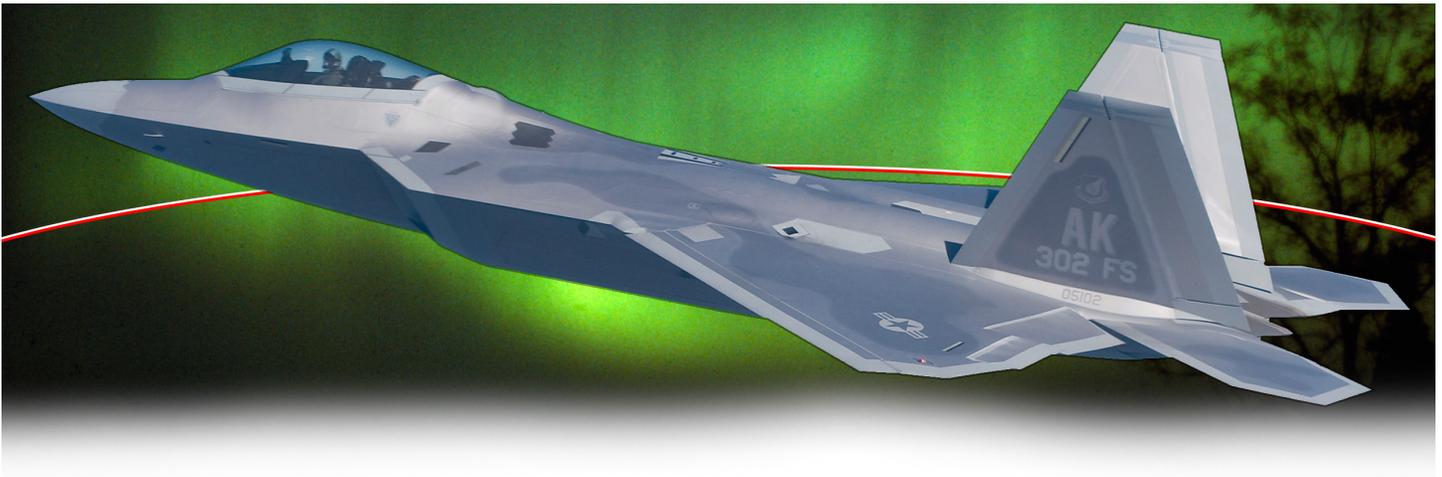


December 2011
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RED TAIL

REVIEW

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



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WELCOME,
10TH AIR FORCE
SAV TEAM!

COMMANDER'S COMMENTS



Col. Bryan Radliff
477th Fighter Group commander

I hope everyone had an enjoyable and relaxing Thanksgiving. I also hope each of you took the opportunity to pause and reflect on what you are thankful for. While I understand that one might find it easy to be discouraged these days, don't be as there is nothing we cannot

overcome.

Resiliency is defined as "the ability to recover quickly from setbacks" and synonymous with elasticity. It is more than just the latest slogan for our Airmen. It's a new look at an old axiom; If you get knocked down, get back up...and we'll be there to help. We have many opportunities to assist you through whatever challenges you or your family may face, so you are never alone.

Let's all continue to watch out for each other and pay attention to those in need. This can be a difficult time of year for many. I encourage you to be open and honest regarding your challenges.

Each of you are important to me, to this organization, and to your co-workers, supervisors, commander.

As the official welcome to the holiday season is now behind us, we have much to focus on over the next few weeks. We have a Staff Assistance Visit from our friends at 10th Air Force, which will culminate on Sunday Dec. 4.

Speaking of Sunday, I look forward to seeing all of you at the 302nd FS/477th AMXS hangar for our Family Appreciation Reception. This is an effort to focus on our 477th FG family. So whether you have kids or not, you are still a part of our family and I want you to participate. Bring a dish to share (prepared or purchased) and eat some deep fried turkey prepared by our maintainers. If you are unable to bring something, don't worry. I'm confident our family will provide plenty for all. If you are leery of deep fried turkey, don't worry I was too. You may have a new favorite, as it is excellent. There will be activities to keep the kids busy as we welcome our families. It all starts at noon.

We will continue to prepare for the TSP as we welcome in what is measuring up to be a busy 2012. We have much to do, so let's get to it. I'll see you at the reception. Please also make our guests from 10th AF feel welcome.

HOLIDAY PARTY AGENDA

11:30 a.m.	Drop off food at Hangar 25
12 p.m.	Christmas party begins
12:20 p.m.	Invocation
12:30 p.m.	Food is served
1 p.m.	Pictures with Santa and F-22
3 p.m.	Commander's remarks
3:30 p.m.	Clean up begins
4 p.m.	Holiday party ends

Children's Craft Projects include:

- Sugar Cookie Decorating
- Coloring Book Station
- Make a Holiday Sticker
- Make a Holiday Ornament
- Make a Jumbo Stocking
- Lace Ginger Bread Cards

Reserve F-22 pilot the first to fly 1000 flight hours

By Capt. Ashley Conner, 477th FG Public Affairs

Lt. Col. David Piffarerio, 302nd Fighter Squadron commander, flew his 1,000 flight hour in the F-22 Raptor here Nov. 4, making him the first Air Force pilot to do so.



Lt. Col. David Piffarerio, 302nd FS commander, climbs into an F-22 prior to take-off Nov. 4. (U.S. Air Force photo/ Capt. Ashley Conner)

“This is a great milestone for the pilots, maintainers and contractors working on the jet and the F-22 program as a whole,” said Piffarerio. “The aircraft is maturing and getting better the more we fly and perform maintenance on it.”

Upon landing Piffarerio was met by his wife Jennifer along with active duty and Reserve pilots and maintainers to include the 3rd Wing commander, Col. Dirk Smith, who received a check ride from Piffarerio during the milestone flight.

Prior to being assigned to the only Reserve unit in Alaska, Piffarerio served 13 years on active duty in a variety of F-15E and F-22 assignments. After being selected in 2002 as initial cadre to test the F-22 during follow-on evaluations, he served as program manager and F-22 test director at Nellis AFB, Nevada.

Although the four month stand-down of the F-22 fleet earlier this year did delay the 1,000 hour flight Piffarerio is unfazed.

“More important to me than this milestone is that the F-22 fleet is safely in the air and accomplishing the mission,” he said. “Air Combat Com-

mand’s plan to resume flight operations was done in a deliberate and methodical manner with the safety of the pilots in mind.”

The legacy of stellar pilots is not new to the 477th FG as the units lineage can be traced back to World War II and the famed Tuskegee Airmen.

“Reaching the 1000 hour milestone is a significant accomplishment for both Lt. Col. Piffarerio and the entire F-22 industry team,” said Col. Bryan Radliff, 477th FG commander. “We are proud to share this time with Piff as we recognize him along with our Total Force partners and our Tuskegee Airman legacy.”

Piffarerio was presented with Lockheed-Martin’s first Raptor 1,000 hour patch by Jeff Babione, vice president and F-22 program manager during a ceremony here Nov. 7.



MONEY MATTERS\$

myPay E-mail: Periodically the Defense Finance and Accounting Service attempts to contact members and employees about important pay matters. So that DFAS can reach you ensure your e-mail address is current in your myPay account.

GTC Responsibilities: Government Travel Card cardholders are required to submit travel vouchers within five business days of completion of travel, use split disbursement and pay in full all undisputed amounts due in the monthly billing statement from the GTC bank by the due date, regardless of the status of their travel reimbursement.

Annual Training Per Diem: Normally you receive per diem when you go TDY. However, when you perform annual training and government quarters and government meals are available at the TDY location, you will not receive the meals and incidental expense portion of per diem during the AT days. You will be reimbursed for the lodging expense.

SPACE Ä TRAVEL

Every day hundreds of military and military-contracted commercial aircraft travel the world delivering troops and cargo. These missions allow hundreds of thousands of military personnel, retirees, family members and other Department of Defense-eligible travelers to fly at almost no cost, courtesy of the DOD Space-Available, or Space-A, Travel Program.

Space-A flights, often called “military hops,” are a unique benefit to U.S. service members, retirees and their families to include Air Reserve Technicians and Traditional Reservists. Under the DOD travel program, unused seats on U.S. military and military-contracted commercial aircraft are made available to non-duty passengers on a space-available basis once official duty passengers and cargo have been accommodated. Space-A travel is free with the exception of customs and head tax fees on these aircraft.

There are certain requirements depending on the status you’re in or the category of travel. If traveling in active duty status you just need your orders, ID card and leave pa-

perwork. As a Traditional Reservist you will need ID card or DD Form 2 (Red) identification, DD Form 1853, Verification of Reserve Status for Travel Eligibility and leave paperwork to fly from, and between Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the CONUS. Should you want to bring family members they will need to have DD Form 1173 dependent ID card and passport.

Space-A is at the convenience of the government. You should have other plans and funds ready if you are not able to use Space-A.

To get the best information for using Space-A contact the JBER military passenger terminal at 907-552-8588 or at spacea@elmendorf.af.mil. The terminal staff will have the most current information and you can also access their website at <http://www.jber.af.mil/units/732ndairmobilitysquadron/index.asp> or <http://www.jber.af.mil/library/space-a-travel.asp>. (By Air Mobility Command Public Affairs and Dom McElhinney, 477th FSS)

INSPECTOR GENERAL

Who may file Air Force IG complaints?

Any military or civilian member may file an IG complaint. Anyone can file Fraud, Waste and Abuse or FWA disclosures.

What types of complaints are appropriate?

Any FWA and violations of law, Air Force instructions, or policy should be reported through the appropriate grievance channels. The subject of your complaint must be an Air Force program or person. A disagreement with your supervisor over management styles or a “personality conflict” does not constitute an injustice or mismanagement. **When are IG complaints appropriate?**

Individuals should attempt to resolve issues at the lowest possible

level, using command channels before elevating them to the next higher level or to the IG. Further, complaints must be promptly filed within IG, command, or other grievance channels. IG’s may dismiss a complaint if there is no FWA, recognizable wrong or violation of law, regulation, or policy. Also, complaints more than 60 days from date of occurrence will normally be dismissed.

Where to file a complaint?

Complaints should be filed with the most appropriate IG within the command of the subject of your complaint. The 477th IG is available during UTA weekends at 551-5477. The AFRC IG can be reached at 478-327-1510. The 673rd ABW IG can be reached at 552-8384. FWA complaints can be made 24 hours a day to the JBER FWA hotline 552-2400.

NEWS BRIEFS

PRO MOTIONS

From Staff Sgt. to Tech. Sgt. Nicholas Barnes, 477th AMXS

From Staff Sgt. to Tech. Sgt. Luke Boser, 477th FG

From Senior Master Sgt. to Chief Master Sgt. Tony Cooper, 477th CES

From Tech. Sgt. to Master Sgt. Micheal Long, 477th FSS

From Airman 1st Class to Senior Airman Ryan Weeks, 477th MXS

From Staff Sgt. to Tech. Sgt. Matthew Whited, 477th AMXS

Re-enlistments

Staff Sgt. Stephen Ball
477th AMDF

Senior Airman Andrew Carey
477th MXS

Do you have a supportive civilian boss? Nominate them for the **Patriot Award!**

To submit an application visit: <http://www.esgr.org/forms.asp?p=patriot>

Holiday Party

Sunday Dec. 4 from 12-4 pm in Hangar 25

Job Fair

Dec. 6, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Ft. Rich Education Center, Building 7,
2nd Floor Lecture Hall

Redtail Review Feedback

The Redtail Review is the newsletter of the 477th FG. As a member of the unit you have a say in what goes in it! If there are things you would like to see more (or less of) email your suggestions to:
477fg.pa@elmendorf.af.mil

NEWS BRIEFS

Reserve Recruiting at Alaska Aces Games

Do you want to see the Alaska Aces play and enjoy food and drinks for free? Contact Master Sgt. Stephan Kimbrough at 907-382-0545 to sign up to man the recruiting tables at the next-game.

Angel Tree

The holidays are approaching and this year has been tough financially for some. The 477th Angel Tree can be found in the foyer of the group headquarters.

Those interested in participating can pull a tag from the tree that will contain a child's age and gender. After purchasing an age and gender appropriate gift, wrap it and put the tag on the gift and place the gift under the tree. If someone would like to make a donation, Senior Master Sgts. Neal Therrien and Horace Honeycutt will shop for any remaining tags.

DBIDS registration

Every individual possessing an ID card must get registered in the DBIDS systems by either visiting the Pass and ID office in the People Center or the Visitors Center outside the Boniface gate. If you are not registered by Jan. 1 you will be directed to the Visitors Center to register. This includes dependent ID cardholders as well.

TOP IV

In November the Arctic Reserve Top III voted to change the organization to incorporate technical sergeants into the new Arctic Reserve Top IV. We would like to formally invite all technical sergeants and above to attend the Arctic Reserve Top IV meeting on Saturday Dec. 3 at 1 p.m. Contact SMSgt. Garry Briner for location.

We will be electing our 2012 officers during this meeting. Please plan on attending and be ready to provide your input on who you think should be leading our new Arctic Reserve Top IV into 2012!

Have you liked us on Facebook yet?

www.facebook.com/477th FG

PT TESTING

Members will complete all components of the PT test in Hangar 5. Wear official PT gear, hand carry workout shoes, bring your ID card and arrive 15 minutes before testing time.

Chapel Schedule

9a.m. - Liturgical Service

10:15 a.m. - Catholic Service

11:30 a.m. - Contemporary Christian Service

*If you have any other religious needs not covered by the current schedule, please let us know @ 551-7265!

Gift Wrap Fundraiser

If you would like to volunteer for the gift wrap fundraiser Dec. 9 contact Master Sgt. Kanya Briner at 551-3021 or Senior Master Sgt. Honeycutt at 551-1366