



# AMERICAN DEFENDER

MAGAZINE OF THE FIRST AIR FORCE

## Olympic performance

*Air National Guard helps  
protect 2002 Winter Games*

# COMMENTARY

THE FIRST WORD

## OUR STRENGTHS: *Versatility, enthusiasm*

**Maj. Gen. Larry K. Arnold**  
*1st Air Force Commander*

Since Sept. 11 I have been able to travel around and visit some of our units. Wherever I go I am impressed with the enthusiasm of the people who are doing the jobs that are so important to preserving our American way of life. Whether it was keeping our fighters in the air or expanding our command and control capability to meet an expanding mission, the men and women of air defense have responded to every challenge in a magnificent way.

Throughout the biggest and most sudden adjustment in our alert posture in memory, people across the command have met the challenge with enthusiasm and professionalism. Over the course of my 37 years in the Air Force, there are few times I've been more proud or privileged, than to be the commander of 1st Air Force and the Continental U.S. NORAD Region - especially during our nation's hour of need.

Our programs have changed over the last nine

months and we've been adjusting our defensive and alert postures constantly. Our defensive posture is what we're told to defend - our alert posture is how we position our forces to best accomplish that.

Today, we have more alert sites ready to respond with armed aircraft than we did on 9-11 - and we will continue to have more. Even as we adjust our posture, we will refine our capability so we'll be able to respond to metropolitan areas, areas of interest and national significance. We will continue to protect our population centers, our resources and our national leadership.

Another needed change to our posture was better radar coverage across the homeland. Today, we have that capability. We've added long-range radars across the U.S. and we're using short-range radars in metropolitan areas so we can "see better." On the remote chance that our ground security forces fail - we'll have a better capability to stop another 9-11 style aerial attack dead in its tracks. We've come a long way since 9-11.

We've also added a large number of radios to our aircraft so that we can talk to our aircrews more effectively and provide better command and control from the ground. We've improved our air operations centers with a backup command and control capability that allows us to use those radars and radios and realize

an expanded capability.

We will continue to bring in the radar and adjust our posture, we will continue to upgrade our military airplanes and our airliners for additional security, and we will continue to do our part to make air travel completely safe. All these things tied together will help us realize a safer, more secure America.

Recently, 1st Air Force and the Continental US NORAD Region was awarded the prestigious Partridge-Slemon Award. The award is given to the Air Force's top NORAD unit for protecting the U.S. and Canadian homelands.

We received this award because of the versatility of our operations and the enthusiasm of our people. I was proud to accept the award on behalf of CONR ... enthusiastically!



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**U.S. stands up new command** Defense officials announced that Northern Command will operate out of Peterson Air Force Base, Colo., beginning in October, 2002. . . . . **5**



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**Airman chooses service over self** Florida Guardmembers and their families adjust to the increased operations tempo since Sept. 11. . . . . **7**

**WADS, NORAD go for the Gold at 2002 Winter Olympic Games** The Guard teamed up with other national agencies to help protect this year's winter games at Salt Lake. . . . . **8**

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## ABOUT THE COVER

*Master Sgt. Randy Kelzenberg frames an F-16 Fighting Falcon from the 388th Fighter Wing, Hill Air Force Base, Utah, during a combat air patrol mission over the 2002 Winter Olympic Games. The fighter was preparing to take fuel from a KC-135R Stratotanker from the 22nd Air Refueling Wing at McConnell Air Force Base, Kan.*

# Top Guardsman takes up-close look at Operation Noble Eagle

*Chief, National Guard Bureau visits CONR*



Steve Wallace

**Lt. Gen. Russell Davis, Chief, National Guard Bureau, observes air traffic off the coast of Florida with Staff Sgt. Benjamin Rivera, a tracking technician with the Southeast Air Defense Sector. Davis was at Tyndall Air Force Base touring 1st Air Force/CONR and SEADS.**

**Master Sgt. Roger W. Tibbetts**

*First Air Force public affairs*

Chief of the National Guard Bureau, Lt. Gen. Russell C. Davis, visited 1st Air Force and the Continental United States NORAD Region last week meeting with Air National Guard members at the CONR Air Operations Center.

Davis, a presidential appointee, is responsible for forming and developing policy, plans and programs for the Army and Air National Guard. He is also the senior National Guard officer, serving as the Army's and Air Force's official channel of communication with state governors and adjutants general.

The NGB chief's visit included senior operations briefings, an up-close look at Operation Noble Eagle and the important role the Guard is playing in the mission's continued success.

"We've got a large number of people involved in NORAD and homeland defense," said Davis. "A grand total of about 20,000, both Army Guard and Air Guard, are directly involved in Noble Eagle." Davis says the Guard is not only actively involved with the NORAD air defense mission, it is busy with the logistics of communications and maintenance of systems used to accomplish the mission. On the Army

side, we are working many of the nation's airport and key facilities security issues, said Davis.

"Most folks who have traveled lately have seen our Guard-members out in airports as an armed, visible presence," said Davis. "In addition to that we are guarding a number of priority facilities, biological facilities, chemical and nuclear, as well as some bridges and tunnels."

The manning and supplying of Operation Noble Eagle are not our only primary concerns at NGB, Davis said.

"The Guard has deployed people and equipment to support Enduring Freedom, with about 20,000 Guardmembers involved in the ongoing mission," he added.

Although his focus is the procurement of funds and equipment for the National Guard and its support to Operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom, Davis is concerned for the people who make the job happen for the Guard.

"I'm down here at Tyndall at the invitation of Maj. Gen. Larry Arnold and wanted to come here and see what the people at 1st Air Force were doing, and get a brief update on the mission from their perspective," said Davis, "as well as to meet some of the people and say thanks for a great job they do." →

# U.S. to launch new command in October

*NORAD chief will head startup unit at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.*

By Jim Garamone

*American Forces Press Service*

A “vastly changed security environment” is behind proposed changes to the combat air patrols of Operation Noble Eagle, Defense Department officials said.

“What we are looking at is a different mix of combat air patrols, strip alerts and those sorts of things that will change and adapt as circumstances change and adapt,” said Pentagon spokeswoman Torie Clark.

Clark stressed the plan is not yet finished, but defense officials were compelled to consider changes that have been put in place since the Sept. 11 attacks. She said the new federal Office of Homeland Security now coordinates many aspects of protection. This includes better security at airports and things like hardened cockpit doors.

“The overall picture is changing, and it is appropriate to take a look at the combat air patrol and say, ‘What’s appropriate at different times?’” she said.

North American Aerospace Defense Command officials said that since Sept. 11 pilots have flown more than 20,000 CAP sorties. There are 13,000 military personnel involved and 250 aircraft available on any day supporting this effort.

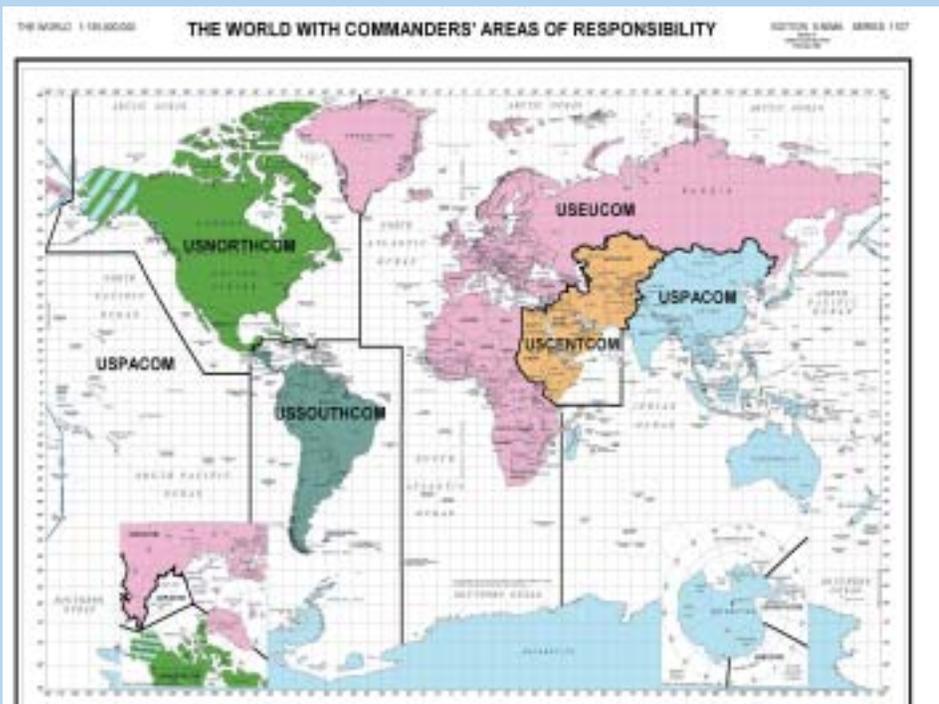
Defense officials said the cost of the combat

air patrol program from Sept. 11 through the end of January was slightly over \$500 million.

Joint Staff spokesman Brig. Gen. John Rosa said that since Sept. 11, the combat air patrol program has been a tiered effort — that is, planes were flying missions, other planes were on strip alert and others were at various levels of readiness. Defense officials “made it a point to never tell folks where we’re going to be or when we’re going to be there,” he said. “It only makes common sense.”

Rosa said that based on the security improvements, the department is proposing another tiered approach of combat air patrols, random

Below , highlighted U.S. worldwide commands and their areas of responsibility.



patrols and strip alerts.

“Exactly what those tiers are, where they are going to be and what’s going to happen” are things that remain to be decided, he said. →

# Two great places to work!

*Activated Washington Guard NCO gets big send-off*



WADS photo

**Staff Sgt. Christine Lasley, a tracking technician with the Western Air Defense Sector, keeps her eyes on the U.S. West Coast as part of Operation Noble Eagle. Lasley, a traditional Air National Guard member, has been on extended orders since Sept. 11, 2001.**

2nd Lt. Elena O'Bryan

*Western Air Defense Sector public affairs*

Fellow employees gave Staff Sgt. Christine Lasley a surprise party at her civilian workplace, and, no, it wasn't her birthday or anniversary - it was to honor her going on active duty.

When Lasley, an aerospace control and early warning systems operator, informed her civilian employer, Mulvanny G2 Architecture in nearby Bellevue, Wash., she was being activated in support of Operation Noble Eagle, there was no pressure. The chief executive officer of Mulvanny, Jerry Q. Lee, used to be in the U.S. Army and supported her 100 percent.

Lasley's co-workers gave her a care package filled with postcards, candy, disposable cameras

and calling cards. Included was a large card with pictures of Lasley at various corporate events, just to show she'd always have a place at Mulvanny.

"I felt nothing but support from this sincere thank you", she said. "I know I didn't have to worry about my job."

Because Lasley is a job captain at Mulvanny, her supervisor had to redistribute responsibility for a number of multi million-dollar construction projects. The other project managers willingly pitched in.

"They did it happily," Lasley said. "They even asked me what else they could do for me."

Although she's only worked there two years, Mulvanny will be making up the difference between her civilian and military pay for six months.

Moreover, the company will provide her medical and dental benefits for the next six months without requiring premium contributions - she will even receive her holiday bonus!

Lasley, who has a bachelor's degree in architecture, transferred here from the Hawaii Air National Guard two years ago. She knows how lucky she is because, in Mulvanny and WADS, she has two big, happy families. →

## *Short burst*

→ **By May 1 there were 81,235 National Guard and Reserve members supporting Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom.**

# Service before self:

*Florida National Guard women help set standard*

Senior Airman Stephen Hudson

*Florida National Guard public affairs*

A single mother of a two-year-old girl begins her day at 5 a.m., dresses her daughter and makes breakfast. By 6:30 her daughter is in daycare and Senior Airman Emma Lee is on her way to work. As she approaches the 125th Fighter Wing and hands the guard her identification card, the sun is only just beginning to rise into the Jacksonville, Fla., sky.

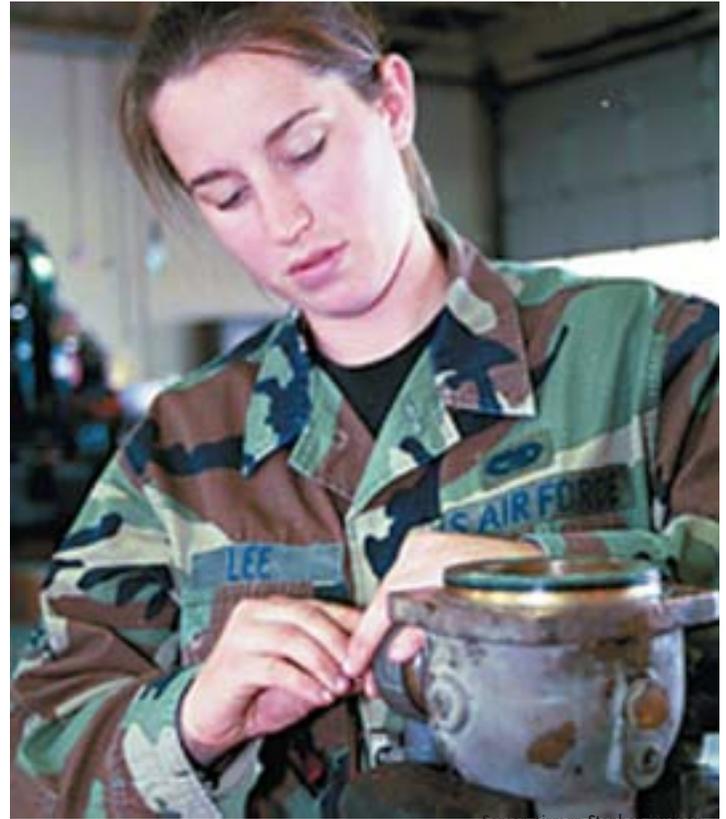
Lee, a heavy mobile equipment mechanic with the 125th Fighter Wing, like many of the more than 200,000 women on active duty and another 212,000 who serve in the Guard and Reserve, goes through this morning ritual. They carefully try to find a balance between a career in the Armed Forces and their personal lives. And she knows that finding that balance can sometimes be a challenge.

“With deployments and drill schedules it can be tough,” Lee said. “My supervisor works with my schedule. It’s tough knowing that I could be sent away at any time; there’s always a possibility I could be deployed.”

At no other time in recent history has that statement been truer. Within the National Guard, like in the active and Reserve components, women have also been mobilized alongside their male counterparts to support missions for homeland defense and for operations overseas. But, for many, the sacrifices made for service have been a part of their lives long before Sept. 11.

“I have been married 26 years and I have sacrificed time with my family for drills, annual training and schools,” Warrant Officer Bonnie Robinson said. Robinson, the only female shop chief in the Florida Army National Guard and a mother of two, runs Organizational Maintenance Shop 17 in Crystal River, Fla.

Her professional growth as a leader has had its obstacles, but now she reaps the benefits of



Senior Airman Stephen Hudson

**Senior Airman Emma Lee, a heavy mobile equipment mechanic with the 125th Fighter Wing, keeps busy in the maintenance shop supporting Operation Noble Eagle.**

her hard work. She believes her choice of selflessly placing her personal life second to her duty has been the right thing to do. And because of this strong belief in “service before self,” last year she missed her 25th wedding anniversary. Like most women in the military, Robinson is not alone.

Of the more than 12,000 Florida National Guard personnel, women make up 14 percent of the total number of soldiers and 16 percent of the airmen, according to the Florida National Guard’s Equal Opportunity office. →

# ***Air Guard, NORAD secure gold***



**By 2nd Lt. Elena O'Bryan**

*Western Air Defense Sector  
public affairs officer*

**W**ashington Air National Guard and Canadian Forces who were deployed from here to work side by side with representatives from federal agencies and the Department of Defense in the Air Security Operations Center at Hill Air Force Base, Utah, returned home after a safe

and successful Olympic Winter Games.

One of those deployed was Lt. Col. Brian Bunn of Lynden, Wash., a Washington Air National Guardsmember who, as a civilian, captains Boeing 777s for United Airlines. Having swapped one uniform for another after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, he became a senior WADS advisor to U.S. Customs Service in Salt Lake City.

During the Winter Olympics, Bunn sat in a room with darkened windows alongside radar operations controllers monitoring the skies over northern Utah

around the clock. In the background, maps covered the walls while the steady hum of personnel in constant communication or tapping on computer keyboards competed with radio control panels beeping and telephones ringing. Room-sized computers housed next door networked to keep radio and radar communications up and running.

Sitting beside Bunn was Lt. Col. Scott Warde, the chief technical architect of the ASOC. It was designed and built exclusively for air space security of the Winter Olympics.

Bunn said Warde, also chief of the ASOC, was “the brains behind all this.”

It was the center of military might in the war against any potential airborne terrorist threats with WADS headquarters and the North American Aerospace Defense Command only a phone call away and ready to respond immediately.

“This is an intricate system that integrates multiple sensors, radars and radios into one battle management system,” Bunn said.

It was an Olympian effort, but one NORAD, WADS and other agency personnel have worked toward after the bombing at the 1998 Atlanta Summer Games. Because of that, former President Bill Clinton designated the 2002 Winter Olympics a National Special Security Event.

Air weapons controllers from the NORAD WADS teamed up with representatives from the U.S. Customs Service, U.S. Secret Service, the Federal Aviation Administration and both regular Air Force and Guard members as they worked together trading information for quick decision-making. All were united by a single cause to defend area residents, athletes and visitors from aerial terrorist attacks.

“We operated jointly, mission driven, no turf wars here,” Bunn said.

WADS personnel at Hill Air Force Base and back at McChord Air Force Base controlled

fighter aircraft, directing them toward unknown aircraft or violators of temporary flight restrictions in the airspace over the Winter Olympics.

At the request of the FAA and the Secret Service, NORAD fighters logged eight intercepts and were directed to monitor one suspicious aircraft.

“We train daily to meet our nation’s requirements for rapid response to any threat to our air sovereignty,” WADS Commander Col. John L. Cromwell said. WADS personnel brought this rapid response capability to the Olympics. When called upon, WADS was ready to act-and act fast, he said.

“The strength in any system is the training and dedication of the people,” Bunn said. “The people at Salt Lake are as good as it gets.”

Visitors to the Olympics heard the reassuring roar of F-16s patrolling the skies while additional aircraft from Hill’s 388th Fighter Wing were standing alert. More than 100 fighter aircraft at 30 NORAD alert bases nationwide were also ready.

With all the attention and firepower, any terrorist would have been foolish to try to attack the Games in Salt Lake City, because he would not have been successful, Bunn said. ➔

**Left, a view of the Salt Lake City Winter Olympic’s compound. Col. John Bonner and Maj. Roger Hurd, foreground, monitor command and control data at the Air Security Operations Center during the 2002 Winter Olympic Games in Salt Lake City.**



# THE TOTAL FORCE

## **Air Force homeland security director assumes command**

Brig. Gen. David E. Clary assumed leadership of the Air Force's Homeland Security Directorate at the Pentagon on March 28. The directorate was



Clary

activated Jan. 2 and falls under the deputy chief of staff for air and space operations. Clary previously

served as commander of

the 51st Fighter Wing, Osan Air Base, South Korea.

The agency will act as an air staff liaison with the Office of Homeland Security and the Office of the Secretary of Defense for Homeland Security, which is scheduled to begin operating June 30. A new joint command – Northern Command – has been established established as well. (See page 5 for related story)

## **More money, 2003**

Nearly 30 percent of the active duty force could be looking at a targeted pay raise above the 4.1 percent minimum pay increase proposed for next year under the Pentagon's pay plan for 2003.

Targeted raises, ranging from 5 percent to 6.5 percent, would benefit those with 6 to 14 years of active duty service. Junior officers and junior enlisted would receive a minimum 4.1 percent pay increase if Congress signs the proposed 2003 budget.

## **New clothing allowance in effect.**

Active duty members and those on title 10 orders should see an increase in the amount of money they receive for their military clothing allowances. New rates, set by Defense Logistics Agency officials, are now in effect.

Uniform costs are reviewed annually to determine if an increase, decrease or no change is needed for clothing allowances.

DLA sets rates based on the cost of obtaining clothing items and increase of, or decrease of the lifetime of each uniform item.

## **Commissary has online savings**

The military's commissary service is giving folks a chance to log on the Web for savings. After opening the page, click on "shopping" and look for the "promotions" link to see what products are listed for extra rebate savings.

For more information, log onto [www.commissary.com](http://www.commissary.com).

## **TRICARE for Guard members**

Did you know that if you are a traditional Guard-member on orders for 31 days or more, you could receive TRICARE benefits? It's true - you can. Additionally, Guard members who are on orders for more than 179 days can enroll in TRICARE Prime.

For information on how you can enroll in TRICARE, log onto the National Guard TRICARE Web page at [www.ang.afsg/tricare/mngdcare.htm](http://www.ang.afsg/tricare/mngdcare.htm).



## **DoD provides military e-mail accounts**

If you are looking for a safe and fast way to e-mail your loved ones deployed overseas, the Air Force has something that might interest you. It is called GI Mail and can be accessed through the Air Force Link page. GI Mail is a military approved e-mail server for use by military members and their families to send and receive e-mail via the World Wide Web.

For more information on GI Mail, log onto the Air Force Link page and click on Air Force Crossroads, then select GI Mail and follow the instructions.

## **Noble Eagle facts**

Looking for facts about

## THE TOTAL FORCE



**Tech Sgt. Mike Whalen, a 102nd Fighter Wing maintenance technician, keeps his hands busy while working on an F-15 Eagle. Since Sept. 11, the Massachusetts Air National Guard is just one of the units providing fighter aircraft for Operation Noble Eagle. (photo by Master Sgt. Roger Tibbetts)**

Operation Noble Eagle? The Air Force Link Web site has put together a Noble Eagle facts page.

For example did you know that NORAD had more than 100 ANG and AFRES fighters from 26 locations providing homeland defense, with 100 fighters backing them up. Likewise, more than 20 ANG and AFRES tankers are airborne every day to keep fighters on station, with 40 more on alert. Approximately 20 airborne early warning aircraft (including AWACS, NATO AWACS, and U.S. Customs Service aircraft) have monitored the skies to coordinate operations.

For more facts about Noble

Eagle, log onto <http://www.af.mil/news/noble/background.shtml>.

### **Reserve, Guard to get medal**

National Guard and Reserve members federally activated to support operations Enduring Freedom and Noble Eagle may be eligible for the Armed Forces Reserve Medal with a bronze "M" device.

Nearly 37,000 Air Guard and Reserve personnel are eligible for the award.

However, at this time, those on title 32 orders, under the control of their respective states, are not eligible for the award.

### **New tuition assistance takes effect in fall**

Effective Oct. 1, 2002, the Air Force will pay 100% of college tuition costs and all fees required for enrollment for persons on active duty. Tuition is not to exceed \$250 per semester hour with an annual cap of \$4,500. TA can't be used for the purchase of textbooks unless included in an academic institution's published tuition rates. The program is also open to all military personnel on title 10 and 32 orders.

### **Air Force's top enlisted leader plans to retire**

Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, Jim Finch, the Air Force's top enlisted leader, plans to retire after nearly three years in the job and 28 years of service.

Finch began his career in 1974 as a missile maintenance technician and



Finch

later transitioned to professional military education.

He served in the United Kingdom and throughout the United States. Finch became the 13th CMSAF in August 1999, stepping up to the position after serving as Air Combat Command's command chief master sergeant.

### **Compiled from staff & wire reports**

To submit stories and photos to the *American Defender*, call Master Sgt. Roger Tibbetts at (850) 283-8659 or DSN 523-8659; or email: [roger.tibbetts](mailto:roger.tibbetts)

# LAST LOOK

GUARDING AMERICA'S SKIES

# LAST LOOK



**Capt. Kirk Hawkins, an F-16 Fighting Falcon pilot with the 194th Fighter Squadron, 144th Fighter Wing, California Air National Guard, Fresno, Calif., flies a combat air patrol mission over the Golden State Park. The 194th Fighter Squadron is providing homeland defense in support of Operation Noble Eagle. (photo by: Lt. Col. J.T. Taggett)**

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