

RED TAIL REVIEW

Vol. 7 No. 12

477th Fighter Group

December 2014



Commanders Comments



Welcome to the December 2014 UTA.

This year has been another busy and challenging year for the 477th Fighter Group. Thank you all for making it a success. We are going to be celebrating some of the accomplishments of some of our most successful Airmen on the 10th of January during our Annual Awards Banquet. I encourage all of you to attend and support our nominees and award winners.

One of the challenges we have faced over the past year is the budget. We have operated under a Continuing Resolution (CR) thus far in FY 2015. The CR expires on the 11th of December, but I am hopeful that we will avoid any significant difficulties as we transition to either another CR or to an actual budget. Please do not let any uncertainty around funding create distraction or excess stress in your lives. We are doing all we can to ensure our ability to train and do the mission.

As we get together this weekend to conduct the mission and to train for our roles in the great endeavor, please take time to take care of one another. The holiday season is a great time, but can be stressful and challenging as well. Keep an eye out for anyone that may need a helping hand or a little

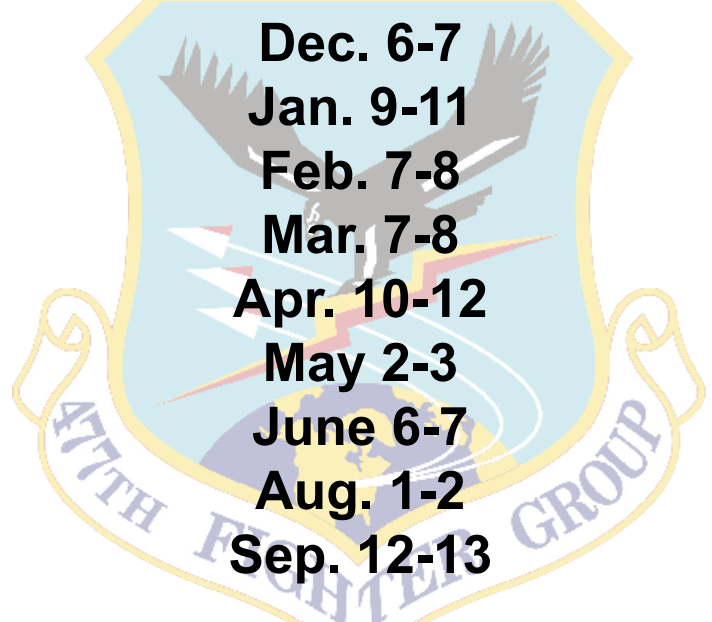
encouragement, and reach out to them to provide the support they may need. If someone needs more help than you can provide get your leadership team involved. We all stand ready to provide help when and where it is needed.

Thank you for all of your amazing work and your commitment to the mission. Our mission of providing air dominance for our country would not happen without your great efforts. You are our most important asset, and I continue to be amazed by what you accomplish. I wish all of you a great holiday season, and look forward to serving with you in the New Year.

Respectfully,

Col Otten

UTA Schedule



The previously scheduled July UTA was rescheduled to January and April

**Red Tail Review
Editorial Staff**

Commander

Col. Tyler Otten

Public Affairs

Tech. Sgt. Dana Rosso



Reservists can nominate their employers for Freedom Award

WASHINGTON -- Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, a Department of Defense office, is now accepting nominations for the 2015 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award. The Freedom Award is the Nation's highest honor presented to civilian employers for exceptional support of their National Guard and Reserve employees. ESGR encourages Guardsmen, Reservists, or family members acting on their behalf, to submit nominations at www.FreedomAward.mil by January 19, 2015.

Guard and Reserve members comprise nearly one-half of our nation's military force. They provide essential services to maintain national security and conduct humanitarian efforts at home and abroad. The unwavering commitment of their employers helps keep our military prepared and our Nation protected.

"Every day, employers large and small work to ease the burden on those who serve by providing workplace flexibility, career opportunities and dedicated support," said Paul Mock, ESGR National Chair. "The Freedom Award is one way we can thank the employers that stand behind our Guardsmen, Reservists and their families."

A Freedom Award ceremony is held in Washington, D.C. for up to 15 deserving employers each year. The Freedom Award recognizes employers who go above and beyond in supporting members of the Guard and Reserve - from continuing benefits and healthcare during deployments, to helping with home maintenance and sponsoring veteran hiring initiatives. Service members can thank employers for their exemplary support by submitting a Freedom Award nomination today.

About ESGR and the Freedom Award: ESGR is a Department of Defense office that develops and promotes supportive work environments for service members in the Reserve Components through outreach, recognition, and educational opportunities. We encourage the employment of Guardsmen and Reservists, who bring integrity, global perspective and proven leadership to the civilian workforce. On behalf of the Secretary of Defense, ESGR runs the annual Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award program. The Freedom Award has been presented to 205 employers since it began in 1996.



Fighter Group Highlights

Promotions

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

Staff Sgt. Jonathan Capua
Staff Sgt. Lapaige McFarland
Staff Sgt. Joshua Baker
Tech. Sgt. Franz Martinez
Tech. Sgt. Brian Hurley
Tech. Sgt. Jenise Perry

ABOVE 90

PHYSICAL FITNESS TEST SCORES

Senior Airman Kendall Nielsen
Tech. Sgt. Brendan Carroll
Airman Aaron Engels
Staff Sgt. Aaron Witt
Col. David Piffarerio
Lt. Col. David Kurle
Tech. Sgt. Jamie Poston
Staff Sgt. Ryan Weeks
Lt. Col. Kevin Sutterfield

The 477th Fighter Group has some new faces...

Senior Airman Randy Corwin

**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?

Education & Training Opportunity's

SNCO Leadership Course, 17-18 Jan 2015

We will once again be hosting the SNCO Leadership Course, 17-18 Jan 2015. This is a Saturday and Sunday course. It is understood that the majority of our members will not be available to attend due to Sentry Aloha. For those that will not be participating in the Exercise and would like to attend, let TSgt Venable know by COB Dec UTA. It is recommended for those wanting to attend, to reschedule the January UTA for the 17-18th. Also, this is open to the Guard and Active Duty, so please pass the word to friends that might be interested.

Total Force Development Council

JBER has established a Total Force Development Council. Professional development seminars such as "360 Degree Leader", "The 17 Essential Qualities of a Team Player, and "The 5 Levels of Leadership" are being conducted monthly. Seats fill fast and enrollment is completed online. An announcement email is sent to all JBER personnel (that are on distro lists) with enrollment date, time and link. Typically, classes are filled within just a few minutes. There has been an issue with our members receiving the information. If you are a TR and would like the information sent to your civilian email, please let TSgt Venable know and she will create a specific distro list to keep you abreast of upcoming seminars.

For further information, please contact TSgt Venable or Mr. McQueen, 551-4750/51.

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DTS TRAVEL AUTHORIZATIONS: 477 FG travelers must not create travel authorizations for themselves in the Defense Travel System. After an order is published, AROWS-R exports information to DTS to create the travel authorization. DTS sends an email to the traveler with instructions for accessing DTS and completing the authorization to include making flight arrangements in DTS. This process is exclusive to all AF Reserve travelers, so our TDY travelers should ensure the email address posted in DTS is one they have access. Questions should be directed to unit Organizational Defense Travel Administrators.

TRAVEL VOUCHERS BACKLOG: Hardcopy travel vouchers are currently taking about 6 weeks to pay at the Air Force Financial Services Center at Ellsworth AFB. What can you do to minimize payment delays?
1) Complete travel vouchers properly; comply with the TDY voucher checklist and include all required documents. 2) Submit vouchers within 5 workdays of completion of TDYs.

E-MAIL ADDRESS IN MYPAY: Periodically the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) attempts to contact members and employees about important pay matters. If you'd like to be contacted, ensure your -mail address is current in your myPay account.



NEWS BRIEFS

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE FOR TRANSITIONAL ASSISTANCE?

Transition Assistance is congressionally mandated for ALL personnel who have been consecutively on orders for 180 days, including:

- Demobilizing Airmen
- Members returning from extended TDY
- Member being deactivated
- Members separating or retiring

Members who are unemployed and/or part-time students must the full 5-day Transition GPS Workshop. Full-time employees and/or students are required to attend the VA Benefits Briefing scheduled on UTA Sunday.

The following dates are for the remainder of the fiscal year 2015:

- Sunday, December 7th
- Sunday, February 8th
- Sunday, June 7th
- Sunday, August 2nd

0800 - 1500
Elmendorf TAP Facility
7153 Fighter Ave
Mantanuska Hall (Across from the Base Chapel)

POC: MSgt Petaway/TSgt Charbonneau. Contact us via email or call 551-4737

ARE YOU DEPLOYING OR JUST RECENTLY REINTEGRATED? TAKE ADVANTAGE OF A FREE YELLOW RIBBON EVENT!

The Air Force Reserve Yellow Ribbon Program is a series of events designed to provide members and families with essential resources during all stages of deployment. These are AFRC sponsored events that are of zero cost to eligible members.

If you are scheduled to deploy, you are eligible to attend a pre-deployment Yellow Ribbon event up to 4 months before your deployment departure date.

Post-deployers are eligible for 2 post-deployment Yellow Ribbon events over 6 months following the end of their orders (R&R and leave). You are allowed to bring 2 DEERS eligible guests or designated individuals (parents/siblings/etc) and all children count as ONLY one guest.

The next event is 19-21 Dec, in Orlando, FL.

Interested?

Contact Reserve Airmen and Family (A&FR) Liaison for additional details and to find out how to register for an upcoming event!

POC: MSgt Petaway/TSgt Charbonneau. Contact us via email or call 551-4737

Airman In Action



Tool to safeguard PII scheduled for December rollout AF wide

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-LACKLAND, Texas

-- The Digital Signature Enforcement Tool is scheduled for Air Force-wide integration Dec. 5, providing Microsoft Outlook email users with an interactive, automated virtual assistant to help ensure the security of personally identifiable information

“I can’t overstate the operational importance of preventing PII breaches,” said Maj. Gen. B. Edwin Wilson, commander of 24th Air Force and Air Forces Cyber. “It’s not an IT problem, it’s a Total Force problem and DSET is an effective tool the Total Force can use, right now, to help reduce inadvertent PII breaches.”

Beyond potential identity theft, PII breaches can lead to significant compromises in operational security. For example, a well-meaning member working to meet an operational deadline sends an unencrypted email, containing PII on several unit members, to a “non .mil” email account. The sender could be attempting to get ahead on a project or be providing a status update to unit members on pending unit movements. Unknown to the sender, hackers have compromised email transport infrastructure between the sender’s desktop and one of the destination, “non .mil” desktops. Hackers intercepting this unencrypted email traffic can utilize the newly acquired personal information to form specifically targeted attacks, known as spear phishing, to acquire additional information such as account numbers or passwords. Unfortunately the attack does not stop there. Once an attacker has acquired enough information, he can simulate user accounts or even pass off communications on behalf of the service member, who is likely still unaware that his information has been compromised. Those false communications could be leveraged to gain digital access to Air Force systems, or even physical access to installations and personnel. Obviously, the negative implications caused by PII breaches are severe, and equipping the force with tools to mitigate the risk is paramount.

DSET version 1.6.1, an updated version of the DSET 1.6.0 software already in use by the Air National Guard, Air Force Reserve Command, and Air Force Space Command, contains fixes for some previously identified software bugs as well as enhancements to make the digital tool more effective.

“DSET 1.6.0 launched back in July to three major commands,” said Alonzo Pugh, cyber business system analyst for 24th AF. “Feedback has been overwhelmingly favorable for the use of the tool, and version 1.6.1 is definitely ready for Air Force-wide usage.”

DSET is regarded as a short-term fix to help all Air Force network users protect PII, specifically if that information is to be included in an email communication. DSET 1.6.1 still only scans for PII in the form of social security numbers, leaving overall responsibility on the user to safeguard the sensitive information in all of its forms.

“First, the user should ask him or herself if the PII in the email is truly necessary,” said Pugh. “DSET scans the email draft before transmission. If PII is identified, DSET will notify the user through a series of pop-up windows. This interactivity allows the user to make a conscious decision of how to proceed with the information in question.”

According to Pugh, if the information must be transmitted, encrypting the PII is all that is necessary to protect the data during transmission. DSET will trigger when it detects potential PII in an email, giving the user the opportunity to delete the information if not necessary to the communication, encrypt the information, or override and transmit the email as originally written.

If the file containing PII is already encrypted - through the Microsoft Office “protect” permission feature or some other software - DSET will not trigger and the email can be sent as usual to any recipient’s email address, whether “.mil,” “.com,” etc. However, if the email itself is encrypted through Microsoft Outlook, the communication is only safe to transmit to a recipient’s “.mil” email address. An email encrypted in this fashion cannot be sent to any “non-.mil” addresses. If the user attempts to do so, DSET and Microsoft Outlook will provide pop-up boxes explaining the user’s options.

“I can’t overstress the importance of reading the information in the pop-up box,” said Pugh. “Read the training materials on the use of DSET; read the training slides on how to use Microsoft Office features to encrypt various documents; understand how these tools can help you safeguard PII.”



Please Join Us For the
**Children's
Christmas Party**

Sunday Dec. 7, 2014

3-5pm

Hangar 25

9696 Vandenberg Ave

JBER

Santa will be there

plus a Bouncy house, crafts, face painting
& Games!

**477TH FIGHTER GROUP
ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET
2014**



SATURDAY, 10 JANUARY 2014
1730 AT THE ARCTIC WARRIOR EVENT CENTER





NOMINATE YOUR OUTSTANDING EMPLOYER **NOW**

for the Nation's highest honor for exceptional support
of Guard and Reserve Employees



National Guard and Reserve Members:

Has your employer gone above
and beyond the call of duty to
support your military service?

Nomination Season Runs

November 3 - January 19, 2015
at www.freedomaward.mil



ESGR, a Department of Defense office established in 1972, develops and promotes employer support for Guard and Reserve service by advocating relevant initiatives, recognizing outstanding support, increasing awareness of applicable laws and resolving conflict between employers and service members.

