Contrail

January 2011, Vol. 45, No. 1

Focusing on ORE

Contrail

JANUARY 2011, VOL. 45, NO. 1

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...And much more

DEPARTMENTS

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COVER

COLD LOGISTICS

Despite 20 degree temperatures, Senior Airman Natalia Rojas of the 177th Fighter Wing Logistics Readiness Squadron keeps a close watch on the cargo during the Phase I Operational Readiness Exercise Jan. 7, which is in preparation for the Phase I Operational Readiness Inspection. U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen, 177FW/PA.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Yesterday and Tomorrow

By Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Dean E. Wentzien

Isaiah 52:7-15

On New Year's Eve 1916, a chaplain spoke to a gathering of British Commonwealth soldiers in Cairo, Egypt. Standing before men whose lives had been turned upside down by World War I, Oswald Chambers talked to them about yesterday and tomorrow.

Chambers said, "At the end of the year we turn with eagerness to all that God has for the future, and yet anxiety is apt to arise from remembering the yesterdays. Our present enjoyment of God's grace is apt to be checked by the memory of yesterday's sins and blunders. But God is the God of our yesterdays, and He allows the memory of them in order to turn the past into a ministry of spiritual culture for the future. God reminds us of the past lest we get into a shallow security in the present…Let the past sleep, but let it sleep on the bosom of Christ. Leave the irreparable past in His hands, and step out into the irresistible future with Him" (My Utmost For His Highest). God promised Israel, "The Lord will go before you, and the God of Israel will be your rear guard" (Isaiah 52:12). We too can take comfort in knowing that our God will never leave us nor forsake us (Hebrews 13:5).

As we begin a new year, we can place ourselves – and all our yesterdays and tomorrows – safely in His care. If you walk with God today, you can be confident about tomorrow.

Recognize your employer

Does your civilian employer send care packages when you're deployed, or check up on your family? Has it been easy for you to serve in the military and work at your current company due to support you receive from your employer?

If so, then you should nominate them for the 2011 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award. The Freedom Award is the highest recognition given by the U.S. Government to employers for their support of their employees who serve in the Guard and Reserve.

The nomination form can be found at www.FreedomAward.mil. Every nominated employer will receive a frame-able certificate from the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) to further promote their support for Guard and Reserve service. **Deadline for nominations is Jan. 17, 2011.**

If you have any questions, e-mail at ESGRFreedomAward@osd.mil.

ESGR is a Department of Defense agency that seeks to develop and promote a culture in which all American employers support and value the military service of their employees by advocating relevant initiatives, recognizing outstanding support, increasing awareness of applicable laws and resolving conflict between employers and service members. If you have a workplace issue or question please call 1-866-336-4590.

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A Message from the Wing Commander

Hello All,

Happy New Year to all! Hope you had some time to relax and be with your families. I would like to start off by thanking all those who supported the Wing Holiday Party which was, as usual, a great success. I also need to thank our Civil Engineering folks who have once again done an outstanding job of clearing the snow with such a small staff. Now on to business, this drill we hit the ground running with the Phase I Operational Readiness Exercise. It will begin early Friday and end Saturday allowing us time to debrief the lessons learned on Sunday. Keep an open mind and have a great attitude. I expect us to make mistakes and that's how we learn. As always, safety first.

I'll keep it short this month by hitting just a few highlights. First of all, let me talk about the climate survey. You all got the e-mail from me and I'm asking you to please complete it when you can. I know that no one likes taking surveys, but it's your chance to be heard, and the results get my personal attention. Thanks again in advance. Second, please be careful driving in the inclement weather and be alert for ice and snow when walking around the base. Third, we've had a few instances of people not picking up after themselves at the gym. Keep in mind that we are not funded for a gym, and everything including upkeep is accomplished by volunteers. So please do your part and put things back when you are done.

My last highlight concerns officers only. There is no other way to put this other than saying that April is going to be a challenging month for all officers. On April 8-10, in between the drill weekend and the Operational Readiness Inspection, we have the National Guard Association of New Jersey business meeting and The Adjutant General's Professional Development Day. The NGANJ business meeting is on Friday evening, April 8, at 6:30 p.m. This meeting is of course voluntary but it is important to have a strong showing. The TAG's Professional Development Day, which is mandatory for all officers, is all day Saturday April 9. That same evening there is the Military Ball and again it would be great to have many of us together there. The location for all of this is the Taj Mahal in Atlantic City. I realize that April is going to be rough, but I also feel that it is important for us to make a strong showing as a Wing at these functions.

Have a good drill and be safe.

ROBERT C. BOLTON
Colonel, NJANG
Commander

Col. Robert C. Bolton delivers his wish list for the Wing to Mrs. Claus (Master Sgt. JoAnn Ferguson) just in time on Dec. 12, 2010. U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen, 177FW/PA.

Wings visit Vineland Home

Photos by Master Sgt. Mark Olsen, 177FW/PA

A year to the day later the residents of the Vineland Veterans' Memorial Home were once again treated to the singing talents of the 177th Fighter Wing and the 108th Wing on Dec. 15.

Fortunately there were also more than 80 fourth graders from the Seaview School in Linwood to drown out the sixteen Airmen for the Annual Holiday "Songfest" at the Home. In addition, the Saint Augustine Prep High Schools Men's Choir from Richland were on hand to give a more professional edge to the production.

The Wings have been visiting the Home for more than 10 years.

As in years past, Airmen and fourth graders were issued candy canes and holiday greeting cards, assigned to groups and sent out to spread cheer to the residents.

Volunteers from the 177th Fighter Wing and the 108th Wing pose for a group photo.

The resident's faces lit up as the sound of voices singing Holiday carols could be heard in the Home's halls.

The voices were a mixture of elementary school students and Airmen who were more used to shouting to be heard above the roar of aircraft than attempting to carry a tune with the more skilled students.

Congregating in cafeterias, day rooms, as well as serenading individuals in their rooms (those residents that are bedridden), the carolers passed out cards and candy canes, sang and chatted with the residents.

Senior Master Sgt. Jason L. Gioconda unloads the Wings donated supplies.

Prior to the Songfest, the Wings delivered items from the Home's Holiday Wish List.

Each year the Wings raise money from individual donations and through the various councils and organizations to purchase items on the list.

This year the 177th Chief's Council and Chapter 258 of the Air Force Sergeant's Association came through, in the words of Senior Master Sgt. Tim Donovan "Big Time" with donations that continue to be the lifeblood of this annual initiative.

These donations were used to purchase items from the home's "Holiday Wish List" for the home's residents. A total of $842 was raised and used to purchase items from the "Specific Needs" category of the wish list. These included items like aftershave and cologne sets, perfume, batteries, body wash, electric razors, sweatpants, undershirts, tissues, radio/cd players and soft drinks.

Senior Master Sgt. Steve Sabato of the 108th Wing said it best about how much this visit means to the residents.

"It's a chance for us to give back to those who have given so much of themselves to insure we are able to enjoy the freedoms we have today. Who knows, one day we may be where they are!"

Senior Master Sgt. Freddie D. Lavan Sr., reads a card to a resident.

HOLIDAY PARTY FUN

Photos by Master Sgt. Andrew Moseley and Staff Sgt. Matt Hecht 177th FW/PA

TOYS FOR TOTS BRINGS JOY

Not only was Dec. 15 a drill day, it was also a day of wassailing, merriment and the joy of giving, as 177th members donated many new toys to the Toys for Tots program at the annual Holiday Party. Each guest was required to bring one new and unwrapped toy. Blue Heron Pines guests were treated to punch fountains, gift basket giveaways, a fantastic buffet dinner, karaoke, comedic videos and a night of dancing.

Top Recruiters

Col. Robert C. Bolton, left, presented the Air National Guard's top recruiting awards to Master Sgts. David Diaz, center and Christina Vidro, right 177th Fighter Wing Recruiters on Dec. 12, 2010. The 177th Recruiting Team received the Region 5 Fiscal Year 10, 3rd and 4th Quarter —Wing with the most Critical Accession Awards. In Addition Vidro received Fiscal Year 10 4th Quarter Recruiter with the Most Accessions Award. Congratulations to all. U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen, 177FW/PA.

Warren Grove new Commander

Incoming Commander Lt. Col. Thomas M. Cleary, center, receives the Detachment 1 Warren Grove Range guidon from 177th Operations Group Commander Lt. Col. John R. Didonna, left, as outgoing Commander Lt. Col. Thor O. Himley, right watches during the Change of Command ceremony at the range on Dec. 23, 2010. Warren Grove Range is used by numerous active-duty, reserve and Guard units for training purposes. U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Andrew J. Moseley, 177FW/PA.

Children's Holiday Party a success

More than 120 children participated in the annual Children's Holiday Party held in the dining hall on Dec. 18, 2010. In all more than 200 people participated in the event. Thanks go out to all the volunteers who made it possible. U.S. Air Force photos by Staff Sgt. Matt A. Hecht, 177FW/PA.

WwW (Who was Willey?)

By Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen, 177FW/PA

Who was Master Sgt. William G. Willey?

If you had asked me that question before I wrote this article, the most I could've told you was that there is a trophy named after him that gets awarded to a unit member.

That hardly scratches the surface I was soon to find out.

Back when the 177th Fighter Wing was called the 177th Fighter Interceptor Group, several members of the 177th were honored at the General Chester A. Charles Competition Formation and Awards Ceremony on June 13, 1982.

One of the honorees was Tech. Sgt. Bill Willey who worked in the Engine Shop and volunteered with the Base Honor Guard.

At the ceremony he was dressed up in the uniform of a Minuteman - the first American soldier - and he was being presented, with of all things, the Minuteman Award. He received the statue for leading the Wing's annual Toys for Tots drive, which he started in 1979. Willey started the program when he was cleaning out a closet, discovered some old toys and donated them to a hospital. By the time he received the award, Toys for Tots had become a yearly tradition at the 177th.

Four years and six days after receiving the statue, Master Sgt. William G. Willey died at the age of 44 on June 19, 1986.

Five months later, another Honor Guard member, Tech. Sgt. Skip Watson of the Aerospace Ground Equipment shop took over the Toys for Tots program, to ensure that it didn't fade away.

That year, more than 3,000 toys were collected and distributed to various organizations and area families. When asked about the program's success, Watson said: "...it will always be Master Sgt. Bill Willey's Toys for Tots campaign."

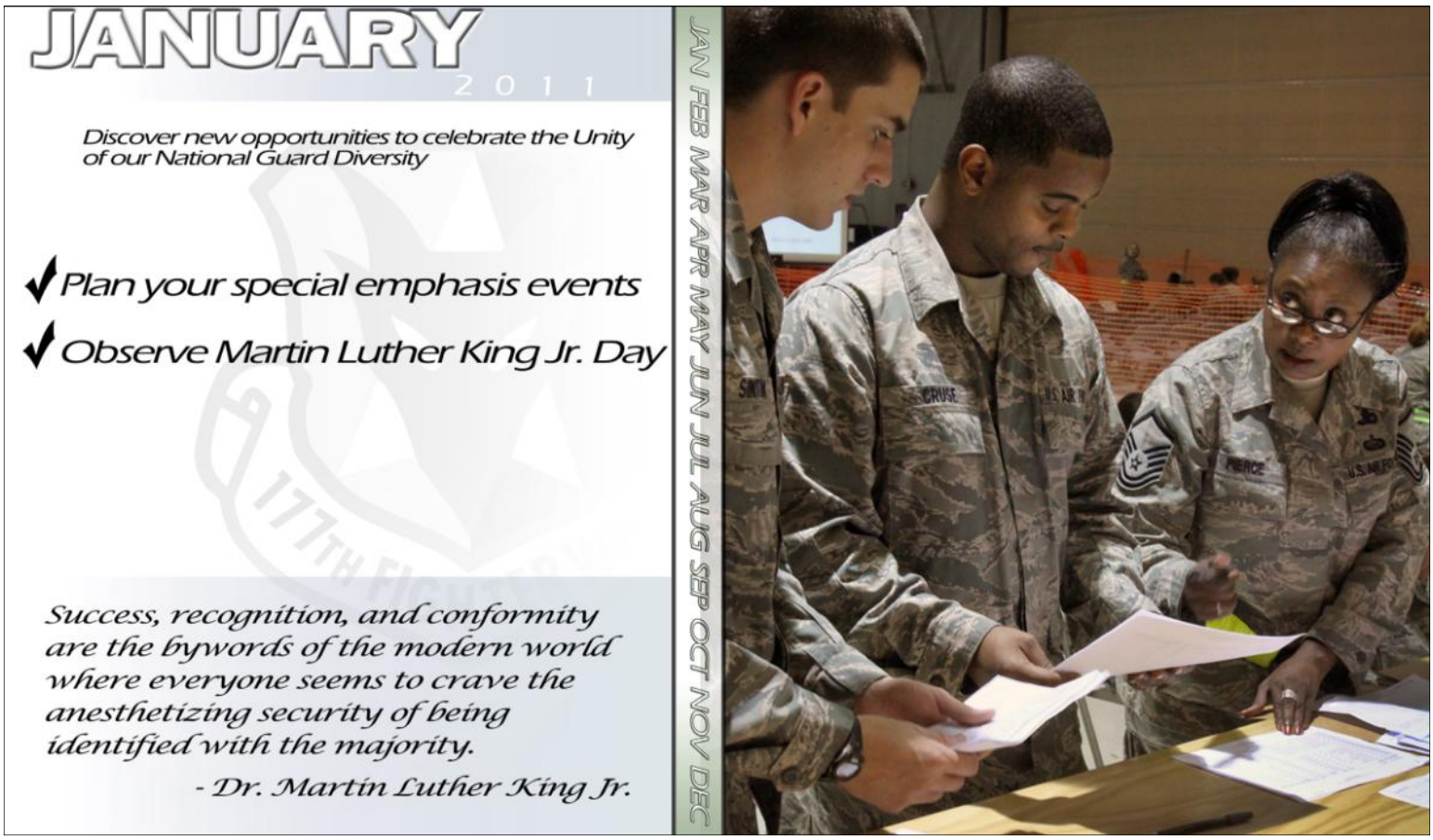
In 1987, the Chief's Council created the Master Sgt. William G. Willey Award to honor the memory of Master Sgt. Willey.

At the end of each year, the Chief's Council examines the year's nominees and selects the recipient for the Willey Award, which is presented during the following Promotions and Awards Ceremony.

The criteria are daunting: the selected individual is chosen based on superior performance, community service, professionalism and leadership; all the highest standards that are expected of a Senior Non-Commissioned Officer.

Based upon that selection process receiving the Award would be very difficult; yet, when you think about what Willey once said, the motivation behind the award makes it very worthwhile.

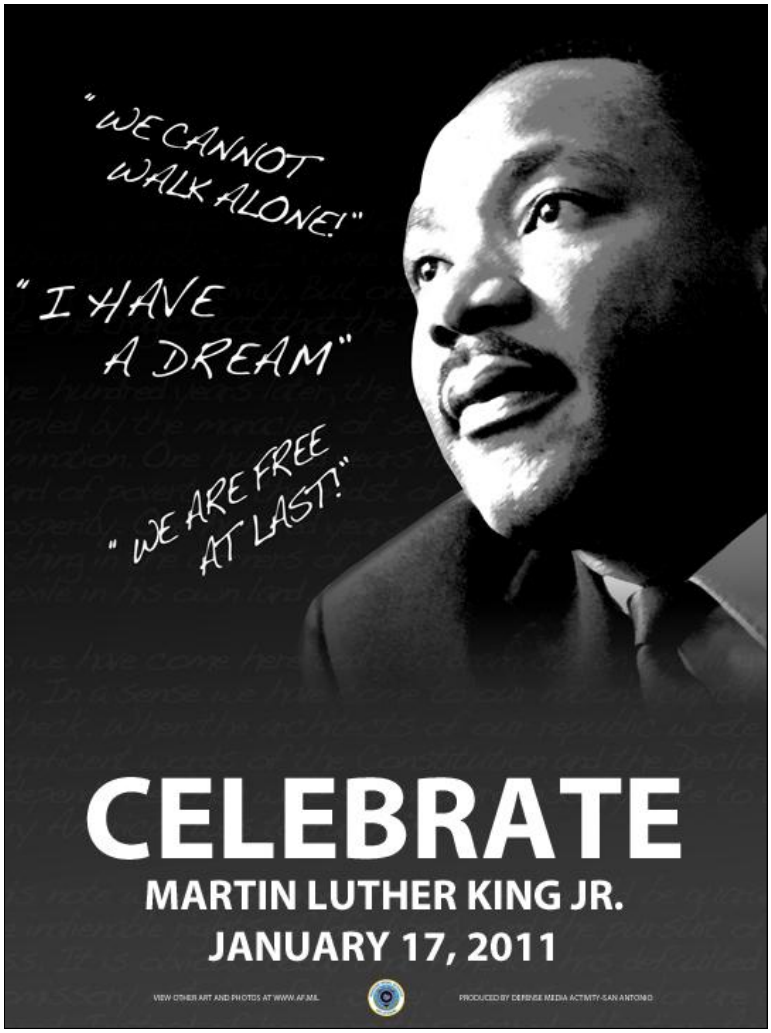
"Seeing the smiles on (the) children's faces makes me feel like I've accomplished everything I could possibly want to."



Celebrating the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

By retired Tech. Sgt. Paul Connors

His name was Dr. (Reverend) Martin Luther King Jr. and he died in the cause of civil rights. Born when many of the states in the Union were still legally and officially segregated, his name became synonymous with equal rights for all in the United States during the latter decades of the 20th century.



Born in Atlanta in 1929, Martin Luther King Jr. the son of a pastor graduated from Morehouse College there in 1948, earned his Bachelor of Divinity degree from Crozer Theological Seminary in 1951 and his doctorate from Boston University in 1955. His first pulpit was as the pastor of a Baptist church in Montgomery, Ala., ironically located one block away from the first capital of the Confederate States of America. In 1955 and 1956, Dr. King led the African-American boycott of the segregated city bus lines in Alabama's capital city. Shortly thereafter, the city desegregated public transportation and Dr. King earned a high level of recognition and prestige as a leader of the burgeoning civil rights movement.

Dr. King then went on to help found the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and this organization enabled him to develop a base for further civil-rights activities locally and somewhat later, throughout the rest of the United States. Much like Mahatma Gandhi in India, he espoused a philosophy of non-violence and his passive resistance to civil authority in the Deep South led to numerous arrests in the 1950s and 60s. While more than a few of his early campaigns against institutionalized segregation met with limited degrees of success, the protest he led in Birmingham, Ala., in 1963 brought him international attention and prestige.

Continuing to defy state and local authorities, King then spearheaded the August 1963 "March on Washington" that brought more than 200,000 of all races together to demand the end of discrimination in the United States. It was on August 28, 1963, during this event in Washington, D.C., that Dr. King delivered his now famous and historic "I Have A Dream" speech. While the title itself is well known, it is the less well-known contents that delivered the powerful message that Dr. King hoped to impart. The stanzas of his speech resonated with a message of hope and reconciliation and perhaps more importantly, an overt attempt to begin the healing of a nation that heretofore had been divided along racial lines. Some of the more famous lines of the speech included: "I have a dream that one day my four little children will live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.

He continued: "I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will they be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood." Studied for years by religious leaders, Dr. King's acclaimed speech has been recognized as emblematic of his training as a clergyman. It holds appeal for students of the Bible and political activists. It invokes the United States Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the Emancipation Proclamation issued by President Abraham Lincoln. During the delivery of the speech Dr. King laid a firm foundation for the battle for the equality of all who lived within the United States.

The leadership exhibited by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his passionate pleas for true justice for all, regardless of race, creed or origin also served to place pressure on the Kennedy Administration in its final months before JFK's assassination in November 1963. After that tragic event, the Civil Rights Movement with Dr. King in the vanguard pressed for additional reforms from President Lyndon Johnson. Ultimately, President Johnson pushed for federal laws and these became reality after the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

For his leadership in the Civil Rights movement, TIME magazine named Dr. King the 1963 Man of the Year and in 1964, he became the youngest person to ever be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

Sadly, the early potential for national leadership in the arena of Civil Rights ended all too soon when Dr. King was struck down by an assassin's bullet on April 4, 1968 at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tenn. Martyred at the age of 39, others, including King's widow, Coretta Scott King took up the banner of the movement he helped found. His legacy lives on today in the progress that has been made through legislation and societal transformation.

News Airmen Can Use

Compiled by the 177th Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

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http://www.facebook.com/pages/177th-Fighter-Wing-NJANG/128573160486904

Get your Contrail Photos

Contrail photos are at the Y Drive type in: Njatla14 \shared_ 177FWCC ElectronicFilePlan\00I items to be Filed\PA. Once there, go to folder that is titled 2011 Images. Photos are categorized by month.

Read Your Airman's Manual

Annual dental exam

The annual dental exam will be completed by your civilian dentist.

Exceptions include pilots, base newcomers, class three individuals or those who have never been seen by a wing dentist.

Start with DD Form 2813 from the clinic or it is available on the local area network (K:\FORMS\DD\ 2800 \dd2813.pdf); have your dentist complete the form and return it to the clinic. Questions call x6240.

SFRC Increases grants

The New Jersey National Guard State Family Readiness Council has increased the amounts of family and business grants up to $5,000 and $10,000.

Both are what are known as TIER I grants. TIER II family grants are also available to Guard non-deployed service members who were on State Active Duty or State Missions (e.g., hurricanes, floods, border missions) for more than 20 consecutive days. Those who meet these criteria can apply for a financial hardship grant up to $1,500.

Applications are available at all New Jersey Army and Air National Guard Family Assistance Centers. Contact Jean Perry if you are interested in applying at (609) 645-6248.

PROMOTIONS & AWARDS

To Major
Capt. Raj Shah
Capt. Brian Patton
Capt. Kristin Bell

To Captain
1st Lt. Laura McKendrick

To Chief Master Sergeant
Senior Master Sgt. Pedro Indio
Senior Master Sgt. Jose Gonzalez
Senior Master Sgt. Carl Scrivani

To Senior Master Sergeant
Master Sgt. Robert Zaniewski

To Master Sergeant
Tech. Sgt. Mimler Micheal
Tech. Sgt. Christian Sierski

To Technical Sergeant
Staff Sgt. Theodore Fisher
Staff Sgt. Michael Jones
Staff Sgt. Kara Kauffman
Staff Sgt. Justin Kelly
Staff Sgt. Sean Latimer
Staff Sgt. Christina Noriega
Staff Sgt. Charles Sharp

To Staff Sergeant
Senior Airman Wilfredo Rodriguez
Senior Airman Alexander Hunter

To Senior Airman
Airman 1st Class Jonathan Dambrosio
Airman 1st Class Ryan Curcio
Airman 1st Class Michael Garcia
Airman 1st Class Ethan Hugg
Airman 1st Class Nicholas Kligmann
Airman 1st Class Ryan Lenegan
Airman 1st Class Chris Maryinuk
Airman 1st Class John Vasta
Airman 1st Class Carl Walls

To Airman
Airman Basic Chris Sierra

Meritorious Service Medal
Lt. Col. Bradford Everman
Lt. Col. Thor Himley
Chief Master Sgt. Jean Perry
Chief Master Sgt. Micheal Allen
Chief Master Sgt. Richard Reiken
Senior Master Sgt. Gustavo Egizi
Master Sgt. John Dilley
Master Sgt. Dianna Samborski
Master Sgt. Sheila Still

Air Medal
Lt. Col. Stephen Miller
Maj. Kyle Lindsay
Maj. Gregory Poston
Capt. Michael Nicoson
Capt. Jeffrey Rouse
1st Lt. Brian Bradke

The Recruiting Office has been awarded for Region V FY10 3rd and 4th Quarter Award Winner Wing with the Most Critical Accessions and FY10 3rd and 4th Quarter Award Winner Wing with the Highest Average Accessions
Master Sgt. David Diaz
Master Sgt. Christina Vidro
Tech. Sgt. Susanne Faucett
Staff Sgt. Christina Noriega

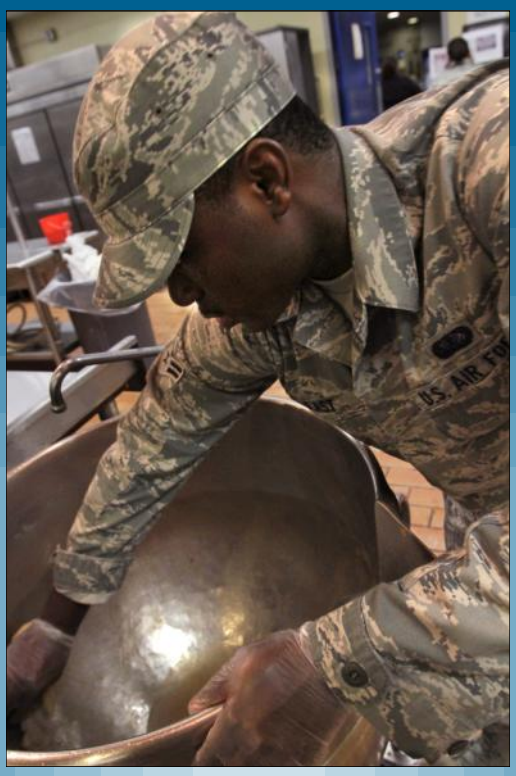
The following individuals are awarded Certificate of Appreciation for the 12th Annual Unity Day Celebration
Master Sgt. Jose Garcia
Master Sgt. Robert Hernandez
Master Sgt. Christina Vidro
Mary Ann Garcia

The following individual is awarded for Region V FY10 4th Quarter Award Winner Recruiter with Most Accessions
Master Sgt. Christina Vidro

The following individual is awarded the Air Force Media Contest Category 24 TV Spot Production 3rd Place
Master Sgt. Andrew Moseley

December Promotions and Awards photos can be accessed by going to: Y:_177 FW HEADQUATERS ELECTRONIC FILE PLANS\177FW PA ELECTRONIC FILE PLAN\00 - Items to be filed\PA\2010 Images\12 Dec\101212-Awards and Promotions

Holiday Meal—A Combined Effort



With a great assist from Services, the Chiefs and senior leadership of the 177th served the holiday dinner on Dec. 12, 2010. U.S. Air Force photos by Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen, 177FW/PA.