

# The Phoenix Guardian



Fall 2015

## 194th Wing redesignated

By 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Hans Zeiger

JOINT BASE LEWIS-MCCHORD—The 194<sup>th</sup> Regional Support Wing was redesignated as the 194<sup>th</sup> Wing in a ceremony at French Theater here on August 8. In the new designation, the 194<sup>th</sup> will be under the U.S. Space Command, while it was previously under the Air Combat Command.

“The term Regional Support

Wing has become a poor description for this composite organization, and doctrinally incorrect,” said Maj. Jesse Ruhl, Wing executive officer, in remarks at the ceremony.

Even as the 194<sup>th</sup> has proved its value to the Guard’s federal mission, its designation as a “regional support wing” was a point of confusion, said Col. Jeremy Horn, 194<sup>th</sup> Wing commander. The word “support” doesn’t adequately describe the

Wing’s purpose, said Horn. “All of what we do is operations,” he said.

With the shorter title, “less is more,” said Horn. “The name reflects a big tent.”

The 252<sup>nd</sup> Group was the major forerunner of the 194<sup>th</sup> Wing, said Ruhl in a brief description of the Wing’s history. In 1976, the Group took on a medical detachment at Camp Murray to support the  
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## Airmen lend support at fires



194th Wing Commander Col. Jeremy Horn and Chief Master Sgt. Max Tidwell visit airmen who were supporting fire-fighting in north central Washington in late August (ANG Photo/Maj. Chyteira Dues/Released)

By Maj. Chyteira Dues

CAMP MURRAY – Airmen from the 194th Wing worked alongside soldiers

and civilians from Incident Management Teams as they served in various roles in the fight against wildfires in Northern and Central Washington.

Air National Guardsmen have been supporting fire-fighting efforts and incident commanders in seven different locations, including the Okanogan Complex, which has now become the largest wildfire in state history. Airmen can be seen at various locations assisting incident commanders by providing communication functions, conducting patrols, manning entry control points, and completing incident awareness and assessments.

Staff Sgt. Andrew Takach from the  
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## Commander's Corner: What's in a Name?

By Col. Jeremy Horn

This drill weekend marks a significant milestone in our wing's history—our official designation as the “194<sup>th</sup> Wing”. When the wing was established in 2006, we became the Air National Guard's 89<sup>th</sup> wing and the first ever without a flying mission.

However, the moniker “Regional Support Wing” never adequately described the tremendous impact our Airmen have across the globe and within the state. Nine years later, we continue to lead the Total Force as experts in multiple mission sets including cyber, intelligence, air support operations, and agile combat support. Our new name provides the big tent to cover all the dynamic, dedicated Airmen we're so fortunate to have.

As the Airmen of this wing, you have the right to be proud of the accomplishments we've racked up in the past year! Last August, we hosted the ACC and AFSPC Inspectors General for our first-ever Unit Effectiveness Inspection, showcasing our talented individuals and robust programs as well as highlighting some of our constraints and shortcomings. Our chal-



Col. Jeremy Horn, 194th Wing Commander, talks with Geographic Task Force-5 staff during Exercise Evergreen Tremor on June 23, 2015 (ANG Photo/2nd Lt. Hans Zeiger, Released)

lenge now is to get over the habit pattern most of us grew up with: prepare for an inspection, hide what we don't want the IG to find, hope they don't look too hard, and then go back to business as usual until the next inspection cycle. The new Air Force Inspection System empowers us and charges us with identifying our own non-compliance, developing sustainable programs, monitoring their health, and raising issues to get help. It's a lot like growing a garden; without attention, the garden becomes overgrown and the

harvest is ruined; but regularly pulling budding weeds ensures healthy plans. Our programs are the same—a little attention during drill will ensure a healthy program that ultimately allows us to manage resources, lead people, improve the unit and ultimately accomplish our federal and state missions.

One of the things that makes the Guard unique is that ability to take our finely-honed “go-to-war” skills and apply them to helping our neighbors and communities in times of state crisis. In 2012, Ma-

jor General Dougherty, our Adjutant General, described his vision of growing our domestic capabilities; the 194<sup>th</sup> Wing has led the Washington National Guard in embracing that vision and enhancing our DomOps capabilities. Last year our Airmen performed admirably in Oso and central Washington, helping the people of Washington in the wake of the largest mudslide and fires in the state's history. Our focus has now shifted to preparation for the Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake (if you're not fa  
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## Wing prepares for big quake: 194th would aid Pierce County after catastrophic event

By 2nd Lt. Hans Zeiger

CAMP MURRAY—The 194th Wing has been preparing to respond within Pierce County in the event of a potential catastrophic earthquake. The 194<sup>th</sup> Wing is among a number of Washington National Guard units along with civilian emergency management agencies that took part in a weeklong exercise in June called “Evergreen Tremor,” designed to prepare Guardsmen to save lives, prevent additional damage to infrastructure and the state’s economy, and prepare for recovery.

“This is the biggest exercise this Wing has ever accomplished as part of the biggest exercise the Washington National Guard has ever attempted,” said Col. Jeremy Horn, commander of the 194<sup>th</sup>

Wing.

In the scenario, the quake occurred on a morning some 30 miles off the Pacific coast, registering 9.0 on the Richter scale. Shaking lasted for five minutes.

Following a “Cascadia Subduction Zone” quake of that size, Air Guard members would need to use any means to report to a duty station. Guard leaders would expect that airmen “got our families ready because we were prepared and somehow got into work,” said Horn.

**Above: 194th Force Support Squadron services personnel Staff Sgt. Joel LeBon, Senior Airman Joseph Perez-Resop, and Master Sgt. Marielinda Pierce set up a field kitchen during Exercise Evergreen Tremor**  
**Below: 194th Security Forces confront a group of “protesters” consisting of Wing personnel at Camp Murray during Exercise Evergreen Tremor (ANG Photos/2nd Lt. Hans Zeiger, Released)**



Staff of the 194<sup>th</sup> formed Geographic Task Force 5 and assembled at Camp Murray to begin their work by the morning of June 19.

In a briefing to GTF-5

staff as the exercise commenced, Horn set the scene. “The City of Tacoma is on fire because the gas mains are burning, but the nation is mobilizing. Things are starting to flood into McChord, Moses Lake, and Gray Army Airfield. The population is hurt, homeless, out of water, hopeless. They want to see someone in this uniform. We are the hope for these people,” said Horn.

Plans call for 5,000 military personnel from throughout the nation to come into Pierce County to respond to a catastrophic Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake. GTF-5, led by the 194<sup>th</sup> Wing, would be responsible for command and control of all National Guard forces within the county,

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# Operation Husky Airborne:

## 116th Airmen jump from Chinook

By 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Hans Zeiger

RAINIER, Wash.— Airmen from the Washington Air National Guard's 116<sup>th</sup> Air Support Operations Squadron participated in Operation Husky Airborne here on August 8 to practice jumping out of a Boeing CH-47 Chinook helicopter, evacuating casualties, and collaborating with partners in the Army National Guard.

The primary goal of the operation was to “get familiarity with Army air operations with a Chinook,” said Capt. Nate Carlson of the 116<sup>th</sup>. The 116<sup>th</sup> worked with the Army Guard's 66<sup>th</sup> Theater Aviation Command and the 19<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group, Special Operations Detachment Pacific to conduct Operation Husky

Airborne. “We have good integration with them,” said Carlson.

“We are practicing an insertion method of how we get to work,” said Master Sgt. Tavis Delaney, a Tactical Air Control Party operator in the 116<sup>th</sup>. “It's a method for us to get to work, one of many ways to get to a job site.”

116<sup>th</sup> members practiced low- and high-altitude jumps. “There are situations where we need to jump into a place unde-

TECTED, so we try to stay off the radar by jumping as low as we do,” said Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Jose Gonzalez, a jumpmaster from the Army 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion, 1st Special Forces Group located at Joint Base Lewis-McChord. “The military freefall is at high altitude for entries in places where they don't want to get detected either. So we have really high jumps and really low jumps. We can jump as low as 800 feet in training. The lowest we're going to go is 1,250 feet.”

Delaney said that parachutists in the 116<sup>th</sup> aim

to practice air jumps every other month to maintain their job currency.

The 116<sup>th</sup> depends on Army aviators, including Army National Guard partners, to conduct these practices. “We don't have our own chutes or jumpmasters,” said Delaney.

“We wouldn't be able to put this on if the Special Operations Detachment Pacific wasn't helping us out. The big thing is the interoperability in working with the Army National Guard,” said Delaney.

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**Above: Airmen jump from a Chinook during Operation Husky Airborne  
Below: A member of the Washington Army National Guard helps a Tactical Air Control Party operator from the 116th Air Support Operations Squadron to get ready for Operation Husky Airborne. (ANG Photos/Staff Sgt. Paul Rider/Released)**



## Wildfires (cont. from page 1)



194th Wing Commander Col. Jeremy Horn and Chief Master Sgt. Max Tidwell visit firefighting support operations in north central Washington in late August (ANG Photo/Maj. Chyteira Dues/Released)

116th Air Support Operations Squadron is a part of a mobile tactical command and control team that worked to establish radio communication between the various organizations working out of the Okanogan complex. The organizations were operating under several different radio frequencies, making it difficult to exchange critical information between the civilian, military, and non-profit agencies. Takach, utilizing his knowledge of radio communications and the mobile tactical command and control unit, was able to ensure that all cooperating organizations at the complex could effectively “talk” to one another, enhancing communication efficiency throughout the complex.

Several Airmen from the 242th Combat Communication Squadron, which provides tactical and deployable communication for any unit across the globe, work out of the Fruitland complex in order to provide communication support to the incident commander and the various organizations that are a part of the Fruitland complex.

Airmen assigned to the North Star fire incident command in Nespelem initially assisted with communication and administrative support and have been taking on tasks as needed in such areas as conducting security patrols and manning entry control points. Their

presence and ability to perform in these functions allows the incident commander to place essential, specially trained firefighting personnel in areas where they are able to have a more direct role in fighting the fires.

Approximately 250 Airmen from the Washington Air National Guard are also completing red card firefighting training in Yakima this year, which will allow them to participate in more direct firefighting efforts in the future.

This is an especially crucial training for air Guardsmen as state and national firefighting resources are becoming increasingly stressed this year. Efforts to support fighting wildfires this year resulted in the largest mobilization of the Washington National Guard since 1994. Over 1,000 Washington National Guardsmen have been mobilized in support of fighting fires this season.

## Evergreen Tremor (cont. from page 3)

while it would play a coordinating role for all federal troops mobilized to the county.

“We’re not just doing this for the catastrophic earthquake,” said Horn, who recounted Guard responses to the Highway 530 Landslide and the Carlton Complex Wildfires, both in 2014. “Everything we do here translates directly to that.”

“The better we are at this the more likely we are to do this,” said Horn. “As we do this we’re not just establishing this Task Force 5, we’re developing relationships so that they’re going to want to see us if something goes wrong in Pierce County.” The lessons of Evergreen Tremor will be just as applicable to a volcanic eruption as to a catastrophic earthquake, said Horn.

Through Evergreen Tremor, Airmen responded to scenario “injects” including food and water shortages, civil unrest, and collapsed overpasses and bridges.

Several days into the exercise, Horn praised Airmen for adapting and working together. “Because of the culture in the Air Guard of listening to our Airmen, we’re building a team that is leveraging what everyone is doing.”

## Airmen practice earthquake communications

By 2nd Lt. Hans Zeiger

JOINT BASE LEWIS-MCCHORD—Early in the afternoon on June 18, a C-17 Globemaster landed at Gray Army Airfield here, delivering information technology equipment and military communications experts from the 242<sup>nd</sup> Combat Communications Squadron who are practicing their response to a catastrophic earthquake that could rock the Pacific Northwest someday.

The C-17 was flown by the 446<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing, an Air Force Reserve Wing assigned to McChord Air Force Base, while the 242<sup>nd</sup> is a Washington Air National Guard squadron assigned to Fairchild Air Force Base in Spokane. “It’s unique that an active or reserve component airlift could support an Air Guard partner in support of a state exercise,” said Lt. Col. Chris Panush, plans officer for the Air Guard’s 194<sup>th</sup> Regional Support Wing, which includes the 242<sup>nd</sup>. “It shows a huge commitment by all levels of the military to our planning.”

During Exercise Evergreen Tremor in June, Army and Air Guard personnel along with military



Members of the 242<sup>nd</sup> Combat Communications Squadron from Fairchild Air Force Base take a break from operations at Satsop, Wash., as part of exercise Evergreen Tremor (ANG Photo/2nd Lt. Hans Zeiger, Released)

and civilian partners spent several days rehearsing a plan to save lives, prevent further damage to the infrastructure, environment, and economy of Washington, and prepare for eventual recovery.

The flight was “great,” said Staff Sgt. David Bryan, an IT expert in the 242<sup>nd</sup>, as he stepped onto the tarmac at Gray Army Airfield. He was en route to help set up Joint Incident Site Communications Capability at Satsop, he said. The JISCC is housed in a trailer that provides commercial internet, voice, and data

communications during an incident.

Materials had to be flown in since truck travel across Cascade Mountain passes would be impossible in the quake scenario.

“We are rehearsing operations in a post-Cascadia Subduction Zone rupture where transportation routes are unusable,” said Lt. Col. Clayton Braun, deputy director of operations for the exercise. “The C-17 flight was a practice in getting there in a hugely damaged environment.”

In addition to deploying the JISCC to Satsop,

the 242<sup>nd</sup> established Theater Deployable Communications, or TDC, at the Mason County Fairgrounds in Shelton in support of airmen from the Air National Guard’s 111<sup>th</sup> Air Support Operations Squadron and soldiers from the Army National Guard’s 96<sup>th</sup> Troop Command. TDC uses satellite technology to provide various modes of communication.

“It is cool to go anywhere and provide the services that we have,”

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## Husky Airborne (cont. from p. 4)



Master Sgt. Tavis Delaney gives the hand signal as members of the 116th Air Support Operations Squadron prepare to jump. Delaney is followed by Lt. Col. Raed Gyekis, commander of the 116th. (ANG Photo/Staff Sgt. Paul Rider/Released)

The Army Guard works across military services to provide helicopter transport. “The uniform doesn’t matter to me,” said Chief Warrant Officer 4 Nathaniel Thompson, the Chinook pilot and a member of the 66<sup>th</sup> TAC. “People come from far and wide to be supported.”

“I have an element of eight men who load onto the helo and are dropped off,” said Tech. Sgt. Louis Awua, Red Flight Operations NCO for the 116<sup>th</sup> and an air assault team leader. “Most of the training is centered on helicopter landing operations and medivac 9-line.” Medivac 9-line is “the template used to evacuate casualties,” said Awua.

“Familiarity with the tactics, techniques, and procedures of different types of helos helps us support Army or Marine Corps ground commanders,” said Awua.

In theater during wartime, TACPs would jump with communications and tactical equipment along with a rifle and MREs, said Staff Sgt. Brant Shaw as he took his seat in the Chinook.

Operation Husky Airborne was part of Team 116 Organization Day and Barbeque, attended by service members’ families and employers, who were able to see the squadron in action and learn more about its mission.

## Medical Group joins in disaster exercise at Camp Rilea

By Maj. Chyteira Dues

CAMP MURRAY – Members of the 194th Medical Group took part in the Pathfinder-Minutemen exercise on Aug 5 at Camp Rilea, Oregon. The exercise also involved participants from U.S. Northern Command, the U.S. Air Force Reserve, and Army National Guard units and was a multi-agency, multi-state

event.

The exercise was a simulation of a post-earthquake, post-tsunami natural disaster event in which people would be in immediate need of medical care. Players in the exercise included first responders, search and rescue teams, and simulated casualties.

The 194th Medical Group participated in the exercise by setting up tents through which casualties could be accounted for, evaluated, and prepared for medical evacuation if necessary. In the picture below, members of the 194th Medical Group can be seen receiving a briefing on evaluating patients.



Members of the 194th Medical Group receive a briefing on evaluating patients during Exercise Pathfinder-Minuteman at Camp Rilea (Photo/courtesy of Tech. Sgt. Michelle Trusty/Released)

## Senior Airman Perez-Resop: Services Airman of the Year

By 2nd Lt. Hans Zeiger

CAMP MURRAY—Senior Airman Joseph Perez-Resop of the 194<sup>th</sup> Force Support Squadron has been recognized as the 2015 Force Support Airman of the Year for the Air Reserve component.

“He’s like the perfect airman,” said Master Sgt. Curtis Conner, superintendent of the 194<sup>th</sup> FSS. “He’s a quiet leader. He always does what’s asked of him. He’s always the first to volunteer for anything that comes up.”

Perez-Resop works in fitness and helps in the Dining Facility. He trains CPR instructors and conducts fitness assessments.

“He’s not afraid to stay late to finish up his job,” said Conner.

Perez-Resop was part of a force support contingent that augmented a Colorado fatality search and recovery team at the Highway 530 Landslide in 2014. The team worked with the Snohomish Medical Examiner’s office. Perez-Resop spot trained with the team. Later he and his fellow force support airmen who served at the landslide were recognized by Governor Jay Inslee and Adjutant General Bret Daughterty at the State Capitol.

During the Carlton Complex wildfires in summer 2014, Perez-Resop was assigned to presence patrols in Twisp and Winthrop.

At both domestic operations in 2014, Perez-Resop was struck by the gratitude of local citizens. He was moved at “seeing how we affected people on a personal level,” he said. “They were thanking us for what we were doing.”

“I liked the whole aspect of serving in your community in addition to the United States. I like the Guard mission,” said Pe

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## 194th (cont. from page 1)

Group’s seven units throughout the state. The Washington Air Guard took on additional support services in 1982, including JAG, chaplain, personnel, and combat arms training functions within Detachment 1. During the 1980s and 1990s, the Washington Air Guard grew and took on new units and specializations, finally reorganizing with the intention of forming of a new Wing in 2004. In 2006 the 194<sup>th</sup> Regional Support Wing was approved. It was the first non-flying Wing in the Air National Guard, said Ruhl.

Brig. Gen. John Tuohy, Assistant Adjutant General for Air of the Washington Air National Guard, recalled the events that led to the creation of the 194<sup>th</sup>. In the 1980s, then-Col. Frank Scoggins was tasked with establishing an A 10 unit in the Washington Air National Guard. “That didn’t happen, but he stayed around and rose to become ATAG,” said Tuohy. As Assistant Adjutant General for Air, Maj. Gen. Scoggins had a vision for cyber security in the mission of the Washington Air Guard, even as most of the state’s combat communications activities fell away, said Tuohy.

“There are more changes to come, and they’re all good,” said Tuohy.



**Col. Jeremy Horn applauds Senior Airman Joseph Perez-Resop on receiving the Airman of the Year Award, during a Wing all-call at Joint Base Lewis-McChord on August 8 (ANG Photo/Staff Sgt Paul Rider/Released)**

## Perez-Resop (cont. from page 8)

rez-Resop. "I have lived in Washington most of my life, and I like it here. I want to get involved in helping here."

"He's a very driven young airman," said Tech. Sgt. Michalle Austin, Sustainment Services Technician for the 194<sup>th</sup> FSS. "He's the first to volunteer."

A Pierce County resident, Perez-Resop finds other ways to serve the community, including tutoring for sixth graders and playing his guitar at local hospitals. He recently completed his Associates degree at Tacoma Community College.

"He's very goodhearted," said Austin.

## Quake communications (cont. from page 6)

said Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Philip Clapin, on duty with the 242<sup>nd</sup> at the county fairgrounds.

"It's exciting watching everyone scramble to get communications up," added Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Shirley Beaumont, also with the 242<sup>nd</sup> in Shelton. "Things are changing, and we're adjusting with all the changes."

The 111<sup>th</sup> Air Support Operations Squadron located at Shelton processed air mission requests and dispatched a rapid response force into the field to transport supplies, said Maj. David Stilli of the 111<sup>th</sup>. The rapid response force also scanned for potential landslides, said Tech. Sgt. Russell Record, a fighter duty technician with the 111<sup>th</sup>.

About forty miles southwest of Shelton, Capt. Duane Franks of the 242<sup>nd</sup> led a small team at the JISCC. "It's pretty flexible what we can provide," he said. "The exercise provides some of our traditional Guardsmen more training on the equipment."

In an operations tent near the JISCC, Tech. Sgt. Josh Nibler, who works as a railroad engineer in his civilian job, said that he and his colleagues in the 242<sup>nd</sup> are able to bridge communications gaps that hampered responses in past crises. "If we have the FBI come in on high frequency and the Guard on a different radio, I'm the guy who can patch them together," Nibler said. "If there's a helicopter in the air, we're able to take a very high frequency channel and patch it through to a cell phone."

The Guard members participating in exercise Ev-



**Staff Sgt. Taylor Dorn, of the 242nd Combat Communications Squadron, describes communications equipment set up at Satsop, Wash., as part of exercise Evergreen Tremor to prepare for a catastrophic Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake. (ANG Photo/2nd Lt. Hans Zeiger/Released)**

ergreen Tremor at Shelton and Satsop were part of Task Force 3, working in support of the civilian Mason County Emergency Operations Center. Other military domestic operations task forces were established throughout the state in support of specific regions.

A Cascadia Subduction Zone quake that registered at 9.0 on the Richter scale would "end life as we know it," said Col. Jeremy Horn, commander of the 194<sup>th</sup> Wing, headquartered at Camp Murray. Since the zone stretches 800 miles long just off the Pacific Coast, an earthquake and tsunami could have devastating effects on people, property, and critical infrastructure throughout the Northwest.

## Commander's Corner (continued from page 2)

miliar, you can find an article at <http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2015/07/20/the-really-big-one>). We've had wing members involved in the state's earthquake response planning, and over 250 of us successfully exercised portions of the plan during Exercise EVERGREEN TREMOR in June. Our Airmen were once again innovators, executing new and diverse mission sets such as establishing a geographic task force headquarters, integrating with the Department of Transportation to manage air traffic, and establishing communication in remote areas. EVERGREEN TREMOR was a dress rehearsal for next June's Exercise CASCADIA RISING, which will be a national-level exercise bringing thousands of state, federal, and Department of Defense personnel to Washington.

We've also had some tremendous contributions over the past few weeks supporting the wildfire fight throughout the state. Over 30 wing members mobilized to State Active Duty status and served admirably as liaison officers, JOC augmentation, communications support, security missions, damage assessment, and air-space control, and several other mission sets. Each time I visited the fires, our people were lauded by our civilian and Guard counterparts for their initiative, flexibility, and results. It made me extremely proud to be a part of this organization! The lessons learned through these mobilizations and exercises will build vital processes and relationships key to getting the citizens of our state through the worst day in our nation's history, and will help us be "Always Ready, Always There" for our nation and our communities.



Staff Sgt. Sean Graham and Master Sgt. Dave Szydel collaborate while Master Sgt. Dave Schultz works underneath a vehicle in the maintenance garage at Camp Murray following a temporary power outage as part of Exercise Evergreen Tremor. The exercise was a rehearsal of the military and civilian response to a catastrophic 9.0 magnitude earthquake.

(ANG Photo/2nd Lt. Hans Zeiger/Released)

194 Wing Public Affairs  
109 Engineer Drive  
Camp Murray, WA 98430-5035  
DSN: 370.3485/Comm: 253.512.3485  
Comm Fax: 253-512-3485

Join our 194th RSW Facebook page!  
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[194RSW.PA@ang.af.mil](mailto:194RSW.PA@ang.af.mil)

### Congratulations to our 2nd Quarter 2015 Award Winners!

Airman of the Quarter: A1C Psalmbrea Doss (194 FSS)  
NCO of the Quarter: Stephanie Kerle (143 IOS)  
SNCO of the Quarter: MSgt Jeffrey Johnson (256 IS)  
CGO of the Quarter: Capt Charles Parsons (242 CBCS)