



# AIRSCOOP

**104TH FIGHTER WING • MASSACHUSETTS AIR NATIONAL GUARD**  
*Pride, Professionalism, Patriotism* *Barnes Air National Guard Base*

April 2013



Col. James Keefe accepts command of the 104th Fighter Wing from Brig. Gen. Robert Brooks on March 2, 2013. The change of command ceremony was officiated by Brig. Gen. Gary Keefe .

*Photograph by Master Sgt. Mark Fortin*



Col. James J. Keefe

## AIRSCOOP

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## Commander's Column

By Col. James J. Keefe, 104th FW Commander

In some ways, this month's column may remind you of the movie 'Ground Hog Day,' where Bill Murray relives his life, day after day, and the dialogue becomes repetitious. With four major events on our horizon, I will share some insight and clarification on the upcoming challenges; but, like last month, there are many details that are still unknown. Without all the details, we have to make some assumptions and take some risks. These challenges are going to be hampered by the current fiscal conditions, which ultimately are restricting our resources, both money and manpower.

Our first priority is to excel during the Alert Force Evaluation. The NORAD inspection team is anticipated to conduct a no-notice inspection in the next few weeks. We need to ensure we are on our game. Though the Alert Mission is tied directly to select maintainers, pilots, security force members and command post controllers, the first impressions we make as a base can make a big impact on our overall assessment; so be vigilant. This is a graded inspection which needs to be treated as a "high-visibility" challenge by all members of the Wing.

The next big challenge is to relocate our flying operations in order to accomplish the many construction projects around the base. The runway construction project will take about six months, but the total construction timeline takes us into 2015, with significant infrastructure upgrades affecting all groups on base. The construction initiatives are tied to the constrained budget, and we must be ready to respond if the projects receive the funding we anticipate. Unfortunately, it appears we may be faced with our worst case scenario of splitting our Continuation Training (CT) and aerospace control alert mission (ACA) to two different bases from June to December. Our ACA activities may be flown out of Otis with our CT missions flying out of Westover ARB. We still have some issues to work out, but if we do not plan, we will not have enough time to safely execute the move.

Lastly we need to start preparing for a new challenge, scheduled for October of this year. There is a very strong likelihood that the ACC Inspector General Team will still visit us to conduct a Commander's Assistance Visit (CAV) over our previously scheduled Comprehensive Unit Inspection (CUI), formerly the Phase I and Phase 2 Operational Readiness Inspection (ORI).

The CAV is supposed to be an un-graded look at our programs (at least the ones that will be here at Barnes in October). Anticipate more info on the CAV, but know that because of the inspection change, and conflicting priorities, the planned exercises have been canceled for the remainder of the year, and the training calendar has been changed to reflect the new UTA schedule. We have rescheduled the UTAs to be "normal" two-day periods. We have also added a week of Annual Training (AT) from 19 to 23 August to help us prepare for the CAV. More words to follow on this as we get more clarity from ACC/IG.

I urge you all to remain flexible, be careful not to speculate or believe/spread rumors; there are a lot of moving parts to these plans, and we will need everyone's commitment to make them happen safely.

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**Sexual Assault S.A.F.E. helpline**  
**1-877-995-5247**



## Chief Master Sergeant's Column

By Chief Master Sgt. Todd Fappiano, 104th FW Command Chief

I want to continue the dialog about development that I started last month.

**But we can't start a discussion** about development without looking at AFI 36-2618, "The Little Brown Book." **In the first paragraph, the AFI states, "...there is a compelling need for a deliberate and common approach to enlisted force development."**

There are many ways we, as an enlisted force, should focus on development. In last month's article I discussed the education system at length...and I will foot-stomp the Community College of the Air Force and Professional Military Education as must-haves for Airmen, but you can only learn so much from formal education.

The other form of education that each enlisted member should focus on is through professional affiliations, clubs and fraternal organizations.

When I think of some of the greatest military-life lessons I have learned, they have come from events sponsored by or in support of professional organizations. I personally belong to a few, but here are some you could look into: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS); the Massachusetts National Guard Enlisted Association (MNGEA); the National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS); the National Guard Association of Massachusetts (NGAMA); the Air Force Sergeants Association (AFSA); the Non-Commissioned Officers Association (NCOA); the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW); and the American Legion.

Each of these organizations serves a different purpose, but they will all help advance your development.

On Saturday, April 20th, the Massachusetts National Guard Enlisted Association will meet in tandem with the National Guard Association of Massachusetts for

their annual conference in Marlborough, Massachusetts. If **you'd like to learn more about how** professional military organizations can aid in your development, you may want to consider attending.

Many of these organizations advocate for the organizations they represent; in a way we as service members cannot. This voice becomes very valuable in the world of legislation. Professional military organizations help influence laws that are beneficial for you and me and the organization. A great example of influence by one of these professional organizations is the increased tuition and fee waivers within Massachusetts. At a national level, the creation of a National Guard 4-star general on the Joint Chiefs of Staff was a product of lobby - influence.

Take every opportunity to develop. It not only benefits you, it benefits the organization, and those you mentor and lead.



## First Sergeant thoughts

By Master Sgt. Marnie Wallace, 104th MDG First Sgt.

April is a month filled with celebrations that honor new life and hope for the future. **As the official "Month of the Military Child," April is a time to** extend our gratitude and support to military children for the sacrifices they make.

There are a wide variety of activities and resources available that are designed to help military children overcome their struggles while embracing and developing their strengths. Celebrating the **military child's courage and** accomplishments through positive

experiences cultivates the self-confidence they will need to face future challenges.

The Month of the Military Child is an annual opportunity to acknowledge the selfless sacrifices **our nation's children make. Service member's children often experience** challenging circumstances that require peer and adult support systems to help them maintain a happy healthy lifestyle. There are several reputable resources available to help military children recognize and embrace their unique experiences while encouraging them to enjoy such simple pleasures as

family, community and nature. For assistance and ideas on how to celebrate the Month of the Military Child please utilize the following resources:

[www.operationmilitarykids.org](http://www.operationmilitarykids.org)

[www.mass4h.org](http://www.mass4h.org)

[www.militaryonesource](http://www.militaryonesource)

[www.bostoncentral.com](http://www.bostoncentral.com)

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# Editorial: Response is the worst part of our mission

By Maj. Matthew T. Mutti, 104th Fighter Wing Sexual Assault Prevention Coordinator

SAPR stands for Sexual Assault Prevention and Response. Response is at the end of the title because is the part of the job we wish we could leave off; if **there were no assaults, we wouldn't have** to respond. The reality is that we are responding at an alarming rate.

During Sexual Assault Prevention awareness month I wanted to discuss the issues, what is being done, and how you can help.

RAINN (Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network) reports that every two minutes someone in the U.S. is sexually assaulted, making it the most commonly occurring violent crime in America.

Even more disturbing is, according to published federal studies, approximately 60 percent of rapes are never reported...more sickening is that nearly 97 percent of all perpetrators never spend a day in jail.

These statics are what drive the **military to take action; if it's happening** outside the gates, it unfortunately happens inside as well. Though we try to live to a higher standard, we are not perfect—but we are taking steps to quell this heinous crime amongst our ranks.

Through education, reporting options and survivor-centric care, we hope to stop this issue from deteriorating our units and affecting our ability to defend freedom.

In a recent statement by Gen. Mark Welsh, the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, **he said, "The goal for sexual assault in the United States Air Force is ZERO. If you're a commander or a supervisor and you are not directly and aggressively involved in speaking up about this issue in your unit, then you're not part of the solution, you're part of the problem."**

Throughout the Air Force (including the Guard and Reserve), the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response office is helping survivors of this crime to receive the help they need. The offices are staffed by newly credentialed Victim Advocates to provide one-on-one support to survivors. The credentialing program is new and tied to a congressional mandate that requires our team to be at the same caliber as those in private sector—and the increased training is making a difference in the level of care we provide.

Following the successful bystander intervention training curriculum last year, the Air Force is introducing a new annual requirement for training that builds on the skills everyone should have learned during their BIT classes.

**Unfortunately the statics haven't** changed, and two-thirds of assault victims know their perpetrator; but that statistic helps us understand how we need to focus our efforts.

The importance of communication during intimate moments can never be understated. No person with good values wants to intentionally hurt another person; but it happens, largely because boundaries are neither created, communicated nor respected. We need to stop thinking about this problem from a stereotyped perspective, we need to address it as adults who understand that intimate issues need intimate conversations, and we need to respect **each other's wants and boundaries.**

If everyone took personal ownership of the issue—I am convinced we would have less sexual assaults and therefore less responses—**isn't that really the goal?**

## Leading the way in integration

By Maj. Benjamin Gilluly, 131<sup>st</sup> Fighter Squadron Weapons Officer

September 2012 brought significant change to the Barnes Air National Guard Base's way of doing business, especially in the way of 4th and 5th generation Fighter Integration. We recognized a deficiency in Fighter Integration training between F-15Cs and F-22As and developed an in-depth tactical training plan incorporating Langley's F-22 force into our weekly training.

We named the weekly exercise Sentry East and have since expanded the integration to include F-16s from Atlantic City and Washington DC, as well as KC-10s from McGuire, KC-135s from Pittsburgh, Bangor, Pease, McGuire and F-18s from Oceana Naval Air Station. Recently we have also had multi-national participation with EF-2000 Typhoons from Great Britain who participated in the advanced tactical training exercises.

This weekly exercise allows complex mission planning to take place, aiding in the development and refinement of joint-air frame integration tactics. The exercise

mission components include offensive and defensive counter-air as well as **"within visual range combat maneuvering"**—developing and exploiting synergies within the F-15s and F-22 to allow for the most effective joint utilizations. The exercises are built to allow for long vulnerability periods with multiple air-to-air refuelings, enhancing the effectiveness of the training.

Another benefit that Sentry East provides is the ability for each unit to brief and debrief from their home stations. A classified communication link allows for complete reconstruction and debrief of the mission after everyone lands at their home base.

The 104 FW Maintenance group has really stepped up to the plate by providing eight F-15s every Friday (as well as multiple other times during the normal week) for this very important training. Historically, the 131st Fighter Squadron has flown a turn pattern of six-turn-six (six F-15s for the morning and

six for the afternoon) with a couple of eight ships thrown in sporadically. This turn pattern limited the employment to two vs. four with no support from outside agencies. The increased generation rate by maintenance to eight F-15s allows for organic eight ship employment, thus enhancing our realistic training opportunities with the Raptors and other aircraft involved in the large force exercise. This restructuring of the annual Flying Hour program was the single largest enabler for this great training.

The 104FW is leading the way forward with 4th and 5th generation Fighter Integration. We will provide air dominance to any component commander, any time, any place to protect American interests at home and abroad.



# Air Force implements force structure changes

By Jennifer Cassidy, Air Force Public Affairs

The Air Force released its plan March 28 to implement force structure changes mandated by the Fiscal Year 2013 National Defense Authorization Act.

The bill authorized the service to complete actions approved in previous years, such as aircraft retirements, and directed execution of Congressionally-approved force structure actions.

Some of these changes were outlined in the Air Force's Total Force Proposal, developed in coordination with the Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve. Others were congressionally-directed.

"Our Air Force continues efforts to maximize the strength of our Total Force, and we are pleased with the progress that is being made on this front," said Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley. "This implementation plan illustrates the Air Force's continued commitment to transparency as it completes the force structure requirements directed and authorized by the NDAA."

The NDAA directs a reduction of 65 aircraft and approximately 1,400 military billets from the Air National Guard, 57 aircraft from the Air Force

Reserve, and 122 aircraft and approximately 6,100 military billets from the active-duty Air Force.

"Working together we can combine the personnel, equipment and readiness necessary to build a total Air Force equal to all the challenges our nation faces," said Lt. Gen. Stanley (Sid) E. Clarke III, director of the Air National Guard.

The Air Force's implementation plan includes a state-by-state description of changes for each base and the associated timeline. Each major command developed activation, reassignment, re-missioning or divestiture options.

"We've developed guiding principles to ensure that as we make decisions, we continue to have a strong foundation for what is best for our Air Force," said Lt. Gen. James F. Jackson, chief, Air Force Reserve and commander, Air Force Reserve Command. "We must leverage regular and reserve component strengths and align our decisions with a commitment as one total force team."

Key principles include: ensure personnel readiness, training and retention for transitioning units to remain at the highest level practicable and minimize mission gaps for units transitioning to new or different

missions. Each of the components embraces these principles.

The Air Force will apply this collaborative approach to facilitate open communication with key stakeholders on future total force efforts. Recently, the Secretary and Chief of Staff of the Air Force created a Total Force Task Force.

TF2 will create an enduring strategic process to determine how to correctly balance the strengths of each component to sustain capabilities required to defend our nation now and into the future.

"Our active, Reserve and Guard components are increasingly integrated -training, deploying and conducting a full range of missions together as one Air Force," said Donley, "and we're committed to ensuring that our active and reserve component mix correctly balances the strengths of each component, meeting our strategic requirements and our fiscal demands as well. The FY13 implementation plan gets us on a path toward that end."

Find the full text of the Air Force Fiscal Year 2013 National Defense Authorization Act Implementation Plan "A Strong Total Force for the Future"



## Chaplain's Corner

By Fr. (Capt.) Kenneth DeVoie, 104th Fighter Wing Chaplain

The Golden Rule or ethic of reciprocity is a maxim, or ethical code that essentially states either of the following:

1. One should treat others as one would like others to treat oneself.

or

2. One should not treat others in ways that one would not like to be treated.

It use to be in our culture, no matter **what one's religious or cultural** background, we, as a society, use to highly value living by this standard called the Golden Rule. Selfishness has always been around. As matter of fact, one of the first words children learn to say after *Mama* or *Dada*, is **"mine."** Christians & Jews have understood that this selfishness, even exhibited in early childhood, is a result of the fall of man into sin and a radical departure from the

original God-ordained order of the **"way things were suppose to be"** in our life with God and each other. All of the great world religions affirm a version or variation of this Golden Rule. There was a time in our society that this standard or ethic was affirmed at home, in school, **at church and in the public discourse...** helping to suppress the natural proclivity (i.e. the fallen human nature) toward selfishness. So, what has happened? Why is it that this once venerable standard seems more to be the exception **than the rule? Is it that we are now "too busy" at home, work and play to take the** time to impart these values to our children? Or is it that we have abdicated our role as parents to the Government and its secular school system to do the job? Is it that we are too busy or no longer see a need for a religious system or underpinning in our lives or those of

our children? Is it because we have **"outgrown" God? I'm not going to** pretend to have the answers to all these important questions. What I can do is offer an informed opinion. Or maybe better yet, I will leave these questions, and a few others for your thoughts and **reflection...**

What in my life (my personal or professional) for myself, my spouse and my children supports and or emphasizes the importance of living by the Golden Rule?

What outside organizations or affiliations (social, religious, **philanthropic, etc...**) **do I belong to, that** help me (my spouse & children) to live out the principle of the Golden Rule?

How can I make time in my life, the life of my family and relationships to foster the values engendered by living by the Golden Rule?

# AESA is the new four letter word on base

By Maj. Matthew Mutti, 104th Fighter Wing Executive Officer

In 1975 the Air Force completed its initial operations capability testing for the F-15 Eagle; the state-of-the-art fighter was equipped with the newest technology of that era, which included the center piece of the weapons capabilities, a steerable Pulse-Doppler radar (APG-63 v0).



The F-15 was designed around the fundamental idea that to be the most capable air-to-air fighter, it would need to find, fix and destroy targets faster than the competition—and it did just that, achieving the greatest kill ratio in history, which is 104-0.

But its relevance today is as **important as it was in the 70's**. In many ways, with the shrinking fleet and prolonged/challenged procurement timelines for the F-22 and F-35, it can be argued that the F-15s value in the homeland defense mission is at its highest since its early years in the inventory; and with the new AESA radar it is deadlier than ever.

AESA is short for Active Electronic Scanned Array and is the 3rd version of the APG-63 radar. This radar is being supplied to the alert-station F-15 community throughout the United States. The new

technology replaces the mechanically controlled dish with a flat plane containing more than 1,000 steerable diodes which exponentially increase the field of vision a pilot has over the airspace. These diodes have the capability to perform different detection, tracking, communication, and jamming functions. AESA radars provide significant increases in the F-15s ability to detect, track, and eliminate multiple threats faster and with greater efficiency.

The previous radar had a mean-time to failure of 15 flight hours; the new radar boasts a 1,250 percent decrease in the time between



maintenance.

On March 21, 2013, Barnes received its first AESA equipped aircraft, aircraft number 111.

**"This is our first of six AESA** equipped aircraft that we will leverage to better protect the Northeast airspace," said Col. James Keefe, 104th Fighter Wing Commander. "This radar is virtually unmatched, and underlines the relevance of the F-15 in today's Air Force. This is the right aircraft for the Alert Mission, and we are very excited about the opportunity to utilize this new enhanced capability."

This radar coupled with additional F-15 aircraft upgrades are expected to keep the aircraft flying through at least 2035, and the Air Force may extend the long-term status to all 249 F-15Cs and Ds

based on future needs, according to congressional testimony in 2012 from Maj. Gen. James Holmes, the assistant deputy chief of staff for operations, plans and requirements, and Maj. Gen. John Posner, the



director of global power programs.

The AESA radar installed in Aircraft 111 is the first of six the base expects over the course of 2013-2014. Aircraft 111, named in honor of the city of Holyoke, has also been used by the Air National Guard and Air Force to conduct advanced system tests, which, once incorporated throughout the fleet will further enhance its capabilities.

"The new advanced radar system also allows the wing to develop joint tactics with 5th generation fighter aircraft like the F-22," said Keefe. "The F-15 has an unbeaten combat record. With this radar, and integration with the newest fighters in the AF inventory; it will remain the first-choice to protect the homeland."





## Safety: How goes it?

By Senior Master Sgt. Thomas Dumais, 104th FW Safety

The unit has experienced zero/no injuries since the last How-Goes-It. The safety staff would like to thank everyone for your safety efforts!

The unit has experienced four mishaps since the last How-Goes-It

- A/C engine FOD; damage to be assessed; cost TBD.
- A/C Bird strike #2 pylon; pilot not aware of strike; no damage.
- GMV impact bollard; operator error; \$432.
- A/C bird strike on landing; damaged nose gear door; \$25.7K.

*How do you spell Springtime Safety? Two Wheels, Children, Pot Holes, House Repairs, Vehicle Maintenance, FOD, and Birds*

When we get into good weather we also need to brush up on our skills and our awareness of some hazard we have not seen for a while.

With the warmer weather we see an increase in motorcycles and bicycles. **The slogan is “look twice, save a life” and it’s true. Motorcycles and bicycles are very hard to see and require us to do our part to keep the roads safe. If you ride, take it slow for the first few**

rides—that sand on the road can be a killer!

In addition to bikes, children come out in the spring. In the good weather children often focus on playing and not on road traffic or hazards. Remember to take it slow in areas where children are at play and keep in mind that **“behind every ball rolling into the street is a kid”!**

As for other hazards, a big one is potholes. We often think about the damage that they cause our vehicles—but sometimes the bigger hazard is the driver swerving to avoid the pothole and not seeing the driver in the other lane.

We also see many injuries with **spring cleanup and home repairs. Let’s** face it, it was a hard winter and there are most likely things that need fixing around the house. Whether it be the broken branch hanging onto the roof or the gutter leak, each is a challenge and each has its own hazards. If you are thinking about climbing up, think about falling down. If you are using a ladder, think about electrical wires. Always have a buddy and never climb up with no one there to help you.

**I’d also encourage you to inspect** your vehicles too; I am sure they took a beating this winter and need some attention. Be cautious about remote

starters, they are great—but unforgiving. Remember to disarm them before putting your hands underneath the hood. If you have to get under a **vehicle make sure it’s properly supported on something other than a jack!** No one wants to find you crushed under your vehicle! Yuk!

Lastly, I would like to touch on Foreign Object Damage (FOD) and birds. All we ask is that you do your part to ensure debris, tools, and like **items don’t make it to our aircraft** ramp where they can cause major damage to our mission. The same is true for birds. Last CY we had two bird strikes for the entire year and so far in the month of March we already have two. If you see any gathering of birds, or possibly a larger bird such as a goose or hawk, on the airfield please call base operations at 698-1228 and **report it. Birds and airplanes don’t mix** and we need all of your eyes to help us reduce our bird strike hazards. Hope you all have a safe spring! With your help you will!

*Safety doesn’t happen by accident and we need everyone’s help to make sure!*

## Family Readiness Volunteer Group Easter egg hunt

By Master Sgt. Tina Dimino-Frazer, FRG-Chair



On Sunday, 24 March, the 104th Family Readiness Volunteer Group **hosted the Annual Children’s Easter Egg Hunt** at the Pioneer Valley NCO Club.

The event was well attended by children and families of the unit. Our friends, the Pioneer Valley USO, provided delicious desserts and beverages to sustain the children and families throughout the event.

Nearly 150 children took part in a variety of arts and craft activities including coloring Easter eggs and making Easter frames for their photos with Peter Cottontail.

The Easter Bunny arrived to the

excitement of the children, and he helped to kick-off the Egg Hunt with Col. James Keefe, the Wing commander.

Over 2000 colored eggs filled with treasure were scattered around Bldg 8 and the Salt Shed. Groups were divided by ages 0-2, 3-4, 5-7, and 8-10. Judging from the smiles and full **baskets, it’s safe to say the event was a huge success!**

The Family Readiness Group appreciates all the volunteers for making this event possible.

Interested in helping out? We welcome all volunteers! For more information - [104FWFRG@gmail.com](mailto:104FWFRG@gmail.com)

# Physical Fitness –it’s a way of life

By Maj. Mary Harrington, 104th FW Public Affairs Officer

If you’re like me, you maintain a decent level of physical fitness throughout the year, and you increase your efforts 90 days out, before the annual fitness assessment. This increased effort includes practicing the actual test – pushups, sit-ups and the run.

The current fitness standards, implemented in 2010, have mandated that we push even harder throughout the year. As result, there is a renewed culture of health and fitness at Barnes Air National Guard Base and throughout the Air Force.

Before the duty day, we often see members running, individually and in support groups. The sight of runners used to be less common. It was a common sight for me as a child; I spent the first 10 years of my life on Air Force bases, and we would often see runners in the morning. It’s really nice to see again and it’s a good reminder that physical fitness must be a way of life.

Our refurbished gym at Barnes Air National Guard Base has helped significantly. We now have a bigger workout area with more treadmills and step climbers, better fixed weights and free weights, a super sound system and multiple flat screen TV’s, and a whole new area with state-of-the-art Cross Fit equipment.

Staff Sgt. Dacia Lucas, an aircraft engine mechanic, has renewed her commitment to fitness over the past few years. She has inspired several members to take health and fitness to the next level, through her example. **“I have lost about eight inches total, and two**



pant sizes,” she said. **“As of today, I am down a total of 25 pounds.”**

Sgt. Lucas has always had an interest in fitness. **“When I was about 10, I started doing gymnastics and continued to compete through to my senior year of high school. While in high school, I envied people in the fitness and body building world such as Cory Everson, and Monica Brant.”**

She had goals to compete in fitness contests, but work got in the way, and overtime she slowly started gaining weight. **“In December 2010... I had arrived at 177 pounds. I had to make a change.”**

If you need insight on how to build your own program, Sgt. Lucas is happy to help. **“My biggest inspiration to stay fit is the people who have changed their lifestyles through**

seeing the results I acquired by training and diet. I look back on many friends and family who have also transformed. Seeing the results they have received, warms my heart. Their changes both in body and mind fuel my fire and I am very proud of their accomplishments.”

Sgt. Lucas emphasizes that **“there is no ‘diet’ - it is a lifestyle change. The foods you consume are 80 percent of your success, exercise is only 20. “I think about it like this: If you put bad fuel into your car, it will not operate as well as if it had good fuel. When exercising, your body needs fuel, so I try my best to fill it with the good stuff. Without it, your body will not have the energy it needs to get through a good workout.”**

**“I mix my workouts between Cross Fit, weightlifting, and some running. I try to train at least 5 days out of the week. With some type of workout, and they can last anywhere from 15 minutes (such as some Cross fit workouts) to an hour plus.”**

Sgt. Lucas’s best advice: **“Take small steps... short workouts are better than no workouts. Ask questions. Find a partner to train with who will keep you motivated. I have had some injuries and struggles of my own: I simply scaled back workouts, and did what I could until I got better.”**

The bottom line: Make it a way of life and, like Sgt. Lucas, **“don’t give up!”**



## BRAC proof ...

By Senior Master Sgt. Douglas Daponte, 104FW Human Resource Advisor

I am hearing the term **‘BRAC Proof’ a lot from our leaders.** We live in an age that nothing is guaranteed, but our state, local, and wing leaders are working tirelessly to ensure we, as a Wing, remain relevant and BRAC proof. We can help them to achieve this goal. There are a number of things each of us can do to ensure we are the BEST unit in the Air Force.

First, be ready! What does this mean? Ready your mind, body, and spirit. Everyone is charged with a responsibility to be the best that we can be. We do this by exercising our minds and learning our

jobs to the point of being subject matter experts. All of our journeys began at tech school. After learning our skill, we should complete our upgrade training as soon as we can. We also need to focus on Professional Military Education; it is vital to our growth as Airmen. We need to continuously exercise our minds through conferences, seminars, computer base training and formal mentoring opportunities. Educating ourselves is a must and sets our minds right.

Secondly, we must ensure our body is ready. Fly, fight, and win is not just a motto to say when it feels good, but a mindset to motivate yourself to be ready. Just like the need to exercise our minds, we must exercise our bodies. Planning and preparation is important to keeping

your body prepared to be a warrior – ready to fly, fight, and win!

Finally, our spirits must remain positive. Don’t take things for granted. Begin each day with a positive attitude and outlook on things. This mood will perpetuate amongst your peers, subordinates and leaders. We are charged with mentoring and supporting one another, and having a positive attitude creates an atmosphere of collaboration and cooperativeness.

The job of making our unit BRAC proof should not only rely on the shoulders of our leaders. We must all take an active part to ensure that we have a future as the 104<sup>th</sup> FW. Remember that whatever you are, be a good one.

# Financial aid and VA info for military

## Federal Resources

[www.studentaid.gov](http://www.studentaid.gov)

*Studentaid.gov* is Federal Student Aid's gateway website for students. It provides a wealth of knowledge, including information about applying for college and financial aid, information about financial aid, scholarship and career searches, and managing loan repayment.

[www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov)

If students want to begin exploring their financial aid options and get an early start on the financial aid process, FAFSA4caster is for them! By using FAFSA4caster, students and families will receive an early estimate of eligibility for federal student aid. This website provides students with an opportunity to increase their knowledge of the financial aid process and become familiar with the various types of federal student aid that are available.

[www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov)

*FAFSA.gov* is the website where students complete and submit the FAFSA on the Web. Students and families may also print the FAFSA on the Web Worksheet and PDF FAFSA from the site. After submitting the FAFSA, students may use this site to check the status of their application, view processing results, and submit corrections.

[www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov)

On this site, students and parents may apply for a Federal Student Aid Personal Identification Number, or FSA PIN. A FSA PIN allows students and parents to sign the FAFSA electronically. A FSA PIN will also allow students to access application information after they submit the FAFSA, sign and access other financial aid documents such as loan promissory notes, and access loan information after they leave college.

<http://www.finaid.org/>

The SmartStudent Guide to Financial Aid. Website includes information on scholarships, loans, and information on financial aid applications.

Other useful websites:

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college>

<http://www.scholarshipexperts.com/>

<http://www.blackexcel.org/link4.htm>

<http://www.estudentloan.com/>

<http://www.finaid.org/military/>

<http://www.fastweb.com>

## \*\*\* NOTE \*\*\*

[If you are interested in Financial Aid, please call YOUR schools Financial Aid Office for further guidance.](#)

VA information [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov)

To ask questions about your specific benefits you may call the VA Buffalo Regional Office at 716-857-3196 or 3197; please select option 1 to be moved to a priority status as an international caller.

2 options to apply for your GIBILL benefits:

Fill out a Form 22-1990 from the GIBILL website and mail to the VA Buffalo Region

<http://www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms/VBA-22-1990-ARE.pdf>

or apply through the Ebenefits website.

<https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits-portal/ebenefits.portal/>

Ebenefits website: The Gateway to VA benefits information. You will need to create a username/password to access this site; You will be able to apply for your VA GIBILL benefits.

To ask specific questions about your transferability to dependents with the Post 9/11 GIBILL please call or email AFPC at 800-525-0102 or 210-565-5000 or DSN 665-5000 Please use this website to actually transfer your benefits;

<http://milconnect.dmdc.mil>

[Basic difference in Chapter 30 \(Montgomery GIBILL\) and Chapter 33 \(Post 9/11\)](#)

[Chapter 30 \(per GIBILL website\)](#)

The MGIB program provides up to 36 months of education benefits. This benefit may be used for degree and certificate programs, flight training, apprenticeship/on-the-job training and correspondence courses. Remedial, deficiency, and refresher courses may be approved under certain circumstances. Generally, benefits are payable for 10 years following your release from active duty.

If you use the MGIB while on active duty VA can pay you whichever is less:

The monthly rate based on tuition and fees for your course(s); or

Your maximum monthly MGIB rate (basic rate plus any increases you may qualify for).

Current full time payment: \$1564.00

Current ½ time payment: \$782.00

This money is paid directly to you from the VA. It is your responsibility to pay the school whatever money is owed to them.

[Chapter 33 \(Post 9/11\) – per GIBILL website](#)

The Post-9/11 GI Bill program is comprised of multiple payments. All payments and maximum amounts listed on this page are applicable to individuals eligible for the full benefit (100% eligibility tier). If you are not eligible for the full benefit, the payment and maximum amounts listed will be prorated based on your **eligibility percentage**.

Tuition is paid directly to the school. BAH is paid to you, however if you are currently active duty (you are NOT eligible for this benefit)

Book Stipend (\$1000 per year) – based on how many credits you are currently enrolled in.

For a public school – you are eligible to receive all Tuition and fee payments for an in-state student.

[EXAMPLE OF BENEFITS \(COMPARISON\)](#)

Student is enrolled in 2 classes for a 16 week session; each class is approx \$750.00 (\$250 a semester hour x 3 credits). This total is equal to \$1500.00 of tuition owed to the school. The school considers you a ½ time student.

Chapter 30 benefits approx:

VA would pay YOU approx \$782.00 a month for 16 weeks (4 months). This equals to \$3128 paid to you. You pay the school the \$1500.00 owed to them and you pocket \$1628.00. VA would then charge you approx 2 months of usage out of your 36 months of benefits.

Chapter 33 benefits:

VA would pay the school directly their tuition and fees. You would not be eligible for BAH if you are currently on active duty, however you would be eligible for the book stipend. (approx \$250.00 for the 6 credit hours). VA would then charge you for 4 months out of the 36 months.

\*NOTE\*\*\* If you have already converted from Chapter 30 to Chapter 33 then you cannot go back to Chapter 30. You will have to use your Chapter 33 benefits.

# For Your Information

## News from Massachusetts JFHQ-A1

On 1 January 2013, the Supplement 1 to the Air National Guard Instruction 36-2301, Officer Professional Military Education (PME) was published. This instruction establishes policy for all officers, in the Massachusetts Air National Guard regarding completion of Professional Military Education (PME). It is recommended that all officers review this policy as it may apply to your career or the career of an officer in your rating chain.

Highlights and summary of changes is as follows:

The requirement for line officer promotion to Major utilizing Position Vacancy Promotion (PVP) to include the successful completion of Squadron Officer School (SOS) in-residence. Promotion to Major utilizing Reserve Officer Personnel Management Act (ROPMA) to include successful completion of SOS in-residence or Distant Learning. Promotion to Lieutenant Colonel utilizing PVP or ROPMA to include the successful completion of Air Command and Staff (ACSC) in-residence or Distant Learning. Promotion to Colonel to include successful completion of Air War College in-residence or Distant Learning. Establishes policy that officers selected for promotion by a mandatory selection board who do not have the PME required for the grade to which recommended for promotion, will not be promoted in the Massachusetts Air National Guard. Allows for a one-year voluntary delay of ROPMA mandatory promotion in lieu of separation in order to complete PME. Establishes requirement that officers scheduled to meet a mandatory selection board will receive a "do not promote" recommendation from their Senior Rater.

TABLE 1: Line Officer PME Requirements in the Massachusetts Air National Guard

PME Requirement	Method	Promotion to	Notes
A. Squadron Officer School	(In-residence) (In-residence/Correspondence)	Major (PVP) Major (ROPMA)	1
B. Air Command and Staff College or any approved Intermediate Service School	(In-residence/Correspondence) (In-residence/Correspondence)	Lieutenant Colonel (PVP) Lieutenant Colonel (ROPMA)	1 1
C. Air War College or any approved Senior Service/Joint Service School	(In-residence/Correspondence)	Colonel	2

### NOTES

1. PME requirement does not apply to professional officers. A professional officer is defined as an officer assigned to a Legal, Chaplain or Health Profession position. Professional officers are strongly encouraged to enroll in the appropriate PME course.
2. Professional officers are required to complete Senior Service School in order to attain the rank of Colonel (O-6).

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## Alternatives to CCAF credit without tuition assistance

All of the general education requirements for the Community College of the Air Force can be completed with free College Level Examination Program (CLEP) or Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES) testing.

You can get the study guides from your [education office](#), library, or you can hit the link to the [Peterson's Air Force Education Resource Center](#). At the Peterson's site, you will find practice tests for all 33 subjects and the e-book section has "*Master the CLEP*"...a book with subject reviews and practice exercises for the five general CLEP subject tests that are required for your CCAF (college composition, humanities, college mathematics, natural sciences, and social sciences/history).

Apply for pell grants and/or student loans at [www.FAFSA.ed.gov](http://www.FAFSA.ed.gov). This grant can provide you up to \$5,500/year which will pay for 4-7 classes (and books). FAFSA can also provide information on low interest loans to pay for tuition.

You can also use your 9/11 GI Bill, but word of caution...using the bill while you are still in can cause you to lose money in the long run...part timers get paid less than full time students and you will also not get the BAH \$ that you are eligible once you **separate/retire...the numbers are [here](#)**, and you should also discuss this with your education office.

HARM/SARM courses at Dyess AFB and Fort Dix can also count towards your CCAF...if your unit has the funds and are willing to send you in this fiscally strained environment.

Hit up your base education office to see what scholarships are available and how to apply for them. If you are willing to do some school work...a short essay for the scholarship should be a piece of cake!

Paying tuition outright...I know, it is a lot of money. But, if you can afford it, the amount of [tax benefits](#) for students can be huge. For example, the [American Opportunity Tax Credit](#) provides a maximum annual credit of \$2,500.

## For Your Information

### 2013 FREE TAX ASSISTANCE

What: Free Tax assistance to Military Members  
 Where: Cape Cod, Chicopee, Devens, Milford, Reading, Wellesley, Worcester  
 When: Make an Appointment today online!  
 How: <http://massguard.org/appointments>

### FREE PASTA DINNER



What: Dinner for Barnes ANGB Families  
 Where: Dining Facility  
 When: May 22 from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm

### CPR CLASSES



What: CPR Classes for members & families  
 Where: Dining Facility  
 When: All-day May 22



Honor and support wounded American service members returning from conflict during the Ice Stars for Wounded Warriors; April 26 and 27th at the Mullen Center at UMASS-Amherst.

Join fellow Wounded Warrior supports for a parade at 3:30 on the 27th, and Figure Skating Exhibition at 7:00 p.m. For more information visit <http://icestarsforwoundedwarriors.weebly.com>

Sign up today to receive the Barnes Family Flyer, a weekly email with information on benefits, entitlements, events and job opportunities for our Barnes family community! Call or email Jennifer Cesaitis today at x 6981183 or email [Jennifer.cesaitis@ang.af.mil](mailto:Jennifer.cesaitis@ang.af.mil)

**Did You Know...The myPers website provides a 24/7 online self-service capability to numerous personnel actions?**

Log on to myPers.af.mil using your CAC:

Go to myPers.af.mil  
**Click the "CAC" Login" selection**  
 Select the appropriate certificate  
 Input your Personal Identification Number (PIN #)  
 Review the home page and select from the helpful links to learn more about services available

--OR--

If accessing with your Username (User ID) and Password:

Go to myPers.af.mil  
**Click in the "User ID" box and input your user name**  
**Click in the "Password" box and input your password**  
**Click "LOG-IN"**

Can't remember your User ID and/or password? Click on the link, **"Forgot your username or password?"** and simply follow the steps provided. Please note using the "User ID/Password" option will limit access to some online self-service applications.

The myPers website is your Total Force source for personnel information and online service. Go check it out!

### CLUB COINS ARE IN



The 2013 Pioneer Valley Membership Coins are available now. Join the club for \$10 and receive a limited edition F-94 Starfire coin.



Contact any member of the club council or stop by the club this drill to get your coin.

### [DFAC MENU](#)

#### Saturday

Soup – Chicken Chili, Cream of Broccoli  
 Entrée – Baked Ham, Lemon Baked Fish, Mashed Potatoes, Orange Rice, Green Beans & Summer Squash  
 Dessert – Jello-Cake, Blueberry Cobbler, Ice Cream

#### Sunday

Soup – Chicken Chili, Minestrone  
 Entrée – Pineapple Chicken, Yankee Pot Roast  
 Oven-roasted Potatoes, Sweet Potatoes  
 Carrots, Corn  
 Dessert – Yellow Cake w/Frosting, Vanilla Pudding, Ice Cream

#### Short Order (both days)

Burgers, Hot Dogs, Grilled Chicken, Grilled Reubens, Fries

## For Your Information

### BASE HONOR GUARD LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS

- Be part of the tradition of excellence
- Represent the ANG & AF at military burials
- Display the flag at military & sporting events
- All ranks/specialties can apply

Contact Senior Airman Colon at 698-1311  
or email the honor guard at :  
[104FW.HonorGuard@ang.af.mil](mailto:104FW.HonorGuard@ang.af.mil)



### UPCOMING ASVAB & AFOQT DATES

#### Air Force Classification Test (ASVAB) FY13

Listed are the dates when the AFCT will be offered

May 24, 2013 at 0900, bldg 1

August 23, 2013 at 0900, bldg 1

#### Air Force Officer Qualification Test FY13

Listed are the dates when the AFOQT will be offered

May 10, 2013 at 0900, bldg 1

August 16, 2013 at 0900, bldg 1

### 104TH MEDICAL GROUP—HEALTH PROMOTIONS

Health Promotions- The 104th Medical Group is now offering a health promotion class on Sunday of the UTA. 104th Medical Group will be starting Health Promotion classes for all Wing members to attend. No appointment necessary, just walk-in and join the group. The class will meet on Sunday morning from 1000- 1100 at the 104th Medical Group - back training lab (RM18).

#### Health Promotion Calendar

April - no class d/t ORI/ORE

May- summer safety

June - no class / Ore / ORI

JULY- no class

Aug - Balancing Calories

Sep - no class

OCT- no class ORI

NOV- dental health

DEC -Healthy Holiday eating

## NE Air Museum—April events

### APRIL VACATION FUN AT THE NEW ENGLAND AIR MUSEUM

The New England Air Museum in Windsor Locks, Conn. has announced the following schedule of activities for the April School Vacation Break.

Monday, April 15th- Lego Contest. Step into a room full of **LEGOS and build your ideal aircraft. The theme is “Winged Flight”.** The program is for ages 3-12 and will run from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Prizes will be awarded for each age category: 3-5, 6-8, & 9-12. Participants do not need to be present to win a prize.

Tuesday, April 16th- Open Cockpit Day. The Museum will host an Open Cockpit program with up to 8 aircraft to be open including helicopters, an airliner, a jet fighter and a WWII aircraft. All cockpits will close at 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, April 17th- Scavenger Hunt Contest. The Museum will offer a scavenger hunt to help visitors of all ages discover the **Museum’s treasures located in its three exhibit hangars.** There will be prizes for all participants.

Thursday, April 18th- **Aircraft Drawing Contest “What I love about flight”.** Participants between the ages of 3-15 can make a drawing or a collage. All materials will be provided. Prizes will be awarded for each age category: 3-5, 6-8, 9-11 & 12-15. Participants do not need to be present to win a prize.

Friday, April 19th- Theme-Based Tours- Three tours will be offered during the day: Aviation Pioneers Amelia Earhart, Igor I. Sikorsky & Connecticut’s Own Howard Bunce; Connecticut Aviation Landmarks & The New England Air Museum- Picking up the pieces after the 1979 Tornado. Also to be featured will be Time Machine Hobby demonstrating R/C model flight.

**During this week the Museum’s Flight Sim Spot will be open each of these days between 10:30 a.m and 4:00 p.m.** Flight Sim Spot allows visitors to use state-of-the-art simulators to virtually fly any aircraft using real cockpit controls. The cost is \$3 for a half hour flight or \$5 for an hour flight. Two people per simulator—pilot and copilot. Museum Members free!

The New England Air Museum is open 10am-5pm Monday through Sunday and is located in Windsor Locks, Conn. adjacent to Bradley International Airport. Take I-91 north or south to CT. exit 40 (Route 20) to Route 75 north. Admission is \$12.00 for adults, \$11 for seniors and \$6.50 for children aged 4-12 (3 and under free).

The New England Air Museum is owned and operated by the Connecticut Aeronautical Historical Association, a private, non-profit educational institution organized in 1959. Located at Bradley International Airport in Windsor Locks, the Museum is the largest aviation museum in New England. This educational organization is dedicated to preserving and presenting historically significant aircraft and related artifacts, engaging visitors through high-quality exhibits helping them to understand aviation technology and history and inspiring students through innovative and hands-on educational programs.

For additional information call the Museum at 860-623-3305 or visit [www.neam.org](http://www.neam.org) <<http://www.neam.org/>>

## For Your Information

Traditional Officer Vacancy  
Logistics Readiness Officer  
AFSC: 21R3  
Rank: Commission eligible to Major

### POSITION QUALIFICATIONS

Integrates logistics processes within the base mission. The major logistics processes include distribution, materiel management and contingency operations. Directs and manages distribution management, materiel management, contingency operations, fuels management, airlift operations, and vehicle management. Plans and programs logistics support for wartime requirements.

### SPECIALTY QUALIFICATIONS

For entry into this specialty the member must possess a bachelorettes degree. Undergraduate academic specialization in logistics management, economics, management, business administration, computer science, information management systems, finance, accounting, petroleum engineering, chemical engineering, or industrial management is desirable.

SUBMIT APPLICATIONS TO: Barnes ANG Base, 104th Force Support Squadron, 175 Falcon Drive, Westfield, MA 01085.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: May 5, 2013

Board information to follow



Traditional Officer Vacancy  
Budget Officer  
AFSC: 65F3  
Rank: Commission eligible to Major

### POSITION QUALIFICATIONS

Financial Management Officers accomplish financial operations for supported agencies to ensure funds are available for the manpower, equipment, supplies and services our units need. They account for current and future requirements in spending reports and budget projections. Establish work flow efficiencies with personnel and procedures to ensure customer service while maintaining audit readiness in accordance with current laws/directives intended to prevent fraud and fund losses. Financial Officers also perform cost estimates, oversee distribution and establish internal controls and quality assurance programs that protect scarce DOD resources for both training and contingency operations.

### SPECIALTY QUALIFICATIONS

For entry into this AFSC, an undergraduate academic degree math, engineering, economics, business management, accounting, and finance are desirable. A minimum of 24 semester hours in economics, accounting, finance, management and statistics subjects (6 of which must be in accounting) is mandatory. The member must also have **no record of conviction by a civilian court for offenses involving larceny, robbery, wrongful appropriation, burglary, or have received non-judicial punishment under the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) for fraud or offenses involving acts of larceny, wrongful appropriation, robbery, burglary or fraud 132 or never been convicted by military courts-martial for these same offenses.**

SUBMIT APPLICATIONS TO: Barnes ANG Base, 104th Force Support Squadron, 175 Falcon Drive, Westfield, MA 01085.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: May 5, 2013

For Your Information

# The 104<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing

## ENLISTED APPRECIATION NIGHT

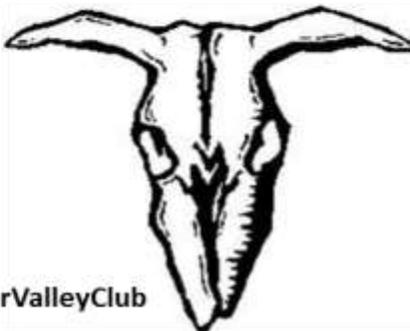
### Pioneer Valley Club Proudly Presents



Saturday 4 May 2013

Immediately following release from duty

**Free Food  
(until it runs  
out)**



**Horseshoe  
Pits open!**

<https://www.facebook.com/PioneerValleyClub>

### Religion notes

General Christian Service: Saturday of the UTA, at 4:00 p.m., in the Base Chapel / building 12, Chaplain Stephen Misarski presiding.



Orthodox Catholic Mass: Sunday of the UTA at 3:30 p.m., in the Base Chapel of Bldg. 12. Fr. Devoie presiding.

### Congratulations on your retirements

Neil Dargis	FSS	24 Apr 2013
Turner Fawkes	AMXS	7 May 2013
Richard Cote	CF	11 May 2013
Anita Compagnone	MDG	1 Jun 2013
Robert Stokes	AMXS	5 Jun 2013
Robert Cross	MDG	10 Jun 2013
David Cooper	OSF	30 Jun2013

### CCTV broadcast line up

Channel 7 - Training videos & Base Info

Channel 9 - Warrior Network

Channel 10 - Pentagon Channel - inop



### Ancillary training schedule - Channel 7

<u>Morning</u>	<u>Training Video</u>
0900-0940	Forklift Fundamentals and Ops
0940-1013	Confined Space Awareness
1013-1023	Basic Ladder Safety
1023-1053	Lockout/Tagout
1053-1101	FOD Prevention
1101-1108	Copyright Infringement

<u>Afternoon</u>	<u>Training Video</u>
1300-1340	Forklift Fundamentals and Ops
1340-1413	Confined Space Awareness
1413-1423	Basic Ladder Safety
1423-1453	Lockout/Tagout
1453-1501	FOD Prevention
1501-1508	Copyright Infringement

### Congratulations on your promotions

#### To Airman. (E-2)

- Neal Colburn , CES
- Victoria Von Den Beken, LRS
- Jonathan Gaines, SFS
- Anthony Dieni, SFS
- Samuel Schrader, SFS



#### To Senior Airman. (E-4)

- Michael Poudrier, AMXS
- Edward Schram, MXS



#### To Tech. Sgt. (E-6)

- Jason Grimaldi, FW
- Kirk Crochiere, AMXS
- Michael Hoar, MXS
- Nathaniel Poudrier, MXS
- Jay Kinney, LRS



#### To Master Sgt. (E-7)

- Matthew Leonard, MXS
- Michael Hilton, MXS
- Andrew Cekovsky , SFS



### Welcome to new members

- Alexis La Vallee, SFS
- Joseph Veale, LRS
- Zachary Smola, SFS
- Scott Miller, MXS
- Nicholas Asseslin, SFS
- David Montalvo, MXS
- Benjamin DeVoie, AMXS
- James Roncarati, AMXS
- Przemyslaw Szura, SFS
- Holly Lecluyse, MOF

# This Month in History

Apr 18, 1942

In the early morning hours, 16 B-25B Mitchell bombers, led by Lt. Col. James Doolittle, struck Tokyo, Kobe, Nagoya and Yokohama. "Doolittle's Raid" inflicted little physical damage to Japan, but it gave a needed lift to morale in the U.S. In Japan, the psychological damage of the attack was more important, and caused the Japanese to extend its defensive perimeter.

April 6, 1953

A B-36 dropped an experimental atomic air-to-air missile warhead in a Mark 5 ballistic casing from 42,000 feet. Retarded by parachute, the bomb exploded six miles above Yucca Flat, Nev., at the highest known altitude of any nuclear blast by that date.

Apr 27, 1977

When the 525th Tactical Fighter Squadron arrived at Bitburg AB, Germany, with its F-15 Eagles, the 36th Tactical Fighter Wing became the first unit outside the U.S. to be equipped with these aircraft.

April 6, 1972

American aircraft and warships began heavy, sustained attacks on North Vietnam, the first time since the October 1968 cessation of bombing.

Aug 22, 1990

President George Bush called-up 200,000 Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve personnel for Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

Apr 12, 1991

F-15 Eagle aircrews, stationed at Galeana Airport, Alaska, intercepted their first Soviet AN-74 Coaler aircraft.



Volume 14

November 1962

Number 1

## Weekend Training Assemblies To Replace Present Schedule



Six members of the 104th Tactical Fighter Group are presented with the Air Force Commendation Medal for services performed during the recent tour of active duty at Phalsbourg, France.

The recipients, from left, are Maj Benedict E Tarnauskas, Capt Frank Golas, SMSgt Raymond B Devlin, MSgt Joseph A Post, MSgt Walter Bradlinski and SSgt William R Morehouse.

Weekend training assemblies, composed of two eight-hour sessions on the Saturday and Sunday of the same weekend, will become the standard for all units at this Base starting next month.

The first of the two-day sessions will be on December 15 and 16, with all the training assemblies through the end of the fiscal year next June scheduled in the same pattern.

For the last 13 years, the picture had included two Wednesday night meetings and a full day on Sunday to meet each month's requirements. The new setup will not change the number of hours of training involved, but it is expected to provide better utilization of the time spent.

The four-hour evening sessions were said to be using up too much useful time in the administrative requirements and in setting up and closing out the evening's arrangements. The longer sessions are expected to cut this lost time.

Continued on Page 10

### MASSACHUSETTS AIR NATIONAL GUARD

Barnes Air National Guard Base  
175 Falcon Drive  
Westfield, MA 01805

[www.104fw.ang.af.mil](http://www.104fw.ang.af.mil)

Social Media Sites:

[www.facebook.com/barnesang](http://www.facebook.com/barnesang)  
[www.twitter.com/104fighterwing](http://www.twitter.com/104fighterwing)  
[www.flickr.com/photos/barnesangb](http://www.flickr.com/photos/barnesangb)



*PRIDE,*  
*PROFESSIONALISM,*  
*PATRIOTISM*

**We're on the Web**

[WWW.104FW.ANG.AF.MIL](http://WWW.104FW.ANG.AF.MIL)

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