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104th FIGHTER WING WWW.104FW.ANG.AF.MIL



104th Fighter Wing Flagship F-15 receives symbolic graphics

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Did you know?

Barnestormers: The U.S. Air Force will fully transition to the OCP uniforms on April 1, 2021!

Come April 1st, wear of the Airman Battle Uniform (ABU) will no longer be authorized and the Operational Combat Pattern (OCP) uniform will become mandatory wear.

For more information & updates, check out [AFI 36-2903 Dress & Apperance of Air Force Personnel](#).

104th Fighter Wing Flagship F-15 receives symbolic graphics

By Staff Sgt. Hanna Smith



U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Leo Burbee, 104th Maintenance Group, aircraft structural maintenance supervisor, touches the graphic on the wing's flagship F-15C Eagle at Barnes Air National Guard Base, Mass. Jan. 22, 2021. The graphic featured on both sides of the F-15, appears to display the American Flag, but upon closer look, the hundreds of names of members in the 104th Fighter Wing are visible. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Hanna Smith)

After about six-months of designing and planning, the 104th Fighter Wing's flagship F-15C Eagle, tail number 125, received new nose art graphics in late December.

The roughly six-foot by four-foot nose art graphic, featured on both sides of the F-15, appears to display the American flag, but upon closer look, displays the hundreds of names of members in the 104th Fighter Wing.

Master Sgt. Leo Burbee, 104th Maintenance Group aircraft structural maintenance supervisor, and Westfield native, was part of the team behind the jet's new nose art decals.

"The original inspiration behind the decals was the importance and tradition of having Airmen's names featured on a jet," said Burbee. "Typically, the only names on a jet are those of the pilot and dedicated crew chief. So by putting

all the members' names from the wing within the decals on the flagship jet it really demonstrates how we are all here on the same team, for the same reason," he said.

The team also included a special component in the design process. They paid tribute to the wing's history by including the names of the wing's fallen.

"In addition to all of the names of all the current 104th Fighter Wing members, we also added all of the names that are a part of the base's F-100 memorial," said Burbee. "The memorial commemorates all of those who lost their lives while serving the 104th Fighter Wing. We incorporated all of those names into the graphic in a special golden color so they would always be represented as part of the unit," he said.

After the concept was nailed down, Burbee worked closely with Lt. Col. Peter Carr, 104MXG Commander, Tech. Sgt. Derek Jendrysik, 104MXG aircraft structural maintenance technician, and Tech. Sgt. Ryann Parker, 104MXG maintenance command support staff

member, to create the actual design for the decals.

"After I got the American Flag design idea from Master Sgt. Burbee, I worked with Tech. Sgt. Parker from our command support staff section to compile a list of the names of everyone at the 104th Fighter Wing," said Jendrysik. "The most difficult part of the whole design process was trying to plan around the aircraft's systems including antennas and lights and then figuring out the largest size font we could use in the remaining space."

Once the final designs for the decals were produced, Burbee and Jendrysik worked alongside Tech. Sgt. Michael Poudrier, 104MXG dedicated crew chief for tail number 125, and Airman 1st Class Thomas Desrochers, 104MXG aircraft structural maintenance technician, for several hours to apply the decals to the jet.

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104th Fighter Wing Flagship F-15 receives symbolic graphics, continued

By Staff Sgt. Hanna Smith

Col. Tom ‘Sling’ Bladen, 104FW commander, was impressed with how the Airmen created and executed the decal project.

“I am proud of and astounded by all of the Airmen involved in this project,” said Bladen. “It was a huge team effort and the group’s ability to take an idea and then turn it into this beautiful, symbolic representation of our wing on the flagship jet, while dealing with all of the complexities of working around the aircraft’s systems, is really eye-watering.”

The decals will impact the wing for years to come. For Burbee, being able to have a hand in this experience was rewarding.

“It’s really neat to be able to have a hand in designing and creating something like these decals that are going to have an impact on the members of the 104th FW for years to come,” said Burbee. “What I find even more impactful is the idea that someone who doesn’t get the opportunity to go out on the flightline gets to take their family out during an



U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Jendrysik, 104th Maintenance Group, aircraft structural maintenance technician, points out his name on the new graphic on the wing's flagship F-15C Eagle in the wing's Main Hangar Jan. 22, 2021. The graphic featured on both sides of the F-15, appears to display the American Flag, but upon closer look, the hundreds of names of members in the 104th Fighter Wing are visible. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Hanna Smith)

air show and be able to show them their name on the jet. The idea of that for me is the real reward,” he said.



U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Jendrysik, left, 104th Maintenance Group, aircraft structural maintenance technician, and Master Sgt. Leo Burbee, right, 104MXG, aircraft structural maintenance supervisor, pose in front of the wing's flagship F-15C Eagle's new nose art in the wing's Main Hangar Jan. 22, 2021. The graphic featured on both sides of the F-15, appears to display the American Flag, but upon closer look, the hundreds of names of members in the 104th Fighter Wing are visible. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Hanna Smith)



U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Leo Burbee, 104th Maintenance Group, aircraft structural maintenance supervisor, places a cover over an antenna on an F-15C Eagle at Barnes Air National Guard Base, Mass. Jan.22, 2021. The graphic featured on both sides of the F-15, appears to display the American Flag, but upon closer look, the hundreds of names of members in the 104th Fighter Wing are visible. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Hanna Smith)



Massachusetts Air National Guard 2020 Annual Award Winners



Representing the 104th Fighter Wing:



Airman of the Year
SrA Sara Kolinski
104 FW HQ/PA



NCO of the Year
TSgt Jaymie White
104 FW HQ/JA



SNCO of the Year
MSgt Chris Torres
104 FW SFS



Headlines and Highlights

104th Public Affairs Office



104th Fighter Wing holds PHA



MAANG briefed on civil unrest response



Members of MAANG become deputized



104FW receives COVID-19 vaccine



MAANG conducts ceremonies in D.C.



Secret Service presents appreciation

Welcomes, Farewells, Promotions and Points of Contact

104th Public Affairs Office

Recruiters

If you want to learn about a career with the 104th Fighter Wing call one of our recruiters to learn more about serving in the Air National Guard, and the benefits you can receive, including 100% tuition and fee waiver.

- Recruiting Office Supervisor, Master Sgt. Glendaennis Schuster (413) 237-0427**
- Retention Office Manager, Tech. Sgt. Bento Fernandes, (413) 636-2291**
- Worcester Area Recruiter, Tech. Sgt. Brian Whitman, (413) 237-4525**
- Western Mass Recruiter, Tech. Sgt. Ernest Smith, (413) 237-0982**
- Western Mass Recruiter, Tech Sgt. Kayla Gallagher, (413) 207-5186**

Are you looking for a new drill status guardsman opportunity at the 104th Fighter Wing? Take a look at our 104FW DSG career opportunities page on our SharePoint Page.

[DSG Careers on SharePoint](#)

Yes, your CAC is required to access SharePoint.

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Welcomes

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Senior Airman Andrew Collier, MXS | Staff Sgt. Quentin Brooks, CES |
| Staff Sgt. Caitlyn Durant, AMXS | Tech. Sgt. Anthony Villalon, MDG |
| Staff Sgt. Conner Hartman, AMXS | 1st Lt. Kyle Engasser, 131 FW |
| Staff Sgt. Matthew Marshall, MXS | Capt. Eugene Clark, MXS |
| Staff Sgt. Daniel Andreas, MOF | |

Farewells

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Staff Sgt. Aaron Wolfgang, SFS | Master Sgt. Corey Carpenter, MDG |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|

Promotions

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Airman 1st Class Jacob Parent, CES | Tech. Sgt. Eric Franco, CES |
| Senior Airman Elizabeth Sicard, OSF | Tech. Sgt. Patrick O'Brien, SFS |
| Senior Airman Christian Flynn | Lt. Col. Christopher Ruscio, JA |
| Tech. Sgt. Harrison Fox, AMXS | |

Wellness Center Points of Contact

Did you know that we have a wellness center full of professionals who can help you with a wide array of items?

- Capt. Tra’Vorus Weaver, Chaplain, tra_vorus.weaver@us.af.mil**
- Lisa Potito, Airman & Family Readiness Program Manager, lisa.potito@us.af.mil**
- Amanda Winslow, Airman & Family Readiness Specialist, amanda.winslow@us.af.mil**
- Michelle Pennington, Director of Psychological Health, michelle.pennington.1@us.af.mil**
- Mary Keeler, Sexual Assault Response Coordinator, mary.keeler.2@us.af.mil**