



NORTH DAKOTA GUARDIAN

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February 2010



Global Guard

Around the World
With N.D. Guardsmen
365 Days a Year

» Inside:

Strength From the Soil, Conversion Chatter, Flood Planning

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Digital photos should be at least 300 dpi.

On the Cover



Far Away Friends: Chief Warrant Officer 3 Tyler P. Bridwell, of the Detachment 42, Operational Support Airlift, meets with children in Gulu, Uganda, while waiting to pick up passengers in September 2009. Det. 42 will return from a yearlong mobilization to the Horn of Africa later this month. They are some of the many members of the N.D. National Guard whose missions have taken them to unique locales. Read more about Det. 42 on page 12. (Photo by Chief Warrant Officer 3 Mark Schlafman, Detachment 42, Operational Support Airlift)

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VIEW FROM THE TOP

Comments from North Dakota National Guard Leadership

Continual Growth During Leadership Process

Greetings,
I am humbled and pleased to have the opportunity to address Guardian readers on an extremely important subject — noncommissioned officer (NCO) education and professional development; and I'll mention that a great place for both is at the 164th Regional Training Institute (RTI).

For over a year, it has been my privilege to serve as the command sergeant major for the 164th Regional Training Institute (RTI). The 164th RTI headquarters at Camp Grafton Training Center near Devils Lake, trains more U.S. Army Engineers than any place in the country, with the exception of the active-duty engineer school at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. Our institute is well respected throughout the U.S. Army, and has earned the title "Engineer School of the North."

The 164th RTI continues to grow and has been a full-time school since 1988 and now trains about 2,500 students annually. As the RTI continues to grow, a new schoolhouse is under construction to meet the challenges of an ever-increasing student load. The school provides instruction for all engineers in Total Army School System Region "G" along with the national overflow of students for engineer training missions. Instructors train on a dozen specialties, including combat, horizontal and vertical engineering, as well as Non-commissioned Officer Education System (NCOES) courses.

Contained within NCOES are two common categories of career education and development for all enlisted leaders of our Armed Forces — personal and professional development, both of which are equally important. Although NCOES is an Army acronym referring to a formal program of NCO courses, I think it should

also refer to the full-range of educational experiences encountered by NCOs in and out of classrooms.

Naturally, both categories of development can be acquired from your immediate surroundings and from training institutions that the services provide. As the weapons, equipment and other tools of both the Army and Air Guard continue to grow in sophistication and complexity, we can easily recognize the growing importance of education and NCOES. Our Armed Forces boast the most technologi-

cally advanced military force in history, which in turn, requires the best educated and trained Soldiers and Airmen who expect, deserve and need the best trained NCO leadership.

The RTI has an extremely talented and experienced staff. Their vast amount of knowledge and expertise provides a tremendous setting for learning and development which

never ceases to amaze me. Even an "old dog" like me can continue to learn and grow.

Each day, I am a willing participant of diversified "tutoring." This method of education and training is priceless and can't be bought, and usually comes with a formal training plan. My training schedule or curriculum revolves around numerous face-to-face encounters, compromising discussions, problem solving, decision making processes and staff meetings. The entire culmination, by the end of the day, graciously follows command intent driven from "Big" Army guidance.

The leadership process that drives all of us is continually "tested" through personnel growth, staff development, budget, deployments and mission accomplishment. Now, as a command sergeant major, I am blessed to be given quite a "tool box" to



Command Sgt. Maj. Orville Wang

164th Regional Training Institute
North Dakota National Guard

“Leaders must take advantage of every opportunity to absorb each day’s lessons and mistakes observed from fellow leaders, subordinates and all others around us.”

make the task of leadership easier. I call this tool box experience. My experience contains knowledge, skills and abilities with a set of instructions from the school of "Hard Knocks."

Also in my toolbox is a large assortment of personal tools labeled "gut feelings." They provide direction for my ethics, morals and values. Examples of these special tools include communication, coaching, counseling, mentoring and active listening. The proper use of these acquired tools will guide me through dilemmas that demand spontaneity, precision and accuracy for all sorts of Soldier problems.

Leaders must take advantage of every opportunity to absorb each day's lessons and mistakes observed from fellow leaders, subordinates and all others around us. Ideally, with time, effort and experience, leaders don't make the same mistakes twice. What's that old saying? "Getting kicked in the head by a mule a second time is no longer a learning experience." We all bear the scars of bad decisions.

Please take the time to stop and smell the coffee, and don't be afraid to taste it. No leader should "hit the wall" and stop growing personally or professionally. There is an endless amount of knowledge worth experiencing from challenges presented on a daily basis. Leaders cannot buy or put a price tag on experience. It does come at a cost, yet is truly up to you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Orville C. Wang".

Command Sgt. Maj
Orville "O.C." Wang
Commandant
164th Regional Training Institute

RAID III Returns, Enjoys Temporary '4-Star' Accommodations

By Sgt. Ann Knudson
Joint Force Headquarters

Mints on your pillow are a real luxury. It's something you'd find at a five-star hotel, one with ankle-deep carpets and king-sized beds. You wouldn't expect mints on a narrow cot on bare tile flooring. However, they were there Jan. 26 at Fort McCoy, Wis., as a "welcome home" for some North Dakota Soldiers.

About 40 N.D. Soldiers returned from Afghanistan Jan. 26 after a year-long deployment. They are members of the 1st Battalion, 188th Air Defense Artillery Regiment's RAID III (Rapid Aerostat Initial Deployment). RAID III was mobilized in January 2009 for a high-tech monitoring mission to protect forward operating bases, and have just been replaced by RAID IV. They arrived at Fort McCoy to start the demobilization process.

A demobilization group from North Dakota coordinates arrangements for the returnees. The RAID Soldiers' plane needed to stop in North Carolina, however, where they were delayed. The airline put the Soldiers up in a nearby hotel until a new flight was available, and they were on their way again by late morning.

Fort McCoy lined up buses to take the returning Soldiers from the airfield to Fort McCoy, and meals for them to eat. The North Dakota demobilization team lined up crates for weapons and gas masks, and barracks for the RAID Soldiers.

They were later welcomed by North Dakota Adjutant General Maj. Gen. David A. Sprynczynatyk, Command Sgt. Maj. Dan Job and Sgt. Maj. Monte Ohlhauser who flew in from North Dakota to greet the Soldiers.

The returning Soldiers went through several days of processing; including medical tests, paperwork and briefings before they boarded buses for the final leg to North Dakota.

The barracks at Fort McCoy are plain two-story buildings, with rows of cots in open bays. Wall rods and footlockers serve for closets. The blankets are thin and there are no bedspreads. However, just for their first night's stay, there were mints on the pillows.

"It started about six years ago," said Lt. Col. Warren Pauling, officer-in-charge of the demobilization team. "It began as a joke: 'We'll have mints on our pillows.' We started with hard candy, and somehow we've kept it up ever since."



Sgt. Ann Knudson

2nd Lt. Stephanie Collins places mints on a pillow as she finishes preparing the barracks for Soldiers with the 1-188th Air Defense Artillery. About 40 Soldiers arrived at Fort McCoy, Wis., Jan. 26, where they conducted demobilization processes before returning to North Dakota.

Happy Hooligans Respond to Haiti Relief Effort

Gov. John Hoeven and Maj. Gen. David Sprynczynatyk, N.D. adjutant general, announced that the N.D. Air National Guard has been tasked to help with the Haiti relief effort. Eleven Airmen have been activated and will be mobilized for about four months.

"The 119th Happy Hooligans of the N.D. Air National Guard have demonstrated time and again their preparedness, skill and willingness to assist those in need in the aftermath of a severe natural disaster like the Haitian earthquake," Hoeven said. "North Dakota stands ready to use all of the resources at our disposal to help the victims of this tragic and ongoing catastrophe."

"The N.D. National Guard will respond whenever our nation, community or neighbors need us. We are honored to serve and help a nation in crisis," Sprynczynatyk said.

The team consists of Airmen from the 119th Wing Civil Engineer Squadron and has been tasked with a water purification mission. Their job specialties consist of plumbing, generator and electrical operations.

At this time, no other squadrons within the 119th Wing have been tasked.

Leadership Courses Available to Guardsmen

Leadership development opportunities are available in the coming months for eager students and enthusiastic facilitators for 2010.

What you can expect from your investment of time:

Basic Leadership Training (BLT) is a two-day course aimed at leaders and members at all levels within the organization. In fact, the ultimate goal is to provide this training to everyone in the N.D. National Guard. Each class has Air and Army Guard and civilian personnel. The diverse mix is beneficial to all participants and often results in a greater personal understanding of the organization. Instruction includes leadership, team building and group dynamics, conflict management and effective communication. This course is worth about \$1500 to \$1800 on the civilian market.

Leadership Development Course (LDC) is a 12-day course held at Camp Grafton, Devils Lake, N.D. The course is only being offered two times this year,

Current Mobilizations

- 625 Soldiers to Kosovo
- 47 Soldiers of Company C, 2-285th Aviation Company in Iraq
- 8 Soldiers of Detachment 42 in the Horn of Africa
- 43 Soldiers of the 1-188th ADA (RAID IV) to Afghanistan
- 8 Airmen to various locations
- 145 Airmen w/ Unmanned Aerial System mission

Total Mobilized

876 Soldiers and Airmen

and like BLT, it is aimed primarily at supervisors and commanders, but non-supervisory personnel also are invited and encouraged to attend. Areas of instruction include topics from the BLT (in much greater depth) plus numerous other topics. Self-Awareness, considered the key to effective leadership, is the basis for this course. Like the BLT, this is a joint Army/Air Guard/Civilian course valued at about \$6000 on the civilian market.

If you're interested in attending an LDC or BMT course, contact Master Sgt. Shane Amundson at 701-451-2375 or e-mail shane.amundson@ang.af.mil.

N.D. Guard Team Finishes First in Regional Biathlon Competition

Swift skiing and sure shooting helped propel the N.D. National Guard biathlon team to first place in a 22.5 kilometer regional biathlon relay competition in Camp Ripley, Minn., Jan. 16. One of 19 teams competing, North Dakota finished nearly five minutes faster than the second place team from South Dakota.

This was the North Dakota team's first time winning this biathlon competition. The relay team consisted of Capt. Eric Nordgren, of Duluth, Minn., with the 119th Wing; Sgt. 1st Class Kent Pulst, of Devils Lake, with the 3662nd Maintenance Company and Sgt. Blake Hillerson, of Fargo, who serves with the 426th Signal Company, along with Spc. Jordan Becker, also of Devils Lake, with the 3662nd as their coach. Pulst's son, Spc. Brandon Pulst, of Grand Forks, also with the 3662nd, was a fifth member of the team, though he did not compete.

To complete a circuit of a biathlon relay, a team member must ski a 7.5 kilometer loop, and then attempt to shoot five 50-meter targets with a rifle from the prone position using eight rounds. Any targets missed require the competitor to do a penalty lap. They must then race another 7.5 kilometer loop to arrive back at the shooting range for five more targets, this time while standing. After they finish firing, they must do one final loop then tag the next team member to begin the circuit.

Combined Council Seeks Input from Airmen

It happens once a quarter — the Friday before drill weekend when leadership staff from the 119th Wing disappear for half of the day in a meeting called Combined Council. It's a meeting that encompasses



Staff Sgt. Billie Jo Lorius

The N.D. National Guard Biathlon team is joined by Maj. Gen. David Sprynczynatyk, N.D. National Guard adjutant general, far right; at Camp Ripley, Minn., where they took first place in a regional biathlon tournament. The team, from left to right, includes Sgt. 1st Class Kent Pulst, Spc. Brandon Pulst, Capt. Eric Nordgren, Sgt. Blake Hillerson and Spc. Jordan Becker.

the 'decision makers' of the Wing, to include the squadron commanders, the chiefs, the first sergeants, the junior enlisted council and more.

"Combined council is an important meeting. It's one of the only opportunities for key members of the Wing, both traditional and full-time, to come together to discuss and make decisions about important topics that often affect everyone in the Wing," said Lt. Col. Peggy J. Moss, chief of staff.

Agenda items cover a variety of topics and often include subject-matter-experts from the Wing who present. The members of the Combined Council encourage Airmen to submit agenda topics for future meetings.

The next combined council meeting will be April 9, 2010. Contact Lt. Col. Allen K. Albright at allen.albright@ang.af.mil to add a topic to the agenda.

National Guard Emergency Fund Receives Generous Donation

The N.D. National Guard Foundation — Emergency Relief Fund (ERF) received a \$7,000 donation in January from the U.S. Bancorp Foundation.

Representatives of U.S. Bank in Fargo formally presented the check to Maj. Gen. David Sprynczynatyk, N.D. National Guard adjutant general, at their Downtown Fargo office.

Ronald P. Robson, U.S. Bank regional president, said that "as corporate citizens,

we at U.S. Bank want to show our support in recognition of the service and sacrifice by those who serve in our military and their families."

The ERF is a nonprofit charitable organization with the purpose to provide financial support in unforeseen emergency situations, such as natural disasters, accident, illness, fire or theft. All North Dakota National Guard Soldiers, Airmen, and their dependents are eligible for assistance.

State Combined Conference Will Take Place in Fargo

This year's State Combined Associations Conference will be March 11-14 at the Radisson Hotel in Fargo and will give Guardsmen the opportunity to become involved in their respective associations (National Guard Association of North Dakota and the N.D. National Guard Enlisted Association).

Concurrently, emerging leaders in the N.D. National Guard are invited to attend a Professional Development workshop. The workshop will feature activities and presentations for North Dakota Guardsmen and their Families.

For more information about the N.D. National Guard Association's State Combined Conference, please visit www.ngand.org. To participate or learn more about the Professional Development workshop, contact your unit readiness noncommissioned officer or unit leadership.

Wing Wants to Know: Who's Head of the Class?

By Senior Master Sgt. Jason Dura
119th Wing Human Resource Advisor

For a lot of us, we joined the Guard for the great educational benefits. After years of homework, tests, papers and many pots of coffee, you have finally made it to graduation day and received that coveted diploma. However, after receiving that degree, did you ever bring your transcript to the personnel office to have them submit it to your personnel file?

According to the National Guard Bureau, their records indicate that enlisted Guard members are less educated than their Air Force counterparts. For the regular Air Force members, their Community College of the Air Force degrees are automatically entered into their personnel files. They also are entered into a Guard member's personnel file, but obviously there are more regular Air Force members than Guard members and it looks as though the Air Force is taking advantage of the educational opportunities more than the Guard.

As a Guard member, I don't think that this is true. Due to all of the great programs available to our Guard members, such as Tuition Assistance, GI Bill and the Student Loan Repayment program, I think that we have just as many educated members, if not more, than our Air Force counterparts. I believe that our



Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp

members have earned higher level degrees, such as bachelor's and master's degrees, and even specialized degrees, such as Juris Doctorates.

However, in order to prove this, we need to provide our personnel office with a certified transcript of our highest earned degree, which they will enter into our personnel file. As the Wing human resource advisor for our unit, I am requesting that each member who has earned any type of degree or certification bring it to the personnel office to be placed into their file. Let's prove that we are an educated enlisted Guard force. If you have any questions on how or why you need to submit your transcript, please feel free to contact me at extension 130 or send me an e-mail at jason.dura@ang.af.mil.

Program Assists Guardsmen in Building Relationships

As we begin a new year, our adjutant general, Maj. Gen. David Sprynczynatyk, continues to place a high priority on military and family readiness. One program that the N.D. National Guard offers to help with this is called Premarital Interpersonal Choices and Knowledge, or P.I.C.K.. P.I.C.K. brings

together single service members and provides them with tools to build healthy relationships.

(Upcoming P.I.C.K. events are Feb. 26-28 and Sep. 24-26, 2010. Both events are in Fargo)

P.I.C.K. is for service members who are in any stage of a relationship and for those not in a relationship at all. As John Van Epp, the author of the book on which the program is based, has reminded us in the training series, the purpose of the program is two-fold: to learn about how to choose a mate/healthy relationship and to learn the

Chaplain's Corner

By Chaplain (2nd Lt.)
Yacob Makonnen
Joint Force Headquarters

all important five bonding dynamics in a relationship (know, trust, rely, commit, and touch). The five dynamics are part of the Relationship Attachment Model. If you are already in a relationship, then be encouraged that learning how these five areas affect partners can make or break a relationship.

In the P.I.C.K. training, you also will get to know the F.A.C.E.S. acronym (Family Background, Attitude and Actions of the Conscience, Compatibility and Potential, Examples of Past Relationships, Skills of Communication).



Courtesy Photo

Chaplain (Maj.) Maurice Millican, right, administers the oath of office to 2nd Lt. Yacob Makonnen at Raymond J. Bohn Armory in Bismarck. Makonnen was among two other chaplains who were commissioned in April 2009.

These are the highlights! Every area will factor into the effectiveness of our forces and, if applied, make us stronger.

To register for P.I.C.K., call Staff Sgt. Justin Mattson at 701-333-4804 or e-mail justin.d.mattson@us.army.mil.

Flood Fighters

Story By
Pvt. Cassandra Simonton
Joint Force Headquarters

Guardsmen Prepare to Assist With Potential Flood Operations

Leaders of the N.D. National Guard met Jan. 7-10 at Fraine Barracks, Bismarck, with other military personnel to discuss strategies in preparation for potential flood operations this spring.

Officers-in-charge, or the designated planners from several sections, including both N.D. Army and Air National Guard components, were present. Representatives of the Minnesota National Guard also were on hand to collaborate on plans concerning the Red River, which borders both states. Planners identified critical events and courses of action for flood problems that might occur during spring 2010 using the Military Decision Making Process or MDMP — a seven-step process for military decision making in both tactical and garrison environments. They also walked through a variety of training scenarios to evaluate solutions and develop measures to use in mitigating potential flood problems.

Lt. Col. Jonathan J. Erickson, full-time deputy operations officer, said that while the weather conditions are different than those of last year, the system of planning is the same. The decisions this group makes will determine how operations will be conducted if flooding does happen. While the chance of severe flooding this year is less than it was last year, due to the dry warm November and lighter snow, they will still plan for potential flooding events.

“With current conditions, we’re looking pretty good,” Erickson said. “However, we still have three months of winter left.”

N.D. National Guard Director of Joint Staff Col. Dale A. Adams was involved in the flood planning last year and says that the N.D. National Guard is ready to respond despite the large number of Guardsmen mobilized for overseas missions.

“It is important to keep in mind that while the N.D. National Guard is currently going through the largest deployment in history, with 30 percent of the N.D. National Guard being deployed out of state, there are still more than 2,400 Guard members able to answer the call. If we need more, we can call on neighboring states, such as Minnesota and South Dakota,” Adams said.

He also assured that senior leadership within the N.D. National Guard are determined to give Soldiers, Airmen, Families and employers as much planning and lead time as possible in the event of state active duty mobilizations, although operations will be dynamic and may require some flexibility.



Sgt. Ann Knudson



Sgt. Jill Fischer

Top, from left to right, 1st Lt. Steven Bohl, of Valley City; Master Sgt. Gary Weis, of Jamestown and 1st Lt. Collin Kappenman, of Fargo, work in the Joint Operations Center in Fargo during 2009 spring flood operations. The JOCs, in both Bismarck and Fargo, acted as central command posts where needs from surrounding communities could be assessed and assistance could be designated for areas in need of assistance. Above, flooding ravaged a number of communities across North Dakota last year, including Valley City. A submerged building is shown above at City Park.

Norway

119th Wing

Forty-nine Airmen from the 119th Wing Civil Engineer Squadron deployed to Ørland Main Air Station in Norway June 8-23, 2009. The Airmen were tasked with several projects during the deployment for training to include constructing a beach walkway, building a youth house, remodeling a kitchen, creating an ATV path for security personnel, constructing a sound barrier and replacing a concrete ammo slab.

“The base support and the local community were extremely friendly and welcomed us to their country,” said 1st Lt. Matthew W. Tronnes, 119th Wing Civil Engineer Squadron. While in Norway many of the Airmen visited nearby attractions, such as the Arctic Circle, Trondheim, Oslo, Lillehammer duty weekend. “Since most 119th members have ancestors in this area of the world, part of this deployment was the opportunity for Airmen to visit distant relatives.”

Locations Visited
by N.D.
Guardsmen
FY 2009

Air	
Army	
Both	



It's no secret that detainees have been held in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, since soon after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. Most North Dakota Guardsmen probably don't realize that one of their own has been playing an important role there, though.

Col. Ward K. Johnson III served three one-year tours at the Naval Base there after graduating from the resident U.S. Army War College in 2005. He continues to return there regularly as a civilian attorney for the Department of Defense, serving as the director of operations for the Office of Military Commissions. The position falls under the DoD's Office of General Council.

Johnson, who has been a North Dakota Guardsman since 1978, says the job gives him the opportunity to oversee “all operations, logistics, personnel and interagency matters dealing with the military commissions of detainees charged with war crimes under the Military Commissions Act of 2009.”

More information: www.defense.gov/news/commissions.html

Cuba: Col. Ward Johnson III

Where in the World?

By Capt. Penny Ripperger, 119th Wing & Staff Sgt. Amy Wieser Willson, Joint Force Headquarters

Where in the world is the N. D. National Guard? The easy answer: North Dakota, Iraq, Afghanistan and Kosovo. The complete answer: virtually everywhere.

While missions across the state and in combat zones regularly garner attention due to their size, mission and visibility, numerous other missions regularly take place out of the spotlight. In 2009 alone, Soldiers and Airmen from North Dakota served in more than 20 countries across the globe, including Armenia, Qatar, Kuwait, Ghana, Korea, Djibouti, Spain, Norway, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, Comoros Islands, Madagascar, Seychelles Islands, Mauritius, Yemen, Cuba, Kyrgyzstan, United Arab Emirates and Japan. Predator pilots flew missions around the world, and North Dakota Guardsmen helped fellow states in missions throughout the United States, as well.

Here's a glimpse at some of these less visible, but just as valuable, missions.

For five years, Ghana has been building a State Partnership Program with the N.D. National Guard. The state and the U.S. signed a Memorandum of Understanding in 2004, and numerous workshops and exchanges have taken place since.

Lt. Col. Mike Holly serves as the commander of the 119th Wing at the U.S. Embassy in Ghana. His first deployment to Ghana was in Mandan in 2008, when Holly replaced Lt. Col. Mike Holly.

While Holly maintains a full-time job, his deployments to Ghana for weeklong missions take place throughout the year. In 2009, he completed a full deployment, including civilian exchange programs, military engineer workshops, aviation activities, and public affairs.

Ghana: State Partnership Program

activities, and public affairs. He incorporated a public affairs component into his medical visits.

y:
ng



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/ing
er, and Sweden during an off-
the world, a unique and fun
latives,"Tronnes said.

Nearly six decades after the N.D. National Guard served in the Korean War, the state has a presence there — albeit a small one.

Maj. Gen. Dennis E. Jacobson began a two-year assignment last summer as the U.S. Forces Korea deputy chief of staff for Restoration and Tour Normalization Facilities. Along with the adjutant general, he's North Dakota's only other "two-star."

In Korea, Jacobson oversees policy development, master planning, execution, coordination and status reporting for the major relocation and restoration taking place.

"It is a very complex project development mission, which is heavily influenced by engineer considerations," Jacobson said.

Jacobson's last assignment in North Dakota was as the assistant adjutant general and land component commander from February 2004 through July 2006.



Korea:

Maj. Gen. Dennis Jacobson

stling with activity with the
country were paired in the State
of Defense-sponsored initiative,
and exchanges have taken place

bilateral affairs officer and works
family moved with him from
ed Lt. Col. Brent Naslund.
e presence in Ghana, numerous
hout the year. Nearly 20 missions
ages with university members,
n maintenance management
disaster management planning,
airs workshop that also incor-
civilian reporter from Bismarck,
sits and a network management
exchange. More
information:
www.africom.mil

rogram

Tech. Sgt. Herb D. Crawford of the 119th Wing Force Support Squadron deployed to Moron Spain Air Force Base Oct. 21 to Dec. 7, 2008. Crawford served as the noncommissioned officer in charge of the fitness center there. His duties consisted of managing the weight room, coordinating physical training schedules, conducting physical education classes for the base

Department of Defense school and acting as a referee for international basketball games. The 12-hour work days were long, but Crawford still found time to enjoy the country in his free time during the deployment. "The base was near the city of Seville, which has the third largest cathedral in the world and is the final resting place for Christopher Columbus," Crawford said. "I was also about 40 miles away from Plymouth Rock, another neat historical landmark that I was able to visit."

Spain: Tech Sgt. Herb Crawford

The Look Ahead

A Conversation With the Conversion Office

By Capt. Penny Ripperger
119th Wing

It should be no surprise that the 119th Wing expects to receive the new mission of the C-27J Spartan. It's a mission that we've been anticipating for some time. A total of four aircraft are expected to arrive at the 119th Wing — two in late 2012 and two more in 2013.

There will be a lot of talk, a lot of hype, and then one day the aircraft will begin to arrive. For some of us, it's just a waiting game ... but for others, it's an exhausting race to complete a long checklist of important tasks before the C-27Js arrive.

So when everything looks calm on the surface, who are the ones working like mad behind the scenes, ensuring that everything comes together smoothly?

The answer is ... the Conversion Office.

It's time that you get to know the Airmen of this office and the awesome responsibilities that they possess. We had a conversation with Lt. Col. Mike DePree, Capt. Ryan Rastedt and Senior Master Sgt. Kathy Rust, all members of the 119th Wing Conversion Office.

What is the function of the Conversion Office?

The conversion office is the central point of contact for all mission changes that affect the 119th Wing. It is the clearing house for any and all issues relating to a conversion to include manpower, facilities, communications, training and resources. One of our primary roles is to gain as much information as possible about a new mission in advance of the actual conversion date in order to prepare and educate the Wing to ensure a smooth transition.

While the conversion office acts as a central collection point for information and questions, we work closely with the subject matters experts and affected functional areas on base to ensure we all stay on the right track.

What does the conversion process consist of?

Conversion starts when a unit is notified of a mission change or addition. This is a "head's up" to a unit and allows them to start doing some informal research and planning.

After a basing plan and/or conversion timeline is approved by higher headquarters, a Site Action Task Force (SATAF) visit is scheduled for the unit. National Guard Bureau (NGB) will assign an action officer to our unit to assist the unit conversion team. The action officer along with other NGB functional areas and the unit will establish action items that need to be accomplished during the conversion.

Unit representatives will be assigned as points of contact and be tasked as required. The key working groups for a conversion are: maintenance, maintenance training, manpower, operations, planning and resources, spares and support equipment. Monthly conversion status reports are sent from the unit to our NGB/A3Z action officer.

C-27J Configurations and Loads

- Troop Transport
 - Up to 68 plus 2 loadmasters
- Paratroop Transport
 - Up to 46 plus 2 loadmasters
- Cargo Transport
 - Up to 25,353 lbs.
- Medevac
 - 36 Stretchers and 6 Medical Attendants

— From www.c27j.com

"The transformation of our Wing is like a gigantic jigsaw puzzle. We currently have all of the edge pieces in place and over the next few years we will be completing the inside."



The C-27J Spartan:

The C-27 is a joint cargo aircraft capable of performing a variety of missions from troop and cargo transport to medevacs to airdrops. Its wide cargo compartment allows for easy walk around access to the cargo by loadmasters to enhance safety before all missions and easy drive-in/drive-out for a large variety of military vehicles without modifications, including up-armored humvees equipped with crew-served weapons, gunner shields and protection kits.



Courtesy Photos

What makes the Conversion Office successful? What are your future challenges?

A conversion is considered successful when the Wing reaches initial operational capability (IOC) in a new mission and the conversion is complete when full operational capability (FOC) is reached.

Our definition of success as a conversion team is to provide the Wing the appropriate support and guidance needed to complete our conversion on the timeline provided by the NGB with no road blocks.

Every conversion brings its own set of challenges and those challenges change day to day. The C-27J conversion will bring unique challenges as it is a new mission for the Air Guard and is not a current Air Force mission. We, along with the other Air Guard converting units, will need to stay in close coordination with each other along with the NGB, Air Mobility Command and the Army, which is one of our primary customers, to ensure we capture all of the requirements to transition to this aircraft. This also includes a detailed understanding of how it will be employed and operated.

What is the future of the Conversion Office?

Fiscal Year 2010 will be a critical year for the C-27J conversion. Over the next few months, we will be developing a timeline to get us to our FOC while also looking at possible expansions of current missions.

The transformation of our Wing is like a gigantic jigsaw puzzle. We currently have all of the edge pieces in place and over the next few years we will be completing the inside. We look forward to the day when that last piece snaps into place and we can see what the completed picture of our Wing looks like.

What is the Conversion Office working on now?

Predator Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) issues include: the BRAC directed launch and recovery element (LRE) at Grand Forks AFB, airspace issues related to flying remotely piloted aircraft (RPA)

in National Airspace controlled by the Federal Aviation Administration. To facilitate the safe flight of remotely piloted vehicles, we must establish restricted airspace at Grand Forks Air Force Base for Predator operations. Manpower issues are still a high priority.

C-21 to C-27J issues include: Training our C-21 pilots in the new C-27J aircraft. Finding qualified enlisted members to become loadmasters on the C-27J as well as filling training slots to get fully prepared for deployment. Manpower issues in the Maintenance Squadron since we had to draw down during the conversion to the C-21. Finding appropriate airspace for C-27J training, to include low-level flights, low-altitude airdrops, high altitude air drops, formation flight, assault strip landings and low-light tactical landings. Getting the C-27J deployment rate to a sustainable level is of high importance.

There are also multiple construction projects in the works.

What is the history of the Conversion Office?

The Wing has used the conversion office/transformation team concept for numerous transitions: F-4 Phantom to F-16 Fighting falcon aircraft, F-16 Air Defense Fighters to F-16 Air to Ground, F-16 engine conversion from the -200 to -220E, F-16 to C-21A Learjet and Predator UAV mission and the stand up of the 219th Security Forces Squadron. Now that the C-27J conversion is starting, the conversion office has been activated as of the first quarter of fiscal year 2010.

In an effort to keep the Airmen of the 119th Wing abreast of what is going on with the transition to the new mission of the C-27J Spartan, the Conversion Office will submit article updates in future North Dakota Guardian publications.

If you have questions about the conversion or would like a specific topic discussed in future articles, contact Senior Master Sgt. Kathy Rust at Kathy.Rust@ang.af.mil.

Seeds of Hope

North Dakota Guardsman Assists with Ethiopian Farm Project

By Chief Warrant Officer 2 Kelby Hovey
Detachment 42, Operational Support Airlift

If you plant a seed in a garden and provide proper nourishment, it will likely grow. What if you offer that seed to an individual who possesses a farming background, North Dakota work ethic and innate drive and determination? The result — a flourishing parcel of land and a better life cultivated for more than 3,000 individuals.

Sgt. 1st Class John Zacher was mobilized with Detachment 42, Operational Support Airlift in April 2009 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. As the Detachment's noncommissioned officer-in-charge, Zacher provides administrative, supply, pay and operational support to the unit, which is tasked with conducting flight operations in support of Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa. The Strasburg, N.D., native was offered his greatest deployment challenge, though, during a casual conversation with civil affairs team leader, Capt. Pete Bermudez.

"The captain mentioned the need for help on an agricultural project in Dire Dawa, and I offered to lend a hand," Zacher said.

The Harmekale Agricultural Project was developed by the locally-based civil affairs team in conjunction with the region's elders, chairmen and administration. The agricultural needs of the Dire Dawa, Ethiopia, community were established, in addition to the viability of the project and the expected participation. A farmers' cooperative was created to maintain accountability and a desirable location was chosen.

Zacher made a site visit to Dire Dawa in July to formulate a plan for a drip irrigation system. Several months later, he returned to execute the project. He spent two weeks clearing numerous acacia bushes and shrubs to enable the land to be plowed. Once the area was cleared, Zacher emplaced a 10,000 liter cistern at

one end of the project site and plumbed the well's output to supply a holding tank. He then taught the farmers how to thread pipe and properly assemble the irrigation system. The local farmers, under Zacher's guidance, strung hose from the valves and made drip points placed at intervals to provide water for each plant.

Following the labor intensive operation, the local farmers were scheduled to receive instruction from a hired agronomist. When the expert cancelled at the last minute, Zacher once more offered his assistance. He

taught local farmers irrigation and planting techniques. According to Bermudez, "the farmers were extremely eager to learn and very appreciative of the project."

"I enjoyed the opportunity to work with the local population. It was hard work and hopefully a project that will benefit many people well into the future," Zacher said.

"Sgt. 1st Class Zacher's background and civilian acquired skills proved to be a great asset to the people of Ethiopia. He is a hard-working individual and a credit to the U.S. effort," Bermudez said.



Above, Sgt. 1st Class John Zacher explains how the drip irrigation system works to Dire Dawa locals. Left, Zacher demonstrates how to thread pipe used in the system. He will return to North Dakota with the other members of Detachment 42, Operational Support Lift, later this month after a nearly yearlong mobilization to the Horn of Africa.

Courtesy Photos

RETIREMENTS • PROMOTIONS • NEW MEMBERS

September 2009 — January 2010

Promotions • Army

Colonel

Col. Peter W. Conlin
Col. David L. Thiele
Col. Brian R. Trendera

Lieutenant Colonel

Lt. Col. Stephen P. Herda
Lt. Col. Michael A. Holly
Lt. Col. Christine R. Peterson

Major

Maj. Robert F. Lundgren

Captain

Capt. Jeffrey A. Hoffer
Capt. Amber L. Monette
Capt. Timothy M. Nance
Capt. Timothy L. Stout
Capt. Donald M. Williams

First Lieutenant

1st Lt. Ryan A. Boom
1st Lt. Travis W. Hackey
1st Lt. Ryan A. Schulz
1st Lt. Coty R. Sible

Chief Warrant Officer

CW2 Jade J. Falcon
CW2 Aaron C. Schwehr

Master Sergeant

Master Sgt. Cory J. Everson

Sergeant First Class

Sgt. 1st Class Chris A. Arnason
Sgt. 1st Class Kenneth E. Kachena
Sgt. 1st Class Christopher J. Lemke
Sgt. 1st Class Seth M. Manikowski
Sgt. 1st Class Elizabeth M. Ouradnik
Sgt. 1st Class Franklin E. Peterson
Sgt. 1st Class Amanda M. Phillips
Sgt. 1st Class David M. Reed
Sgt. 1st Class Nathan R. Reiersen
Sgt. 1st Class Timothy J. Simmons
Sgt. 1st Class Charles S. Vender

Staff Sergeant

Staff Sgt. David C. Feldmann
Staff Sgt. Jeremy L. Gowan
Staff Sgt. Justin A. Johnson
Staff Sgt. Chester C. Kassa
Staff Sgt. Russel R. Roth
Staff Sgt. James R. Sautner
Staff Sgt. John M. Sjoquist
Staff Sgt. Jeffrey A. Sorenson
Staff Sgt. Timothy D. Walch
Staff Sgt. Amy M. Wieser Willson
Staff Sgt. Andrew D. Yanish

Sergeant

Sgt. Daniel F. Boese
Sgt. Joshua J. Bosch
Sgt. James I. Burhans
Sgt. Steven M. Clark
Sgt. Mitchell J. Cowell
Sgt. Chad L. Czczok
Sgt. Trestan D. Demarce
Sgt. Jeffery P. Dunham
Sgt. Brandon S. Enander
Sgt. Stephanie L. Freymiller

Sgt. Patrick L. Gieser
Sgt. Andrew J. Gubrud
Sgt. Benjamin J. Halvorson
Sgt. Matthew T. Harrington
Sgt. Dustin A. Hofer
Sgt. Jordan S. Huwe
Sgt. Nathan J. Kron
Sgt. Jeffrey J. Mock
Sgt. Tracy K. Muller
Sgt. Christopher J. Noel
Sgt. Cameron R. Qualley
Sgt. Jeffrey J. Rodgers
Sgt. Kayla J. Staub
Sgt. Brandon J. Stockie
Sgt. Kacey L. Thielbar
Sgt. Zachary C. Verke
Sgt. Heath L. Vivier

Specialist

Spc. Shane M. Anderson
Spc. Abraham J. Anliker
Spc. Leah M. Bartholomay
Spc. Patrick T. Becker
Spc. Kayla J. Beckman
Spc. Preston L. Blazek
Spc. Seth D. Bowman
Spc. Chelsey M. Brenna
Spc. Paul K. Bromley
Spc. Michael W. Connole
Spc. Elise G. Crider
Spc. Travis M. Czapiewski
Spc. Thomas A. Doyle
Spc. Jessica L. Dusso
Spc. Brady R. Eggiman
Spc. Christopher L. Ehli
Spc. Richard W. Etter
Spc. Zebadiah R. Follman
Spc. Rylee S. Gefroh
Spc. Austyn L. Haider
Spc. Cade M. Henson
Spc. Brittney M. Hertz
Spc. Mark A. Jorgenson
Spc. Jared M. Keller
Spc. Kurt N. Kittelson
Spc. Jacob A. Knain
Spc. Christopher L. Kotzer
Spc. Shayla M. Longie
Spc. Nathan A. Lund
Spc. Jonny M. Maley
Spc. Matthew W. Manley
Spc. Christa J. Matson
Spc. Timothy S. Mccullough
Spc. Cody T. Miller
Spc. Joshua A. Monreal
Spc. Marc T. Montplaisir
Spc. Todger D. Morrow
Spc. Lamar J. Murchison
Spc. Derek W. Nelson
Spc. Eli S. Peters
Spc. Patricia L. Peterson
Spc. Daniel L. Premo
Spc. Christopher G. Richter

Spc. Jacob R. Rohrich
Spc. Larry T. Rozmarnowski
Spc. Brady A. Rudnik
Spc. Andrew S. Sand
Spc. Matthew A. Schooler
Spc. Brett M. Schroeder
Spc. Stephanie C. Schroeder
Spc. Amanda J. Schumacher
Spc. Tyler J. Sherman
Spc. Amanda J. Sierra
Spc. Ross A. Sternhagen
Spc. David W. Sundberg
Spc. Travis A. Sundeen
Spc. Nathan J. Svihovec
Spc. Zacory P. Thiessen
Spc. Kacie L. Thompson
Spc. Kalli R. Thompson
Spc. Micah S. Tweten
Spc. Marlyn J. Vondall
Spc. Shane D. Vondall
Spc. Dustin R. Westerman
Spc. Barbara J. Widstrup
Spc. Levi R. Wiedmeier

Private First Class

Pfc. Jacob M. Aisenbrey
Pfc. Jacob J. Baker
Pfc. Nathan A. Bauer
Pfc. Jesse L. Berg
Pfc. Eric M. Blumhagen
Pfc. Thomas J. Brooke
Pfc. Andrew B. Burckhard
Pfc. Jarred L. Campos
Pfc. Benjamin J. Clark
Pfc. Jeffrey S. Diemert
Pfc. Mckenzie M. Ensrud
Pfc. Kelsie S. Everson
Pfc. Caleb R. Genre
Pfc. Zachary P. Gilleshammer
Pfc. Roger J. Harris
Pfc. Tina R. Heth
Pfc. Brandon L. Hietala
Pfc. Andrew J. Hilgemann
Pfc. Alan M. Jarvi
Pfc. Michael D. Knutson
Pfc. Ezra I. Koch
Pfc. Mitchell L. Kraft
Pfc. Mason B. Krumwiede
Pfc. Joshua S. Kuntz
Pfc. Megan A. Mcdonald
Pfc. Meghan Y. Mcintyre
Pfc. Micheal P. Mckay
Pfc. Celina T. Mindt
Pfc. Heidi M. Mittleider
Pfc. Steven A. Moen
Pfc. Patrick W. Moreland
Pfc. Nicholas J. Mulder
Pfc. Ashley R. Nelson
Pfc. Austin A. Ohlhauser
Pfc. Richard P. Olson
Pfc. Joseph R. Paulus
Pfc. Reily G. Porter
Pfc. Calixto M. Quintero
Pfc. Jacqueline R. Raatz
Pfc. Tiffany R. Rohde
Pfc. Paul A. Rohrich
Pfc. Aaron M. Roll
Pfc. Joshua D. Roy
Pfc. Skylar M. Schaefer
Pfc. Jeremy W. Scharck
Pfc. Anthony J. Scheen
Pfc. Levi L. Stein
Pfc. Trevor W. Steiner
Pfc. Justin A. Stenerson
Pfc. Bennett M. Stregre
Pfc. Slade A. Ternes
Pfc. Tad E. Thompson
Pfc. Jacklyn S. Ust
Pfc. Luke A. Vanbruggen
Pfc. Allan A. Venegasmitidieri
Pfc. Jordan P. Walth
Pfc. Nicholas S. Whitehead
Pfc. Sean M. Williams

Private

PV2 Michael M. Alwin
PV2 Jessica M. Bartholomay
PV2 Daniel A. Bettin
PV2 Jordan T. Bleecker
PV2 Mason J. Clayton
PV2 Tyler W. Comin
PV2 Jacklyn M. Craig
PV2 Casandra L. Duchaine
PV2 Jeremiah L. Harrison
PV2 Justin J. Heth
PV2 Shannon T. HOLETON
PV2 Tiffany M. Horning
PV2 Joseph J. Jahner
PV2 Levi R. Jesz
PV2 Jason L. Kemmis
PV2 Josef N. Kerr
PV2 Jeremy R. Knight
PV2 Kerry A. Knutson
PV2 Cole R. Lebrun
PV2 Desiree M. Marden
PV2 Jacob J. Martin
PV2 Mikki L. MCGINNIS
PV2 Joseph A. Moran
PV2 Spencer C. Newton
PV2 Robert A. Nies
PV2 Joseph R. Petermann
PV2 Alan T. Peterson
PV2 Chance B. Potter
PV2 Tanner J. Rafteseth
PV2 Anthony R. Scevers
PV2 Cassandra M. Simonton
PV2 Robert D. Slavick
PV2 Drew M. Stopplesworth
PV2 Taylor R. Snellingsworth
PV2 Kyle J. Swenson
PV2 Tyler L. Tergesen
PV2 Drew D. Ward
PV2 Whitney L. Wild
PV2 Thomas E. Zimmerman

RETIREMENTS • PROMOTIONS • NEW MEMBERS

September 2009 — January 2010

New Members • Army

Capt. James A. Wiese
1st Lt. Sean M. Kiesz
1st Lt. Anthony T. Williams
CW2 Kenneth S. Paulus
Staff Sgt. Scott L. Hoffarth
Staff Sgt. Keith E. Sitts
Sgt. Bryan J. Borrud
Sgt. Christopher M. Brown
Sgt. Robert R. Carlson
Sgt. Stephanie M. Hanson
Sgt. Todd O. Klingenberg
Sgt. Brandon L. Miller
Sgt. Linda Pretorius
Sgt. Grant L. Semchenko
Sgt. Derek J. Sorensen
Sgt. Nathaniel D. Wood
Spc. Andrew T. Bergan
Spc. Thomas A. Bergseid
Spc. Melissa S. Brossart
Spc. Earl L. Charbonneau
Spc. Justin Flores
Spc. Justin J. Gall
Spc. Kevin R. Gassmann
Spc. Tyler R. Goldade
Spc. Ryan L. Hagen
Spc. Michael S. Hinton
Spc. Scott A. Laube
Spc. Rebecca L. Morse
Spc. Kyle D. Price
Spc. Jake D. Rudlang

Spc. Tyler R. Sletten
Spc. Jordan D. Sprecher
Spc. Amy B. Tahrn
Spc. Jesse M. Zyskowski
Pfc. Sylvester F. Birchem
Pfc. Erich S. Christlieb
Pfc. Robert T. Copeland
Pfc. Kelly R. Deberg
Pfc. Travis J. Duffy
Pfc. Travis R. Fortier
Pfc. Ayana C. Hartman
Pfc. Suzanne M. Hopp
Pfc. Kiley S. Kistler
Pfc. Charles A. Lindberg
Pfc. Darl E. Morkassel
Pfc. Joshua R. Sampson
Pfc. Robert J. Schmit
Pfc. Christine A. Stuart
Pfc. Jacob B. Thompson
Pfc. Mackenzie L. West
PV2 Michael M. Alwin
PV2 Richard E. Ames
PV2 Jessica M. Bartholomay
PV2 James E. Day
PV2 Jessica A. Fetsch
PV2 Douglas P. Gover-miller
PV2 Michael E. Helland
PV2 Justin J. Heth
PV2 Shannon T. HOLETON
PV2 James A. Karageorgiou

PV2 Emily M. Krueger
PV2 Christopher A. Lee
PV2 Dustin A. Moen
PV2 Alan T. Peterson
PV2 David F. Quinones
PV2 Joshua J. Smith
PV2 Stephen A. Sneed
PV2 Thomas J. Stafford
PV2 Deidra J. Steele
PV2 Abraham D. Zozimo
PV2 Moses D. Zozimo
Pvt. Jody H. Anderson
Pvt. Brandon L. Austill
Pvt. Andrew D. Birrenkott
Pvt. Cody A. Bouman
Pvt. Harold S. Bowie
Pvt. Dean A. Burdette
Pvt. Jacob D. Clemens
Pvt. Jessica F. Cree
Pvt. Bo D. Dahl
Pvt. Luke D. Daley
Pvt. Derek A. Dolechek
Pvt. Jordan A. Duke
Pvt. Jennifer A. Dushane
Pvt. Angelica E. Flores
Pvt. Kaleb P. Folden
Pvt. Traylin L. Frazier
Pvt. Jennifer R. Freeman
Pvt. Brett A. Ganje
Pvt. Robert P. Geske

Pvt. Dustin L. Harrison
Pvt. Jackie L. Hill
Pvt. Melissa A. Jastram
Pvt. Dana L. Jetty
Pvt. Brandon A. Johnson
Pvt. Matthew D. Johnson
Pvt. Joshua R. Knight
Pvt. Angela M. Koble
Pvt. William L. Laughlin
Pvt. Christopher A. Lenk
Pvt. Christopher B. Madsen
Pvt. Jeremy J. Mlnarik
Pvt. Christopher C. Ness
Pvt. Sean D. Opdahl
Pvt. Joseph W. Pikarski
Pvt. Robert M. Puhr
Pvt. Christopher M. Radke
Pvt. Casey M. Renner
Pvt. Steven R. Rohrich
Pvt. Jermiah A. Rucker
Pvt. Nina M. Santiago
Pvt. Kevin M. Schulz
Pvt. Zachariah T. Siebert
Pvt. Corby C. Stoppeworth
Pvt. Daniel S. Titus
Pvt. Jason D. Troitte
Pvt. Jonathan B. Yauney

Retirements • Air

Lt. Col. Mary L. Clarens
Chief Master Sgt. Dallas E. Gruebele
Senior Master Sgt. Curtis E. Knutson
Senior Master Sgt. John A. Neumann, Jr.
Master Sgt. Randy L. Shypkowski
Master Sgt. John W. Dohm, III

Retirements • Army

Sgt. Maj. Irene M. Torkildson
Master Sgt. Myron C. Gunderson
Master Sgt. Dwayne H. Job
Sgt. 1st Class Reid O. Wilson
Sgt. 1st Class Thomas D. Summers
Sgt. 1st Class Dennis L. Hansen
Staff Sgt. David L. Kjorsvik
Staff Sgt. Alvin A. Anhorn Jr.
Staff Sgt. Brian L. Landsem
Staff Sgt. Carol A. Sigl
Staff Sgt. Donald D. Rittenbach
Staff Sgt. Joan A. Ous
Sgt. Douglas J. Birkholz
Sgt. Patrick A. Wanner

Promotions • Air

First Lieutenant

1st Lt. Robert D. Davidson
Chief Master Sergeant
Chief Master Sgt. Scott D. Terry

Senior Master Sergeant

SMSgt Bruce W. Adam
SMSgt Eric R. Card
SMSgt Chad J. Ehlert
SMSgt David E. Heitman
SMSgt Dane F. Hjelden
SMSgt Charles A. Kasin
SMSgt Mark A. Raven
SMSgt Steven J. Scheuer

Master Sergeant

Master Sgt. Eric S. Fluge
Master Sgt. Richard M. Hayes

Master Sgt. Ted A. Robinette
Master Sgt. Patrick J. Schreiner
Technical Sergeant
Tech. Sgt. Pamela A. Cannizzaro
Tech. Sgt. Charles W. Colby
Tech. Sgt. Dawn R. Erdmann
Tech. Sgt. Jamie L. Frankl
Tech. Sgt. Kevin E. Krabbenhoft
Tech. Sgt. Kristi M. Krabbenhoft
Tech. Sgt. Mark A. Lewis
Tech. Sgt. Brian T. O'Connor
Tech. Sgt. Larry Torres, Jr.
Tech. Sgt. Martin L. Waller
Staff Sergeant
Staff Sgt. Michael S. Erb
Staff Sgt. Matthew G. Hauger

Staff Sgt. Wesley J. Heit
Staff Sgt. Steve L. Jensen
Staff Sgt. Robert R. Kauer
Staff Sgt. Jacob A. Kraft
Staff Sgt. Kurt A. Petrowske
Staff Sgt. Michael J. Repragal
Staff Sgt. Dominic A. Ste.Marie
Senior Airman
SrA Andrew A. Anderson
SrA Shawn D. Beckner
SrA Aaron M. Fagerwick
SrA Jens K. Gylland
SrA Jason R. Miller
SrA Lance G. Parra
SrA Sarah A. Rupert-Nash
SrA Derek J. Westerhausen

New Members • Air

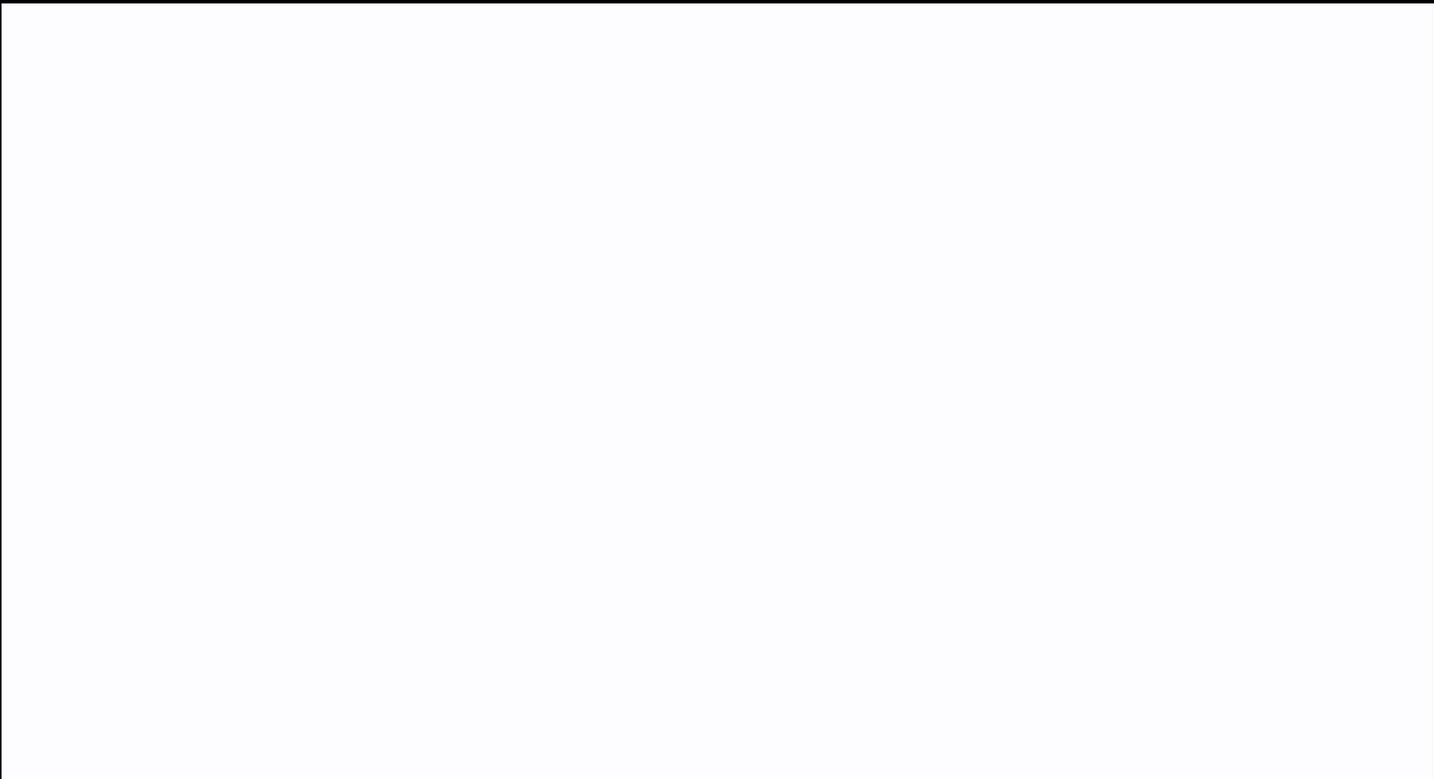
Staff Sgt. Christopher D. Ashcraft
Staff Sgt. Aaron P. Locke
Staff Sgt. Eric S. Ridl
Staff Sgt. Ryan G. Seifert
SrA Cody L. Chick
SrA Vincent M. Smith
A1C Brian E. Anderson
A1C Bradley D. Cernik
A1C Brent A. Lake

A1C Roy F. Roach III
A1C Aaron L. Schuldt
A1C Nathan R. Vibbert
Airman Kenneth W. Jahnke
Airman Austin J. Kemmer
Airman Sophie K. Miller
Airman Michelle L. Schwanke
Airman Ashton L. Waage

Appointments

2nd Lt. Robert D. Meland
WO Chedric S. Phillips

NATIONAL GUARD 
North Dakota



Sgt. 1st Class David Dodds

Brig. Gen. Al Dohrmann, commander of Kosovo Force (KFOR) 12's Multi-National Task Force-East, addresses a question from Goran Maksimovic (seated with audio recorder), a correspondent with Radio Hit Laser in Pasjan, Kosovo, during the general's Press Coffee event Jan. 26 in Gjilan/Gnjilane, Kosovo.