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Out & About

Training with the Royal Canadian Air Force

AirScoop

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Col. Peter T. Green III

Vice Commander
Col. David Halasi-Kun

Command Chief
Chief Master Sgt. Maryanne Walts

Chief of Staff
Lt. Col. John D. Keeler

Chief of Public Affairs
Capt. Tony Mutti

Public Affairs Officer
2nd Lt. Amelia Leonard

Public Affairs Staff
Senior Master Sgt. Julie Avey
Tech. Sgt. Lindsey Sarah Watson-Kirwin
Airman 1st Class Randy Burlingame
Airman Sara Kolinski
Welcome to May drill and the beginning of a very busy 45 day period. The good news is the operations tempo should quiet down by the end of June and stay that way through September. We have a lot to get through, but hopefully we can give a well-deserved break to the wing this summer so we can all get some quality time with our families and friends.

We have the Norway Deployment for Training, an Air Combat Command Capstone inspection, and a runway repair and relocation all stacked up on our collective plate. I have absolute confidence in the wing to succeed in all of these events. We are well trained, care about the mission, and most importantly, we care about each other. Be good wingmen, watch out for each other, and we will knock it out of the park in typical Barnestormer style.

First on the plate is the Deployment for Training to Norway. We are once again going to Russia’s back yard to project American commitment to NATO, and to push back against Russian aggression in Eastern Europe. While the DFT is only three weeks long, it sends a very strong message. This exercise involves forces across Europe and is on the Russian doorstep. To understand the impact and message, imagine how our nation would react if Russia, China, North Korea, and Iran had a major war-fighting exercise in the Gulf of Mexico. We are serving as a key instrument of messaging between two powerful nations. We will execute flawlessly, the Russians will be watching closely (just as they did in Bulgaria and Romania), and they will once again understand that American air superiority is undeniable, and Barnestormers are not to be trifled with. We are ready.

That is where the challenges for the summer were supposed to end, until about a month ago when our new-ish runway started acting old. We have frost heaves that must be repaired. It turns out the F-15 Eagle does not like to land in potholes. The repair will take approximately two weeks, and the runway will be unusable while sections get torn up and rebuilt. We have to relocate the mission to Westover Air Force Base, and bring every piece of flyable iron over there in case construction goes longer than anticipated. We have operated out of Westover multiple times in the past. Thankfully it is familiar, but it is still a large effort for the 104th Maintenance Group and 104th Mission Support Group. It is the last event of a stressful 45 days, so please take care of each other while taking care of the mission.

Forty-five days from now, we can all exhale and head for a 4th of July on the beach, in the woods, or in your back yard. As always, stay focused on safely executing the mission. Nothing we have scheduled requires us to accept elevated risk. We will go slow to go fast, and at the end of June we can confidently say we influenced foreign policy, impressed ACC inspectors, and seamlessly relocated alert operations. Just another typical month in the life of a Barnestormer.

Commander’s Column: Be good Wingmen

By Col. David Halasi-Kun, 104th Fighter Wing vice commander
Air National Guard flight line crew chiefs are responsible for knowing how to perform a variety maintenance tasks to ensure the F-15 Eagles here are ready to fly and the 104th Fighter Wing can accomplish its mission.

“We know a little bit about a lot when it comes to the jet,” said Staff Sgt. Jason Edinger, 104th Maintenance Group flight line crew chief. “We’re responsible for doing scheduled inspections, basic post-flight inspections, launch inspections, recovery inspections, your routine flying, and when the jet brakes, if we are available, we are responsible to do assistance maintenance, help schedule maintenance, and routine maintenance.”

Rain or shine the crew chiefs have to be out on the flight line to make sure that the planes are ready for pilots to fly and train.

“‘My favorite part of the job is definitely the pressure,’ said Edinger. ‘The pressure when you’re trying to fix the jet to get it ready to fly and it all comes together and then you see that jet take off. It’s instant gratification.’”

Edinger said that becoming a crew chief was like a calling. When he toured the base with his recruiter, crew chief appeared to be the coolest job here, he said.

“If you’re thinking of doing something maintenance related and you want to know at least a little bit about a lot of different components when it comes to the aircraft, then I would say crew chief is definitely something you should consider,” said Edinger.

After seven years as a crew chief and five years doing the job full time, the job is still challenging and exciting, said Edinger.
If you are read into SCI, please notify the Senior Intelligence Officer at DSN 698-1226. If you are read into a SAP, please notify the Government Special Security Officer DSN 698-1231. Remember, SCI and SAP reporting is in addition to notifying your Unit Security Manager.

For everyone else, you have a few steps to take for reporting:

1. Go to the Air Force Portal Foreign Travel page by clicking here, or by searching “Foreign Travel,” from the Portal’s main page.
   - Before your travel, you will need to complete the Foreign Travel Training and prebrief form using Hanscom Air Force Base as the location.
   - You will need to complete the debrief form upon your return.

2. Please check the state department website by clicking here, for the Threat Advisory level of the country/countries you are travelling to.
   - Level 1 (Exercise Normal Precautions) - Does not require commander approval and the ANG Foreign Travel form is NOT required.
   - Level 2 (Exercise Increased Caution) & 3 (Reconsider Travel) - Please complete an ANG Foreign Travel Reporting Form that you can get from your security manager or the Information Protection Office. This form will need to be completed to include all countries that you are visiting and signed by yourself and your commander before being returned to the Information Protection Office.
   - Level 4 (Do Not Travel) – Travel is not allowed!

The Information Protection Office is here to help; let us know if you have any questions. If you have any questions, please reach out at DSN 698-2745.
Headlines & Highlights
104th Public Affairs Office

Celebrating Diversity
Boy Scouts Tour 104th FW
Easter Egg Hunt
Answering the Call
Supporting the Boston Marathon

Eagle Recap: Jan-March 2019

Supporting the 1,23rd BOSTON MARATHON

Air Force Academy Select
### Highlights, Welcomes, Farewells and Promotions

**104th Public Affairs Office**

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| Lieutenent Colonel Jared ‘Chowda’ Conaboy’s Fini Flight |

**Massachusetts Air National Guard**

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