



# The REDTAIL Review

The Official Newsletter of the 187th Fighter Wing  
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**About The REDTAIL Review**

The REDTAIL Review is the official quarterly publication of the 187th Fighter Wing, Alabama Air National Guard. Contents of this publication are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the Department of the Air Force, or the National Guard. The content is edited, prepared and provided by the 187th Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office, Montgomery Regional Airport Guard Base. All photographs are Air Force/ AL ANG photographs unless otherwise indicated.

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Cover photo by A1C Hayden Johnson: U.S. Air Force Airman 1st Class Jessica Wilkes, a U.S. Air Force F-16 Fighting Falcon crew chief with the 187th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, performs a routine check before take-off Nov. 1, 2016, on the flight line at the Air Dominance Center at the 165th Airlift Wing, Savannah, Ga.

**We're Hiring!**

Vacancies are open in the following career fields:



- 2A3X4 Fighter Aircraft Integrated Avionics
  - 2W1X1 Armament
- 2A3X3 Tactical Aircraft Maintenance
- 2ROX1 Maintenance Management Analysis
  - 2A6X6 Electrical/Environmental
    - 2A6X4 Fuels
    - 2A6X3 Egress
  - 2A7X3 Aircraft Structures
- 2A6X2 Aerospace Ground Equipment
  - 2A6X1 Propulsion
- 2A0X1 Avionics Test Station and Components
  - 2W0X1 Munitions
- 2T3X1 Vehicle & Vehicular Equipment Maint.
- 3E1X1 Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning
  - 3E0X2 Electrical Power Production
  - 3D1X2 Cyber Transport
  - 3D1X3 RF Transmissions
- 3E2X1 Pavement and Construction
  - 3E3X1 Structural
- 3E9X1 Emergency Management
  - 3NOX5 Photojournalist

To learn how you can join our team and get paid training and great benefits while serving part-time, call our recruiting team at (334) 394-7190.



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# TRAINING TO WIN

WING PARTICIPATES IN  
SENTRY SAVANNAH 17-1



U.S. Air Force Maj. Tyler "Eightball" Guenzel, a fighter pilot with the 100th Fighter Squadron, prepares to taxi Nov. 3, 2016, on the flightline at the Air Dominance Center at the 165th Airlift Squadron in Savannah, Ga.

Eleven U.S. Air Force F-16 Fighting Falcons and approximately 190 guardsmen from the 187th Fighter Wing, Montgomery Regional Air National Guard Base, Ala., participated in Sentry Savannah 17-1 Oct. 26 to Nov. 9, held at the Air Dominance Center on Savannah Air National Base, Ga.

Sentry Savannah is the Air National Guard's largest Fighter Integration, air-to-air training exercise encompassing fourth and fifth generation aircraft.

"As an F-16 unit, our lethality increases exponentially when we integrate with fifth generation assets," said Maj. Kevin "Smash" Pugh, the 187th Fighter Wing project officer for Sentry Savannah. "If called to fight in a highly contested environment, we will most likely utilize Fighter Integration. Sentry Savannah provides us a great opportunity to truly train the way we will fight."

Other units from Alabama, Alaska, Florida, Georgia, New Jersey, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Washington also took part in the exercise. Aircraft included T-38 Talon's, F-15 Eagle's, F-16 Fighting Falcon's, E-3 Sentry's, KC-135 Stratotanker's, KC-10 Extender's, and fifth generation F-22 Raptor's.

Exercises like Sentry Savannah benefit the wing by allowing more opportunity to work with fifth generation fighters, like the F-22. The wing has pushed to progress to the newest fifth generation fighter, the F-35 Lightning II, and the opportunity to work with other fifth generation aircraft is another step in preparing the wing.

"There are a multitude of great reasons to base the F-35 in Montgomery," Pugh said. "This exercise is yet another opportunity to showcase the professionalism of the 187th Fighter Wing, while simultaneously sharpening the skills of our pilots and maintainers."

Sentry Savannah has benefitted the unit's maintainers by allowing them

*"This exercise is yet another opportunity to showcase the professionalism of the 187th Fighter Wing, while simultaneously sharpening the skills of our pilots and maintainers."*



*(U.S. Air Force Airman 1st Class Jessica Wilkes, a U.S. Air Force F-16 Fighting Falcon crew chief with the 187th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, marshals U.S. Air Force Capt. Bart "Lefty" Smith, a fighter pilot with the 100th Fighter Squadron, and U.S. Air Force Senior Master Sgt. Terry Reilly, the 187th Fighter Wing first sergeant, before an incentive flight Nov. 3, 2016, on the flight line at the Air Dominance Center at the 165th Airlift Wing in Savannah, Ga. While the wing participated in Sentry Savannah 17-1, several members of the 187th Fighter Wing had the opportunity to experience a ride in an U.S. Air Force F-16 Fighting Falcon.)*

*“In the process of exercising the 187th Fighter Wing’s collective muscles, we gain indispensable lessons on how to do these things even better the next time.”*

to work hand-in hand with all of the other shops, said Senior Master Sgt. Anthony Broome, the crew chief flight chief with the 187th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

“We get to experience everyone working together as one team, one fight,” Broome said. “It’s a morale builder, and we get to partake and listen to the pilots talk about what they’ve done. We get to train our younger airmen for the mission, and we get to train our NCO’s to become senior NCO’s and let them have the helm and run the shifts. We’re also able to watch them, mold them, and mentor them to where it’ll pay forward for years to come.”

Across the wing, Sentry Savannah allowed Airmen put their knowledge and skills into practice, learn more about fifth generation aircraft, and boost unit morale.

“This exercise is a boon to unit morale,” Pugh said. “Maintainers have flown on tanker missions to watch us aerial refuel, and others have had the opportunity to fly in the backseat of our F-16 on incentive rides.

“Exercises such as Sentry Savannah affords every echelon of our unit the opportunity to deploy, execute, and redeploy as if it were an actual contingency operation,” Pugh said. “In the process of exercising the 187th Fighter Wing’s collective muscles, we gain indispensable lessons on how to do these things even better the next time.”

*U.S. Air Force Capt. Bart “Lefty” Smith, a fighter pilot with the 100th Fighter Squadron, prepares for an incentive flight with U.S. Air Force Senior Master Sgt. Terry Reilly, the 187th Fighter Wing first sergeant, Nov. 2, 2016.*



*Top: U.S. Air Force F-16 Fighting Falcons taxi before take-off Nov. 3, 2016, on the taxi-way at the Air Dominance Center at the 165th Airlift Wing in Savannah, Ga.*

*Bottom, Left: U.S. Rep. Buddy Carter of Georgia watches our Red Tails in action at the Air Dominance Center in Savannah, Ga. during the Sentry Savannah exercise on Oct. 31, 2016.*

*Bottom, Right: U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Kyle Porter, a U.S. Air Force F-16 Fighting Falcon crew chief with the 187th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, performs a routine check of flight controls before take-off Nov. 2, 2016.*



# THE SOUND OF FREEDOM

FOOTBALL GAME FLYOVERS  
INCREASE WING VISIBILITY



Two F-16 Fighting Falcon aircraft from the 187th Fighter Wing in Montgomery, Ala. perform the pregame flyover of the Auburn/Arkansas football game, October 22, 2016 at Jordan-Hare Stadium in Auburn, Ala.

Two F-16 Fighting Falcon aircraft from the 187th Fighter Wing in Montgomery, Alabama performed the pre-game flyover to kick off the Auburn University vs. Arkansas football game October 22, 2016 at Jordan-Hare Stadium in Auburn, Alabama.

The pilots landed at the Montgomery Regional Air National Guard Base after the flyover and drove to the game. Together with six more members of the 187th Fighter Wing, they walked onto the field to be recognized during a third-quarter timeout, where the announcer praised the wing and the crowd of more than 87,000 people gave them a standing ovation.

Lt. Col. Jeff “Bat” Simmons flew the lead jet in the flyover, with Capt. Martin “Lefty” Smith, an Auburn graduate, following in the second F-16.

“It was an exciting honor for Lefty and I to fly over Jordan-Hare Stadium and showcase the 187th Fighter Wing ‘Redtails’ to the fans,” Simmons said. “The weather was great, maintenance delivered two solid jets, and the team’s combined efforts, coupled with outstanding FAA and Auburn University support, allowed us to hit our mark on time. Auburn was a gracious host and we enjoyed the opportunity to tell everyone about the ‘Redtails’ and the Alabama Air National Guard”

Capt. Shawn Daley, an Auburn graduate and the 187th Fighter Wing senior intelligence officer, helped coordinate the flyover with the university.

“We’ve developed a great relationship with the university during several events over the last year,” Daley said. “Besides this flyover, we’ve participated in a career fair for the students, and Tech. Sgt. Marquette of our recruiting staff sang the national anthem at an Auburn volleyball game. We’ve already started to plan other projects with the athletic department.”

Before the game, volunteer airmen handed out flyers about the Guard around the university, and talked to people about the 187th’s mission.

“This relationship benefits both parties,” Daley continued. “We can create excitement with the Auburn fan base at the athletic events, and it helps us increase awareness of the Air National Guard and the 187th Fighter Wing in Alabama.”

On November 12, 2016, the wing also performed the flyover for the Auburn-Georgia football game in Athens, Georgia. More flyovers are being planned for future games.

(Simmons, Smith and Daley were joined on the field by Col. Brian Vaughn, 187th Maintenance Group commander, Lt Col Chris Germann, 187th Operations Support Squadron director of operations, 2nd Lt. Shenovius Bennett, 187th FW maintenance officer, Senior Master Sgt. Jonathan Dean, 187th FW intel superintendent, and Master Sgt. Jessica Broach, 187th Maintenance Group unit training manager.)

*“Auburn was a gracious host and we enjoyed the opportunity to tell everyone about the ‘Redtails’ and the Alabama Air National Guard”*



Wing volunteers who helped pass out Air National Guard flyers to fans before the Auburn/Arkansas game.



Top: Members of the 187th Fighter Wing are recognized on the field at the Auburn/Arkansas football game October 22, 2016 at Jordan-Hare Stadium in Auburn, Ala. Five members of the group are Auburn University graduates.

Bottom: Members of the 187th Fighter Wing watch Auburn’s pregame warmup.



# AIRCRAFT ARMAMENT SYSTEMS

*career spotlight*



# 2W1X1

**alpha • foxtrot • sierra • charlie**



When a mission involves dropping explosive devices, everything needs to be in perfect working order. Responsible for maintaining launch and release devices on aircraft, Aircraft Armament Systems specialists ensure that explosive devices can be accurately delivered from our planes. From testing and evaluating new weapons systems to loading ordnance, these professionals make sure that when a pilot pulls the trigger, the devices successfully launch away from the aircraft toward the target.

## Chaplains host beach retreat for Airmen and families

Story by TSgt. Monique Randall

Sixty 187th Fighter Wing family members and twelve singles attended a Personal Development Retreat and a Strong Bonds event during a weekend getaway September 24-26 in Point Clear, AL.

The 187th Fighter Wing Chaplain's office hosted the free events at the Grand Hotel Marriot Resort, Golf Club & Spa Resort. Chaplain (Maj) John Bailey, wing chaplain, Staff Sgt. Todd Hollis, chaplain's assistant, and Sharon Hubbert, Airman and Family Readiness Program Manager, planned and coordinated the trip.

Bailey led different exercises and sessions for the families, and taught from the book "7 Habits of Highly Effective Military Families" by Stephen Covey. The families also created family vision boards of what they stood for and what they want their families to look like. They received the book, a participant's guide, and a family calendar to create their own family plan.

"The retreat was a great opportunity for families in the wing to be able to come together with other military families," Bailey said. "All families face challenges but military families have an added challenge of managing situations and circumstances that are inherent to serving our great nation."

Maj Michael Tewalt, 187th Fighter Wing Judge Advocate General, attended the event with his family.

"The retreat far exceeded our expectations," Tewalt said in a survey

after the trip. "It allowed us to talk about things we normally don't discuss. (I) enjoyed getting to know my brothers and sisters in the Guard

Chaplain (Capt) Benjamin Praytor and Chaplain (Capt) Tyler Cox led the singles in activities throughout the weekend and covered topics including communication skills, active listening, relationship skills for both professional and personal development, and how to find a compatible mate.

"The class time focused on learning better ways to communicate, understanding stress, learning what each person's personality really says about them, then understanding how our personalities and outlooks affect our relationships," Praytor said. "Everyone really enjoyed the class time as well as the free time. It was a great balance and the location was amazing. The skills that each person picked up during this training can prove to be an invaluable resource for them in the future."

Outside of the scheduled group

events, the participants were able to explore the area and the resort's amenities. Some of the opportunities available to the airmen and families were jet skiing, golfing, enjoying the spa, swimming at the pool, playing bingo, breaking a sweat at the tennis courts, or exploring the white sand beaches.

"I would say it was an absolutely beautiful place, truly a hidden gem," said Staff Sgt. Todd Hollis.

On the Saturday evening of the retreat, Tech. Sgt. Samantha Johnson, 187th Fighter Wing recruiter, had a wedding on the beach, where she married her civilian partner, Eric Marquette. Bailey performed the ceremony.

The chaplains also provided counseling and prayer for some of the families and individuals upon request. On Sunday, the chaplains held an optional worship service.

The 187th Fighter Wing Chaplain's Office will be hosting another retreat later this year. Additional details will be provided at a later date.



# Next-Level Fire Fighting

Story by AIC Hayden Johnson

The 187th Fighter Wing Fire Department gained a new fire truck, a Pierce Structural Pumper, in September to enhance the unit's capabilities.

"We've had the equipment for the new truck for two years," said Senior Master Sgt. Chris Adams, the 187th Fire Department fire chief. "The base has been trying to get a pumper for several years. Having the pumper is important because it covers all of the structural buildings on the base.

The pumper, or "Engine 9", can carry 50 gallons of foam, used for putting out car and structural fires. It can receive water from the fire hydrants and pump it into buildings with stand pipe systems, which feeds the sprinkler systems. The pumper is also specifically designed with more hoses and can carry Hurst equipment, or "jaws of life".

The new addition came just in time for National Fire Prevention Week, which has been observed annually since 1922 during the week (from Sunday to Saturday) in which Oct. 9 falls. The theme for this year's Fire Prevention Week is "Don't Wait - Check the Date! Replace Smoke Alarms Every 10 Years."



# Quarter in Photos



**Captions (Clockwise, from top left) (Photos by SSgt Jared Rand unless noted)**

Staff Sgt. Jamario Smith shoots the basketball during a friendly game against the Hooper Academy varsity basketball team November 9, 2016 at Hooper Academy High School. 187th Mission Support Group airmen participated in the game as part of the wing's "Adopt a School" program to build relationships with local high schools.

Major Jesse Proctor, 187th Fighter Wing weapons officer, talks to a class of Pike Road Elementary School students October 12, 2016 at the Montgomery Regional ANG Base, Al. The students got a tour of the flightline and operations group.

SrA Adam Russo, 187th Fighter Wing fire department driver/operator, performs vehicle extrication training with the department's new Hurst equipment November 29, 2016, at the Montgomery Regional ANG Base, Alabama. Commonly known as "Jaws of Life", the hydraulic rescue tools give the firefighters the ability to quickly perform vehicle rescues.

Colonel Tara Mckennie, 187th Medical Group commander, presents Chief Master Sgt. (Ret.) Steve Russell, former 187th MDG superintendent, with his retirement certificate November 6, 2016 at the Montgomery Regional ANG Base, Al.

Capt. Philip "Ditto" Brown, 100th Fighter Squadron fighter pilot, prepares to pilot a F-16 November 17, 2016 at Dannelly Field, Al. (Photo by Army Sgt. William Frye.)



Thanks for reading...

