

PLANETALK

167TH AIRLIFT WING
OCTOBER 2022

Next UTA 5-6 NOVEMBER 2022



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Col. Marty Timko
Wing Commander

Senior Master Sgt. Emily Beightol-Deyerle
Public Affairs Superintendent

Staff Sgt. Timothy Sencindiver
PA Specialist

Staff Sgt. Edward Michon
PA Specialist

Senior Airman Steven Sechler
PA Specialist

Airman Basic James DeCicco
PA Specialist

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The 167th Airlift Wing Public Affairs Office is always looking for story ideas and original content. PLEASE SEND ALL PLANE TALK SUBMISSIONS, INCLUDING STORIES, COLUMNS, AND PHOTOS TO: 167.AW.PA.Public.Affairs@us.af.mil

ON THE COVER

Light reflects off rain on the tarmac early in the morning at the 167th Airlift Wing, Martinsburg, West Virginia, Oct. 2, 2022. Remnants of Hurricane Ian passed through the area creating long periods of showers during the wing's October unit training assembly. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Emily Beightol-Deyerle)

ON THE BACK COVER

A newly planted maple tree and bench to honor the crew of Decoy 81 overlook the runway and hangars at the 167th Airlift Wing, Oct. 7, 2022, on the 30 year anniversary of the C-130 aircraft crash that took the lives of six 167th Airmen, Lt Col. Alfred Steinberger III, Capt. Dallas Adams, Master Sgt. George Griffith, Tech. Sgt. John Funkhouser, Tech. Sgt. James Hinchman and Staff Sgt. Frederic Jones. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Chaplain, Lt. Col. Ronald Faith)



167AW WING COMMANDER
Col. Martin Timko



167AW ACTING WING COMMANDER
Col. Christopher Sigler

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

167th,

I feel it is appropriate to dedicate this month's article in Plane Talk to the six men of the crew on Decoy 81 who lost their lives during a training mission on 7 October, 1992. The wing is hosting family members of the crew and past wing members to honor the crew's sacrifice with a thirty-year anniversary memorial event. The event is scheduled for 7 October at 10:00 in front of building 309. All wing members are welcome to attend in the uniform of the day.

I had just joined the 167th a few months before the mishap so it is difficult to imagine the full level of grief of our 167th family. Many of us have experienced how the loss of a single wing member impacts us, the organization and the local community but we have not experienced an event of this magnitude. Most of the members that were serving thirty years ago have retired and there are only a few wing members left to pass on the legacy of Decoy 81. In the Operations Group, only four members remain that were in the unit in 1992.

True to its roots from way back in 1942, the 167th remained resilient and continued on with an exemplary performance for the past thirty years. I am certain that previous wing commanders that served with the crew of Decoy 81 such as General Lloyd, Colonel Thomas, General Vollmecke and Colonel Nye lead the wing with motivation to help ensure another tragic event did not occur. I clearly remember about twenty-five years ago at a commander's call when General Lloyd was referencing Decoy 81 and said, "We will not just move on, we will remember."

The wing has planted a maple tree at the running track as part of the thirty-year anniversary. When the leaves change this time of year it will serve as a reminder of Decoy 81. A memorial granite bench will also be in place near the maple tree and it will face runway 26. The last words inscribed on the bench are "WE REMEMBER."

Respectfully,
Colonel Sigler

Team,

Thank you for another great UTA. Col Sigler and I were able to get out to a few of your shops over the weekend. It's great to see the professionalism throughout the wing. We commend you on your service and dedication. We saw your contagious energy in our new members at this month's Newcomer's Orientation Briefing; looking forward to pulling our new members into our organization while showing them what our 167th family is all about.

We congratulate CMSgt Jacob E Fairburn Jr. on his retirement after 34 years of service. As we will certainly miss Chief Fairburn, we congratulate our newly promoted Chief Master Sergeants: CMSgt Keith Taber and CMSgt Robbie Bowers. We look forward to their next level of leadership and contributions.

A friendly reminder to all MSgt-CMSgt our annual force development cycle package submittal window will close on 31 Oct. Please get your packages submitted as soon as possible so we can begin to find growth opportunities for you.

It's that time of year where I recommend each of you to self-reflect on your personal and profession all goals. Do you have a 3-5-year plan with specific action items? If not, I highly recommend you put one together and review it on a regular basis. Take advantage of all the knowledge and resources we have on base to assist you with your goals.

October is a busy month for the wing. On Oct 8 many of us will come together, in high fashion, at the 167AW Golden Gala to celebrate all the accomplishments, contributions, and good work of the past couple of years. These events are always a great time; I hope you and your significant other can join us for a festive evening. Then, on Oct 22 we celebrate our annual "Trick or Trunk" party with our younger family members. Bring your kids or grandkids out for some Halloween fun. It's always a blast to see the creative costumes.

Please continue to take care of yourself both physically and mentally. Check-in on your battle buddies periodically. We all need a little extra help at times.

See you soon!
Your Chief,
Chief Brawner #8

Decoy 81 crew remembered on 30th anniversary memorial

by Senior Master Sgt. Emily Beightol-Deyerle

A ceremony was held today at the 167th Airlift Wing today to honor the memory of the six men who lost their lives 30 years ago on a training mission known as Decoy 81.

Family, friends and current and former wing members gathered to remember Lt. Col. Alfred Steinberger III, Capt. Dallas Adams, Master Sgt. George Griffith, Tech. Sgt. John Funkhouser, Tech. Sgt. James Hinchman and Staff Sgt. Frederic Jones, who their lost their lives on Oct. 7, 1992, in the C-130 E aircraft mishap.

Chief Master Sgt. Mark Synder, the senior enlisted leader of the loadmaster section of the 167th Airlift Squadron, narrated the event. Retired Chaplains, Lt. Col. Dennis Yocum and Col. Joseph Henriques, provided the invocation and benediction, respectively, for the ceremony. Yocum and Henriques both served at the 167th in 1992, providing spiritual care to the families and unit members following the tragedy.

A wreath was placed by the Decoy 81 memorial plaque by members of the 167th Operations Group and the base honor guard performed a flag-folding.

Retired Chief Master Sgt. Roland Shambaugh, the former senior enlisted leader of the 167th loadmaster section, said, "I had the distinct honor and privilege to be flying mates with the men we are honoring here today."

Shambaugh shared his memories of each crew member.

"Lt. Col. Steinberger was a fine gentleman, man of solid stature and well-seasoned pilot and military leader," said Shambaugh. "Capt. Dallas Adams was a highly experienced aircraft commander, very competent and very confident."

Shambaugh said, "Master Sgt. George Griffith, the most highly experienced aviator of the crew, had a genuine smile and demeanor that put you at ease immediately. Staff Sgt. Tim Hinchman was a highly seasoned aviator. He was a quiet, easygoing type of guy. Tim was well liked by all and worked very hard and flew a lot."


"Tech. Sgt. John Funkhouser was very easygoing, he was always a pleasure to be around and a pleasure to fly with," Shambaugh recalled. "Staff Sgt. Fred Jones smiled all the time and blushed a lot. He was very serious, hard-working and patriotic."

Staff Sgt. George Buckley, a crew chief for the 167th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron and grandson of Master Sgt. George Griffith, welcomed the family members of the other crew members and said the ceremony was an important event to honor their loved ones.

"This was a terrible time in our lives, but with that said, so many positive things have stemmed out from these dedicated men who gave their lives to serve," said Buckley.

Col. Christopher Sigler, the 167th Airlift Wing commander, said he was humbled to speak at the ceremony because he had just joined the unit in 1992 and did not know the crew. Sigler said he was also honored to speak at the ceremony on behalf of the 167th because he has witnessed the resilience and the accomplishments of the wing over the last 30 years.

"Undoubtably, the wing commanders that served with the crewmembers of Decoy 81 set a high standard to help ensure history would not repeat itself," Sigler said.

Recently a maple tree was planted and beside it a bench was placed to honor the crew of Decoy 81. The tree and bench sit on a hill overlooking the runway and hangars at the 167th Airlift Wing. The granite bench inscription reads: "Dedicated to the aircrew of Decoy 81 who paid the ultimate sacrifice while serving their country October 7, 1992, we remember." 



U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Sterling Hall, Master Sgt. Breanne Spessard and Tech. Sgt. Sarah Hall, all assigned to the 167th Operations Group, place a wreath beside the Decoy 81 memorial plaque in front of the 167th Operations Group building during a memorial ceremony, Oct. 7, 2022, at the 167th Airlift Wing, Martinsburg, West Virginia. The ceremony honored the six crew members who died in a C-130 aircraft crash 30 years ago. Decoy 81 was the aircraft callsign. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Emily Beightol-Deyerle)

167th Airlift Wing conducts emergency response exercise

by Senior Master Sgt. Emily Beightol-Deyerle

The 167th Airlift Wing conducted an exercise to test the response plans and capabilities of the wing's emergency responders at Shepherd Field, Martinsburg, West Virginia, Sept. 16.

The 167th's security forces and fire department responded to a simulated aircraft crash with mass casualties on ramp space next to the taxiway prompting the activation of the wing's emergency operations center.

The exercise was held in conjunction with the fire department's annual training with the West Virginia University Fire Service Extension's mobile aircraft fire simulator. The simulator can mimic wheel, engine and cabin fires and has a 1,350 square foot pit large area live fire training.

"The benefit of having the aircraft trainer here is to add realism to exercise responses," said Master Sgt. Donald Broschart, 167th Civil Engineering fire services assistant chief of training. "Live fire allows firefighters see the fire's reaction to their extinguishing techniques with apparatus and handlines."

In addition to combating the aircraft fire, the wing's first responders tended to twelve Airmen who portrayed casualties with varying types and degrees of injuries.

As part of the Air Force Inspection System, the Wing Inspection Team (WIT) evaluated the exercise. The WIT is comprised of subject matter experts who observe the exercise response and provide feedback which guides decision making on future training needs, resources, and plans and policies.

"We exercise to look for gaps in performance and to find undetected non-compliance so we know where we need to focus our efforts to improve," said Senior Master Sgt. Shawn O'Rourke, 167th Inspector General superintendent. "We conduct these types of exercises so we're prepared when it happens and we're ready to react."

Broschart said the exercise met and, in some cases, exceeded expectations and the plan is to continually grow the scope of the exercise each year. 🐾



Firefighters with the 167th Civil Engineering Squadron practice their extinguishing techniques with the West Virginia University Fire Service Extension's mobile aircraft fire simulator during an emergency response exercise at the 167th Airlift Wing, Shepherd Field, Martinsburg, West Virginia, Sept. 16, 2022. The simulator provided a realistic training environment for the exercise. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Emily Beightol-Deyerle)



U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Geoffrey Harris and Staff Sgt. Kayla Sine, 167th Security Forces Squadron, and Staff Sgt. Timothy Sanders and Staff Sgt. Cory Roberts, 167th Civil Engineering Squadron fire fighters, carry Senior Master Sgt. Angela Layton who is simulating a victim of an aircraft mishap during an emergency response exercise at the 167th Airlift Wing, Shepherd Field, Martinsburg, West Virginia, Sept. 16, 2022. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Emily Beightol-Deyerle)

167th Airlift Wing Airmen build raptor traps to minimize damages and enhance safety

by Airman Basic James DeCicco

Air Force bases frequently see bird strikes and other wildlife related damages to aircraft. Large birds can also create safety of flight concerns. The United States Department of Agriculture actively works with these bases, including the 167th Airlift Wing, to help mitigate bird and wildlife strikes.

Due to recent construction in the area surrounding the 167th Airlift Wing and the Eastern West Virginia Regional Airport (EWVRA), there has been an increase in raptor population on the airfield.

"Things around our airfield are ever changing, and with the development of local farms and increasing habitat fragmentation, it seems our airfield is becoming more and more popular with attracting wildlife," explained Chad Neil, a USDA wildlife biologist who is tasked with mitigating wildlife related hazards on the airfield. "We have relocated 27 raptors from the EWVRA this past fiscal year, more than double from previous years."

Neil recognized that additional bird traps were needed to capture the various raptors found on the airfield, which include the Red-shouldered Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Coopers Hawk and American Kestrels. After being trapped the birds are fitted with a small leg band and relocated a safe distance from the airfield, typically 50-90 miles away.

While looking for cost effective ways to procure traps, Neil determined that for the price of one commonly available trap, he could purchase the material to have three built with the help of the 167th Maintenance Group's Fabrication Flight.

Neil pitched his idea to Senior Master Sgt. Brad Teter, 167th Fabrication Flight Chief, who saw the project as a good training opportunity for his newest fabricator and also as a unique way to help the wing.

"We need everyone out here doing their part to make the mission happen," Teter said. "The less bird strikes we have, the less work that the 167th Maintenance Group has to accomplish to fix the damage caused by bird strikes."

Tech. Sgt. Tom Glennon, an experienced fabricator oversaw the cutting, fabrication and welding work of Staff Sgt. Zachary Sparber. Together, they worked with the designs Neil provided which were based on Swedish Goshawk traps and made a number of improvements in the process, redesigning certain areas of the trap, and improving the quality while making it smaller and easier to move around.

"They kept in touch to ask our opinions on certain design ideas and eventually I told Tom to just run with it because they were coming up with so many great ideas to make these traps better and I trusted their ideas," Neil said. "The skillset those folks have in that shop is amazing, and they took a simple design and created something way better than I ever expected."

Once the traps were completed, Neil set them up on the airfield. Within the first two hours, a Red-tailed Hawk found its way into the trap and was relocated to a wildlife management area recommended by the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources.

Peak raptor season tends to run late fall through winter, Neil explained, so the traps will be used daily around the airfield and monitored every two hours.

"Working with Chad and the USDA is another small success in the story of the 167th Airlift Wing," said Teter.



A bird trap made by Airmen in the 167th Maintenance Group's Fabrication Flight sits on the airfield near the 167th Airlift Wing, Shepherd Field, Martinsburg, West Virginia, Sept. 30, 2022. The traps were made to help reduce potential damage and safety concerns posed by the increased number of raptors at the airfield. (photo courtesy of Travis Flanagan, USDA)



An adult Red-tailed Hawk perches on an airfield sign, near the 167th Airlift Wing, Shepherd Field, Martinsburg, West Virginia, Sept. 30, 2022. Due to development in the area surrounding the airfield, more raptors are coming on to the airfield. The USDA works to mitigate the safety concerns the raptors pose to air traffic by trapping and relocating them. (photo courtesy of Travis Flanagan, USDA)

167th Airman finds success as author of short stories

by Airman Basic James DeCicco

"I started writing in 2008," said U.S. Air Force Airman 1st Class Cody Eichelberger, an Airman assigned to the 167th Airlift Wing Security Forces Squadron, and author. "I read a lot of Stephen King and Clive Barker back then. I would have to say Stephen King's 'Children of the Corn' was my favorite growing up, which really sparked my interest with writing at a young age."

Eichelberger has written a total of five novels in his time as a writer, but has only published two. He published his first book, 'Elephant Bones,' as an experiment to see if people would like his work. After the book was successful, he requested it be removed from the market. Shortly after, he published his second book, 'Burnt Chapel,' which is still available today.

After publishing two novels, Eichelberger decided to shift his focus to writing short stories instead. After publishing several short stories, he quickly gained a substantial following. One of his short stories from this year, 'Dark Season,' placed number 10 on the Top 100 Short Stories List. This achievement has invigorated him to continue writing.

"I was surprised, really," stated Eichelberger. "It sold more copies than I had expected, and once 'Burnt Chapel' was released, people wanted more. Now that I've moved to short stories, my writing has started booming. After this year with two stories published, I plan to publish four to five a year."

After publishing several books, Eichelberger started to gain broader recognition. This uptick in popularity hasn't affected his mentality on writing, however, which has remained primarily the same as when he started.

"It's like sitting on a cloud," explained Eichelberger. "I've been requested to speak at book tours and sign autographs. It's a surreal moment, but it's never about the money. I find as soon as you write for money, you're doing it for the wrong reasons. It then becomes work, not for enjoyment."

After having hit such a high point of success, Eichelberger began to feel the heightened expectations of his fanbase. He stated that there was a much more apparent feeling of pressure when he started his next book.

"'Dark Season' had placed high expectations," Eichelberger said. "So, as a horror writer, sometimes you have to raise the stakes a little higher than the prior stories in order to attract attention."

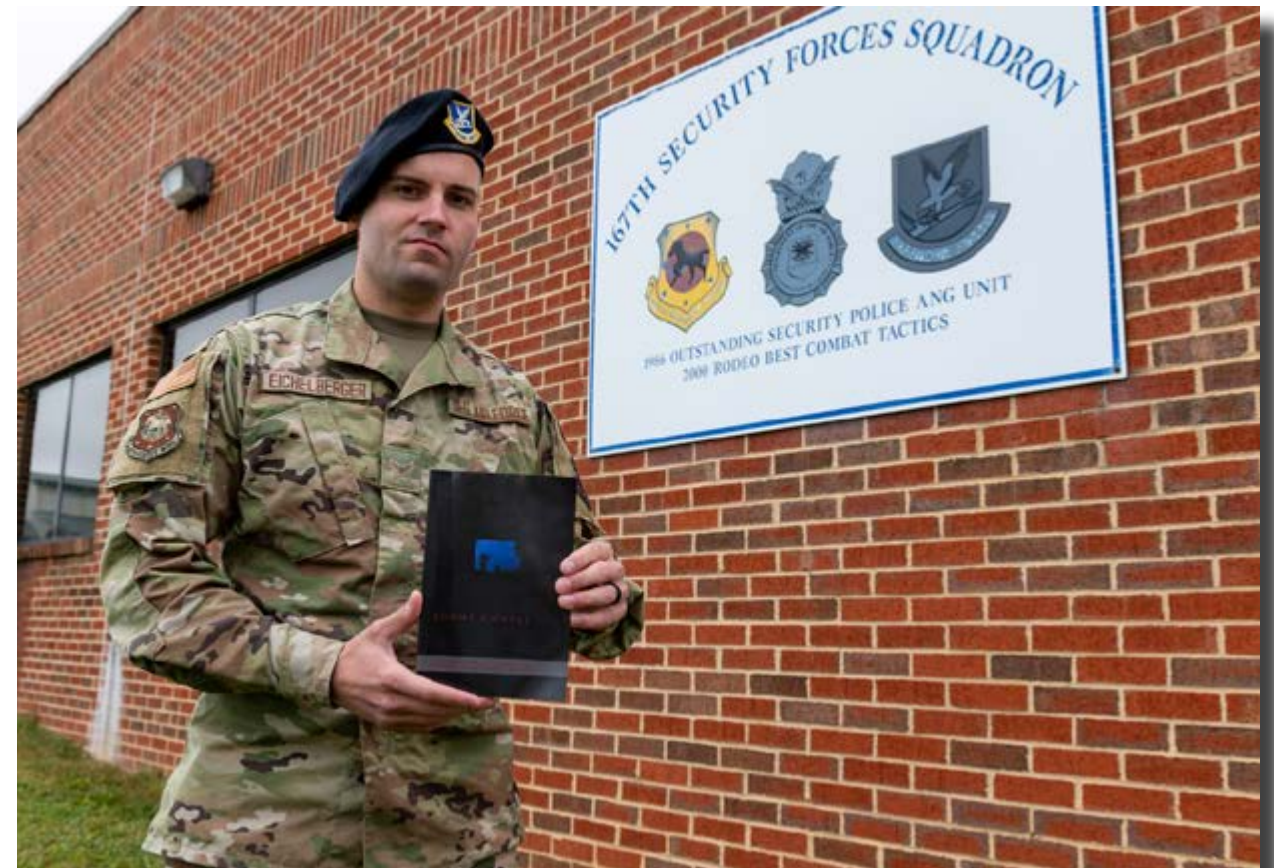
Eichelberger explained that publishing his first book was a learning experience. The lessons he learned from it helped him to write following books, and to overcome the new pressure he felt while writing.

"Never give up," Eichelberger said. "Many writers give up because they don't receive the recognition. However, the more you write, the better you get. The more stories you publish, the more you stand out."

Eichelberger believes writing for the correct reasons is important to becoming a published writer, and that patience and dedication are needed, as well. He explained that writing for the wrong reasons can lead to discouragement, and the writer not being invested in their work.

"Read everyday, write everyday and find a case of patience," continued Eichelberger. "If you develop writer's block, cry over it for five minutes, take a walk, then get back to it. Don't ever give up. If you give up, you're doing it for the wrong reason. If you're doing it for the wrong reason, save yourself the time and find a new hobby."

Even through the more rough periods of his time as an author, Eichelberger continued to



U.S. Air Force Airman 1st Class Cody Eichelberger, a defender with the 167th Security Forces Squadron, holds a copy of his book 'Burnt Chapel' at the 167th Airlift Wing, Martinsburg, West Virginia, Oct. 1, 2022. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Airman Basic James DeCicco)

enjoy his work. He stated that he continues writing due to his love of the process and the satisfaction he feels from it.

Eichelberger often spends time outdoors to develop ideas for his stories. Once he has an idea for a story, he starts to formulate a storyline using real people he knows. After his ideas are written out, he often writes four to five drafts before settling on the final product.

"When the final draft is finished, it's a different feeling, as if you now have another child in the world," explained Eichelberger.

Eichelberger's goals in writing have stayed about the same since he started in 2008. He explained that he doesn't intend to stop anytime soon, either, as he desires to reach his objective.

"My goal is to look back on life when I'm 80 and say, 'Yeah, I did that. I've written sixty-some horror stories and people liked them,'" shared Eichelberger. "One of these days, I'm sure I'll know when to stop, but I can assure you, it's not anytime soon. I have hundreds of ideas. All that needs to be done is to write them into stories and publish them." 🐾

167th hosts Leadership West Virginia class for orientation flight



Members with the Leadership West Virginia program become familiarized with the mission and objectives of the West Virginia National Guard and 167th Airlift Wing during a civic leader orientation flight at the 167th Airlift Wing, Martinsburg, West Virginia, Sept. 22, 2022. Leaders from around the state flew aboard a C-17 Globemaster III aircraft with the 167th during a scheduled training flight over the skies of West Virginia to get a better understanding of the 167th's operations. The Leadership West Virginia program cultivates new leaders to identify and solve state issues and aid in West Virginia's growth and prosperity. (Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Edward Michon)

Hazardous materials incident exercise conducted to maintain readiness



Above: U.S. Air Force Airman 1st Class Craig Sipes, an emergency management specialist with the 167th Civil Engineering Squadron, dons his self-contained breathing apparatus while being inspected by Staff Sgt. Ryan Runk, a firefighter with the 167th Airlift Wing during a simulated hazardous materials incident exercise in the 167th base fire department, Martinsburg, West Virginia, Oct. 2, 2022. This interagency exercise is conducted yearly to maintain readiness and skills need to respond, mitigate and contain a hazmat incident. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Timothy Sencindiver)



Top right: Members with the 167th Airlift Wing emergency management function and fire department gear up in preparation for a hazardous materials incident exercise in the 167th base fire department, Martinsburg, West Virginia, Oct. 2, 2022. This interagency exercise is conducted yearly to maintain readiness and skills need to respond, mitigate and contain a hazmat incident. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Timothy Sencindiver)



Right: U.S. Air Force Airman 1st Class Steven Heaton, an emergency management specialist with the 167th Civil Engineering Squadron, hammers a wedge into a barrel to stop the flow of liquid during a simulated hazardous materials incident exercise in the 167th base fire department, Martinsburg, West Virginia, Oct. 2, 2022. This interagency exercise is conducted yearly to maintain readiness and skills need to respond, mitigate and contain a hazmat incident. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Edward Michon)



Bowers promoted to Chief

On behalf of the 167th Airlift Wing's Chief Council, Chief Master Sgt. Gretchen Michael presents a chief bust to Chief Master Sgt. Robbie Bowers during his promotion ceremony in the dining facility of the 167th Airlift Wing, Martinsburg, West Virginia, Oct. 2, 2022. Bowers serves as the senior enlisted leaders for the 167th Force Support Squadron. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Timothy Sencindiver)

Airman SPOTLIGHT

Name:

Senior Airman Jordan Delinski

Hometown:

Charles Town, W.Va.

Job Title:

Air Transportation Specialist

Senior Airman Jordan Delinski is an air transportation specialist for the 167th Logistics Readiness Squadron and the 167th Airlift Wing Airman Spotlight for October 2022.

As an air transportation specialist Delinski is responsible for securely managing cargo and passengers ensuring that everything and everyone is transported safely and efficiently.

Recently Delinski served as the joint inspection lead supporting the movement of an Army unit from West Virginia to Montana and he supported the 2022 Arctic Eagle exercise in Anchorage, Alaska.

"Senior Airman Jordan Delinski not only exemplifies what we want in our Airmen, but also, what I see him striving to be, in an up and coming junior non-commissioned officer," said Chief Master Sgt. Jody Miller, 167th Air Transportation Superintendent. "He is passionate about his career field choice and always performs with a smile on his face and warmth in his heart. When I need to call on someone for a short notice tasking or even to pull a weed outside, I already know that his answer will be 'yes, I'll do that'. He is always looking for more innovative ways to do things and never has a dark cloud over his head. He cares."

Hometown: Inwood, West Virginia

Job Title: Air Transportation Specialist

How long have you served in the unit - I've been with my unit since December 2018

How does your job support the 167th mission: I support the

167th mission by ensuring all cargo, including ground vehicles, support equipment, medical supplies, and passengers, are secure and ready for transport. Without Air Transportation, there would be no safe way to get cargo and personnel where they need to be to support the overall mission of the Air Force.

Civilian job: I am a Procurement Specialist for the 167th Airlift wing in Civil Engineering.

Education: I attended Shepherd University, where I intend to return and further my education.

Hobbies: I enjoy running, playing soccer, hiking, and anything that involves being active and hanging out with friends and the people closest to me.

Goals: My main goal in the military is to reach the Rank of Master Sergeant and become more proficient in the Air Transportation field.

I am proudest of: Being chosen to help support the 167th Logistic Readiness Squadron during the Arctic Eagle, Arctic Edge, Ice-X, Arctic Pressure, and Arctic Patriot missions in Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska.

People may be surprised to know this about me: I'm probably the funniest person in the Port. You can ask anyone in the ATF!

The most exciting thing I've done in the military is: Being chosen to support a mission in Montana with the Army. I was flying in the Boeing CH-47 Chinook and throwing bundles of MREs and other support materials out of the aircraft.

Some of the most valuable lessons I've learned throughout my



career is: Work hard even when no one else is looking and always be willing to go that extra mile.

My advice to the newest Airmen in the Wing: Take advantage of every opportunity possible and be willing to volunteer for things outside your comfort zone. You'll never know what you can accomplish if you are unwilling to put yourself out there.

The best thing about working with my team: is that we listen to each other and value everyone's perspectives when trying to complete tasks. Also, the willingness to work on building relationships on and off shifts.





Saturday, 22 October,
1-3 PM
At the 167th AW



HALLOWEEN
BASH

Games & Crafts

Cake Walk



Trunk or Treat

Piñatas!



**Cake & Candy Donations
Appreciated by 21 Oct.
Drop off at Sherry Lewis' Office
Airman & Family Programs**



Questions? Contact FRG at 167awfrg@gmail.com
or text Ron Glazer at 301-992-4803.

167th Family Readiness Group



VEHICLES NEEDED

Saturday, 22 Oct, 1-3 PM

- Decorate to impress and be named the best trunk
- Share treats with our military kids
- Any vehicle can be used
- Families vote on best trunk, special prize to winner
- Park your trunk on base in front of Bldg 119

Contact Ron Glazer at 301-992-4803 or e-mail
167awfrg@gmail.com. Thank you!

High Holy Days

by Tech. Sgt. Cody Riffle, Chaplain Assistant



Tech. Sgt. Cody Riffle

Labor day, and September typically signal that summer is coming to a close and we are moving to a new season. For Jewish communities Fall brings a set of biblical holidays that many folks know little about. Even the word holiday comes from the religious world and originally meant "holy day." I would like to take a few moments and reflect on these Jewish Fall holidays that this year begin September 25 and end October 16. What are they and what is the meaning behind them. These, Yamim Noraim or "High Holy Days" are observed in the month of Tishrei (in the Jewish Calendar), which usually begins mid September and ends October. These holidays commemorate concepts practiced across many faiths such as renewal, freedom, forgiveness, and joy.

Rosh Hashanah, means "Head of the Year," this is the Jewish New Year, which begins at sunset and continues for two days. Rosh Hashanah commemorates the creation of the world and marks an extended period of self-examination and repentance. Following Rosh Hashanah is Yom Kippur (also known as the Day of Atonement), this is the most Holy day of the year for Jews and consists of continued fasting, prayer and religious services. This solemn day offers a chance for people to change their fate through prayer, repentance, and charity.

Five days after Yom Kippur, Sukkot begins. The term Sukkot is derived from the tent like huts that the first Israelites lived in during their forty years in the wilderness following their exodus from Egypt. During the Sukkot festival, Jews will build small shelters and eat and sleep in them. They walk around the synagogue or carrying an etrog, a large citrus fruit, and a lulav, a group of branches including a palm branch. They wave the lulav in six directions to remind them that God is everywhere. Sukkot also officially marks the beginning of the season for harvest and prayers for rain. Shemini Atzeret, or "The Eighth Day of Assembly," is the eighth day of Sukkot (October 17) and marks the beginning of Simchat Torah, or "Rejoicing with the Law". The Torah, a compilation of the first five books of the Hebrew Bible. It is read aloud and accompanied by dancing and celebration in the synagogue sometimes flowing into the streets.

While our Wing doesn't currently have an active Jewish assembly or congregation, it is important that we (as a Chaplain Corps and DoD Installation) honor all faiths and religions as set forth by the U.S. Constitution and AFI 52-101. We also must provide for the diverse religious and spiritual needs of Airmen and all authorized dependents. While the Martinsburg Synagogue is currently closed, Winchester, VA and Hagerstown, MD still host active congregations if you would like to visit and learn more about these holidays.

GLORIFYING GOD
SERVING AIRMEN
PURSUING EXCELLENCE



STARBASE 2.0 ADVANCED

After School STEM Club



MENTORS NEEDED!

Base volunteers needed for **STARBASE Advanced**
INSPIRE, COACH, MENTOR!

What is STARBASE Advanced?

STARBASE Advanced, formally known as STARBASE 2.0, is an after school club aimed at sparking students' interest in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math). Mentors help guide middle school students through exciting engineering design challenges, team building activities, and hands-on science experiments.



Two Opportunities to Get Involved:

October – January
Mountain Ridge Middle
Thursdays, 14:30 – 16:00

and/or

February – May
Hedgesville Middle
Thursdays, 14:30 – 16:00

Questions? Contact Ashley Spies at 304.616.5501 or ashley.spies.1@us.af.mil

Application on SharePoint 



In honor of Red Ribbon Week:



K-9 Police Dog
Hagerstown
Discovery Station

Blue Ridge CTC
167th ANG
Medical Clinic

Tri-State
Astronomy Club



WVU Extensions

Local Author

NASA

167th ANG Fire Dept.

Shepherd University



and **MANY** more ...

Family



STEM



Wednesday, October 26th

6:00 – 8:00 PM

Location: The Sino-Swearingen Hangar
751 Novak Drive, Martinsburg

Night

Have an interesting career or hobby that is STEM related?

Call us to be a part of our special event!

304.616.5501

sb.martinsburg@dodstarbase.org

Crypto Investment Scams

Preventive Law Tip – How to avoid investment scams?
Investment Scam Tips from Federal Trade Commission

Investment scams often promise you can “make lots of money” with “zero risk,” and often start on social media or online dating apps or sites. These scams can, of course, start with an unexpected text, email, or call, too. And, with investment scams, crypto is central in two ways: it can be both the investment and the payment.

Here are some common investment scams, and how to spot them.

- A so-called “investment manager” contacts you out of the blue. They promise to grow your money — but only if you buy cryptocurrency and transfer it into their online account. The investment website they steer you to looks real, but it's really fake, and so are their promises. If you log in to your “investment account,” you won't be able to withdraw your money at all, or only if you pay high fees.
- A scammer pretends to be a celebrity who can multiply any cryptocurrency you send them. But celebrities aren't contacting you through social media. It's a scammer. And if you click on an unexpected link they send or send cryptocurrency to a so-called celebrity's QR code, that money will go straight to a scammer and it'll be gone.
- An online “love interest” wants you to send money or cryptocurrency to help you invest. That's a scam. As soon as someone you meet on a dating site or app asks you for money, or offers you investment advice, know this: that's a scammer. The advice and offers to help you invest in cryptocurrency are nothing but scams. If you send them crypto, or money of any kind, it'll be gone, and you typically won't get it back.
- Scammers guarantee that you'll make money or promise big payouts with guaranteed returns. Nobody can make those guarantees. Much less in a short time. And there's nothing “low risk” about cryptocurrency investments. So: if a company or person promises you'll make a profit, that's a scam. Even if there's a celebrity endorsement or testimonials from happy investors. Those are easily faked.
- Scammers promise free money. They'll promise free cash or cryptocurrency, but free money promises are always fake.
- Scammers make big claims without details or explanations. No matter what the investment, find out how it works and ask questions about where your money is going. Honest investment managers or advisors want to share that information and will back it up with details.

Before you invest in crypto, search online for the name of the company or person and the cryptocurrency name, plus words like “review,” “scam,” or “complaint.” See what others are saying. To learn more: <https://consumer.ftc.gov/articles/what-know-about-cryptocurrency-and-scams>

Report fraud and other suspicious activity involving cryptocurrency to the FTC though <https://reportfraud.ftc.gov/#/>

AREA DEFENSE COUNSEL (ADC)



Capt Bradley Dunkle
Area Defense Counsel for all
members of the WVANG

AREA DEFENSE COUNSEL (ADC) CONTACT INFORMATION:

Capt Bradley Dunkle, WVANG
Area Defense Counsel

Office: Bradley.dunkle1@us.af.mil (UTA)

OFF UTA: 304-412-3456 (cell)
bdunkle@dunklewv.com

If you are needing representation concerning investigation for military misconduct, actions of counseling, or administrative discharge; you may contact your Area Defense Counsel (ADC). Your ADC has offices located at the 167th Airlift Wing in Martinsburg, WV and at the 130th Airlift Wing in Charleston, West Virginia

The ADC provides members of the West Virginia Air National Guard with legal representation when facing potential adverse or administrative actions. Your ADC is an experienced Judge Advocate located outside of your local chain of command, which prevents any appearance of, or possible command influence or conflicts of interest. This allows airmen of the WVANG to receive completely confidential representation and assistance.

You may need to contact your ADC if you are facing any action against you such as:

- WV Non-Judicial Punishment
- Administrative discharge and Demotion actions
- Denial of Reenlistment
- Referral EPRs/OPRs
- Suspect Rights Advisements
- LOCs, LOAs, and LORs
- UIF entries and control rosters
- Any other adverse actions in which counsel for an individual is required or authorized

The ADC is not able to assist in certain areas such as personal civil legal matters and congressional complaints. However, if you have any questions as to the availability of our services, please call to make an appointment.

The Area Defense Counsel is available for WVANG members only. Sister services must contact the nearest servicing base for representation.

Antiterrorism & Force Protection - General Security

submitted by Capt. Roderick Toms

These tips address general security precautions.

GENERAL PRECAUTIONS:

- Do not volunteer personal information.
- Be cautious of conversations in public places and on the telephone.
- Do not have rank or duty title in commercial phone books.
- Avoid (when feasible/possible) wearing military uniforms or other identifiable clothing while traveling off the installation. If possible, remove military headgear and cover uniform when traveling in a vehicle. If a uniform is required, consider changing at the office.
- Vary routes and times when going to and from work, taking children to school, shopping, etc. Be unpredictable and avoid establishing routines.
- Look for unfamiliar objects or activities when traveling by vehicle, especially during early morning or late at night.
- Avoid isolated areas, side streets, civil disturbances, and demonstrations.
- Consider removing family name from home or vehicle.
- Know where your family members are at all times and encourage them to check in by telephone.
- Verify all deliveries and repairs through proper credentials or other documents.
- Contact the agency or company they claim to represent for additional verification.
- Be alert for unidentified vehicles or personnel and exercise caution with strangers.
- Know your neighborhood & neighbors.
- Keep all outside doors and accessible windows closed and locked.
- Keep car and house keys separate and maintain accountability.
- Conduct frequent checks of your vehicles to ensure they are in good working order and there are no anomalies.
- Never leave young children at home unattended.
- Examine mail for suspicious letters or parcels.
- Familiarize children with police and fire stations and teach them emergency procedures and telephone numbers.
- Advise children to avoid isolated areas, to travel and play in groups, never talk to or go anywhere with strangers and to keep family members informed of their whereabouts.
- When making travel reservations, do not use rank or position and if possible use military air.
- When in a restaurants, locate emergency exits upon entering, chose a table with greatest field of view, avoid business conversation near other patrons, and do not reveal after-dinner plans.
- Stress the importance of security and the seriousness of the threat to the whole family.
- Be alert to your surroundings and report suspicious personnel or activities to local authorities
- Remember to trust your instincts!

REMEMBER: Antiterrorism and Force Protection is EVERYONE'S job.

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 Capt. Roderick Toms, 242-5084.



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

167th Airlift Wing

Sexual Assault Response Coordinator:

Lindsey Hash

Office: 304-616-5991; DSN: 242-5991; Cell: 304-839-9157

lindsey.hash@us.af.mil

167th Airlift Wing

Volunteer Victim Advocate:

Emily Beightol-Deyerle

Office: 304-616-5251; DSN: 242-5251; Cell: 304-268-3706

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





**"NO MATTER
YOUR RACE OR
BACKGROUND,
ANYTHING IS
POSSIBLE."**

— Sylvia Mendez



UNIDOS

INCLUSIVITY FOR A STRONGER NATION

National Hispanic Heritage Month

2022 NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH OBSERVANCE

PATRICK SPACE FORCE BASE, Fla. — In observance of the 2022 Department of Defense (DoD) National Hispanic Heritage Month (NHHM), the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute (DEOMI) proudly announces the availability of original artwork available for download on our public website, www.defenseculture.mil.

This year's NHHM theme is, "Unidos: Inclusivity for a Stronger Nation." Unidos, roughly translated to mean united, connected, or close. The concept of deriving strength from unity is one that has long been upheld by DoD and why we chose to highlight American civil rights activist, Ms. Sylvia Mendez.

In 1944, when Mendez was 8 years old. Her family tried to enroll her at Westminster Elementary School which did not admit Hispanic students. After repeated appeals to the school's principal and the county school board Mendez's fathersought legal action. He hired a civil rights attorney who filed a federal lawsuit against Westminster and three other school districts in Orange County which argued segregating children based on ethnicity was a violation of the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. In 1946, the judge ruled in favor of the Mendez family and ordered the 4 school boards to stop segregating Hispanic children. A year after that, an appeals court upheld the decision and the state of California outlawed all segregation in its public schools. The racial equality the Mendez family fought for paved the way for the landmark 1954 Supreme Court case Brown vs. Board of Education, which signaled the end of legalized racial segregation in all U.S. schools.

Following the court case, Mendez attended the desegregated Westminster elementary school and set her sights on becoming a nurse. After earning a bachelor's degree in nursing from California State University at Los Angeles, she served for more than 30 years as a nurse at the Los Angeles County University of Southern California Medical Center. When she retired from nursing, Mendez focused her attention on teaching others about her legal case. In 2011, U.S. President Barack Obama awarded her with the Presidential Medal of Freedom for her efforts in civil rights.

Sep 15 - Oct 15





Combating Trafficking in Persons Program Management Office

U.S. Department of Defense

What is Trafficking in Persons (TIP)?

The **use of force, fraud, or coercion** to compel a person to provide labor, services, or commercial sex. Any minor (under 18 years of age) involved in commercial sex is a victim of human trafficking (no force, fraud or coercion need be proved). TIP is the recruiting, harboring, transporting, providing, or obtaining a person for the purpose of exploitation. In sex trafficking, it also includes soliciting and patronizing.

Common Types of TIP: Labor Trafficking, Sex Trafficking, Child Soldiering, Domestic Servitude, Debt Bondage/Peonage, Involuntary Servitude

Who is at risk?

Victims can be of any:

- Race
- Gender
- Nationality
- Social status
- Economic status
- Immigration status

Vulnerable populations:

- Undocumented migrants
- Runaway and homeless youth
- Women and children with limited resources
- Oppressed social or cultural groups
- People displaced by natural disaster or civil conflict
- Victims of prior sexual or physical abuse

What are some indicators of TIP?*

Physical/Environmental indicators. Victims may:

- Have signs of physical abuse (bruises, cuts, burns, broken bones)
- Not possess identification papers
- Live at or be confined to their worksite
- Be escorted or closely monitored at all times
- Be in debt bondage to employer
- Suffer medical conditions such as serious communicable diseases, injuries from violence or hazardous work conditions, malnutrition, dehydration

Psychological/Behavioral indicators. Victims may be:

- Fearful
- Submissive
- Anxious
- Nervous
- Depressed
- Dependent on others
- Emotionally abused
- Lacking ability to move freely

*Indicators listed are not absolute signs of TIP, but when presenting with several are a sign of TIP.

How to respond if TIP is suspected:

If you suspect a TIP situation, do not get directly involved. **Report the situation to the appropriate authority immediately:**

Chain of Command

DoD Inspector General Hotline

1-800-424-9098, or visit

<http://www.dodig.mil/hotline/>

National Human Trafficking Resource Center

1-888-373-7888

Local Law Enforcement

Report and avoid any establishments or persons that you believe may be involved in TIP.

Never act alone, you may want to help, but trafficking situations are dangerous.

www.ctip.defense.gov

ARE YOU READY...?

Hazard Highlight



What is a Hurricane?

A hurricane is a severe tropical storm with winds that have reached a constant speed of 74 mph. or more.



Know the Terms

Tropical Depression: A rotary circulation of clouds with winds up to 38 mph.

Tropical Storm: A rotary circulation of clouds with winds between 39-73 mph.

Hurricane Watch: Issued when there is a threat of hurricane conditions within 48 hours.

Hurricane Warning: Issued when hurricane conditions are expected in 36 hours or less.

Storm Surge: A huge dome of water pushed on shore by a hurricane. When coupled with high tide, the storm surge will be the tide and surge combined.

HURCON: Hurricane Condition.

Did You Know?

Hurricanes are named to help us identify and track them as they move across the ocean. Atlantic Ocean hurricanes may have French, Spanish, or English names, since these are the major languages bordering the Atlantic. In the case of significantly damaging events, hurricane names can be “retired”.

Why Should I Prepare?

Everyone should have a plan.

Disasters come in many forms: explosions, hurricanes, tornadoes, and others. Being prepared can reduce fear, anxiety, and losses that accompany these disasters. Individuals, families, and communities should know what to do in the event of an emergency. Knowing what to expect and how to prepare makes any crisis more manageable.

Start Preparing Today

Take these three simple steps to prepare – Get a Kit, Make a Plan, Be Prepared.

Get a Kit – Assemble a collection of first aid supplies, food, water, medicines, and important papers that can sustain you and your family until the emergency passes.

Make a Plan – You and your family members may not be together when an emergency strikes. Planning ahead will improve your chances of keeping in touch, staying safe, and quickly reuniting.

Be Prepared – Anticipate emergencies most likely to affect you and your family but prepare yourself and your family for all hazards.



ACCOLADES



Welcome

Lt. Col. Corey Gause, MSG
Maj. Undrena Gause, MDG
Maj. Connie Fernandez, MDG
Maj. Sheena Rogers, MDG
A1C Audrey Walker, MDG
Amn Kendal Bittner, LRS

Promotions

To Airman First Class

Zackery Sayre, LRS

To Senior Airman

Benjamin Kelsey, AS
Dallis Myers, MDG
Bailey Burch, MXS

Promotions

To Staff Sergeant

Kortni McCusker, CPTF
Jacob Matthew, CES

To Technical Sergeant

Cody Henry, LRS
Christopher Conner, MXS
Luis Alvarez-Rivera, SFS

To Master Sergeant

Victor Carter, LRS
Jonathen Guzik, MXS
Thomas Shepherd, LRS
Merica Taylor, MDG

Promotions

To Master Sergeant

Matthew Meyercheck, MXS
Lisa Affuso, FSS
Ryan Trochimowicz, CES

To Senior Master Sergeant

Matthew Riffle, AMXS

To Chief Master Sergeant

Keith Taber, MXG
Robert Bowers, FSS

To Lieutenant Colonel

Christopher Nary, AS
Matthew Mottet, AS

Retirements

MSgt Lucinda Windham, FSS
TSgt Brian Schurg, LRS
MSgt David Smith, MOF
TSgt Kristin Ganley, MDG
CMSgt Jeremy Yates, CF
MSgt Andrew McCulloch, AMXS

The 167th AW is on the USAF Connect app

1. Install USAF Connect from Apple App Store or Google Play
2. Access the Favorites Portal by tapping the Star icon at the bottom right of the screen
3. Search for desired organization and add to Favorites
4. Swipe left and right to switch between AF Connect and Favorites



