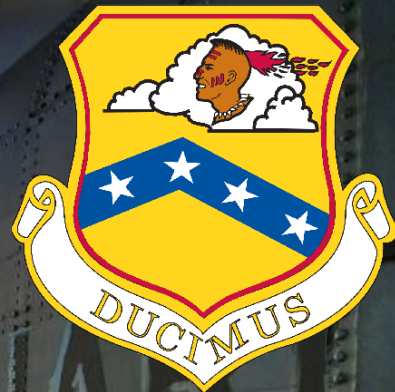


189th Airlift Wing WARRIOR



Vol. 23 No. 02

February 2021

Arkansas Air National Guard

Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark.



*Arkansas Air National Guardsmen
support presidential inauguration,
pgs. 6 - 7*



Commander's Commentary

By Col. Dean B. Martin
189th Airlift Wing Commander

The numbers 11, 34, 74, 537 & 86,230 – not just random numbers but a snapshot of the outstanding teamwork from the 189 AW in support of the 59th Presidential Inauguration. Within 3 days of notification, the 189 AW team generated 11 aircraft, flew 34 sorties (encompassing 74 flight hours), moving 537 Arkansas Army National Guard soldiers and 86,230 pounds of cargo to Andrews AFB. Additional support came from our Emergency Management and Chaplain personnel. Coming on the heels of a very busy two week stretch, you did not hesitate to give up much needed time off to once again answer your nation's call. Your herculean efforts demonstrate your selfless dedication and readiness to our state and Nation--Well Done!



Currently, 85 Airmen within our wing have received the coronavirus vaccine. We anticipate increased vaccine availability in the coming weeks. As you make your decision on receiving this vaccine, I encourage you to research the facts—the CDC offers information at <https://bit.ly/3p6wjhd> along with the Arkansas Department of Health at <https://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programs-services/topics/covid-19-vaccination-plan>. As we strive to get back to normal, it is imperative that we continue safe physical distancing and mask wearing protocols. Taking these steps will help us all move in the right direction.

This month, we celebrate African American and Black History. This observance is held to celebrate the achievements made by African Americans and is a time for recognizing the central role they have and continue to play in the history of the United States. President Gerald Ford set aside the month of February for this observance in 1976, during the United States Bicentennial. Little Rock Air Force Base celebrates this and other monthly observances each year with different events throughout the month. Although this past year has been difficult to host

observance events, great information is shared between the wings and groups representing Herk Nation.



Thank you to all our wing members and their families for their service to the Air National Guard. I know we rely heavily on each of you but trust me when I say that we could not accomplish our mission without you! Every day we live by our Air Force core values and are the backbone of our community. I look forward to continued service with each of you. The future continues to be bright for the 189 AW - FOLLOW THROUGH!

www.facebook.com/189AW

www.instagram.com/189AW

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This un-funded Air Force newsletter is an authorized electronic publication for members of the 189th Airlift Wing, their families, retirees and community leaders. Contents of the Warrior are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, or the Department of the Air Force. All photographs are property of the U.S. Air Force unless otherwise indicated.

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



February celebrates Black History Month

Due to COVID-19 restrictions and precautions regarding the virus, Maj. Gen. Kendall Penn, the Adjutant General of the Arkansas National Guard, has released a statement to inform Guardsmen and the supporting community that the Arkansas National Guard will not be hosting events for the monthly Black History Month 2021. Please read below for additional information:



ASA HUTCHINSON
GOVERNOR

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF THE MILITARY
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
CAMP JOSEPH T. ROBINSON
NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72199-9600



KENDALL W. PENN
MAJOR GENERAL
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

NGAR-HRO-EEM

15 January 2021

MEMORANDUM FOR All Arkansas National Guard Personnel

SUBJECT: Black History Month 2021

1. February is designated as Black History Month (Also known as African American History Month). This year's theme is **"Honoring the Past, Securing the Future!"** Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Arkansas National Guard will not be conducting any speaking engagements, but we do encourage you to take this opportunity to educate yourselves individually on the contributions that African Americans have made throughout history.

2. Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements by African Americans. Known as the "Father of Black History," Dr. Carter G. Woodson founded the celebration he called "Negro History Week" in 1926. He selected the second week of February because it fell between the birthdays of the famed orator and abolitionist Frederick Douglass and President Abraham Lincoln. In 1976, the celebration expanded to include the entire month. We celebrate Black History Month to honor the significant contributions African Americans have made to our great Nation—contributions that stand as a testament to their resolve, resilience, and courage.

3. African Americans have served in every military conflict in U.S. history. When the military was segregated, there were myths that Black men were not successful fighters, so commanders would assign them to menial labor. However, groups such as the 54th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment of the Civil War; the 92nd Infantry Division of World War I; and the Tuskegee Airmen of World War II—who flew over 200 combat missions and lost none of their own to enemy fire—proved this theory wrong. The intrepid demeanor that Black Soldiers displayed during battle was instrumental in burying myths about correlations concerning race and combat skills and paved the way to full integration of the U.S. military.

4. In 1975, President Gerald Ford issued a *Message on the Observance of Black History Week*, which urged all Americans to "recognize the important contributions made to our nation's life and culture by Black citizens," and in 1976 he issued the first *Message on the Observance of Black History Month*. In 1986, Congress passed Public

(cont. pg. 4)



Law 99-244, designating February 1986 as "National Black (Afro-American) History Month." Since 1996, all Presidents have issued annual proclamations for National African American History Month. I encourage you all to take this opportunity to reflect upon the many African Americans who bravely fought and died in the name of freedom, and to remember that the fight to ensure that respect and equality is secured for all United States citizens continues.

5. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact CW2 Patrick Jacob, EEO Specialist, at 501-212-4222 or DSN 962-4222.

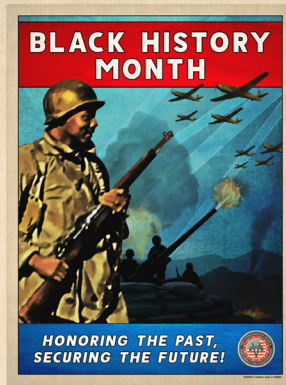
KENDALL W. PENN
Major General
The Adjutant General

CULTURAL
AWARENESS



OBSERVANCE

BLACK HISTORY MONTH



FACTS

The Department of Defense (DoD) is commemorating the 75th Anniversary of World War II by recognizing the contributions and sacrifices made by Service members as well as those who served on the home front.

During the anniversary, we pay tribute to those Americans who undauntedly and courageously contributed to the defense of our nation.

Often overlooked are the valiant efforts of African Americans. African Americans played an immeasurable role in the United States' Armed Forces during World War II, serving bravely and with distinction from the initial attack on Pearl Harbor to the last days of the Pacific campaign. Although the United States Armed Forces weren't officially segregated until 1948, WWII laid the foundation for post-war integration of the military.

Over 2.5 million African-American men registered for the draft, and Black women volunteered in large numbers. While serving in the Army, Army Air Forces, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and War Department they served with distinction, made valuable contributions to the war effort, and earned well-deserved praise and commendations for their struggles and sacrifices.

This month, the DoD pays tribute to the African American men and women who not only forever changed the course of history but also redefined the United States military.

"Our debt to the heroic men and valiant women in the service of our country can never be repaid. They have earned our undying gratitude. America will never forget their sacrifices." – President Harry S. Truman



For information and self-education on the success and triumph over tribulation of African-Americans throughout the history of our Nation, many resources are available. The Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute has visuals and information for individuals interested in pursuing this historical knowledge. Visit <https://www.defenseculture.mil/Human-Relations-Toolkit/Special-Observances/> for information. The Library of Congress also provides great information for anyone seeking it. Additionally, they provide online events to share information during Black History Month as well as other observances and events. Click the added [link](#) to visit the Library of Congress online.



Aerialport creates quick solution to ensure successful air drops

By Master Sgt. Jessica Roles
189th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Recently, the 189th Airlift Wing Aerialport Flight in collaboration with the 189th Maintenance Squadron's sheet metal shop created a piece of equipment to assist with successful airdrops. The piece of metal presses against the actuator and cable to tighten everything down to keep things still, providing extra leverage until the parachute is ready to deploy. This could potentially save the Air Force billions by ensuring all heavies containing Air Force inventory reaches the ground successfully.

"All of aerialport came together to come up with this idea," said Senior Master Sgt. David Smith, the 189th Aerialport Flight superintendent. "It was a great collaborative effort by all of us. Then our leadership suggested we get with Staff Sgt. Ryan Weng from sheet metal to have the part designed and created specifically for us."

The piece has not been put into play yet, but aerialport and the 154th Training Squadron loadmaster section are working to ensure they have all their checks and balances before they put it to use. One

option they are considering is utilizing the wing's test detachment to assist with the first attempt. According to Smith the detachment would be the ideal starting point for communication and putting the special piece to the test.

"Thinking outside the box is what we do," Smith said. "Innovative ideas can save big Air Force tons of money by doing things like this. I'm always trying to push my guys to think this way and share things that make their job easier, Air National Guard better, and our Airmen work smarter. Nobody has a dumb idea. If someone thinks of something, we'll try it! If it doesn't work, it doesn't work. Trial and error... That's innovation."

The 189th Logistics Readiness Squadron plans to work with the Natick Soldier Systems Center to further develop the piece and its use, positively impacting cargo delivery processes throughout Air Mobility Command. The NSSC team will be visiting the wing later this month to observe aerialport in action while using their design.



Tech. Sgt. Ryan Weng, a 189th Maintenance Group fabrications specialist, presents the innovative piece of equipment used to increase the success of C-130H airdrops Nov. 5, 2020, at Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark. The aerialport flight along with the fabrications shop created the tool and hope to make it a legal piece of the process.



Arkansas Air National Guardsmen support presidential inauguration

By Master Sgt. Jessica Roles
189th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

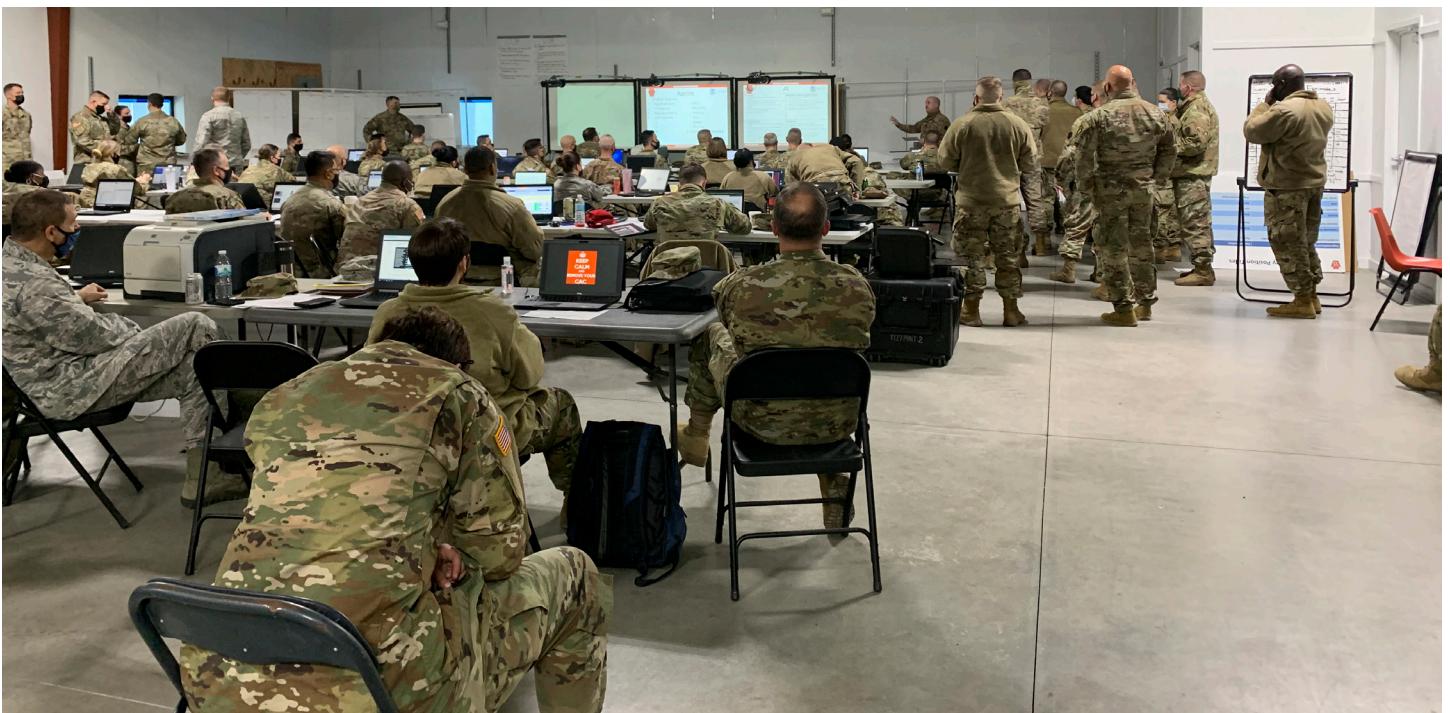
From Jan. 17 - 18, 2021, approximately 500 Soldiers from the 142nd Field Artillery Brigade out of Northwest Arkansas, were transported to Washington D.C. to provide support during the 59th Presidential Inauguration. Members of the 189th Operations Group, Logistic Readiness Squadron, Civil Engineer Squadron, Wing Staff Agencies, and Maintenance Group shared the responsibility of providing manpower and supplies for the historic event, once again epitomizing the importance of the National Guard and the role it plays throughout our Nation's history.

The 189th Logistics Readiness Squadron played a major role in the movement, ensuring an additional 29 pallets of cargo from the regiment were transported and 15 aerialport personnel were ready to process the passengers, build the pallets and load the aircraft. Inside the pallets, were carefully packed supplies for the soldiers being transported such as ammunition, weapons, body armor, riot gear, and enough MREs

for each Soldier to be fed for a week. Working alongside the 188th LRS, the two squadrons managed to pull the resources required for the event within 35 hours.

As aerialporters palletized cargo and prepped the aircraft for the troop movement, the 189th Maintenance Group turned their wrenches to produced nine mission-ready aircraft and ran 24-hour operations throughout the two-day timeframe.

"The fact that we were able to get our resources together with less than a week's notice shows the Air National Guard's capability to drop what we're doing and answer the call at a moment's notice," said 1st Lt. Nicholas Watson, the 189th Airlift Wing installation deployment officer. "We are very capable of moving assets and personnel but it wouldn't have been possible with this type of turnaround without the build-up and teamwork."



Members of the Homeland Reaction Force planning team and HRF Joint Operations Center brief Mobile Emergency Operations Center managers while on standby status in support of the 59th presidential inauguration Jan. 20, 2021, near Indian Town Gap, Penn. MEOCs around the nation were activated in the event operations tempos at the inauguration were elevated for National Guard troops in the D.C. area. (Courtesy photo)



The wing also provided 11 flights for the troops sent to support the inauguration. For two days, the 189th OG provided 76 aircrew members to transport Soldiers. The mission was simply a testament to what the wing can do when Airmen are empowered by commanders to plan and execute a mission of this scale within a small window. The wing's maintainers prepped the aircraft for each flight, readying them for the cargo and personnel deliveries in Washington D.C.

"Only aircrew technical traveled to D.C. to offload troops and cargo," said Maj. Seth Connell, a 189th Operations Group pilot. "The real work to make this mission happen came from Lt. Watson's aerialporters who spent days in Ft. Smith organizing and palletizing the loads as well as our chaplain team and Mobile Emergency Operations Center team who provided immense support."

Master Sgt. Shawn Engelstad, a 154th Training Squadron loadmaster reflected on the capabilities of the Air National Guard before and during the event and was impressed how well the Army and Air components within the state of Arkansas came together to accomplish the National Guard's mission.

"The event and the call for support rule show the



Members of the Arkansas National Guard board a C-130H aircraft assigned to the 189th Airlift Wing at Ebbing Air National Guard Base, Ark. The 189th Operations Group flew more than 500 Army National Guardsmen using 11 aircraft and 78 air crew members to support the 59th Presidential Inauguration. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Jessica Roles)

capabilities of the Army and Air National Guard," he said. "Our wing met with the Arkansas Army Guard leadership to develop the airlift plan and we were easily able to provide support. We are much more than a 'one weekend a month, two weeks a year' force. There are so many highly capable Airmen able to step up at a moment's notice when the Nation is in need."

Col. Dean Martin, the 189th Airlift Wing commander, mentioned how well National Guardsmen as a whole stand time and again to support the Nation as militia and modern-day Guardsmen.

"Arkansans have relied on the Arkansas National Guard to provide security and stability since 1804," Martin said. "The framework developed by our founding fathers ensured that our military and militias were focused on the security of our nation and not with issues of the day. Our Airmen have sworn an oath to support and defend the constitution and remain resilient and ready to respond at a moment's notice. We were honored to once again serve along-side the soldiers of the Arkansas National Guard by providing support to all Americans in our Nation's capitol."



Members of the National Guard chaplain corps stand by to support Guard troops during the 59th Presidential Inauguration Jan. 20, 2021, in Washington D.C. The Arkansas Air National Guard provided two members of the chaplain corps to provide service to members during the domestic deployment. (Courtesy Photo)



ANG Federal Tuition Assistance BETA Program

DSGs (Enlisted and Officer) can now take advantage of Fed TA to pursue off-duty educational opportunities!



DSGs (Enlisted and Officer)/Technicians can now take advantage of Fed TA to pursue off-duty educational opportunities!

The ANG Fed TA program will pay 100% of your tuition not to exceed:

- \$250 per semester credit hour, or
- \$166 per quarter credit hour, and
- \$4,500 maximum per fiscal year

ANG Fed TA will approve up to 124 Semester Hours (186 Quarter Hours) for an undergraduate degree and 42 Semester H (70 Quarter Hours) for a graduate degree.

1 AFSC and 1 Leadership certification under the AF COOL Program

The institution must be a national or regional accredited institution, recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and have a signed DoD Partnership MOU.

Request Fed TA through the Air Force Virtual Education Center no earlier than 45 days and no later than 7 days PRIOR to course start date.

**Contact your Education Services Office NCOIC for more information:
MSgt Arianne Pierpoint Located in Bldg 103 Room 100 @
(501) 987-1443 or arianne.pierpoint@us.af.mil**



Published: 01 January 2020

Free College Tuition for all Guardsmen!

Arkansas National Guard Tuition Waiver Program (NGTW)

Who is eligible? All current National Guard Soldiers that meet the following criteria:

- Arkansas Resident
- Completed Basic Training
- Does **not** already hold a bachelor or higher degree
- Enrolled in undergraduate degree program at Arkansas public institution of higher education
- Not currently flagged for serious misconduct (such as AWOL, ASAP, etc.)

How do I get NGTW?

- Enroll in an Arkansas **public** institution of higher education
 - Must be considered to be in "good standing" by that institution
 - Complete FAFSA studentaid.ed.gov/sa/ and YOUNiversal scholarships.adhe.edu/ applications
 - Let your school know you plan to use the NGTW and follow their policies
- Submit application in accordance with the directions at:
<https://arkansas.nationalguard.mil/EIB/NGTW/>
 - Application is available online at <https://arkansas.nationalguard.mil/EIB/NGTW/> (click on Financial Aid and then NGTW)
 - Download the application, read the attached Statement of Understanding, complete the form, and submit in accordance with the directions
 - Complete NGTW application each semester and submit 60 day prior to - 30 days after the start of the semester, along with your 'Letter of Good Standing' memo signed by Commander
 - Send to Education Services POC listed below, they will verify eligibility and forward approvals to Arkansas Department of Higher Education and they will pay the school directly for the hours.

What does NGTW cover?

- Pays tuition; may cover mandatory fees; does not cover other fees, books, etc.
- Pays up to 120 credit hours or until completion of bachelor's degree, whichever comes first

How is NGTW different from FTA, GI Bill, & GTIP; and can I use those too?

- Federal Tuition Assistance covers credit hours beyond a bachelor's degree, pays tuition only, and usually can't be used in conjunction with GI Bill
- GI Bill is paid directly to the Soldier and can be used to pay tuition, fees, books, etc., but has very strict eligibility guidelines based on each Soldier's service
- NGTW CAN BE USED WITH GI BILL- NGTW will be applied to tuition first so that your GI Bill can be used to cover all addition costs, if you choose to use them both
- NGTW is replacing GTIP so they can't be used together and no new GTIP applications are being accepted (with the exception of a few grandfathered Soldiers)

For More Information:

- ❖ Visit us On-Line: <https://arkansas.nationalguard.mil/EIB/NGTW/>
- ❖ Contact the Arkansas National Guard Education Services Office:
 - Email to arianne.pierpoint@us.af.mil
 - Call 501-987-1443 Education Services NCOIC: MSgt Arianne Pierpoint



EDUCATION SERVICES INFORMATION

****AFVEC must be accessed Thru the AF Portal via Chrome ****

Members MUST have the initial counseling/briefing and all info in their AFVEC profile updated prior to adding an education goal, please contact the Education Services Office NCOIC to schedule your counseling.

- Briefings will be available every month on Saturday afternoon of drill, a calendar invite will be sent out to the members and/or supervisors that request to attend.
- If members are unable to attend the in-person briefing, the ESO is offering an electronic version of the counseling/briefing, accomplished via email correspondence.

ED SERVICES INFO CONTINUED...

**** NGTW Updated Website and Application****

- Please review the new updated NGTW flyer, as the website has changed as well as the application. Applications are no longer in excel format and are PDF only, with either the member's digital signature or printed out and signed by hand.

****Education Services Has Moved to a New Location!****

- The Education Services NCOIC has moved to room 100, still in building 103 (Wing Headquarters), right near the front door of the building where the Retention office is also located.
- Come see MSgt Pierpoint for all voluntary education needs! She can assist you with Federal TA, NGTW, AFVEC, transcripts and anything having to do with your education record.

For more information, contact Master Sgt. Arianne Pierpoint at 501-987-1443.



PRESIDENTS DAY



BY THE NUMBERS

Feb. 18, 2019: Presidents Day is observed on the third Monday of February. Although many believe Presidents Day is a time to honor all former U.S. presidents, the federal holiday is actually the official observance of George Washington's birthday (Feb. 22).

April 13, 1743

The date President Thomas Jefferson was born in Shadwell, Goochland County (now in Albemarle County), Virginia

Oct. 27, 1858

The date of President Theodore Roosevelt's birth in New York City

Presidential places

Number of counties, towns and minor civil divisions matching the last names of presidents:

- » Washington: **94**
- » Jefferson: **61**
- » Roosevelt: **13**
- » Lincoln: **70**

Feb. 12, 1809

The date of President Abraham Lincoln's birth in Hardin County, Kentucky

6 feet, 4 inches

Abraham Lincoln's height, tying him with Lyndon B. Johnson as the tallest president in history

42

The age that Theodore Roosevelt became the 26th and youngest U.S. president in the nation's history, upon the assassination of President William McKinley on Sept. 14, 1901

Feb. 22, 1732

The date of President George Washington's birth at Popes Creek in Westmoreland County, Virginia

36

The number of rounds of balloting taken by the U.S. House of Representatives to break the surprise Electoral College tie in the presidential election of 1800 between Democratic-Republican candidate Thomas Jefferson and his vice presidential candidate, Aaron Burr, both of whom had received **73** electoral votes — more than incumbent Federalist President John Adams (**65**) and his running mate, Charles Pickney (**64**). Ultimately, Alexander Hamilton persuaded enough Federalist congressmen to elect Jefferson.

April 30, 1789

The date President George Washington took his oath of office as the first president of the United States

INFOGRAPHIC BY DAVID THOMETZ/BRISTOL HERALD COURIER | SOURCES: U.S. CENSUS BUREAU; WHITEHOUSE.GOV; PIXABAY; METRO CREATIVE

Happy Presidents Day



Warrior of the Month: SMSgt John Zeltner



Rank/Name: Senior Master Sgt. John Zeltner

Unit: 189th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Guard Status: Full-time

Position: Aircraft Maintenance Production Superintendent

Hometown: Searcy, Arkansas

Time on Station: 31 years

Time in Service: 35 years

Goals: To try and make as much of a difference as possible with the time I have left in the Air National Guard

Hobbies: Watching Steelers and Razorback football with my kids

Core Value Portrayed: Follow Through

How this core value is portrayed:

SMSgt Zeltner is the lead production superintendent on the flight line. His role is critical to the success of the 189th Airlift Wing mission. He is constantly and consistently monitoring a fleet of aircraft to include sortie generation scheduling as well as scheduled and unscheduled maintenance while minimizing the impact to aircrew and student production.