

# PLANETALK

167TH AIRLIFT WING  
NOVEMBER 2021

Next UTA 4-5 DECEMBER 2021



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### ON THE COVER

A C-17 Globemaster III aircraft, parked on the ramp at the 167th Airlift Wing, Shepherd Field, Martinsburg, West Virginia, is prepared for flight, Nov. 9, 2021, as part of the wing's Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Bosslift event. Nearly 50 employers attended the event which gives the civilian employers of 167th Airmen an opportunity to learn about the unit's mission and see what the Airmen do when they are away from their civilian employment and serving on military duty. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Emily Beightol-Deyerle)

### ON THE BACK COVER

U.S. Air Force Airman Wyatt Hensell, an air transportation specialist for the 167th Logistics Readiness Squadron, mans the magnetometer at the 167th's small air terminal, as passengers are processed for a flight on a C-17 Globemaster III aircraft as part of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Bosslift event, at Shepherd Field, Martinsburg, West Virginia, Nov. 9, 2021. Nearly 50 employers flew on a C-17 for the Bosslift to help them understand the 167th's mission. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Emily Beightol-Deyerle)



167AW WING COMMANDER  
**Col. Martin Timko**

## Vision

The Premier Airlift Wing  
Mission Ready, Committed to Airmen and Community,  
and Dedicated to Continuous Improvement



167AW WING COMMAND CHIEF  
**Command Chief Master Sgt. Troy Brawner**

Mighty Airlift Wing!

Despite all of my hopes to be able to pull off a Family Day for the wing on December UTA, the pandemic realities ultimately get a say on the matter as well. While I appreciate all of the energy the Enlisted Councils were putting into the planning efforts, I could not override the sage and conservative advice being offered by our Public Health and MDG Professionals. We simply would have had too many restrictions to keep family members safe in the desired construct for Family Day. Therefore, I am formally cancelling Family Day for 2021 and have directed the councils to put their energy towards shops/sections/units wing member gatherings for Sunday of December UTA. This optimistic commander will be hopeful for 2022 and a Family Day for next year.

One of the reasons for that hope is the continuing lowering trends when it comes to the spread of the COVID-19 virus. While there is a part of me that is bracing for another uptick due to the change in weather, our own wing immunization efforts will help combat any negative winter season trends. As of today, the 167AW stands just shy of 90% of members with at least one vaccine shot in the arm as we continue to work the process going forward into December. To further drive home the medical readiness reality of immunizations, I received my Pfizer booster shot and my annual Influenza shot on Saturday (1 in each arm). I am not asking any of you to receive something that I myself would not do – we all share the responsibility to be worldwide mobility assets and IMR is an important facet of staying mission-ready.

While the required beautiful weather showed-up for the weekend, the abundant frost in the mornings and changing of the leaf colors reminded us all that we are entering the holiday season for 2021. Our Wing Family will still have members deployed out over these months and for others, this time of year may bring reminders of lost loved ones. I charge each one of you to redouble your efforts to reach-out to wing members both at home and abroad to check-in on them and make them abundantly aware they are part of the 167th Tribe! Just a text, email, or conversation can uplift somebody feeling the blues this time of year. The pandemic has created many islands of isolation on folks – let's be a force of inclusion and togetherness of which no one in Team Martinsburg stands alone.

It was a busy November UTA, and despite the extra hour of sleep on Saturday night (thanks to the time change), most members (if not all) were worn-out from the training efforts. Always a good tired when you walk away from the weekend having knocked-out some requirements while catching-up with those unit comrades you haven't seen in a month. We are down to just weeks until our final 2021 UTA, which is scheduled for the 4th & 5th of December. While the looming Continuing Resolution (CR) deadline has potential to cast a Grinch-like effect on the end of the year, we will continue pressing forward. For now, I wish the entire AW a wonderful Thanksgiving and I hope that you get a chance to spend some time with family or friends – even if it is just via video link for those deployed. Until December UTA, stay healthy, stay safe, and most importantly: STAY MIGHTY!

--Marty

Team,

November is here...cool crisp weather, hunting season, football, and the start of the holiday season. What a great time of the year. Along with getting some good training in over the weekend I hope you were also able to enjoy the best meal our DFAC team puts together all year. I know I did. Thank you to all our DFAC team for the Thanksgiving feast. You're the best!

It was great to see all the activity going on around the base. A shout out to our 1st Sgt's Council for putting together the silent auction fund raiser in support of future wing events. I hear that it was well received, and the amount of funds raised was beyond their expectations.

Congratulations to our newest Chief Master Sergeant, James Decicco! I look forward to his continued leadership and commitment to our LRS Squadron, MSG Group, and the Wing.

In December we will wrap up this year's Outstanding Airman of the Year cycle. I appreciate all the work that goes into selecting our very best airmen for this prestigious award. Every year I am filled with pride when I review the packages and see all the amazing things our folks have accomplished. I know this year won't be any different.

It's the time of year we all give and offer thanks for what we have. However, before we get to our Thanksgiving holiday, let's be sure to give thanks and honor our veterans. Let's honor those who have gone before us and carved the way. I ask that you take the time to reach out to a veteran. Reflect on what they have done and their sacrifices. We owe them a great deal of gratitude. If you have the opportunity take an active part in a local Veterans Day ceremony. Whether it is at a school in your community or a civic event you will be glad you did. And your community will be better for it.

Finally, as we sit down for our Thanksgiving feast let's continue to keep in our thoughts and prayers all our members who are deployed and their families who anxiously wait for their return. Take time to reach out to them and offer your support. We are family.

I wish you and your family a Happy Thanksgiving!

Your Chief,

Chief Brawner



# 167th AW hosts ESGR Bosslift

by Senior Master Sgt. Emily Beightol-Deyerle

Nearly fifty employers from the tri-state region participated in the West Virginia Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Bosslift at the 167th Airlift Wing, Martinsburg, West Virginia, Nov. 9.

ESGR, a Department of Defense program, promotes cooperation and understanding between Reserve Component Service members and their civilian employers. The intent of the Bosslift is to help employers better understand what their employees do during military service.

"ESGR has been an integral part of Airmen and employer relations for nearly 50 years, and we are honored to support their efforts with events such as the Bosslift," said Brig. Gen David Cochran, West Virginia National Guard Assistant Adjutant General – Air. "The Bosslift event provides an opportunity for all of us to build relationships, and gain insights into the challenges of our citizen Airmen's commitment to serving and their employer's commitment to supporting them."

After an introduction to the 167th Airlift Wing mission and the role of the ESGR, the Bosslift participants were processed through the 167th small air terminal and then bussed to the aircraft ramp. They watched as cargo was loaded on a C-17 Globemaster aircraft and then they boarded the aircraft for an hour-long flight. After the flight, participants toured other areas of the base at Shepherd Field to include a maintenance hangar, the fire department, aircraft control tower and the flight simulator building.

During the lunch break, Tech. Sgt. Timothy Larson, a loadmaster for the 167th Airlift Squadron, presented the Patriot Award to Melissa Frye, his boss at General Dynamics. Larson, who deployed on short notice to support the Afghanistan evacuation efforts in August, was shown a great level of support from Frye and his chain of command at General Dynamics, he said.

"I thought it appropriate when I return that I recognize the support I was given and the efforts they took to not only pass off my job duties while I was away but then also check on my health and wellbeing while I was away and then incorporate myself back into the work flow as soon as I returned," Larson said.

Airmen can nominate their employer for the Patriot Award to recognize their efforts made to support them in various ways such as offering flexible work schedules or granting leaves of absence.

"We often speak of our organization as a Guard Family. The employers of our Airmen are a vital part of the family; without their support our mission would fail," Cochran said.



**Clockwise top left: Participants of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Bosslift at the 167th Airlift Wing board a C-17 Globemaster III aircraft at Shepherd Field, Martinsburg, West Virginia, Nov. 9, 2021. Top right: U.S. Air Force Senior Master Sgt. John Ratcliffe and Tech. Sgt. Mark Darlington, loadmaster for the 167th Operations Group, brief emergency procedures to passengers the Bosslift passengers. Middle right: Tech. Sgt. Thomas Glennon, an aircraft metals technician for the 167th Maintenance Group, talks about the work he does to support the C-17 Globemaster III aircraft during the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Bosslift event. Bottom right: Tech. Sgt. Timothy Larsen, a loadmaster for the 167th Operations Group, presents Melissa Frye his boss at his civilian employment, with the Patriot Award during the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Bosslift event at the 167th Airlift Wing. Bottom left: U.S. Air Force Maj. Jon Alexander, 167th Maintenance Squadron commander, responds to questions about C-17 Globemaster maintenance from participants of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Bosslift event. Middle left: Employers participating in the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Bosslift event at the 167th Airlift Wing, Nov. 9, 2021, wait for take-off on a C-17 Globemaster III aircraft. Nearly 50 employers spent the day at the wing to learn about the unit mission, tour the base and fly in a C-17. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Emily Beightol-Deyerle)**



# Couple ties the knot in C-17 Globemaster aircraft

by Senior Master Sgt. Emily Beightol-Deyerle

When Tech. Sgt. Jonathen Guzik's fiancée, Angela, suggested they get married in a C-17 Globemaster III aircraft, he thought, "no chance."

But on Nov. 16, the couple exchanged vows in the cargo hold of a C-17 parked on the ramp of the 167th Airlift Wing in Martinsburg, West Virginia.

Guzik, an aircraft metals technician for the 167th Maintenance Group, initially dismissed the idea of getting married on base thinking there would be too many obstacles to coordinate the ceremony, especially on an aircraft. Angela, on the other hand, a Navy brat who grew up on military bases, was excited and optimistic about the idea from the beginning.

Both agreed the biggest challenge was limiting the number of people on their guest list.

Angela was escorted by her son down the aisle, or rather through the cargo bay, as the couple's parents and Guzik's children stood by the sidewall passenger seats near the front of the cargo area.

Staff Sgt. Justin Watson was the best man and Watson's son was the ring bearer.

With sunlight streaming in from the open cargo doors in the rear of the aircraft, Tech Sgt.

Corey Chaney, an aircraft electrician for the 167th Maintenance Group, officiated the wedding in front of the cockpit access stairs. Chaney said he had never considered being a wedding officiant but got ordained when the couple asked him to marry them.

"I was excited to help some friends of mine out," said Chaney, who is neighbors with the Guziks.

Chaney's previous military instructor training came in handy for his new gig.

"I leaned on my training that I received at McGhee Tyson during the instructor certification course, and some instructor training while I was in aircrew flight equipment, to help me prepare for how I would present and keep the flow of the wedding," Chaney said. "I was truly honored that I could be part of their big day."

A military base without a chapel isn't a likely place to have a wedding. Though the Guzik's wedding was a small, private occasion, it was an historic one nonetheless for the 167th AW.

"Everything went off without a hitch. It went great and we're super happy," said Angela. 🐾



U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Corey Chaney, left, an aircraft electrician for the 167th Maintenance Group, officiates the wedding of Tech. Sgt. Jonathen and Angela Guzik, on a C-17 Globemaster III aircraft at the 167th Airlift Wing, Oct. 19, 2021. Staff Sgt. Justin Watson, center, served as the best man for Tech. Sgt. Guzik, both Airmen serve as an aircraft metals technician for the 167th Maintenance Group. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Emily Beightol-Deyerle)



U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Jonathen Guzik and his wife Angela pose in front of a C-17 Globemaster III aircraft after their wedding ceremony which took place inside the cargo area of the aircraft, Oct. 19, 2021. Tech. Sgt. Guzik is an aircraft metals technician for the 167th Maintenance Group. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Emily Beightol-Deyerle)



# 167th Airlift Wing Base Honor Guard supports local Veteran's Day events



Top left and top middle: Airmen from the 167th Airlift Wing Base Honor Guard present the colors as the "Star-Spangled Banner" plays during opening ceremonies at Shepherd University's 16th Annual Veteran's Appreciation Day football game, Shepherdstown, West Virginia, Nov. 6, 2021. A C-17 Globemaster III aircraft flew over the stadium as the final part of the national anthem was performed. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Timothy Sencindiver)

Middle row and above: 167th Airlift Wing Base Honor Guard members, Master Sgt. Justin Byrd and Senior Airman Caley Arndt, perform a flag folding for the Rotary Club of Martinsburg, for the Rotary's Veteran's Day luncheon at the Holiday Inn in Martinsburg, West Virginia, Nov. 11, 2021. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Emily Beightol-Deyerle)

Bottom row: 167th Airlift Wing Base Honor Guard members, Senior Airman Caley Arndt and Master Sgt. Justin Byrd, perform a flag folding in front of the Charles Timbrook's "Black Out" Veterans Memorial Truck at the Veteran's Day Parade in Martinsburg, West Virginia, Nov. 13, 2021. The Four State Community Veterans Engagement Board, a veterans advocacy group, organized the parade in Martinsburg to honor area veterans. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Emily Beightol-Deyerle)



# Airman SPOTLIGHT

Name:

**Staff Sgt. Whitney Potts**

Hometown:

**Bunker Hill, West Virginia**

Job Title:

**Aerospace Medical Technician**

Staff Sgt. Whitney Potts is an aerospace medical technician for the 167th Medical Group and the 167th Airlift Wing Airman Spotlight for November.

Potts is part of the medical team responsible for the health and readiness of the wing. The medical group has been instrumental in the wing's response to COVID-19 and several of the group's members have been on orders specifically supporting COVID-19 response efforts while other members of the group are deployed.

"Manpower is decreased all while our ops tempo and workload has steadily increased," said Chief Master Sgt. Tracie Darby, 167th Medical Group superintendent. "Staff Sgt. Potts volunteered and is filling in for another MDG full time member while they are deployed. She has taken over the Individual Medical Readiness scheduling and execution process in addition to assisting with Line of Duty processing and entitlements and medical continuation requests. She has become vital to the daily operations of the medical group and overall medical readiness for the wing."

**How long have you served in the unit?** I have been lucky enough to serve my unit for 6 years.

**My job here is important because:** we maintain the optimal health and wellness of everyone on base.

**Civilian job:** Temporary Active Guard Reserve/ Administrative Assistant on base.

**Education:** Currently enrolled in college with the hopes of obtaining my Bachelor's in Business Administration.

**Hobbies:** I enjoy raising my beautiful 9 month old daughter Ivy, but for myself I love playing volleyball and slow pitch softball with the members of the Medical Group whenever we can.

**Goals:** My goal is to maintain a position on base until I can finish school and hopefully Commission to Officer and eventually, after retirement, live on a beach for the rest of my life.

**I am proudest of:** I'm proudest of the person I've become in the past two years. Before I began COVID-19 orders I was content in a waitressing job, living day to day with no plan. When I began active duty orders it gave me a sense of stability and after I became pregnant I turned into a person I had no idea I was capable of, hardworking, motivated, and determined.

**People may be surprised to know this about me:** I actually don't like to fly, but I prefer C130s over commercial airline planes. Not a turbulence fan AT ALL.

**The most exciting thing I've done in the military is:** I went to Hawaii with the Medical Group in 2019, we were able to not only learn so much from the people but seeing Pearl Harbor is one of

my top 10 greatest accomplishments. Completely humbling experience.

**One of the most valuable lessons I've learned throughout my career:**

One of the most important lessons that I've learned in my time is that if you're not willing to help yourself, finding others to help you is almost impossible. Accountability and personal responsibility are two of the most important aspects every Airman should have.

**My advice to the newest Airmen in the Wing:** Volunteer, network, and embrace every opportunity to meet the wonderful members of the 167th Airlift Wing.

**The best thing about working with my team is:** Traditional-wise I would have to say the best thing is the relationships I've formed. There are people that would jump on grenades for me here and I wouldn't hesitate to do the same for them. AGR and Technician wise, I work with some of the strongest women I have ever met. These women are tenacious, determined, independent, and continue to motivate me every single day. They've helped reshape my entire mindset and I owe all of my future goals and my achievements in the past two years to their guidance and support. I love my section and wouldn't want to be anywhere else. 🐾







## DeCicco promoted to chief

U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sgt. James DeCicco the operations compliance flight chief at the 167th Logistics Readiness Squadron accepts the "Chief's Jeep", a tradition amongst newly-promoted chiefs, from Chief Master Sgt. Scott Puffinburger, president of the 167th Airlift Wing Chief's Council, during DeCicco's promotion ceremony at the 167th wing supply building, Martinsburg, West Virginia, Nov. 7, 2021. The "Chief's Jeep" is given to newly-promoted chiefs for their first month as chief to welcome them into their new role. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Timothy Sencindiver).





**Above:** U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Darryl LeMaster, a crew chief for the 167th Maintenance Group, poses for a photo with his son Staff Sgt. Cody LeMaster, an air transportation specialist for the 167th Logistics Readiness Squadron, in a C-17 Globemaster III aircraft at Hamid Karzai International Airport, Kabul, Afghanistan in August 2021 during the massive evacuation effort, Operation Allies Refuge. Staff Sgt. LeMaster was deployed to southwest Asia at the start of the evacuation and was forward deployed as part of a quick response team to Kabul to support the evacuation. Master Sgt. LeMaster was part of a 167th Airlift Wing aircrew on short-term orders to support the evacuation. (photo courtesy Master Sgt. Darryl LeMaster)

**Right:** U.S. Air Force Airman 1st Class Andrew Shilling, a maintainer with the 167th Maintenance conducts a pre-flight inspection of the engine of a C-17 Globemaster III aircraft on the flight line at the 167th Airlift Wing, Martinsburg, West Virginia, Nov. 7, 2021. These pre-flight inspections are performed before every flight to identify issues that may have occurred during the previous flight and prevent future incidents with aircraft components. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Edward Michon).





## The Public Service Loan Forgiveness Limited Waiver Program

by Jerry Zeigler, AFC, 167th Airlift Wing Personal Financial Counselor



**Jerry Zeigler, AFC**  
**Personal Financial**  
**Counselor**

I know it is difficult to imagine that a government program may not have worked as well as expected. But the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) Program happens to be a government program that has generated quite a bit of disappointment. Since inception only 2.1% of applicants have had their loans forgiven. The process has caused confusion. Some reported what they thought was qualifying employment and it seemed like it was accepted. However, when they were ready to receive the forgiveness they were told that the employment was not qualifying. Many didn't realize that their particular Federal student loan didn't qualify. These individuals then had to consolidate loans into a Direct Consolidation Loan –and restart the clock, their previous employment time and payments didn't count if they had the “wrong” loan(s). Fortunately the Department of Education is working on improving the process and are offering a temporary limited waiver program to assist many who had difficulty with PSLF.

### **What is Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF)?**

PSLF is a Department of Education program that can cancel Federal student loan debt after 10 years of qualifying public service and 120 qualifying payments. The public service may be in form of being employed by the U.S., state, local, or tribal governments; or by qualifying non-profits. This includes teachers, fire fighters, police, and military service members – although Traditional National Guard members often do not qualify as the qualifying employment must be considered full time. The loans also have to be Federal direct loans and paid under income driven repayment plans. You can find more details on [studentaid.gov](https://studentaid.gov).

### **What is the PSLF Limited Waiver Program?**

Since the goal of the program has been largely unmet, the Department of Education is offering an opportunity for those who were rejected in the past and those who would otherwise be rejected now, to have their student loans forgiven. The window of opportunity is limited. You have until October 31, 2022 to apply for PSLF under this program. The waiver will count Federal loan payments that were not counted under the “regular” program. The Department of Education estimates that the waiver will immediately help 22,000 borrowers have their loans discharge and also help 550,000 make significant progress in having their Federal student loans forgiven.

Information for determining if you qualify for the PSLF Limited Waiver and the steps to request it can be found here. I am available if you would like to discuss PSLF, the waiver, or management of student loans.

If it is financial, the Personal Financial Counselor can assist.

Jerry Zeigler, AFC®

304-543-6452

PFC2.WV.NG@zeiders.com





## For Our Service Members And Their Families

### Airman & Family Readiness Program Office

#### FUTURE WING EVENTS - SAVE THE DATES

\* 18 NOV 21 - HEALTH/WELLNESS RESOURCE FAIR, 100-1400, in the DFAC. Coordinated by the WVNG State HR Office. Open to all 167th Service Members and employees of the WVNG.

\* 8 JAN 22 - VA BENEFITS & SERVICES BRIEFING, 0815-1530, in the DFAC. VA Benefits Advisor Guest Speaker. Open to all 167th unit members and spouses/significant others and WVNG retirees.

\* 5 FEB 22 - MILITARY RETIREMENT SEMINAR, 0800-1400, in the DFAC. Guest speakers from Tricare, Survivor Benefit Plan, Personal Financial Counselor, Force Support Squadron, Base Finance Office, WV Dept. of Veterans Assistance, and possibly Social Security Administration. Open to all 167th unit members and spouses/significant others and WVNG retirees.

\* 12 JUN 22 - BROTHERS AT WAR RESILIENCY WORKSHOP, 0800-1400, in the DFAC. Special event sponsored by the Gary Sinise Foundation. Open to all 167th unit members and spouses/significant others. Registration will be required. Limited seating.

#### Personal Financial Counselor

\* The Personal Financial Counselor (PFC), Mr. Jerry Zeigler, is available to meet with service members and spouses for in-person financial sessions on all financial matters by appointment. He can be reached at 304-543-6452 or email [PFC2.WV.NG@zeiders.com](mailto:PFC2.WV.NG@zeiders.com) to set an appointment.

#### 167th Family Readiness Group (FRG)

\* School Supplies Still Available for 167th Military Children – Our community donated school supplies to our military children through an Operation Homefront program at the local area Dollar Tree stores. The supplies are located in the Airman & Family Program Office, Headquarters building #120, Room G37, and are available to be picked up by our military members and their family. Limited supplies available.



*The Family Programs Office is located in Bldg. 120, lower level. For more information contact Airman & Family Readiness Program Manager Sherry Lewis at 304-616-5590 or 1-866-986-4325*





## VA BENEFITS & SERVICES BRIEFING

Guest: Bobby McQuaid, Veterans Benefits Advisor

**Saturday, 8 January 2022**

**0815-1515**

**Base Dining Facility**

- ♦ **Open to ALL 167th Military members planning on retiring within the next two years—** Get to know your resources, benefits, and entitlements.
- ♦ **Open to ALL 167th deployers Title 10, 180+ days — Meets TAP requirement—** This is a rare opportunity to receive an in-person briefing versus completing the required online course.
- ♦ **Open to WV National Guard Retirees**
- ♦ **Limited seating—** Seats are first come, first serve. Spouses may attend.
- ♦ **One hour lunch break included in time.** Lunch on your own.
- ♦ **Participants receive a VA Benefits & Services Guide.**

**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

**Call 304-616-5590 or email [sherry.lewis.1@us.af.mil](mailto:sherry.lewis.1@us.af.mil) to reserve your seat.**

*Are you planning on retiring in the next 5 years?*

*Want to know more about benefits, retirement steps or resources?*



## MILITARY RETIREMENT SEMINAR

**Saturday, 5 February 2022**

**0800-1400**

**167th AW Dining Facility**

**Open to 167th Unit Members & Spouses and WVNG retirees**

Event includes guest speakers for:

- ♦ Tricare
- ♦ Base Finance Office
- ♦ Survivor Benefit Plan
- ♦ WV Dept. of Veterans Assistance
- ♦ Force Support Squadron
- ♦ Social Security Administration
- ♦ Personal Financial Counselor

**REGISTRATION NOT REQUIRED**

For additional details, contact Sherry Lewis at 304-616-5590 or email [Sherry.lewis.1@us.af.mil](mailto:Sherry.lewis.1@us.af.mil)

## Antiterrorism & Force Protection- General Safety

*submitted by Lt. Col. Tim Rice, Wing Antiterrorism Officer*

### AT ALL TIMES:

- Be aware of your surroundings.
- Report anything you feel is suspicious (report to the local police agency).

### IF YOU ARE OUT OF THE AREA FOR AN EXTENDED PERIOD:

- Get an automatic timer for your lights.
- Ask a neighbor to watch your home and park in the driveway from time to time.
- Don't forget to have mail and newspaper delivery stopped. If it piles up, it's a sure sign you're gone.

### IF YOU'RE OUT FOR THE EVENING:

- Turn on inside lights and a radio so it looks like someone's home.
- Be extra cautious about locking doors and windows when you leave, even if it's just for a few minutes.
- Ensure outside lights are turned on if you expect to return after dark.

### IF A STRANGER COMES TO THE DOOR, BEWARE:

- Criminals sometimes pose as couriers with delivery gifts.
- It's not uncommon for people to try to take advantage of others' generosity by going door-to-door for charitable donations when there's no charity involved.
- Ask for identification, and find out how the funds will be used. If you aren't satisfied, don't give.

These tips and other important information are located in the CJCS Guide 5260, Service Member's Personal Protection Guide: A Self-Help Handbook to Combating Terrorism, which can be found on the base intranet.

REMEMBER: Antiterrorism and Force Protection is EVERYONE'S job.  
The 167th Airlift Wing Antiterrorism Officer is Lt. Col. Tim Rice, 242-5084.







# Grounded in Tradition Resilient in Spirit

NATIONAL AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE MONTH  
NOVEMBER

As the first people to live on the land we all cherish, American Indians and Alaska Natives have profoundly shaped our country's character and our cultural heritage. Today, American Indians and Alaskan Natives are leaders in every aspect of our society—from the boardroom to the battlefield, to the classroom.

During World War I more than 8,000 American Indian soldiers, of whom 6,000 were volunteers, served. Their patriotism moved Congress to pass the Indian Citizenship Act of 1924. In World War II, 25,000 American Indian and Alaska Native men and women fought on all fronts in Europe and the South Pacific earning, collectively, at least 71 Air Medals, 51 Silver Stars, 47 Bronze Stars, 34 Distinguished Flying Crosses, and two Congressional Medals of Honor. Alaska Natives also served in the Alaska Territorial Guard.

More than half of the U.S. states trace their names to Indian origins: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Connecticut, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

In 2002, astronaut and Chickasaw Indian John Bennett Herrington became the first enrolled member of a Native American tribe to orbit the Earth. He carried a ceramic Hopi pot emblazoned with three corn motifs into space, 250 miles above the surface of the planet. Herrington also carried a decorated eagle feather given to him by an Elder of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society, which was floated in the International Space Station airlock.

On November 20, 2013, American Indian code talkers from 566 tribes were honored with Congressional Silver Medals, and leaders from the tribes' 33 nations received Congressional Gold Medals. These medals recognized the contributions of the code talkers during World War I and World War II, when they used their native languages to encode secret or sensitive information so that the enemy could not decipher radio transmissions.

Sequoyah, a Cherokee who was born around 1776 in present-day Tennessee, was a silversmith who joined the U.S. military during the War of 1812. Observing how the White soldiers communicated via the written word, he invented a written alphabet for the Cherokee language, using 85 written symbols to represent syllables. He later became a statesman and diplomat for the Cherokee people.

Starting in World War I and again in World War II, the U.S. military employed a number of American Indian servicemen to use their tribal languages as a military code that could not be broken by the enemy. These "code talkers" came from many different tribes, including Chippewa, Choctaw, Creek, Crow, Comanche, Hopi, Navajo, Seminole, and Sioux. During World War II, the Navajos constituted the largest component within that elite group.

In 1914, Red Fox James, a Blackfeet Indian, rode on horseback from state to state, seeking support for a day to honor American Indians. A year later, James presented the endorsements of 24 state governments to the White House. There is no record of a national day being proclaimed, despite his efforts.







# COMBATING TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

## U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE



**There's no  
One face**



## STOP Human Trafficking

Force, fraud, or coercion to compel a person to provide labor, services, or commercial sex.

Victims come from all backgrounds and can be women, men, and children.

Any minor (under 18 years of age) involved in commercial sex is a victim of human trafficking.

## Recognize SIGNS

Physical/Environmental Indicators include signs of abuse, no identification, confined to worksite.

Psychological/Behavioral Indicators include submissive, anxious, lack of free will.

## REPORT IT

Chain of Command

Local Law Enforcement

DoD Inspector General Hotline

1-800-424-9098 or visit <http://www.dodig.mil/hotline>

National Human Trafficking Hotline

1-888-373-7888.



167<sup>th</sup> AW PCC:  
MSGT Michael Seavolt  
CTIP Program Coordinator  
ext. 5759

For more information go to:  
[CTIP.defense.gov/](http://CTIP.defense.gov/)

## Sexual Assault Prevention & Response

**Have questions? Need Help?**  
**We're here for you!**

**West Virginia National Guard**  
**Sexual Assault Response Coordinator:**

Jenny Colagrosso

Office: 304-561-6681; DSN: 623-6681

24 hour Blackberry: 304-541-0573

[jenny.r.colagrosso.civ@mail.mil](mailto:jenny.r.colagrosso.civ@mail.mil)

**167<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing**

**Volunteer Victim Advocate:**

Emily Beightol-Deyerle

Office: 304-616-5251; DSN: 242-5251; Cell: 304-839-9157

[emily.beightol\\_deyerle.2@us.af.mil](mailto:emily.beightol_deyerle.2@us.af.mil)

**24/7 Sexual Assault Support for DoD Community**

**DoD Safe Helpline:**

Call: 877-995-5247

Texting: (\*55-247)

Texting outside the US: (202-470-5546)

Online Resources: [www.safehelpline.org](http://www.safehelpline.org)

Online Chat: [www.safehelpline.org](http://www.safehelpline.org)







# ACCOLADES & ANNOUNCEMENTS



## Welcome

Capt Jonathan Humbert, MDG

SrA Sean Walck, MXS

SrA Andrew Bohn, CF

AB Jenna McClung, SFS

## Promotions

### To Airman

Connor Albright, LRS

Derek Kunkleman, LRS

Wyatt Hensell, LRS

### To Senior Airman

Peter Dunne, AS

Cody Kennedy, AS

Hunter Burcker, LRS

Jacquelyn Kernan, MSG

Mitchell Beddow, LRS

Russell Hall, MXS

### To Staff Sergeant

Thomas Spillane, AS

Benjamin Taylor, FSS

Alaina Shirley, MXG

John Guiney, AW

Robert Burkhardt, AMXS

Zachary Edgar, MXS

Albert Nunez, MXS

### To Technical Sergeant

Michael Frye, CE

Ryan Springer, LRS

Travus Heck, LRS

Taylor Cameron, LRS

### To Master Sergeant

Jonathan Engler, MDG

Victoria Shrieves, AW

Megan Carder, LRS

### To Chief Master Sergeant

James DeCicco Jr., LRS

## Retirements

SMSgt Jamie Morris, LRS

MSgt James Pritchard, MDG



## Gingerbread house Competition

DECEMBER 4TH  
0800-1400

**Rules:**  
Must use all contents from the kit.  
Must have squadron listed on gingerbread house

Photos will be taken of your gingerbread house Saturday and sent out to the Wing for voting.

Top 3 will be announced Sunday December 5<sup>th</sup> at 1200

POC: MSgt Sara Church  
[Sara.church@us.af.mil](mailto:Sara.church@us.af.mil)  
Or your Squadron First Sergeant



