

# PLANETALK

167TH AIRLIFT WING  
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### ON THE COVER

167th Medical Group personnel wait to transfer a patient from an Argentine Air Force Lama SA-315B, used in high altitude rescues, to a 167th Airlift Wing C-17 Globemaster aircraft, on the taxiway at Pisco Air Base, Peru, as part of an emergency patient transport scenario during exercise Cooperation IX, May 11, 2023. The System of Cooperation Among the American Air Forces coordinated the humanitarian support and disaster response exercise that was based in Lima, Peru. The West Virginia National Guard is partnered with Peru through the National Guard Bureau's State Partnership Program. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Emily Beightol-Deyerle)

### ON THE BACK COVER

167th Medical Group personnel prepare to transfer a patient from an Argentine Air Force Lama SA-315B, used in high altitude rescues, to a 167th Airlift Wing C-17 Globemaster aircraft, at Pisco Air Base, Peru, as part of an emergency patient transport scenario during exercise Cooperation IX, May 11, 2023. The System of Cooperation Among the American Air Forces coordinated the humanitarian support and disaster response exercise that was based in Lima, Peru. The West Virginia National Guard is partnered with Peru through the National Guard Bureau's State Partnership Program. (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!

I wanted to use this month to relate some takeaways that I received in attending both the Total Force PHOENIX Rally for the AMC/CC and the DANG-led Wing Leadership Conference with Chief Brawner last month. We have discussed in the past of the new dynamics we face as a global mobility force, especially in the USINDOPACOM Theater of Operations. With such a "tyranny of distance" in that part of the globe, Gen Minihan emphasized that the success of U.S. Force operations rests squarely on the backs of the mobility enterprise to deliver and support with our timely logistics. As a part of the force triad that makes-up the total force mobility enterprise, the ANG continues to face resource challenges as we go about making the mission happen daily. The ANG as an entity is the world's fifth-largest air force that delivers a third of the combat power of the USAF, with one-fifth of the personnel, while allocated only 7% of the USAF Budget.

Simply stated, the ANG is not resourced to meet requirements, a reality that is aggressively being pursued for rectification by DANG. Another simple reality: the mobility enterprise cannot succeed without the ANG.

What does this mean for the 167th? We will continue to move-out smartly on our mission efforts, honing baseline skills while actively expanding our skillsets to provide what is needed for success. It is not lost on this wing commander that continually working in a resource-deficient, near-peer competitive, failure-not-an-option for the sake the state and nation environment is wearing on our folks and adding stress to their lives. I never want you to think for a moment that I ever take for granted that Team Martinsburg continues to be successful in the mission. I am extremely cognizant of your dedication, commitment, and sacrifice in wearing the ANG uniform proudly and with distinction. I ask you to persevere and continue forward, readying yourself for the next tasks and trials ahead.

Teeing-up the scheduled events that await the wing on the calendar, each subsequent month will bring a new effort that we will get a fix on and accomplish brilliantly. June brings four days of SuperDrill for us all and later, the Martinsburg aircraft and personnel supporting Exercise AIR DEFENDER '23 over in Europe; July sends-out our 167th contingent supporting the National Boy Scout Jamboree '23; August brings about the 167AW Readiness Exercise here at home station. Challenges and stressors abound in these months to come but I have every confidence that we will handle and overcome these many hurdles and come away by mid-August a more-capable airlift wing in our readiness and willingness to serve the state and nation when called. I assure you all that post-readiness exercise, I will look to throttle back where we can with regards to demands on the wing as we go into the fall and the tail end of the calendar. In these months ahead: lean on each other, cover-down for each other, and look to a partner or group to aid in managing our collective stress with healthy and productive activities and communication. We are the premier wing only when we band together, bond with each other, and be there for each other.

A hardy shout-out to all Moms out there – past, present, and future: I hope you celebrated them last weekend! As we approach the halfway point on the calendar, the SuperDrill Team has been hammering-out a full schedule that will get much training goodness accomplished but has also carved-out some morale events as well. Show-up in June ready to rock and we will all be enjoying some well-earned comradery and fun by that Sunday Afternoon. Until next month when we all join together again, be well, stay safe, and most importantly: STAY MIGHTY

--Marty

Team,

It is great to see the energy being put forth toward the detailed planning of the events we have on the horizon over the next several months. From Cooperation IX Peru, June Super Drill, Exercise Air Defender, Boy Scout Jamboree, to the readiness exercise in August our plate is full to say the least. Col Timko and I are confident that we will not only meet these challenges but succeed expectations. There will be plenty of opportunity for you and your teams to shine. So, take advantage of these opportunities and have some fun along the way.

For all the Officers and SNCO's, the NGB CY24 list of Development Courses/Opportunities are out. You should have received the official message by now. Are you ready to up your game? Increase your knowledge? And/or make yourself more competitive? If so, these courses can be a step in helping you reach your professional goals. These opportunities are highly competitive so please make sure your package is squared away. The deadline for application submittal is June 5 so do not delay getting your package together.

In just a few short weeks June Super Drill will be upon us. I am excited to say the least. The planning team has been hard at it and just like last year I am certain you will not be disappointed with the training and the team building events that will take place. Bring your competitive spirit. We will train hard and play hard throughout these 4 days. Oh yes, and we will eat well too. Cannot wait to see you!

I know we ask a lot of you and the pace can be relentless at times. Your dedication and commitment to our wing, state, and nation is second to none. I consider you, my family. Please take a break as necessary. And please continue to look out for one another.

Finally, spring is in full bloom with summer coming on quickly. I hope you can get out and enjoy the warm season with family and friends. Please be safe.

I look forward to seeing you in June if not sooner!

Your Chief,  
Chief Brawner #8

# West Virginia Air National Guard participates in multinational exercise, Cooperacion IX

by Senior Master Sgt. Emily Beightol-Deyerle

Members of the West Virginia Air National Guard participated in a week-long humanitarian assistance and disaster response exercise in Lima, Peru, May 7th through May 12th, 2023.

The exercise, appropriately named Cooperacion IX, was led by the System of Cooperation Among the American Air Forces (SICOFAA). SICOFAA is an entity intended to unite air forces of the western hemisphere, and enhance interoperability of partner nations in support of large-scale emergency situations.

Cooperacion IX took place on Callao Air Base in Lima, with 13 partner nations, 20 aircraft and approximately 1,000 aviators participating. Each exercised planning and controlling of air operations to include aeromedical evacuations, logistics transport, and search and air rescue to safeguard human lives and recover infrastructure to affected populations.

A C-17 Globemaster from the 167th Airlift Wing transported about 50 personnel including air-crew, aircraft support personnel, and translators. Members of the 167th Medical Group and 167th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron demonstrated ground and air patient transport capabilities during the exercise.

"These exercises give us the time to work with our partner nations, learn how they plan and develop their operations, so that we can integrate with them and assist them in the future," said Col. James Freid-Studlo, West Virginia Air National Guard Director of Operations. "Our goals here are two-fold; to support our Peruvian partners as they run this exercise and develop future exercises, and also to develop interoperability; not just with Peru, but with all of the SICOFAA members."

The West Virginia Air National Guard has been building relations with Peru since 1996 through the National Guard Bureau's State Partnership Program (SPP). Humanitarian assistance and disaster response is only one of several objectives of the partnership between the two military forces. Lt. Col. Luis Calvo, Foreign Area Officer assigned to the Secretary of the Air Force International

Affairs Directorate at the Pentagon, explains:

"This exercise affords us the opportunity to leverage the WVNG and Peru partnership and help us build on those critical relationships. Additionally, with the C-17 coming downrange, we were able to deliver an ambulance, firefighting equipment, and a pallet of water to the Peruvian government and we were able to bring Project Arcwater to demonstrate its unique capabilities."


The aforementioned Project Arcwater is an innovative system that saves energy and provides drinking water by using solar fabric and an atmospheric generator to make water or filter water from contaminated sources in austere locations or in times of natural disaster. By carrying out this capability in real time, airmen participate in a readiness mission, demonstrating their ability to react to a potentially unanticipated scenario as it emerges.

Freid-Studlo encourages Airmen to jump on opportunities to participate in State Partnership Program events and exercises like Cooperacion IX.

"State Partnership is an important, strategic program, for not only the West Virginia Air National Guard but for the country as a whole," said Freid-Studlo. "When conflicts arise, the Guard often has the strongest relationships with other nations. We need to build continuity from the top to the bottom, and continually develop relationships."

Mutually beneficial alliances and partnerships are an enduring strength for the United States, and the State Partnership Program has proven critical to achieving our national defense strategic objectives. National Guard service members' efforts make vital contributions to our Total Force, executing national defense strategy by advancing multinational understanding and support.

To learn more about the State Partnership Program, visit:

<https://www.nationalguard.mil/leadership/joint-staff/j-5/international-affairs-division/state-partnership-program/> 



West Virginia Air National Guardsmen participated in humanitarian assistance and disaster response exercise Cooperacion IX in Lima, Peru, May 8-12, 2023. The exercise, coordinated by the System of Cooperation Among the American Air Forces (SICOFAA), brought together 13 partner nations, 20 airframes and approximately 1,000 aviators to exercise planning, executing, and controlling air operations to include emergency patient transport, logistics and search and air rescue. The West Virginia National Guard has been partnered with Peru for more than 25 years through the National Guard Bureau's State Partnership Program. (U.S. Air National Guard photos by Senior Master Sgt. Emily Beightol-Deyerle)



## All-hazards training provided to 167th Airlift Wing's emergency responders

by Senior Master Sgt. Emily Beightol-Deyerle

Emergency responders at the 167th Airlift Wing participated in an all-hazards training course at the Martinsburg, West Virginia air base, preparing Airmen for a variety of real-world incidents, 1-5 May.

The hybrid program referred to as CAMR, short for Counter CBRN (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear) All-Hazard Management Response, incorporated classroom lecture, tabletop exercises and a full-scale emergency response exercise.

A cadre of subject matter expert trainers from Noble facilitated the CAMR course.

"The CAMR gives our disaster response force an opportunity to really hone the skills critical to mitigating loss of life, loss of property and damage to the environment during CBRN and emergency responses," said Lt. Col. Paul Henry, 167th Airlift Wing Inspector General. "The cadre provided a phenomenal learning experience for all of the functions involved."

Scott Broadribb, senior CBRN trainer for Noble, said his team was not there to critique procedures but rather to provoke thought.

"We can give you the answer, but that's not really learning anything," Broadribb said. "So,

the goal for the evolution is to foster thought and outside-of-the-box thinking."

Security forces, firefighters, emergency management, bioenvironmental and public health personnel participated in courses specific to their functions and a tabletop exercise was conducted to give all emergency responders a chance to step through their response plans and checklists before the full-scale exercise on the fourth day.

The 167th has conducted three previous CAMR exercises but this year was the first time that 167th's emergency responders assigned to the Crisis Action Team (CAT), Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and Unit Control Center (UCC) functions were able to view the initial response to an active shooter and vehicle extraction before returning to their respective work centers to coordinate recovery efforts.

"The CAMR exercise was a great opportunity for me, and others, to immerse into the emergency response processes," said Capt Rodney Brown, 167th Airlift Wing executive officer. "In this low-pressure and learning environment, the shared knowledge better equips me for real-world events." 🐕



Tech. Sgt. Colton Brandenburg, 167th Security Forces Squadron, leads a team of defenders into a building during an active shooter exercise during an all-hazards training event at the 167th Airlift Wing, May 4, 2023. 167th Airlift Wing emergency responders participated in CAMR, or Counter CBRN (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear) All-Hazard Management Response course 1-5 May at the Martinsburg, West Virginia air base. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Emily Beightol-Deyerle)



Firefighters with the 167th Civil Engineering Squadron carry a litter with a simulated patient from a staged car accident as part of an all-hazards training event at the 167th Airlift Wing, May 4, 2023. 167th Airlift Wing emergency responders participated in CAMR, or Counter CBRN (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear) All-Hazard Management Response course 1-5 May at the Martinsburg, West Virginia air base. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Emily Beightol-Deyerle)



Senior Airmen Steven Heaton and Craig Sipes, 167th Emergency Management, discuss emergency response procedures in the 167th Airlift Wing's Emergency Operations Center as part of an all-hazards training event at the 167th Airlift Wing, May 4, 2023. 167th Airlift Wing emergency responders participated in CAMR, or Counter CBRN (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear) All-Hazard Management Response course 1-5 May at the Martinsburg, West Virginia air base. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Emily Beightol-Deyerle)



# Ceremony marks 167th Airlift Squadron change of command

by Senior Master Sgt. Emily Beightol-Deyerle

A ceremony was held to mark the transition of leadership of the 167th Airlift Squadron at Shepherd Field, Martinsburg, West Virginia, May 6.

Lt. Col. Randy Wright relinquished command of the airlift squadron to Lt. Col. George Fay.

Wright, who took command of the squadron in 2019, now serves as the deputy commander for the 167th Operations Group.

"Lt. Col. Randy Wright is well prepared to serve in his new role as the deputy operations group commander," said Col. Christopher Sigler, 167th Operations Group commander. "Randy has a vast knowledge of operations group functions after serving in a variety of key roles in both the operations support squadron and the airlift squadron. His enlisted time while in the Aerial Port Squadron, and his tour as the Chief of Safety, have also prepared him well for interactions outside of the Operations Group."

Fay, who has been a C-17 pilot for the duration of his military career, served on active duty for 12 years before joining the 167th. He has since served as the chief pilot and duty officer for the 167th AS.

Fay had his sights set on being a pilot from a young age having been exposed to military aviation by his father, who was also an Air Force pilot.

Fay said he is humbled and honored to be trusted to lead the 167th AS.

"The people in the unit are what is important in all of this and I truly feel like this is a family that does everything possible to take care of each other," Fay said. "I am excited about what the next few years will bring."

Sigler said he has great confidence that Fay is ready to serve as the AS commander.

"George brings a lot of operational experience through his career of flying the C-17," Sigler said. "His experience is essential as he leads the Airlift Squadron into the Force Generation and Agile Combat Employment models." 🐾



*U.S. Air Force Col. Christopher Siegler, 167th Operations Group commander, passes the guidon to Lt. Col. George Fay, 167th Airlift Squadron commander as part of a change of command ceremony at the 167th Airlift Wing dining facility, Martinsburg, West Virginia, May 7, 2023. Fay takes command of the 167th Airlift Squadron with nearly 20 years of experience in multiple capacities in the Air Force and Air National Guard. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. Timothy Sencindiver)*





# WING INSPECTION TEAM

The 167AW Readiness Exercise (RE) that is scheduled for 9-13 August 2023 (8-13 for WIT) will be an operations-based exercise that will allow the Wing to demonstrate its ability to survive and operate in a contested environment by testing our ability to generate, employ and sustain mission operations through completion of identified Mission Essential Tasks (METs). The WIT will play a key role in ensuring RE success by observing and evaluating unit performance in accomplishing the identified METs. Each WIT member will have the following responsibilities.

► **Before the RE**

- Attend all scheduled WIT training.
- Attend all scheduled pre-exercise WIT meetings.
- Attend exercise prep meeting on 8 Aug.

► **During the RE**

- Attend daily pre-brief (morning, before events for the day).
- Attend daily Hotwash (evening, after the events for the day).
- Observe, Evaluate, Report.

When documenting observations, gather as much information as possible in the checkbox-style format of the Exercise Inspection Guides (EIGs). However, additional exercise observations can come from a variety of sources, such as event logs, records produced by automated systems/networks, and evaluator notes. These additional sources may provide valuable supplemental data. All reported data should be accurate and unbiased to ensure exercise objectives were completed to standard, enhance Wing readiness, and allow for proper root cause analysis of any identified systemic problems.

► **After the RE**

- Assist IG in validating and verifying collected inspection data.



### Legislative Assisitants visit 167th

U.S. Senator Shelley Moore Capito's Legislative Assistant James Longley, Eastern Panhandle Field Representative Chris Strovel and Military Legislative Assistant Hannah Schwartz, listen to U.S. Air Force Maj. Blake Bennett as he explains ongoing construction in an aircraft hangar at the 167th Airlift Wing, Martinsburg, West Virginia, April 11, 2023. Capito's representatives met with 167th leadership to discuss several on-going initiatives at the base including current and future construction projects. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Emily Beightol-Deyerle)



### Puppies in training offer mental health break for unit members during UTA

U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Julia Wolfe, 167th Medical Group, holds a golden retriever puppy from Thin Line Service Dogs in support of Mental Health Awareness Month at the 167th Airlift Wing, Martinsburg, West Virginia, May 6, 2023. Socializing the puppies with servicemembers helps the puppies on their journey to becoming service dogs while also contributing to the mental health of the service members interacting with them. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. Timothy Sencindiver)



### FCA beautifies 167th for Labors of Love

More than 50 Faith Christian Academy students, staff and family pulled weeds and spread mulch at the 167th Airlift Wing as part of their annual Labors of Love event. The school has volunteered their services to the 167th for ten years.



### Port Dawgs hold annual memorial run

Airmen with the 167th Aerial Port Squadron memorialize fallen airmen in the air transportation career field during their 10th annual Port Dawg Memorial Run at the 167th Airlift Wing, Martinsburg, West Virginia, May 7, 2023. The event has grown into an annual tradition across the aerial transport community. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. Timothy Sencindiver)





## New running trail completed at 167th

*by Senior Master Sgt. Emily Beightol-Deyerle*

When Senior Master Sgt. Josh Michael was training for an ultramarathon, he logged numerous training miles at the 167th Airlift Wing installation. Running loop after loop around the base, he wished for a longer path to break up the monotony.

As the base facility manager for the 167th Civil Engineering Squadron, he was in a position to help make that happen.

"I wanted to expand the distance you could run on base without running the same path over and over, I'm sure a lot of runners feel the same way," said Michael.

He suggested the new trails to his leadership and the project was approved last May. Sustainment, Restoration, Modernization funds were used to purchase 450 tons of crusher run, a limestone gravel for the trail surface.

In April, the wing's road and grounds crew completed the six-tenths of a mile long, six-foot-wide trail along a portion of the north perimeter of the base.

"It also will help security with their perimeter patrols and help CE keep that part of the fence clear and free of trees and other debris," said Michael who noted the trail can be used by all-terrain and utility task vehicles but not regular traffic.

A second phase of running trail is planned for the west end of the base near the main gate. The trail will be approximately one mile long and will give runners a view of the flightline. It will split near the end giving runners the option for a flat path or an elevation change.

Michael said the second phase should be completed by next spring and he's hoping to organize a 5k run on base then, incorporating both trails into the course.



# Airman SPOTLIGHT

Name:

**Master Sgt. Derk Slonaker**

Hometown:

**Martinsburg, W.Va.**

Job Title:

**Quality Assurance Inspector**



Master Sgt. Derk Slonaker is a quality assurance inspector for the 167th Maintenance Group and the 167th Airlift Wing Airman Spotlight for May 2023.

As a quality assurance inspector, Slonaker executes a planned, systemic approach to quality assurance for all areas of aircraft maintenance, which provides maintenance leaders confidence in the 167th's aircraft, aircraft systems, support equipment and products. He also provides technical advice and acts as a force of safety on the flightline.

"Master Sgt. Slonaker has been an integral part of the maintenance QA team since joining the office. He is a superior inspector with very strong research skills that enables him to easily operate outside of his primary AFSC, which is important given our limited in-shop manning," said Chief Master Sgt. Keith Taber, 167th Maintenance Group quality assurance superintendent. "Additionally, Derk has been recognized as a QA subject matter expert, he is routinely contacted by other units and National Guard Bureau personnel to assist with the Air National Guard QA enterprise through events such as staff assistance visits, special projects, and manning workshops."

**Hometown:** Martinsburg

**Job Title:** Quality Assurance Inspector

**How long have you served in the unit?** 24 years.

**My job here is important because:** we are the technical advisory agency for the aircraft maintenance organization. The Maintenance Group Quality Assurance section performs inspections and reports compliance throughout aircraft maintenance to provide the commander with detailed status of the Group.

**People may be surprised to know this about me:** I play drums in an all original modern rock band. I think hobbies are important, it's good to let off some steam and cut loose. Playing music has been a big part of my life. I've been fortunate to appear on some big stages while interacting with famous musicians from all over.

**The most exciting thing I've done in the military is:** The daily turning planes while deployed. The planes would come in with various maintenance discrepancies and doing our part to have them fixed and ready to fly for the next mission. In my most recent deployment, I forward deployed on an Interim Safety Investigation Board for a Class A aviation mishap. Obviously, a mishap is never a good thing, but having the chance to work one firsthand overseas was definitely an experience of my career that will stay with me.

**One/Some of the most valuable lessons I've learned throughout my career:** Learning to think things through. I'll put my foot in my mouth but learning and doing better. Really just personalities and relationships, realizing we don't all think alike, and that different perspectives are a good thing. Learning what's not important to me, might be very important to someone else and applying that to the team.

**My advice to the newest Airmen in the Wing:** The basics. Learn to be an expert at your career field, everything else will follow. With my quality assurance background, we stress the importance of following your Technical Orders and policy, I think that should relate to any career here. Just get in your specific directives, know them inside and out, and apply that to everything you do.

**The best thing about working with my team is:** definitely the relationships and learning from each other. The QA Inspectors are from all different maintenance career fields, and I've learned so much from them as we all bring something different to the mission. 🐕

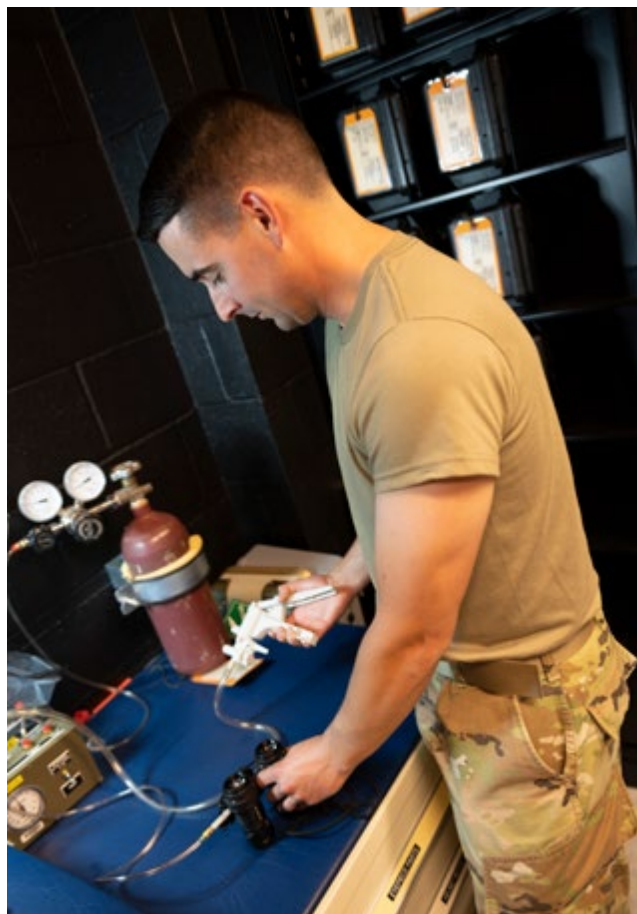


# FUNCTION FOCUS

## AIRCREW FLIGHT EQUIPMENT

Part of preparing a plane for flight is making sure they're equipped with supplies for any situation. Responsible for ensuring that all flight and safety equipment is in perfect working order, Aircrew Flight Equipment specialists make sure Airmen have the supplies necessary for any situation. From packing emergency items like parachutes and survival kits to maintaining regularly used items like flight helmets and oxygen masks, the attention to detail provided by these professionals could mean the difference between life and death.

(U.S. Air National Guard photos by Airman James DeCicco and Tech. Sgt. Timothy Sencindiver)





## Ted's Talk: That Little \_\_\_\_\_ Up North

by Mr. Ted Gladden, Chief, Information Protection, 167th Airlift Wing

I'm Mr. Ted Gladden, 167AW Chief, Information Protection and retired Wing member. To sum it all up in a few short words, I manage the security clearances and background investigations for the 167th. I, with the help of 23 highly skilled and motivated Security Assistants, also oversee the storage, transmission, marking and training of classified information. Twenty-one-year-old A1C Jack Teixeira of the 102nd Intel Wing at Otis ANGB in Cape Cod, Massachusetts surely isn't doing my career field any favors. If you weren't aware, A1C Teixeira is the alleged leaker of classified information from high level intelligence sources. I myself have a lot of questions that, in time, we'll get some answers to. Others, such as trying to comprehend why he would put himself at such risk just to show off, may never be answered or understood.

When something of this magnitude happens, the Air Force public relations machine kicks into hyperdrive, or what the Space Force might call, "Ludicrous Speed", which sometimes results in a kneejerk overreaction. So far, that doesn't seem to be the case, but shouldn't be ruled out just yet. After all, not only are Teixeira's alleged actions going to potentially land him in prison for multiple years, but they are having a devastating effect on national security. While we wait for the fallout from this breach, we should take an opportunity to analyze our own practices and processes to see how this can be avoided at the 167th. We do not want this kind of black eye on West Virginia, nor do we need a bigger one on the Air National Guard as a whole. Between this and the hitman for hire in Nashville, the ANG's reputation has taken quite a hit.

First, we need to be reminded of the importance of classified information and what it is. The DoDM5200.01V1\_AFI16-1404V1, Enclosure 4, Paragraph 3 defines classified information:

"3. LEVELS OF CLASSIFICATION. Information identified as requiring protection against unauthorized disclosure in the interest of national security shall be classified top secret, secret, or confidential. Except as otherwise provided by statute, no other terms shall be used to identify U.S. classified information.

a. Top Secret. Top secret shall be applied to information the unauthorized disclosure of which reasonably could be expected to cause exceptionally grave damage to the national security 1999 that the OCA is able to identify or describe.

b. Secret. Secret shall be applied to information the unauthorized disclosure of which reasonably could be expected to cause serious damage to the national security that the OCA is able to identify or describe.

c. Confidential. Confidential shall be applied to information the unauthorized disclosure of which reasonably could be expected to cause damage to the national security that the OCA is able to identify or describe."

Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin's memo (17 April 2023) directed all DoD components to ensure they adhered to the following principles of Information Security: Accountability, Safeguarding, Storage and Destruction, Transmission and Transportation, Security Education and Training, Reporting of Security Incidents Involving Classified Information, and Cybersecurity Protocols and Transmission on Private Sector Communications Channels Expressly Prohibited. I met with Col. Annie shortly after this memo came out to discuss it and we both are confident that the established policies at our Wing meet and oftentimes exceed these principles, but what does that mean to the everyday airman; to the Firefighter on shift, the Sheet Metal Tech in the shop or the Med Tech on drill weekend?

There are five simple, basic principles that if you abide by, you can avoid breaking rocks in Leavenworth:

1) Understand the three requirements of classified access:

a) Eligibility – we all hold either a Secret or Top-Secret security clearance, which is dictated by the SAR code (Security Access Requirement) commensurate with each position on the Unit Manning Document (UMD). Check with your Security Assistant to verify this before accessing classified.

b) Signed Non-Disclosure Agreement (SF312) – One-time requirement, usually accomplished as soon as the member joins the unit.

c) Need to know – Most subjective of the three. Do you need to access classified information to do your job? This authority comes from your commander, but ultimately is controlled by the holder/owner of the information.

d) Bonus requirement! Training Currency – Wing policy dictates that Wing members not current on Security Education Training will not be allowed to access classified information.

2) Do not reproduce classified information unless necessary for mission success.

3) If you find classified information unsecure, secure it, take it to the nearest safe or secure room, or, if not practical, take it directly to your Security Assistant, supervisor or commander and report it right away.

4) Don't discuss classified in any form outside of the confines of a secure area and only discuss it when necessary.

5) Do not give anybody else access to classified information without verifying the requirements in the first principle, especially the need-to-know. Remember that rank and/or position by themselves are NOT justification.

I hate to think that Teixeira did this alleged activity for foolish pride or some kind of pretentious god complex, but it seems like that's just what it was. He'll likely miss all of the rest of his 20's and maybe some of his 30's while in prison. Maybe more. His ego may cost lost lives and resources and hurts the United States' position in an already difficult conflict on the world stage. Be smart. Be mature. Be responsible.





## May is Military Spouse Appreciation Month

The entire month of May is Military Spouse Appreciation Month. Military spouses are the rock on which their families, our military community, and our national security depend. We recognize and thank the military spouses who serve and sacrifice alongside their servicemember.

"Military spouses are the heart and backbone of our military community, and their well-being is tied to the readiness of our armed forces. During mission, deployment, reintegration and reset, spouses are partners in military life. This month is the DOD's dedicated effort to honor their commitment and sacrifices while giving them tools to set and achieve their goals." – Patricia Montes Barron, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Military Community and Family Policy

## Blue Star Families Announces Free Admission to Museums

Blue Star Museums is a collaboration among the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense, and museums across America which provides free admission to many museums across the country for service members and their families. The program runs from Armed Forces Day, June 24th, through Labor Day, September 4th, and has an average of over 2,000 museums, children's museums, zoos and nature centers participate annually. Active duty, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve Airmen, along with up to five family members, receive free admission to any participating location, with a valid military ID. When planning your vacations this year, don't forget to check <https://bluestarfam.org/family-life/blue-star-museums/> for participating museums at your vacation destination.



*The Military and Family Readiness Program 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*



## May is Mental Health Awareness Month!

by Cristina Firescu-Williams, LCSW-C



**Cristina Firescu-Williams, LCSW-C**  
**Director of Psychological Health**

What is it that you do to take care of your mental health? If you can't think of positive things, self-care, or a few good coping skills you can utilize on a regular basis, I encourage you to work on it. Look within and find the things that offer you comfort when you are stressed. Practice those things if it's something enriching. It's easy to try and use the quick fixes that may seem great in the moment but really don't help in the long run. Reaching for that ice cream, drink or bingeing your favorite show may feel good but other than a temporary fix, it will not improve your mental health.

According to Mental Health America, more than 50 million Americans struggle with mental illness. These

are a few other facts regarding mental health from various sources:

1. Youth depression rates have risen from 12.9% to 25.2% from pre-pandemic to 2021. Depression symptoms can impact performance in school and interfere with personal relationships.[a]
2. Mental illnesses can affect people of any age, race, religion, or income. A mental illness is a medical condition that disrupts a person's thinking, feeling, mood, and ability to relate to others and daily functioning.[b]
3. Most Americans lack access to adequate mental health treatment. 54.7% of American adults with mental illness did not receive care in the last year.[c]
4. Depression is the leading cause of disability worldwide.[d]
5. More than 1 in 4 adults living with serious mental illnesses also struggles with substance abuse.[e]

So, what are some things that you can do to improve your mental health?

- Make your home environment healthier.
- Get outdoors and enjoy nature.
- Take care of your physical health.
- Here are some links for more information and details on what you can do to help your mental health:

- [Mental Health Month Toolkit Download | Mental Health America \(mhanational.org\)](#)
- [NIMH » Digital Shareables \(nih.gov\)](#)

Take action today to improve your mental health and reach out if you need help.

### References:

- a. Haseltine, William, et al. "Depression And Anxiety Double In Youth Compared To Pre-Pandemic," *Forbes*, 2021. Accessed January 25, 2023.
- b. "What is Mental Health?" U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2018. Accessed May 7, 2019
- c. "State of Mental Health in America 2023," *Mental Health America*, 2023. Accessed January 25, 2023.
- d. "Facts and Statistics." *Anxiety and Depression Association of America*, 2017. Accessed May 7, 2019.
- e. "Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders." U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2019. Accessed May 7, 2019.





# CHAPLAIN CHAT

## Breathe Stronger

by Staff Sgt. Jacob Orlando



**Staff Sgt. Jacob Orlando, Chaplain Assistant**

Sometimes we all need is to pause for a minute and take a deep breath of fresh air. (Please try this at home) Fifteen couples from the 167th and the 130th Airlift Wings went above and beyond a minute, in a single deep breath. They paused for a weekend with their spouses to refresh their marriages. On the top floor of the Corduroy Inn & Lodge in Snowshoe West Virginia, our couples were able to enjoy West Virginia's amazing 5000-foot mountain scenery, while learning how to take a deep breath of the Strong Bonds OXYGEN Seminar. On Saturday, the couples toured the Greenbank Radio Telescope (GBT) facility, the largest moveable radio telescope in the world. (17 million pounds moveable!) While the GBT is searching for communication from radio waves throughout the universe, we trust our couples are better equipped to more intimately communicate with each other in the joys and trial of military marriage.

Thanks to all who joined us, and we hope to see others at our next Strong Bonds event!

While we do not have a date or location, please contact the Chaplain Corps to get on a waiting list and for updates.



GLORIFYING GOD  
SERVING AIRMEN  
PURSUING EXCELLENCE



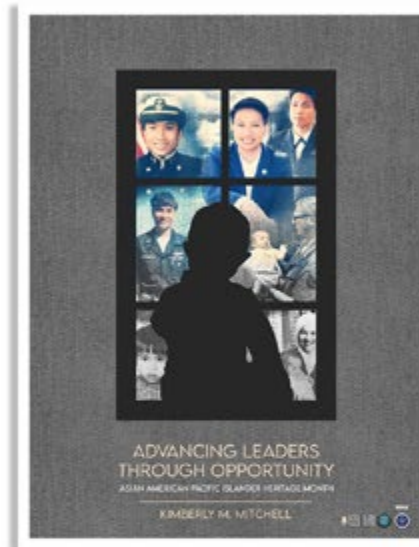


CULTURAL  
AWARENESS



# OBSERVANCE

## Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month



The Department of Defense pays tribute to the generations of Asian American Pacific Islanders (AAPI) who have enriched our Nation's history through their countless contributions, vibrant cultures, and rich heritage.

AAPI encompass a diverse group of cultures, ethnicities, and languages. They include those Americans who trace their ancestry to the Asian continent and the many Pacific island regions.

The Federal Asian Pacific American Council designated the 2023 theme as, *"Advancing Leaders Through Opportunity."*

Opportunity is defined as, *"a set of circumstances that make it possible to do something."* Opportunity can be *"built, accessed, achieved, or given."*

Retired U.S. Navy Lt. Commander Kimberly M. Mitchell, life circumstances exemplify opportunity.

In May 1972, near Quang Tri, South Vietnam, a wounded man found a baby on the side of a road. Lying in the arms of her dead mother, she was still trying to nurse. Unable to go on himself, the man put the baby in a hat and handed her over to South Vietnamese Marine, 2nd Lt. Bao Tran.

Tran was preparing to blow up a bridge before the Viet Cong could cross. He asked his commanding officer what to do. The reply was direct, *"You take care of her."* Tran took the baby to the Sacred Heart orphanage in Da Nang.

U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. James Mitchell adopted the baby and named her Kimberly.

Mitchell served in the U.S. Navy for 17 years as a Surface Warfare Officer onboard surface ships and at shore commands.

*"That call to serve is something greater than yourself. Some of them have some very interesting background stories and challenges that they overcame. I think it's just a great thing about America that our Armed Forces are able to bring in anybody who wants to serve,"* she said.

Since retirement, she has worked with hundreds of communities and assisted thousands of organizations address the transition and reintegration challenges faced by service members, veterans, and military families.

## ADVANCING LEADERS THROUGH OPPORTUNITY

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

KIMBERLY M. MITCHELL

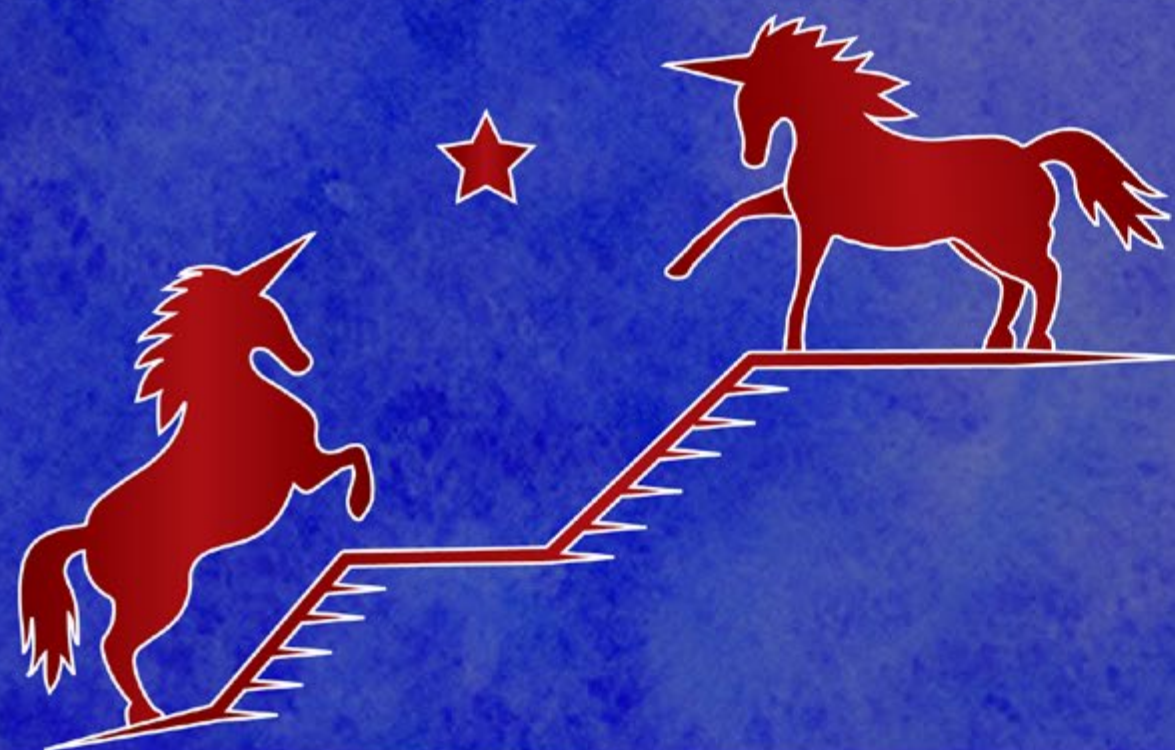






# **AIR MEN!**

## **YOU NEED A MENTOR**



### **MENTORS CAN:**

**BE A TRUSTED ALLY**

**INCREASE YOUR KNOWLEDGE**

**PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES  
FOR GROWTH**

**GIVE NETWORKING  
CONNECTIONS**

**GIVE WORDS OF  
ENCOURAGEMENT**



## **THE 167TH AIRLIFT WING MENTORSHIP PROGRAM!**

**LEARN MORE AT: [HTTPS://USAF.DPS.MIL/SITES/167AW/  
WINGPROGRAMS/SITEPAGES/MENTORING-PROGRAM.ASPX](https://usaf.dps.mil/sites/167AW/WingPrograms/SitePages/Mentoring-Program.aspx)**





## Antiterrorism & Force Protection - General Security

*submitted by Capt. Roderick Toms*

This article will address general security precautions and further articles will address specific security concerns (e.g., travel security, suspicious activity).

### 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.





# DO YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO IN MOPP 2?

**\*\*Limiting Factors** may dictate the use of Helmet, Kevlar vest, Canteen, Web Belt, and other items.

**Hair** will be loose, tucked under collar and free of barrettes or bobby pins. Hair ties permitted two inches below neck.

**Name tapes** should be written legibly in the following order: USAF/Rank/First and Last name. Name should be display on the front and back of the helmet (if applicable) and on the front of the vest or Ground Crew Ensemble

**White glove inserts and black chemical overgloves** are to be stored in the right cargo pocket of trousers.

**The retention cord** is to be worn (if not damaged) and connects the jacket to the trousers. The cord is pulled between the legs and held in place by the buttoned receiver with the jacket drawstrings tied.

**The Helmet's chin strap** must be clasped with the straps tightened (if applicable).

**M9 or SIM M9** will be worn on the wrists, biceps, and shin area of the Ground Crew Ensemble. There is to be no writing on the M9 tape, as it could create a false reading.

**The Mask Carrier** is to be worn on the left hip with the hook and pile opening facing forward. Both buckles (waist and thigh) should be connected, and the carrier should be closed.

**The Trousers** will cover the overboots and be secured using both hook and pile fasteners. Verify all pockets on the trousers have been closed, to limit the possibility of liquid contamination.





# STAFF JUDGE ADVOCATE



## 167th LEGAL TEAM



The 167th Legal Office provides professional legal advice and counsel to command and staff agencies.

We also provide on-target and on-time legal advice and assistance to military members, retirees and their family members. Legal assistance is provided in a wide range of areas including:

- Family Law
- Will & Living Wills
- Landlord-Tenant Issues
- USERRA Rights.

The contents of your legal assistance appointment are attorney-client privileged.

All staff members are Drill Status Guardsmen (DSGs) and have limited availability to provide legal assistance outside of the UTA weekends.



*Need to create a will or power of attorney? Access the worksheet here.*



*If you are under investigation for military misconduct or subject to adverse military administrative action, please contact the Area Defense Counsel for legal advice.*

Headquarters (Bldg. 120) Rm 114  
Phone: 304-616-5336; DSN: 242-5336  
167HQ.JA.Legal@us.af.mil

## 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](mailto:Bradley.dunkle1@us.af.mil) (UTA)

OFF UTA: 304-412-3456 (cell)  
[bdunkle@dunklewv.com](mailto: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 167<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing in Martinsburg, WV and at the 130<sup>th</sup> 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.*



# 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](http://www.safehelpline.org)







# 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](http://www.ctip.defense.gov)





# NGAWV

National Guard Association of West Virginia

## About NGAWV

The National Guard Association of West Virginia (NGAWV) was founded in 1959 as the professional organization of the West Virginia National Guard and its members. NGAWV was created to provide a strong, unified voice in which the needs of Guard members could be realized and supported.

## Mission

The mission of the National Guard Association of West Virginia is to promote the homeland of America by ensuring the West Virginia Army and Air National Guard has the necessary personnel, equipment, and infrastructure to carry out assigned missions.

## Membership

Membership in NGAWV and NGAUS provides access to state/national level events and NGAUS voting rights.

When you join NGAWV, you add your voice to a group of like-minded people who understand the role of the National Guard in the nation's security and want to enhance its capabilities to perform that vital mission at home and overseas.

## Contact Us

- 304-881-6198
- ngawv1@gmail.com
- www.ngawv.org

## Benefits

Benefits for members of NGAWV include life insurance, scholarship opportunities, and better communications to legislators and policy makers to ensure that your interests are being represented at the state and national levels.

## Legislative Work

Each year NGAWV aligns efforts to match NGAUS legislative priorities, the Adjutant General's priorities and other legislative initiatives in the West Virginia legislature that are beneficial to West Virginia Guardsmen and their families to advance. Recent accomplishments include:

- Paid maternity leave for drill-status women
- Six months of transitional medical coverage for Guardsmen and their families after Title 32 orders
- Authorized purchase of TRICARE Reserve Select in 2030 to Guardsmen and Reservists who are dual-status technicians
- Six C-130J Super Hercules cargo planes for the Air Guard, 43 new or rebuilt UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters and \$100 million toward Humvee modernization in the Army







# ACCOLADES



## Welcome

AB Taylor Fox, LRS  
AB Alyssa Biegler, SFS  
A1C Luca Deluca, LRS  
A1C Kerry Coakley, AS  
A1C Jude Kipe, MXS  
SSgt Laura Foy, MDG  
TSgt Daniel Foy, AS  
TSgt Darci Renehan, OG

## Welcome Back from Technical Training

A1C Trent Amsley, SFS  
A1C Samuel Catrow, LRS  
A1C Tyler Culbertson, AMXS  
A1C Cyrus Rodriguez, MXS

## Promotions

### To Airman

Brayden Locke, LRS  
Ivan Rios Rosado, FSS

## Promotions

### To Senior Airman

Wyatt Hensell, LRS  
Derek Kunkleman, LRS

### To Staff Sergeant

Duane Oden, FSS

## To Technical Sergeant

George Delinkski, MXS  
William Wagstaff, OSS  
Samuel Silver, LRS  
Victoria Bagley, OG  
David Landis, AS

## Promotions

### To Master Sergeant

Adam Carder, MDG  
Kelley Ellington, MOF  
Corbin Householder, AS

### To Senior Master Sergeant

Ronald Glazer, AS

## Retirements

MSgt Patrick Murphy, MXS

## Base Services To Be Modified During August Readiness Exercise

Please note the following schedule changes for the duration of the Readiness Exercise,  
Thursday 10 August through Sunday 13 August.

- Medical Appointments will be offered on Thursday only.
- Force Support Squadron Customer Support Services will be offered to current unit members only.
- The Base Gym will be open for current unit members only.
- The Base Shoppette will be open for current unit members only with the following modified hours of operation.
  - Wed & Thurs: 0900 – 1500 (normal hours)
  - Fri & Sat: 0800 – 1600 (extended hours)
  - Sun: 0900 – 1300 (shorter hours)

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## Retirees Association

The 167th Retirees Association is an "All Ranks, All Services" organization which meets the third Tuesday of each month at 1900 hrs in the Base Auditorium, Building 120. Retirees are welcome to drop in or contact us at [wv167RA@gmail.com](mailto:wv167RA@gmail.com)



