

189th Airlift Wing WARRIOR



Vol. 15 No. 11

December 2013

Arkansas Air National Guard

Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark.

Happy New Year

Have a safe and happy New Year. Safety first during these cold winter days.

Photo Features

This month we have photos covering many events happening this month.

RAT Team Updates

See page 8 for monthly RAT team updates and information.

Public Website

Visit our website for news, newsletters, photos, videos and more at:

www.189aw.ang.af.mil

189AW Facebook

For instant updates including news, photos, videos and stories, visit our Facebook at

www.facebook.com/189aw



The 189th Airlift Wing gathers in front of a Air National Guard C-130H aircraft at Little Rock Air Force Base on April 6, 2013. (Air National Guard photo by Senior Airman Ian Caple)

189th wing leadership changes take effect in 2014

By Senior Airman Ian Caple

189th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Several new leadership changes are taking effect at the 189th Airlift Wing in 2014.

Many commanders are moving to new positions throughout the wing and at Camp Robinson.

Col. Robert Ator will be leaving his position as the Mission Support Group Commander to take Col. Susan Dickson's position as the new 189th Airlift Wing vice commander beginning Jan. 11, 2014.

Col. Susan Dickson is leaving as the 189th Airlift Wing vice commander to return to operations to take Lt. Col. Don Clark's position as the 189th Operation Support commander (OSS).

Col. Tamhra Hutchins-Frye is transferring from Joint Force Headquarters (JFHQ) at Camp Robinson as the Director of Staff to take Col. Rob Ator's position as the 189th Mission Support Group Commander. Col. Richard Oxner is now the new Director of Staff at JFHQ (former 189th Airlift Wing vice commander).

Lt. Col. Tammy Culley will be transferring to JFHQ to take Lt. Col. Wes Nichols' position as the new HQ AR ANG Director of Support/A1.

Lt. Col. Wes Nichols is leaving his position as the HQ AR ANG Director of Support/A1 at JFHQ to be the new JFHQ Human Resources Office Assistant commander.

Lt. Col. Eric Polta is leaving his position as the 189th Plans

& Programs Officer (XP) to become the new 189th Airlift Wing Head Inspector General.

Col. Darren Dickson is the new Plans & Programs Officer (XP) and Chief of Domestic Operations.

Lt. Col. Todd Stuff is leaving the 189th Security Forces Squadron commander position to be the new 189th Inspection Branch Chief.

See your UTA monthly events calendars for information on when and where changes of command and retirements are taking place.

There are many more changes happening that will be covered in the coming months here in The Warrior and on our Facebook at www.facebook.com/189aw.



Tell your story

Col. Steve Eggensperger
189th Airlift Wing commander

As an Airman in the Air National Guard you are a member of an elite group of 106,700 citizen-airmen that are critical to our national defense. The Air Guard is truly a value for America. The ANG provides 35 percent of the capability of the United States Air Force on only 6 percent of the budget. Our significant cost advantage comes from our Drill Status Guardsmen. These trained warriors represent available capability at a significantly reduced cost compared to the active duty. We essentially pay only for the capability we need when we need it instead of paying for the same capability 365 days a year whether or not it is needed. Another significant advantage is our experience. Yes, we are a little older than our active duty counterparts, but with that age comes wisdom and experience—and that makes us very good at what we do. The average ANG maintainer has

over 15 years of experience while the average active duty maintainer has only 7 years of experience.

When our airmen are deployed and work side-by-side with active duty we often hear that you can't tell the difference between them because they are trained to the same standards and maintain the same level of proficiency. But that is a double-edge sword. We wear the exact same uniform as our active duty counterparts and there are no longer any unique ANG patches that make us stand out. When you're seen off base in uniform, you're seen as just another AF person—not uniquely as a member of the Air Guard. Therefore, it is truly up to you to tell your story. Your friends, neighbors, and acquaintances need to know about the Air Guard. They need to know the great value that we provide for America and they need to know that you are a proud member of this elite group of citizen-warriors. Many people don't know how the Air Guard is different from the active duty. They don't understand that National



Col. Steve Eggensperger

Guardsmen can be called to service in a federal capacity for deployments and also are critical to the State of Arkansas in the event of natural disasters or other emergencies.

I'd also encourage each member of the Arkansas Air Guard to carry one of MSgt Troy Grooms' business cards in your wallet. When someone expresses an interest in joining the ANG you need to be able to hand them the card and encourage them to call our recruiter and get the facts. And never miss an opportunity to remind your friends that being a member of the Air Guard is still the "best part time job in America."

Give thanks every chance you get

By Lt. Col. Steven Rogers
189AW Chaplain's Office

The holiday season is a great time of joy for many reasons – food, fun, fellowship, family, etc. Of all the great things about Christmas, one of my favorite characteristics is how people seem to pull together in a special way and become united in accomplishing great things for others. As you read the following story, notice the sense of unity and purpose that drives this mission. It truly is amazing.

In 1943 a mid-air collision on February 1,

1943, between a B-17 and a German fighter over the Tunis dock area, became the subject of one of the most famous photographs of WW II. An enemy fighter attacking a 97th Bomb Group formation went out of control, probably with a wounded pilot, then continued its crashing descent into the rear of the fuselage of a Fortress named "All American", piloted by Lt. Kendrick R. Bragg, of the 414th Bomb Squadron. When it struck, the fighter broke apart, but left some pieces in the B-17. The left horizontal

stabilizer of the Fortress and left elevator were completely torn away. The two right engines were out and one on the left had a serious oil pump leak. The vertical fin and the rudder had been damaged, the fuselage had been cut almost completely through connected only at two small parts of the frame, and the radios, electrical and oxygen systems were damaged. There was also a hole in the top that was over 16 feet long and 4 feet wide at its widest; the split in the fuselage went all the way to the top gunner's turret. Although

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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 ian.caple@ang.af.mil.

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CHRISTMAS

Continued from Page 2

the tail actually bounced and swayed in the wind and twisted when the plane turned and all the control cables were severed, except one single elevator cable still worked, and the aircraft miraculously still flew! The tail gunner was trapped because there was no floor connecting the tail to the rest of the plane. The waist and tail gunners used parts of the German fighter and their own parachute harnesses in an attempt to keep the tail from ripping off and the two sides of the fuselage from splitting apart. While the crew was trying to keep the bomber from coming apart, the pilot continued on his bomb run and released his bombs over the target. When the bomb bay doors were opened, the wind turbulence was so great that it blew one of the waist gunners into the broken tail section. It took several minutes and four crew members to pass him ropes from parachutes and haul him back into the forward part of the plane. When they tried to do the same for the tail gunner, the tail began flapping so hard that it began to break off. The weight of the gunner was adding some stability to the tail section, so he went back to his

position. The turn back toward England had to be very slow to keep the tail from twisting off. They actually covered almost 70 miles to make the turn home. The bomber was so badly damaged that it was losing altitude and speed and was soon alone in the sky. For a brief time, two more Me-109 German fighters attacked the All American. Despite the extensive damage, all of the machine gunners were able to respond to these attacks and soon drove off the fighters. The two waist gunners stood up with their heads sticking out through the hole in the top of the fuselage to aim and fire their machine guns. The tail gunner had to shoot in short bursts because the recoil was actually causing the plane to turn. Allied P-51 fighters intercepted the All American as it crossed over the Channel and took one of the pictures shown. They also radioed to the base describing that the appendage was waving like a fish tail and that the plane would not make it and to send out boats to rescue the crew when they bailed out. The fighters stayed with the Fortress, taking hand signals from Lt. Bragg and relaying them to the base. Lt. Bragg signaled that 5 parachutes and the spare had been “used” so

five of the crew could not bail out. He made the decision that if they could not bail out safely, then he would stay with the plane to land it. Two and a half hours after being hit, the aircraft made its final turn to line up with the runway while it was still over 40 miles away. It descended into an emergency landing and a normal roll-out on its landing gear. When the ambulance pulled alongside, it was waved off because not a single member of the crew had been injured. No one could believe that the aircraft could still fly in such a condition. The Fortress sat placidly until the crew all exited through the door in the fuselage and the tail gunner had climbed down a ladder, at which time the entire rear section of the aircraft collapsed. This old bird had done its job and brought the entire crew home uninjured.

What an amazing story! That crew gave it their all to hold things together and work towards a common goal. They carried out the mission in the midst of a situation that seemed doomed to failure – but it did not fail. It was nothing short of miraculous! The biblical Christmas story is very similar. The people of Israel had perhaps given up hope on the awaited “Savior.”

Just like in the bomber story, the situation seemed to have no good ending. Yet, there were those who still had faith and knew in their hearts that victory would be achieved. The Bible tells how victory was achieved on that first Christmas morning – a miracle! And people have been pulling together to accomplish great things year after year ever since.

Be of good cheer this holiday season – pull together, don’t give up, expect the impossible, and do whatever it takes. These are the characteristics that make up a good story and they are the qualities of victory. We have a history of this kind of story in our great nation. Let it be our story in the world today as we spread joy and cheer and charity. The holidays help remind us of greater purpose. The joy of Christmas is not really about all that we can get; it’s about all that we can give. The truth is, there were many missions in World War II that did not end in a safe landing. But...the courage, purpose, and sacrifice displayed in each and every one of them are what make the difference in our world today. “Thank you” to all those who have helped to make a difference for all of us. That’s what Christmas is all about.



The 189th Airlift Wing mission:

- Elite C-130 aircrew training and worldwide airlift
- Highly trained and enthusiastic combatants to combatant commanders worldwide
- Capable, effective, and prompt support to Arkansans in need whenever the governor calls



Warrior of the Month



Tech. Sgt. Jacob Lambert, a 189th Airlift Wing cyber systems operations craftsman, is congratulated by Col. Patrick Rhatigan, 19th Airlift Wing commander, for his selection as Combat Airlifter of the Week Nov. 22, 2013, at Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark. Lambert, a Traskwood, Ark., native, has been instrumental in the establishment of Graduate Training Integration Management System connectivity in the 189th Airlift Wing facilities. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Airman Ian Caple)

Rank and Name: Technical Sgt. Jacob Lambert
Unit: Communications Flight
Job Title: Cyber Surety Craftsman
Status: Technician
Hometown: Glen Rose, AR
Civilian Employment: Arkansas Air National Guard
Family: Daughter Maggie, age 4, son Isaac, age 2
Why I joined the Guard: My father was a full-time technician at the 223rd. When I graduated high school I hadn't even applied for a college. He told me that if I was going to stay at home with him until I figured out what I was going to do; I was going to join the guard.
Most rewarding part of my job: Most of my time is spent configuring and updating computers. At the 189th, those computers are required to train new pilots, flight engineers, and loadmasters. When I see a plane flying low overhead, I know that without me doing my job, those pilots wouldn't have been able to schedule their flight training. Our logistics technicians wouldn't be able to deploy our warfighters without access to the online systems they use to report readiness. Even getting paid as a technician requires using a computer to track your time and attendance. I can see how nearly every duty we have contributes to the mission to fly

fight, and win in air, space, and cyberspace. Being able to see that makes any task feel important and knowing that your job is important is all the reward I need.
Hobbies: Running and playing video games
My favorite movie is: Superbad
My favorite TV Show(s): LOST
My favorite book: All Quiet on the Western Front, Erich Maria Remarque
A perfect day would be: A day at work where the phone didn't ring, where my kids would eat their dinner and go to bed by 8PM and I could get a couple of hours of time to catch up on television, play some video games, and be in bed by 10PM.
Something no one knows about me: I was washed back on the first day of my last week of BMT. I failed my locker inspection. Since I had already accomplished warrior week, they wouldn't let me do it again, so I spent a week on Lackland AFB helping TI's get their dorms ready for their incoming Flight. I feel like I learned a greater lesson that week seeing the sacrifice and work that the TI's had to go through just to train us Airmen than I had the previous 6 weeks of my training. It sucked getting washed back, and it is embarrassing to talk about it, but I learned more about "Service Before Self" because of it.



WORD ON THE STREET

“What do the holidays mean to you?”



Technical Sgt. Alex Ford

“It is a time to bring family together and reflect on the memories of those who have passed.”



Technical Sgt. Adrienne Collins

“It means more time with family, going to church and enjoying the company of others.”



Staff Sgt. Milissa Johnson

“It’s a time of blessings, family and joy ... and watching a Christmas Story. We also have our annual family reunion where we play sports, eat lots of food and spend quality time together.”



Technical Sgt. David Cagle

“It means spending time with my wife and kids and this year we are staying home and welcoming a new horse named Mercedes to our family.”



Master Sgt. Misty McClean

“The holiday season is a very joyous and spiritual time and I love spending quality time with my mom and dad.”



Staff Sgt. Wade Simpson

“I enjoy spending time with family, especially my grandparents, and hearing stories from the past. This year I’ll be heading to Memphis.”



Capt. Tom Guillebeau

“I’m looking forward to spending time with family and friends opening presents and having Christmas dinner.”



Senior Airman John Fuentes

“I try to teach my kids about sharing and giving around this season and I’m looking forward to staying local and spending time with family.”



AROUND THE WING



U.S. Air National Guard photo by Technical Sgt. Billie Thompson

SSgt. Amanda Chelchowski, 19th Medical Group, Resource Management Office, accepts the 189th Airlift Wing's toy donations from Mr. Ed Summers, 189th Airlift Wing Family Readiness Office. These toys went to the Airman's Attic for the 19th Christmas party on Dec. 19, 2013.



U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Dianna Seerey

The North Pulaski High School choir sings for the 189th Airlift Wing and is directed by Robert Craig. The school's 52-person show and concert choir travels throughout Central Arkansas singing Christmas songs and carols to audiences.



AROUND THE WING, con't



We would like to welcome our newest addition to the the 123rd Intelligence Squadron, Brianna Van Pelt.



Mr. Ed Summers, 189th Family Readiness, Airman First Class Orlando Roberts, 189th Family Readiness, and Col. Rob Ator, 189th Mission Support Group commander, hand over donated toys to Cathee Terrell, flight nurse at Baptist Hospital and Donny Curtis, Data Support Analyst at Baptist Health on Dec. 12, 2013.



Promotions



To Technical Sergeant
Jessica Sterlin, 189 FSS
Gaylend S. Sheppard, 189 SFS
Danial W. Hallock, 123 IS



To Staff Sergeant
Michelle Rosner, 189 MXS
Laura L. Cohea, 123 IS
Chad L. Bowiev, 123 IS



To Senior Airman
Jared Dumais, 154 TRS

PME Graduations

Senior Non-Commissioned Officer Academy

Master Sgt. Steven Goodnight, 13 Nov 2013, 189 MXS
Master Sgt. Daniel Anderson, 13 Nov 2013, 189 CF
Master Sgt. Jassen Travis, 13 Nov 2013, 189 MDG
Master Sgt. Nina Reiss, 13 Nov 2013, 123 IS
Master Sgt. Scott Fuller, 20 Nov 2013, HQ AR ANG



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Retirements

Maj Anthony Hafner, 154 TRS, 1 Dec 13
SMSgt. Jonathan Waddell, 189 OG, 1 Nov 13
MSgt. David Wood, 189 MXS, 01 Dec 13

The RAT Corner

QUICK NOTES:

Team "B" you are in the "bucket" through January 2014; are your bags packed and are you ready to assist affected local communities at a moment's notice?

Additional volunteers are needed for all three teams. Being part of a RAT is a great opportunity to deploy with your family from the 189th Airlift Wing to assist local communities during a time of need. Our rotation schedule means you are only in the deployment "bucket" for 3 out of every 9 months. Give us a call if you are interested in signing up!

RECALL PROCEDURES: Texts and Telephone Calls are our primary means of contacting personnel when we receive a mission tasking and begin activating a RAT. If either your primary or alternate telephone numbers have changed and you have not previously let us know, please send an email to william.catton@ang.af.mil with your updated information so that we can keep our recall roster up to date.

RAT ROTATION SCHEDULE:

TEAM B: "In the bucket" November 01, 2013 through January 31, 2014

CONTACT INFO:

If you have any questions or would like to join a team, please contact CMSgt Ken Fisher at 501-987-7978 or MSgt Bill Catton at 501-987-2169.