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LOCKED ON

138 MAGAZINE FW



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ON THE COVER



Airman 1st Class Wesley Harris, 138th Civil Engineer Squadron structures technician, lays gravel during an Innovative Readiness Training project June 20, 2019 at Girl Scout Camp Paumalu in Haleiwa, Hawaii. IRT's provide an opportunity for hands-on training that promotes mission readiness while giving back to the community. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Rebecca Imwalle)

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ALOHA 19-2

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The Tulsa Vipers travel to Honolulu to train against fifth generation aircraft.

(U.S. Air National Guard photo story by Master Sgt. C.T. Michael)

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The 138th Civil Engineer Squadron and the 138th Force Support Squadron participate in an IRT project.

(U.S. Air National Guard photos and story by Staff Sgt. Rebecca Imwalle)

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138th FSS participate in a high-demand bare base operation in a training contingency environment.

(U.S. Air National Guard story by Master Sgt. C.T. Michael)

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Nearly 200 Tulsa Airmen participate in a deployed combat skills exercise at Camp Gruber.

(U.S. Air National Guard photos and story by Master Sgt. C.T. Michael)

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The 138th Civil Engineer Squadron emergency management team participate in an advanced Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive materials course.

(U.S. Air National Guard photos and story by Staff Sgt. Rebecca Imwalle)

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Almost 30 years ago, Ret. Master Sgt. Ray Parker's skill of painting letters and numbers were put to the supreme test.





(U.S. Air National Guard photo and story by Master Sgt. C.T. Michael)

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138 MAGAZINE FW

VOLUME 2 / ISSUE 2

FALL / WINTER 2019

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138TH FIGHTER WING LEADERSHIP

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COL. MICHAEL B. MEASON

VICE COMMANDER
COL. ROBIN M. CAVANAUGH

WING COMMAND CHIEF
CMSGT. PHILLIP R. KAASE JR.

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VECTOR

COL. MICHAEL B. MEASON
COMMANDER, 138TH FIGHTER WING

Readiness is about the enduring, daily pursuit of proficiency in our profession of arms and sustaining preparedness to execute our missions anywhere on the planet. As you read this, many of our own are currently deployed around the world, doing just that – conducting their assigned missions with excellence – the “Tulsa Standard”.

This issue of “Locked On” is a review of our readiness training and exercise efforts over the last six months. From integrating the capabilities and tactics of our mighty Vipers with 5th generation fighters in order to combat our nation’s most capable adversaries at Sentry Aloha, to the many aspects of Agile Combat Support exercised at Silver Flag, IRT and Camp Gruber, these events have helped ensure we stand ready.

Ready to stand up a base, generate and employ airpower, and keep ourselves in the fight in a contested environment – these are our goals. Over the next year, we’ll continue these types of training events and exercises to improve our skills and our Readiness. Lethal, Agile Combat Air Power. It’s what we do, it’s who we are. I’m excited to see what the next year brings, and I’m so proud to be a part of this team that always serves with such Strength and Honor!



Col. Mike “Mouse” Meason



Lt. Gen. L. Scott Rice, director of the Air National Guard, passes the Wing flag to Col. Michael Meason, the incoming 138th Fighter Wing commander, during a change of command ceremony Oct. 6, 2019, at Tulsa Air National Guard Base, Okla. The tradition of the change of command goes back to the time of the Roman Legions where the passing of the commander's baton occurred in front of the troops to signify the leader who would take them into battle.
(U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Rebecca Imwalle)

BRAVE ONE

COL. ROBIN M. CAVANAUGH
VICE COMMANDER, 138TH FIGHTER WING

Col. Robin Cavanaugh has been in the military for 30 years, and has spent all of them here in the Tulsa Air National Guard. Prior to being selected as the new vice commander, she had worked in several units across base including the 138th Force Support Squadron, the 138th Maintenance Group, the 138th Logistics Readiness Squadron and the 219th Engineering Installation Squadron and the 138th Mission Support Group.

Q : What made you want to join the military?

A : The college benefits. I joined when I was 17, with my 18th birthday being during the second week of basic training. My mom and step-father both retired from the 138th FW. My dad served in the army in Vietnam, however it wasn't until my senior year of high school that I considered joining an option. Similar to many of our Airmen, I didn't have the financial means to attend college without the GI Bill.

Q : What has been the most memorable part of your career so far?

A : It's a toss up between being a squadron commander and going on deployments. Squadron command provides the highest of highs and the lowest of lows all within minutes of each other. During deployments, I enjoyed seeing the impact of direct support to the war fighter.

Q : What are you most looking forward to as the Vice Commander?

A : Working with our Airmen at all levels.

Q : When you first joined, did you think you would end up where you are now?

A : When I joined, I thought I would do my initial enlistment for college and then get out. However, I quickly began to realize that I wanted to serve as an officer. I've never chased rank but have always tried to improve myself, and officer PME is a great way to do that. I love serving our Airmen and am so humbled and honored by my new role.

Q : If you could tell the Airmen of the 138th one thing, what would it be?

A : Never stop trying to improve yourself and your impact on the mission. Always doing the right thing for the right reason.



VISUAL: As the Vice Commander, Col. Cavanaugh assists the wing commander in the organization, training and deployment of the second largest combat coded Air National Guard fighter wing, consisting of nearly 1200 Airmen.

Sentry Aloha 19-2

LAYOUT AND PHOTO STORY BY MASTER SGT C.T. MICHAEL



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1 - Participants of Sentry Aloha 19-2 attend a welcome briefing Aug. 20, 2019, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii. (U.S. Air National Guard courtesy photo by Senior Airman John Linzmeier)

2 - Aircraft Structural Mechanics, Master Sgt. Johnny Finney and Tech Sgt. Jeremy Beavers, 138th Fighter Wing, adjust an F-16 tail antenna August 27, 2019, at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii.

3 - Tulsa Viper pilots prepare for a fight during Sentry Aloha 19-2 Aug. 27, 2019, at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii. The Hawaii Air National Guard exercise is held several times a year to provide aircraft with dissimilar combat training among participating flying and support units.

4 - Staff Sgt. Geoffrey Ward, crew chief, 138th Fighter Wing, preflights a Tulsa Viper during Sentry Aloha 19-2 August 27, 2019, at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii.

5 - Tulsa Viper pilots strap in for a fight at Sentry Aloha 19-2 Aug. 27, 2019, at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii.

6 - An Tulsa Viper pilot prepares for flight during Sentry Aloha Aug. 27, 2019, at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii.

7 - 138th Fighter Wing maintenance personnel ready a Tulsa Vipers during Sentry Aloha 19-2 Aug. 26, 2019, at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii.

8 - A crew chief from the 138th Fighter Wing salutes an F-16 Fighting Falcon pilot during Sentry Aloha 19-2 Aug. 23, 2019, at the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii. (U.S. Air National Guard courtesy photo by Senior Airman John Linzmeier)

9 - A Tulsa Viper prepares for a fight during Sentry Aloha 19-2 Aug. 26, 2019, at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii.

10 - An F-16 Tulsa Viper pilot prepares for take-off during Sentry Aloha 19-2 Aug. 26, 2019, at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii.

11 - An F-16 Tulsa Viper launches over the Honolulu skyline during Sentry Aloha 19-2 Aug. 27, 2019, at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii.

12 - A KC-135 Stratotanker refuels a Tulsa Viper during Sentry Aloha 19-2 Aug. 27, 2019, at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii. (U.S. Air National Guard courtesy photo by Senior Airman John Linzmeier)

"When we fight in Tulsa, our training is hindered due to airspace restrictions, not allowing us to perform to our full capabilities," said Lt. Col. Michael Scorsone, commander, 125th Fighter Squadron. "The Sentry Aloha exercise allows us to fight in a zero restriction real world type of environment, allowing us to be more survivable and lethal."



This past Summer the Tulsa Vipers traveled 3,819 miles to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii to participate in a Sentry Aloha exercise that tests the combat-aircraft skills of aircrew over a three week period, focusing on fourth and fifth generation fighter integration against an advanced threat.

The Tulsa fourth generation F-16 aircraft teamed up with the Royal Australian Air Force E-7A Wedgetail that provides an airborne early warning command and control system via a high powered radar, giving pilots a heads up and lets them know what threats exist down range, in support of maximizing lethality in the battle space.

Several other U.S. forces filled the open ocean battle space, alternating roles with the Tulsa Vipers, taking turns fighting against and alongside the fifth generation Hawaii Air National Guard F-22 Raptors, with no altitude or speed restrictions to disrupt training.

"When we fight in Tulsa, our training is hindered due to airspace restrictions, not allowing us to perform to our full capabilities," said Lt. Col. Michael Scorsone, commander, 125th Fighter Squadron. "The Sentry Aloha exercise allows us to fight in a zero restriction real world type of environment, allowing us to be more survivable and lethal."

The 138th Fighter Wing Tulsa Viper team successfully completed Sentry Aloha 19-2 by generating 99 of 102 scheduled sorties and flying a little over 289 hours total, sharpening the fighting edge of Viper tactics, thwarting any potential adversary threat in the air, land and sea.

VISUAL: Sentry Aloha exercises have been conducted by the HIIANG, two to four times per year for several decades. This iteration of the exercise involved over 700 personnel and more than 25 aircraft from more than 10 other states and territories.



IRT HELPS AIRMEN GIVE BACK

138TH FW SQUADRONS SUPPORT
CONSTRUCTION AT GIRL SCOUT CAMP



Many Airmen join the Air National Guard as a way to give back to local communities within the United States. The Innovative Readiness Training program has been providing a way for service members to do just that for the last 26 years.

More than 40 members of the 138th Civil Engineer Squadron and the 138th Force Support Squadron participated in an IRT project in the summer of 2019 when they traveled to Oahu, Hawaii, to support construction at Girl Scout Camp Paumalu. The IRT program allows units to get valuable hands-on training that promotes mission readiness while strengthening and building community partnerships by providing key services for American communities.

"IRT's provide a great training environment that allows you the opportunity to learn skills that might not necessarily be within AFSC," said Master Sgt. Jimmy Charles, 138th CES structures technician. "The mission behind the training makes it even better. The people we get to work with and the work we get to do for these communities is just fantastic."

The IRT was focused on building a Science, Technology, Engineering and Math center at Camp Paumalu for the Girl Scouts of HI. The center will allow girls to explore STEM careers by conducting on-site experiments and learning how their skills can make the world a better place.

"It's the ideal tradeoff," Tech. Sgt. Justin Kanipe, 138th CES heavy equipment technician, explained. "The training we get during these projects is something we don't get anywhere else, and we are providing things to the community they might not otherwise get."

During their two week rotation, members of the 138th CES totaled more than 5,000 training hours, working on several projects that included framing, clearing land, pouring concrete and installing underground water distribution lines. The members of the 138th FSS services team supported the mission by cooking and serving three meals a day at the worksite.

Charles explained that one of the benefits to this TDY was the leadership experience younger Airmen received.

"IRT's help make young Airmen into leaders," Charles said. "Many of them were tasked with things they don't usually do, and they were put in charge of more things than they were used to back home. It ultimately builds their skillsets and their self confidence."

In addition to the Airmen who took on leadership roles for the first time, 1st Lt. Emelia Brooks, 138th CES engineering officer, was selected as the officer in charge of the entirety of the Camp Paumalu IRT project. Brooks' position as the OIC was her first opportunity to take ownership of something of this size and magnitude, overseeing the training of more than 500 servicemembers.

Over the course of ten months, more than 15 units worked together to finish the project. Once complete, Camp Paumalu will have an 11,000 square foot STEM Center and more than seven acres of cleared land for functional use.

"This provided us with an opportunity to see firsthand our investment back into the community," Kanipe said. "IRTs are something you can look back on and be proud of. You don't ever have to second guess what you're a part of."

IRT HELPS AIRMEN GIVE BACK

CONT.



Six members from the 138th Force Support Squadron services team traveled to Camp Paumalu, Hawaii, to provide mission essential support to the IRT Mission.

The services team was responsible for food prep as well as cooking and serving meals for 50-60 individuals daily, a vast difference from the 400-600 members they cook for and serve at home station. This allowed them to slow down and focus on training that they don't get to practice in a fast paced environment, and also gave younger Airmen the ability to take on additional responsibilities like shift leading.

Often times, services trains and deploys alongside the 138th CES. This trip provided an opportunity for the members to work with each other, fostering relationships and building interoperability skills for future deployments.



IRT PARTICIPANT OF THE YEAR

Master Sgt. Mitchell Sisco, 138th CES IRT construction manager, was recently awarded the IRT Participant of the Year award.

The award is given to an individual who has gone above and beyond his or her duty by showing leadership, developing readiness skills, and engaging with the local community.

Sisco has been involved with the IRT program for more than five years. This year, he closely assisted the project planning and execution of Camp Paumalu while also working with many communities across the country to apply for and set up their own IRT Missions.



VISUAL: Master Sgt. Mitchell Sisco (third from left) takes a photo with IRT staff members at Camp Paumalu, Hawaii.
(U.S. Air National Guard Photo by Tech Sgt. Michael Hong)

A FINAL APPROACH



Col. Raymond H. Siegfried III, former 138th Fighter Wing commander, renders a final salute to the 138th Fighter Wing fire department after his final flight in an F-16 Tulsa Viper Sept. 14, 2019, at Tulsa Air National Guard Base, Okla. Siegfried served as the Wing commander for four years and has flown more than 2,500 hours in the F-16, 40 combat sorties, and 180 hours of combat time.
(U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. C.T. Michael)

VISUAL: Dating back to World War II, aircrew members have celebrated their last flights in similar fashion. Over the years, it has become an Air Force tradition for flyers. Celebratory champagne follows soon after and thus gives them time to reflect with friends and loved ones on the time they've had together at that unit.



BEST CHRISTMAS GIFT EVER!

It's the one day a year you wake up earlier than all the rest, eyes flickering open after a hard nights sleep with the smell of fresh wrapping paper permeating the house. After the early morning fog clears your mind, it finally dawns on you what day it is. Leaping out of bed, you fly down the stairs faster than anytime before, barely paying notice to the half eaten plate of cookies as you pass. Could it be? There it is, sitting at the base of a tinsel laden tree, perfectly wrapped, gleaming in the incandescent light. The excitement is unbearable as you rip, tear and shred your way through the fragile paper. This is it, this has to be it, yes, this is it!!! You raise the gift over your head and a victory dance ensues. Looking up at the greatest gift ever, your eyes focus on the big bold font that reads, "batteries not included."



With the holiday season upon us, we wanted to know, "what was the best Christmas gift ever?"

-Staff Sgt. Blake Raley.....	Go-kart
-Master Sgt. John Lawrence.....	90s Video Game Console
-Tech. Sgt. Bekah Cheary.....	Toy Pet Shop Playset
-Lt. Col. Brad Ruttman.....	Air Rifle
-Staff Sgt. Jasmine Stone.....	Fashion Dolls
-Senior Master Sgt. Terry Lamar.....	A Hand Powered Ride-on Cart
-Master Sgt. Alyssa Blevins.....	80s Handheld Video Game Console
-Master Sgt. John Gardner.....	Electric Slot Car Track
-Senior Master Sgt. Jason Castleman.....	80s Video Game Console
-Karen Brown.....	A Homemade Doll House
-Master Sgt. Samuel Taylor.....	80s Video Game Console
-Master Sgt. Michelle Fox.....	A Cocker Spaniel Named Tanner
-Senior Airman Lesley Cox.....	Two Dachshunds, Carson and Jet
-Tech. Sgt. Dusty Blackwell.....	Snowboard
-Staff Sgt. Gale Mays.....	ATV
-Tech. Sgt. Rachel Michael.....	Rollerblades
-Master Sgt. C.T. Michael.....	Battery Operated Space Ship w/x-wings

SILVERFLAG

BARE BASE CONTINGENCY TRAINING



When we think about the Services career field, the first thought that may come to mind is preparing meals to over a thousand Airmen during drill weekends, but if you take a step back, what you will see is a Services force that supports several areas we depend on to complete the mission at home and abroad.

Improving mission effectiveness, members from the 138th Fighter Wing Force Support Squadron participated in a Silver Flag training exercise at Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga. This training focuses on agile combat support skills during high-demand bare base operations in a contingency environment, in a multitude of areas.

"Services has many different areas to support," said Tech. Sgt. Roxane Mock, services craftsman, 138th Fighter Wing. "It's a lot of information to digest and retain in a week."

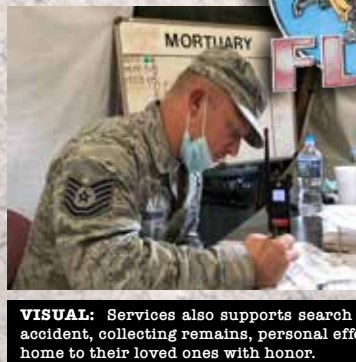
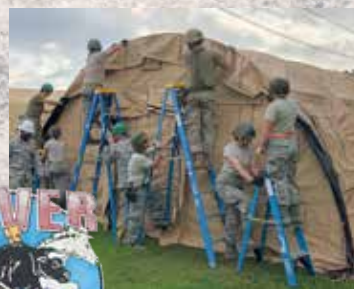
With limited time to train, students begin the week engaging in classroom instruction, learning vital skills to sustain accountability, recreation, physical fitness, search and recovery and mortuary services that support personnel during a deployment. By weeks end a hands-on portion of the training evaluates the Airmens ability to work cohesively with other units accomplishing base build-up objectives.

"This type of training gives younger troops the opportunity to have hands-on training, which helps them internalize and comprehend the training better than just seeing it in books," said Mock. "It's the next best thing to actually deploying."

Rounding out the week, Airmen put an array of new skills to the test when they are given a training weapon to defend the structures constructed, serving meals amongst an enemy attack, sustaining procedures and personnel. When the exercise seems to relax, instructors apply more pressure by injecting wartime scenarios, creating more stress amongst the Airmen to see how they fare and recover from the onslaught.

"I think executing in a wartime environment is good because it gives us a little bit better idea of the tempo you need to be at, thinking quick on your feet and actually applying that classroom time," said Mock.

Once the wartime hands-on exam concludes and the dust settles, Airmen can now reflect on the critical skills taught throughout the week and the importance of readiness proficiency in order to successfully support personnel throughout a deployment.



VISUAL: Services also supports search and recovery operations in the event of an accident, collecting remains, personal effects and equipment, so the fallen can return home to their loved ones with honor.

MERGE

Mission Training Center Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Mayor of the City of Tulsa G.T. Bynum, Adjutant General of Oklahoma Major General Michael Thompson, and 138th Fighter Wing Commander Colonel Michael Meason led a ribbon cutting ceremony Oct. 25, 2019 at the 138th Fighter Wing Mission Training Center, a Vision Tulsa project. U.S. Representatives Kevin Hern and Markwayne Mullin also participated in the event.

"Through the Tulsa Air National Guard Mission Training Center, Tulsa voters and taxpayers each have a part in supporting the defense of our country and jobs to strengthen our local economy," said Bynum.

The 20,000-square-foot Mission Training Center will house four state-of-the-art flight simulators to provide realistic combat training for fighter pilots. The 138th Fighter Wing in Tulsa is the first Air National Guard unit in the country to receive this cutting-edge technology. Only installed at a select few Air Force bases, the Mission Training Center will be a regional training facility.

"The additional operational training capacity of the Mission Training Center provides our pilots the ability to simulate the full spectrum of complex threat scenarios and the employment of weapons without airspace and range restrictions which is invaluable," said Meason.

This project was made possible through a federal, state and city partnership. The building was constructed using \$9.4 million in Vision Tulsa funds; the State of Oklahoma provided \$608,000 for road improvements, and federal funding is providing \$25 million for the F-16 simulator systems. Cockpits for the simulators, worth \$5 million each, were manufactured locally in Broken Arrow at L3 Harris Technologies.



Senior Master Sgt. Thomas Enyart, 138th Civil Engineer Squadron installation emergency manager, was recently awarded the 2018 Air National Guard Emergency Manager of the Year Award for his continuous efforts for the EM field.

Throughout the year, Enyart was involved with multiple large scale projects to include being the lead training planner for the 2019 Global Dragon Exercise. He is the regional emergency management group co-chair and also assisted with the development of the new Airman's Quick Reference Book which has been adopted by Active Duty, the Air National Guard and the Reserves.

Emergency managers are in charge of running the installation EM program. They are responsible for coordinating both peacetime and wartime responses to any threat. Enyart works closely with the Joint Operations Center in Okla. City for building and sending out response teams, often for flood, tornado or winter weather support. He also coordinates with local, state and national response agencies to ensure that they are fully integrated into response operations.



If you ever played sports, then you might understand the importance of the perfect song to ignite a flame within you before stepping into the arena. Much like an athlete, the Tulsa Viper pilots also require that ideal song to fire them up before stepping into a jet that will task them mentally and physically during their mission.

Aircrew Flight Equipment Technician, Tech. Sgt. Dusty Blackwell appreciates the importance of music prior to beginning the difficult task of flying an F-16 and decided to create an upbeat mood in the pilot locker room by being innovative and creating the "Press To Rage" box.

Much like a simplified version of a jukebox, the PTR box is pre-loaded with a motivational playlist via a Micro-SD card and only requires a push of the big red button to begin rage mode. If the pilot isn't feeling a song, all one has to do is push the button again until the perfect tune begins.

Blackwell spent almost 40 hours at home creating the PTR box that's made out of medium-density fiberboard and also features volume, power, pause and play buttons on top and if needed can be run strictly off a 9-volt battery during contingency operations.



OPERATION CLANDESTINE GRUBER

DEPLOYED COMBAT SKILLS EXERCISE



Readiness training is paramount with the possibility of a deployment that can't always be easily foreshadowed, leaving Airmen with very little lead time to prepare personal and professional effects prior to wheels-up, without knowing the location or threats that await them.

Boosting confidence in readiness and camaraderie, the 138th Fighter Wing searched deep in a training play book and rapidly mobilized personnel during November Drill to Camp Gruber, Braggs, Okla. for two days to establish, defend and operate from an alternate location while honing combat skills.

"With only two days and so much training to accomplish, the biggest challenge was working this event into an already busy drill schedule," said Capt. Joshua Young, wing plans officer, 138th Fighter Wing.

The Operation Clandestine Gruber exercise began almost immediately on a Friday at dawn. A swarm of almost 200 tasked Airmen with overnight gear filled the dining facility, waiting on further instructions to the events about to unfold. After a quick briefing, the mass of Airmen boarded the buses for an hour trek to a new training environment.

"To operate in a contested environment, you have to be able to think on your feet and train people to think on their feet, creating situations that make them uncertain and encounter threats they're not used to," said Young. "Executing this style of training at Camp Gruber was a way to do that."

With so many Airmen to accomplish training, day one consisted of participants being issued a weapon and split up into four groups, receiving slower paced hands-on training, with four stations focusing on chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear defense, self aid buddy care, defensive fighting procedures, tactical maneuvering and movement while under hostile fire. Within a given time frame, Airmen moved from station-to-station fighting off adversaries, clouds of smoke and flash bangs, allowing them to brush up on the basics of possible local or contingency threats prior to calling it a day.

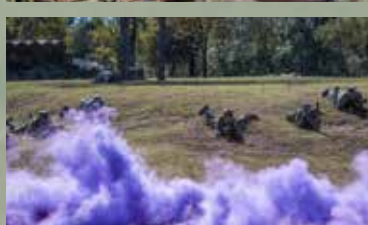
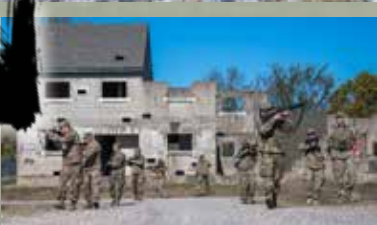
After a short nights sleep in the barracks and building off day one, the second day of training came at a much faster pace with an evolved opposition. Instructors pulled back on assistance and applied pressure with live-action scenarios, testing camaraderie and defenses from every angle to see how adjustments are made during the conflict.

By the end of battle on the final day, victory was claimed by no one at that alternate location, but the challenges Airmen faced during the combat skills exercise most surely exposed the importance of readiness and how crucial it is to be ready for any situation that arises at home or abroad.

"From a readiness stand point, there were a few station training items that we need to improve on, but overall we received positive trainee feedback from the event," said Young.



VISUAL: Camp Gruber is named after Brigadier General Edmund L. Gruber, a noted artillery officer and the original composer of the U.S. Field Artillery March, the source for the Army's official song,



LINE-OF-SIGHT



138th Fighter Wing Security Forces personnel stand guard during an active shooter exercise Sept. 15, 2019, at Tulsa Air National Guard Base, Okla. The exercise tested 138th Fighter Wing emergency responders and support agency procedures in the event of an active shooter. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. Phil Cowen)



Incoming 138th Fighter Wing Detachment-1 Commander, Lt. Col. Ernie Mayfield, accepts the guidon from Operations Group Commander Lt. Col. Brad Ruttmann, during a change of command ceremony Aug. 15, 2019, at Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base, Houston, Texas. The change of command ceremony is a time-honored military tradition which visibly recognizes and assures the responsibility and authority of the incoming commander. (U.S. Air National Guard courtesy photo)



Capt. Nicholas Reynolds, 138th Fighter Wing director of inspections, receives a Joint Service Commendation Medal from Lt. Gen. L. Scott Rice, director of the Air National Guard Oct. 5, 2019, at Tulsa Air National Guard Base, Okla. The Joint Service Commendation Medal is awarded in the name of the Secretary of Defense to members of the Armed Forces of the United States who distinguish themselves by meritorious achievement or service in a joint duty capacity. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. C.T. Michael)



Col. Raymond Siegfried, outgoing 138th Fighter Wing commander and Col. Michael Meason, incoming 138th Fighter Wing commander, install the Wing commander name plate on the front gate Oct. 6, 2019, at Tulsa Air National Guard Base, Okla. After serving as the wing commander for four years, Siegfried relinquished command to Meason. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Rebecca Imwalle)



Okla. Governor Kevin Stitt gives a thumbs up before a F-16 Viper orientation flight Oct. 8, 2019, at Tulsa Air National Guard Base, Okla. Orientation flights help familiarize individuals with the aircraft and mission, which enhances their understanding of the unit and the Air National Guard. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Rebecca Imwalle)



Col. Raymond H. Siegfried III is promoted to brigadier general October 22, 2019, at The Summit Club, Tulsa, Okla. Brig. Gen. Siegfried will serve as the assistant adjutant general for the Oklahoma Air National Guard and is responsible for the combat readiness and operational effectiveness of Oklahoma Air National Guard units. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. C.T. Michael)

WARPAINT

EM PARTICIPATES IN ADVANCED CBRNE COURSE

Airmen of the 138th Fighter Wing are always working to achieve a similar goal— to be the tip of the spear, ready to survive and operate in a contested environment. Achieving something like this doesn't come easy and takes a lot of training and preparation.

The 138th Civil Engineer Squadron emergency management team did just that when they partnered with the 154th CES from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, to participate in a week-long advanced chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosives concepts course conducted by the Guardian Centers.

Senior Master Sgt. Thomas Enyart, 138th CES installation emergency manager, explained that the advanced course had a different approach to the training from what they typically encounter.

"We were able to set up different lab processes utilizing equipment and ingredients that were sourced on location," Enyart said. "Typically when we go to other courses, there are a lot of simulations in place. By utilizing items on location and actually creating different compounds in a controlled environment, we can see exactly how a lab would be set up if we were to be called out to one."

The advanced CBRNE course takes the focus away from traditional threats, allowing participants to have an all hazards approach to emergency response. Members learned about the manufacturing process of chemical weapons and walked through the extraction and distillation process as a way to familiarize Airmen with what they could encounter while on real-world missions. Following several days of classroom training, members were evaluated on their response to encountering simulated chemical labs, their procedures and how they respond to potential threats.

"Here at the 138th Fighter Wing, our members assist the Civil Support Team during major events around the state," Enyart explained. "Having this training will help them when making entry into different scenarios. We do a lot of training in Tulsa on PAR and Recon teams, but the majority of our calls while deployed are typically to suspicious white powders or different labs that teams come across in the field, so this training will definitely benefit our members overseas."

During the training, they worked alongside the 154th CES EM team, providing them the opportunity to discuss best practices and learn from experiences that both units have faced. This type of training also allows them to practice working in an environment with other units much like they would experience while deployed.

"The fact that we were able to get our members into this course ensures that they are some of the best trained emergency management technicians in the country," Enyart said. "The goal is to always be the tip of the spear."



VISUAL: The first suspected use of a biological agent occurred circa 500 B.C., when it is believed the Assyrians poisoned their enemy's water supply using rye ergot, a poisonous mycotoxin obtained from diseased rye.

ORIGINAL ART

Ry Pan



(U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. C.T. Michael)



(U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. C.T. Michael)

Looking around our everyday environment, there may be some type of artwork displayed, with us never really knowing who created it or why. Whether its a digital or traditional hand painted skill-set utilized, most art seems to display a sort of pride, with the artist sharing a hidden piece of themselves that can last well into the future, sparking the same emotion as the day it was created.

Utilizing those traditional skill-sets almost 30 years ago, Ret. Master Sgt. Ray Parker created several works of art that have stood the test of time and can still be presently viewed around the 138th Fighter Wing.

At the time, Parker was a Staff Sgt. and a maintenance crew chief when he took on the unofficial title of Wing artist and hand painted all the lettering and numbers on the A-7 aircraft, with unit pride and the support of his co-workers, driving his artistic talents. Some of Parkers artwork however, have not stood the test of time due to the transition from the bygone A-7 Corsair II to the more modern F-16 aircraft that we still fly today, leaving his artwork to a memory or an old photograph to reflect on those long hours spent with nothing more than a couple colors and paint brush.

"Makes me proud to know that I hand painted all the lettering and numbers on all our A-7's," said Parker. "Painting is the same as working on a jet, you can't do it without your co-workers, everyone compliments each other."

Parker's skill of painting letters and numbers were put to the extreme when he was asked to brush a sign in bold white lettering that reads "Oklahoma Air National Guard" that is still visible today on the westside of the Main Hangar. The massive sign came with challenges Parker would have to overcome to complete, with the most important being, gathering wood large enough to be viewed at a good distance and a location to paint the individual sections. Combating these challenges, Parker decided to create his sign on 12 sheets of 4x8 Medium Density Overlay, an exterior-grade plywood that's made to withstand the outdoor elements and chose to paint them by individual sections in his home garage. With a good plan of attack underway, Parker began his biggest project to date and completed painting the individual boards and lettering in under a week. Once all the individual sign pieces were installed, Parkers accomplishment would span an astonishing distance of 96 feet, and would be highly visible to all incoming and outgoing aircraft for years to come.

"The pride of my unit is why I painted and I enjoyed it," said Parker. "I am honored to be part of the 138th history."

The iconic sign Ray Parker hand painted many years ago still represents the pride of the 138th Fighter Wing and the mission we support, for as long as the "Oklahoma Air National Guard" sign stands, it will always represent "The Tulsa Standard".



VISUAL: Ret. Master Sgt. Ray Parker also painted the first indian head logo on the tail of a Tulsa F-16 Viper, a logo Senior Master Sgt. Chuck Arroyo originally designed and is still in use today.

(U.S. Air National Guard courtesy photo by Ray Parker)



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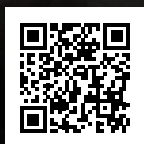
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