

THE BEACON

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE 124TH FIGHTER WING

June 2018



COMBAT EXCELLENCE-ALWAYS ON MISSION

From The **WING COMMANDER**

Col. Tim Donnellan
124th Fighter Wing Commander

Warriors,

Readiness is at the core of what we do - it is the reason we spend every penny of our \$30M+ budget and is the reason for the great effort we give each day. As we prepare and depart for Red Flag Alaska, it's a good opportunity for us to take a minute to remind ourselves of why we participate in these exercises. The training we accomplish here in our amazing airspace is first class, but nothing can compare to travelling to unfamiliar terrain and taking part in a large force employment exercise with other airframes. The Idaho Air National Guard will showcase our ability to generate our aircraft to support an aggressive Air Tasking Order, much like one we would expect to see in a major theater of operations conflict. In

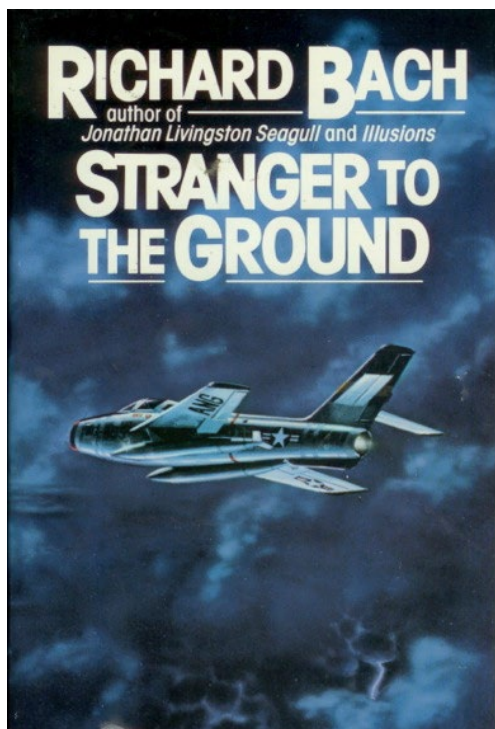


the end, like all great training deployments, we'll come home with great lessons learned and will be that much more prepared for our next combat tour. It completely aligns with Richard Bach's idea from his book, "Stranger to the Ground," where he relayed what he thought the motto of every fighter organization should be... "We can beat any man in any land, in any game that he can name, for any amount that he can count." Red Flag Alaska will keep us sharp and enable us to continue to demonstrate that philosophy!

We have a great Beacon this month with articles on Team Spirit, the change in our daily uniforms coming up this October, as well as other great information. Please take some time on June 6th to remember those who gave their all on the beaches of Normandy in 1944. We'll continue to carry on the legacy of the American Warrior, and one day when we are done, the next generation will carry the torch.

See you in Alaska -

Attack!
Donut



CONTENTS



» p.6

124TH FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFF

WING COMMANDER

Col. Tim Donnellan

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

Capt. Rebecca Solosabal

PUBLIC AFFAIRS NCOIC

Master Sgt. Becky Vanshur

PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFF

Master Sgt. Joshua Allmaras

Tech. Sgt. John Winn

Staff Sgt. Skyla Child

Airman 1st Class Mercedee Schwartz*

*June Beacon editor

ON THE COVER



Pilots with the 124th Fighter Wing from Gowen Field in Boise, Idaho fly by as they practice shooting targets at Saylor Creek Range, May 6 in Mountain Home, Idaho.

(U.S. Air National Guard
Photo by Airman 1st Class
Mercedee Schwartz)

5 Gowen's Team Spirit

IDANG participates in TS program

6-7 A day at the range

Members watch A-10's at Saylor Creek Range

8-9 New OCP guidance

Information and timeline for the new uniform



WHERE TO FIND US



usaf.id.124-fw.mbx.pa-public-affairs@mail.mil



124thFighterWing.ang.af.mil



facebook.com/124FW



Flickr.com/124FW



twitter.com/124FighterWing



instagram.com/124FighterWing

THE BEACON is the official newsletter/magazine of the 124th Fighter Wing, Idaho Air National Guard. It is published monthly by the wing public affairs office. Views expressed may not be those of the U.S. Air Force, Air National Guard, Department of Defense or U.S. Government.

PRIMARY UTA EVENTS

JUNE DRILL CALENDAR

Saturday

0730-FWS/CC Call, Bldg 400, Basement
 0730-MOF/CC Call, Bldg 148, Classroom 1
 0800-OAQ Board, Bldg 600
 0830-Enlisted promotion board, Bldg 600
 0830 & 0930-Fitness Assessment, Bldg 1530/Track t
 0900-R&R Brief, Bldg 600 CG Conf. Rm
 1130-Lunch & Learn: Family Nutrition, Bldg 266
 1245-CDC Testing
 1400-Rising Two, Bldg 400 Conf. Rm
 1430-Retirement-MSgt. T. Whittington, Bldg 1500
 1500-Essential Six, Bldg 400 Conf. Rm
 1500-Retirement-Col. Thomas Shuler, Base Theater

WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

MAIN LINE

Chicken Fried Steak w/ Country Gravy
 Baked Stuffed Pork Chops
 Mashed Potatoes w/ Country Gravy
 Pea and Pepper Rice
 Green Beans
 Summer Squash

SOUP

Chicken Gumbo
 Bean and Ham

SHORT ORDER LINE

Chili Cheese Dog
 Club Sandwich
 Burgers/Cheeseburgers / Onion Rings

DESSERTS

Pineapple Upside Down Cake / Apple Pie
 Chocolate Cream Pie / Oatmeal Rasin Cookies

Sunday

0700-MXS/CC Call, Base Theater
 0745-PERSCO Training, Bldg 400 Conf Rm
 0815-CDC Testing
 0830 & 0930-Fitness Assessment, Bldg 1530/Track t
 1100-FSS Facts to Go; Home Community Childcare
 Bldg 400 Conf. room
 1200-Green Dot Training, Bldg 400 Basement
 1400-MSG All Call, Base Theater
 1500-OAQ Presentation, Base Theater
 1530-Retirement- SMSgt S. Pippitt, Base Theater

MAIN LINE

Oriental Steak
 Maple Glazed Ginger Salmon
 Pork Fried Rice
 Baked Potato
 Corn on the Cob
 Cauliflower

SOUP

Chicken Noodle
 French Onion

SHORT ORDER LINE

Pot Stickers
 Crispy Fish Po Boy
 Burgers / Cheeseburgers / Tater Tots

DESSERTS

Cheese Cake / Strawberry Shortcake
 Devil's Food Cake / Chocolate Chip Cookie

REMEMBER This schedule is subject to change. Check the current Fragmentary Order for updates.

Gowen's Team Spirit

Courtesy photo by Col Tim Donnellan

Story by Airman 1st Class Mercedee Schwartz
124th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The 124th Fighter Wing Maintenance Squadron here participated in the Team Spirit program May 15-16, 2018 at Hill Air Force Base in Utah.

"Team Spirit enables our maintainers to provide mutual support to depot when the aircraft are about to be put back together after significant maintenance has been performed," said Col. Tim Donnellan, commander of the 124th Fighter Wing.

The TS program is an award-winning Air Force-wide inspection, which was originally created by the Air National Guard and is intended to streamline acceptance inspections for depot maintenance.

"The Team Spirit program is a

National Guard Bureau funded program, which is spreading across numerous airframes due to the advantages of face-to-face interaction and improved aircraft availability," said MSgt William Weaver, Team Spirit team chief. "The Hog community was a leader in this program and proved it was fiscally sound, ensuring optimized use of resources."

Before the TS program was implemented the ANG was spending an average of 52 days performing aircraft inspections after returning from programmed depot maintenance.

The program has been successful by cutting the 52 day inspection period down to 14 days. The creators of the TS



Courtesy photo by Col Tim Donnellan

program were rewarded with the Team Excellence Award from the Chief of Staff of the Air Force and designated the program as an Air Force best practice.

"The A-10 is just as lethal as she was when she first came off the production line, but partnerships like Team Spirit allow us to be a part of the life cycle of the aircraft so we keep the balance between readiness and sustainment and keep the A-10 flying as long as possible," said Donnellan. "We are very thankful for the opportunity to travel to Hill AFB and continue to fortify our great relationship with them."



Courtesy photo

A day at the range



Story by Capt. Rebecca Solosabal
Photos by Airman 1st Class Mercedee Schwartz
124th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

A routine training competition for pilots in the 190th Fighter Squadron provided an up-close view of the A-10 in action for approximately 110 Airmen of the 124th Fighter Wing who visited Saylor Creek Range, May 6, 2018.

Airmen from 124th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, 124th Fighter Wing Staff and Student Flight traveled to the Saylor Creek Range - one of the wing's primary areas for air-to-ground training, located 12 miles east of Bruneau, Idaho. The trip was designed to show the Warthog at work, as well as to let Airmen experience the culmination of their labors.

Once at Saylor Creek, Airmen from the 266th Range Squadron

hosted and shared some of the capability of the training area.

"It's always good to put eyes on the actual mission," said Maj. Andy Labrum, commander of the 124th FWS, who helped organize the trip for his unit. "When you actually see what the A-10s do, I feel like it gives you more of an appreciation for the job you do to support that mission."

Though the 190th FS is constantly training at the Saylor Creek Range, each year the unit has an A-10 aerial bombing and gun competition, commonly called a "Turkey Shoot." This year a portion of the competition had an audience. Airmen from the various units filled the tower at the range and crowded

around its base to watch the four-ship of A-10s practice basic manual bombing, manual strafing, and manual tactical strafing.

"I was taking pictures of the A-10 passing by on the first strafe, and I heard the gun. I immediately stopped taking photos," said Senior Airman Joe Morgan, a former A-10 crew chief who worked with the jets for six years before recently

"You just got this giddy, kid feeling inside-like you are at a theme park..."



via YouTube ... now to see it in person is pretty cool."

Morgan added, "I've seen the videos on YouTube, but they do not do that sound or that feeling justice. Just having them fly right over the top of us ... it felt really communal."

Jadyn Sanchez, of the student flight who is waiting for training to become a nondestructive inspector, had similar feelings. Not only was this her first time on the range, but it was her first day at the Idaho Air National Guard.

"I guess I didn't know what to expect going in, and everyone has been super friendly and nice," said Sanchez. "I don't have a military background so it's a whole new world. Everyone here has definitely made me feel more comfortable about it."

And her reaction to the A-10s: "Just in awe really," she said. "I've never seen anything like that."

Mission accomplished for leadership who wanted to give Airmen an inside look into the A-10 and where it trains, as well as increase camaraderie at the same time.

"It not only helps the mission, it helps morale," said Labrum of the firepower demonstration. "What they do in a support role out here is critical to get those mighty jets airborne to complete the mission."

transitioning to the command post. "I saw the smoke coming out of the gun and heard the sound and just dropped the camera because I've never heard anything like it. You just got this giddy, kid feeling inside - like you are at a theme park or something ... but you are in front of a 30-millimeter cannon. It's just pure insanity. It's amazing."

A uniqueness of the Saylor Creek Range allows A-10 pilots to practice firing the live 30-millimeter gun. But, the range is not only beneficial for 190th FS pilots. Labrum explained that joint and coalition partners also utilize the range.

"It's one of the best ranges in the world," Labrum said. "Great airspace, and the layout on the ground is unmatched."

Although the range is known and used by partners world-

wide, it was the first time for many, including Morgan and others, to visit the range to see the A-10 in action.

Airman Brian Deeds, a crew chief with the 124th AMXS, made his first visit to the range as well. "It was incredible," he said. "Working for seven years you are finally able to see do what they are tasked with doing."

"It not only helps the mission, it helps morale"

"I deployed so we always saw the airplanes come back with rounds fired or bombs missing. Now you actually see them doing it. When you are always working them, they always come back empty. And you never know what actually goes on," said Deeds. "It's always just



New Operational Camouflage Uniform guidance

The United States Air Force has officially announced the release of the rumored utility uniform change to the Operational Camouflage Uniform. The National Guard Bureau Logistics Readiness Division is slated to come out with additional guidance regarding ordering procedures for the OCP roll out by mid-September. This guidance should include planning, funding, uniform forecasting and replenishment. Pending the release of the NGB guidance, the only members able to request the OCP uniform will be those deploying against a mobilization tasking. Members who

have been authorized by Joint Force Headquarters to wear the OCP uniform, prior to the new guidance, may continue to wear as normal. Guardsmen who have previously been issued OCP's may begin wearing them Oct 1, 2018 if in serviceable condition. Members who chose to purchase the OCP uniform with personal funds will not be reimbursed.

Further guidance on heraldry patches will be made available in the future.

A timeline has been made available to reference phase out dates for shirts, socks and boots.

If you have any questions or concerns please call Clothing Issue;

DSN 422-5569
or email at usaf.id.124-fw.mbx.lrs-retail-clothing@mail.mil



Photo by Airman 1st Class Mercedee Schwartz



Patrol caps will be worn with nametapes placed on the back using Velcro or sewn on. Officer rank will be sewn on the front of the hat and centered ½ inch above the visor.

T-shirt will be Tan.

Name and USAF tape embroidery will be spice brown thread.

Right Sleeve
(max. 2 Velcro patches)
Subdued U.S. Flags are mandatory and will be centered at the top of Velcro.

The following patches are approved to be worn under the US Flag:

Higher headquarters (HHQ) subdued cloth patch, Directorate subdued cloth patch, Inspector General identification subdued cloth patch, or subdued cloth patches/badges of awarded campaigns/combats while assigned to the awarding unit.

Left Sleeve
(max. 2 Velcro patches)
Organizational unit of assignment subdued cloth will be centered at the top of the Velcro area unless one of the following patches are worn:

Duty Identifier Tabs, or Joint qualification tabs may be worn, (e.g., Army Ranger, Sapper, Airborne, Air Commando, SERE, EOD) above the unit patch.

Right or Left Sleeve
The following patches will be worn on either sleeve in place of either the HHQ or organizational unit patch:

Weapons Instructor Course patch (graduate or instructor), USAF Test Pilot School and School of Advanced Air patch, Space Studies patch, Critical Care Air Transport Team patch, Test Pilot School graduate patches or other completed equivalent schools

Boots will be Coyote Brown.

TIMELINE

2018

1 OCT

Serviceable OCP's may be worn.

Airmen can purchase OCP's at the following AAFES locations: Aviano AB, Charleston AFB, Shaw AFB and MacDill AFB

2019

1 APR

Expansion of in-store AAFES sales locations continues

Tan T-shirt must be worn (Desert Sand is authorized until this date)

OCT

Online sales projected to be available

2020

1 JUN

Coyote Brown boots must be worn (Tan is authorized until this date)

DLA Issued green socks must be worn (Desert Tan, Tan authorized until this date)

2021

1 APR

OCP Mandatory Wear Date

BENEFITS

- The OCP works in all climates and across the spectrum of missions we perform
- Over 100,000 Airmen have been issued and/or are already wearing OCPs. This includes Air Force Central Command, Air Force Special Operations Command and our Air Force Global Strike Command Defenders
- The OCP will bring back Air Force heraldry with unit patches
- The OCP celebrates our joint warfighting excellence and close ties with the Army

AIR FORCE OCP UNIFORM GUIDANCE

Further official wear guidance will be available soon in AFI 36-2903, Dress and Personal Appearance

UPDATES TO THE PHAQ PROGRAM!

What does this mean for you?

You will be required to complete your PHAQ during your birth month. -You will also be required to accomplish your Occupational Health requirements during this time. -It is very important that you accomplish the PHAQ within the month you are due.

What should you expect?

The Medical Group will trigger you to be due for your PHAQ a week prior to your birth month. You will receive an email notifying you that you must complete your PHAQ.

<https://imr.afms.mil/imr/myIMR.aspx> Look for the "Start PHAQ" link. If you have Occupational Health requirements. You will be scheduled for an appointment with the Public Health office the UTA of your birth month. You will be prompted to complete a Mental Health Assessment through Logistics Health Inc. You must create an account at LHI.CARE to schedule a telephone appointment. Make sure your contact information is correct.

What happens after your PHAQ is complete?

Your medical history will be reviewed by the Medical Group. If there are any items that require further information, you will be contacted to provide this information by submitting it to the Medical Group's PII Org Box: usaf.id.124-fw.mbx.mdg@mail.mil

What about the IMR Festival?

The Medical Group will still hold an annual IMR festival in the fall of each year to accomplish the two year HIV blood draw, the five year dental, and the annual Influenza vaccine requirements.

What about the other requirements?

You will be contacted through your Unit Health Monitor as other requirements become due. All documents for profiles, dental, and doctors notes should be submitted to the Medical Group's PII Org Box: usaf.id.124-fw.mbx.mdg@mail.mil Contact your Unit Health Monitor for the required forms.

Pilots, Ground Based Controllers, and Firefighters will remain on their current schedule to align with Occupational Physicals.

Questions and concerns can be directed to the Medical Group at 208-422-6116





Honor & Remember

Airmen from the 124th Fighter Wing volunteered to participate in a Memorial Day ceremony at the Idaho State Veterans Cemetery in Boise, Idaho May 28, 2018.



The ceremony included wreath presentations by multiple veteran and civic organizations, a fly over performed by the 190th Fighter Squadron and several speakers.

Ceremony's like this are conducted on Memorial Day to honor and remember all those who have died in the defense of the United States. This federal holiday is currently observed on the last Monday in May every year. It was declared a national holiday in 1977 by Congress.

Photos by Master Sgt. Joshua Allmaras



A faded background image showing a family of four (a man, a woman, and two children) embracing each other in a warm hug. The image is centered and serves as the backdrop for the text.

**10-12
AUGUST
2018**

**STRONG BONDS
FAMILY
CAMP**

**MCCALL
IDAHO**

**RESERVE YOUR SPOT
CONTACT:**

**CHAPLAIN HOWARTH
208-841-9720**

IAN.W.HOWARTH.MIL@MAIL.MIL