

THE BEACON

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE 124TH FIGHTER WING

JULY 2018



COMBAT EXCELLENCE-ALWAYS ON MISSION

From the **WING COMMANDER**

124th Fighter Wing Commander
Col. Tim Donnellan

Warriors,



I hope everyone had a great Independence Day! The fireworks displays across the country are a vivid reminder of our country's initial fight for independence, as well as over 250 years of conflict to maintain it and defend other nations' freedoms. Each of you play a significant role in defending the freedoms we have enjoyed for generations and hope to continue for generations to come - thank you for your service to our great Nation and State.

The lead up to July was phenomenal - amazing Red Flag exercise in Alaska where the 124th Fighter Wing once again demonstrated first class combat capability! It was amazing to see and be a part of the deployment, regeneration, then launch with over 70 aircraft of all different types from several different nations. The lessons learned from those large force employment missions, twice a day for two weeks will stick

with you all for years, making you even more lethal in combat. I'm extremely proud of the phenomenal effort and professionalism of the entire fighter wing as we proved once again, in the words of Richard Bach, that "we can take on any man in any land, in any game that he can name, for any amount that he can count."

Take the time to enjoy this summer with your family and friends. We often talk about A-10 sustainment and how we need to ensure we are good stewards of these amazing aircraft so they are able to continue flying indefinitely. We also need to view ourselves in the same way - physical, mental and spiritual health are critical to combat capability. The quality of time spent off duty, whether from the guard or civilian jobs, is just as important as the quantity, and the balance between the two cannot be over-emphasized. Summer can be a dangerous time as each of

us work to maintain that balance, so please be careful in all you do. We fight primarily as two ships for a reason - and that is to provide mutual support. Keep that wingman concept in mind at all times, but especially during summer activities and don't hesitate to make the call if your wingman is starting down a poor decision path. We stand strongest when we surround ourselves with strength, and the 124th Fighter Wing is stronger now than ever!

Attack!
Donut

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ON THE COVER



F-15Cs from the 122nd Fighter Squadron of the 159th Fighter Wing, Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base New Orleans, Louisiana, take off from Gowen Field, Boise, Idaho on July 27, 2018. The 122FS was in Boise to perform dissimilar air combat training with the 190th Fighter Squadron's A-10 Thunderbolt IIs.

(U.S. Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. John Winn)


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PRIMARY UTA EVENTS

AUGUST 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
 1000-NG Life Insurance brief, Base theater
 1000-Promotion-Capt Browning, Bldg 148, Hangar
 1000-Geen Dot training, Bldg 400, Basement
 1130-Lunch & Learn; "Exercise", Bldg 400, Basement
 1130 & 1230-Fitness Assessment, Bldg 1530/Track
 1245-CDC Testing
 1330-NG Life Insurance brief, Base theater
 1400-Rising Two, Bldg 400 Conf. Rm
 1400-Promotion-MSgt K. Williams, Bldg 400, foyer
 1400-Promotion-MSgt T. Davidson, Bldg 400, foyer
 1500-Essential Six, Bldg 400 Conf. rm
 1500-Promotion-SMSgt M. Davidson, Bldg 148, Hng
 1500-Promotion-Capt. Jen Davis, Bldg 148, Hangar

Sunday

0700-MXS/CC Call, Base Theater
 0745-PERSCO Training, Bldg 400 Conf Rm
 0800-NG Life Insurance brief, Base theater
 0815-CDC Testing
 0830 & 0930-Fitness Assessment, Bldg 1530/Track
 1000-NG Life Insurance brief, Base theater
 1100-Geen Dot training, Bldg 400, Basement
 1230 & 1330-Fitness Assessment, Bldg 1530/Track
 1430-Retirement, TSgt Hagar, Bldg 1528, CF room
 1530-Promotion-Capt Hatfield, Bldg 1500, Conf. rm
 1530-MXG/CC Call, Base Theater

WHAT'S FOR

Lunch ?



MAIN LINE

Southern fried chicken
 Fish lemon garlic
 Dirty rice / Garlic mashed potatoes
 Broccoli combo / Capri blend

SOUP

Bean and ham soup / Italian wedding soup

SHORT ORDER LINE

Chicken waldorf salad
 Roast beef sandwich
 Burgers / Cheeseburgers / Onion rings

DESSERTS

Cherry cheesecake / Marshmallow squares
 Boston cream pie / Peanut butter cookies

MAIN LINE

Beef stir fry with broccoli
 Sweet and sour pork
 Pork fried rice
 Steamed rice / Asian blend vegetables
 Fried cabbage

SOUP

Chicken dumpling / Wisconsin cheese

SHORT ORDER LINE

Chicken strips / Pot stickers
 Burgers/Cheeseburgers
 French fries

DESSERTS

Chocolate cake / Coconut cream pie
 Velvet pound cake w/frosting / Lemon cookies

The 124th Fighter Wing COMMAND CHIEF

Chief Master Sergeant Tammy Ladley



To the Airmen of the 124th Fighter Wing,

After 32 years, it's hard to believe that this drill will be my last...WOW! A very exciting day but also a very surreal day as I am saying my final farewells. So many thoughts have been running through my mind, and it is bitter sweet to say the least. I have had an amazing career and I am so thankful to end my career as the Fighter Wing Command Chief. I am so fortunate to have associated with such talented, professional men and women. You have answered every call, whether in response to a state emergency or federal mobilization - you have done it all! The Airmen within this organization are the reason it's such an AMAZING Fighter Wing. My goal as your Command Chief was to represent you and your issues to all levels of command. I also wanted to empower the enlisted Airmen to always do the right thing, speak up and to not simply sit by and not do what's right. I feel I have done these things to the best of my ability and I have confidence you will continue to perform at the highest level. Please strive to do your BEST always and always focus on the mission. My retirement ceremony will be October 14th, which is Sunday of October drill, and I hope to see you all there. I cannot say thank you enough for your support over the last 5 years.

Chief L



BAYOU MILITIA COMES TO BOISE



Story and photos by Senior Airman Dane M. St. Pe
159th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The Louisiana National Guard's 159th Fighter Wing is participating in dissimilar air combat training with the Idaho National Guard's 124th Fighter Wing at Gowen Field Air National Guard base in Boise, Idaho, July 13-27.

DACT provides combat aircrews with a realistic environment to hone their fighter tactical skills and exposes pilots to the flight profiles and airframes of different combat aircraft. This type of air combat training was introduced in 1968 after disappointing aerial combat exchange rates during the Vietnam War. U.S. aerial combat win/loss ratios soared following the implementation of DACT when aerial combat resumed in 1972 over North Vietnam.

The unique terrain of the

Mountain Home Range Complex allowed the 159 FW to execute combat scenarios such as flying at supersonic speeds over land, deploying low-level flying tactics, live ordnance firing and surface-to-air missile simulation.

"There are not many places that we can do air-to-ground training. Idaho is one of them," said Lt. Col. John Hensz, project officer for the 159th. "Doing things back home will keep us

"I think it's good to get some of our guys out of their comfort zone and put in a high-stress situation ..."

good at specific scenarios, but being here allows us to put our guys in situations that they might have to go through down range that we can't practice back home."

In addition to sharing their facilities, the 124th also partnered their A-10 Thunderbolt II aircraft with the Louisiana's F-15C aircraft for air combat training.

"It's good that we're working with the 124th because they specifically have a mission and an aircraft we don't normally work with," said Hensz. "I think it's good to get some of our guys out of their comfort zone and put in a high-stress situation so they become flexible to anything that could come their way."

The 159th and 124th jointly performed training scenarios involving the protection of A-10s from enemy F-15Cs while

providing close-air-support to the ground troops below. The 159th also performed air combat maneuvering with the F-15Cs by executing strafing runs to combat ground level threats.

"It's a Guard unit working with another Guard unit, so we both understand the limitations and strengths that the Guard offers and can maximize our work together," said Hensz. "Our hosts here at the 124th have been outstanding to us and we appreciate all the support we've been getting from them. This has been amazing training for our pilots and our aircraft maintainers."

**BE SURE TO CHECK
OUT OUR FACEBOOK
PAGE FOR MORE
PHOTOS LIKE THIS!**



Lt. Col. Samuel Joplin and Master Sgt. Steve Flurry from the 159th Fighter Wing, Louisiana Air National Guard, prep for flight at Gowen Field Air National Guard Base in Boise, Idaho July 17, 2018. The pilots and crew chiefs work together on checking every facet of the aircraft before it takes off to ensure that it is flight ready.





SAFETY IS EVERYONE'S BUSINESS

Story and photos by Airman 1st Class Taylor Walker

Supervisors, safety representatives and other members of the Idaho Air National Guard attended the National Guard Bureau Safety Orientation Course July 24-27 at Gowen Field.

The course focuses on various aspects of the mishap prevention program and the safety managers' role in reducing accidents to ensure the Air Force remains a world leader in safety management.

"The course is important because it gives the people

who are actually out doing the work a lot of focused time on things they should be looking for," said Master Sgt. Kyle W. Freutel, the occupational safety manager for the 124th Fighter Wing.

Course attendees spent three days in class learning the

"Our number one goal is to prevent our Airmen from getting injured,"

requirements for their shops to be compliant with federal law and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

On the final class day, students participated in a mock inspection of the vehicle maintenance and aerospace ground

equipment shops here. Notebooks in hand, they reviewed electrical connections, eye wash stations, machine guards and more.

After the mock inspections, the class gave their findings to the safety supervisor who is responsible for developing a plan to correct issues discovered during the activity.

"Our number one goal is to prevent our Airmen from getting injured," said Lt. Col. Ronald S. Hedges, chief of safety for the 124th FW. "They are our eyes and ears to identify potential places we can mitigate risks and stop something before it goes downhill."

An additional safety course for select Airmen who have weapon or explosive related duties is scheduled to take place Sept. 10-14 at Gowen Field.



WHAT'S NEW WITH

DRESS + APPEARANCE

ACCESSORIES AND GEAR

- Males may wear earrings in civilian attire, on or off base
- Females may wear round or square earrings in diamond, gold, white pearl or silver studs
- Glasses/sunglasses may have a small logo in contrast with the frame color and clear, tinted or photosensitive lenses, or mirror appearance
- Sling style backpacks are authorized
- Handbags for all uniform combinations can be solid black leather or vinyl without ornamentation, with black or white stitching

DRESS UNIFORM

- Enlisted personnel may wear 3.5" or 4" chevrons
- All or some ribbons and devices may be worn with service dress uniform
- All, some or no ribbons and devices may be worn on blue service uniform

FEMALE HAIR

- No minimum hair length
- Maximum bulk of 3.5" from scalp
- Locs, braids, twists, micro-braids, french braids, dutch braids and cornrow are now authorized
- Black hair accessories authorized regardless of hair color

PT GEAR

- Short and long-sleeve solid white, black or light gray form-fitting undershirts may be worn and visible under the short-sleeve shirt
- Black balaclava may be worn while performing physical fitness activities outdoors

TATTOOS

- Tattoos cannot be on the face, head or hands (other than one wedding ring tattoo)
- Tattoos/brands/body markings anywhere on the body that are indecent, commonly associated with gangs, extremist, and supremacist organizations, or that advocate sexual, racial, ethnic, or religious discrimination are prohibited in and out of uniform

AIRMEN MAY BEGIN WEARING OCPS OCTOBER 1, 2018

REVIEW AFI 36-2903 FOR ADDITIONAL UPDATES AND DETAILS



Story and photos by Tech. Sgt. Audenne Valdez
Guest contributor to The Beacon

The National Guard Bureau received 62 outstanding packages from 41 units. NGB planned to fund the exchange of 29 Airmen during FY18, based on the number and type of positions requested by our foreign allied nations: Denmark, Estonia, Germany, and United Kingdom. Each selected members attended the

NATO 101 training in DC or via webinar. I attended a 15-day TDY to Denmark to learn about the Scandinavian approach of "Instructing".

On my last deployment, I've worked with our coalition partners and became friends with some of the people from the Royal Danish Air Force. That has allowed me to quench my

interests in diversity while learning about new cultures.

The instructor's course was located in and conducted in the Home Guard School, Nymindegab, Denmark. Camp Nymindegab was a camp built during the WWII as an educational facility for its anti-aircraft gun crews. After the war, it turned into a safe haven for hundreds of refugees from the Baltics, followed by Danish soldiers. Since 1949, the camp has been a home of the Danish Home Guard School and contains a modern educational and conference center. They still have numerous bunkers from the WWII.

The Instructor course provided a Scandinavian approach of knowledge, skills, and competencies related to learning and learning styles.



The objective of the course is to plan, perform, and assess learning activities. The course included 40 participants that were broken up into 7 groups. Every day we prepared the lesson planning, facilitated the lesson, and provided constructive feedback to each other. I learned general learning-theory tasks, ability to account for the interaction between didactic designs and learning activities, knowledge of basic theory and concepts to relate to planning, performing, and assessment of learning activities, awareness of frequently used aids in the Danish Armed Forces and Danish Home Guard. One of the five lessons, we had to facilitate the lesson to a different class.

Home Guard School is a training facility. During my first week there, they had over 500 people on base attending several different courses (included people from Latvia and Estonia). Majority of the students on post were Danish Home Guard, Danish Army and Danish Air Force. A small percentage were Americans, mostly Army.

The Instructors course had a Scandinavian approach - facili-

tator, not instructor approach. Basically we were more focused on how not to be standing and instruction the entire lesson, rather we had to get the participants involved. My instructor ensure that he tailored his lessons based on the type of group he had. It was not tailored just to the course content

“On my last deployment, I’ve worked with our coalition partners...That has allowed me to quench my interests in diversity while learning about new cultures”

and himself as the instructor. He was flexible and made it a safe environment feeling to where we did not feel wrong if we made mistakes because it was a learning process. The logistics were all provided. If we needed any type of supply, they provided. From computers, laptop,

printers, props for lessons, etc.

The Home Guard School provided all lodging and food accommodations. The food was provided three times daily. There were more than enough for the selection they provided. It was more of the Danish cuisine, therefore we were able to experience their culture. Also they are very adamant about everyone eating together at the same time. This is also learning about their culture. It is different in America because some of us are used to eating at our desk or not even taking a lunch.



On Fourth of July and on the last day of instructions, they threw a bbq for the entire camp. The last two days (Saturday and Sunday), was our R&R.

The course itself had a significantly meaningful impact. Not only do you learn a different approach to facilitating, you also learn and understand our NATO partners’ perspective. It is necessary to learn and be open to different styles and culture to strengthen our relationships when working with coalition partners.

I am privileged to have been selected for this opportunity. NGB told me that I am the first from Idaho Air National Guard to be selected for the MREP. I hope they open up more opportunities.



Gunfighter Flag 18-3 Adaptive Basing

Story by Airman First Class JaNae Capuno, 366th Fighter Wing Public Affairs
Photos by Tech. Sgt John Winn, 124th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Every quarter, the 366th Fighter Wing holds "Gunfighter Flag", an exercise where the fighter squadrons participate in air-to-air and air-to-ground training to maintain F-15E Strike Eagles during peace-time and war-time contingencies.

Gunfighter Flag 18-3 featured a new opportunity for MHAFB to further its ability to fly, fight and win.

"Adaptive basing is the ability to rapidly refuel and re-arm F-15's in an austere environment, a location we haven't operated from before," said Senior Master Sgt. Travis Paterson, 389th Fighter Squadron

sortie generation superintendent. "It could have some support facilities or just a runway in the middle of nowhere."

In other words; it gives a squadron the ability to practice their training in an environment unfamiliar to their own.

"The Air Force has become used to deploying to locations that we've been established at for a long time," said Capt. Ryan Gipson, 391st Fighter Squadron pilot. "However, the enemy gets a vote and these locations may not be advantageous in whatever form the next conflict takes. The ability to project power globally is a

staple of the U.S. Air Force and this is a way to further enhance that capability."

Adaptive basing exercises require all levels of the squadron to deploy small teams of Airmen and aircraft for a short amount of time to hone their skills.

The concept is still fairly new and has been improving.

"This has been a crawl, walk, run initiative, with the crawl phase taking place last year," Gipson said. "That was more a proof-of-concept, but took place at home station. The walk/run phase occurred during Gunfighter Flag 18-3 with us proving the ability to deploy



to Gowen Field.”

During 18-3, Gunfighters from multiple squadrons teamed up with the 60th Air Mobility Wing from Travis Air Force Base, California, by traveling to Gowen Field in a C-17 Globemaster III, which gave them the chance to practice loading and unloading crucial assets needed to perform maintenance on F-15E Strike Eagles in a different location.

“As soon as the C-17 cargo doors opened, Security Forces secured the area and we were out the door recovering our Strike Eagles and turning them around,” Patterson said.

During the exercise, ammo and POL (petroleum, oil and lubricants) operated in such

a short time that it allowed Patterson’s team of Airmen to expedite aircraft recovery.

Both Gipson and Patterson are impressed with the how the various base agencies came together to plan and execute the mission.

“I’m excited for how this capability will expand in future iterations,” Gibson said.

With MHAFB being a Fighter Wing, it’s crucial to maintain readiness and adaptive basing exercises gives the base a tool to hone its flexibility.

“We’re not always going to have the ability to have the support structure of a whole wing in contested environments,” Patterson said. “The battlefield has changed its

location and it’s up to us to be ready and provide the wing commander the flexibility required to perform our duties in any location at any time. With this small exercise we showed a small sample of how global we can be at a moment’s notice with a small footprint.”

Patterson hopes that MHAFB continues this new training each quarter.

“This is another tool for the 366th Fighter Wing and just an extension of our operations and maintenance capabilities,” Patterson said. “The best part is this whole wing participating- it’s not just limited to maintainers and operators. It’s a great exercise for everyone.”



124TH FIRE DEPT NAMED BEST IN AIR GUARD

Story by Airman 1st Class Taylor Walker
Photos by Master Sgt. Joshua Allmaras

The 124th Civil Engineering Squadron fire department here was named Fire Department of the Year for the fifth time by the Air National Guard Fire Chiefs Association August 1.

The Greg O. Winjum Fire Department of the Year award honors the top performing fire department in the Air National Guard based on accomplishments in seven categories including training, fire prevention and community relations.

The Gowen Field fire department won in their size category by a unanimous vote.

"It validates our work," said Chief Master Sgt. Christopher A. Brearley, fire chief at the 124th CES fire department. "It validates what the guys do. It shows that we're meeting our goals and that we're a progressive department and cutting edge. We're staying on top of the career field."

One of the most significant examples of the department's commitment to innovation is their implementation of mutual aid agreements.

"The biggest strength that

we have is that we are really good at incorporating our experience from working with other departments," said Lt. Col. Elizabeth A. Sumner, commander and fire marshal in the 124th CES. "It increases our overall training capability."

The department has established mutual aid agreements with the City of Boise Fire Department, Ada County and the Bureau of Land Management. Through these agreements, firefighters not only respond to incidents in tandem, but also participate in inter-agency exercises to improve response effectiveness during mass casualties, aircraft incidents and more.

Mutual aid agreements are only one component keeping the fire department connected to the local community. In addition to their regular duties, the firefighters here have gone above and beyond to actively participate in volunteer events throughout the valley.

In 2017, the department raised over \$17,500 for the Muscular Dystrophy Association during the Fill the Boot cam-

paign where firefighters spent two days in a busy intersection collecting donations.

Through meet-and-greet events for children, monthly local outreach meetings, memorial rides, inspections and retiree reunions, the firefighters here are never too far from their community.

"As long as we can meet our mission here at Gowen Field, then we should be helping out the community," said Brearley. "That's what the Guard is all about."

These are only some of the highlights of the ever-growing list of accomplishments the fire department and its firefighters have achieved.

"Every hour they put in to training and being present in our community is critical," said Col. Timothy J. Donnellan, commander of the 124th Fighter Wing here. "Their efforts emphasize excellence in all we do and we could not be more proud that they are receiving this award for the fifth time."



Post-9/11 GI Bill Transferability Change

Effective July 13, 2019

What's New:



Transfer window capped at 16 years of service.



Airmen who have served at least 10 years can no longer transfer if they are not permitted to serve an additional four years.



Transfer of Benefits Eligibility



Must have served on active duty 90 aggregate days or more on/after September 11, 2001.



Dependents must be entered in DEERS in order to transfer.



Member must have served six years and agree to serve an additional four years.



Transfer requests must be submitted and approved while the member is in the armed forces.

Confirm eligibility status at <https://milconnect.dmdc.osd.mil/>

For additional questions, concerns or if the status of your benefit states anything other than "Request Approved," contact Retention Office Manager

MSgt. Kris Witte 208-422-5393

2019 OAY BANQUET TRYOUTS
OUTSTANDING AIRMAN OF
THE YEAR COMMITTEE
HOSTING

NATIONAL ANTHEM & MASTERS OF CEREMONY TRYOUTS

September 8, 2018
10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Bldg. 441

For more information contact Senior Master Sgt. Beale 208-422-3344
