

# Outstanding Airman of the Year

·1921Medical Croup Change of Command • Logistics Support Center•

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## COMMANDER'S CALL



**Guest Columnist** 

### Change of command ceremony: 192d Medical Group

By Lt. Col. Debbie Magaldi

In the midst of conducting physicals, giving vaccines and getting the 192d Medical Group's functional areas up and running at Langley AFB, medical group personnel, family members and distinguished guests took time out on Dec. 9 for a change of command. During a ceremony officiated by 192d Fighter Wing Commander Col. Jay Pearsall, Col. (Dr.) Gregory J. Biernacki turned over command of the 192d Medical Group to his successor, Lt. Col. (Dr.) Thomas E. Koertge.

After passing the guidon, Col. Biernacki took a few minutes to reminisce on his two stints as 192d MDG commander and his military career as a flight surgeon that had come full circle with his return to Langley AFB. "I have the best job in the world," he said as he recalled his days as a flight surgeon for the 71st Tactical Fighter Squadron at Langley AFB.

"My cup has runneth over," he continued, "I've had so many great mentors and colleagues and been given so many incredible opportunities as commander of the Medical Group.... The messier the situation, the more we came together. Many of you shared in those experiences and memories."

He ended by thanking his many friends and colleagues, his family and especially his wife, Pamela. "You are the tip of the spear and that is why each of you are here today," he said, looking across the hanger.

Col. Biernacki will be serving in Iraq for the next four months. Upon his return, he will resume his duties as the Air Surgeon assigned to the JFHQ-Air Component for Virginia.

Lt. Col. Thomas Koertge joined the 192d Medical Group in 2000. He is a Professor of Periodontics and Microbiology and Immunology and Vice Chair of the Department of Periodontics at the Virginia Commonwealth University School of Dentistry. He

took to the podium saying what an honor and privilege it was to be taking command of the 192d Medical Group, and how very rewarding it has been for him to serve his country through the National Guard. He acknowledged the many people that prepared him for his new assignment: especially his parents; Dr. Jim Rubis, who made him aware of the opportunities in the Air Guard; the support of his first Officer in Charge, Dr. Westbrook; his civilian employer Harvey Schenkein; and his wife Linda and their children.



Col. Jay Pearsall, 192d FW Commander, presents the guidon to Lt. Col. Thomas Koertge, Col. Gregory Biernacki's successor as Commander, 192d Medical Group Commander. (Photo taken by MSgt Carlos Claudio.)

"Col. Biernacki, your leadership and the accomplishments of the 192d Medical Group have set the standard that I hope to follow. Thank you for building the Medical Group into a model Air National Guard and Air Force organization... I salute the men and women of the 192d Medical Group... your outstanding performance and your dedication to the mission and to our country. I look forward to serving with you as we continue the tradition of excellence that you have established."

### About the

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 are they necessarily endorsed by the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force, or the Virginia Air National Guard.

#### Front Cover:

The Combat Air Force Logistics Support Center Fighter 1 Weapon System Team: (left to right) Mr. Mike Westheimer, MSgt Jerry Talley, SrA Jonathan Rhodes, MSgt Jack Miller, MSgt Jackie Chin-Wilson. TSgt Herriott and SSgt Edwards were not available for picture. The team performs global searches for parts for the F-22 and the F-15 aircraft.

The publication is edited & prepared by the 192nd FW Public Affairs Office. Our address is: 192d FW PA, Virginia Air National Guard, 159 Sweeney Blvd, Langley AFB, VA 23665-2292.

#### **Back Cover:**

192d Fighter Wing A1C Voell (left) from Student Flight gets dessert from CMSgt Mike Bouley, Propulsion Flight Chief during the first December Unit Training Assembly holiday meal at Langley AFB, Hampton, Virginia. The Vanguard is printed monthly. Deadline for submissions is close of business on Saturday of the drill weekend. Please submit material to: Vanguard@varich. ang.af.mil.

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SrA Jason StPeter
SrA Meaghan McNeil
SrA Michael Taylor

## "One team . . . one mission"

By Carlos Claudio

If you have ever worked in aircraft maintenance, you know how critical it is to get parts. If you can't get parts, you can't fly the aircraft. If you can't fly the aircraft, your mission fails. At Langley AFB, 192d Fighter Wing Master Sergeant Jerry Talley knows this first-hand. He is the F-15 Weapons System Manager for the Combat Air Force (CAF) Logistics Support Center (LSC). The team Talley is in supports Air Force bases in the United States and abroad. The following is a Vanguard (V) interview with Talley to understand his job at Langley. We also want to get one person's view of how the 192d's integration is faring at Langley AFB:

V: What is a Weapons System Manager? Talley: The F-15 Weapons System Manager here at the CAF (Combat Air Force Logistic Support Center) is responsible for managing the overall weapons system to include parts, sustainability, modification, aircraft transfers, RSPs, contingency operations, unsupportable MICAPS and AWP Management. Your RSPs are your mobility Readiness Spares Package. That's the parts you would deploy with to sustain the aircraft until the supply pipeline is established. Your MICAPS are Mission Capable Parts, (parts that will ground that airframe). Without that part, that airframe cannot fly.

**V:** What is your role as a Weapons System Manager?

**Talley:** What they did here in the CAF was . . . identified weapons system management teams that are responsible for each of the weapon systems that the Air Force maintains. I happen to be on the F-15/F-22 Weapons System Team. We have a team of seven individuals that work with us and they have expertise in analysis, stock control, MICAPS. We can tap into resources available for us and we don't have to rely on different shops somewhere to pull information for us. Being the overall weapons system manager, I'm responsible for working with the staff at ACC, working with various bases Air Force wide and insuring fleet issues for my airframe are where they need to be. If the Colonel (Michael Melendrez) was to come in and say, 'OK, what's going on with your aircraft?' you should know at any point, as the weapons system manager, what's causing problems fleet-wide on your aircraft.

V: As an Air National Guardsmen, how are you fitting into this CAF team?

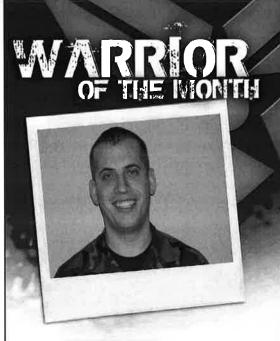
Talley: Since I started here in December (2006) until now, I've been treated wonderful. Folks here have included me in every meeting they've had. They've invited me to any function they had. When I got here I had to in-process with Col Melendez. He didn't want someone to walk in here, look at you and see you are (Air) Guard in someone's Air Force. We're all one team with one mission and that is obviously to make the mission happen. Whether you are Guard or Air Force, he said, across the board we'd be equal and with that comes responsibility. It's been a good experience for me.

V: Do you have any comments on the integration?

Talley: My experience here has been a positive experience. I would caution everyone to come into it with an open mind and a positive attitude. There are a lot of good things that have come from this for me. My work environment is great.

Vanguard asked Master Sergeant Talley's Air National Guard Commander, Lt. Col. Gerry Denson for comments on Talley.

LtCol Gerry Denson: As Jerry Talley has always done throughout his career, he has exceeded all expectations at Langley in the LSC. I know for a fact that the LSC leadership is very, very pleased with MSgt Talley. I'm sure as you found out, he's gone beyond the initial MICAP position. He was put into a Weapons Systems Management Team for the F-15 where he manages those assets world-wide. This is truly an active duty function he's working in. It's because of his background, his thorough knowledge in all aspects of supply procedure (and) policy over the years that he knows it very well. It's only because of that background and knowledge he's able to function the way he is. He is representing the Virginia Air National Guard very well. He's probably one of our best examples of a shinning star! He's very much into some technical stuff and I know the LSC leadership is hoping that we send a lot more just like him, which I plan to do.



### **SrA Michael Taylor**

In the VA Guard: Combat Camera Correspondent - Public Affairs Office

**Born and Raised:** Camp Lejeune, North Carolina

Civilian job(s): Apple, Incorporated

Memorable moment in Basic Training: Hiding candy in the TI's DCU's hanging in his office and eating it after he went home.

Scariest thing you've done: Sky diving (three times)

Chocolate, Vanilla, or Strawberry? Strawberry (allergic to Chocolate)

Pepsi or Coke? Pepsi

Blues or BDUs? BDUs

How do you like your coffee? Little coffee with my sugar and cream.

Who has been the most influential person in your life? My father, a Gunny in the Marine Corps, has strong values and instilled agreat morals in his children.

# Outstanding Airme



SrA Justin E. Karimi, munitions line delivery crewmember, was selected as an outstanding airman for his excellence on the job and in his civilian life.

Karimi leads by example and upholds the core values of integrity, excellence and service before self. He's been an integral part of the integration, volunteering to support the mission from the beginning.

As a student at Virginia Tech, he is pursuing a double major in Electrical and Computer Engineering. He's involved in the Robotics Research Team, and the Professional Society for Engineers, and was on the Dean's list in the fall 2006 and spring 2007 semesters.

He also performs voluntary undergraduate research at Davalos Laboratory, working with electroporation to explore possible cancer solutions at the Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center. Congratulations on your selection, SrA Karimi!



TSgt David A. Martens mechanic, was selected in outstanding airman for hexcellence on and off the Among his many acheiv

is the NCOIC for the 199 Weapons Flight and is reand training 12 drill-state assigned as acting 94th Supervise 20 personnel, I men.

Aside from his leadersh the active duty, he is also Board of Directors for E for the Central Virginia

Martens is a mentor for values of 3rd and 4th gr school, and for adults ex lations on your selection

# n of the Year, 2007



ircraft ordinance systems he NCO category as an technical and leadership ob.

nents in the unit, Martens
FW Det 3 94th AMU
consible for supervising
guardsmen. He was also
capons Flight Chief to
th active duty and guards-

roles in the guard and member of the Associate Brothers and Big Sisters ue Ridge area.

ne development of moral ers during Vacation Bible riencing a crisis. Congratu-'Sgt Martens!



MSgt Roy A. Perkins, quality assurance inspector, was selected in the Senior NCO category as an oustanding airman for his leadership, dedication to personal growth and community involvment.

Perkins was selected to go on a TDY to Scott AFB, Illinois, and repair an F-22 returning from a cross-country deployment. He troubleshot and repaired the complex wiring problem, ensuring the safe return of the aircraft. He also took the initiative as a senior leader to ensure there was an F-22 aircraft available for training - without affecting the wing FMC rate.

In persuit of an associates degree, he attends Thomas Nelson Community College with an A average and is currently enrolled in a SNCO PME course. As an active church member, he leads men's bible study with a focus on family and voluntarily serves as the drummer on his church worship team. Congratulations on your selection, MSgt Perkins!

# 192d FW family visits Langley AFB, Wins prize at Breakfast with Santa

By Angie Wade, Director, 192d Family Support

When the Family Readiness and Support office first got word of the official move date to Langley Air Force Base, we got busy uncovering the many family programming opportunities they had to offer. When Staff Sergeant Winston Obermuller's family attended "Breakfast with Santa," which was sponsored by the 1st Services Squadron during the Dec 07 UTA, they realized that the opportunities were great! SSgt Obermuller's wife, Giovanka, had been curious about her husband's new life at Langley AFB and decided that she and the children, Malachi, 8, and Delana, 4, would join dad during his drill at Langley in December. They became winners of a 24" bike that was donated by USAA in a prize draw-

Prior to the December UTA, an email

was sent out to the unit members announcing the event at the Shellbanks Youth Center, which was magically decorated for Christmas. "Breakfast with Santa" was French toast, sausages and juice. The star of the event was Santa, who also brought Mrs. Claus and "the Grinch." Lots of prizes were given away, and various fun-time arts and crafts events were available.

SSgt Obermuller, who is originally from Brooklyn, NY, is a full-time technician assigned to the CAFLSC squadron, and his family currently resides in Chester, VA. He commutes to LAFB, Tuesday through Friday by riding with a vanpool group that leaves at 5:00 am from Sandston. When asked how is he adapting at LAFB he says, "the full-time Air Force staff are glad we (192d VA Air Guard) are here to help because of how short staffed they are. They are also happy to help us when we need them."



## ACC, 1FW, 192dFW hold press conference F-22A acheives Full Operational Capability

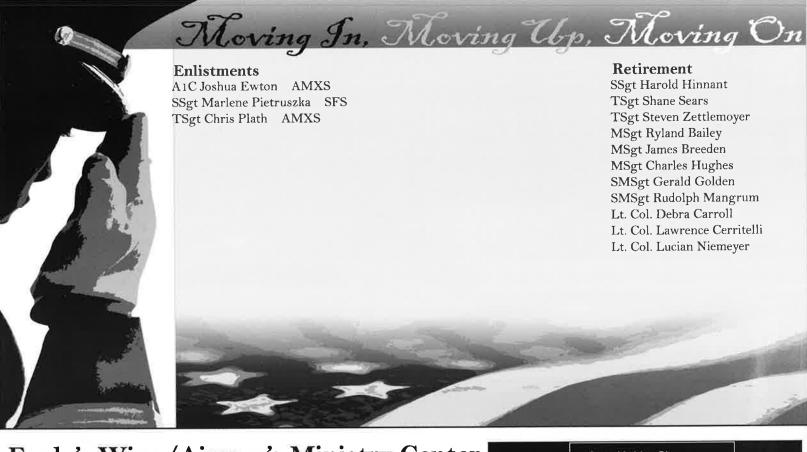


Brig. Gen. Mark Barret, 1st FW commander, and Col. Jay Pearsall, 192d FW commander, held a press conference December 13, 2007, to inform the public that the F-22As have reached Full Operational Capability.

"After years of collaborative effort, a key milestone for the F-22A has been reached," said Gen. John D. W. Corley, ACC commander, in declaring FOC. "The integrated 1st Fighter Wing and the 192d Fighter Wing team at Langley possess sufficient Raptors, equipment and trained Airmen to provide Air Dominance for the Joint Force for many years to come."

The declaration for FOC came early, as the original projected date was March, 2008. (Photo taken by MSgt Carlos Claudio.)

**6 VANGUARD** January 2008



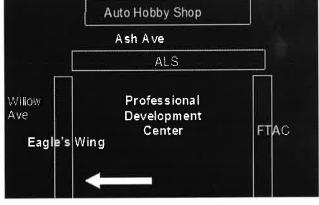
### Eagle's Wing/Airmen's Ministry Center

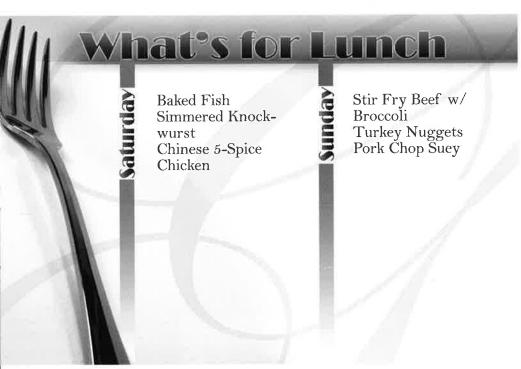
The 192 FW Chaplain Service will be hosting a monthly Saturday evening worship service at the new Eagles' Wing Internet Cafe with fellowship, fun and games from 6:30-8:00 PM.

Our first get-together will be Saturday, 12 January 2008. This will be a great opportunity to hang out on base and meet other Airmen. The Eagle's Wing Café has:

Free WIFI internet Movies Nintendo Wii XBox 360 Halo 3

Follow the directions to the Eagle's Wing facility in the map pictured to the right.





### **UTA Schedule**

#### 192d FW

January 12 -13, 2008 February 9 -10, 2008 \*March 8 - 9, 2008 \*March 29 - 30, 2008

#### JFHQ-VA & 203d RHS

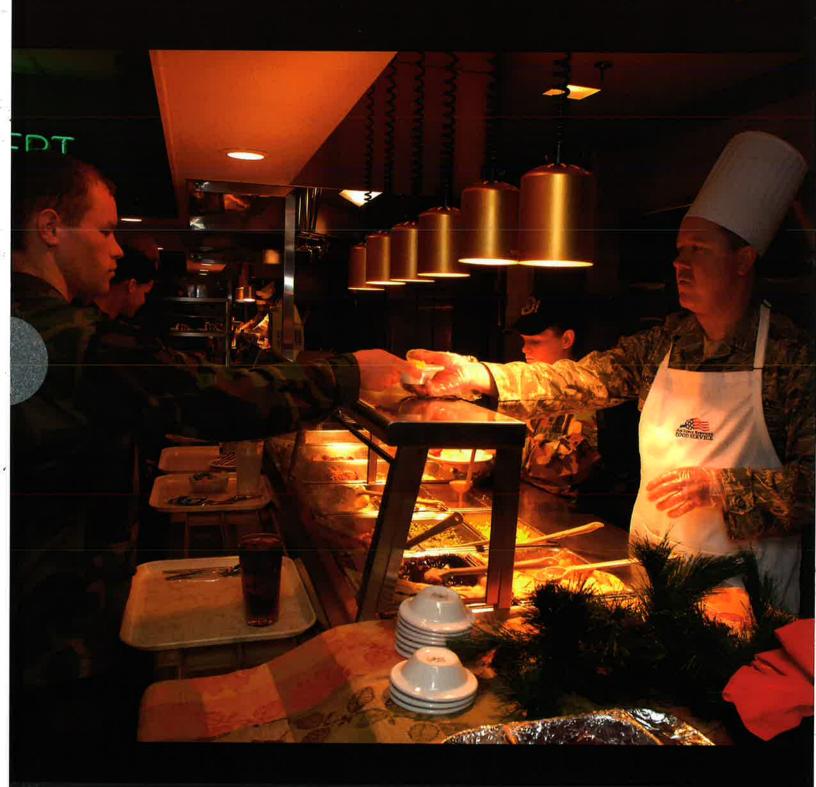
January 12- 13, 2008 February 9-10, 2008 March 8-9, 2008

#### 200th WF & Det 1

January 12 - 13, 2008 February 9 -10, 2008 March 8 - 9, 2008

\*No April UTA

# Happy Holidays to you and yours, from your 192d FW guard family



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