



NORTH DAKOTA GUARDIAN

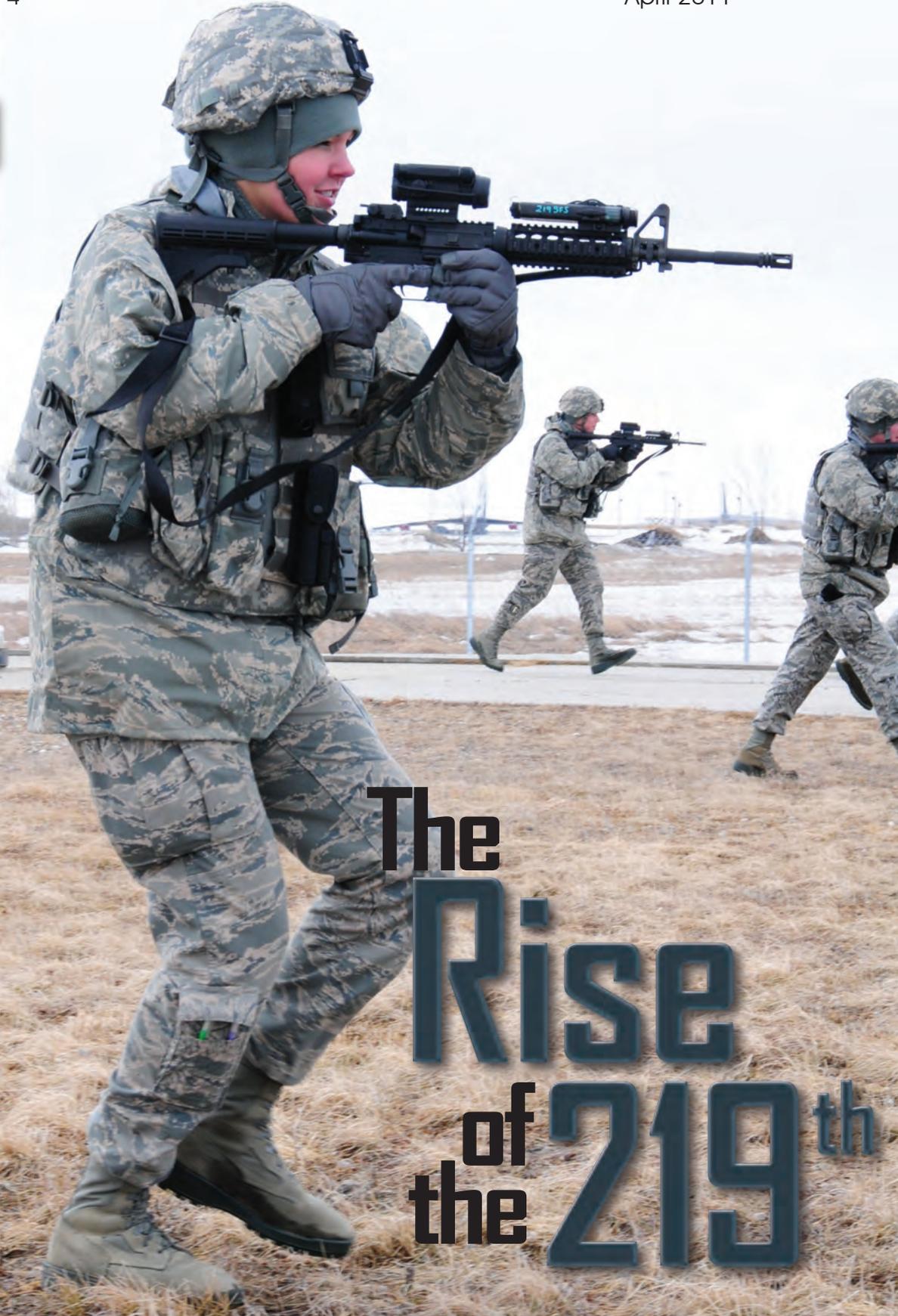
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April 2011

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Guard Gathering

The 2011 Professional Development Weekend brought together the entire N.D. National Guard Family. Attendees heard from an array of speakers and discussed current Guard operations and future missions, but mainly focused on building resiliency across the force. See photos and more from this annual event.



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First to Fly

Retired Happy Hooligan Fred Quam remembers the birth of the 119th Wing. He was one of its original members in the late '40s. He also remembers that it wasn't always easy, and getting the unit off the ground presented many challenges. Read about Quam's career and how the former chief master sergeant still serves.



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Scout's Honor

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NORTH DAKOTA GUARDIAN

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ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

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 Digital photos should be at least 300 dpi.

On the Cover



Airman 1st Class Jennifer Holly, of the 219th Security Forces Squadron, responds to a simulated alarm at a missile alert facility training site March 17 during duty position training at the Minot Air Force Base, Minot, N.D. The 219th SFS recently received notification that they have been named the 2010 Air National Guard Security Forces Squadron of the Year, which recognizes the unit as the best out of 86 such squadrons in the United States. Read more about the 219th's achievements in the May issue of the N.D. Guardian. (Photo by Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp, 119th Wing)

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View From the Top

Prepare Yourself for Tomorrow's Challenges

As the N.D. National Guard's senior enlisted leader, I get the opportunity to visit various training events and speak to Guard members and Families throughout the state, country and world. Some of our discussions focus on missions and training events, senior leadership and the health and welfare of you and your fellow Guard members and Families. It gives us the chance to address any issues and concerns.

For the past 10 years, our National Guard has proven to be an important participant in the Global War on Terrorism, Kosovo peacekeeping, flood response operations, Predator and C-21 operations, humanitarian missions

to Haiti and the Congo, all while undergoing a statewide transformation. With Guard members serving on multiple deployments and balancing Family needs and pursuing civilian careers, attending military and civilian schools can be quite challenging.

While talking with Soldiers and Airmen, our discussions typically move toward professional/career development and what actions they can take to improve marketability for

promotion and how to tackle assignments and missions with increased responsibility.

Guard members should seek advice on what it takes for military and civilian career development. Soldiers and Airmen alike have a responsibility to seek guidance through formal or informal counseling on career development with their leaders. These leaders can be within their chain of command, a peer, coworker, family member or friend. It may be a formal meeting or a hallway conversation with someone they trust. Naturally, this in itself does not guarantee promotion or significant assignment, but demonstrates that the Guardsman has taken the initiative to improve him or herself, which is an

ongoing process throughout our careers. This process gives Soldiers and Airmen feedback, advice and direction on the steps they can work on to enhance their careers.

Leaders at all levels have a shared responsibility to train, mentor and provide constructive criticism to their Airmen and Soldiers, thus allowing the developmental process a chance to work. This responsibility also is ongoing and includes periodic counseling associated with our Non-Commissioned Officer Evaluation Report (NCOERs) and Enlisted Performance Reports (EPRs). There typically is no book solution or magical formula for career progression, opportunities, assignments and promotions. My best advice is to perform your job well, be fully qualified, be ready to seize opportunities and be able to excel when they arise.

Chief Master Sgt. Denise Jelinski-Hall, the senior enlisted leader for National Guard Bureau, reaffirmed this when she spoke to us during our Professional Development Weekend. She reminded us to not become complacent and to accept challenges and seek tough assignments. I challenge all N.D. Guard members to

leap forward and embrace opportunity when change presents itself, either through assignments, promotions or transformation. Change is inevitable and you will become stronger as a Guard member and a leader, and so will our organization.

When Soldiers or Airmen are being considered for promotion, lateral transfers or reassignments, various boards are brought together to develop an Order of Merit List or promotion list to select the best-qualified individual. Depending on organizational needs and vacancies, selection boards look at promotion or reassignment packets of Guard members that meet certain criteria. They also may ask for formal interviews.



Command Sgt. Maj. Dan Job

Joint Force Headquarters
North Dakota National Guard

Having participated on various promotion boards, I can tell you that there are multiple items that boards consider. Evaluation reports, AFSC (Air Force Specialty Code)/ MOS (Military Occupational Specialty), schools attended, letters to the board and duty assignments, along with leadership capabilities and potential are some of the key areas. The boards also check to see if periodic counseling was conducted by the Soldiers' or Airmen's leadership. Guard members are continually challenged to meet military standards and requirements, which at a minimum could include height/weight and schooling requirements. In addition, time in grade and time in service will factor in to our eligibility for promotion.

Some of the best advice I can give to Soldiers and Airmen is to allow your comfort zone to grow, expand and change. Never become complacent. Accept challenges, learn from your mistakes and seek opportunities and career guidance. I recommend that you select a mentor to assist you throughout this career-long process. Be sure to stay current in your MOS, AFSC and education (military and civilian). This will help position you for future assignments and promotions.

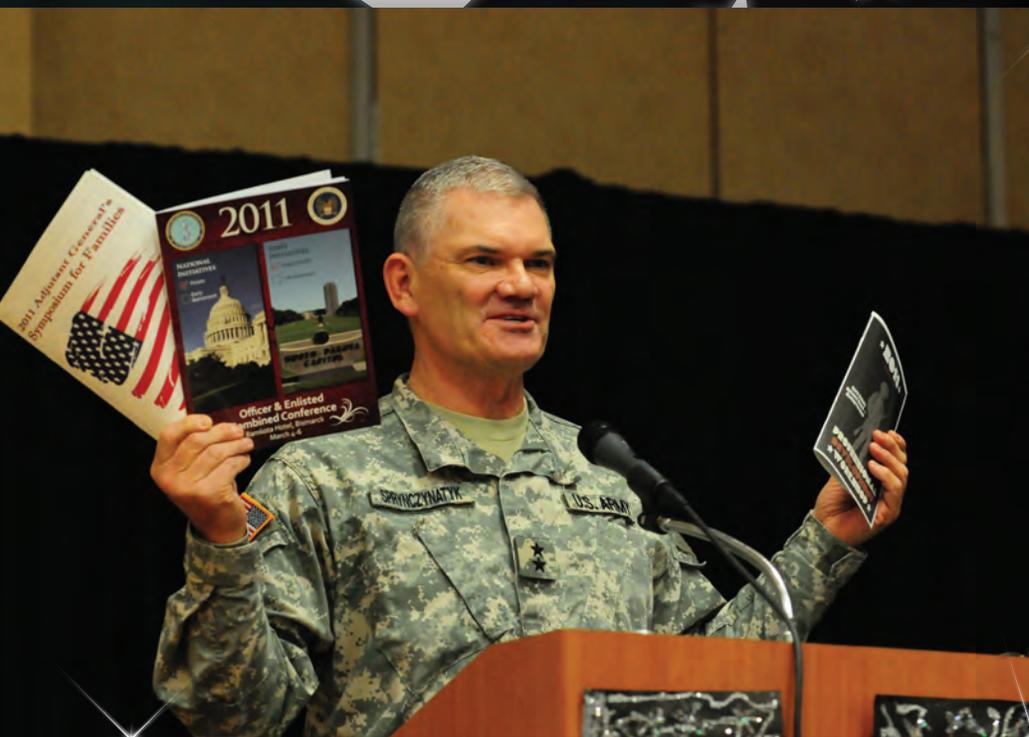
The N.D. National Guard is interested in the success of our Soldiers and Airmen. You are our future leaders and we want each of you to have unlimited opportunities and succeed in all of the challenges you tackle during your careers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan Job".

Command Sgt. Maj. Dan Job

“You are our future leaders and we want each of you to have unlimited opportunities and succeed in all of the challenges you tackle during your careers.”



Maj. Gen. David Sprynczynatyk, North Dakota adjutant general, displays the assortment of booklets prepared for N.D. National Guard members and their Families during the Professional Development Weekend. Middle, senior enlisted members of the N.D. National Guard sit for a group photo with Chief Master Sgt. Denise Jelinski-Hall, senior enlisted leader for the National Guard Bureau, front row, fourth from the left. Right, Heather Mattson, N.D. National Guard sexual assault response coordinator, displays t-shirts created by survivors of sexual assault. The messages on the t-shirts are testimonials from those who have experienced sexual trauma. April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Read more from Mattson on page 15 in this issue of the North Dakota Guardian.

viewed at <http://bit.ly/NDNGTownHall>.

Highlighted guest-speaker Chief Master Sgt. Denise M. Jelinski-Hall, senior enlisted leader for the National Guard Bureau, joined the North Dakota Guardsmen to lend her perspective on building resiliency within the force. Hall's dynamic presentation stressed the importance of replacing the burdens Soldiers and Airmen can carry through deployments and their vigorous operations pace with resources that are available to them.

"Each and every one of our people is important," she said. "I challenge leaders to find ways to reach out to their people and be able to provide the support they may need."

Other speakers throughout the weekend addressed a range of topics geared toward the professional development of North Dakota Guardsmen. A number of presenters were on-hand from Bismarck State College imparting personal and professional tips for all ranks and age groups.

"Moving Forward" was the theme for this year's N.D. National Guard Professional Development Workshop at the Ramkota Hotel, Bismarck, N.D., March 4-5.

More than 400 North Dakota Guardsmen from across the state participated in the annual event, where they were able to network with peers and discuss future challenges within the organization.

Lt. Gov. Drew Wrigley attended the PDW to offer his thanks to the organization on behalf of the state.

"You have our confidence and complete faith that you will succeed in the missions that lay ahead," he said, citing the potential for spring flooding across North Dakota.

Maj. Gen. David Sprynczynatyk, North Dakota adjutant general, emphasized the importance of the weekend's events.

"This is a weekend to learn and grow professionally. It's also an opportunity to look to the future and learn how we can better serve our state and nation," he said.

Sprynczynatyk fielded questions from the force during his recurrent Adjutant General Town Hall meeting. Guardsmen posed questions to their commander about future missions and organizational readiness. Video footage from the event can be

Professional Week



Jessica Clark-Woinarowicz, N.D. National Guard state youth coordinator, and Col. Mike Aberle, deputy director joint staff, visit with Guard children at the Adjutant General's Symposium for Families. Right, Chief Master Sgt. Denise Jelinski-Hall, the senior leader for the National Guard Bureau, speaks to N.D. National Guard members attending the 2011 Professional Development Workshop. Jelinski-Hall talked about a variety of National Guard issues, but urged Guardsmen to build resiliency not only within the organization, but within their Families, as well.

Development Trend

By Staff Sgt. Eric W. Jensen,
Joint Force Headquarters
Photos by Senior Master Sgt.
David H. Lipp, 119th Wing



Weekend Events Attract Guard Family Members, Youth

“Resiliency” was more than a buzzword at this year’s Adjutant General’s Symposium for Families and Youth Symposium. It was also a theme for discussion amongst Guardsmen and their Families throughout the weekend.

More than 100 family members joined North Dakota Soldiers and Airmen during the Guard’s annual Professional Development Weekend.

Maj. Gen. David Sprynczynatyk, North Dakota adjutant general, welcomed attendees by thanking them for their support throughout the organization’s array of missions during the past decade.

“We’re extremely grateful for your attendance this weekend. As I’ve stated before, taking care of Soldiers and Airmen is my No. 1 priority,” he said. “Part of doing that is taking care of you, their Families, as well.”

Below, Maj. Gen. David Sprynczynatyk visits with children of N.D. National Guard members at the Adjutant General’s Symposium for Families. Left, “Best Warrior” winners Spc. Ryan Lindberg, second from the left, winner in the enlisted category, and Sgt. Joel Erickson, winner in the noncommissioned officer category, both of the 188th Engineer Company, display their trophies with American Legion members Carrol Quam, left, and Jeff Hall. The Officers of the Year (OAY) for the N.D. Air and Army National Guard also were named. The Air Guard Company Grade OAY is Lt. Robert Davidson, of the 119th Operational Support Squadron, and the Field Grade OAY is Maj. Mitchell Johnson, of the 178th Reconnaissance Squadron. The Company Grade OAY for the N.D. Army National Guard is Capt. Derek Kuntz, of the 164th Engineer Battalion, while the Field Grade OAY is Maj. Russ Wolf, also of the 164th Engineer Battalion. The enlisted Airmen of the Year will be named at the 119th Wing’s Airmen of the Year banquet April 2-3.



Ginny and Chief Master Sgt. Monte Bachmann were named the 2010 N.D. Air National Guard Family of the Year. Joining them are Travis and Becki Walterson, son and daughter-in-law, on the left and Gage, in the middle. Right, Tammy and Sgt. 1st Class Wesley Widmer are joined by their children, from left to right, Michael, Rebecca, Randii, Joshua and Noah. The Widmers are the 2010 N.D. Army National Guard Family of the Year.

Rob Keller, Service Member and Family Support division director, reminded attendees that the organization was entering its tenth year in the Global War on Terrorism and that overseas mobilizations have been commonplace for much of that time.

A portion of Saturday afternoon was spent viewing a 30-minute DVD titled “We’re in this Together.” Developed and produced in Bismarck by members of the N.D. National Guard, the video addresses how to persevere through life’s challenges with testimonials from North Dakota Guardsmen and their Families.

“This is the new normal in which we are operating,” he said. “This weekend, we primarily want to recognize our Families for the sacrifices they have made. We also want to build on resiliency, which is not just a word, but also is a skill.”

National Guard youth also had the opportunity to participate in multiple events over the weekend at the N.D. National Guard’s Youth Symposium. Children of military members were invited to attend presentations from national motivational speakers and collaborate with military youths from across the state. They also took the stage at the Adjutant General’s Symposium for Families, where they had a chance to ask Maj. Gen. David Sprynczynatyk a range of questions. See Sprynczynatyk’s responses by viewing video at <http://bit.ly/NDNGYouth>. ■



From the Beginning



Retired Chief Master Sgt. Fred Quam stands alongside a P-51 Mustang at the Fargo Air Museum in March. Quam, who retired 34 years ago from the N.D. Air National Guard, is one of only three Happy Hooligans still alive who served when the unit was first formed in January 1947.

Quam Among First Airmen in N.D. Air National Guard

By Staff Sgt. Amy Wieser Willson
Joint Force Headquarters

Fred Quam holds a title that only two other men alive today can claim: He is one of the inaugural Happy Hooligans. In fact, he was a Hooligan before they were even called Hooligans.

Their diminishing ranks don't concern him as much as the younger Airmen who refuse to believe the stories from the time North Dakota got its first-ever Air National Guard unit on Jan. 16, 1947.

"It's kind of fun to think back," he says, "but what bothers me is some of these young guys now don't believe what we tell them. They say, 'No, nobody ever did that.'"

But they did do that. They hauled coal in to the stove in the maintenance office to keep it warm, and then took "turns on night

duty to keep the fires going." Gasoline-powered ground heaters ran in the hangars and word spread that when the birds started dropping to the floor from the exhaust fumes, it was time to shut them down. In the days before machines kept the flight-lines clean, Airmen did it with a broom and dustpan. In winter, they sometimes had to hand-crank the planes to get them started — but first they had to shovel them out.

At one time, the Air Guard in Fargo had 35 planes, including 28 P-51 Mustangs, which are single-seat fighter aircraft.

"In the wintertime, you'd get a windstorm and snow and these airplanes were just about all covered, and we didn't have a front-end loader or a bucket loader or a Bobcat to (clear the snow)," Quam says. "... We'd have to shovel 'em out, then we'd have to wait for the city to come with their blower, and they'd make a path for us. And then we'd hook onto each plane individually after we'd shovel out the front of the wheel ... get the

ramp all cleared, get them all parked in a nice row and come back in the morning and (do) the same thing all over again.”

Those were just some of the tasks that helped Quam and the others earn their full-time salary of \$170 a month.

❖ Keeping Them Flying ❖

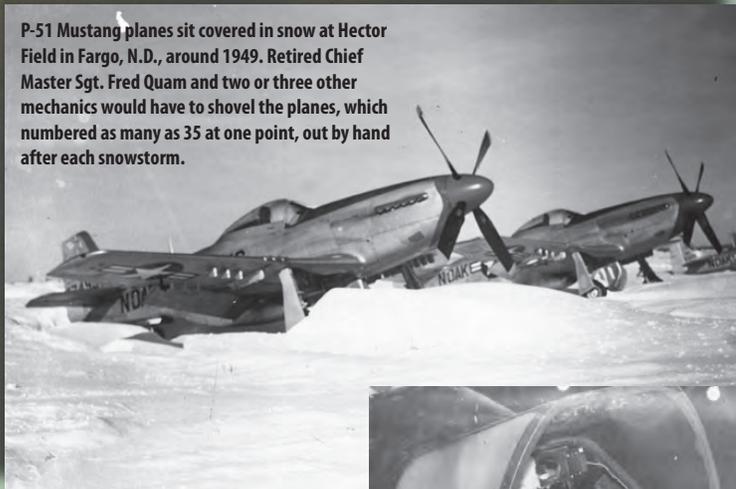
Quam joined the Air Guard as a full-time aircraft mechanic after almost four years in the active-duty Air Force. There were only 45 other full-time Hooligans in 1947, including Homer Goebel and Marshall Johnson, the other two charter members still alive. Within a year, Quam made line chief and was in charge of other mechanics. After serving stateside on active-duty for the Korean War from April 1951 until November 1952, he moved into quality control, which is where he stayed until his retirement in 1976 as a chief master sergeant.

At 94, he can still rattle off the planes he worked on over the years with a memory sharper than men half his age. First, there was the A-20 Havoc, a light bomber, which is what he learned to maintain at factory school. Then came the T-6 Texan training aircraft, P-51 Mustang, B-25 Mitchell bomber, C-47 Skytrain transport plane, C-46 Commando transport plane, F-94A Starfire interceptor plane, T-33A Shooting Star training plane, F-89 Scorpion interceptor, F-102 Delta Dagger interceptor and F-101 Voodoo fighter. He ended his career with the F-4 Phantom fighter jet.

“I may have missed one or two,” Quam says humbly upon

P-51 Mustang planes sit covered in snow at Hector Field in Fargo, N.D., around 1949. Retired Chief Master Sgt. Fred Quam and two or three other mechanics would have to shovel the planes, which numbered as many as 35 at one point, out by hand after each snowstorm.

Courtesy Photos



Left, this portrait shows Fred Quam, one of the Airmen who joined the N.D. Air National Guard when the unit first formed in January 1947. Quam served in the active-duty Air Force at the time this picture was taken. After a short break in service, he became one of the original “Happy Hooligans” and rose to the rank of chief master sergeant.

finishing the list.

He says the P-51 was his favorite, and he gets a bit of a dreamy look on his face as he says, “It’s just the sound of it, I guess. This one, when it goes, it just kind of gets to you.”

When the North Dakota Air Guard first got off the ground, there were two T-6 aircraft on base for Quam and two or three other mechanics to work on.

“One day (the commander, Lt. Col. Richard Neece) was going to go somewhere and one of the struts on the airplane was flat and the other one was up, so it was sitting cockeyed,” Quam recalls. “We had no tools to fix it, so (the commander) says, ‘Let the air out of the other one.’ So, we let the air out so it leveled out, and then he flew to Omaha.”

In Omaha, the commander had air pumped in and scrounged up a toolbox to bring back.

“So, that’s how we got started: one toolbox, two airplanes and no other equipment.”

❖ Responding at Home ❖

There had been other growing pains starting the never-before-seen unit in 1947. First came the debate of which city would get an Air Guard unit: Grand Forks or Fargo. Then, the Airmen had a few operational disagreements with the airport manager, although “he finally warmed up to us after he found out all the good things we could do for the airport,” Quam says.

The community would soon see the Hooligans’ reach stretch beyond Fargo’s Hector Field.

In the winter of 1949, Operation Haylift had the Guardsmen flying a C-47 over ranches in western North Dakota after an abundance of snow prevented farmers from getting feed to their cattle. Airmen were secured to the cargo aircraft by ropes tied around their waists as they kicked bales out where needed.

“It was cold weather, and we had a tough time keeping the planes going,” Quam says.

Although they were based out of the Minot Air Force Base for the mission, they would fly the plane back to Fargo each night to keep it indoors during the blizzard conditions.

The weather made it a dangerous mission, and one man, Maj. Donald C. Jones, didn’t survive.

As commander, Jones had flown to the mission site in a P-51. He called Quam to say he was on his way home, but the blustery weather contributed to the plane crashing just 20 minutes later.

Over the years, the Hooligans would respond to more natural disasters, including flooding and the Fargo tornado of 1957. The F5-category twister had wiped out a nine-mile swath of Fargo, missing Quam’s house by just half of a block.

“I stood on the corner of 15th Avenue and Broadway all night trying to keep people from ... going beyond this point,” Quam says. “... It was bad and we, the Guard, controlled traffic ... ’til everything got back in order again so they could go up and down the streets.”

One of the more unique humanitarian missions Quam saw involved transporting a young man with polio, who was encased in an iron lung, to a hospital out of state.

“Of course, they didn’t have the means to treat it well here, so we, with our C-47, transported him with the iron lung and everything to another hospital. So, that was a special mission. ... It was quite a job to rig up equipment to keep the lung running.”

❖ Still Serving ❖

After 33 years as a Happy Hooligan, Quam has now spent 34 years as a retired Happy Hooligan. Don't be fooled by the word "retired," though. He's a life member of the El Zagal Shrine and American Legion, a charter member of the Golden K Kiwanis and serves as chaplain for Masonic Daylight Lodge #135.

In 2002, Quam helped to get the Fargo Air Museum started. Volunteerism wasn't new to him, having won in 1959 one of only two Community Service Awards ever presented in the N.D. Air Guard. It took on a new importance then, however, as he tried to stay busy after losing Lois, his wife of 58 years.

When Quam walked into the museum one day and asked what needed to be done, he was directed to a stack of magazines upstairs that could use some organizing. Before long, he connected with a couple from St. Paul who were impressed with his efforts. They regularly toured military museums, but rarely found libraries. After the man passed away, more than 40 boxes of military books from his personal library were donated to the museum. The library continued to grow from there.

Today, Quam tracks more than 2,600 books and 100 journals and magazines by description, catalog number, title, author, publication date and more. He logs more regularly — all on the computer, which he taught himself to use at age 80. Community members and college students rely on the library's vast collection to supplement their research on all things aircraft and military.

Quam continues to volunteer about

Tech. Sgt. Bradley A. Schneider



Fred Quam looks on as Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Alexander Macdonald, left, and Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Darrol Schroeder unveil his portrait at the Fargo Air Museum on April 17, 2010. The portrait was commissioned in order to commemorate Quam's service in the N.D. Air National Guard and also to commemorate his contributions to compiling materials for the Fargo Air Museum library.

six hours a week at the library, which was named the Fred Quam Research Library in his honor just last year. During a ceremony, Retired Maj. Gen. Alexander Macdonald, former North Dakota adjutant general, and Retired Maj. Gen. Darrol Schroeder, former chief of staff, unveiled a portrait of Quam that now hangs in the library.

"That was pretty special," he says. "My kids were all here."

On a recent winter day, as Quam sat in the library that now bears his name and likeness, he was asked what advice he might have for those serving today. He pondered that a few moments before replying, "Do what you want to do and do

it good."

His life of service as a Hooligan and active retiree show that he takes his own advice. ■

This story is part of a quarterly N.D. National Guard history series that profiles the veterans who have served before us. Next month will feature Bernie Wagner, who served with the 164th Infantry Division during World War II and was the first executive officer for the 141st Engineer Combat Battalion. For more information on the history of the N.D. National Guard, go to <http://bit.ly/NDNGhistory>.

To nominate someone for this feature, e-mail amy.wieserwillson@us.army.mil.



Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp



See More Online!

Watch a video interview of Fred Quam discussing his experiences at <http://bit.ly/QuamVideo>.

View and download photos of Quam on Flickr at <http://bit.ly/QuamPhotos>.

Fred Quam stands amongst the thousands of books, journals and magazines in the Fargo Air Museum. A longtime museum volunteer, Quam dedicates six to eight hours of time each week to the library. He learned to use the computer at age 80 and diligently catalogs each new book and periodical through ReaderWare software.

AN Electric EXPERIENCE

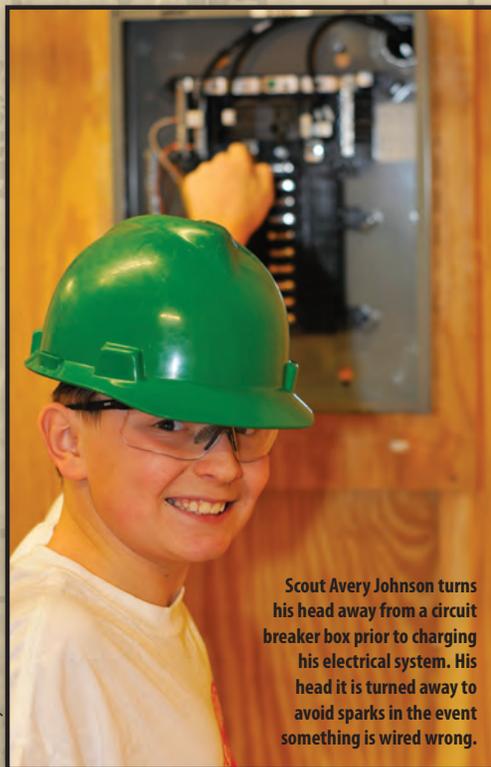
Boy Scout Troop Gains Skills from 164th RTI Instructors

By 1st Sgt. Marvin Baker
164th Regional Training Institute

Eighteen Boy Scouts from Troop 11, Bismarck, received a unique educational opportunity when they learned plumbing and electrical wiring from qualified National Guard instructors at Camp Grafton last month.

The Scouts and seven adult chaperones spent the day at the 164th Regional Training Institute gaining knowledge from plumbing instructors Sgt. 1st Class Dean Reinke, Sgt. 1st Class Gregory McGath and Staff Sgt.

Charles Holzer and electrical instructor Sgt. 1st Class David Webber.



Scout Avery Johnson turns his head away from a circuit breaker box prior to charging his electrical system. His head is turned away to avoid sparks in the event something is wired wrong.

Courtesy Photos



Boy Scouts from Troop 11, Bismarck, stand outside the 164th Regional Training Institute. From left to right: Sgt. 1st Class David Webber teaches the Scouts how to m

Maj. Grant Wilz, a Guard member from Bismarck and Merit Badge counselor, coordinated the event with branch chief Sgt. 1st Class Charles Votava.

Wilz called it a great experience.

“What an awesome opportunity,” he said. “They would have never gotten this experience in my garage.”

According to Votava, the timing for this was perfect as his instructors were between classes and he had plenty of volunteers to help teach the Scouts.

“When I asked for volunteers, I got a lot of people,” Votava said. “It’s a great experience for the full-time staff to work with youth. The instructors love it because they get involved with the kids and the community.”

Votava was pleased to coordinate the event with Wilz, and pleased with the outcome.

“This is the first time we’ve ever done anything like this and hopefully it’s something we can do in the future.”

The Boy Scout troop arrived at



giment Regional Training Institute at Camp Grafton Feb. 12. Pictured in the front row, from left to right, is Rahmi
 nson and Cole Wilz. Middle row, left to right, Landon Anhorn, Joshua Aichele, Andrew Weiland, Taylor Schaubert,
 t to right, Jacob Herman, Nickolas Holweger, Cole Honeyman, Joshua Gudvangen and Nathan Marcotte.
 ount the boxes for outlets, switches and lights.



at and I've been to 50," Gudvangen said. "These guys know how to apply tasks to real-world situations."

Jacob Herman said the instructors break their expertise down to make it easy to understand.

Wilz said the Scouts range from sixth graders to seniors in high school.

"These are kids that, for the most part, wouldn't otherwise have an experience like this," he said. "The kids of today aren't the do-it-yourselfers that our generation was, and a big part of Scouting is teaching boys to be independent." ■

Camp Grafton on a Friday night, slept in the barracks and ate in the dining facility. Some comments on the accommodation included, "They sure feed you a lot," and "I thought this would be yucky Army food, and it is actually very good."

Spending time in the RTI building's plumbing and electrical labs proved to be an invaluable opportunity for the group. Wilz, whose son, Cole, was among the boys at the event, said the Scouts were able to complete more than 90 percent of the Merit Badge requirements with some added bonus experiences.

"The Scouts were actually able to test their work by putting water pressure to their plumbing and power to their electrical circuits, and yes, there were a few leaks and a few lights that did not light, but what a practical experience for these young men," Wilz said.

Gordy Herman, Scout Master and parent of Eagle Scout Jacob Herman, said since the boys learned from people who actually do this activity for a living, the training couldn't have been better.

"I saw the boys paying close attention," Herman said. "They were very much involved. To have this place to do this, really makes it a unique experience."

Josh Gudvangen and Jacob Herman are two Eagle Scouts who attended the Camp Grafton weekend and agreed the experience was worth it. They said the instructors know their business and how to apply it.

"This is one of the best Merit Badge events I've ever been



Staff Sgt. Charles Holzer instructs 1st Class Scout Shawn Klatt on how to solder joints on copper pipe.

Spc. Kevin Marvig



Soldiers with the N.D. Army National Guard's 191st Military Police Company train on riot control methods during the unit's March 2011 drill in Fargo, N.D.



Staff Sgt. Alan Sporre, of the 119th Civil Engineer Squadron, works on assembling a sawhorse in the shop at the civil engineer building at the N.D. Air Guard base, Fargo, N.D., during the 119th Wing's March drill.



Tech. Sgt. Bradley A. Schneider

GUARDIAN

Snapshots



Sgt. DeAnn Fylling and Spc. Tracy Houle, members of the 188th Army Band from Bismarck, N.D., pose with Dunkie, the Dakota Wizards mascot, prior to the Wizards' Military Day basketball game March 6. Dan's Supermarket and 4 Bears Casino and Lodge provided free tickets to the game for military personnel and their Families and the Wizards players wore camouflage uniforms. Houle and Fylling sang the National Anthem at the start of the game.



Lt. Col. Michael Depree, of the 119th Operations Group, pilots a C-21 aircraft March 17 over North Dakota.



Pvt. Jordan Freitag, a newly enlisted Soldier in the N.D. National Guard, performs push-ups as part of a monthly Army Physical Fitness Test conducted by the Recruit Training Company at Raymond J. Bohn Armory in Bismarck, N.D., March 19.

Left, Sgt. 1st Class Todd Wetsch and his daughter, Halle, hit the slopes at Huff Hills Ski Area in Mandan, N.D., March 13. Military Families had the opportunity to spend a day skiing, socializing and learning about the N.D. National Guard Child & Youth Program.

Biathlon Team Places 3rd at National Competition

N.D. National Guard Biathlon Team members skied and shot their way to a strong finish in a national competition last month. The Chief of the National Guard Bureau Championships in Vermont pitted North Dakota, last year's overall champions, against other biathlon powerhouses. Despite the stiff competition and some heartbreak in a team race, the team finished third overall.

Two N.D. Guardsmen earned a place on the All-Guard Team, an elite group comprised of the top biathletes in the entire National Guard. Capt. Eric Nordgren, a member of the Air Guard's 119th Wing, and 2nd Lt. Blake Hillerson, who serves with the Army Guard's 426th Signal Network Support Company, both are repeat team members.

Hillerson led the North Dakota team in the first race of the competition, a 10-kilometer sprint race, with a 3rd place finish. Nordgren was close behind, placing 7th. Sgt. 1st Class Kent Pulst placed 13th, Spc. Brandon Pulst 21st and Lt. Col. Dave Skalicky 27th. In the novice category, which is reserved for first-year biathletes, Maj. Jon Wutzke placed 8th and Sgt. Adam Walsvik placed 19th.

For the 12.5-kilometer pursuit race, Hillerson again placed third and Nordgren was close behind in 4th. Kent Pulst was 14th, Brandon Pulst was 27th and Skalicky was 36th. In the novice category, Walsvik placed 12th and Wutzke earned 13th.

After the two individual races, North

Dakota was poised to capture the team silver as they headed into the patrol race. Despite an amazing comeback to 4th place from an accident on the slushy course, the team couldn't bounce back in the standings. The team placed third in the final race, a 4-by-7.5-kilometer relay.

Guard Called to Help During Winter Storm

Gov. Jack Dalrymple activated the N.D. National Guard March 11 after a fast-moving winter storm stranded hundreds of motorists in the state. More than 90 Guardsmen worked through the night alongside North Dakota Highway Patrol officers to rescue people from their cars and bring them to shelter. North Dakota's Department of Emergency Services and Department of Transportation also were active in the storm response after Dalrymple proclaimed a statewide winter storm emergency.

By the time the mission ended the following day, the agencies had checked on more than 800 vehicles that had been abandoned within 75 miles of Bismarck and more than 800 people along I-94 and Highway 83 were sheltered.

Motorcycle Safety Courses Available to Guardsmen

The 2011 N.D. Motorcycle Safety Program classes are being offered by the American Bikers Aiming Toward Education, or ABATE. Riders can register at www.ndmsp.com. For the 2011 code, which allows N.D. National Guardsmen to take the course free, contact the N.D. National

Guard State Safety Office at 701-333-2281 or 701-333-2280 or email bradley.hoines@us.army.mil or monte.ohlhauser@us.army.mil. Air Guardsmen can contact Senior Master Sgt. James Goodyear at 701-451-2521 or email james.goodyear@ang.af.mil.

Classes take place between April and September and are offered at various days and times to accommodate most riders. Numerous cities host the classes, including Bismarck, Bowman, Devils Lake, Dickinson, Grand Forks, Fargo, Hazen, Jamestown, Minot, Wahpeton and Williston.

May is Motorcycle Safety Awareness month. The NDMSA is committed to reducing motorcycle crashes, injuries and fatalities. Riding a motorcycle requires training and skill that many riders — even those who have been riding for years — may lack. Safety courses can help riders sharpen their skills and, in turn, prevent accidents.

219th Squadron Best in Nation

A N. D. Air National Guard squadron has been named tops in the nation. The 219th Security Forces Squadron received the distinction of 2010 Air National Guard Security Forces Squadron of the Year. That places the unit as the best out of 86 such squadrons in the United States.

Lt. Col. Tad Schauer, 219th Security Forces Squadron commander, called the announcement "a win for the North Dakota Air National Guard and Team Minot."

The 219th conducts a nuclear security mission alongside active Airmen at Minot Air Force Base. Check out the next issue of the North Dakota Guardian for more on their mission and accomplishments, and watch this YouTube report: <http://bit.ly/219thSFS>. ■



Sgt. 1st Class Kent Pulst competes in the Chief of the National Guard Bureau Biathlon Championships at Ethan Allen Training Site, Vt. Right, the N.D. National Guard Biathlon Team earned a 3rd place finish at the championships. Pictured back row, from left are Maj. Jon Wutzke, of Fargo, N.D., Lt. Col. David Skalicky, of Bismarck, N.D., Spc. Brandon Pulst, of Penn, N.D., Sgt. 1st Class Kent Pulst, of Penn, and Capt. Eric Nordgren, of Duluth, Minn. Pictured front row, from left, are Spc. Jordan Becker, coach, of Grand Forks, N.D., Spc. Alex Droske, of Grand Forks, 2nd Lt. Blake Hillerson, of St. Paul, and Sgt. Adam Walsvik, of Hazen, N.D.

Sgt. Elizabeth Strauss



April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month

According to the Department of Veterans Affairs, 60 percent of women and 27 percent of men serving in the National Guard have experienced military sexual trauma. April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM). This year's SAAM theme, "Hurts one. Affects all," focuses on mission readiness and addresses the damage sexual assault causes, not only to an individual, but to overall readiness and



Heather Mattson
Joint Force Headquarters
SARC

unit cohesion. Every service member has the responsibility to learn the signs of a potential sexual assault and to have the courage to safely intervene to prevent it.

This year, the N.D. National Guard joins the fight against sexual violence by displaying the Clothesline Project at all of its major armories including the 164th Regional Training Institute at Camp Grafton and the 119th Air National Guard in Fargo. The Clothesline Project is a visual display that allows survivors of sexual violence to share their stories about how sexual violence has impacted their lives by re-vamping a t-shirt in a way that reflects

their experiences. The National Guard will also be working with other advocacy organizations throughout the state to bring all the t-shirts gathered from survivors for a final Clothesline Project display at the State Capitol on April 19-21. If you are interested in creating a shirt to support the fight against sexual violence, contact Heather Mattson. Confidentiality will be maintained and privacy respected per your wishes.

If you are a victim of sexual assault, the N.D. National Guard Sexual Assault Prevention and Response program is here to help you. The following sexual assault response coordinators (SARCs) are available to assist:

- Heather Mattson, 701-425-4821, heather.m.mattson@us.army.mil
- CW4 Shelly Sizer, 701-333-4841, shelly.sizer@us.army.mil
- Maj. Teresa McDonough, 701-451-2105, teresa.mcdonough@ang.af.mil

Chaplain's Corner: Agent of Hope

By Chaplain (Lt. Col.) David Johnson
Joint Force Headquarters

The following are some numbers to reflect on:

- One percent (or less) of our nation's population serves in the military.
- As a military, we have had almost 10 years of "persistent" conflict.
- Since the 2001 terrorist attacks on America, the N.D. National Guard has mobilized more than 3,500 Soldiers and more than 1,800 Airmen overseas in support of the Global War on Terrorism.
- For every 10,000 citizens in North Dakota, 52 serve in the N.D. National Guard, a rate that's more than four times the national average.

I was never a very good math student. I worked really hard and tried my best, but math was never really my strength. As I recently heard these statistics, my math skills were challenged, yet again. You see, the statistics listed above are pretty straightforward, right? Or are they? The above numbers, as simple as they are to read, are staggering in my mind.

Let me explain ...

Again, at first glance, these are pretty simple to understand. Persistent conflict (including state missions) + a low number of our nation's population serving in the military (and HIGH number in N.D.) = some pretty dedicated AND _____ individuals/Families. I will leave it to you to fill in the blank. The reason I leave it blank is that I don't know where you and your Families are at today ... only you know.

At first glance, again, the numbers seems simple. As you think about it, however, what have you as a Soldier/Airman gone



Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) David Johnson addresses Guardsmen and their Families during the Professional Development Weekend at the Ramkota Hotel in Bismarck, N.D., March 5.

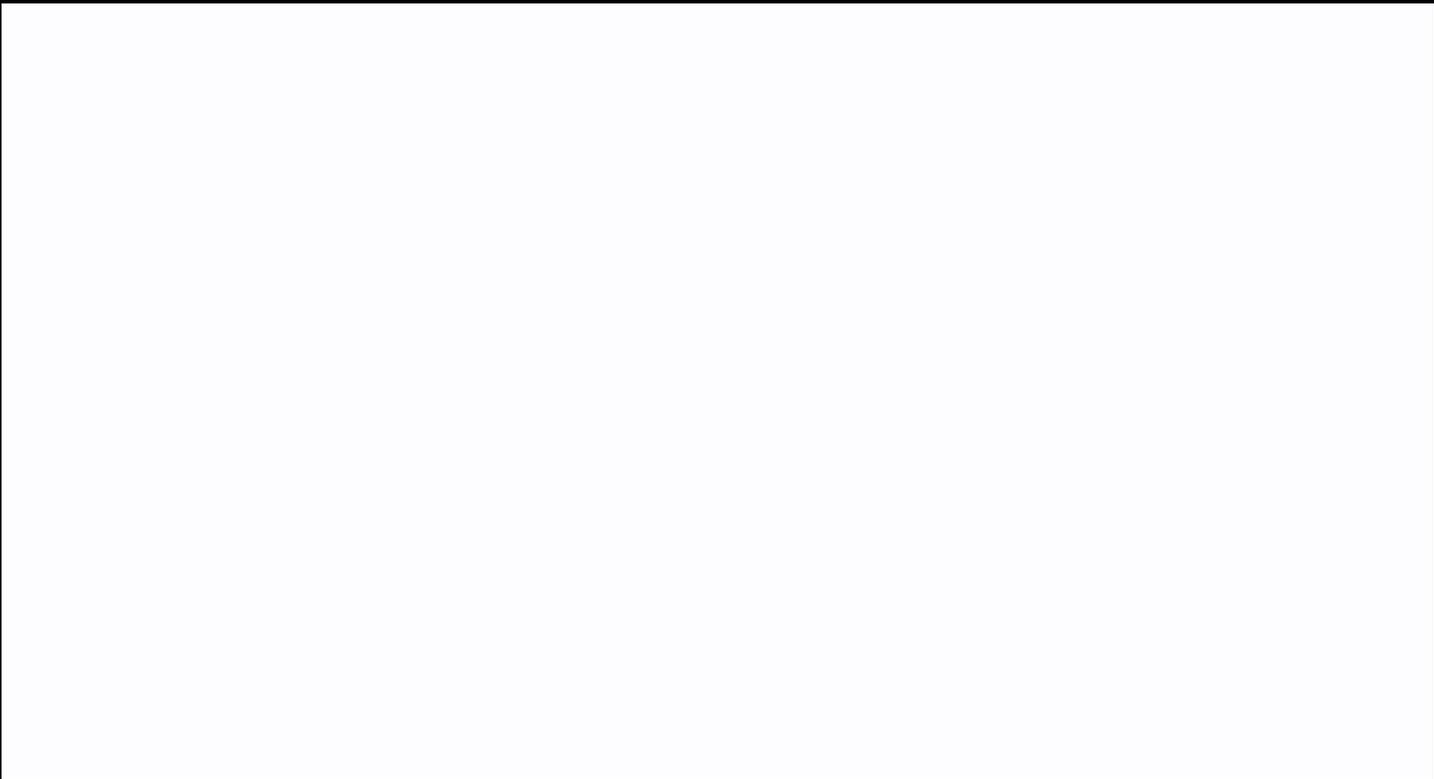
through these past years? The net effect of this "persistent" conflict is still being written. So, the math is NOT as simple as it seems!

Why do I mention all of this? As a chaplain, I am called to be an "agent of hope and strength" to those around me. So, here goes: Wherever you are at today, individually or as a family, I want to challenge you to remain "connected" to your faith and those key supports that you have in life — to those things that give you hope and strength and life for the journey. In a day and age of "persistent" conflict, this challenge is equally directed to me, as well. You see, as we focus on such things, we can be (and are) strengthened for each day despite the challenges we face.

Easter is upon us in just a few short days. In the Christian tradition, this is a season where we focus on the resurrection of Jesus Christ (John 20) and what this means for people of faith. In this season of "new life," I would encourage you to focus again on what brings you life and hope.

Finally, I would argue that it is not simply a chaplain's job to be an "agent of hope." That said, I encourage you to look around each day and ask the question, "How can I be an agent of hope to those in my life?"

Blessings and Happy Easter, Chaplain Johnson. ■



Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp

From left to right, Maj. Mark Topp, Staff Sgt. Curtis Savey and 1st Lt. Sheldon Shell Track, all of the 141st Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, identify locations on maps for personnel and equipment staging areas March 10 in preparation for flood response at a meeting at the Armed Forces Reserve Center, Fargo, N.D. The ROC (Rehearsal of Concept) drill gave Army and Air Guardsmen a chance for final troubleshooting for this year's flood response plans. Watch a video from the drill on YouTube at <http://bit.ly/ROCvideo>.