

Contrail

May 2009, Vol. 43, No. 5



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Photos**



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COVER

CLEAN UP TIME

Capt. Josh Wilson (front) and 1st Lt. Mike Nicoson participate in exercise pilot decontamination procedures on April 3. Photo by Staff Sgt. Matt Hecht, 177FW/PA.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

The Hard-Hearted Believer

By Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Dean Wentzien

The believer's path toward a hardened heart can start innocently enough - it's easy for us to become preoccupied with things that have little or no spiritual value.

Once our focus is diverted from God, it doesn't take much for the preoccupation to take up greater amounts of time. We can become so absorbed in the diversion that spiritual matters are ignored.

As our spiritual life withers, we give up private devotion and public worship. Anyone who is spending time with the Lord daily is giving to have a pliable heart, but the person who lays aside His Word gives Satan an opportunity. Allowed to function apart from God, the heart is deceitful and turns from Him.

When a believer's mind is preoccupied

and his heart is distant from God, he can easily be swayed by the deceitfulness of sin. As sensitivity to the Holy Spirit is dulled by a hard "shell" that's been forming around his heart, the drifting Christian begins to find Satan's false promises more tempting. He foolishly trusts in the deception and becomes ever more deeply enmeshed in sin. This, in turn, leads to even greater preoccupation with non-spiritual matters and neglect of his spiritual life.

Believers are not immune to hardening of the heart. We can become as insensitive to God's voice as an unbeliever, but we have a way to remove the spiritual callus that has been forming within us. By repenting and refocusing, we can return to devotion and worship in order to remain soft-hearted before God.

Have you ever heard of TRASHINT?

Adversaries can collect information by going through discarded papers to find information for use against another party or to use in one's own favor this is called TRASHINT.

Make sure you shred all sensitive information. This does not just mean items marked as "classified". This includes all information deemed as "Critical" to the 177th Fighter Wing and all other military operations.

Not sure what the 177th deems as "Critical" Information... ask your supervisor to show you where the Wing Critical Information List is maintained in your duty section. Still not sure if that piece of paper your holding has Critical Information on it...don't take the chance - just shred it.

To report an OPSEC violation or to get more information on the OPSEC Program, contact your Wing OPSEC Program Managers: Capt. Toni Memme-laar x6206 and Tech. Sgt. Jamie DeCosta X6088.

Annual dental exam

The Annual Dental Exam, which is required each year, will be completed by your civilian dentist (exceptions include pilots, anyone new to this base, individuals on class three and those who have never been seen by a wing dentist).

Start by obtaining a DD Form 2813 from the clinic or it is available on the local area network (K:\FORMS\ DD\2800\dd2813.pdf); have your dentist complete the form and return it to the clinic.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDER



Hello All,

Seems like it's been a long time since the last drill. Let me start off by discussing the results of the April Operational Readiness Exercise. Going strictly by criteria in the Operational Readiness Inspection regulation 90-201, we would have been graded overall UNSATISFACTORY. Specific grades for each area were as follows: EMPLOYMENT and ABILITY TO SURVIVE AND OPERATE (ATSO) were UNSATISFACTORY and MISSION SUPPORT was MARGINAL. At first look it doesn't sound too good but that's not the whole story. From my vantage point the exercise was a success and I'll explain why.

To begin with it was the first full blown Phase 2 exercise in about 10 years and it was certainly the first for many of you. So at least everyone has now been thru an ORE and has an idea of what to expect. We also knew going in that the employment grade would be low due to lack of aircraft. Less than two weeks before the exercise Maintenance was informed that 12 of our aircraft were grounded pending a lengthy inspection. For a while, there was doubt that we would have any aircraft to fly for the ORE, but outstanding efforts on the part of Maintenance got most of the jets ready! In a nutshell, the ORE bounded the problem and highlighted the areas for improvement. Shortfalls in training and manning were also identified. We also proved the capability of our new Command and Control facility. In case you hadn't noticed, Civil Engineer has spent the last few months building an entirely new Command and Control center (called the Installation Control Center) and the ORE proved the capability of that facility. By the way, let me take a moment to thank the folks in both Civil Engineer and Communications Flight for their herculean efforts in getting the ICC up and running...great job. I also want to recognize the efforts of the Exercise Evaluation Team and Wing Readiness Action Team who have done an outstanding job all around.

We certainly have our work cut out but the good news is we have some more time to practice. Let me pass on some observations and areas that require emphasis. There are some large areas of concern and I have discussed these with the group commander's. My intent here is to discuss some areas that all of us as individuals can improve on. The first observation concerns improper use of the Individual Protective Equipment. There were many instances of this during the ORE. Everyone has had Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear Explosive training and everyone should have the Airman's Manual. We all must be familiar with the contents in the manual, and it doesn't take that long to review certain areas. In fact my manual has tabs I put in for quick reference. There should be no excuse for not wearing the equipment correctly and remember to also use the buddy system. In addition to being aware of the proper use, we all need to be familiar with doing our jobs in Mission-Oriented Protective Posture 4 conditions. We will certainly be expected to do this during the ORI and probably one of those times will be a long duration. So make sure you are comfortable with your mask ahead of time. I don't expect anyone to ever be completely comfortable in MOPP 4 conditions but we need to do what it takes to be able to function well during the ORE's and the ORI.

Part of being able to function under MOPP 4 conditions requires staying hydrated which leads me to another observation. We had several instances of dehydration during the ORE and during what I would consider to be mild weather conditions! There is no excuse for this and we need to be able to endure a 2 day exercise without such incidents. Make sure you show up rested and hy-

drated and then keep on top of it. Now it has come to my attention that the dehydration incidents might have occurred due to anxiety about using the small portable bathroom facilities. This issue has been addressed and we have obtained larger facilities.

Another area of concern was the performance of the Post-Attack Reconnaissance (PAR) teams. During the ORI attacks will occur in an effort to disrupt the flow of our aircraft. We will never be given an unsolvable problem; however our post attack teams have got to be on the ball. The goal of a PAR team should be to sweep their assigned area in no more than 10 minutes. The PAR teams will be critical to getting us back in business after an attack. I'm asking for those of you who are chosen to be PAR team members to understand the importance of this task. Attend the training and take it seriously and do the job well. The Base is counting on you.

No discussion is complete without discussing Safety. Safety must be first in everything we do. There were a few safety violations during the ORE and this is unacceptable. I hold each and every one of you responsible for safety not just for yourself but for those around you. Supervisors at all levels need to continually emphasize safety with focus on potential danger areas, especially during an ORE/ORI with the stress involved. Don't ever forget that, although the IG will be looking for sense of urgency, there will never be a situation requiring anyone to rush and compromise safety. In closing on the ORE, I am proud for the overall effort you all put in. We are basically on track, but have a ways to go. Learn from your mistakes and improve along the way. I have attended several meetings with both high ranking military and civilian officials and the constant word is all eyes are on these ANG inspections. We must do well so we can meet our deployment requirements and have a bright future. As a reminder our security forces will be deploying just after the first of the year and our aviation package will deploy shortly after that in the spring.

In an effort to get us ready for both the ORI and the Air Expeditionary Force, we will be deploying six aircraft and about 100 people to Barksdale Air Force Base, La., for Green Flag East. The deployment dates are June 15-30 including travel days.

The next ORE is June 3-7 and will consist of a training day on Wednesday, Transition Day on Thursday, fight the war on Friday and Saturday, and debrief on Sunday. It was also decided that the actual ORI will consist of a two day war but I decided to keep the ORE's as planned to allow time for training and debrief.

Before closing I want to discuss my plan for the new Wing Command Chief. Chief Master Sgt. Mike Francis has done an excellent job as our Command Chief and this is his last drill. In the interim, Chief Master Sgt. Jack Dever will act as the Wing Command Chief. After the ORI, the position will be formally advertised.

Have a great drill and get all you can from your training.

ROBERT C. BOLTON
Colonel, NJANG
Commander

**177TH ORE
SCHEDULE
June 3-7
Sept. 9-13**

Med Group receives Outstanding Unit Award

Photo and story by Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, NJDMAVA/PA

The National Guard Bureau has announced that the 177th Fighter Wing Medical Group, New Jersey Air National Guard, has been awarded the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award.

"This prestigious award is a testimony to the outstanding and dedicated service by the men and women of the 177th Fighter Wing Medical Group," said Brig. Gen. Maria Falca-Dodson, Commander, New Jersey Air National Guard. "Your contributions have made the difference – both here and abroad. Con-

gratulations and thank you for your commitment, dedication and resolve to our great state and nation."

This is the second time the Medical Group has received the Award. The first was in 2003 as a subordinate unit with the Wing.

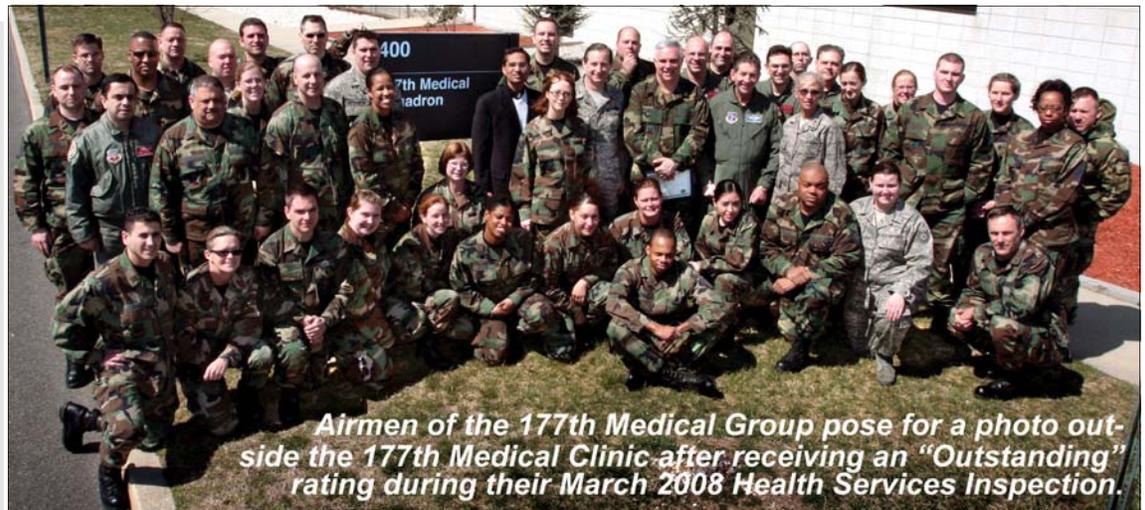
"The competition was extremely keen," said Lt. Gen. Harry M. Wyatt III, Director, Air National Guard. "Each winner is commended for having been selected from an outstanding group of nominees."

The Medical Group joins an elite group of 36 Air National Guard units nationwide, ranging the full spectrum of Air Force missions, in receiving the prestigious award. The AFOUA was created in 1954 and is awarded to any Air Force unit which performs exceptionally meritorious service, accomplishes specific acts of outstanding achievement, excels in combat operations against an armed enemy of the United States, or conducts with distinction military operations involving conflict with, or exposure to, a hostile action by any opposing foreign force.

"We are all extremely proud of the Medical Group's hard work and dedication and it's good to see them get the recognition they deserve," said Col. Robert C. Bolton, Commander, 177th Fighter Wing.

The Medical Group received the award for the period from March 30, 2006 to March 30, 2008. During that time, the 177th Medical Group provided extraordinary support for Operations' Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom, Jump Start, Arctic Care and Task Force Grizzly. Unit Airmen have supported the State Partnership Program between New Jersey and the Republic of Albania by training numerous Albanian doctors, nurses, and technicians in emergency medical technician certification courses.

In April 2006, the Group deployed to Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea in support of the Korea-United States Combined Forces exercise. The unit set up an Expeditionary Medical Support hospital in less than a week, inventoried more than 1,500 items in two days with 100 percent accuracy and provided training to the 8th Medical Group. As a result, the 177th Medical Group received numerous accolades from Pacific Air



Force, the 8th Medical Group Commander, and Air National Guard Chief of Medical Plans and Readiness Division.

During Operation Arctic Care 2007, the Air National Guard Surgeon General specifically requested that the 177th Medical Group be the first Air National Guard unit to support the Operation, which is a joint operation involving medical personnel from all branches of the service. The services in turn integrate with local health organizations to provide medical care for native Alaskans. The Operation is centered in Kotzebue, with more than 150 doctors, nurses, medical specialists, and support members giving care to patients in Kotzebue and eleven outlying Inupiat Eskimo fishing villages.

The Medical Group was recognized as the top performing unit in the villages of Selawik and Noorvik. While deployed, the Medical Group Airmen reattached a young girl's finger tip, performed more than 2,000 optometric and dental examinations, and promoted a massive health program involving substance abuse, sex education and preventive medicine to more than 2,000 native Alaskans.

In addition to their robust support for national and international operations, the Group also received an "Outstanding" rating during their March 2008 Health Services Inspection – their second consecutive "Outstanding" rating. To add to this accomplishment, they put together an HSI Consultation Team to assist other Air Force units in preparing for these inspections, which are considered among the most difficult inspections in the Air Force. The 177th Medical Group Consultative Team visited four other units; three of which have been inspected and attained either "excellent" or better ratings on their inspections.

"These Airmen are true professionals who have taken an interest in helping out other units and ensuring that they succeed," said Col. Bolton.

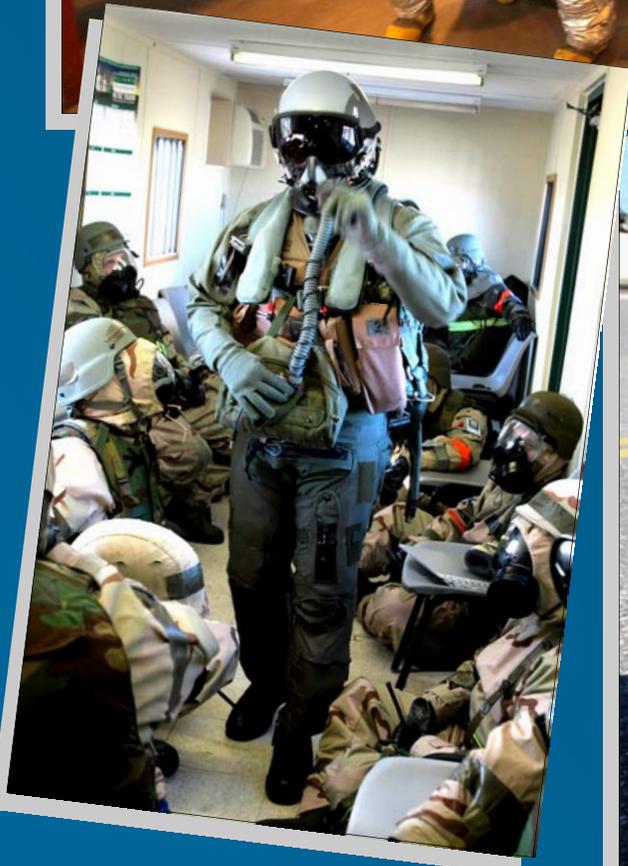
"The dedication and commitment of the members of these organizations enable the Air National Guard to fulfill its commitment to the missions of peacekeeping, humanitarian relief, domestic improvement, and most important of all – defense of America," said Lt. Gen. Wyatt. 🇺🇸

ORE in photos

By Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen, 177FWPA



April's ORE





Quint to command Maintenance

Master Sgt. Mike Valiante (l) watches as Col. Marcus Quint (r) salutes Wing Commander Col. Robert Bolton (c) after assuming command of 177th Maintenance Group on April 8. Photo by Staff Sgt. Matt Hecht, 177FW/PA.



Everman takes charge of 119th

Col. Marcus Quint (l) presents Lt. Col. Bradford Everman (r) the guidon for the 119th Fighter Squadron during a Change of Command ceremony on April 8. Everman will serve as the Squadron commander. Photo by Staff Sgt. Matt Hecht, 177FW/PA.



Caught By a Chief

Chief Master Sgt. Richard Reiken awards Tech. Sgt. Robert Lerner A Caught by Chief coin. Lerner implemented a physical fitness program for Student Flight, which aids members with basic training preparation. Congratulations Tech. Sgt. Lerner, you have been "Caught by a Chief." Photo by Master Sgt. Shawn Mildren, 177FW/PA.



Astronaut visits wing

NASA shuttle astronaut and former unit member Terry Hart visited the 177th Fighter Wing with his Lehigh University engineering students. He is currently a faculty member of Lehigh University, as well as a visiting lecturer at Lafayette College. Photo by Staff Sgt. Matt Hecht, 177FW/PA.

Prepare for the June ORE—Read Your Airman's Manual

New uniforms: Comfortable, functional are goals

By Col. Steve Gray, 77th Aeronautical Systems Group Human Systems Program Office

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFNS) -- The Air Force chief of staff met with office personnel April 21 for an update on clothing issues Airmen face as they support global mission requirements.

Gen. Norton Schwartz said addressing current and near-term uniform needs takes precedence over introducing long-range new initiatives.

"It is paramount that we provide fully functional and appropriate uniforms for our Airmen as they carry out our worldwide, joint mission," General Schwartz said. "It's critical that we respond to Air Force uniform needs since they affect every Airman, every day -- so we need to get it right."

Changes are also in the works for the airman battle uniform. "Too hot" is how many Airmen described the current ABU. After working with other services and industry textile experts, Air Force officials will field a lighter weight fabric for the ABU coat. Called the improved airman battle uniform, the ABU coat will be updated with a durable, lighter weight, and more comfortable fabric.

To further reduce weight, the IABU design will remove the inner coat liner and interior pockets. The lighter weight IABU will replace the current ABU coat for both summer and winter wear. Prior to production, the Air Force Uniform Office staff will verify the fabric can be consistently manufactured to avoid color variation experienced with the initial ABU rollout. Projected availability date is summer 2010 and will be phased in as current inventories are exhausted.

Also known as the all-purpose environmental camouflage parka, the ABU cold weather parka has been short in supply, forcing extended wear of the battle dress uniform camouflage parka. Working with officials from the Defense Logistics Agency and AAFES suppliers, increased production of APEC parkas is underway. Over 145,000 APEC parkas have been delivered to date, with a total of 400,000 projected to be delivered by the end of 2009.

Since introduction of the ABU, multiple variants of the sage green boots include standard issue, cold weather, hot weather, temperate weather, aircrew, and steel toe, and each is certified and fielded to meet Airmen's needs.

However, Airmen working in maintenance, industrial, and medical areas have vocalized difficulty in keeping the suede green boots clean. As an interim solution, Lt. Gen. Richard Y. Newton III, the Air Force deputy chief of staff for manpower, personnel and services, recently issued a policy allowing commanders to authorize wear of black boots in specific industrial work areas.

The Air Force Uniform Office staff is investigating stain-resistant materials that facilitate boot care. The results of an initial test in March 2009 did not show marked improvement over the current design. As a follow-on effort, a second boot wear test will begin this summer to evaluate alternative concepts from industry.

General Schwartz said if the follow-on test "doesn't work, this will be the last test and we'll go back to something that does work (in industrial areas)."

In response to a U.S. Air Force Central Command require-

ment to increase protection for Airmen in ground combat roles, the Human Systems Program Office staff with technical assistance from the U.S. Army Natick Soldier Research, Development and Engineering Center is fielding fire-resistant equipment to protect Airmen from burns caused by explosive devices or fire experienced during ground combat.

Beginning in March 2009, fire-resistant equipment is being issued to many Airmen prior to deployment. Specifically, Airmen in ground combat roles receive fire resistant equipment to include the airman battle shirt, a fire-resistant combat shirt worn under body armor, and the airman battle ensemble, a fire-resistant version of the ABU with different pocket configuration.

Unlike uniforms that are available to all Airmen, this fire-resistant equipment is issued to Airmen for specific missions. Therefore, with the exception of pre-deployment training, this equipment is not authorized for wear as a uniform item outside the area of responsibility.

Airmen's feedback directly helped lay the groundwork for significant improvements of the physical training gear. The new PT fabric received positive response from test participants and has been approved for production by General Schwartz.

After extensive prototype design testing, the following changes are on-track for fielding new PT uniforms in September:

- The improved PT running suit redesign includes a thinner, more flexible fabric to address common complaints about fabric "noise," and streamlines the design by removing the collar hood and shoulder vents. The improved design also reduces bulk by decreasing the amount of fabric in the running jacket mid-section and pants lower leg. Additionally, a new liner includes antimicrobial properties and will shed moisture at a faster rate than the current version.

- Improved PT shorts to be introduced this year feature a softer, more flexible fabric, side-pockets, increased inseam length, and redesigned inner liner.

- An improved PT shirt resembles the current short-sleeve shirt, but will feature a lighter weight, higher performance fabric with moisture wicking properties and odor reduction.

- The Air Force has also authorized optional PT gear for wear. A new long sleeve T-shirt and sweatshirt are now available for purchase through the Army Air Force Exchange System. In addition, optional running shorts will be introduced this summer.

Over the past several years, Air Force leaders considered replacing the current Air Force service dress coat with a design similar to the version worn in 1949 when five-star Gen. Henry H. "Hap" Arnold was Air Force chief of staff. Known as the "Heritage Coat," an evaluation was recently conducted to assess several prototype designs.

To keep the focus on near-term uniform needs, General Schwartz directed that no further effort be made on the Heritage Coat project at this time. The complete project will be available to Air Force leaders should they deem implementation appropriate in the future.

Visit the Air Force Portal under the Portal Quick Link "Uniform Information" for additional information and updates. 

FITNESS CORNER: AS A MATTER OF FAT!

By Staff Sgt. Jamil Abdur-Rahman, 177FW/LGLM

A new study by registered dietician Rachel Huber, MPH, RD says that American's don't know which foods contain bad FATS.

The one year study surveyed 1,000 adults in 2006 and 2007 about their awareness, knowledge, and behaviors related to fats and oils and their perceived impact on heart disease. The findings suggested that while most Americans know they should limit unhealthy saturated and trans fats, few know which specific foods to avoid.

Positive findings included: increases in awareness of trans fat; in perceptions that trans fats, saturated fats, and partially hydrogenated oils increase the risk of heart disease; and improved behaviors related to trans fat information, such as buying food products because they show "zero trans fat" on the label or package.

Negative findings included: knowledge about food sources of different fats remained low.

Therefore, while national consumer education campaigns like "Face the Fats" launched in 2007 by the American Heart Association are likely increasing awareness of unhealthy fats, more education is needed on which specific foods contain saturated and trans fats.

Where Else to Look for Fat Facts - The Nutrition Facts Panel on food labels lists grams per serving of saturated and trans fat; the Ingredient List also provides "red flags" for trans fats (e.g., partially hydrogenated oils) and saturated fats (e.g., palm kernel oil); it is important to look at both the saturated and trans fat content on food labels because food manufacturers often take out one and replace it with the other!

I wish you Optimum Health! 🍎

Foods High in Saturated Fat

Lard, butter, fatty beef, Pastries, cookies, dairy products, Whole milk, coconut oil, palm oil, and palm kernel oil

Foods High in Trans Fat

French fries, doughnuts pastries, hard margarine vegetable shortening cookies, and crackers

THE FIGHTING FALCONS by SSgt Matt Hecht



NEWS AIRMEN CAN USE

Compiled by the 177th Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office



DiDonna to command Ops

Lt. Col. John DiDonna (r) accepts the 177th Operations Group guidon from Wing Commander Col. Robert Bolton on April 8. Photo by Staff Sgt. Matt Hecht, 177FW/PA.

SFRC increases grants

The New Jersey National Guard State Family Readiness Council has increased the amounts of family and business grants up to \$5,000 and \$10,000, respectively.

Both are what are known as TIER I grants. TIER II family grants are also available to New Jersey Guard non-deployed service members who were on State Active Duty or State Missions (e.g., hurricanes, floods, border missions) for more than 20 consecutive days. Those who meet these criteria can apply for a financial hardship grant up to \$1,500.

Applications are available at all New Jersey Army and Air National Guard Family Assistance Centers. Contact Mr. Gunning in Building 229 if you are interested in applying. 609.645.6248.



Here comes the Judges!

By Staff Sgt. Jamil Abdur-Rahman, 177FW/LGLM

On March 21, I had the opportunity volunteer and attended as a judge at the Annual Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps Judging Competition.

It all began when Master Sgt. Laverne Frazer, who has been volunteering for the past 10 years, asked me to participate in this role as a judge.

I felt as honored as one of the judges on the reality show "American Idol".

When I arrived, I was impressed. The cadets were sharp. My role was to judge them on their personal appearance and uniform inspection.

Then came the performance, which was a spectacle of excellence. I watched in amazement at these squared away future Airmen went through their drills. It made me remember my first time I marched and performed drill and ceremony on a marching pad.

Even if these cadets do not pursue a career in the military, the dedication and commitment they learned through the program will benefit them for the rest of their lives.



Wing brings in the goods

Master Sgt. Frank Spence (l-r, facing camera), Staff Sgt. Robert Valiante and Senior Master Sgt. Anthony Sullivan (back, bending over) unload some of the donated items for this year's National Association of Letter Carriers National Food Drive, which was held on May 9. Unit volunteers helped sort almost 38,000 pounds of food for the Community Food Bank of South Jersey. As in years past, Vehicle Operations did an outstanding job in transporting the food. Special thanks goes out to all the unit members who participated—your efforts really make the difference, especially in this time of economic uncertainty. Photo by Master Sgt. Allison Phillips, 177FW/CCA.

THE HUD

HEADS UP ON MOVIES, GAMES, & ENTERTAINMENT

THE FUTURE IS HERE!

Story by Staff Sgt. Matt Hecht, 177FW/PA

Photos by Lance Cheung

In 1984, director James Cameron shocked audiences with the science fiction thriller *The Terminator*.

In a few weeks, the Terminator franchise continues with *Terminator Salvation*. John Connor (Christian Bale) continues fighting as part of the resistance against Skynet and the machines that have taken over the world. The film also stars Sam Worthington as Marcus Wright, Moon Bloodgood as pilot Blair Williams, and Bryce Dallas Howard as Kate Connor.

What you might not know is that the film is also starring Airmen, as well as Kirtland Air Force Base, which is being used as a set in the film. The film will be released in theaters on May 21. 🇺🇸



Tech. Sgt. Alex Francis (above left), who portrays a resistance fighter in the movie, waits for his cue to walk across the background of the "*Terminator Salvation*" movie set at Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M. Capt. Jennie Schoeck and actress Moon Bloodgood (photo right) met in front of an A-10 fighter for an interview with the news media, during the production of *Terminator Salvation* at Kirtland Air Force Base, NM on July 18, 2008. Capt. Schoeck is assigned to the 358 Fighter Squadron, Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, AZ was the A-10 fighter



advisor for the production. Moon Bloodgood portrays a lead resistance pilot in the movie. The 358th Fighter Squadron is the Air Force's only active-duty A/OA-10A formal training unit the 358th FS conducts all formal course directed aircraft transition, day/night weapons and tactics employment, day/night air refueling, air combat and dissimilar air combat maneuver training for pilot initial qualification, requalification and instructor qualification in the A-10A for the Combat Air Forces.

Airmen, become a Recruiting Assistant and for every person you recruit into the 177th Fighter Wing you earn \$2,000. Logon to <http://guardrecruitingassistant.com/> pick out Air Guard, fill out the application and you are on your way to helping someone make a great career choice and some serious cash for yourself.



Contrail Photos

Contrail photos can be accessed on the Y Drive. Go to the Y Drive; type in: **Njatla14\shared_177 FWCC Electronic File Plan\00 Items to be Filed\PA**. Remember **copy, do not cut out** the image.



"PRIDE"

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH MAY 2009

VIEW OTHER ART AND PHOTOS AT WWW.AF.MIL



PRODUCED BY DEFENSE MEDIA ACTIVITY-SAN ANTONIO

Designed by Julia Barland