



# **RED TAIL** **REVIEW**

477th FIGHTER GROUP - JB ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, AK - AIR FORCE RESERVE COMMAND

## Commander's Comments



### Greetings and welcome to the September UTA.

I want to briefly talk to you about your personal and professional development. You are doing a phenomenal job of setting yourself up for success, growth and advancement in your career field. Here are the facts: We had six Majors just get selected for promotion to Lt Col and numerous airmen are flashing new stripes and chevrons. Outstanding work! This is not only a testament to your senior leadership or supervisor taking the time to write outstanding OPR's, EPR's and awards, but it shows that you are doing the right things in your career to enable that growth and development. The number one way you can continue on your career and reach your goals is through your job performance. Be the absolute best crew chief, med tech, logistician, comm troop or whatever AFSC you hold. Fight for that 5 level. Get your CDC's complete. Finish up your CCAF. Know your job and it will pay dividends in the future. There is a new EPR system that was developed to stratify folks based on job performance. Chief Honeycutt will have more words on this in the future,

but realize it is a step in the right direction to measure and stratify airmen based on how they do at their job.

Our force has always been built on professional, educated airmen who can innovate and lead our Air Force into the future. I promise you when I tell you this, each and every one of you have a critical role in the 477th Fighter Group. Our nation is relying on you to know and perform your job so we can execute our mission: Trained Airmen ready to provide air dominance anytime, anywhere.

Col. Piffarerio  
Commander

## UTA Schedule



**Red Tail Review  
Editorial Staff**

Commander  
**Col. David Piffarerio**  
Public Affairs  
**Maj. Ashley Conner**  
**Tech. Sgt. Dana Rosso**





# 477th Fighter Group welcomes new Chief Enlisted Manager

By Tech. Sgt. Dana Rosso  
477th Fighter Group Public Affairs

Chief Master Sgt. Horace Honeycutt took the reigns as the 477th Fighter Group Chief Enlisted Manager from Chief Master Sgt. Timothy Zellar here Sept. 1.

Honeycutt came to the Fighter Group in 2009, first assigned as the fabrication flight chief and more recently as the superintendent of the quality assurance flight. Honeycutt supervised 32 personnel in eight Air Force Specialty Codes evaluating over 1,800 active duty and Reserve maintainers to validate the quality of training and proficiency on F-22 aircraft worth over six billion dollars.

“I am very excited to be stepping into the role as the Chief Enlisted Manager,” said Honeycutt. “I have been in the unit for a while but

I look forward getting out and meeting all of the enlisted members, learning about their jobs and finding out how I can support them and their commanders.”



In his new position Honeycutt will be responsible for advising the commander and senior leaders across the group in matters of strategic direction, personnel management, professional development, training, and personnel readiness. He will oversee the command recognition programs,

performance reporting and personnel morale and welfare.

“Chief Zellar did great things during his tenure as Chief Enlisted Manager and I look forward to Honeycutt, I am positive that he will continue to improve the organization,” said Col.

David Piffarero, 477th Fighter Group commander. “I can’t think of a better chief to connect with the Airmen and plug in to help them with mission readiness and take care of the Airmen and their families.”



## Reserve pilots drop JDAMs from upgraded F-22s

by Maj. Ashley Conner

477th Fighter Group Public Affairs

During a recent Unit Training Assembly weekend Alaska Reserve pilots from the 302nd Fighter Squadron dropped Joint Direct Attack Munitions from F-22s equipped with increment 3.2A, a software upgrade package.

“Performing this mission on a UTA is critical to readiness because it allows our unit to practice actual weapons build, loading, pre-flight, and employment,” said Col. David Piffarerio, 477th Fighter Group commander. “In addition, this validates the maintainers, aircraft and pilots are ready to employ downrange with the new increment 3.2A capability.”

The 422nd Test and Evaluation Squadron, based out of Nellis AFB, Nev., validated the software upgrades, which add electronic protection against jamming, better Link 16 receive capability and combat identification among other improvements, before it was added to the operational F-22s.

Dropping air to ground ordinance is not only good training for the pilots but also for active duty and Reserve Airmen from the 3rd and 477th Munitions flights, who build the bombs, and the 477th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, who load the bombs on the jets allowing for the entire Arctic Warrior team to receive valuable training.



“This training is important because it provides our traditional Reservists with the opportunity to perform their respective functions in a realistic environment,” said Master Sgt. Timothy Tuttle, 477th AMXS, Weapons Section Flight chief. “It is especially valuable training for weapons loaders to load munitions in a setting other than the Weapons Load Training facility. There is always a sense of pride when you are able to load munitions onto an aircraft and the aircraft returns home having expended its weapons, because you know that you performed your job correctly and directly impacted the mission.”

During the UTA the Reserve pilots successfully dropped all seven JDAMs over the Joint Pacific Alaska Range Complex, a 2,490 square mile range equipped with live emitters and targets which create a realistic training environment.

“Every operations and maintenance Airman is critical to this mission,” said Piffarerio. “Our cadre of experienced F-22 pilots validated this new capability and in turn passed along lessons learned to our active duty counterparts. The 3rd Wing and 477th FG are integrated in every aspect of F-22 operations and maintenance and is critical to our combat readiness.”





# Fighter Group Highlights

## Promotions

Take a look at who is flashing new rank...

**A1C – SrA**

Nathaniel Abuan – MXS

Jessica Seltzer – AMXS

Mark Wallace – AMXS

**SrA – SSgt**

Robert King – FSS

Benjamin Ballard – AMDF

Colten Mullins – MXS

**TSgt – MSgt**

James Kukuk – FG

**SMSgt – CMSgt**

Horace Honeycutt – FG



**Are you worldwide qualified?**

**Do you know what your Medical Readiness Requirements are?**

If you can't answer those questions then you need to chat with your unit health monitor.

Every squadron has one, who is yours?

# Fi\$cal Fitne\$\$

## REPLACEMENT OF WORN OUT UNIFORM ITEMS:

Members must not buy uniform items for themselves with the intent of getting reimbursed.

Unit clothing purchasers are the only individuals authorized to purchase uniforms for enlisted members.

**TDY LODGING RECEIPTS:** When you return from TDY, submit a travel voucher within 5 days.

Lodging receipts must show a zero balance as a final bill. If you prepay day(s) before leaving lodging,

that receipt may show a negative balance and the Air Force Financial Services Center (Ellsworth) will not recognize it as a valid receipt for reimbursement.

Bottom line: get a lodging receipt on the day you check out, and attach it to your travel voucher.

## GOVERNMENT TRAVEL CARD MANAGEMENT FOR DOD EMPLOYEES:

If a DoD employee is also a member of a Reserve unit, the GTC will be issued and administered through the individual's civilian agency, not his/her Reserve unit.

When a Reserve member is required to perform training or active duty, a copy of his/her military orders must be provided to his/her DoD agency.

