



THE OFFICIAL MONTHLY MAGAZINE OF THE 177th FIGHTER WING

# THE **CONTROL**



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# THE CONTRAIL

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*On the cover:* Air Force Tech. Sgt. Keith M. Curtis, a member of the 177th Fighter Wing’s Security Forces Squadron, helps a community member don a security forces helmet during Hamilton Township’s National Night Out at the Hamilton Mall in Mays Landing, New Jersey, on Aug. 1, 2017. Community members were provided access to the various types of safety equipment used by security forces members. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Airman 1st Class Cristina J. Allen/Released)

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# COMMANDER'S COLUMN



## 177th Mission Support Group Germany Deployment

by Lt. Colonel Albert J. Danza, Commander, 177th Communications Flight

The 2017 Mission Support Group Annual Training exercise to Grafenwoehr, Germany was a tremendous success. I had the privilege of planning and executing this exercise along with an incredibly skilled leadership team and instructor cadre. In many respects, this mission was no different than a local flying mission, a JTAC range event, or a full-blown TSP type of deployment. We received our set of objectives for the event from leadership. Then we planned the training schedule, secured resources, delegated roles, received qualifications, and moved equipment to meet those objectives. We briefed the plan so all 58 personnel were on the same page. Finally, we executed our game plan. It was executed flawlessly.

The purpose of this exercise from a Wing perspective can be captured into one word: Readiness. Readiness to accomplish both our Federal and State missions. Readiness for when our leaders call on us. The Group's objectives were to develop Senior NCO management skills and Junior NCO leadership skills, expose Airmen to leadership opportunities, team building, and, of course, to have fun.

With those objectives in mind, the leadership team of CMSgt Mike Allen, First Sgt Brian McDevitt, and TSgt Don Meddings, created a building block approach to the training. The goals for the training were to create a new group of Security Forces augmentees and HMMWV

qualified drivers, and to conduct fundamental military training in a unique environment. For all events, we assigned separate team and squad leaders to ensure each day's training was accomplished. Whether it was a small team on the obstacle course, a fire team during Military Operations in Urban Terrain (MOUT) training, or in calling in MEDEVAC 9-lines with actual Blackhawk helicopters, every individual on the trip had the opportunity to lead. No one was ever unsafe, and no one failed. We did it RIGHT.

By the end of the 11-day training event, camaraderie among the participants was tremendous. Also, there was ample opportunity for cultural immersion on a daily basis. This opportunity was amplified the last weekend; members of the group went to Nuremberg, Munich, Regensburg, Amberg, Weiden, the Dachau Concentration Camp, various castles, and other cities and towns throughout southern Germany.

The bottom line: This was more than a TDY...it was a once in a lifetime experience. We worked hard during the day, and played hard when we had time off. We accomplished training in our Federal and State missions, and developed leadership skills throughout the Mission Support Group. Our training even accomplished the brand-new objectives of the Secretary of the Air Force and AF Chief of Staff of "developing exceptional leaders and strengthening our alliances". We had a great time in a unique location and did it in a safe and highly cost effective manner. Col DiDonna even got to jump out of a perfectly running airplane, attached to a highly experienced German free-fall instructor!

I look forward to the next event and I challenge that team to make it and even greater experience!







# **177<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing**

***"Community Based, Global Impact"***



## **Mission**

**Provide Highly Qualified/Combat-Ready Citizen Airmen, Mission-capable Aircraft/Equipment to Support National and State Objectives**

## **Vision**

**From the Home Front to the Front Lines, Community-based, Professional Airmen, working as One Team, delivering State, National, & Global impact as Full Partners in the Total Force**

## **Priorities**

- **ONE TEAM:** unified focus ISO the Wing Mission, supportive of the "Wingman Culture"
- **Transparent Operations and Accountable Execution**
- **Disciplined/Regulatory/Compliant Approach to Mission Execution= Effective/Safe Ops**
- **Leadership that Empowers, Mentors, & Challenges**
- **Focused Professional Development:** producing leaders at Community/State/National levels

## **Focus Areas**

- ❖ **Readiness – Individual, Personal, and Unit Readiness**
- ❖ **Time Management - Use of Airman's Time / Quantity and Prioritization**
- ❖ **Communication – Inter and Intra Unit (up/down/sideways)**
- ❖ **Evaluate/Promote Airmen based on Fitness/Merit/Capability/Performance**



# 177th Fighter Wing Shows Community Outreach at Hamilton National Night Out

*By Airman 1st Class Cristina Allen*

Atlantic City Air National Guard Base, N.J. -- Members of the 177<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing participated in Hamilton Township's National Night at the Hamilton Mall in Mays Landing, N.J., Aug. 1, 2017.

National Night Out is a community-building campaign that helps to enhance the relationship between neighborhood residents with local law enforcement and other important assets in the area.

"The main idea is to bring police, fire, military, and other partners together with the community," said Crystal Rodriguez, marketing manager for Hamilton National Night Out. "It's about making a great night out to build a stronger community."

The 177<sup>th</sup> FW Security Forces Squadron interacted with community members and set up a display that provided access to various military equipment and vehicles. Community members were able to climb into a Humvee, M1078 Light Medium Tactical Vehicle utility truck, and an all-terrain vehicle. Additionally, attendees were educated on the safe handling of various types of security forces equipment.

"It's a great event that exposes us to the community," said Master Sgt. Michelle Connelly, interim superintendent of the 177<sup>th</sup> SFS. "It gets our name out in the community and provides us with positive interaction with community members."

Hamilton National Night Out consisted of many other demonstrations and exhibits. Some of these included helicopter landings by New Jersey Forest Fire and Mid-Atlantic Medivac,

along with a K-9 demonstration, equipment displays from police, fire, and EMS and many other family-friendly activities. The 177<sup>th</sup> FW Honor Guard also attended the event to display the colors during the National Anthem.

"I think it's a positive situation and it's great for the community," said Nikki Pecou, Hamilton Township resident. "My daughter definitely enjoys the displays."

National Night Out is held on the first Tuesday in August in thousands of communities across the U.S., U.S. territories, and military bases worldwide. The event gathers neighbors and community partners together to enhance relationships and to help build a true sense of community.

"The 177<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing is a great partner to help make a successful National Night Out," said John Kurtz, Mayor of Hamilton Township, Atlantic County, New Jersey. "We appreciate everything the 177<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing does."



Air Force Senior Airman Kelly A. Grau, a member of the 177th Fighter Wing's Security Forces Squadron, poses for a photo with a community member during Hamilton Township's National Night Out at the Hamilton Mall in Mays Landing, New Jersey, on Aug. 1, 2017. Grau shows community members how to safely handle a .50-caliber Browning machine gun on the Humvee. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Airman 1st Class Cristina J. Allen/Released)



Top: Air Force Senior Airman Zachary D. Ferguson, a member of the 177th Fighter Wing's Security Forces Squadron, shows a community member how to use security forces equipment during Hamilton Township's National Night Out at the Hamilton Mall in Mays Landing, New Jersey, on Aug. 1, 2017. Ferguson shows community members how to safely handle security forces weapons. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Airman 1st Class Cristina J. Allen/Released)

Bottom: Staff Sgt. Richard A. Elliot, a member of the 177th Fighter Wing's Security Forces Squadron, shows a community member how to use security forces equipment during Hamilton Township's National Night Out at the Hamilton Mall in Mays Landing, New Jersey, on Aug. 1, 2017. Elliot shows community members how to safely handle security forces weapons. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Airman 1st Class Cristina J. Allen/Released)





# 119<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Series

## Part I : The Past

Story by Airman 1st Class Cristina J. Allen

Air Force Historical Photos courtesy of 177th Public Affairs and Dr. Richard Porcelli



An F-106 "Delta Dart" from the 177th Fighter Interceptor Group sits at an Air National Guard base in Egg Harbor Township, N.J.





ATLANTIC CITY AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE, N.J. – The 119<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron, the flying component of the 177<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, celebrates 100 years of history and experience in defending the United States of America.

The 119<sup>th</sup> FS is considered one of the oldest units in the United States Air Force. Rick Porcelli, aviation historian for the 177<sup>th</sup> FW, traced its origin back to June 1917 as the 5<sup>th</sup> Aviation School Squadron at Hampton Field, Virginia, now known as Joint Base Langley-Eustis. Then on September 2, 1917, the 5<sup>th</sup> Aviation School Squadron was redesignated the 119<sup>th</sup> Aero Squadron. This date, therefore, can be considered the 119<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron's birthday.

During the start of World War I in July 1914, the U.S. had no official air service and remained neutral in the war. In April 1917, the U.S. entered the war and 45 of the 185 Aero Squadrons deployed to Europe. The 119<sup>th</sup> AS remained in the U.S. and was redesignated as Detachment No. 11, Air Service Production branch and was later deactivated in May 1919.

"The National Defense Act of 1920 authorized state National Guard units to form Aviation Sections as Observations Squadrons," said Porcelli. "In 1921, the Minnesota National Guard was first off the mark forming a unit, but New Jersey lagged behind due to funding limitations. In 1928, planning started and personnel were recruited."

The 119<sup>th</sup> did not start becoming combat ready until the 1930's, primarily flying observation biplanes. The unit was allowed to begin operations as an air arm of the National Guard's 44<sup>th</sup> Division.

"In January 1930 the 119<sup>th</sup> Observation Squadron was recognized by the federal government which was historically linked to the 119<sup>th</sup> Aero Squadron," said Porcelli. "Basically, in these two-seater airplanes, there was a pilot and an observer who performed tactical reconnaissance. This was done by taking photos, looking

for enemies crossing barriers spotting for their own artillery."

The 119<sup>th</sup> has also supported many disasters in the past, to include the fire of the Morro Castle steamship in September 1934 along the east coast at Asbury Park and the American Airlines crash in December 1934 in the Adirondack Mountains in New York.

"By very primitive radio communications, planes from the 119<sup>th</sup> relayed where to rescue the overboard passengers from the Morro Castle," said Porcelli. "The 119<sup>th</sup> AS was very instrumental in saving many, many lives and planes from the 119<sup>th</sup> OS found the wreckage of the American Airliner and were able to locate survivors."

Though the 119<sup>th</sup> OS unit as a whole had not seen any combat up to this point, they did participate in extensive training.

"In 1939 through 1940 the 119<sup>th</sup> OS participated in the famous training called the Carolina Maneuvers with the Army and received many commendations for their accomplishments, said Porcelli."

After the U.S. entered World War II, the unit moved a number of times, to locations such as Camp Dix, Hyannis, Massachusetts, and Greiner Field, New Hampshire. After being assigned to the 59<sup>th</sup> Observation Group, the 119<sup>th</sup> was again deactivated. Later, the unit was reactivated under the 518<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Squadron, later the 13<sup>th</sup> Anti-Submarine Squadron, assigned to the 25<sup>th</sup> AS Wing.

After a 1942 deactivation, they were then reestablished in 1943 and redesignated as the 490<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron. Through the early 1940's, the unit was relocated several times, becoming the Replacement Pilot Training Unit for the Bell P-39 Airacobra. Due to this aircraft withdrawal, the need for new pilots dissipated and the unit was again, deactivated.

In 1946, under the 108<sup>th</sup> Wing, the 119<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron was formed as a non-active single engine fighter squadron. In 1947 it began operations from Newark Airport, flying the Republic F-47D Thunderbolt, under the



A 119th OS O-2H aircraft at Newark, N.J.



A 119th FS F-47D at a Newark Air Port open house.



Continental Air Command.

On September 18, 1947 the United States Air Force and Air National Guard were established as independent through the enactment of the National Security Act. At this time the 119th was still flying the F-47D, which was flown in World War II, and then transitioned to the F-51H which was a more lightweight, long-range version of the Mustang that was originally designed for the invasion of Japan.

During 1950-1953, the Korean War was raging and the 119th was activated and remained at Newark as part of the air defense role under the 102nd Fighter Wing.

In 1955 the unit flew their first jets, the F-86E Sabre, maintaining a fighter-interceptor role. Then in 1958, the former Atlantic City Naval Air Station transitioned to the F-84F Thunderstreak with a new Fighter-Bomber mission.

The unit was then called to active duty in 1961 for the Berlin Crisis as the 119th Tactical Fighter Squadron.

"Though the unit didn't deploy as a whole, pilots and ground crew rotated going overseas to Chaumont Air Base, France, as part of the 7108 Expeditionary Fighter Wing to support Air Force Efforts during the Berlin Crisis," said Porcelli.

In 1962, the now constituted 177th Tactical Fighter Group, NJANG, under the 108th Tactical Fighter Wing, transitioned to the F-86H Sabre Hog and to the F-100C Super Sabre in 1964, which was the first supersonic aircraft in the ANG.

The unit would soon be called to active duty again due to the capture of the American ship, the USS Pueblo, by North Korean forces, on January 26, 1968. At this time the 119th was assigned to the 113th Tactical Fighter Wing at Myrtle Beach AFB, South Carolina.

In June of 1969 the unit returned to the 177th Tactical Fighter Group and 119th Tactical Fighter Squadron in Atlantic City, New Jersey, transitioning into the F-105 Thunderchief in 1970. On August 18, 1972 the 177th

Tactical Fighter Group was redesignated to the 177th Fighter Interceptor Group with the 119th Fighter Interceptor Squadron as a component. When the unit transitioned into the F106A Delta Dart in 1973, it then assumed alert status in 1974.

"Finally, the 119th FIS transitioned to the 119th Fighter Squadron under the 177th Fighter Wing and received the F-16A/B Fighting Falcon in 1988 and now flies the upgraded Block 30 model of the F-16C/D," said Porcelli.

The Unit has had active involvement in Operation Noble Eagle, Operation Southern Watch, Operation Northern Watch, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation New Dawn and is still currently a part of the War on Terrorism.

The 119th FS celebrates its 100th birthday this year, but it's just the beginning as this unit has plans for an even more successful future in support of the New Jersey Air National Guard and the United States of America.



A 119th FS F-100C lands at the New Jersey Air National Guard base located at the Atlantic City International Airport.

An F-106 "Delta Dart" and F-16 Fight Falcon from the 177th Fighter Interceptor Group fly off of the coast of Atlantic City, N.J.





# ...And it Turned Into a (Tool)Room Blitz

*By Maj. Brian T. Cooper, 177th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron commander*

“Change is good... unless we have to do something different.” Luckily, I didn’t hear that (explicitly) when I gathered the entire Senior Enlisted Leadership of the Aircraft Maintenance Squadron and conveyed the news to them that we were going to consolidate all of our three tool-rooms into one. They did, however, express a multitude of complications that would occur by doing it. Then, when I told them we were going to start tomorrow... and I wanted it completed in less than a week, I received all of the fitting looks of cynicism that I expected. I told them that I wanted them to ‘own the change’ and get to the ‘80% solution’ in less than 40 hours.

Cue the Good Idea Fairy memes now.

I explained that we were going to use a Kaizen Blitz to execute this initiative. I wanted to use a Kaizen Blitz, because it is a rapid improvement workshop designed to produce results/approaches to discrete process issues within a short period of time. This is very different from other process improvement techniques (ie Lean, Six Sigma or AFSO21), as they require taking a whole system view of organizations, processes and performance and can stretch out over many weeks or months. I did not just want to ‘talk about’ change, I wanted something we could put into action immediately and begin to reap the benefits immediately. At 7am the very next day, the first tool was moved. At the end of each following day, we all met and I asked them the exact same two questions: Are you on track with your daily objectives? and 2) Do you have any constraints that will prevent you from meeting tomorrow’s objectives? On Friday, the Squadron had productively moved 18,464 tools and re-arranged and repurposed racking and shelving to be able to fit everything in one facility. The programs and systems were streamlined and the permanent manning

identified. The official ‘ribbon-cutting’ ceremony with the Wing, Vice Wing and Maintenance Group Commanders was held the following week.

First and foremost, the initiative puts bodies back on the flightline – doing the job we need to them to – maintaining F-16s. We no longer have to scramble to try to staff three separate tool-rooms (times two shifts each). This will drastically improve consistency in our tool program and overall Maintenance-101 habits. We are also reducing our footprint on the base, where real-estate is a scarce commodity, allowing the evacuated tool-room(s) to be repurposed for other needs. Additionally, we amalgamated into a single TAS database / computer, HAZMAT program, PMEL account, and TO iPad library. Subsequently, these changes will not only save us money but will benefit external organizations, including COMM, LRS, MXS, QA and even our Active Duty base(s) that support or tool program with manpower.

Ultimately, this is not an original concept, Active Duty and some Reserve Component units have been operating with consolidated tool-rooms. It was just time for us to prioritize this change, as our resources are decreasing while our mission tempo is increasing. My initiative has, and will, change the way that the Aircraft Maintenance Squadron conducts business on the flightline. The job is definitely not finished either. I fully expect that the solution to the remaining 20% of the project will take 6 months to solve. I know our MXG Airmen are going to continually think outside the box to identify and solve challenges in order to make their efforts a success. When the smoke clears and the dust settles, our ‘new’ consolidated tool-room is improving our ability to generate sorties efficiently and effectively.



Top: U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Christopher Bird (left), Maj. Brian Cooper, and Senior Airman Christopher Garrison, 177th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, stand at the reception window for the squadron's tool room at the 177th Fighter Wing, Egg Harbor Township, N.J. on August 1, 2017. Maj. Cooper consolidated the squadron's tool rooms to a central location to improve mission execution and tool accountability. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Andrew J. Merlock/Released)

Bottom: U.S. Air Force Maj. Brian Cooper (left), 177th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron commander, and Col. John DiDonna, 177th Fighter Wing Commander, cut a ribbon to signal the opening of the Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Tool Room during a ceremony at the 177th Fighter Wing, Egg Harbor Township, N.J. on August 1, 2017. Maj. Cooper consolidated the squadron's tool rooms to a central location to improve mission execution and tool accountability. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Andrew J. Merlock/Released)





## 1AF Command Chief Master Sgt.

### Richard King Visits 177th Fighter Wing

*By Master Sgt. Andrew J. Merlock*

ATLANTIC CITY AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE, N.J. — 1st Air Force Command Chief Master Sgt. Richard King visited with members of the 177th Fighter Wing July 26, 2017.

During the visit, King recognized two wing members for their outstanding execution of the Aerospace Control Alert mission.

“To our award winners, thanks for all you do,” said King. “For your leaders to recognize you and put you forward to the CONR Awards program says a lot about you.”

Master Sgt. Kevin Allman was recognized as the 2016 Continental NORAD Region Aerospace Control Alert Security Forces Member of the Year. Additionally, Tech. Sgt. Gabriel Armstrong was recognized as the 2016 Continental NORAD Region Aerospace Control Alert Command Post Controller of the Year.

“What I want to do today is visit your airmen and personally tell them thank you,” King concluded. “We could not have done that mission over the last year, to make sure that America is defended.”

King then visited with members of the 177th FW in their work areas, taking time to address concerns and identify ways to improve the execution of the Aerospace Control Alert mission. During each area’s visit, King took the opportunity to recognize outstanding performers and presented them with a Command Chief CONR-1AF (AFNORTH) coin for excellence.

“The ACA mission is critical to the defense of America,” said King. “The 1st Air Force mission is a 24/7 no fail mission. We can never let 9/11 happen again. Not on our watch, never, never again.”

From left, New Jersey Air National Guard Command Chief Master Sgt. Janeen Fillari, 1st Air Force Command Chief Master Sgt. Richard King and Col. John Cosgrove, maintenance group commander of the 177th Fighter Wing, attend an awards ceremony at the 177th FW on July 26, 2017, in Egg Harbor Township, N.J. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Airman 1st Class Cristina J. Allen/Released)



1st Air Force Command Chief Master Sgt. Richard King presents Master Sgt. Kevin Allman with the award for the Continental NORAD Region Aerospace Control Alert Security Forces Member of the Year on July 26, 2017, in Egg Harbor Township, N.J. King presented Allman with this award for outstanding execution of the Aerospace Control Alert Mission. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Airman 1st Class Cristina J. Allen/Released)



1st Air Force Command Chief Master Sgt. Richard King presents Tech. Sgt. Gabriel Armstrong with the award for the Continental NORAD Region Aerospace Control Alert Command Post Controller of the Year on July 26, 2017, in Egg Harbor Township, N.J. King presented Armstrong with this award for outstanding execution of the Aerospace Control Alert Mission. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Airman 1st Class Cristina J. Allen/Released)



## 177th Fire Department Conducts F-16 Familiarization Training for Local First Responders

*By Airman 1st Class Cristina Allen*

ATLANTIC CITY AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE, N.J. – The 177<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing’s Fire Department provided F-16 Fighting Falcon familiarization training to members of the Atlantic City Fire Department and the New Jersey State Police Technical Emergency and Mission Specialist Unit here Aug. 9, 2017.

This training will help local first responders to become aware of the F-16’s hazards and danger zones in the event of an F-16 crash during the upcoming Atlantic City Air Show on Aug. 23, 2017,

“The main objective is to teach about the hazards of an F-16 during a rescue,” said William Ferguson, a captain with the 177<sup>th</sup> FD. “The main concern is getting the pilot out safely.”

Ferguson went over a PowerPoint with F-16 specifications as well as taking the Atlantic City FD and NJSP out on the flight line to see an F-16 first hand. This helped to give a visual and hands on familiarization with the aircraft.

“This PowerPoint was a great heads up, as well as the hands on with the F-16,” said T.J. Culleney, Atlantic City FD Battalion Chief. “This demonstration puts us in a beneficial position to work with the 177<sup>th</sup> FW and the NJSP TEAMS Unit.”



William Ferguson, a captain with the 177th Fighter Wing’s Fire Department, provides F-16 familiarization training to the Atlantic City Fire Department and the New Jersey State Police Technical Emergency and Mission Specialist Unit at the 177th Fighter Wing Fire Station in Egg Harbor Township, New Jersey, Aug. 9, 2017. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Airman 1st Class Cristina J. Allen/Released)



# HISTORY OF THE 119<sup>TH</sup> FIGHTER SQUADRON by Dr. Richard V. Porcelli

## Part 1: From Colonial Militias to the First Flying Guardsmen



**"The First Muster"** depicts the first official assembly of citizen-soldiers of the East Regiment, Massachusetts Bay Colony, at Salem; the exact date is not known. (source: National Guard Heritage)

### Intorduction

In March 2013, this monthly column "the History of Atlantic City Airport Series" began. Since then we first told the story of the origins of the airport, the Navy years, then with the closure of Naval Air Station Atlantic City, the arrival of the FAA and its tenants, including the NJANG. We then shifted gears and described the aircraft and the operations of the 177<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing since that time. What is missing, however, is a more detailed the history and heritage of the 119<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron dating from its very origin in September 1917. Since 2017 marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the formation of the 119<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron, and the New Jersey Air National Guard as well, it is appropriate to again shift the focus of this column. Our story actually begins more than 100 years ago, with the establishment of the first militias in our country.

### *Colonial Militias – The National Guard's Predecessors*

The very concept of the National Guard is truly American. The concept is based on the placement of military forces under the direct control of local state governments. Historically, there were examples in Europe of the existence of provincial military regiments that owed allegiance to local lords but as national governments were formed, the control of these dispersed units was taken over by central authorities to form the basis of their national military. Today, among the federative countries (that is, nations formed by the union of individual, self-governing states, regions, provinces, etc.) including Brazil, Germany, Mexico, the former Soviet Union and Switzerland, none have the equivalent of the U.S. National Guard. Instead, for those federative countries the entire front-line military forces are directly under the control of their respective federal governments. And for those countries that have

them, their "national guard" or militia is in fact entirely controlled by the central government.

The National Guard is characterized by its dual status as both a reserve force for the full-time military, and when in non-mobilized status, being commanded by the governors of the 50 states, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, along with the Territories of Guam and the Virgin Island. The District of Columbia National Guard is unique in that the President of the United States is its commander. This dual status is part of the **basic concept** in that it is the privilege and responsibility of able-bodied citizens **to take up arms under federal control for the common defense of the country, but also to augment civil authorities under state**



control during disasters and disturbances that exceed the abilities of local police and other civil defense agencies.

But to fully understand the heritage of the National Guard and put it in perspective, we must go back to before the United States even existed. Many historians explain that what we know as the “National Guard” actually began on 13 December 1636 when the Massachusetts Bay Colony merged several local settlements’ defense units (called “train bands”) into the Colony’s first organized military force. It was composed of three regiments (North, South and East Regiments). The “militia” concept itself, where able-bodied citizens are required to defend their communities, dates back to ancient Greece. The Romans adopted the concept of the citizen-soldier and in fact the Latin word “militia” translates to the word “miles” which to the Romans meant “soldier.” In the case of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, the threat was mainly from the Pequot Indians. In terms of military lineage, the Massachusetts Army National Guard’s 182<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment can proudly link its history to that date in 1636. Other colonies followed the example of Massachusetts and as part of the Colonial Organized Militia fought alongside the British regular army forces in numerous wars with Native Americans and competing European colonies including the French and Indian War (1745 - 1763).

Perhaps a more critical event in the history of the Organized Militia, the true forbearer of today’s National Guard, occurred in 1775 when the 2<sup>nd</sup> Continental Congress organized the militias of the colonies into an overall defense force. On 19 April 1775, 130 *Minute Men* of the Lexington Company of the Massachusetts Militia “fired the shot heard ‘round the world” when they fought the British “Red Coats” during the battle at the Concord Bridge – **the first combat fought by the direct ancestor’s of today’s**



New York's PFC Beckwith Havens is thought to be the National Guard's first aviator; he is shown here at the controls of a Curtiss Pusher in this 1912 photo. (source: National Guard Heritage)





New York's Aviation Detachment, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, Signal Corps, was established in 1908, making it's descendent 102<sup>nd</sup> Rescue Squadron, NYANG, the oldest Air National Guard unit in existence; a *rented* Gallaudet Tractor biplane is shown at Garden City, Long Island. That airfield later became Mitchel Air Force Base and today is the site of the Cradle of Aviation Museum. (source: National Guard Heritage)



**Guardsmen.** Today's National Guard logo pays homage to the those citizen-soldiers, the *Minute Men*, who were ready to take up arms to defend their community "at a minute's notice."

"Guardsmen" General George Washington, former colonel in command of the Colony of Virginia's 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment of the state's Organized Militia, eventually commanded the 396,000 troop-strong Continental Army; of that total, 165,000 were raised from the former colony's Organized Militias. After victory in the War of Independence, the Continental Army was disbanded and for a time it was thought that no regular army would be needed, instead relying on the call up of state militias when threats emerged. It was not until 1789 that a formal, full-time army was established, but the provision for and recognition of the states' militias was included as part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment to the Bill of Rights and the Federal Militia Act of 8 May 1792.

The Organized Militia was in fact called to active duty many times in the ensuing years for both military actions, including the Civil War and the Spanish-American War, as well as in the case of local disputes, such as the Great Railroad Strike of 1877. In light of the fact that the regular army never won a major war without the support of the Organized Militia, Congress passed the Militia Act (also know as the "Efficiency in Militia Act" or more simply, the "Dick Act) of 21 January 1903 that set the foundation of today's National Guard. This legislation clearly defined under what circumstances the National Guard would be mobilized under federal control, and provided federal funds to the National Guard for equipment, training and other expenses. The National Guard in turn was organized along the same lines as the full time military services, including





meeting the same requirements of training, education and readiness as the full time military. This was to allow a seamless merging of the forces when needed.

The supervision of the “Division of the Militia” came under the Office of the Secretary of War, and by the National Defense Act of 3 June 1916 was reorganized into the Militia Bureau.

As an interesting historical side note, Frenchman Marquis de Lafayette coined the term “National Guard” during his 1824 visit to the New York Organized Militia. Lafayette had earlier founded the *Garde Nationale* in his home country. During the Civil War the New York Organized Militia officially changed its name to the New York National Guard. Other states followed New York’s lead, with all states adopting this change in name by the end of the century. However, the name was not *officially* sanctioned until 1933, when the War Department changed “Militia Bureau” to the “National Guard Bureau” – which is today’s title.

**Aeronautics Corps – The First Steps Towards Today’s Air National Guard**

The Air National Guard, as a separate entity within the National Guard Bureau did not come into existence until 18 September 1947 and the passing of the National Security Act wherein the Air Force was created as a separate, independent military service equal in status and stature with the Army and Navy. However, the aviation activities of the Organized Militias date back to the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. As an interesting part of the Air National Guard’s heritage, the very start of U.S. military aviation was the attempt to use observation balloons in 1861 during the Civil War Battle of Bull Run. For that purpose, the First Regiment, Rhode Island Militia, provided two balloons (along with two militia men) to support Union forces.

Aviation components within Organized Militias/National Guard units were created between 1908 and 1917, first flying balloons and later, heavier-than-air aircraft. Due to a lack of funding, the aircraft for the units were bought or rented by individual citizen-soldiers. New York’s

National Guard established the first “Aeronautics Corps” on 30 April 1908 as part of that unit’s 1<sup>st</sup> Company, Signal Corps. On 1 November 1915, that aviation unit became the 1<sup>st</sup> Aero Company Aviation Detachment, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion.

In January 1916 Mexican *bandido* Pancho Villa and his large band of heavily armed men raided Columbus, New Mexico, killing 17 American citizens in the process. President Wilson sent General John “Black Jack” Pershing to lead a force, based in

New Mexico, called the First Punitive Expedition, to capture Villa. On 13 July 1916 that 1st Aero Company, New York National Guard, under the command of Captain Raynal C. Bolling, became the first Guard unit to be mobilized into federal service responding to the border crisis with Mexico. Ultimately, the New Yorkers did not deploy; the 1<sup>st</sup> Aero Squadron (the only aero squadron within the US Army Signal Corps at that time) did deploy with 8 Curtiss JN-3 *Jenny* biplanes



During the First Punitive Expedition of 1916 led by General John “Black Jack Pershing” was dispatched by President Wilson to bring Pancho Villa to judgment; the 1<sup>st</sup> Aero Squadron was deployed to New Mexico to support the operation, as shown in this photo, of a Curtiss JN-3 at Casa Grandes, Mexico. (source: public domain via Wikipedia)



Kansas Lt. Field Eugene Kindley, shown with his puppy “Fokker,” volunteered for the Army Air Service during World War One and was a 12-victory ace by the end of the conflict. He is credited with downing “The Red Baron’s” brother, Lothar von Richthofen, in 1918. (source: National Guard Heritage)



New Jersey’s Lt. Temple, was one of the more than 100 Guardsmen who volunteered for service in World War One; he is shown reviewing his observer’s notes at Clermont-Ferrand Air Base, France, in 1918. (source: NJ State Archives)



and 16 pilots. The results of air operations were disappointing to say the least, with most aircraft wrecked within a few weeks of operating in the field. This was a cautionary tale, warning of the lack of preparedness of US military aviation.

When the U.S. entered World War I, National Guard aviation units were not mobilized but instead, deactivated. The Army requested however that the Guardsmen volunteer for service in other aviation units overseas; many did so. Raynal Bolling was one of the more than 100 National Guard volunteers for active service, achieved the rank of

Colonel in the Signal Corps, but was killed in action near Estrées-Deniécourt, France, on 26 March 1918; he was the highest-ranking U.S. officer and most notable Guardsman to be lost during World War I. Bolling Field, the Air Force Base across the Potomac River from Washington, D.C., was named in his honor. Another volunteer, Lt. F. E. Kindley of the Kansas Air National Guard, achieved 12 air-to-air victories, including over Germany’s 40-victory ace and “The Red Baron’s brother, Lothar von Richthofen. Three other volunteer Guardsmen became aces during the conflict.

Following the signing of the Armistice on 11 November 1918, ending World War I, there was a swift military demobilization, especially the Army Air Service, which was reduced to less than 10,000 personnel by 1920. However this drastic reduction released large numbers of pilots, observers and mechanics that became available to the National Guard. Despite the popular anti-war sentiment, no time was wasted in organizing aviation units within the National Guard following the same organization of the full-time military form, with each Guard Division consisting of an aero unit com-

posed of one observation squadron, one balloon company, a photo section and an intelligence branch. Further the Air Service reserved the numbers 101 to 199 for Guard flying squadrons, and decided to limit the role of Guard units to observation. Initial National Guard equipment was Curtiss JN-4 and JN-6 *Jennies* – both of which were available in large numbers with the demobilization of the full time Army.

Federal recognition of National Guard squadrons followed shortly thereafter. The next installment of this series will continue the history of the National Guard as well as the origins of the 119<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron and the New Jersey Air National Guard.



The National Guard aviation units benefited by the surplus of pilots, observers and aircraft that became available with the post-World War One demobilization; the most numerous aircraft in Guard service was the Curtiss JN-4 *Jenny*, of which 6813 were built between 1915 and 1919. (source: USAFM)



# PARADOCS

By Dr. Andrew Savicky, 177th Fighter Wing  
Director of Psychological Health



## By Doc Andy Savicky, 177<sup>th</sup> Wing Director of Psychological Health

The famous psychiatrist Dr. Viktor Frankl is the author of the bestselling book *Man's Search for Meaning*, in which he reviews his experiences as a prisoner in a World War II Nazi Concentration camp. In the book, Dr. Frankl discusses how it is possible to find real meaning in a life that is filled with pain, loss, suffering and general day to day difficulties. A dedicated student of his teachings, Alex Pattakos, Ph.D. in his book, *Prisoners of Our Thoughts*, (2010) recommends the following:

**Use your freedom to choose your attitude:** In all situations, no matter how desperate they may appear or actually be, you always have the ultimate freedom to choose your attitude. In other words, each of us is empowered to be positive or negative with our attitude.

**Recognize that each of us has a need for a meaning in our life:** Now is the time to identify meaningful values and goals that you can fulfill. It feels good to be working towards goals that are worth working for.

**Take the time to reflect on the meaning of life's moments:** Only you can answer for your own life. You do it by recognizing the meaning of each moment in our life and delight in the masterpiece each of us has created. Yes we are each an artist of the portrait of life we create.

**Stop working against yourself:** The trap of becoming so obsessed or fixated on some outcome measurement can actually work against your successful outcome. Fear of failure is by definition a focus on a failure. Remember the problem that occurs, when the coach demands that a player not fumble.

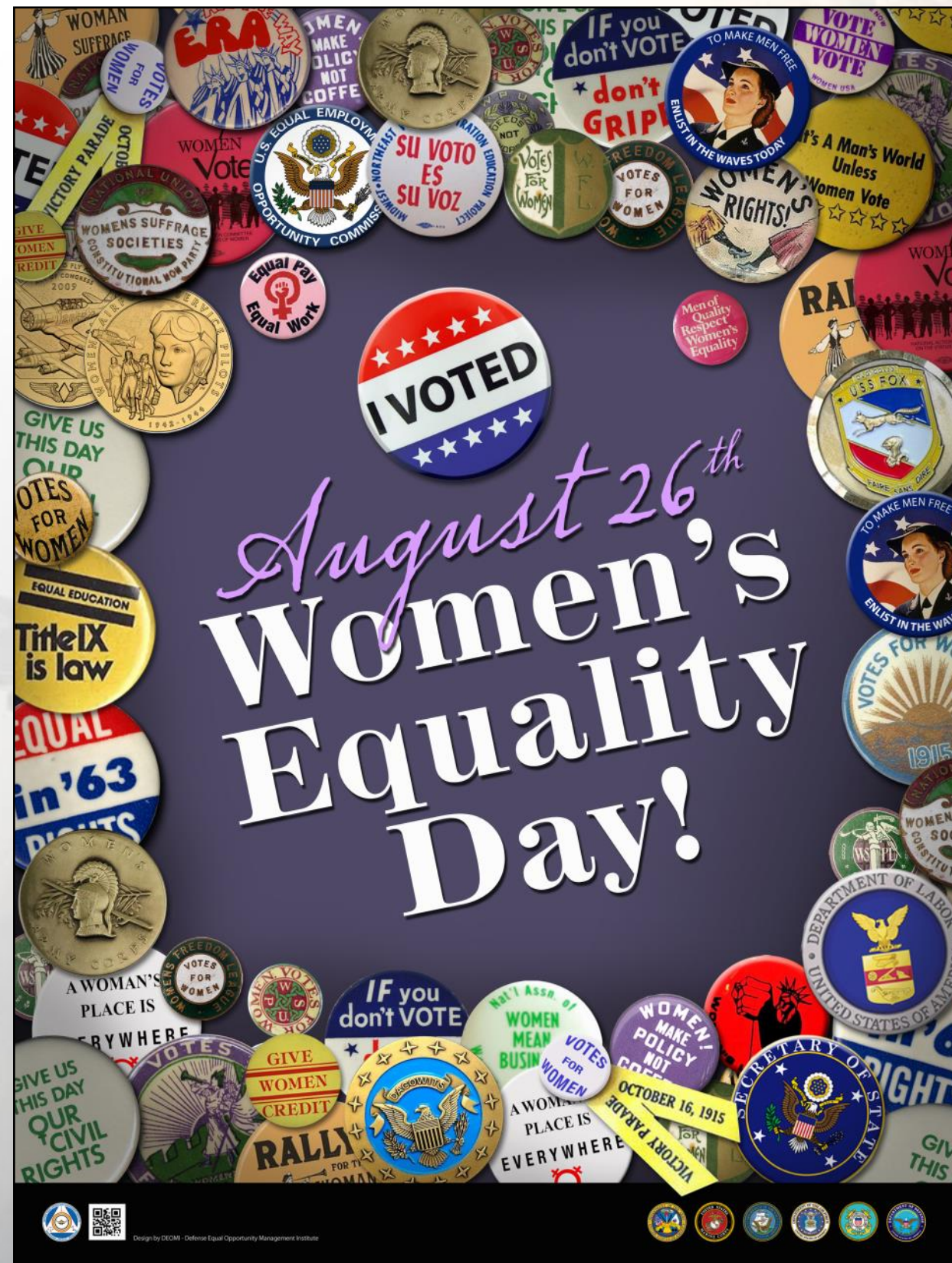
**See yourself from a distance:** We all have the capacity to look at ourselves from a distance and see how foolish we can be and act and laugh at ourselves. It was Ralph Waldo Emerson who said it best: "It is one of the blessings of old friends that you can afford to be stupid with them!"

**Take your focus of attention and shift the gear:** Shift your attention from a problem gear and go to another gear which will engender your ability to cope with stress and the inevitable change that takes place all around us. We are like tomatoes, either growing or dying. You decide what is taking place and how fast and far to go, because your perception is owned by you and not by others.

**There is more to life than just yourself:** We function best when we do for others and see the benefits of focusing on others. Consider this rule to live by. It is hard to be depressed or anxious, if you are improving the life or lives of others.

*Prisoners of Our Thoughts: Viktor Frankl's Principles at Work*

By Alex Pattakos Published by Berrett-Koehler Publishers, Inc. ISBN: 1-57675-288-7





# Around the Wing



For more awards photos, check out the 177th Fighter Wing Facebook page!



## Static Cleaning



U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Eric A. Daywalt (left), 177th Maintenance Squadron, and Senior Airman David Siligato, 177th Civil Engineer Squadron, wash an F-106 Delta Dart aircraft model at the 177th Fighter Wing, Egg Harbor Township, N.J. on July 27, 2017. The F-106 Delta Dart is one of three aircraft models on display at the 177 FW Airpark. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Andrew J. Merlock/Released)

## 177th Members Coined by U.S. CENTCOM Command Staff



U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Yahanne Abdullah, left, and Airman 1st Class Diana Rodriguez, both assigned to the 379th Expeditionary Force Support Squadron, display coins presented to them by U.S. Army GEN Joseph L. Votel on July 23, 2017 at Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar. Rodriguez was also coined by the CENTCOM Command Senior Enlisted Leader, Command Sgt. Major William F. Thetford. (U.S. Air Force graphic courtesy of 379th Public Affairs Office / Released)

## 177th Fight Wing Honor Guard



Air Force Tech. Sgt. Jonathan D. Kane, a 177th Fighter Wing Honor Guard Member, displays the colors during Hamilton Township's National Night Out at the Hamilton Mall in Mays Landing, New Jersey, on Aug. 1, 2017. The 177th FW Honor Guard posted the colors during the National Anthem at the opening ceremony to show the 177th FW's support to the community. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Airman 1st Class Cristina J. Allen/Released)





**FINAL  
PHOTO**

F-16C Fighting Falcons with the 177th Fighter Wing, New Jersey Air National Guard, participate in a training exercise July 5, 2017, in Atlantic City, N.J. The 177 FW and the Civil Air Patrol participated in this exercise for training in Aerospace Control Alert intercept procedures. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Airman 1st Class Cristina J. Allen/Released)