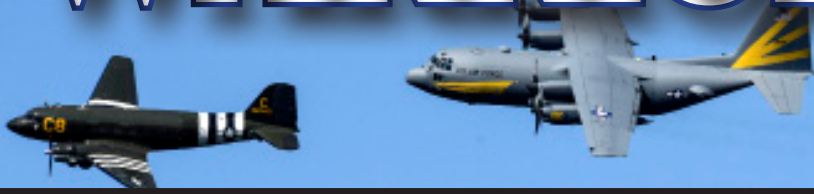
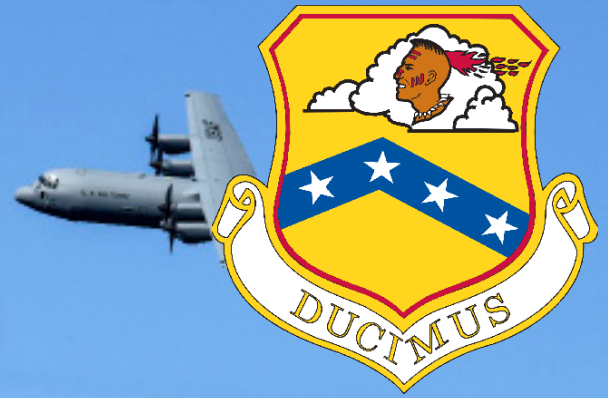


# 189th Airlift Wing WARRIOR



Vol. 21 No. 53

April 2019

Arkansas Air National Guard

Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark.

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# Commander's Corner: thank your family

By Col. Thomas D. Crimmins  
189th Airlift Wing Commander

**H**ello Warriors! I want to take a minute to talk about all the sacrifices that the families of our Airmen make every day. Whether they are currently separated from a loved one during a deployment or they are struggling with the loss of a loved one, we cannot forget that they are the glue that holds the family together.

I want to recognize and thank all our families who currently have a loved one deployed or have an Airman that will be deploying in the near future to support our Air Force mission overseas. We are incredibly proud of our Airmen and we are here to support you while they are away. We realize that in order to recruit and retain the highest quality of Airman, the importance of families and the emotional support given to those serving in the Air National Guard is crucial to successfully accomplish this goal.

There are several ways that we can thank our family members who serve. The Gold Star Spouses Day honors military spouses who have lost their loved ones while they were serving in the United States Armed Forces. Several programs offer opportunities to connect with these family members such as the Arkansas Run for the Fallen and recognition events throughout the community.

We can't forget that our children often feel the pressure and burden of a military lifestyle as well. During a deployment, our Airmen often miss significant events in their children's lives. While none of us ever want to miss something that is important to our loved ones, I want to thank our young supporters for their dedication and patience. I know it's not easy, but you are our strongest supporters. Don't forget to check out all the programs our Airman and Family Readiness coordinator hosts.



Lastly, I want to thank all our military veterans for their service and continued support to their military. April 30th marks the commemoration of the end of the war in Vietnam. Currently, we have more than 90,000 Vietnam era veterans living in the state of Arkansas. That's a lot! If you see a veteran, regardless of where they served, take a few minutes to thank them for their service. It means more to them than you could ever know! DUCIMUS – We Lead!



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The editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office of the 189th Airlift Wing, 112 MSgt. Dan Wassom Road, Little Rock AFB, AR 72099-4802, DSN 731-6068, commercial 501-987-6068. Call or [email](#) to be added to the distribution list.





By Col. Thomas D. Crimmins  
189th Airlift Wing Commander

**A**pril is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Below are a few key terms and things to remember if you are wondering if and how you should report a sexual assault:

**Who is eligible for SAPR support services?** Active duty members, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard members and their dependents 18 and older who are eligible for treatment in the military health system, and Air Force civilian (appropriated and non-appropriated) employees.

The Family Advocacy Program manages sexual assault allegations when the alleged offender is the partner in context of a spousal relationship, same sex domestic partnership, unmarried intimate partner relationship or military dependents who are 17 years of age and younger.

**What do SARCs do?** The SARC serves as the installation's primary point of contact for integrating and coordinating sexual assault victim care services for eligible recipients. Services may begin at the initial report of sexual assault and continue through disposition and resolution of issues related to the victim's health and well-being. The SARC reports directly to the installation wing commander (or equivalent) or installation vice wing commander, executing the Air Force's Sexual Assault Prevention and Response program at the installation level. SARCs assist unit commanders as necessary to ensure victims of sexual assault receive appropriate and responsive care.

#### **How can I contact my SARC?**

**Option 1:** Visit the DoD Safe Helpline (<https://safehelpline.org/search.cfm>) and locate the SARC closest to your location.

**Option 2:** Call your base operator and obtain the phone number for your base SARC.

**Option 3:** Contact the DoD Safe Helpline at 877-995-5247.

#### **Who do I contact for support if I'm deployed to a small forward operating base with no SARC?**

Contact the SARC located nearest to you. If you're unsure where the nearest SARC is, visit the DoD Safe Helpline website (<https://safehelpline.org/search.cfm>) or call 877-995-5247. The nearest SARC will be able

to assist you and assign a volunteer victim advocate at your location if one is available.

**Can my restricted report be made unrestricted by someone else?** Your report will remain restricted and confidential. However, if another individual reports your assault to their chain of command or law enforcement, an investigation will be initiated if the case falls under the jurisdiction of the Air Force Office of Special Investigations.

**Can I report a sexual assault that happened prior to my military service, on TDY or on leave?** Yes, your SARC will take your report of sexual assault regardless of when or where the assault occurred. If you choose to make your report unrestricted, the SARC will help notify the appropriate law enforcement officials.

**Can I report a sexual assault to a SARC from another service or base?** Yes, with the exception of Air Force civilian employees. If you are eligible for SAPR support services, then you can file a report with any DoD SARC regardless of location. However, Air Force civilian employees are currently the only Department of Defense civilian employees eligible for SAPR services, and can only receive SAPR services from Air Force SARCs and SAPR victim advocates.

**How do I know my information will be protected if I make a restricted report?** SARCs and SAPR victim advocates are responsible by law and Department of Defense and Air Force Instructions to protect the confidentiality of both restricted and unrestricted reports. SAPR personnel who violate confidentiality rules are subject to the full range of disciplinary action ranging from administrative action to court-martial, depending on the status of the individual in question and the nature of the violation.

**How to reporting to a SARC, a SAPR victim advocate or a volunteer victim advocate?** All three are nationally certified to support victims of sexual assault, can take both restricted and unrestricted reports of sexual assault and have confidentiality under military regulations. All can provide exceptional care and support for victims, SARCs and full time SAPR victim advocates also have additional administrative and managerial duties.



# Airmen earn Air Force combative skills instructor qualification: First in the Air National Guard

By Tech. Sgt. Jessica Condit  
189th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Two Air National Guard Airmen recently finished the Air Force's Combative Skills Instructor course here at Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark. The Airmen spent more than 40 hours learning fighting stances and protection measures that they will be able to carry to their Guard counterparts throughout the wing. The course instructor certification marks the first of its kind for any Air National Guard member.

Master Sgt. Mitchell Hall and Tech. Sgt. Clinton Elkins received the training from the 19th Operations Support Squadron's Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape expert Tech. Sgt. Nader Maghribi. Maghribi was interested in giving the training to the two in order to ensure the program's widest dissemination.

"All week long we've been here at S.E.R.E. engaging with each other and learning grappling techniques with the Air Force combatives program," said Elkins, a 154th Training Squadron loadmaster and student flight instructor. "I was in the Marine Corps for an amount of time, so I have some prior experience with military combatives. In the Air Force as a whole, this course is being taught primarily in Colorado through some of the officer programs. Nation-wide it's not really being integrated."

According to Elkins, there are currently 15 certified Air Force Combative Skills course instructors. Elkins and Hall are two of them and the first two certified basic combatives instructors in the entire Air National Guard component.

"Sgt. Maghribi, who I've trained with in the past, is a master instructor here in this course," explained Hall. "He was looking to do a pilot program here at Little Rock Air Force Base so of course, we jumped on the opportunity to be a part of that. We searched throughout the Air National Guard and National Guard Bureau and found there was nothing similar to this program. We felt it was a great opportunity to get the Air National Guard component on board with the rest of the National Defense Strategy with combatives programs and the members of the 189th."

Airmen are provided the opportunity to learn the basics of the combatives course during the "Beast Week" at Air Force basic military training. Hall explained that the course is a condensed version of the one he recently attended and teaches basic principles of hand-to-hand combat. Elkins explained that one of his goals after completing the course is to teach his Airmen in student flight what to expect going to basic training and give them the Warrior Ethos mentality they need before they go to BMT as well as give an outreach for the 189th AW.

"Combatives are taught in basic training," explained Hall. "It became part of the program when they realigned everything a few years ago. The Air Force saw a need and started incorporating it. They found that more and more Airmen were being pushed outside the wire without support they needed. You will always have Security Forces or other protection

**LEFT:** Master Sgt. Mitchell Hall and Tech. Sgt. Clinton Elkins discuss movements during the U.S. Air Force Combatives class March 12, 2019, at Little Rock Air Force Base. The two are the first in the entire National Guard to become certified Air Force combatives instructors. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. Jessica Condit)







measures, but it's different knowing you have the confidence to do something for yourself if you have to."

Hall explained that one of their goals was to make sure the 189th AW was self-sustaining. Being on an active duty base, there are a lot of instances in which the 19th AW provides support to us when needed. Having two certified combative instructors allows the wing to support themselves in yet another capacity. The two can now teach Guard Airmen the course to ensure they are combat ready whether they are in the battle field or at home.

The combatives course is another way that the Air National Guard can maintain self-reliability and ensure their contribution to the Nation's mission is successful. As the Air National Guard builds more and more on its readiness capabilities, the need for our Air Guard Airmen to be able to obtain and maintain the skills our active duty counterpart possesses is vital to the success of the mission. The partnership between the 189th and 19th AW's provides the opportunity for an integrated warfighter and a self-sufficient wing.



**ABOVE:** Tech. Sgt. Clinton Elkins practices grappling techniques with another student during the Air Force combatives instructor course March. 12, 2019, at Little Rock Air Force Base. The course offered two of our Arkansas Air National Guard Airmen the opportunity to become the first certified instructors in the entire National Guard. **BELOW:** Tech. Nader Maghribi, a 19th Operations Support Squadron Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape specialist instructs participants on proper grappling techniques during the Air Force combatives instructor qualification course. Maghribi initiated the course here at Little Rock AFB as part of a pilot program to find a need for courses such as this one at the base. (U.S. Air National Guard photos by Tech.Sgt. Jessica Condit)





# Lengyel: National Guard at highest state of readiness ever

By Airman First Class Jim Greenhill  
National Guard Bureau

WASHINGTON – Readiness is the National Guard's No. 1 priority, the chief of the National Guard Bureau told lawmakers Tuesday.

The Guard's focus on readiness supports the National Defense Strategy, Air Force Gen. Joseph Lengyel told members of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense.

"Your National Guard's three core missions of fighting America's wars, protecting the homeland, and building partnerships directly support the [strategy's] three lines of effort: building a more lethal force; strengthening alliances and attracting new partners; and reforming the [Defense Department] for greater performance and affordability," said Lengyel, who provided written and spoken testimony to lawmakers who are studying budget appropriations for the 2020 fiscal year.

The Guard's most senior officer, who is also a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, noted that while counterinsurgency operations remain a core competency – the 2018 National Defense Strategy refocused the Defense Department, including the National Guard, on "great power competition" with China and Russia, and on the security threats presented by Iran, North Korea and non-state actors.

"It is imperative the National Guard remains an operational force, as part of our Army and Air Force, that helps protect and secure our interests at home and abroad," Lengyel said.

The National Guard is the principal combat reserve of the Army and the Air Force, providing 20 percent of the entire Joint Force.

"There is only one standard of readiness in fighting America's wars," Lengyel said.

"This readiness requires the National Guard to be deployable, sustainable, and interoperable with our active components."

As an example of the Guard's success in emphasizing readiness, Lengyel said the Army National Guard's 89 percent individual medical readiness is the highest achieved by the three components that comprise the Army – Active, Guard and Reserve.

"Readiness and lethality for the National Defense Strategy is the Army's No. 1 priority, [and] it's the National Guard's No. 1 priority," Lengyel told lawmakers.

Weapons systems, high profile areas such as the space and cyber domains and missile defense, and interoperability with the services were among topics discussed during the hearing at the U.S. Capitol.

The National Guard must increase operability across all platforms, Lengyel said. Parity in equipping the Guard through concurrent and balanced modernization and recapitalization is necessary for the Guard to deliver the lethality required by the Joint Force, he said. The old model of cascading older equipment from the active duty side to the reserve side -- used when the Guard was a strategic reserve rather than operational force -- no longer applies, he said.

Lengyel also said increased full-time support is needed in the Army National Guard and reversing recruiting shortfalls caused in part by the strong economy is a priority.

"We will look to reposture under-recruited force structure from a state that simply can't recruit to it anymore into states [that can]," Lengyel said.

Almost 450,000 Citizen-Soldiers and -Airmen comprise the National Guard, and on any given day





about 30,000 are on duty across every overseas combatant command, with another 10,000 typically conducting domestic operations.

Among key missions where the National Guard makes a contribution:

**Domestic response:** Last year, the National Guard was called up 195 times to respond to domestic incidents such as wildfires, hurricanes or floods.

**State Partnership Program:** About one-third – 83 of the world’s nations are partnered with one of the 50 states, territories or the District of Columbia in the Defense Department program executed by the National Guard in coordination with geographic combatant commanders, the State Department and host nations. More than 950 events were conducted across every geographic combatant command in the 2018 fiscal year. The National Guard has co-deployed 80 different times with partner nations.

**Space:** “The National Guard continues to contribute critical capabilities in space,” Lengyel said, “and we stand ready to support any future Space Force.”

**Missile defense:** In Alaska, California, and Colorado, National Guard members support our nation’s missile defense.

**Air defense:** 15 of the nation’s 16 alert sites to safeguard our skies are operated by the Air National Guard.

**Cyber:** Guard cyber units protect DOD networks, support gubernatorial needs in the states. The Army Guard includes 11 cyber protection teams; the Air Guard has 12; and the Guard is experimenting with Cyber Mission Assurance Teams in three states that safeguard non-military infrastructure essential to Defense Department operations. “The cyber domain is under attack every single day,” Lengyel said.

**Chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) response:** About 55 percent of the Defense Department’s CBRN response enterprise resides in the National Guard.



*Air Force Gen. Joseph Lengyel, chief, National Guard Bureau, testifies to members of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense, U.S. Capitol, Washington, D.C., March 26, 2019.*

**Youth Challenge:** More than 170,000 at-risk teenagers have graduated from the National Guard’s Youth ChalleNGe Program since 1993, transforming lives.

**Counterdrug:** The National Guard supports law enforcement detecting, interdicting, disrupting and curtailing illicit drug trafficking.

Unique among the Armed Forces, the National Guard has dual state and federal roles, and Guard functions are present in every ZIP code in the United States.

The National Guard has, “the widest presence of any military force in America and the ability to quickly respond to contingencies,” Lengyel said. “The National Guard reinforces the connection between the American people and their military.

“Our skills and experience from the warfight are used to assist first responders and play an important part in a unified response under federal or state command during domestic emergencies.”





# Arkansas National Guard conducts Domestic Response Exercise with civilian first responders

By Tech. Sgt. Jessica Condit  
189th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

The Arkansas National Guard along with the Arkansas State Police, Little Rock Police Department, North Little Rock Police Department and several other key law enforcement agencies participated in the annual domestic response training exercise Saturday, March 20, at Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas. The exercise provided civilian and military personnel the opportunity to work together side-by-side, preparing them for a real-world scenario. The Arkansas National Guard's Quick Reaction Force is designed to assist State and local law enforcement agencies in the event of a state emergency. The exercise was built around a simulated city, with a state capitol building and other buildings that could potentially be a hub for activity within the area. More than 300 Soldiers, Airmen and military law enforcement practiced riot and crowd control and response during the overnight event.







(U.S. Air National Guard photos by Staff Sgt. Matthew Matlock)





# *Chiefs' Council Coin Presentation: Master Sgt. Angela Torian*



MSgt Angela Torian from the 189th MDG was presented the Chiefs' Council coin by CMSgt Eric Pipkin and fellow council members during a Saturday morning roll call in February. After a recent retirement, MSgt Torian volunteered to take leave from her civilian job as a nurse, to backfill at the medical group. Her dedication to serve her fellow Airmen has helped reduce the backlog in the case management process, improving the PHAQ turn-around time. She also monitors the AGR PHAQ's which include communicating with case managers and medical providers at the 19th MDG's base operations medicine cell, ensuring timely completion of requests. Because of her efforts in the past six months, MSgt Torian has reviewed more than 300 PHAQ's, increasing the 189th AW's individual medical readiness stats, ensuring mission readiness.

## **189th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Top Performers for March**

ACFT 81 - 0626  
DCC - MSgt Bruce Hamilton  
ACC - TSgt Edward Armstrong  
SSgt Tracie Winston  
SSgt Daniel Hayes

Congratulations 189th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron on your achievements!





# *Warrior of the Month:*

## *Senior Airman Jacob Fisher*



**Rank/Name:** SrA Jacob Fisher

**Unit:** 189th Medical Group

**Guard Status:** Drill Status Guardsman

**Civilian Job:** Student pilot at Henderson State

**Position:** Bioenvironmental Engineer Technician

**Hometown:** Vilonia, AR

**Time on Station:** Two and a half years

**Time in Service:** Two and a half years

**Goals:** To become an officer and fly in the Air Force

**Hobbies:** Hunting, fishing, spending time with family and friends, flying

**Core Value Portrayed:** Excellence. SrA Fisher accomplished all six volumes of his CDC's prior to the required completion dated and tested an average of 96 percent. He is always the first one to volunteer and is always willing to help those who need it most. He is also a member of Alpha Eta Rho, an international aviation fraternity and the Aviation Ambassador for Henderson State.





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CHAMPIONSHIP

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AT 6 PM  
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**7 PM**

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# ***PROMOTIONS***



## ***To Senior Master Sergeant***

SMSgt Michael Duncan, 189th MXG



## ***To Master Sergeant***

MSgt Timothy Hill, 189th LRS  
MSgt Nathan Michael, 189th AMXS  
MSgt Walter Peck, 189th AMXS  
MSgt Donald Russell, 189th MXS



## ***To Technical Sergeant***

TSgt Jerry Ellis, 154th WF  
TSgt Cody Fowler, 189th LRS  
TSgt George Lee, 189th LRS  
TSgt Tralesa Sims, 189th MXS  
TSgt Hunter Spears, 189th CES  
TSgt Chad Stenger, 189th AW  
TSgt Ryan Weng, 189th MXS  
TSgt Geoffrey Wray, 189th AMXS



## ***To Staff Sergeant***

SSgt Cody Brown, 189th AMXS  
SSgt Jazzmin Hayes, 189th LRS  
SSgt Jared Ray, 189th MXS  
SSgt Martiniano Tilton, 189th MXS  
SSgt Braylon Watson, 189th LRS



## ***To Senior Airman***

SrA Kevin Dixon, 189th LRS  
SrA Benjamin Johnson, 189th STUFLT  
SrA Christopher Orbach, 189th AMXS

***Congratulations promotees and PME graduates on reaching the next level in the Air National Guard. Your dedication and service to the Arkansas Air National Guard did not go unnoticed! Keep up the good work!***