

JET LETTER

North Dakota Air National Guard

November-December 2007



Hooligans creating
habitat for humanity

JET LETTER

November-December 2007

Volume 53, Number 9

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Photo by Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp,
119th Communication Flight

Chief Master Sgt. of the 119th Civil Engineer Squadron, assembles parts of a new home being built for the Lake Agassiz chapter of Habitat for Humanity Oct. 20.

N. D. Army and Air National Guard members are joining together to build the twinhome, giving an Iraqi widow with seven children and another family hope, peace and security in the United States. Story on pages 12-13.

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Commander's comments

If you don't know where you're going, you'll end up somewhere else

119th Wing commander

Here in North Dakota, we sure know where we are going! Our transformation from a manned fighter mission into unmanned aerial systems (UAS) and Airlift missions isn't even complete and already our operations tempo is increasing in these new areas! It looks like we picked some good weapons systems to pursue in order to keep us relevant in the wake of the F-16!

The combatant commanders who are directly engaged in the global war on terrorism can't get enough of the Predator and are continually asking for more of the real-time full-motion video that we provide. Due to our superb personnel and proactive and forward-leaning attitudes, we have positioned ourselves to be able to assist with the expansion of the Predator resulting in tasking that essentially has us reaching our full operational capability in this mission more than one year ahead of schedule! There is no other unit in the Air National Guard that is doing, or is able to do, what we have done with the Predator in such a short time. Remember that we flew our last F-16 missions less than nine months ago!

Our new airlift mission is no different. We flew our first operational missions in the C-21 for the Joint Operational Support Airlift Coordination Center (JOSACC) this month again, while still in a conversion status and only nine months after flying our last fighter missions!

At Minot Air Force Base, our new security forces squadron has officially stood up. Interestingly enough, Space Command's Site Activation Task Force team just held their initial planning meeting for this activation, a full six months after we began the mission ourselves!

Our 119th Mission Support Group, in addition to supporting the base through our conversions, has continually deployed airmen all over the world, including into the combat theaters of Iraq and Afghanistan.

All of these accomplishments are a testament to our great people, work ethic and capabilities. We have all worked together to form personal plans to take advantage of these new opportunities. No one has their head in the sand pretending the changes wouldn't affect them personally. We have no self-created internal barriers, or doubt, or "it won't affect me" attitudes. We keep open communications and all have a willingness to find positive solutions, compromises and solutions to problems brought about by change. We have always been willing to go out on a limb when needed in order to take advantage of situations or opportunities!

Because of all of this, we attract attention to ourselves. As I travel around the United States and interact with the many agencies and personnel, I can't begin to tell you the amount of unsolicited compliments I get for the Happy Hooligans! We are excelling in all aspects of these new missions right from the very beginning and it is not going un-noticed! You all need to know that I am honored to accept these compliments on your behalf and that it is truly inspiring to be part of such a great organization because of people like you!

Again, as the old adage says: If you don't know where you are going, you'll end up somewhere else! Well, we certainly know where we are going, and we are going there the right way!

Keep up the great work!

Bulletin briefs

TAG will help serve holiday lunch

Maj. Gen. David A. Sprynczynatyk and 119th Wing senior leadership are scheduled to serve the holiday meal 1 p.m., Dec. 1 at the Aerospace Dining Facility.

TRICARE information

Margaret Franklin, a representative from TRIWEST (our region's contractor for TRICARE), will now be in the Bismarck office once a month! She is a true expert and can help answer many of your TRICARE questions. Margaret can assist you with claim issues, enrollment, etc. Her office is at 4200 E. Divide, Room 320, Bismarck, N.D. 2007 dates she is scheduled to be in this office are Nov. 15 and Dec. 11.

If you have any questions, you also may call Master Sgt. Barbara J. Anderson at (701) 451-2244 or WOC Joshua Simmers (in Bismarck) at (701) 333-3072.

MWR equipment for rent

Winter is just around the corner, so don't forget to stop by and rent ice augers, ice fishing houses and more from the Services Flight. Please contact Senior Master Sgt. Walter Laudon at 701-451-2680 for more information.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Bradly A. Schneider, 119th Wing

The 119th Wing commander takes his turn in the dunk tank during Hooligan Day activities Sept. 8.

119th Wing performs first drill in Minot

By Capt. Penny A. Ripperger
119th Wing Public Affairs

119th Wing members attached to the new security forces squadron at Minot Air Force Base, N.D., performed their first unit training assembly, otherwise known as a “drill weekend,” on Oct. 6 and 7.

The start of drill weekends enables the squadron to begin training to provide mission-ready airmen for security duties within the missile fields. Guard members train and serve alongside the active duty personnel within the 91st Security Forces Group at Minot AFB.

“I am very proud of the men and women who have volunteered to be a part of this new security forces unit. It is evident from the quality of the Airmen from Minot AFB and the members of the N.D. Air National Guard that the saying, ‘only the best come north,’ is true in this total force concept,” said Maj. Gen. David Sprynczynatyk, Adjutant General for the N.D. National Guard. “This concept is the future platform for conducting military operations and, once again North Dakota leads the nation.”

“This drill weekend is a significant milestone not only for the N.D. Air National Guard, but also for our partnership with the Minot AFB. Many people have worked very hard to make this mission successful and this weekend is proof of that,” said Lt. Col. Tad Schauer, Detachment 2 Security Forces Commander.

The unit is the largest security forces squadron in the entire Air National Guard. The squadron is expected to bring

approximately 60 full-time and 80 part-time Air National Guard positions to the Minot area.

Currently, the squadron has hired 15 full-time and five part-time Guard members.

The hiring process for the security forces squadron has been going extremely well. We have received qualified applicants because the Guard typically has a more stable force, due to the fact that Guard members normally serve a 20-year career at one location, explained Schauer.

“This is the first unit in the Air National Guard whose mission is to support the protection of priority resources within the missile fields. This mission has been in the development process for years and is finally under way,” Schauer said. “The support provided by the 91st Space Wing and the 5th Bomb Wing has been outstanding!”

The Air Force has gone above and beyond to make this mission a success, explained Capt. Kit Allen, a Detachment 2 Operations Officer who recently moved to Minot to support the new mission.

“Without the support of Space Command, we wouldn’t be here today. The total force concept is alive and well and has produced many great opportunities for everyone in the military,” Allen said.

Distinguished guests visited the squadron during its first drill weekend including Maj. Gen. Emil Lassen, Air National Guard Assistant to the Air Force Space Command, Maj. Gen. David Sprynczynatyk, N.D. Adjutant General, and Brig. Gen. Allen Palmer, Air Component Command Commander.



The Air National Guard (ANG) Assistant to the Commander, AFSPC, shakes hands with a 119 Wing First Sergeant. The members of the North Dakota Air National Guard Happy Hooligans' are welcoming the Maj. Gen. to their first Unit Training Assembly at Minot Air Force Base, Minot, N.D., Oct. 6.

Photo by Tech. Sgt. Bradley A. Schneider, 119th Wing

Hooligans donate bicycle to show appreciation



Photo by Master Sgt. Eric A. Johnson, 119th Wing

On Sept. 24 a Fargo boy is awarded a bicycle by the 119th Wing at the Fargo Air Museum to replace his bicycle that was stolen in the parking lot of the museum in August. The boy volunteered his personal time nearly every day throughout the summer to help out at the Air Museum, which displays vintage airplanes and Happy Hooligan memorabilia. We wanted to show him how grateful we are for his volunteerism at the Air Museum. He is preserving the heritage that we have all been a part of for so many years, said a Master Sgt. from the 119th Mission Support Group. The money for the bicycle was raised through personal donations made by Happy Hooligan members.

Changing your address and phone numbers in vRED

By Master Sgt. Barbara J. Anderson

119th Mission Support Flight

Updating your address in vRED is mandatory. You can change your home address, mailing address or both. If you do not specify which address you are changing, the system will automatically update your home address and your old address will stay in the system as your mailing. Here are your options:

- Home should reflect the address you reside at (cannot be a P.O. Box)
- Mailing is the address to which you want your mail sent
- Select Home/Mailing if the new address is where you reside and where you want your mail to be delivered

For example, if you live in Fargo, N.D., and want your mailing address to remain the same as your parents' address, then you would update the *mailing* address as your parent's and update the *home* address as where you actually live.

Your "home" phone number listed in vRED should be the first number you would like the NDANG to use when contacting you. This means if your cell phone is your primary point of contact, please enter your cell phone number as your home number.

If you have any questions, please contact the Personnel office.

NDANG Major escorts father on honor flight

119th Wing

I had the rarest of opportunities recently: a chance to join 250 WWII Veterans on a 747 and travel with them to see the WWII Memorial in Washington, D.C. for the first time. My own father was among them.

I learned a few things on this trip, not all of which I expected. To spend a couple of days with a group of spry 82 to 97 year olds is to regain confidence that God does not abandon us to misery in our old age. I had a grandfather who taught me this lesson once. Yet, as my own knees begin to creak and I find limits to my strength that were not there a few short years ago, I guess I needed to be reminded again.

I've been on a lot of military "planes, trains and automobiles" in 25 years of my own military service. Military members know their common ground and tend to be quick to use humorous one-liners and zingers to help break the ice and build a feeling of camaraderie. I learned that the only thing that changes in 60 years is the speed with which they get on and off the bus. One gentleman had lost his tour ID at the Lincoln Memorial. Another member of our same bus found it and turned it in. The gentleman said, "Wow, I was looking all over for this thing, thank you, thank you...Where did you find it?" The finder shouted out from the back of the bus, "I found it in a strip club!"

Far and away the most important lesson I learned took me by surprise. This trip wasn't about stories from long ago, or remembrances of friends who died as mere children on overseas

battlefields. Although I did see the tears that still run from those events, as well. The most common emotion I saw displayed, now more than 60 years since the war's end, was a sense of relief. I witnessed a generation in their 80's and 90's, still carrying a burden to know that they must somehow preserve the things that happened six decades ago, not for them but for us. They bear a sincere concern that forgetting those lessons will allow it to all happen again.

This is the generation that traveled through childhood at the height of the Great Depression. Then the same generation who received the least was called upon to give the most. The numbers are staggering. More than 80 percent of men from age 18-35 would put on the uniform. The world they lived in saw more than 20,000 people die from war every single day for six long years. The statistics are mind boggling and endless. More than 12,000 bombers lost by the Americans alone. More than 100,000 Allied aircrew lost just in Europe. Of the 40,000 men from both sides who served on submarines, 30,000 never went home. It goes on...and on.

It's all history to you and I. It's personal to them. They see the names and faces still. They speak with a haunting passion about a world that so desired peace, but was nearly overcome with evil. Their aged eyes still flash when talking about how foolishly unprepared America was to defend it's freedom. I heard opinions on all sides of the current war among them. So, it was not some bastion of conservatism which offered this advice. Many of them commented again and again how "People don't realize how much went into saving this country. People don't think it could happen again, but we didn't think it would happen then. And then it was on us, and



Photo by Maj. Allen K. Albright, 119th Wing

The National World War II Memorial as seen by the NDANG major of the 119th Wing on his trip to Washington, D.C. Sept. 7-8. The World War II Memorial honors the 16 million who served in the armed forces of the U.S., the more than 400,000 who died, and all who supported the war effort from home. Symbolic of the defining event of the 20th Century, the memorial is a monument to the spirit, sacrifice and commitment of the American people, states the National WWII Memorial web site at www.wwiimemorial.com.

we almost gave up the ship before we got things turned around.”

These are men and women who looked directly in the face of a future that didn't include a United States of America as we know it, and they experienced what it took to ensure that destiny was changed. They clearly still carry the burden of wanting to know that lesson will never be forgotten. I believe that is why so many of them appeared so relieved when they walked the granite memorial. One 80-something veteran nurse I spoke to that morning quietly said it best: “All this stone and marble, this thing will be here forever. Finally, something to help remind people of all that happened.

The time of the Greatest Generation has almost passed. With them will be lost the personal experience of why 52 million people perished from the face of the earth as a result of one war. I saw many elderly veterans carry that burden and set it down on a circular monument of marbled stone and granite at the National Mall in a sincere hope that you and I will pick it up and never forget.



Photo courtesy of Maj. Allen K. Albright, 119th Wing

The major takes a break from the honor flight tour in Washington, D.C. with his father, a retired U.S. Army Sgt. on Sept. 7. His father was among the first U.S. Army troops to go into Hiroshima, Japan, after the atomic bomb drop. I probably would not be here today if the U.S. had not dropped the bomb because I would have been one of the thousands of U.S. troops on the ground in Japan fighting to end the war, says the father.

National POW/MIA Recognition Day

Editorial by Senior Airman Jessica B. Clark

119th Services Flight

On Friday, Sept. 21, the Fargo Veterans Affairs Medical Center hosted a recognition day ceremony to give a long-deserved thanks to our fellow military members, the POWs, during National POW/MIA Recognition Day. Through the tears shed and the many salutes, I witnessed what we as Americans too often forget - the ugliest part of war.

As an intern for N.D. Senator Kent Conrad, I was asked to read a letter on his behalf at this significant event. As I read his letter, I looked around the room at the eight former POWs and approximately 125 people who attended the event. The courageous men and their family members who never lost hope saw the men who wore their military hats proudly and who saluted with honor.

At the closing remarks, the Veterans Affairs choir sang each military branch's song. As the choir sang the Air Force song, I stood proudly as an Airman next to Col. Martin, who was there on behalf of Governor John Hoeven.

Again, I think too often we forget the sacrifices our men and women make for our country, especially our POWs. We can come to drill once a weekend and not have to think about our service until another month, but these POWs do not have that privilege. Their service is forever etched in their memory.

The National POW/MIA Recognition Day should not be just another event on our calendars, but a day where we can formally and respectfully honor our POW/MIA.



The POW/MIA flag flies proudly at the entrance gate for the North Dakota Air National Guard, Fargo, N.D., Oct. 3.

Photo by Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp, 119th Wing

Active duty, Guard and Reserves are traini

Story and photos by Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp
119th Wing

Intelligence agencies determine that a group that has been making threats against the United States is working in a clandestine lab. Law enforcement moves in to secure the lab, but the people who have been coming and going from the lab are lying strewn about on the ground around the building. An urgent call is immediately placed to the emergency management response team.

This is a scenario, which is being played out at the North Dakota Air National Guard Regional Training Site, Fargo, N.D., during the



Above, a tech. sgt. of the 119th Civil Engineer Squadron, takes a sample of an unknown powder during a training exercise at the Regional Training Site, Fargo, N.D., May 23.

A staff sgt. decontaminates an airman 1st class, both of the 138th Civil Engineer Squadron, after completing the dike, dam, divert and retain practical portion of the HAZMAT operations level certification course at the North Dakota Air National Guard Readiness Training Site June 6.



first-ever emergency management training that is unique to the civil engineer 3E9X1 emergency management career field.

The course is offered as a total force hazardous material (HAZMAT) operations and core competency deployment for training.

U.S. Military members from various branches and locations are coming together to learn and train using the same standards in emergency management.

The regional training site in Fargo is one of only two locations in the United States offering 3E9X1 training for the emergency management personnel in both the Air National Guard and the U.S. Air Force, and it is one of four regional training locations set up to offer Civil Engineer training for the Air National Guard in the United States.

“While all of the regional training sites are located at Air National Guard facilities, the sites are being used to train the total force members of active duty, Guard and Reserve emergency management responders from the different branches of the service in exactly the same manner.” says Chief Master Sgt. Mike Connors, the U. S. Air Force emergency management career field manager. “The training that is being conducted at the North Dakota Air National Guard regional training site is the perfect venue for emergency management responders to practice techniques and procedures.”

The instructors for the course also are a total force group of people coming from active duty and National Guard U.S. Army and Air Force organizations in North Dakota and various other states

“The North Dakota Air National Guard Regional Training Site is literally setting the standard in the

ng together for emergency management

Emergency Management career field with the courses that we are teaching here,” says Senior Master Sgt. Thomas ‘T.K.’ Stoudt, National Guard Bureau A7 command emergency manager, during a recent stay in Fargo as a course instructor.

“This first-ever total force training in Fargo is very effective because the site is uniquely equipped to host all types of emergency management training, and we have very professional and knowledgeable instructors from around the country teaching in both the classroom and in the field” says Senior Master Sgt. Michelle Reitan, 119th Civil Engineer Squadron emergency management superintendent.

Among the facilities the emergency management and Civil Engineering personnel training in Fargo can expect to utilize are: several classrooms, mock clandestine weapons lab, equipped emergency operations center, a mock aircraft burn pit and fire tower training structure, and an aircraft runway used for rapid runway repairs, along with all of the sleeping and eating facilities that would be expected in a self-contained training site.

“The goal for our regional training site in Fargo is to be able to provide training for all Civil Engineer U.S. Air Force specialties on equipment that personnel will encounter in the area of responsibility when deployed,” according to Senior Master Sgt. Scott D. Terry, who is the North Dakota Air National Guard Regional Training Site manager.



A staff sgt. and senior airman, both of the 183rd Civil Engineer Squadron, along with a staff sgt. of the 138th Civil Engineer Squadron, use a HazMatID chemical substance identifying computer to test for evidence of weapons of mass destruction during a training exercise at the Air National Guard Regional Training Site, Fargo, N.D., May 23.



An instructor from the 61st CST, center, demonstrates the amount, substance and procedure for testing various chemical and toxic agents to a tech. sgt. of the 436th Civil Engineer Squadron, left, and a staff sgt. of the 159th Fighter Wing, during an emergency management training course at the North Dakota Air National Guard Regional Training Site, Fargo, N.D., Sept. 12.

One mistake can have lasting affects

By Staff Sgt. Sam A. Ruiz

119th Security Forces Squadron

There are two types of people: those who learn from their mistakes and those who don't. But what about the person who not only understands what they did was wrong, but also has the courage to tell their story to help others from making the same regrettable mistake?

Some call these people brave or courageous, some call them responsible. Regardless of the label, Staff Sgt. Sam A. Ruiz is one of those people.

Ruiz, a member of the 119th Wing Security Forces Squadron, shares his personal experience about receiving a DUI earlier this year and the devastating consequences it had on his life and career.

"I always believed that something like this would never happen to me," recalls Ruiz.

A stand-up troop, Ruiz joined the N.D. Air National Guard in 2000. By 2001 he was awarded Airman of the Year for the 119th Wing Security Forces Squadron. He also received two Air Force Achievement medals and deployed overseas three times, including Iraq.

In 2004 he graduated from Minnesota State University Moorhead with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice. He then completed the Police Academy in Alexandria, Minn.

"I did all of this without getting into any trouble with the law," Ruiz explained. "I did all of this knowing that I would soon reach my ultimate dream of becoming a police officer."

The hiring process began, after six months of countless interviews and intense screenings, Ruiz received the news of his dreams in March: He had been selected to begin the Field Training Officer Program with the Fargo Police Department. That night, he decided to celebrate his success.

"I thought, 'It won't happen to me; I'm weeks from becoming a police officer myself,'" Ruiz said.

A common and unfortunate mistake, Ruiz had more than he intended to drink. The next thing he remembers is being back in his truck and seeing the red lights and hearing the sirens behind him. His blood alcohol content came back at .19, twice the legal limit.

"In one night of celebrations and six hours later, everything I worked so hard for slipped right through my hands," Ruiz said. "I immediately lost my job offer with the Fargo Police Department. Twenty-seven years of walking a fine line and staying out of trouble means little now."

Ruiz lost his driver's license for six months with the Department of Transportation, making it almost impossible to get a future job in law enforcement. He also was suspended from driving on a military installation for a year.

"Every time I have to call for a ride to get to work, I am reminded of my mistake," Ruiz said. The driving privileges are just a part of the punishment that Ruiz has endured.

"My once-clean criminal record is now gone. My longstanding honorable reputation and respect from my peers, supervisors and professors, weakened. I have let down the Air Force. I have let down many friends, family and, most importantly, myself," Ruiz said.

Over time Ruiz has tried to come to grips with his situation to understand what his new purpose in life may be. He explains that it was difficult for him to find a positive light after losing his dream of becoming a police officer, but one goal has emerged.

"I want for all of us to go the rest of our lives without getting a DUI. If that happens, than maybe there's a reason why this happened to me," Ruiz said.

Ruiz tells his story in hopes that others will learn from his mistake. He has briefed Airmen at Grand Forks AFB. He also will tell his incredible story at the 119th Wing during the commander's video broadcast Nov. and Dec. drill.

"It can't happen to me.' I know some people feel this way," Ruiz said. "I have been in those shoes and now I stand in the other guy's shoes that it happened to. It did happen to me. Your career and ultimately your life are worth too much."

Ruiz continues to encourage others to drink responsibly and arrange for a designated driver when they drink. Most importantly, he wants others to not make the same mistake he made on that fateful day in March.

Could Ruiz's story have a hidden purpose? If his testament makes you think twice about getting into your vehicle after a few drinks this holiday season...well, maybe it does.

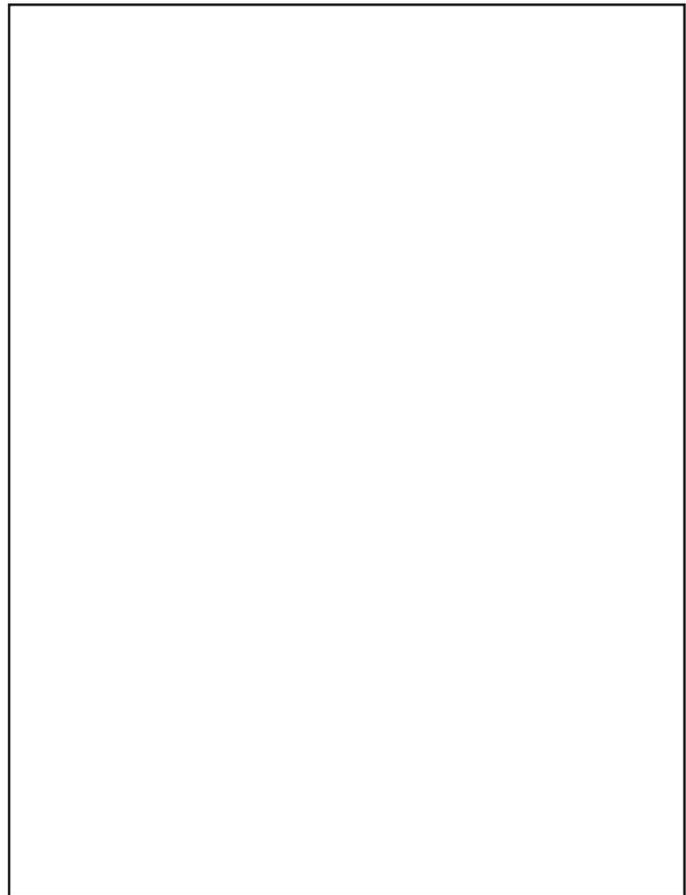


Photo by Senior Master Sgt. David H.Lipp, 119th Wing

Staff Sgt. Sam A. Ruiz, 119th Security Forces Squadron, inspects a vehicle entering the gate at the North Dakota Air National Guard Oct. 5.

Civilian DUI penalties

According to the N.D. Department of Transportation, any driver 21 or older with a blood alcohol count (BAC) of .08 percent or higher is legally drunk. Penalties also apply to drivers younger than 21 years old caught with a BAC of .02 percent or higher.

First DUI Offense

- * License will be suspended for 91 days (BAC .08 percent - .17 percent), 180 days (BAC .18 percent or higher)
- * Mandatory alcohol evaluation referral to an addiction facility
- * Minimum \$250 fine
- * Higher automotive insurance

Second DUI Offense

- * If the second offense is within five years of the first offense, license will be suspended for one year (two years if BAC registers higher than .18%)
- * Minimum \$500 fine.
- * Five days in jail or 30 days of community service
- * Required to attend an addiction facility for alcohol programs

Third DUI Offense

- * If the third offense is within five years of the second offense, license will be suspended for two years (three years if your BAC registers .18% or higher).
- * Minimum \$1,000 fine
- * 60 days in jail
- * Required to attend an addiction facility for alcohol counseling

Fourth DUI Offense

- * If the fourth offense is within seven years of the third offense, license will be suspended for two years (three years if your BAC registers .18% or higher).
- * Minimum fine of \$1,000
- * 180 days in jail
- * Driving privileges will only be returned after being treated for alcohol addiction and not committing any alcohol-related offenses for at least two years after treatment

Fifth DUI Offense

- * A fifth DUI offense is a Class C felony in North Dakota.
- * \$5,000 fine and as much as five years in jail

Drug use can have costly consequences

By Senior Master Sgt. Paul E. Tangen

119th Wing 1st Sgt.

If a 119th Wing member received a bonus upon enlistment or if they are using tuition benefits, testing positive for illegal drugs can have very expensive consequences.

For example, members within their first six years of enlistment who received a \$15,000 bonus would have to pay back any portion of the money they have received but not actually earned at the time of discharge. Clarification: \$7,500 is paid to the member up front with annual installments of \$1,500; however, bonus money is only earned at a rate of \$208.33 for each satisfactory month of service over a 72-month period. Members are responsible to repay any unearned benefit when discharged.

** Note: Bonus money is taxed before member receives funds, but when required to pay back unearned benefits, taxes are not deducted. Therefore, the member is required to repay the GROSS amount of the incentive received.

Example: Member receives first \$7,500 (approximately \$5,200 after taxes) and 1 annual installment of \$1,500 (approximately \$1,000 after taxes), but is discharged after 15 months of service under the six-year contract for drug use:

$\$208.33 \times 15 \text{ months} = \$3,124.95$ (GROSS) earned vs: \$9,000 (GROSS) received.
 $\$9,000 \text{ received} - \$3,124.95 \text{ earned} = \$5,875.05$ OWED TO Government

In addition, the following penalties apply to military members using education benefits:

- Stop GI Bill benefits immediately- (terminated irrevocably)
- Stop tuition reimbursement immediately
- Stop loan repayment immediately
- Initiate immediate repayment to day one, to include the monthly \$317 GI Bill and \$350 Kicker (\$667/month pay back).

The overall potential cost summary:

- GI Bill and Kicker (18 months)=\$12,006
- Bonus repayment=\$5,875.05
- Total Immediate repayment=\$17,881.05
- Lost Future Drill Pay (34 drills)=\$7,670.40
- Lost Future AT three years(45 days)=\$2,538
- Grand Total lost=\$28,089.45

Facts:

- If a member tests positive for illegal drugs they will be immediately discharged.
- Over the past five years, an average of two members per year has been discharged for drug use.
- There are no false-positive tests.
- Each fiscal year, 100% of the 119th Wing personnel are tested.
- Urine samples are collected under observation.
- Masking drugs do not hide the use of illegal drug use. The military testing system tests urine to the molecular level.

National Guard volunteers thank community while building homes for Iraqi families



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp, 119th Wing

Above, a retired col. of the 119th Wing, works on the N.D. National Guard Habitat for Humanity home.

Below, a lt. col. of the 119th Civil Engineer Squadron commander, contributes to the N.D. National Guard home building effort for the Lake Agassiz Habitat for Humanity.



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp, 119th Wing

By Sgt. Amy Wieser Willson
NDARNG Public Affairs

As Soldiers and Airmen work in Iraq to give its citizens hope for a brighter future, their counterparts here in North Dakota are doing the same. Members from the North Dakota Army National Guard and Air National Guard have volunteered to “adopt” two Iraqi families who have relocated to the Fargo-Moorhead area after fearing for their lives in their homeland. Through Lake Agassiz Habitat for Humanity, Guard members joined together to build a twinhome, giving an Iraqi widow with seven children and another family hope, peace and security.

“These Soldiers and Airmen have chosen to volunteer their own time as a way to help these families, as well as the greater community,” said Army Maj. Grant Wilz, lead volunteer coordinator. Wilz has served on a fundraising committee for the Habitat project for the past 18 months.

Soldiers, Airmen and community volunteers worked together through October to get the home closed up before winter. On Oct. 22, Soldiers and Airmen alone partnered for a daylong military blitz build. Many consider it a way of giving back to the community.

“Many of us have deployed to Iraq, and those across North Dakota gave us an incredible amount of support,” Wilz said. “Habitat for Humanity gives to the community, not just a family. This is a way for (Guard members) to say thank you to the community for their phenomenal support of us.”

Besides benefiting the Iraqi families, the build will benefit Habitat for Humanity, as well as the greater Fargo-Moorhead area. Funds raised at the start of each build cover material costs. Families then make mortgage payments, based on their income, to Habitat. Those funds go directly into subsequent building projects.

“This project says something about the integrity of our Soldiers and Airmen,” said Maj. Gen. David Sprynczynatyk, North Dakota National Guard Adjutant General. “Many join the National Guard because they feel called to serve a greater cause. They have performed humanitarian missions across the globe and across the state as part of their military duties. Joining with Habitat for Humanity to build this home is a natural extension of the work they do in uniform.”

Below, the North Dakota Air National Guard Family Program coordinator carries water donated by local businesses for volunteers working at the N.D. National Guard home building Oct. 20.



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp, 119th Wing



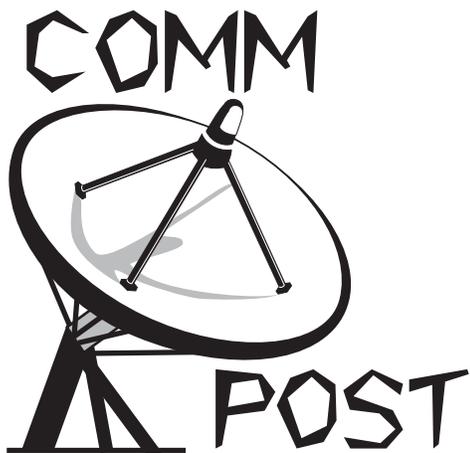
Photo by Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp, 119th Wing

Above, a maj. from the 119th Civil Engineer Squadron, right, and a retired Civil Engineer Squadron senior master sgt. volunteer their personal time to help build the N.D. National Guard house.

Below, a staff sgt., left, and an sgt., both of the 188th Engineer Company, shovel sand prior to pouring concrete for a sidewalk at the North Dakota National Guard Habitat for Humanity house Oct. 22.



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp, 119th Wing



Store and Store Alike

By Master Sgt. John W. Noone (ret.)

North Dakota Air National Guard

In this installment, some information about the confusing arena of personal storage space on our hard drive farm resource. Hard drive capacity just keeps getting cheaper and cheaper. I recently saw on sale in a Best Buy Sunday paper insert an external USB drive from Western Digital with a full TERABYTE of capacity for less than \$350. Its getting ridiculous. So why is there a limit to how much we can store on our network? Can't we just buy more capacity? There's even an old Dilbert cartoon where the System Administrator complains to one of the workers that they have exceeded their storage limits on the network. The worker flips the Sys Admin a quarter and tells them to buy more space. If only it

were that easy. The real problem isn't capacity. The real problem is backing it up. See, nobody has really come up with a good cheap way to replace magnetic tape backup systems. And magnetic tape backup systems are slow, once you get too much data to backup your information over night, you have a problem. That's the primary reason we have storage limit policies on our network. But wait, there's more! Not only is there a limit on what you can store as a user in your home directory, but there also is a limit on how large your ".pst" file can be. Your .pst file is a special file that contains all your personal Microsoft Outlook folders. Got hundreds of e-mails squirreled away in your Outlook personal folders? That's where they are sitting. I won't go into the exact limits here, but suffice it to say that just because you go through the process of whittling down your .pst below the warning limit, you may not be out of the woods because your home directory might still be too large and past limits. That's right. Your home directory has a limit and your .pst file has a limit (two different limits) and your .pst file is kept within your home directory. But wait! There's still more! At some point we will be migrating to Vista and it has been rumored sometime after that migration the Air Force is going to move away from allowing users to store any non-work related information on government systems, and they will enforce this with content audits. The truth is that many Air Force and Air Guard bases don't support the end user home directory system we have in place for Hooligan users. All the data you have stored that is work-related can be stored in an organizational file structure. The reality is that there is no real requirement to store anything on the network that is not work. Now, I am not saying that this is going to happen, but it is in the wind. But if it is coming, look at it this way, you won't have to worry about having your "H:" drive being too big because its filled up with personal junk, because personal junk simply won't be allowed.

Spotlight on Awards & Decorations

Iraq Campaign Medal



By Master Sgt. Danielle Scheffler

119th Mission Support Flight

Established on Nov. 29, 2004, the Iraq Campaign Medal recognizes servicemembers who have served in Iraq.

Eligibility for the ICM requires servicemembers to have served in direct support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The period of eligibility is on or after March 19, 2003, to a future date to be determined by the Secretary of Defense or the cessation of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Servicemembers must have been assigned, attached or mobilized to units operating in the area of eligibility for 30 consecutive days or 60 non-consecutive days. Only one award of the ICM is authorized for any individual.

Reference: AFPC website

Wondering if you have the ICM? Log on to the vMPF to view your awards and decorations.

If you qualify for the ICM and have not been awarded it, send a copy of your CED order and travel voucher to me at office symbol DPMAP.

Retirements, Promotions, New Members

119 AMS

Promotions

SrA Jones, Andrew J.

119 CES

Promotions

1Lt. Tronnes, Matthew W.

119 FM

Promotions

1Lt. Bengs, Bobbette L.

119 LRS

Promotions

Capt. Jernberg, Bradley J.

CMSgt. Robert C. Olson

SSgt Hill, Bridget D.

SSgt Pollard, James C.

New Members

TSgt. Strom, Todd A.

Retirements

SSgt Byron, Sharon A.

119 SVF

Promotions

SMSgt Knutson, Curtis

SSgt Knier, Alexandra G.

119 MDG

Promotions

Maj. Elstad, Scott A.

119 MXG

Retirements

SMSgt. Schlafmann, Brian D.

119 MXS

New Members

AB McDowell, Trevor J.

119 OSF

Promotions

SSgt Dekrey, Michael T.

SrA Conant, Justin A.

SrA Wobbema, Jordan M.

119 SFS

Promotions

Maj. McDonough, Teresa L.

New Members

AB Bolstad, Ashley M.

AB Schroeder, Casey D.

119 SFS- Det 2

Promotions

LtCol Schauer, Tad J.

178 FS

Promotions

LtCol Lysford, Scott P.

New Members

Capt. Brancato, Micaela R.

Capt. Dupont, Treyvr C.

2007 UTA Schedule

November 17-18

December 1-2

Family program



Military One Source can now be found on the Internet at www.militaryonesource.com.

Military One Source is free for all and has been created for a variety of Department of Defense and family issues. It is available 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week by telephone at 800-342-9647.

2007 Auger Inn Events

November 16 - Officer Christmas Party

December 8 - Children's Christmas Party

The holiday meal menu for Dec. UTA
(Holiday meal cost is \$5.90)

December 1

Prime Rib

Au Jus

Baked Potato

Fried Shrimp

Fried Rice

Green Beans Parisienne

Clam Chowder

Dinner Rolls

December 2

Main Line

Steak Ranchero

Baked Pork Chop w/ mushroom gravy

Mashed Potatoes

Gravy

Glazed Carrots

Speed Line

Super Chicken Nachos

Potato Rounds

Refried Beans

Glazed Carrots

Retirees' corner

By Chief Master Sgt. Jack Tietgens (ret.)

North Dakota Air National Guard

There was a good showing of retirees at the 9th Annual Hooligan Memorial Golf Tournament on Sept. 10. Those sharing in prize money were Craig Cain, Steve Malakowsky and Dwight Murphy.

Retirees were well represented at the Auger Inn's Pork-Alo Feed on Sep. 14. Lucky winners of prizes were Gordie Brekken, Brenda Carlson (wife of E. John Carlson), Duane Fontaine, Tom Larson, Randy Lekander, Wayne Mercil, and Jack Tietgens.

The 119th Wing Public Affairs Office has invited retirees to assist in identifying numerous historical photos that have collected over the years. On Wed., Nov. 14, there will be a "Picture Party" at the 119th Wing Dining Facility, 9 a.m. to noon, and coffee and donuts will be provided. You're welcome to participate and share your good memory, which will be genuinely appreciated by the Wing staff.

The next Fargo-Moorhead area Hooligans breakfast will be 7 a.m. Wed., Dec. 5, at the Valley Kitchen.

The Detroit Lakes area Hooligans will have their bimonthly breakfast at 8 a.m., Sat., Dec. 15, at the Detroit Lakes Holiday Inn.

Afterburner



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp, 119th Communications Flight

Family members of deployed North Dakota Air National Guard members inspect a Red River Zoo Bearded Dragon Sept. 23 during a family program picnic. The Bearded Dragon is sitting on the arm of zoo volunteer Erin Cuomo as children get the opportunity to view and touch a variety of zoo animals. The picnic was organized by the N.D. Air National Guard Family Program to recognize unit members and their families for the sacrifices that they make during military deployments. The family program invites NDANG members and their families to attend the annual children's Christmas party, which will be 2 p.m. Dec. 8 at the North Dakota Air National Guard Aerospace Dining Facility.

JET LETTER

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