

189th Airlift Wing WARRIOR



Vol. 14 No. 2

February 2012

Arkansas Air National Guard

Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark.

The TRICARE Retiree Dental Program (TRDP)

invites you to sign up for electronic program updates, oral health tips and money saving strategies. Please visit the link below: <http://visitor.constantcontact.com/d.jsp?m=1101698067151&p=oi>

RAT Corner

We have a new monthly section with information on RAT rotations and information. See page 6 for more details.

Unit Vacancies

See page 4 for information on current vacancies around the unit.

Features

For more photos covering Lt. Gen. Wyatt's visit to the 189th Airlift Wing, see the features section on page 7.



Lt. Gen. Harry "Bud" Wyatt visits ARK ANG

By Lt. Col. Keith Moore

Arkansas Air National Guard Public Affairs

Commanders of the Arkansas Air National Guard's wings at Fort Smith and here at Little Rock Air Force Base hosted a command visit by Lt. Gen. Harry "Bud" Wyatt, III, director of the Air National Guard on Jan. 18-19, 2012. The visit was a rescheduled date from an October 2011 invitation to address a joint meeting of the Jacksonville/Little Rock Air Force Base Community Council and the Camp Pike/Camp Robinson Community Council from North Little Rock.

The original speaker invitation was planned to get a status update of the Air National Guard, as well as a look forward at the construct and mission of a new associate unit at Little Rock Air Force Base involving elements of the active Air Force, an Air Force Reserve element and the Air Guard's 189th Airlift Wing.

After touring both the 188th Fighter Wing in Fort Smith and the 189th Airlift Wing at Little Rock on Jan. 19, Wyatt, a former adjutant general of the Oklahoma National Guard from 2003 to 2009, told a joint meeting of the two community councils that there is considerable "turbulence" ahead for all the services as the president's 2013 budget is released in early February.

Before delving into the heavy issues of his address, Gen. Wyatt congratulated the community councils and the wing commanders

for the 19th Airlift Wing, the 314th Airlift Wing and the 189th Airlift Wing for the exceptional community and military working relationship that is present at LRAFB. Wyatt noted that this was the first time he had visited the base in over 17 years, and pointed out that the base had seen a great many changes and positive growth over the years.

"The great part about getting out of (Washington) D.C. – other than being outside of D.C. – is visiting bases like this and getting to meet the airmen who do the work, and the community councils supporting those bases," said Wyatt. "Meeting these airmen keeps me energized and fired-up to keep working for our airmen everyday back in D.C."

In delivering his comments to the gathered community and military leaders, Gen. Wyatt took a low key approach and rather than deliver a prepared speech he preferred to give a brief



(L to R) Col. Minihan, Col. Eggenesperger, Brig. Gen. Balch, Lt. Gen. Wyatt, Major Gen. Wafford and Col. Pavich stand in front of an AMP C-130 aircraft after taking a static display tour, Jan. 19, 2012.

overview of some key issues, and then take questions from the crowd. Upon beginning he reminded the group that he was bound by a non-disclosure agreement, and apologized if some answers to questions might seem somewhat void of specifics.

Addressing the principle issue of the future of C-130 training at LRAFB and the Secretary of the Air Force's recent decision to suspend the Initial Operational Testing & Evaluation (IOT&E) of the C-130 AMP (Avionics Modernization Program) aircraft with the 189th Airlift Wing of the Arkansas Air National Guard, Wyatt said, "Even if the AMP program is eventually terminated, legacy C-130 training will continue here with the associate unit involving the AF Reserve and the Guard Wing at the 189th."

President Obama's

SEE VISIT PAGE 3



189th Airlift Wing's commitment to teamwork

By Col. Ronald McDaniel
189th Maintenance Group commander

The day to day mission of the 189th Airlift Wing's Formal Training Unit (FTU) is to train and qualify C-130 aircrew instructor candidates to become instructors in their respective crew positions. Teamwork plays an important role in why the members of the 189th Airlift are so effective in mission accomplishment.

Webster's dictionary defines teamwork as a joint action by a group of people, in which each person subordinates his or her individual interests and opinions to the unity and efficiency of the group. This does not mean that the individual is no longer important; however, it does mean that effective and efficient teamwork goes beyond individual accomplishments. The most effective teamwork is produced

when all the individuals involved harmonize their contributions and work towards a common goal.

It's hard to find workplaces that exemplify teamwork. In America, our institutions such as schools, our family structures, and our pastimes emphasize winning, being the best, and coming out on top. Workers are rarely raised in environments that emphasize true teamwork and collaboration. Fostering teamwork is creating a work culture that values collaboration.

In a teamwork environment, people understand and believe that thinking, planning, decisions and actions are better when done cooperatively. People recognize, and even assimilate, the belief that "none of us is as good as all of us."

Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is



Col. Ronald McDaniel

progress. Working together is success. - Henry Ford

To make teamwork happen, these powerful actions must occur:

- Executive leaders communicate the clear expectation that teamwork and collaboration are expected. No one completely owns a work area or process all by himself. People who own work processes and positions are

SEE TEAMWORK PAGE 7

Preparation for days of Lent

By Capt. Greg Garrison
189th Airlift Wing chaplain

The older I get, the faster time seems to click by. It just seems like yesterday we were celebrating Christmas and the beginning of a new year. Before we know it, we'll be planning summer vacations, and then we'll see all the holiday decorations spread throughout the stores as we prepare for another round of all the same things over again. It seems to be a vicious cycle in which we can sometimes find ourselves trapped, unable to escape and catch a breath.

In this month of February, beginning on Ash Wednesday (Feb 22), Catholics throughout the world, as well as people of other Christian traditions, will begin the season of Lent. This is a time of preparation and waiting, fasting and repentance. For forty days we give up things such as sweets or alcohol so that we might be better able to focus on things outside

of ourselves. We're called during this time to spend our time and energy helping others who are in need of mercy and peace to rediscover the gift of joy and hope. We prepare ourselves through prayer, repentance, and fasting to help us recognize the gift of Salvation we believe Christ won for us on the Cross, and the celebration of Christ's resurrection from the tomb at Easter.

No matter what our religious preference might be, we all need to take a little time once in a while to focus on the needs of others around us, to slow down the pace of our lives...to breathe. We all need to take time to re-center ourselves and to re-focus our lives so that we might be a little more at peace.

Might I suggest during these months of February and March, whether preparing for Easter, or simply awaiting the warmth and colors of spring, we might find some time in this crazy cycle of life to slow down, to catch a breath, and to rejoice in the awesome gift of life.

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189th Airlift Wing commander

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The editorial content is edited, prepared, and provided by the public affairs office of the 189th Airlift Wing, 112 CMSgt Williams Drive, Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark. 72099-4802, DSN 731-6068, commercial 501-987-6068, e-mail christopher.nelson.4@ang.af.mil.

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Future UTAs
March 3, 4
April 14, 15
May 5, 6



VISIT

Continued from Page 1

January 5 release of the nation's new National Military Strategy for the force of 2020 sent shockwaves Air Force-wide reverberating the key question: What will the Air Force and the Air National Guard of the future look like?

Wyatt noted that the release of the president's 2013 budget plan set for early February will provide considerable insight into not only the force structure of the future, but also leadership and guidance on how to implement the strategy.

"There may be considerable angst, but I think there will be considerable opportunity as we evolve our national military strategy," said Wyatt. "The Chief of Staff of the Air Force has already said we will have to become a smaller but more capable Air Force. The application of this evolution will affect all three components - active, reserve and guard."

The general explained that he agreed with the approach in that making sensible adjustments to units in all three components, driven by the concept of matching force structure to mission as outlined in the national military strategy, was the right decision.

"The goal is not to let our force structure be shaped by the budget, but rather by the strategy for the way ahead," said Wyatt.

The general described the uncertain time ahead where units, commanders, political leaders and congress will deal with the implementation of the critical budget reduction measures as "the hurricane of change."

"Looking forward at the

2013-2017 fiscal years, the turbulence will be heavy, but the important thing to consider is what condition you are in when you come out the other side of that hurricane. We want to emerge as a more capable force, at the unit level, than when we went into the storm. To do this," Wyatt said, "There are some efficiencies that we can take advantage of in the AF, but we also need to look at divesting ourselves of mission sets that will be declining in the out years, and shift those personnel to mission sets that will be growing in the future."

In answering questions following his address, Wyatt said a couple of the key principles of the new national military strategy for the Air Force will be reversibility and a lack of tiered readiness.

Reversibility, he explained, is a concept of force structure for conflicts that utilizes the Guard and Reserve forces to surge needed capability, but allows the nation to quickly reverse course and draw down, thereby reducing the costs associated with maintaining a large full time force.

Tiered readiness - is a concept where the active, reserve and guard have different levels of training requirements and standing readiness posture. This, Wyatt noted, is a bad idea and will not be considered in the Air Force management strategy. All components will continue to maintain the same levels of training and readiness.

One emerging trend resulting from international belt tightening is the idea of national and military partnerships. These partnerships among nations for enhanced security are quickly

growing. Ironically, Wyatt points out, the National Guard has had a program called State Partnership Program - where state's national guards partner with the military of a sister nation for training and development. This partnership allows commanders to leverage what both sides can bring to the fight - should it be necessary to combat a common enemy or manage a natural disaster.

In addition to his address to the joint meeting of the community councils, Wyatt had come to Arkansas to visit the two Air National Guard Wings here - the 188th Fighter Wing at Fort Smith Regional Airport and the 189th Airlift Wing at LRAFB. After touring both units' facilities and associated training areas and airspaces, the general noted the caliber of the total package as "national treasures."

"What you all have here in Arkansas, in the units at Little Rock, those in Fort Smith and with the related Army National Guard and the capabilities the Guard brings for the Governor; and the training ranges that you have - not to mention the other services that take advantage of the training opportunities here - you really do have a national treasure," Wyatt said.

The general lauded many great aspects about the Fort Smith unit and the support it has from the surrounding community. He pointed out the strong manning of capable and professional airmen, outstanding leadership and the cost savings that the unit provides regarding cost of training and the capability an A-10 unit can provide.

"The strengths and benefits of that unit speak for themselves. But at this point

it is difficult to say what the future of that unit is - but we should know very soon," Wyatt said. "Everyone wants to keep the A-10 mission there. But regardless of the outcome, they are very well capable of adapting to any mission the Air Force has planned for them."

With a "hurricane of change" bearing down on the Air Force and Air National Guard, we asked Lt. Gen. Wyatt some poignant questions to give the average Airman some perspective on the issues and the impact on their careers.

Q: How is the Air Guard positioned to come through the upcoming "turbulence" that lies ahead?

Wyatt: I really like where the ANG is positioned. When you look at the cost effectiveness of the ANG, the combat capability we produce for the dollar spent - you find that you really get a lot of bang for the buck. When you consider we are in all 54 states and territories, and the Air Force Chief of Staff's objective is to have an AF presence in every state...the ANG is the perfect match. The ANG is already forward deployed - not only in the conflicts overseas, but also in the homeland defense mission.

When you consider that 94% of all emergencies - man made or natural - are handled by first responders, and the National Guard is the first military responders. You can see the importance of ANG units being positioned in every state for such missions. You can also see how the capabilities of the ANG mesh very nicely with the new national military strategy.

Overall, I'm pleased with the national military strategy,



Warrior of the month

Rank and Name: MSgt. Anthony A. Francis
Unit: 189th Medical Group
Job Title: NCOIC, Training and Education
Status: Traditional
Hometown: Little Rock
Civilian Employment: 189 MDG Temporary Technician
Family: Wife: Angela, Daughters: Elizabeth Lynne (16), Scarlette Raye (13), Step Children: Houston (8), Lauren Jewel (7)
Why I joined the Guard: Needed that one thing my kids could look up to and they could say their dad does this and be proud of it.
Most rewarding part of my job: Getting a “Thank you” from the public and watching my parents swell with pride seeing me in uniform.
Hobbies: Being a chef, a character (i.e. Shriner clown at circuses and parades. Santa Clause and at haunted houses) and I’m a Karaoke GOD.
My favorite movie is: Comedy, action and war movies.
My favorite TV Show(s): I like ESPN, History and Discovery channels, and cooking shows (no one favorite but I can always watch MASH).



My favorite book: The Outsiders
Something no one knows about me: I write poetry!

If you have someone in mind that you would like to nominate for Warrior of the Month contact Public Affairs at 987-6232 or 987-6068 or send an email to christopher.nelson.4@ang.af.mil.

Unit Vacancies

The 189th Airlift Wing and its geographically separated units have drill status vacancies in the following career fields:

- 2F091 Fuels Superintendent (1 Vacancy)
- 2T151 Vehicle Operations (1 Vacancy)
- 2T1X1 Vehicle Ops Management (1 Vacancy)
- 2T3X1 Vehicle Management (1 Vacancy)
- 3D051 Knowledge Operations MGT (1 Vacancy)
- 3E171 HEAT/VNT/AC/RF2 (1 Vacancy)
- 3E2X1 PAVE/CONTR EQPM (2 Vacancies)
- 3E351 Structural (1 Vacancy)

To apply for one of these positions, see Technical Sgt. James Epperson in the 189th Mission Support Flight’s retention office. The retention office is located in Building 103. Go to the 189th Mission Support Flight’s customer service and ask for the retention manager.

RAT Corner

Congratulations to the Rapid Augmentation Teams for their recent recognition as an Air Force Chief of Staff “BEST PRACTICE”! Many thanks to all of the RAT volunteers who have made these teams a success!

RAT ROTATION SCHEDULE:

Team C: In the “bucket” November 1, 2011 through January 31, 2012

Team A: In the “bucket” February 1, 2012 - April 30, 2012

CONTACT INFO:

If you have any questions or would like to join a team, please contact Capt. Chris Wald at 501-987-6897 or CMSgt. Ken Fisher at 501-987-7978



VISIT

Continued from Page 3

and I'm pleased with the outlook for the Air National Guard as we go forward.

Q: How will this "hurricane of change" impact recruiting and retention for the Air Guard?

Wyatt: Just like the aftermath of BRAC 2005, we had six years to implement that fully. Some relocated, retrained, or moved to an entirely different career field. What we have to focus on is giving our airmen a future and life and vitality in careers that will be long lasting and growing. Will it be tough? Yes, absolutely. May we lose some valuable people along the way? Yes, it is very likely we may. However, what we have to do is recognize those people for their service, their commitment and remind them that there is no way the ANG would be where it is today without their significant contributions.

We are an organization that has to grow and change or we will be left behind. We will have to efficiently utilize our force management tools to manage and recruit the people we need for the future of the ANG. We are working positively with the AF to explore additional recruiting and retention tools that the ANG may need as we go forward. Unlike in BRAC-2005, the changes that come about in the FY-13 budget will require us to react much more quickly because those changes will have to be implemented in that one year time frame. We just have to do it smartly.

In looking at new missions, one thing the ANG has not done well in its history is to move manpower to

mission. Going forward if a decision is made to place a specific mission in one location and there is not sufficient manpower there to support it, the ANG will have to move that manpower from one location, or state, to another to fully support the mission. This is where the additional benefits and incentives will help make that happen more smoothly.

Q: Don't you think you will get some push back from Governors looking at maintaining capability in their states?

Wyatt: Yeah, this is going to spark some heated discussions - no doubt. But we have to have the vision of the construct on the other side of the 'hurricane'. By making this change now, can we better position our airmen with growing missions that will outlive the mission they are currently performing? Additionally, for a local economy such a mission change may actually have a better long-term economic impact by drawing traditional airmen to the community with different skill sets and technologies to further develop the local workforce.

Q: How is the ANG implementing its mantra of "Value-Added for America" when it comes to the cost vs capability argument?

Wyatt: Older schools of thought are locked on the concept of air power and capabilities based on aerial platforms. However, the AF and ANG of the future will be smaller and more focussed on capabilities. That force will build on the strengths and capabilities of many other things such as remotely piloted aircraft and cyber technology. The value-added strength of the Guard is that some of these

technologies may also have applications for civilian uses in our local communities. So our traditional Guardsmen can bring a variety of skills to apply not only for their military career, but also invest those skills and abilities in the local community.

Other value-added considerations for the Air Guard are in the fact that most ANG units have a relatively small footprint and not a lot of infrastructure. The 66 ANG units around the nation that reside on commercial airfields access considerable infrastructure for very little cost. For roughly \$5 million annually, these units access approximately \$20 billion in infrastructure. This is like renting a \$200,000 house for \$21 per month. There is considerable savings in being community-based.

Q: We are talking considerable budget reductions, and the ANG is showing how it is already more cost-effective. In looking to the future and the Air Force is in your investment portfolio - where do you invest to get the best return on investment?

Wyatt: I would invest in remotely piloted aircraft and cyber technologies. Looking ahead these are emerging technologies and concepts that could grow even in times of declining economy. We already know we are going to have fewer airplanes in the future.

Q: What guidance would you give our airmen to help navigate the turbulence ahead? Some may think this is a perfect time to separate from the service.

Wyatt: This is a time of concern because these decisions will impact your futures and the futures of your units.

However, take comfort in knowing that coming out the other side of the hurricane there will be an Air National Guard. How large - we don't know. But it will be much more capable, and it will have much more of an enduring future. There are several things every airman can do to contribute to the future of the force:

1. Airmen can help by staying focussed on your job. Make sure that you put all the time and professionalism into your job necessary to make you the best airman that you can be, and to make your unit the best. This quality and professionalism is what buys the ANG the credibility to come out the other side of the hurricane in great shape.

2. Secondly - the ANG members have got to get out and tell their story. So many times our ANG airmen meld seamlessly with their counterparts so no one really knows the good that our airmen are doing to help in the war fight, or in their own communities. We are partly to blame for this because we don't take time to brag on our own people. Yogi Berra used to say - "If it is fact... it ain't braggin'."

Q: What is the future objective for the ANG?

Wyatt: We want to keep the Air in the Air National Guard! We want to continue being a federal fighting force, but we also want to invest heavily in those dual-use capabilities that can not only be used for the war-fight, but also be employed by the governor in times of natural disaster or domestic attack.



- DOUBLE FEATURE -

Arkansas' second agriculture team returns from Afghanistan

By Master Sgt. John Weston
Pavements and Construction
NCOIC

I deployed with the Arkansas Agricultural Development Team II (ADT II) to Southern Afghanistan in the Zabul Province. We acted as agricultural and business extension agents in cooperation with the Director of Agriculture Irrigation and Livestock (DAIL).

The DAIL works directly for the Provincial Governor of Afghanistan to improve agriculture in Afghanistan.

We conducted many training seminars for small farmers in various districts around the province.

Some of the training covered orchard and pasture management, wheat and garden crops, irrigation and water management and soil improvement along with pest and disease management. We worked with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to develop irrigation levees and check dams to prevent erosion and preserve precious water resources.

I developed a home garden project and provided training to farmers and villagers on planting and food preservation along with soil testing fertilizing and mulching practices.

I worked with the small farmers and villagers to develop poultry production as a small scale business for widow and orphans and for food supplementation.

I worked with MSgt John Weston in planning and developing a demonstration farm owned and operated by the DAIL. On this farm we demonstrated the benefits of soil and water management both in an open environment and inside a large hoop house. (an unheated green house)

I worked with several Afghan contractors and small business owners to procure and develop a channel to provide necessary materials to farmers and herdsman in the Zabul Province.

I am sure that I am leaving many things out but this is just off the top of my head. I hope this helps. Thank you.



Photo by Master Sgt. Dianna Seerey

Master Sgt. John Weston, 189th Civil Engineer, Pavements and Construction NCOIC, is greeted home by the Jara family and a Welcome Home sign held by Peter Jara with daughters Evelyn and Isabel, son Patrick and their mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Jara. Lt. Col. Paul Jara, 189 Civil Engineer, commander, stands to the side of Master Sgt. Weston.



Courtesy photo by Technical Sgt. Taunya Kidd

MSgt. John Weston with his sons Jericho, Dakota and Josiah at their school after his return.



Photo by Master Sgt. Dianna Seerey

Chief Sandra Jackson, 189th Communication Flight Chief of Cyber Operations, welcomes home TSGT Will Earnhart, 189th Communication Flight Cyber Security from the Afghanistan Agriculture Program.



Lt. Gen. Harry M. Wyatt III's visit to the 189th Airlift Wing



Lt. Gen. Harry M. Wyatt III, Director, Air National Guard, arrives via Army helicopter at Little Rock AFB, AR, Jan. 18, 2012.



Lt. Gen. Harry M. Wyatt III, Director, Air National Guard, is greeted by Col. Steve Eggenesperger, Commander, 189th Airlift Wing, Jan. 18, 2012.



Col. Steve Eggenesperger explains the 189th Airlift Wing's mission to Lt. Gen. Harry M. Wyatt III in the 189th Headquarters conference room, Jan. 18, 2012. (L to R) Col. Todd Pavich, Col. Steve Eggenesperger, Maj. Gen. William D Wofford and Lt. Gen. Harry M. Wyatt III.



Lt. Col. Domenic Sarnataro gives Lt. Gen. Wyatt a tour of the cockpit of an AMP static display, Jan. 19, 2012.

Photos by A1C Ian Caple

TEAMWORK

Continued from Page 2

open and receptive to ideas and input from others on the team.

- Executives model teamwork in their interaction with each other and the rest of the organization. They maintain teamwork even when things are going wrong and the temptation is to slip back into former team unfriendly behavior.

- The organization members talk about and identify the value of a teamwork culture. If values are formally written and shared, teamwork is one of the key five or six.

- Teamwork is rewarded and recognized. The lone ranger, even if he/she is an excellent producer, is valued less than the person who achieves results with others in teamwork. Compensation,

bonuses, and rewards depend on collaborative practices as much as individual contribution and achievement.

The 189th Airlift Wing aggressively practices teamwork and that's why we are so good at what we do. Routinely the 189th is recognized for our safe major accident free flying program and the Foreign Object Damage (FOD) program is

top notch. Recently we were selected to install the Air Force's new braking system because we are known to not just get the job done, but to get it done with excellence. The future looks bright for the 189th because of your commitment to teamwork and I am so proud to be a part. Thank you all for your service.



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For the family of ...

Promotions



To Technical Sergeant

Joaquin Alvarado, 189 AW
Keith M. Gonelli, 189 CES
Daran Robertson, 189 CES
Justin M. Tierney, 189 MXS
David T. Helton, 189 MXS
Scott M. Womack, 189 CS



To Staff Sergeant

Cody J. Smith, 189 CS
Robbie W. Brock, 123 IS
Candace E. Serna, 189 HQ



To Senior Airman

Jamer R. Holcomb, 189 MXS
David W. Rogers, 189 AMXS
Matthew D. Sewell, 189 CS

Retirements

Chief Master Sgt. Jesse J. Burns, 189 HQ, Feb. 1, 2012
Chief Master Sgt. Richard Medrriman, 154 TRS, Feb. 1, 2012
Senior Master Sgt. Payer, Michael, 189 MXS,, Feb. 1, 2012

PME Graduations

Non Commisioned Officers Academy

Technical Sgt. Jonathan Hunter, 154 TRS
Master Sgt. Darrell Gentry, 189 MDG
Technical Sgt. Herbert Hawley, 189 LRS

Airman Leadership School

Senior Airman Twila Ocasio, 123 IS
Senior Airman Kevin Mailhiot, 189 MXS
Senior Airman Cody Smith, 189 CF
Senior Airman Robbie W. Brock, 123 IS

189th gets in your face...book

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