 0830 hours both days.

This training is known as the *National Guard Trained Crisis Responder Course: Terrorism and Disaster Response*. The Crisis Intervention Division of the National Guard Bureau/Headquarters Chaplain Office and the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation developed this initiative.

The TCR course has been called 'psychological self-aid and buddy-care.' It has received Colonel Hicks' endorsement. The course is designed to teach members about reactions to critical incidents such as combat situations, terrorist attacks, natural disasters, and violent crimes. Training covers 13 hours of instruction and role-play.

We are encouraging maximum participation from all available personnel, as this may be the last class offered at the VaANG.. Obtain orders/days/billeting through normal channels.

Contact Lt Col Leonard at 236-6747 or Chaplain Smith at 236-6387 for more information or if you are interested in signing up.



Ross Clayton Small, a Senior Airman with Security Forces was recently awarded membership in the Golden Key International Honour Society at Virginia Commonwealth University.

The Honour Society provides academic recognition, by invitation only to the top 15 percent of juniors and seniors from all fields of study. Ross and his twin brother Karl, who is also a member of Security Forces, graduated from VCU May 17 with degrees in Criminal Justice.

# Family Readiness News

Virginia Air National Guard  
192d Fighter Wing 203rd Red Horse 200th Weather

Pull Out  
Section

## The Air Guard Community Demonstrates its Support

Volume 2 Issue 6 June 2003

How many ways can the community say "Thank You" to the Virginia Air National Guard?

Community appreciation has come in the forms of Girl Scout Cookies, Bumper Stickers, Care Packages and a parents day off!

Girl Scout Troop 3314 of Highland Springs, VA, recently donated 6 cases of Girl Scout Cookies to our local support troops this year. Led by Scout Leader, Mary Gosh, the girls brought Samoas, Thin Mints, Ole's, and Trifolds. This was the second year the Troop has offered it's support in this way.



TSgt Glen Morreale enjoyed the Girl Scout Cookies in Kandahar last year.

Last year, the troop brought six cases of various types of Girl Scout

cookies for the 192d FW. Those cookies were sent overseas with a note that if they were broken upon arrival, sprinkle them on your cake icing! Our firemen who were stationed in Kandahar at the time, were very appreciative of the cookies when they arrived.

A local Boy Scout Troop from Ashland, VA, Troop 700 took a different approach to supporting the troops. Spearheaded by



Scout Leader, Glenna Moeller and her husband, they decided to support the families at home by making and selling bumper stickers that read "Support Our Troops". They made a donation to the Family Readiness and Support Volunteers to assist in funding projects to encourage morale for both the families and deployed troops.

Powhatan Middle School decided to support our troops by donating 37 care packages. The boxes were shared with the families of the 203rd Red Horse Flight,



who have members currently deployed to support Operation Enduring Freedom. The members have been greatly encouraged by the generous contents, which included balls, frisbees, toiletries for both men and women, movies, magazines and soft cover novels.

Recently returning Security Forces personnel were given their care packages at home due to restrictions from the post office in our being able to get the packages to them. TSgt Govie Peebles was so surprised at the generosity of the students! He plans to visit them personally to say thank you!

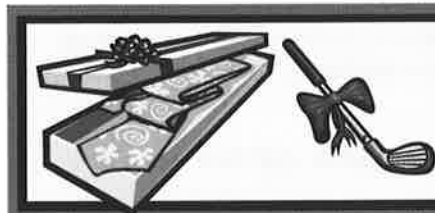
### Asides:

- **Kings Dominion has introduced Military Days!** Individual tickets can now be purchased from the family support office for \$21.00, a 50% discount over the full price one day ticket. They are first come, first serve! Contact Angie Wade, 804-236-7036 or email: frs@varich.ang.af.mil
- **Kings Dominion Season passes** are still available. Individual passes are \$79.99 each, and family passes are \$249.99. **Our prices will not be going up.** Contact Angie Wade 236-7036.
- **There will not be a Family Readiness and Support meeting in June.** The next meeting will be July 12 at 0900 am in T-1. Pot luck for Lunch!



### Inside this issue:

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Happy Father's Day!  
June 15, 2003



## AIR FORCE LAUNCHES MASSIVE CAMPAIGN TO THANK PARENTS

Secretary of the Air Force James G. Roche and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper launched a service-wide campaign May 5 to thank the parents of America's airmen for their support of their children's service.

The Air Force Parent Pin – or “P” pin – program encourages airmen to register on a secure Air Force web site, [www.yourguardiansoffreedom.com](http://www.yourguardiansoffreedom.com), where they can provide the names and addresses of up to two parents (or parental figures). Shortly thereafter, the airmen's parents will receive personalized letters from Secretary Roche and General Jumper containing high-quality lapel pins displaying the letter “P” cradled in the Air Force symbol.

They are intended to communicate to parents the importance of their children's service to the ongoing war on terrorism, to express sincere gratitude for parents' continued support, and to convey a sense of partnership between the Air Force and the parents of America's airmen.

Through a secure web site at [www.yourguardiansoffreedom.com](http://www.yourguardiansoffreedom.com), the Your Guardians of Freedom program offers a flexible, user-friendly set of web-based tools that allow commanders and their staffs to quickly and efficiently reach out to key audiences on their bases, in their communities, and beyond.



## Visits the Virginia Air National Guard Families

The Family Readiness and Support group had the pleasure of a visit by two guests from **National Military Families Association** members during the May meeting.

**Kathy Moakler**, Senior Issues Specialist, Government Relations and **Fonta Footman-Mitchell**, Director, Volunteer Services and Representatives, presented the mission of the NMFA, “the voice for Military Families”.

NMFA exists to serve families of the seven uniformed services through education information and advocacy. It is the only national organization whose sole focus is the military family.

Consequently, they are sought to testify before Congress on quality-of-life issues, military health care, as well as Reserve Component Family issues. While not a lobbying group, they also bend the necessary ears when a significant issue comes to their attention. They have conducted 24 legislative presentations and 8 other subject matter presentations.

NMFA is primarily a volunteer organization, with over 140 volunteers worldwide. The volunteers are their eyes and ears for current concerns.



*Kathy Moakler, Senior Issues Specialist, Government Relations and Fonta Footman-Mitchell, Director, Volunteer Services and Representatives, discuss issues with Ann Hicks, Family Support Volunteer Leader after the general NMFA briefing.*

Current issues that NMFA is keeping an eye on include family support and resiliency over the long term; how to provide access to support services for all families; child care needs; volunteer support, domestic violence issues; Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, and USSERA to name a few.

After the briefing, the Family Readiness and Support Volunteer group hosted a casual pot luck luncheon.

As part of their educational outreach, Kathy left some booklets titled, Military Families, Money and Mobility written and prepared as a public service project by National Endowment for Financial Responsibility. Copies are available in the Family Support Office.

For more information on NMFA, visit their website at [www.nmfa.org](http://www.nmfa.org)

## Stressed and Full of Anxiety?



What do you say to provide comfort?

So your spouse, significant other, friend, or fellow airman is deployed overseas in support of Operation XYZ. You are both scared. What do you do? As a service to spouses and members of the Air Guard, a **Trained Crisis Responder class** will be held **July 16 and 17** in the **Civil Engineering Training Room, Bldg 3629, Room 11** starting at **0830** hours both days. It will be taught by Lt Col Lori Leonard and Chaplain Charlie Smith.

If you think you are overwhelmed by current conditions due to deployment, please consider taking this class to help you cope. Lt Col Leonard is currently available to help during the time of crisis. If you need help, get it today. You do not have to go through stress and anxiety alone. For additional information or to have Lt Col Leonard contact you, please call or email the Family Readiness Office, frs@varich.ang.af.mil.

## The Greater Richmond Civitan Sponsors Operation Homeland Parent Liberation

With different color helium-filled balloons beckoning parents to the entrance to Camp Baker in Chesterfield County, VA, **Operation Homeland Parent Liberation** was kicked off by the **Greater Richmond Civitans**

**Pat Robson**, Secretary for the civic organization, as well as **Terry Braswell**, **Ann Waring**, members of the Civitans, coordinated a day to remember for military families in spite of the threat of bad weather all day.

"We just wanted to put on a program that would make a difference," Pat commented. The cost to our families for this event? "Free! Sharing your spouse with our country is cost enough!"

So Pat and his fellow Civitans pulled together resources from WAWA to Food Lion to provide hot-dogs chips, pastries and craft items for the youngsters.

The activities included decorating a memory box in which to place items to show the parent upon their return from their deployment.

One special treat was a visit by McGruff, the Crime dog. Each child took a instant picture with McGruff. They were then assisted with making a picture frame out of Popsicle sticks to surround the picture. It was placed inside the memory box.

The facility, Camp Baker, in Chesterfield County, was a wonderful location! They had a very large covered pavilion with tables and a grill, and they had use of an indoor space as well for naps, which did not happen due to excitement. When the threat of rain passed, the kids were able to enjoy themselves on playground equipment.

Smiling parents came to pick up their kids around 4 p.m. One parent shared that he was so excited for this opportunity because he and his wife were able to catch a movie with their time off. Their daughter had so much fun that "she went home to take a nap to dream about [the event]!"

Another set of parents appreciated the chance to drop off the two little ones so that they could spoil their teenage daughter for a day!

But one of the greatest rewards came from an email sent to Mr. Robson from an airman stationed in Saudi Arabia.

"My daughters...attended Operation Parent Liberation and from what [they]

have told me they seemed to have had a great time. [My daughter] told me about the stuffed animals, the surprises that she made for me and that it was really, really, really fun.

I know that [my wife] appreciated some alone time just to relax and do some thing's that she needed to get done and the girls need a break from Mommy sometimes. As much as she has to do between work, home, raising the girls, bills, and anything that pops up from out of the blue I can only imagine that any time she had alone was liberating.

I get cards, letter and emails from people telling me how proud they are of me and of the scarifies that I am making for our country but I tell [my wife] that she should be the one getting all the praise for what she has been doing for the past 3 months and until I come home.

Again I want to thank you and please tell everyone that helped that I said thank you and I am very grateful that they were willing to donate there time to help give [my wife] and all the spouses some me time.

Thank You All So Much!"



Little Savannah gives McGruff, the Crime fighting Dog, a big hug.

Virginia Air National Guard  
192d Fighter Wing 203rd Red  
Horse 200th Weather Flight

50 Falcon Rd Ste.6  
Sandston, VA 23150

Phone: 804-236-7036

Email: angeli.wade@varich.ang.af.mil



## ***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.*



## **Air Force Space Camp Opportunity August 02 thru August 06, 2003**

Who is it for? : Family Member Programs  
Two age groups- Kids 12 to 14  
and Teens 15 to 18  
GPA 2.8 or higher

Where: Space Camp, Huntsville, Alabama

How?: 34 Scholarships will be awarded  
Applications due by June 11, 2003



Contact Family Readiness Office at [frs@varich.ang.af.mil](mailto:frs@varich.ang.af.mil) for the requirement details and the applications.

For more information, visit the Space Camp Website at :

<http://www.spacecamp.com/spacecamp/>

# AEFs: Be Ready to Deploy

## Air Force Chief of Staff's message should be wake-up call

By SMSgt Bob Gray  
NCOIC, Logistics Plans

Whether you know it or not, most of the members of the 192d Fighter Wing have just fallen into the category of "residual forces."

What does that mean?

It means you'd better be ready to deploy.

I'll be a little more specific: You'd better be *trained, equipped and ready to deploy*.

Recent message traffic from the Pentagon has a potential impact on most of us in the 192FW. In effect, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper said that anyone who didn't deploy for Operation Iraqi Freedom stands a good chance of deploying during the next eight months.

Here's some background on the situation.

In January, as the U.S. military was ramping up and getting in place for war against Saddam Hussein, General Jumper directed that the Air Force deviate from the normal Air Expeditionary Force battle rhythm.

On May 5, he sent a message citing the need to return to pre-Iraqi Freedom operations and resume the rotational AEF battle rhythm.

What's more, General Jumper said forces who did not deploy during the past six-to-eight months -- he called them residual forces -- would be used to restart the AEF rotational cycle.

On May 16 the AEF Center sent a message outlining actions required to implement General Jumper's directives.

Residual forces will be used to man two transitional AEFs. The first transition period (designated Transition AEF "Blue") will cover the period from July 15 to Nov 14. The second (designated AEF "Silver"), will cover the period from Nov 15 to March 14, 2004. (These dates are subject to variation as required by functional area and circumstances.)

The AEF Center has established certain critical

tasks to ensure the Air Force is ready to start the blue transition AEF. Air Force component commanders have completed the first task by identifying requirements. The Air National Guard is now working to identify ways to best support AEF rotational requirements.

A relatively new acronym in Air Force-speak is ECS. It stands for Expeditionary Combat Support. ECS represents the essential capabilities, functions, activities and tasks necessary to quickly deploy anywhere in the world to set up and sustain aviation and ground combat operations in any environment, from a major existing base to bare-base locations like the ones that we found in Afghanistan.

To do that, you need to create an expeditionary mindset, and a training environment where we can synchronize the training of all the right ECS specialties.

We are beginning to see ECS requirements for deployments to new locations (Baghdad) as well as old ones. But much is still unsettled. We have no definitive word on the aviation package.

The AEF Center message does contain some critical information that applies no matter what details we learn in the future.

As of May 19, commanders were ordered to ensure that residual forces, regardless of affiliation to any AEF for AEF cycle, are "trained, equipped and ready to deploy."

This includes most of the entire 192FW and 200th Weather Flight, including the aviation package. This also means "ready to deploy," even if emerging details indicate that we are not scheduled to deploy. We will still be on call anytime during the 120-day period.

The AEF Center message indicated that deployment guidelines are likely to fluctuate because of "real-time" conditions, and commanders might get very little notice of changed requirements.

Residual force units, or individuals who meet the criteria for deploying, might be called on to deploy earlier than expected.

What this means, and I cannot emphasize it more emphatically, is that we all have to be trained, equipped and ready to deploy.

## This Month in Photos

# Welcome Home Security Forces!

Photos by MSgt Carlos Claudio

Senator Jay O'Brien and Colonel Stephen R. Hicks share a moment with just arrived Security Forces Team Member SSgt Gregory C. Garrison.

Security Forces Team Member SSgt John E. Zetak and family are greeted by waiting family members and members of the Virginia Air National Guard.



Security Forces Fire Team Chief SSgt William W. Cole embraces a family member.

## Retirements

Photos by SSgt Shelley Gill



192d FW Inspector General, LTC Mary Hodges, waits for her temperature results as part of the pre-screening process before donating blood.

## DoD Blood Drive

Photos by MSgt Carlos Claudio



Civil Engineers utilities specialist SSgt LeRoy Walker completes his blood donation and is ready for a bandage.

Vehicle maintenance specialist SSgt Ben Anderson participates in the DoD Blood Drive and waits patiently for needle insertion.



SMsgt Redell receives a framed picture of an F-16 at his retirement ceremony. SMSGT Redell retired from the 192nd Fighter Wing in Sandston, VA.



Tsgt Carol Harris retired from the 192nd Fighter Wing in Sandston, Virginia. Col. Turner presents her with Honorable Discharge certificate at her retirement ceremony.

## The Diversity Corner

The 192d Fighter Wing's diversity classes examine strategies for targeting barriers in the unit. The Diversity Corner will attempt to provide information regarding those issues in the Vanguard as time allows for research on each topic. Today we will address the following statement: "Unit Manning Document – Outdated and delays promotions."

In last month's Vanguard we addressed how to prepare for promotion. This month we will address some very basic issues about the manning document.

- 1) **Where does the manning document come from?** The manning document is issued by the Air National Guard Readiness Center (ANGRC) based on unit mission. (i.e., 15 aircraft, F-16 unit) The ANGRC looks at the unit mission to determine how many positions are needed to support the mission. The readiness center also determines what grade each position is assigned.
- 2) **Who has access to the document?** The Military Personnel Flight sends a copy to all unit commanders and chiefs. Supervisors may receive a copy by requesting one from Personnel. The manning document is issued monthly. The commanders are notified and issued a new document if the ANGRC makes any changes and/or updates to their document. Examples – if a 4N051 staff sergeant position is upgraded to a tech sergeant or a unit is going through reorganization.
  - a. The commanders and chiefs are also provided a monthly personnel report that consolidates information allowing them to know how many personnel can be promoted within their unit.
  - b. Each unit commander is responsible for managing that unit's documents to ensure all personnel are assigned to positions they are qualified for and are afforded the opportunity for advancement, within the state percentages as directed by the ANGRC.
- 3) **How do the manning document and promotions tie together?** The manning document authorizes a number of grades, i.e., SSG, TSG, MSG, SMS, CMS in each squadron. The ANGRC determines the maximum percentages for the State in each of these grades. (TSG is 125%, MSG is %120, etc)
  - a. **Types of promotions:**
    - 1) Unit Vacancy – This is, for example, a staff sergeant assigned to a tech sergeant position.
    - 2) Deserving Airman – This could be a staff sergeant who is assigned to a staff sergeant position but who meets all the criteria in the deserving airman regulation for promotion to tech sergeant. Some requirements are time in grade, time in service, PME, etc.

Being informed is half the battle. Continue to check The Diversity Corner to see how you be a more active participant in your career growth.

Reference ANGI 36-2101 "Assignments within the Air National Guard," located electronically at: <http://www.ngbpdc.ngb.army.mil/pubfiles/36/362101.pdf> and AFMAN 36-2125, "Military Personnel Strength Accounting Methods."

*"How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and strong — because someday you will have been all of these."*

-George Washington Carver

## Virginia Air National Guard Heritage Series



Left: Crews line up in front of the jets on the flight line. Bottom: An F-105 in the front of the base hangar.

When they arrived at Byrd Field in 1971, most of the F-105s were combat weary and badly in need of some tender-lovin' maintenance.

The Thunderchief – the “Thud” – was an impressive machine. It was the largest single-seat fighter ever built, the first airplane to be designed and built as a supersonic tactical fighter-bomber. With a pointed lance for a nose, it was 64 feet 3 inches long, or nearly 21 feet longer (and more than 5 feet

higher) than its VaANG predecessor, the F-84F Thunderstreak.

The F-105D was designed to deliver a nuclear payload (a role it never had to perform) but gained fame for its part in the blanket bombing of North Vietnam. Thunderchiefs flew more than 20,000 missions over Vietnam. They could carry a combat payload of five 1,000-pound bombs on extended missions, and more than twice that on short missions.

But the Thud's size and weight were also its shortcomings. It had a reputation for being too heavy, having too long a takeoff run, and being a maintenance nightmare. More than 350 Thunderchiefs (D's and two-seater F's) were lost in combat, most of them to North Vietnamese anti-aircraft fire. This was over half of all Thunderchiefs built.

The first F-105 was delivered to Byrd Field on Jan. 19, 1971. Almost all of the Thuds delivered to Virginia had flown combat missions in Vietnam, and the 192<sup>nd</sup> Tactical Fighter Group was the first Air Guard unit to receive them from the regulars for use in tactical fighter missions.

However powerful, it was apparent from the outset that the battle-scarred F-105s would put the 192TFG's maintenance troops to the test.

By TSgt. Ed Kelleher  
192<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Wing Historian

The Virginia Air National Guard's 10-year fling with the ear-splitting, battle-tested F-105D Thunderchief began with a Thud.

(Pardon the irresistible pun. That's the airplane's nickname.)



## Virginia Air National Guard Heritage Series

Archive Photo



Maintainers resorted to using sheet-metal rivets to cover cracks in the fuselage, but that simply masked a number of other problems.

In addition, the base wasn't ready when the airplanes arrived. Runway 15-33, Byrd's 9,000-foot runway, was scheduled for repair and resurfacing between the end of May and October 1971, and the 192<sup>nd</sup> had to set up temporary quarters at Langley AFB in Hampton.

Personnel were bused daily to Langley until the National Guard Bureau finally authorized temporary duty (TDY) days. Nineteen VaANG pilots flew more than 500 hours out



Archive Photo

of Langley without accident or incident before the runway at Byrd was back in commission.

After months of patchwork and training missions, the 192<sup>nd</sup>'s F-105s and their pilots were pronounced combat ready by summer of 1972. But it would be four years before the 192<sup>nd</sup> would take the venerable Thunderchiefs across the Atlantic in 1976 for their only overseas deployment – to RAF Station Lakenheath, about 70 miles northeast of London.

The era of the Thud passed largely without incident, and it appeared destined to go down in the record books without a single pilot fatality. But on March 10, 1981, an F-105D flown by Lt. Col. James P. Gunter Jr., an experienced pilot who had logged time in Vietnam, exploded during an Army support exercise at Fort Bragg, N.C.

It brought to a sad end the era of a noble but aging warhorse whose next and final destination was out to pasture.

Next month: The A-7D Corsair II

Archive Photo



Left: LTC Mattox holds ordnance carried on his F-105. Above Left: Flight line personnel towing jet in front of F model two seater. Above Right: Formation flying.



## Someone is thinking about you!

Ersell Brinser is thinking about you! Even though you may not know her, she knits her patriotic support for all those in uniform into every American flag she crochets. Read about this remarkable lady in this month's Commander's Call on page 2.

Photos by SSgt Shelley Gill



## What's for Lunch?

### SATURDAY UTA

Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce  
Veal Steaks  
Buttered Noodles  
Mixed Vegetables  
Chocolate Pudding  
Assorted Desserts

### SAT.SANDWICHLINE:

Egg Salad Sandwich  
Ham  
Roast Beef  
Turkey

### BOTHDAYS:

Asst Beverages,  
Bread & Salad Bar

### SUN.SANDWICHLINE:

Bacon, Lettuce, &  
Tomatoe Sandwiches  
Ham  
Roast Beef  
Turkey  
Pizza

### SUNDAY UTA

Roast Pork  
Roast Turkey  
Roast Beef  
Fried Fish  
Mashed Potatoes  
Rice  
Succotosh  
Assorted Cookies

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