

ON FIVE

1960-2016



COMMANDER'S COLUMN



Col. Jon S. Safstrom
Wing Commander

Friends and Colleagues,

It's with mixed emotions that I present to you the final printed edition of the "On Five" magazine. While I'm excited about the future of our wing and the new ways we will continue to communicate our activities, I also know that the "On Five" has played a very important role in our storied history.

In 1952, the genesis of the 148th Fighter Wing (the 179th Fighter Squadron), was flying the famous F-51D "Mustang" and publishing newsworthy stories in the "One Seventy Niner," our first newsletter. Throughout the years, the titles may have changed to the likes of "Starfire News," "148th Fighter Group News" and the "On

Five," but the main goal has always stayed the same - ***connect with our members and their families.***

Now, 2016 finds the 148th Fighter Wing firmly planted in the technology-driven digital era, while flying the most capable F-16 in the U.S. inventory - the Block 50 F-16CM "SEAD" Viper. We've come a long way and experienced many changes over the years and recent changes in public affairs regulations, growing budget pressures and a clear shift from paper to digital media has driven the decision to end our quarterly printings.

Rest assured, there will still be plenty of news available to you on the activities of the 148th Fighter Wing! ***Stay Connected*** with us through the following methods:

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[Facebook.com/148thfighterwing](https://www.facebook.com/148thfighterwing)

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Enjoy the final edition of the "On Five." It's a great look at our past, but more importantly, a great view into our future. ***Stay Connected!***

End Of The Journey For The F-94C Starfire



The F-94C Starfire presented to the Minnesota Museum of Mining, travels the main streets of Chisholm on its way to the Museum. The C. W. Moore Company trucked the aircraft from the Hibbing-Chisholm Airport to its final destination where it will be mounted in a flying position.

FROM THE EDITOR

By Maj. Julie M. Grandaw, 148th Fighter Wing, Chief of Public Affairs

As the print edition of the "On Five" comes to a close and our wing moves to faster means of communication, many individuals may not know the history of our publication and that our wing has actually had four newsletters beginning in 1952 covering more than 60 years of our unit's history.

The first newsletter, the "One Seventy Niner," began in 1952 and was published to keep the 179th Fighter Squadron members up-to-date on the rapid changes taking place during the unit's activation in the Korean War.

After deactivation in late 1952, the "One Seventy Niner" stopped publication, but another base newsletter resurfaced in May 1956. This newsletter, known as the "Starfire News," was named by Tech. Sgt. Gilbert Sidney who came up with the winning name during a newsletter naming contest. This was also the aircraft the wing flew from 1954 until 1959.

The newsletter continued as the "Starfire News" until September 1960, when it was temporarily changed to the "148th Fighter Group News," while a new name was being selected.

In November 1960, "On Five," became the official name of the wing's newsletter and has kept that name ever since. The phrase "On Five" is significant in the air

defense alert mission as it declares our aircraft ready to launch within five minutes of notification; one of the 148th Fighter Wing's missions for many years.

When "On Five" was selected, editor Master Sgt. W.R. "Bud" Horngren and his team were applying the same meaning to the mission of this publication. "The ultimate state of readiness of the 148th Fighter Group in the defense of their nation and freedom."

Over time, our newsletter has evolved taking different names and formats, but the dedication of your 148th Fighter Wing Public Affairs (PA) team has not changed. We will continue providing the most up-to-date information to keep you informed in our rapidly changing environment. **Stay Connected** with the wing through our wing website, DVIDS page and social media sites.

THANK YOU to everyone who has supported the publication for more than 60 years. The publication would not have been the huge success it is without your stories/articles and photos.

Finally, thank you to the dedicated and talented teams, past and present, who have made this publication possible. Your time, commitment and love for "telling the story" is evident in every issue.

ON FIVE

Official magazine of the 148th Fighter Wing, Duluth, Minnesota
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ON THE COVER



A 148th Fighter Wing F-16 Fighting Falcon rests for the day awaiting an Operational Readiness Inspection, Oct. 13, 2007 in Duluth, Minn. (U.S. Air Force Photo by Staff Sgt. Donald Acton)

MN POWER, CITIZEN AIRMAN

By Tech. Sgt. Lynette Olivares, 133rd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Master Sgt. Bryan Maslowski, a project manager with Minnesota Power and a water fuels maintenance/plumber with the Duluth-based 148th Fighter Wing Civil Engineering Squadron is spending his annual training this year in Croatia.

The 10-year employee of Minnesota Power has spent four deployments assisting with projects as a water fuels maintenance/plumber.

"Going overseas and conducting the job is fairly easy," said Maslowski, a native of Poplar, Wisconsin. "The concepts are all the same."

The University of Wisconsin-Superior alumni has always known he wanted to serve in the National Guard and having a supportive employer is a key component in his successful military career.

"I have always known I would be in the military in some form or another," said Maslowski. "My employer has been so supportive and I never had to choose. The Guard and the mission they need me to do can always come first."

Maslowski and other Airmen from the Minnesota Air National Guard's 148th and 133rd Civil Engineering Squadrons, along with Soldiers from the Minnesota Army National Guard's 851st Vertical Engineer Company and the Croatian Army Engineering Horizontal Construction Company are working side-by-side to repair and to rebuild parts of a primary school in Karlovac, Croatia.

The project is a Humanitarian Civic Assistance project made possible by the U.S. European Command in partnership with the U.S. Embassy in Zagreb, Croatia. The project is expected to be complete in less than a month.

The six-foot-two Guardsman is built like a defensive lineman, but that just helps him put a little extra elbow grease into everything he does.

"I try to lead the way with everything that I do, I don't care what my rank is," said Maslowski. "They know I am not going to ask them to do anything that I wouldn't do myself."

Working hard is a common work ethic all the engineers, regardless of branch, have in common.

"Maslowski follows the core values and has a



Airman First Class Derick Kvam of the 148th Civil Engineer Squadron out of Duluth, Minn. secures waterlines for kitchen appliances during a Humanitarian Civic Assistance project in Karlovac, Croatia on June 13, 2016. (Courtesy Photo)

great balance about getting the job done and playing later," said Chief Master Sgt. Kyle Johnson, chief enlisted manager for 148th Civil Engineering Squadron. "He is an honest Airman and won't beat around the bush."

Minnesota Power received state recognition in 2016 as the first Duluth-based company and 50th Minnesota employer to earn Yellow Ribbon status for its support for veterans, active-duty service members and their families.

148TH MAINTAINS VPP RATING

By 2nd Lt. Stacey N. Lacoursiere, 148th Fighter Wing Public Affairs



The Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) flag flies proudly at the 148th Fighter Wing. The 148th Fighter Wing has been recertified as part of the VPP as a Star worksite—the Star status is OSHA’s highest rating. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Ralph Kapustka)

The 148th Fighter Wing (148FW) completed its Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) inspection in April and has received recognition for exemplary achievement for occupational safety and health practices earning the most prestigious “Star” rating for the third consecutive time.

In 2006, the Air Force had a vision of greater safety and health standards for their Airmen. The VPP is a program meant to incorporate safety into the Air Force culture not only in the air, but on the ground, at work and into our homes.

Through the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), VPP recognizes employers who have implemented a comprehensive safety and health management system, meet strict selection standards and

pass the rigorous evaluation process. The VPP sets performance-based criteria for a managed safety and health system and includes an on-site evaluation by a team of OSHA safety and health experts. Qualified sites are then recognized as a Star, Merit or Demonstration program based on their evaluation results.

Chief Master Sgt. Todd Zimmer, 148FW Maintenance Quality Assurance Superintendent, was the first to learn of VPP and envisioned a superior standard of safety and health for the 148FW. At the time, Zimmer, the Safety and Occupational Health Manager, along with the 148FW Safety and Bio-Environmental Offices, helped bring VPP to the wing. As a result, in 2008 the 148th Fighter Wing was recognized as the first Air Force unit (active duty, Guard, or Reserve) to earn the highest “Star” level status.

The VPP includes four essential elements: Management leadership and employee involvement; Worksite analysis; Hazard prevention and control; and Safety and health training. “Through VPP we will continue to improve on an already great process of protecting our employees both on and off the job” Zimmer said.

The wing has continued to maintain the highest VPP rating beginning in 2008 receiving their initial Star level status, receiving recertification in 2011 and again in 2016. Because of the wing’s consistent exemplary inspection results, the next VPP inspection is scheduled for May 2021.

148TH EXCELS DURING TSP DEPLOYMENT

By Master Sgt. Ralph J. Kapustka, 148th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The 148th Fighter Wing (148FW), Duluth, Minnesota, deployed approximately 300 Airmen and more than 10 F-16 Fighting Falcons to Osan Air Base (AB), South Korea in April 2016 for roughly four months in support of the U.S. Pacific Air Command Theater Security Package (TSP).

The TSP underscores the U.S. commitment to regional security and stability and provides forces capable of a variety of missions, including global situational awareness, active defense and power projection. These routine deployments have been taking place since March 2004 and are not aggressive in nature or in response to any specific situation in the region.

"Our mission as a TSP is to bring a presence to a theater, which in this case was South Korea," said Lt. Col. Curt Grayson, 148th Fighter Wing Detachment Commander. "We bring our presence and integrate with the home unit making us a force multiplier providing more pilots, maintainers and aircraft," Grayson said.

Shortly after arriving at Osan AB, the 148FW demonstrated their ability to execute the mission at a deployed location by participating in Exercise Beverly Herd 16-01 while simultaneously completing a Readiness Inspection. The 148FW trained with a "fight tonight" mentality participating in Beverly Herd 16-01 which included more than 40 A-10 Thunderbolt II and F-16 Fighting Falcon fighter aircraft being generated on the first night of the exercise. This exercise demonstrates U.S. Air Force capabilities and strength and showcases our ability to generate combat airpower in an expedient manner in order to respond to simulated contingency operations.

"Being part of the fight, our maintenance, munitions and back shop Airmen worked together with Osan Airmen to demonstrate our ability to generate aircraft in a short period of time," said Grayson.

During the deployment, 148FW pilots also flew integration training sorties with Republic of Korea F-15s and Osan F-16s and A-10s. These sorties provided another opportunity to build joint, coalition and bilateral collaboration while gaining valuable training. Of the more than 300 sorties flown during the deployment, 50-upgrade sorties resulted in 148FW pilots achieving higher qualification levels.

Also during the deployment, the 148FW participated in a friendly competition between Osan and Kunsan Air Bases' load crews and crew chiefs. The 148FW

received individual and team recognition on the load crew competition based on who could load munitions on the aircraft the quickest and safest. The 148FW also won the dedicated crew chief competition for having the best maintained jet.

Teamwork and sharing best practices were a common theme during the deployment. "It's how we integrated from leadership down to the youngest Airman," Grayson said. "Working in the back shops; helping out where we could, learning as much as we could and getting the job done. We were able to look at our processes and help each other improve."

The 148FW, once again, demonstrated their outstanding capabilities. "To see it all come together after all the preparation, get recognized for our performance ... and then most importantly, get everyone back home safely. It was amazing to see what this team was able to accomplish," Grayson said.



Above & Below: A-10 Thunderbolt II and F-16 Fighting Falcon fighter aircraft perform an 'Elephant Walk' on the runway this week during Exercise Beverly Herd 16-01 at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea. The Elephant Walk was a demonstration of U.S. Air Force capabilities and strength and showcases the wing's ability to generate combat airpower in an expedient manner in order to respond to simulated contingency operations. The A-10 Thunderbolt II aircraft are the 25th Fighter Squadron "Draggins" and the F-16 Fighting Falcon aircraft are the 36th Fighter Squadron "Friends" from the 51st Fighter Wing, Osan AB, ROK; the additional F-16 aircraft are the 179th Fighter Squadron "Bulldogs" from the 148th Fighter Wing out of Duluth Air National Guard Base, Minnesota. (U.S. Air Force photos by Tech. Sgt. Travis Edwards/Released)





148th Fighter Wing Airmen, Minnesota Air National Guard, Duluth, Minn., board a C-17 aircraft, April 11, 2016. (U.S. Air National photo by Tech. Sgt. Brett R. Ewald)



148th Fighter Wing Airmen return to Duluth, Minn., July 21, 2016 after spending nearly four months at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea. The Airmen were deployed to Osan Air Base as part of a routine Theater Security Package mission. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Ralph Kapustka)



Logistic Readiness Squadron Airmen, 148th Fighter Wing, Minnesota Air National Guard, Duluth, Minn., make preparations to load a C-5M Galaxy aircraft with electronic countermeasures for use on an F-16 aircraft, April 6, 2016. (U.S. Air National photo by Tech. Sgt. Brett R. Ewald)



FORMER COMMANDER, ONWARD & UPWARD

By Tech. Sgt. Scott G. Herrington, 148th Fighter Wing Public Affairs



Brig. Gen. Frank H. Stokes walks across the ramp at the 148th Fighter Wing, Duluth, Minn. Aug. 3, 2015. Stokes, former 148th Fighter Wing Commander, has been appointed to the role of Deputy Director of Regional Engagements for U.S. Africa Command (U.S. AFRICOM), stationed at United States Army Garrison Stuttgart, Germany.

Brig. Gen. Frank H. Stokes, former 148th Fighter Wing Commander, has been appointed to the role of Deputy Director of Regional Engagements for U.S. Africa Command (U.S. AFRICOM), stationed at United States Army Garrison Stuttgart, Germany.

"My job is to oversee the country cooperation plans, program for Security Force Assistance, coordinate regional exercises, and liaison with the country teams that include ambassadors, defense attachés, and offices of security cooperation," said Stokes. "As one of the United States Combatant Commands, AFRICOM is charged to: 'Deter and Defeat Transnational Threats, Build Defense Capabilities, and Respond to Crisis across the African Continent.'"

A Duluth native, Stokes was the wing commander of the 148th Fighter Wing from 2009 to 2015 before heading to the National Guard Bureau in Arlington, Virginia where he was Chief, Current Operations Division for the National Guard Bureau Joint Staff where he earned the Defense Meritorious Service Medal.

"There I was responsible to monitor, report, and coordinate all National Guard domestic operations across the 54 states and territories, and the District of Columbia," said Stokes. "My Division monitored state emergencies, natural disasters, exercises, and emergencies."

He describes his positions leading up to his current role at U.S. AFRICOM as formative and instrumental in preparing him for his current challenges.

"My past career serving the active duty Air Force, Minnesota National Guard, and 148th Fighter Wing prepared me well for these positions," said Stokes. "My relationship with the Minnesota Joint Force Headquarters helped develop an understanding of joint (Army and Air Force) operations. Service as a Wing Commander and Chair of the F-16 Weapons System Council taught me how to coordinate and liaise with our national level organizations and drove many trips to Washington D.C. That experience gave insight into how our Department of Defense service organizations function and the objectives of our civilian and military leaders."

Stokes' tour at U.S. AFRICOM is a two-year assignment, with his next appointment yet to be determined.

"I will serve my best while at U.S. AFRICOM for the next couple years," said Stokes. "Not certain what my next assignment will be, but I look forward to continue to serve our nation."

148TH FIGHTER WING: STORMREADY

By Tech. Sgt. Scott G. Herrington, 148th Fighter Wing Public Affairs



Members of the National Weather Service and 148th Fighter Wing stand together for a photo during a ceremony June 16, 2016 at the 148th Fighter Wing. The ceremony marked the 148th Fighter Wing's third StormReady certification, a nationwide program that helps communities better protect their citizens during severe weather. (U.S. Air National Guard Photo by Tech. Sgt. Scott G. Herrington)

Dr. Louis W. Uccellini, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Assistant Administrator for Weather Services, and Director of the National Weather Service, presented the 148th Fighter Wing (148FW) with a StormReady re-certification June 16, 2016 at a ceremony held in the 148th's fuel cell.

The 148FW became the first Air National Guard (ANG) unit to achieve StormReady certification in 2010 as well as the first ANG unit to be re-certified in 2013.

StormReady is a nationwide program that enhances communities' ability to better protect their citizens during severe weather. StormReady encourages communities to take a proactive approach to improving local hazardous weather operations and lays out guidelines to improve their overall approach when encountering hazardous weather.

To become certified, communities must meet guidelines established by

the National Weather Service in partnership with federal, state, and local emergency management professionals.

To attain StormReady community certification, the 148FW performs hazardous weather and natural disaster exercises annually, trains personnel to become SKYWARN spotters for the National Weather Service and has established formal hazardous weather plans should there be a weather emergency.

"Today we received our third StormReady certification," said Senior Master Sgt. Kelvin McCuskey, 148FW Installation Emergency Manager. "It's a huge deal for the military to be a part of this, we have a great partnership with the National Weather Service here in Duluth. Every day that we fly, we're in communication with the weather service to make sure we understand any threats that might be coming up during the day--the weather can affect our mission here, so it's very important to have that communication channel and partnership."

MAJOR ACCIDENT RESPONSE EXERCISE

By Tech. Sgt. Scott G. Herrington, 148th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Photos By Tech. Sgt. Amy M. Lovgren, 133rd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

A Major Accident Response Exercise (MARE) took place near the 148th Fighter Wing, May 24, 2016. The exercise centered around a C-130 from the 133rd Airlift Wing St. Paul, Minn. experiencing a midair collision followed by a failure in landing gear which resulted in a crash landing at the Duluth International Airport. Several fire departments from the surrounding area converged on the scene where they ran through aircraft recovery procedures. The scenario allowed the organizations involved to run through the appropriate response measures while strengthening inter-agency relationships.



SECURITY FORCES TRAINING

By Master Sgt. Nathan D. Sykes, 148th Fighter Wing Security Forces



A 148th Fighter Wing Security Forces member suppresses enemy fire during a training exercise at Camp Ripley, Minn. Aug. 24, 2016. (U.S. Air Force Photo by Staff Sgt. Danielle D. Tharaldson)

On Aug. 19 2016, 50 members of the 148th Fighter Wing's (148FW) Security Forces Squadron (SFS) deployed to Camp Ripley, Minnesota for 10 days of action packed annual training and live weapons qualifications. This year the 148th's proud "Defenders" raised the bar when it comes to how they perform as individuals and teams in ever more realistic and relevant training events.

I'll always remember my old Flight Chief, now retired Master Sgt. Neil Porter, giving a group of about 60 night shift Defenders a briefing before we posted to our 12-hour shift at Manas Air Base, Kyrgyzstan in 2006. To paraphrase, he said we don't carry wrenches, hammers or nails. We carry weapons. Those are our "Tools of the Trade," and you need to know how to use them. You need to be knowledgeable, competent, and skilled with your tools. That's the first step in how we do the jobs we're here to do. Though I'm sure he didn't come up with that saying on his own, the concept has always stuck with me. When you see your friendly and professional Security Forces team members at the main gate in the morning, take it to heart that a lot of hard effort has been put into those members. Effort not only by themselves, but also by the formal and informal training, guidance, and mentorship they receive from their co-workers and supervisors. In their holsters is a very real weapon. In their minds, an equally real responsibility and commitment to excellence in how they handle their tools to get the job done.

That's what these two-week deployments to Camp Ripley every year are all about. We create environments and scenarios where individuals can come together as teams to overcome any obstacles their trainers challenge them with. They use their tools in ways not available at the wing. At over six major training sites down range at Camp Ripley, not only did Defenders live fire their duty weapons, but the M203 grenade launcher, M240B machine gun, and even the M107 .50 caliber rifle among others. If you've ever heard one of these M107s fire off, it's something you won't forget.

The training goes much deeper than live fire weapons qualifications, however. The technology has shifted over the years from blanks to projectile marking (paint) rounds fired right out of the same weapons we carry on duty. This change in technology brings the realism up a notch. Projectile rounds force members to use their individual movement tactics as well as all available cover and concealment. It forces them to act as teams to lay down suppressing fire to keep the bad guys heads down while others move to more advantageous positions.

Keeping the fires burning in the hard working teammates was a crew of our very own 148FW Force Support Squadron Services team that kept hot and fresh meals coming day in and day out, even out in the field! Everyone agreed the experience would not have been the same without them. On an informal level most of the meals also provide an opportunity to come together and enjoy each other's company without the pressures of training. In my opinion, these times are just as valuable as the events I previously mentioned. Stories get retold from the days prior and bonds between folks who've gone through a shared experience are made. Bonds that in some cases may last an Airman's entire career.

I look forward to our next training deployment, wherever that may be. We are actively seeking new training locations to keep things fresh. If you're reading this article and find this training interesting, then please join us! We are always looking for members who are not SFS to be exercise facilitators and "actors" who will wear full costumes and act as aggressors against us. If you're interested in helping us out next year, speak up and talk to your supervisor!

FAMILY CARE PLAN

By Chief Master Sgt. Mark Graves, 148th Fighter Wing



Family and friends of 148th Fighter Wing members wait to welcome home their loved ones July 21, 2016. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Ralph Kapustka)

Having children or dependent family members and being in the military can be one of the greatest challenges of your military career. Especially if you are in the Guard or Reserve military branches and do not have a strong family network to depend upon. Going on a deployment, active duty status, or even to a Guard drill weekend could be a difficult obstacle for your family when it comes to finding care while you are away.

If you have dependent family members, you are required to have family care arrangements made for both short and long-term deployments. Additionally, command policy and Air Force Instruction (AFI) states that if you are a single parent, divorced, separated or are a dual military couple, you are required to have a family care plan documented with your unit.

You may have a family care plan in place, however, if you do not have a strong family network available, listed contacts on family care plans can constantly change. Friends may move, situations change and many times you could find yourself in need of updating your family care plan yet again.

However difficult it may be to find reliable caretakers, Air Force Instruction 36-2908 states that family care plans are required. As a service

member, you are required to always have a formal family care plan in place to provide care to your dependents. According to the AFI, family care plans should be documented with your first sergeant on Air Force Form 357.

Perhaps you've been confronted with the opinion that you shouldn't be in the military if you have dependents and have difficulties finding care.

This can be a difficult argument to refute, however, just because a service member decides to stay in the military with dependents does not mean they cannot create a reliable care plan. Situations and circumstances can continually change and your fellow Airmen should understand that everyone's family care situation is different. Airman and Family Readiness Program Manager, Jennifer Kuhlman, recommends contacting the office to see if there are volunteers who are available to help out. Volunteers are available to help out with childcare, maintenance tasks and even yard work. "Sometimes the best laid plans don't work; ask for help, it's not a sign of weakness," Kuhlman said.

A common challenge heard from Airmen is that supervisors are not understanding of service members with dependents and the additional stress and effort required.

Should this be the case, it is the member's responsibility to communicate with the supervisor and make them aware of the additional stressors and responsibility the member may have. The supervisor may not be aware and could offer resources. According to Department of Defense Instruction 1342.19, leadership has the responsibility to encourage members to seek assistance of military and community resources as well as consider requests for deployment deferment due to unforeseen circumstances. 1st Sgt. Chris Robbins with the 148th Fighter Wing Maintenance Group stated, "If you have exhausted all other options, work with your first sergeant and leadership to discuss alternatives."

Regardless of family care plan challenges you may face, if you have dependents and fit the criteria for documenting care plans with your first sergeant, you are required to have a family care plan. Even if you do not fit the criteria to formally document your care plan, you are required to have family care arrangements made for both short- and long-term deployment situations. Plan ahead to continue enjoying your children to the fullest. But in the process, plan for what is best for them; create a family care plan.

A THREE MINUTE TOUR

By Tech. Sgt. Scott G. Herrington, 148th Fighter Wing Public Affairs



AlC Gerald Herrington (standing) takes SSgt Fran Shane on a historical scrapbook tour of the 148th. Shane recently joined the unit and will work on the On Five staff.



Tech. Sgt. Scott G. Herrington poses in front of a KC-135 after an orientation flight at the 148th Fighter Wing. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Ralph Kapustka)

Chief Master Sgt. Gerald E. Herrington (Ret.) served as a reporter on the On Five in the 1970's into the early 1980's. (Archive photo, November 1980)

"Here's my son, he's a nerd." That one sentence landed me in the communications flight after a tour of the base consisting of one stop. I had no idea that there was such a thing as public affairs (PA), let alone visual information (VI), as it was known prior to the PA/VI merge.

Putting this final issue together meant taking a trip through the On Five archives, a journey filled with familiar 148th names, aircraft changes and the gradual creation of the base as we know it today. In among hand-drawn caricatures of well-known personalities, pin-up photos of Hollywood starlets and motivational poetry, I gained a sense of the energy, passion and love poured into this paper.

Somewhere in the early 1980's a familiar name appeared in the On Five staff list, a reporter by the name of "AB Gerald Herrington." As it turns out, my tour guide was a reporter/editor for the On Five once upon a time, a role I'd end up playing following a career change six years after enlisting.

Going into this position, I knew my dad had worked in Public Affairs at one point in his long career, but seeing in print his direct involvement in something that I've been doing

for the last few years struck a chord. At the height of his career in PA, he was listed as an associate editor before making the jump to operations. It's not often members of this wing can say they are performing the same role as one of their parents, and I count myself lucky to be on that list, short as it must be.

So what would you say you do here?

People skills. I can't think of another role within our unit solely dedicated to telling the story of our fellow Wingmen. If I'm doing my job right, I'm out learning what other Bulldogs do on their weekends up here, what our full-time folks are accomplishing between drills, and as a PA office, we're sharing those stories. There's no better way to fully appreciate the roles everyone plays across this base than to listen as the pride in their work comes out when asked about their job.

Where do we go from here?

For better or worse, the internet. We're in an age of instant information, constant multimedia on screens of all sizes and the ability to interact with a vast audience from anywhere. News, photos and even video will

be sent to the 148th website and social media channels as soon as possible.

This unit has had a base paper since 1952, starting with the "One Seventy Niner," and despite the discontinuation of a physical copy, we'll continue this legacy in other ways. Will it feel the same, not holding something in your hands? No. But the stories of the Airmen at the 148th Fighter Wing will continue to be told, shared and celebrated, with the energy, passion and love of your PA staff.

Get out of the Guard

— by AB Gerald Herrington

"Get Out of the Guard" flashed a pamphlet I noticed at a recent visit to the Recruiter's office. As an Airman Basic, new to the base, I was shocked to find material like this lying around, and of all places, the Recruiter's office! I couldn't resist and had to pick it up to see just what was going on. The inside cover read, "All You Can." "Witty", I thought, trying to overcome my initial shock. But it had served its purpose; I was enthralled, and had to read on. It was a good pamphlet, discussing the advantages of being in the Guard, for your country as well as for yourself.

A clipping from the Nov. 1980 On-Five, featuring classic Herrington wit.

FROM THE ARCHIVES



OPERATIONS AND TRAINING BUILDING UNDER WAY. Construction is progressing rapidly on the new Operations and Training Building located on the Northeast corner of the Base. The "U" shaped building (foreground above) will house the Dining Hall (Left Wing), Dispensary (Right Wing) and the majority of Combat Support Squadron sections will be located in the center section. (Staff Photo)

April 1966

VOL 11, NO 8

DULUTH MINNESOTA

DECEMBER 1966

Gatlin Named 148th Fighter Group Commander

by A2C LEW LATTO



Lt Col Wayne C. Gatlin was officially installed as the new commander of the 148th Fighter Group at change of command ceremonies held during the December UTA. This ceremony was the first such event held in the history of the 148th Fighter Group.

Gatlin succeeds Colonel Ralph M. Jerome, who has been assigned as the Deputy Chief of Staff, Air, for the Minnesota Air National Guard, headquartered in St. Paul. Jerome will continue as the full-time Detachment Commander at the Air Guard Base.

Gatlin, the new commander, is a veteran fighter pilot with more than 5,000 flying hours to his credit.

He began his military career in 1942 when he enlisted in the Aviation Cadet program, was commissioned a Second Lieutenant upon completion of the program and was given a fighter assignment.

In August, 1944, after state-side training in P-40s and P-47s, he was assigned to the European theatre with the 360th Fighter Squadron, 356th Fighter Group, Eighth Air Force, Ipswich, England, as a fighter pilot in P-47s and later in P-51s.

Gatlin's European record includes 55 missions with a total of 256 hours in combat. The

SEE PAGE 2
December 1966

To all of you and your families, a Merry Christmas and my best wishes for the New Year. May the New Year see us aware of our responsibilities, accomplished in our duties and dedicated to the cause of liberty with "Peace On Earth - Good Will to Men."

Wayne C. Gatlin
WAYNE C. GATLIN, LT COL, MINN ANG
148th Fighter Group, Commander

YOU AND THE MIDDLE EAST

What happens in the Middle East in the coming weeks and months could affect you and everyone else in the Air Force and the Nation.

What is our Nation's policy regarding that area? Secretary of State John Foster Dulles explained it recently. He said:

"There is the provision of the Middle East Resolution which says that the independence of these countries is vital to peace and the national interest of the United States." That is certainly a mandate to do something if we think that our peace and vital interests are endangered from any quarter.

"There is the basic right, and almost duty, at the request or with the consent of a government, to assist in the protection of American life and property. There is the program of military assistance which we render to many countries, including Lebanon, in terms of giving them equipment and certain measures of military training and techniques, and helping them train technicians to use this equipment. That there are a number of areas of possible action if situation calls for it."

"We are not anxious to have a situation which would be in any sense a pretext for introducing American forces into the area...and the situation, to date, does not suggest that it would be called for."



1970

July 1958 Starfire News

A CREST FOR THE 148TH

No self-respecting Knight ever went forth to battle without a crest on his shield. And no Air National Guard Group should be without its crest--better known as an insignia.

That's why a call has gone out for designs for a 148th Fighter Group insignia.

All members are urged to submit their ideas for a group emblem to Lt. Col. Wayne C. Gatlin. The proposals should be drawn on white 8x10 sheets of paper. Prizes will be awarded to the men who submit the best ideas.

The insignia must be in roughly the shape of a policeman's badge. The applicable regulation says:

"An Heraldic Emblem (Coat of Arms) must always be symbolic and have the official Air Force shield as its background...."

The design also must:

Show originality and/or simplicity, and conform to standards of good taste.

Have its principal elements, such as eagles, aircraft, lightning streaks, winged horses, etc., facing the right on the emblem (the emblem's own right and the observer's left).

Contain a minimum number of colors, never more than six.

The insignia must not contain complicated or detailed elements, portray specific types of aircraft or equipment, imitate other adopted designs, bear all of another unit's insignia within the design, or symbols of a morbid nature or games of chance, have numerals and lettering other than a motto on a scroll outside the design area, refer to a specific geographic location or infringe on a copyright.

The emblem may have a motto in English or any other language. The motto must be in good taste, avoid words or phrases which might cause embarrassment, and be brief.

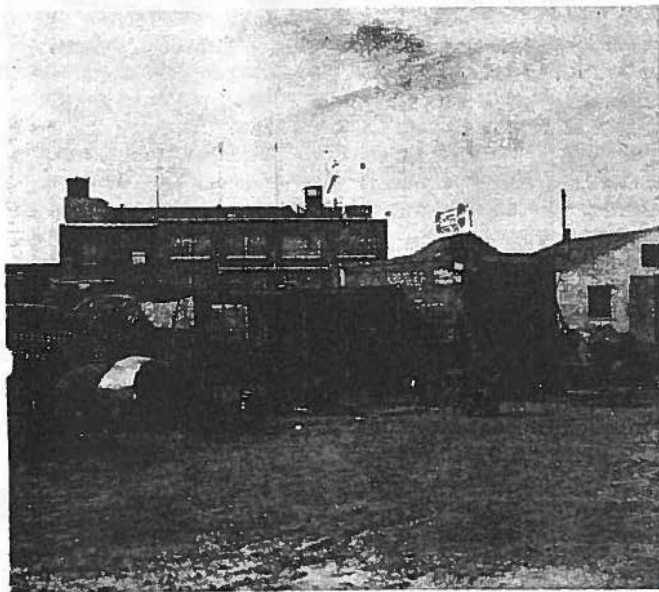
1961

FIVE MORE PLANES ARRIVE CITY'S AIR GUARD MOVES INTO NEW BASE QUARTERS

Duluth's Air National Guard moved into its new site yesterday on the northwest corner of the Williamson-Johnson Municipal Airport.

Guardsmen, in eight hours of special duty, erected temporary buildings and moved equipment and supplies and fighter, transport, and light bomber planes onto a large blacktop ramp recently completed.

The guard base was formerly located on the opposite side of the field near the city hangar.



1961

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January 1965

148TH GROUP EMBLEM APPROVED

The Department of the Air Force has approved an official organizational emblem for the 148th Fighter Group. The official painting, its "Blazon" and "Significance" were received from the Air Force and become permanent records of the unit until inactivation.

The "Significance" of the official emblem reads:

"The emblem is symbolic of the group and its mission. Polaris at the Zenith in the Ursa Minor constellation refers to Minnesota, 'The North Star State', where the unit was activated in 1960. The winged arrowhead represents the airborne might capability of the group. The Phoenix bird bearing the weapon with nuclear symbol and the lightning flashes with the cloud in pile, a heraldic device denoting the wedge, depicts the unit's mission, 'Deter the Aggressor but Prevail in War'. The emblem bears the Air Force colors, golden yellow and ultramarine blue."



January 1965

PILOTS, RO's PLACED ON FULL TIME ALERT

Pilots and Radar Observers of the 179th FIS began handling the air defense alert on a full-time basis--around the clock and every day of the month--beginning July 1.

The alert previously was in effect only 15 days a month. The Air Force handled the alert the other 15 days of the month.

The air crews will be ready to become airborne within five minutes after a scramble buzzer is sounded. The assignment gives the parent 148th Fighter Group a full-time operational mission.

Colonel Ralph M. Jerome, Group Commander, emphasized that there will be no time for training if a national emergency occurs and the guard must maintain itself in a constant state of operational readiness.

1961

After - Dining Smoking Ruled OUT In Mess Hall

Maybe conditions have improved too much at the mess hall.

Food Service requests that airmen stop smoking in the mess hall---and instead leave after they finish their meals. The mess hall can hold only a fraction of the unit's men at any one time and ranking airmen who chat over cigarettes and coffee are forcing others to wait in the chow line.

If each man leaves after he finishes eating the feeding process will be expedited and the mess hours will be shorter.

1961

148th Fighter Group



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Minnesota Air National Guard
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