

102nd INTELLIGENCE WING

Seagull



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WALK

18TH BOSTON MARATHON

Marathon Monday



Troops in the Spotlight

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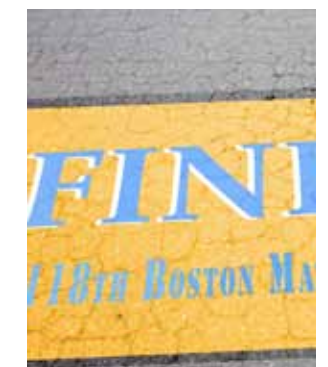
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Maj. Robert J. Spierdowis

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Master Sgt. Aaron Smith
Tech. Sgt. Kerri Cole
Staff Sgt. Jeremy Bowcock
Staff Sgt. Patrick McKenna
Senior Airman Nikoletta Kanakis

ON THE COVER



The cover graphic shows a representation of the 118th Boston Marathon Finish line on Boylston Street in Boston, Mass. See the full story on page 8.

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Message From a Commander

By the end of the year, major coalition combat forces will redeploy from Afghanistan, closing a chapter in the “Long War” against terrorism. While 10,000 special operators and training advisors will likely remain, the shift away from ground-intensive counter-insurgency operations will drive a significant reduction in Air National Guard (ANG) combat and combat support deployments. In more than twelve years of continuous combat operations in Afghanistan and Iraq, hundreds of members of this wing have deployed forward, some multiple times. For 72% of airmen in the wing (according to Force Support Flight statistics), the “Long War” is all they’ve known. More than a few of these post 9/11 airmen have asked me what the 102nd will do for a “peacetime” mission and questioned the Guard’s relevancy without “boots on the ground” around the globe.

Even for the 28% of wing members who drove into a military installation on a sunny Tuesday in September 2001, there are questions about what the “new normal” will look like without a flying mission. I’d like to use this article to offer a brief view of how our intelligence mission, cyber mission, inspections, and Air Expeditionary Force (AEF) cycles will fit into our nation’s ability to exercise its national security strategy in a complex and volatile world.

Peacetime training does not equate to irrelevance for the Guard—it’s just the opposite. By reducing the pace of long deployments, the Guard can shift “back to the future” of pre-9/11 strengths—focusing efforts on training, honing skills, innovating, and preparing for the next fight.

In the Intelligence Group, “Long War” counter-terrorism and counterinsurgency operations will continue, but at reduced tasking and operations tempo. The demand from combatant

commander’s for intelligence will keep at least a portion of 102nd Intelligence Group airmen in a 24/7/365 posture for the foreseeable future. The remainder will be trained and ready to meet 100% of wartime tasking within 72 hours. We will use this time for honing tactics, techniques, and procedures in exercises like GREEN FLAG and RED FLAG. We will improve analytical tradecraft and focus analysis efforts on long-term global threats and “hard problems”, while pushing innovation in the weapon system with partners like MIT-Lincoln Labs.

The Cyber Installation and Engineering Group’s years-long tempo of 6-month deployments will slow down, replaced with shorter TDYs for training and support, like their current hardship tours to Antigua and Australia. The 253rd will continue to provide oversight for their eight squadrons in seven states, while offering cutting edge cyber planning and management to commander’s worldwide.

As the Cyber ISR mission comes on-line, transitioning Air Operations Group and Combat Comm Squadron airmen will add a third high-demand, high-tech, far-reaching operational mission set, well-suited to experience and low-turnover of Guard airmen, into the 102d. The resulting three complimentary “ops” missions ensure the relevancy of the 102d for years to come. With heavy ‘dual-hat’ missions to both domestic and federal tasking, the Mission Support and Medical Groups will add the ‘readiness’ component to these critical ops missions.

There’s more ‘back to the future’ in store for the wing 2016—the Combined Unit Inspection (CUI) and AEF vulnerability window. The CUI, a wing-driven inspection process combining elements of ORI, UCI, HSI, and Stan/Eval Visits will provide the target for our ‘peacetime’ ancillary, AFSC, team, and squadron training effort. On the backside of the CUI, our AEF window takes on a pre-9/11 mindset—all, some, or none of the 102d will be called up to provide the combat skillsets we train in depending on crisis/need.

To illustrate the importance of the cycle we’re about to enter, I go back to my own pre- 9/11 experience with training, inspection cycles, and deployments. In pre-9/11 ‘peacetime’ operations in the Guard F-16 & A-10 communities, the focus on training and innovation honed operators and maintainers with greater combat capabilities than their active duty counterparts. When the call went out for “long ball hitters” to fly counter-SCUD operations in 2003 over Iraq, an entire ANG wing, composed of multiple F-16 and A-10 units in their AEF window, went forward. Mission Support, Medical, and Combat Communications airmen brought decades of training experience to raised the tents, build the infrastructure, and create the support to build a bare base in the middle of desert, enabling 800,000lbs of ordnance to land on target.

One need not look further than today’s headlines: North Korean saber-rattling of an impending nuclear test, trouble in eastern Ukraine, the first May Day parade in Moscow’s Red Square since 1991, or drone strikes on Al Qaida-linked affiliates in Yemen to provide the focus and motivation to train hard as we enter a ‘peacetime’ training, inspection, and AEF cycle.

David McNulty

Commander, 102nd Intelligence Group

International Partnership

By Maj. Kerry Clark

Recently, Senior Master Sgt. Cynthia Thomas and I had the pleasure of traveling to Paraguay, our state’s partner-country. If you are not familiar with the State Partnership Program (SPP), National Guard units in nearly every state, as well as Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, have entered into agreements with foreign countries. These partnerships, which in some cases date back to 1992, focus on activities and training that includes disaster management, military medicine, search and rescue operations, and more. The ways we assist other countries vary based on the needs of the partner nation, our capabilities, and the goals of the respective U.S. Ambassador.

While in Paraguay, Sgt. Thomas and I assisted in providing training in triage, patient decontamination, and evacuation procedures. Although the primary focus surrounded Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) operations, we had the opportunity to hear about Paraguayan emergency response techniques, visit a military/civilian hospital, and meet with some high-ranking Paraguayan military leaders.

During the trip, we spent the majority of our time working out of the Paraguayan equivalent to the Pentagon and the U.S. Embassy, where we met US Ambassador James Thessin. We also had the privilege of meeting Gen. Jorge Francisco, the Paraguayan Chairman of the Joint Chief of Staff.

In August, a number of Army personnel and a select few from the 102d MDG will be returning to Paraguay.



Above: Col. James Lefavor hosts high-ranking Paraguayan officers and their aides on April 16, 2014 as they visit Otis Air National Guard base during their week-long trip to Massachusetts. Maj. Gen. Carlos Antonio Caballero Maidana and Brig. Gen. Aparicio Diego Zarate Vidal, of the Paraguayan Army and Air Force, were visiting Massachusetts as part of the State Partnership Program. The National Guard program pairs a state’s National Guard with the armed forces or equivalent of a partner country in a cooperative, mutually beneficial relationship.





I think we all ask the same question when a friend is grieving – What should I say? The answer, especially early on, may be nothing (or very little). It is more important to be present and offer support, even though that’s sometimes uncomfortable for us. We want to say something to end their pain. The reality is pain only eases with time. There are no magic words to speed the process. In the Bible story, while Job is in heavy grief his friends keep trying to explain why he’s suffering. He finally tells them they’d be more helpful if they would just be quiet.

Lesson 3: People don’t really expect us to fix their grief or make their trauma disappear, but they do appreciate our presence on their journey. This is especially true when the trauma is fresh, messy, and chaotic.

A counselor once told me to always remember these words: “You can’t fix it.” He explained that we want to end the pain of those we care for quickly, but we can’t. Again, healing grief takes time and it has to be experienced. Those we comfort know that, so they won’t be mad at us for not fixing their pain, but they will appreciate having trusted, close friends nearby.

Lesson 4: Teamwork is essential

Walking in someone else’s grief is messy. It may even be messier than walking in our own grief. We need the partnership of others as we support those who grieve. Exercising compassion is hard work. Those of us caring for grieving friends need each other’s support and care.

Father Brian Cavanaugh, in, *The Sower’s Seeds*, retells a Chinese story of a woman whose only son died. A holy man told her to get a mustard seed from a house that had never known grief and it would ease her pain. She went to shacks and mansions and found that grief had come to each. She stayed at each place a while to offer comfort. In the end, the woman’s own grief was eased because she cared for others.

My hope is we will all find and offer comfort for the grief that is part of our journey together. As we do, it will make us stronger.

UTA WORSHIP TIMES AND RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Roman Catholic Mass: 0900 Sunday at the Coast Guard Chapel

1100 Sunday, Building 158, 3rd Floor (next to Chaplain’s Office)

Interdenominational Christian Worship: 1145 Sunday at the 102nd IW, Building 158, on the 3rd Floor

Contact the Chaplain’s Office for information on other faith groups or other times of worship (968-4508)

Chapel Call

Chaplain David Berube

We have had a lot of sorrow, grief, and loss in our Wing Family lately. When this happens people ask about the best way to be supportive. Here are some lessons I’ve learned about helping those who grieve. They previously appeared in, “Ministry in the Valley of the Shadow,” *Minister Magazine*, Volume XXXVI, No. 2, Summer 2013, published by the American Baptist Ministers Council, pg. 2-3.

Lesson One: Grief is universal, yet everyone’s grief is unique. Make sure your support “fits.”

We all grieve. Yet, each of us walks through grief personally. This is why the “Stages of Grief” aren’t a start-to-finish checklist – some of us experience more anger or denial, some do not experience either to a large degree. When we support a grieving friend, we need to understand their grief as much as possible. Before we say too much we need to listen, letting them tell us (by words, feelings, or actions) what they need. This way we can truly provide the support our friends need rather than trying to force what we think they should need.

Lesson 2: Words are sometimes overrated, especially when walking with people through heavy grief and crisis

Mass. ANG Historic Association

By Master Sgt. Aaron Smith



BACKGROUND:

The Massachusetts Air National Guard Historical Association was created in 1974.

The Association’s objectives include maintaining archives, displaying memorabilia and fostering an appreciation of the role of the Air National Guard and its members.

The Association has been granted space by the Adjutant General of Massachusetts in the Massachusetts National Guard Military Museum in Concord for its displays and archives.



COMMITTEES:

- Administration
- Aircraft Restoration
- Collections Policy
- Display and Archives
- Exhibit Construction
- Exhibit Planning
- Finance
- Membership
- Site and Building
- Space Renovation



MISSION:

You will help if you do no more than become a Member of the Association, but you can also help in other ways, such as participating in our Annual Meeting and/or serving on one or more of the Association’s committees. Some committees can function via e-mail whereby

committee members may participate without leaving home, while other committees are more “hands-on” and meet together to work on projects such as creating displays or restoring vintage aircraft.



JOIN:

Join the Association and help us preserve and display the proud history of the Massachusetts Air National Guard. Your membership will help us to keep this history alive for present and future generations.

Annual member (Current Mass. National Guard): \$5 per year
Annual member: \$10 per year
Lifetime Member: \$100

To Join, contact diane.bascom@gmail.com

2014 Massachusetts Air National Guard’s Outstanding Family Readiness and Support Award

Kimberly Healy began volunteering with the 102nd Intelligence Wing in 2008 as a Key Spouse from the 102nd Security Forces Squadron. Propelled by a passion for informed and prepared Families, Kim hit the ground running and hasn’t slowed down. As a testament, for the last four year Kim has volunteered on average of 130 hours annually to the 102IW.

When Security Forces Squadron deployed in 2010, Kim became the Treasurer for the Family Readiness Group. As the largest squadron level deployment during OIF, Kim was instrumental in building and maintaining a FRG that is still an unrivaled example of squadron level family-to-family support. Utilizing her knowledge of support opportunities, Kim helped the FRG and squadron hold formal send offs, sustainment, and home coming events that typically are not able to be used by the Wing due to deployment structure. The effort of this team, which Kim played a major role, became a shining example for commanders and families to witness a working and successful FRG model.

For the last three years Kim has been the Lead Volunteer for many sustainment and quality of life programs that benefit the Wing and Joint Base Cape Cod. Annually, she has been the coordinator of

the annual 102IW Children’s Christmas Party, JBCC’s Back-to-School Backpack & School Supply giveaway, and the 102IW Christmas Toy giveaway.

Kim gracefully balances her family; husband Jay, and children Bryan, Danielle and Nicolas with her desire to help others. She uses her volunteerism to exhibit her values to her children, who are often seen pitching in to volunteer full days at various events. At the 102IW’s Family Day 2013 the Healy Family was recognized as a group for dedicated more than 1,000 volunteer hours to the Wing. Kim is also a lover of learning; she recently received her Master’s degree and is currently getting preparing to pursue her PhD.



102nd Supports 118th Boston Marathon



The events at last year's Boston Marathon were tragic. During the aftermath 102nd Intelligence Wing airmen were in Boston to help local authorities with security and communication. One year later, airmen returned to the marathon route, determined to help authorities prevent another tragedy and prepared to respond in case something did happen.

More than 40 airmen from Otis Air National Guard Base were stationed at various locations along the route. Each one had a hand in making sure that the event went as planned, using their particular skillset to make this "Marathon Monday" a safe and happy event.

Communication is Key

"The two-man 267th Combat Communications Squadron team supported well over 500 first responders at the event. Due to their efforts, for the first time, Command and Control had end-to-end radio coverage over the entire route. Well Done to Mike and Art for showing what Combat Communications can do!"
--Senior Master Sgt. Julie Santos

In an emergency, communication is crucial. The high-profile nature of this event and need for security drew agencies from around the country, including the FBI, DEA, and out-of-state National Guard units. Having that many organizations and people communicating in a relatively small area, using a variety of equipment, and not interfering with each other can be a small miracle. The 267th Combat Communications Squadron did just that though, for National Guard units involved in the marathon.

Preparing for these events involve a lot of planning. Two days before the race even began, MSgt. Michael Forte of the 267th CBCS, traveled to Army armories in Taunton, Massachusetts; Greenwich, Rhode Island; and Reading, Massachusetts to deliver a communications briefing to more than 450 soldiers, including The Adjutant General of the Rhode Island National Guard.

Showing just how much of force multiplier the 267th is, only two individuals from the 267th headed up to Boston during the marathon and



were able to provide support for radios, two communications facilities, and several Humvees with radios. Sgt. Forte noted, "We programmed close to 400 radios that were spread throughout the route. The Army Guard brought some of their own assets in addition to the 200 radios we provided so we had to get the two types of radios to talk to each other."

As the day wound on the preparation paid off. Sgt. Forte said, "During the day we went along the route, stopping at the checkpoints where the soldiers, or airmen, and checked on anyone with a radio. We swapped out a few dead batteries, fixed some antenna issues, but there were no large problems." The support that the 267th provided didn't go unnoticed, Sgt. Forte said, "As far as we were told everything went off flawlessly. It was a very successful event and they were happy to have us. I was told that the battalion commander in Wellesley said that this was the first time he's ever had successful COM from one end to the other and that that put a smile on his face."



Staying Safe

Security and safety were front and center at this year's marathon and the 102nd Security Forces Squadron (SFS) was there to help. Twenty-five airmen from the SFS started their day on Otis at 2:45 in the morning. Senior Airman Dana Crovo, of the 102nd SFS, explained, "We got our radios, armed up, and were briefed. Then it was on to the bus heading towards Hopkinton High."

The important authorities placed on keeping this event safe was evident when the bus pulled into Hopkinton High School. Amn. Crovo noted, "When we got there it was as if every single law-enforcement agency was pulling in there at once. It was like a concert of cops coming in from everywhere. There were troops in formation, you even had State trooper recruits coming through in formation."

After receiving a briefing from a variety

of agencies, Security Forces dispersed to their assignments, some with Massachusetts State Troopers and others posted along the marathon route. Law enforcement officers weren't the only ones aware of security, though. "Everyone had that feeling inside, and even those who in awe of the military and police presence, were also on the watch for anything suspicious" Crovo said.

Amn. Crovo said that, despite the large security presence, the events of the day were still enjoyable. "You see all the military presence and you see the helicopters above, but then you see the families out there having a good time and it was a good day", he explained. Amn. Crovo went on to say, "It was good to be part of that, it felt good. The people that had that experience last year. Seeing the runners, just everyone was happy that day. Knowing that we were a part of that, even if it was in a very small way, was good."



Air National Guard photos by Tech. Sgt. Kerri Spero



March Promotions



MORGAN MARCONI
MICHAEL MAHER
JAMIE MCAVEY
OLIVER ALBERT
CHRISTOPHER BENSON



COREY PERREAULT
CASEY RILEY
FREEMAN KNOWLTON
RYAN CUNNINGHAM



CHRISTOPHER LEMIRE
NICOLE DONOVAN
MICHAEL WARREN
ROBERT PALOMBA
DANIEL MORGADO
GARY BENT

Commander's Cup

This Month: Golf!

The Commander's Cup event for May will be golf, at the Falcon Golf Course 4pm Saturday May 3rd. The format for the tournament will be Best Ball, Shotgun Start (each group starts on a different hole). If you have a group that has more than six people please divide your group and have the other part of your group start on a different hole. At the end all scores will be averaged to see who had the lowest round. An extra point will be awarded for the longest drive, and a point for closest to the pin. Carts will be available but very limited so try to limit how many in your group will be riding. The cost of the tournament is for 9 holes. It is not an official tournament so the cost is the standard price.

Contact Capt. Dennis Swift with suggestions or for more information about upcoming Commander's Cup events at dennis.swift@ang.af.mil or Dennisgswift@yahoo.com

Last Month: Karaoke



SEAGULL IDEAS?

Do you have an idea for a *Seagull* article? Is your unit or shop doing something impressive? Is there something on base you don't think gets enough attention? Or do you simply have an announcement? Stories and ideas are always welcome. Email us at 102iw.pa@ang.af.mil (Please limit articles to 500 words.)

The next *Seagull* deadline is Friday, May 30, 2014.

Announcements

1



Commissioning Opportunity

Bachelor degree college graduates are encouraged to apply for this 14N Intelligence Officer Drill Status Guardsman opportunity. All Interested personnel must include in their application package a Letter of Intent, Resume, and AFOQT scores. Enlisted personnel are required to also include a Fit Test and RIP. Please send your application to Capt Sean Andersen at 158 Reilly Street, Box 2, Otis ANGB, MA 02542 or email sean.andersen@ang.af.mil NLT May 31, 2014. Interviews are scheduled to be conducted during the June UTA (Jun 7-8).

2



Free Tuition and Fees

The website utilized for the State Tuition and Fees Reimbursement Certificate lists TSgt John Westgate as the program POC. TSgt Westgate has retired and I am the POC for the 102nd. Unfortunately funding is unavailable at this time to pay the vendor that developed the website to correct the erroneous information. Please direct all inquiries to douglas.shvonski@ang.af.mil

3



Troops in the Spotlight

Honor and support our Troops serving in the Global War on Terror, our Veterans, our Wounded Warriors, and our Gold, Silver & Blue Star Families. The 24-hour event will be held at the K-mart Plaza on Route 132 in Hyannis. The opening ceremony is scheduled for 25 May, 2014. For more information visit www.capecod4thetroops.com

4



TAMP

The Telecommunications Monitoring and Assessment Program (TMAP) is an integral part of the USAF OPSEC program and provides a very effective tool for a commander's use during day-to-day operations and exercises to identify real world problems that can adversely affect OPSEC and the war fighter's effectiveness. Read more [here...](#)

5



Defense Travel Management Newsletter

The Defense Travel Management Office is pleased to publish the winter/spring edition of our quarterly newsletter, The Dispatch. Recognizing the need for better communication between the Defense Travel Management Office and the travel community, The Dispatch aims to provide timely travel-related news and updates. Check it out at [this link](#)