# Special Edition 2010 ON AIR COMMAND'S SAFETY MAGAZINE

BATTLE AND PRAYER

SPECIAL FOR ENGINEER SPECIAL F

**p.8** 



## Combat Edge Volume 19 Issue 4, ACC SP 91-1

4 | Are You Resilient?

by Brig Gen Daniel Wyman, ACC Surgeon General, Langley AFB, Va.

8 | Battle and Prayer

by Chaplain (Col) William T. Evans, Jr., HQ ACC/HC, Langley AFB, Va.

14 THE FOUR CHAPLAINS

by Chaplain (Col) Howard Stendahl, HQ ACC/HC Langley AFB, Va.

WHICH ONE WILL YOU PUSH ...
by Chaplain (Col) Steve Schaick,
Deployed



Oops ... In our
September/October
issue we inadvertently
omitted the name of
Maj James M. Smith,
9 BS/DOS, for his
pivotal role in writing
our feature article
"Flying the BONE."
Well done Maj Smith!

20 | Monthly Awards

2 | Quarterly Awards

23 | Stats

GENERAL WILLIAM M. FRASER III
COMMANDER

COLONEL SIDNEY F. MAYEUX
DIRECTOR OF SAFETY

COLONEL J. ALAN MARSHALL Editor

Mrs. Barbara J. Taylor
Associate Editor

MSGT KURT REILLY
ART DIRECTOR

#### THE COMBAT EDGE

(USPS 0531-170) (ISSN 1063-8970) IS PUBLISHED BIMONTHLY BY AIR COMBAT COMMAND, HQ ACC/SEM, 175 SWEENEY BLVD, LANGLEY AFB VA 23665-2700. PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID AT HAMPTON, VA, 23670 AND ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES. POSTMASTER: PLEASE SEND CHANGES OF ADDRESS TO HQ ACC/SEM, 175 SWEENEY BLVD, LANGLEY AFB, VA 23665.

DISTRIBUTION: F. OPR: HQ ACC/SEM. DISTRIBUTION IS BASED ON A RATIO OF ONE COPY PER 10 PERSONS ASSIGNED. AIR FORCE UNITS SHOULD CONTACT THE COMBAT EDGE STAFF TO ESTABLISH OR CHANGE REQUIREMENTS.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS: AVAILABLE TO NONDOD READERS FOR \$51.00 (\$71.40 OUTSIDE THE U.S.) FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS, PO BOX 371954, PITTSBURGH PA 15250-7954. ALL SUBSCRIPTION SERVICE CORRESPONDENCE SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE SUPERINTENDENT, NOT HQ ACC/SEM.

#### CONTRIBUTION

PLEASE SEND ARTICLES WITH NAME, RANK, DSN PHONE NUMBER, E-MAIL, COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESS AND COMMENTS TO:

EDITOR, THE COMBAT EDGE
HQ ACC/SEM
175 SWEENEY BLVD
LANGLEY AFB VA 23665-2700

TELEPHONE: (757) 764-8846 DSN: 574-8846 FAX: (757) 764-8975 E-MAIL: ACC.SEM@LANGLEYAEMIL

THE EDITORS RESERVE THE RIGHT TO EDIT ALL MANUSCRIPTS FOR READABILITY AND GOOD TASTE.

DISCLAIMER: THIS MAGAZINE IS AN AUTHORIZED PUBLICATION FOR MEMBERS OF THE DOD. CONTENTS OF THE COMBAT EDGE ARE NOT NECESSARILY THE OFFICIAL VIEWS OF, OR ENDORSED BY, THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, THE DOD, OR THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE. INFORMATION CONTAINED IN ANY ARTICLE MAY NOT BE CONSTRUED AS INCRIMINATING UNDER ARTICLE 31, UCMJ.



#### **ON SAFETY**

With the New Year right around the corner, we have the opportunity to set our goals for 2011. Every January, we come up with resolutions that we'll strive to meet in the year ahead: to work out more, to eat better, to spend more time with our families, and so on. This year though, I'd ask that you join me in making a resolution for the good of our entire ACC team: to renew our commitment to the Wingman Concept and truly devote time and energy to building a more resilient Air Force.

In 2011, just as they have throughout 2010, ACC Airmen will continue to define what Global Power for America really means. We'll reach new heights on the flight lines, in the back shops, in the field, and in the intelligence and mission support realms, even while facing austere operating



Gen William M. Fraser III Commander

environments and new challenges both at home and overseas. With these new challenges come new pressures on our teammates, testing their abilities and trying their character. Overcoming these hurdles is something we cannot and should not have to do on our own. Instead, through focusing on being better wingmen to our fellow teammates and giving everyone the tools to strike a balance in their lives, we can all succeed.

ACC has led the way in efforts to reach that balance through Comprehensive Airmen Fitness. Through it, each of you has access to tools designed to achieve balance across the Physical, Mental, Social, and Spiritual pillars of your lives. Since there is no single solution to building resilience in our Airmen, Comprehensive Airmen Fitness is a holistic approach focused on reinforcing each of those four pillars. I encourage each of you to take full advantage of the resources available including your Airmen and Family Readiness Centers, Chapels and Medical centers. They are part of the solution you need to succeed when faced with the challenges and stresses of military life – at home, when we deploy, and when we return.

But tools alone are not enough. Making that commitment, that resolution, to watching out for each other, to promoting a culture of courage where Airmen can ask for help when they need it and where Airmen can identify and intervene as wingmen when they see a person in need are necessary for us to truly become a more resilient force.

In this edition of The Combat Edge, you'll see articles from a cross-section of our ACC team, including our Chaplain and our Command Surgeon. As I said earlier, there's no one solution or one tool to building a more resilient force. I think it's important that this edition features articles and examples of resilience from a number of perspectives and insights from across our competencies. I hope you'll take the time to read these different points of view, and think about how they apply to your personal and professional life.

Every individual in this command, military, civilian and contractor, active duty, guard and reserve, is critical to our success as a team. Each of you are making a difference, and should be proud of your contributions. To continue our successful momentum and contributions in 2011, let each and every one of us make a commitment to truly being a better wingman. Thank you again for your service and sacrifice. I'm proud and honored to be a part of such a great team.

### BY BRIG GEN DANIEL WYMAN esiliency" is a term you have most likely heard lately. Given several of the negative trends within DoD (suicides, assaults, depression, etc.) as well and the increased rates of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)/PTSD-like symptoms and Traumatic Brain Injury, efforts to improve resiliency (of the individual and community) have attracted the attention of leaders at all levels. Within DoD, resiliency is defined as 'the ability to withstand, recover and grow in the face of stressors and changing demands'. In today's world, and particularly in our expeditionary Air Force, our Airmen face tough challenges (including some very traumatic experiences associated with combat operations) and the capability to undergo these challenging events with professionalism and then recover and grow is essential. 4 https://afkm.wpafb.af.mil/CombatEdge THE COMBATEDGE | SPECIAL EDITION 2010 5

While there are a variety of different models for resiliency, most include four basic dimensions: Social, Mental, Physical, and Spiritual. The social dimension of resiliency focuses on a sense of belonging through relationships (family, friends, and coworkers) and activities (sports, hobbies, organizations). Mental wellness encompasses self-esteem/ self-image, coping skills, emotional satisfaction and mental toughness. Physical fitness and personal health play an important role in resiliency. And finally, the spiritual dimension connotes ones sense of purpose and meaning, positive hope and belief in the face of negative events. In combination these four dimensions form an individual's resiliency – each contributing some attribute to the whole that one draws on during hardship.

HQ ACC staff has worked with the University of Pennsylvania and the US Army to develop Comprehensive Airman Fitness – a broad approach to "helping Airmen and families" which is built upon a foundation of resiliency and its four dimensions or

Two keys to the dimensions of resiliency (and thus to resiliency as a whole) are (1) that the dimensions can be assessed (and perhaps even measured) at any given point and (2) they can be developed and improved. The Global Assessment Tool (GAT) is a web-based survey that provides an individual a real time self-assessment of each dimension of resiliency. Initially, the GAT can provide a baseline appraisal of resiliency and allow an individual to evaluate each dimension and then work on

a plan to strengthen their resiliency a balanced approach to ensuring social, mental, physical, and spiritual

Any plan to build resiliency should start with education. ACC (again in combination with U Penn and the US Army) has developed a variety of resiliency courses; from 1-2 hour orientation classes for FTAC to an extensive 2-3 day course of instruction, discussion, interaction, and feedback (currently being taught at Moody AFB with the Airmen of the 93 AGOW). These educational initiatives ensure a common understanding of resiliency and its dimensions and establish a framework for strengthening resiliency.

With this educational foundation, units/squadrons/installations can develop a broad range of activities. events, courses, and other opportunities for individuals, teams, and families to employ to strengthen resiliency. The list of such opportunities is essentially endless:

- Social team building events, unit picnics, MWR trips, bowling leagues ...
- Mental suicide awareness/ prevention training, selfimprovement courses, mentoring sessions ...
- Physical PT classes, intramural sports, martial arts classes. 5K runs. smoking cessation, weight loss ...
- Spiritual worship attendance, chaplain socials/ seminars, reading/course completions ...

Unit leadership can work with Helping Agencies to assess these activities/events/courses and validate their value to our airmen and families. Some units are identifying these opportunities and creating "Resiliency Calendars" to give Airmen a sense of the tremendously diverse methods to strengthen each dimension of resiliency. Supervisors can utilize these

validated opportunities to help our

Airmen strengthen each dimension of resiliency. Building resiliency in our Airmen builds resiliency in our squadrons and makes our Air Force – the world's greatest Air and Space Force – stronger!

As professional wingmen, leaders, and warriors we should instinctively embrace "resiliency" and strive to enhance our ability to prosper and grow during these challenging times and frequently hostile environments.

Comprehensive Airman Fitness and the four dimensions of Resiliency bring the structure and common education upon which we will continue to cultivate healthy. successful Airmen and families!

#### Goals:

- Improved Well-Being
- Enhanced Life Balance
- Strengthened Personal Readiness

**Military** Civilian **Family** CONNECT COMMUNICATE CARE COMMIT **CELEBRATE** 

Airmen Resiliency, Pre/Post Deployment, Suicide Reduction & Prevention, and other established programs

**Governance - CAIB** 

**Execution - Support Agencies** 



# 

A REAL LIFE STORY FROM WWII

BY CHAPLAIN (COL) WILLIAM T. EVANS, JR.

ecember 8, 1944. The phone rings in the Command Chaplain's office of the United States Third Army. Chaplain, Brigadier General James O'Neill picks up the phone. "This is General Patton; do you have a good prayer for weather? We must do something about these rains if we are to win the war."

# 方が大心

#### PRAYER

LMIGHTY and most merciful Father, we humbly beseech Thee, of Thy great goodness, to restrain these immoderate rains with which

We have had to contend. Grant us fair weather for Battle. Graciously hearken to us as soldiers who call upon Thee that armed with Thy power, we may advance from victory to victory, and crush the oppression and wickedness of our enemies, and establish Thy justice among men and nations. Amen.

#### **HEADQUARTERS** THIRD UNITED STATES ARMY

O each officer and soldier in the Third United States Army, I wish a Merry Christmas. I have full confidence in your courage, devotion to duty, and skill in battle. We march in our might to complete victory. May God's blessing rest upon each of you on this Christmas Day.

> Lieutenant General, Commanding, Third United States Army.

m.wpafb.af.mil/CombatEdge

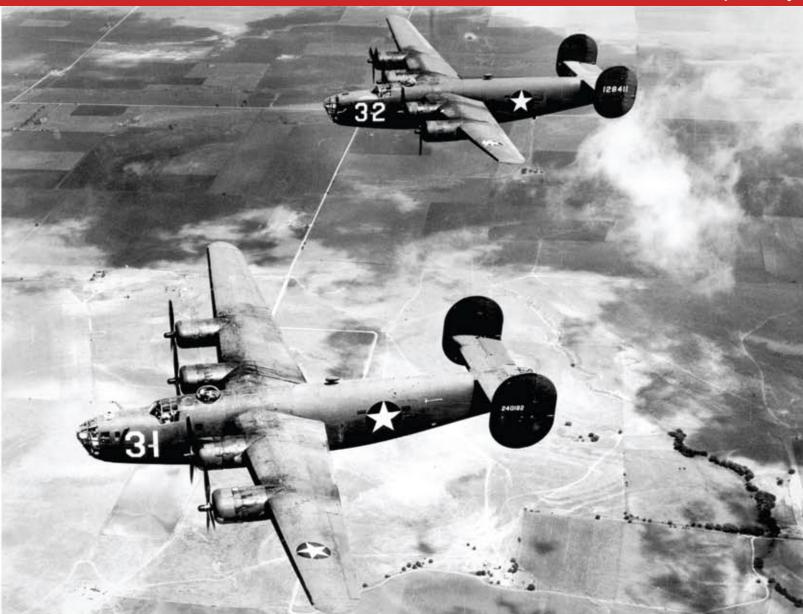
Chaplain O'Neill told the General he knew where to look for such a prayer and would report back within an hour. As he searched through his prayer books it was apparent that he did not have a "good prayer for weather" – at least one suitable for the General. So he composed his own prayer on a 3X5 index card. That prayer today is known as Patton's prayer. Chaplain O'Neill

"Almighty and most merciful Father, we humbly beseech Thee, of Thy great goodness, to restrain these immoderate rains with which we have to contend. Grant us fair weather for Battle. Graciously hearken to us as soldiers who call upon Thee that armed with Thy power, we may advance from victory to victory, and crush the oppressition and wickedness of our enemies and establish Thy justice among men and nations. Amen."

On the reverse side of the card Chaplain O'Neill wrote a Christmas greeting from the General to the men of the Third Army.

The request for a "good weather prayer" might seem a little unorthodox, but given the circumstances it was reasonable. The rains of the fall of 1944 would not stop. For 3 months it rained, and the same rains that plagued the Third Army during the Moselle and Saar campaigns were now again plaguing the Army. The rains turned roads into quagmires, and the soldiers into a collection of olive colored mud. And to make matters worse, the Germans would take advantage of the poor visibility and advance.

With prayer in hand, Chaplain O'Neill reported to General Patton. The General read the prayer and handed it back with the directive, "Have 250,000 copies printed and see to it that every man in the Third Army gets one." Chaplain O'Neill astonished at the enormity of the order said, "Very well, sir." He invited the General to read the Christmas greeting on the reverse side of the card and suggested that



the General's signature on the card "would add a personal touch" that would please the men. General Patton agreed and signed the card. But before Chaplain O'Neill left the General's office. General Patton asked him to sit down. The General wanted to talk to him about this "business of prayer." Little did Chaplain O'Neill know that the Commanding General of the United States Third Army was about to mentor him on one of the tools of his own trade – prayer.

"How much praying is going on in the Third Army?" General Patton asked. "Does the General mean by chaplains or by the men?" Chaplain O'Neill replied. "By everybody," General Patton responded. "I am afraid to admit it," said Chaplain O'Neill, "but I do not believe that much prayer is going on. Where

there is fighting everyone prays, but now in this constant rain ... when everything is quiet, men just sit and wait for things to happen."

General Patton responded, "I am a strong believer in prayer. There are three ways that men get what they want; by planning, by working and by praying. Any great military operation takes careful planning or thinking. Then you must have well trained troops to carry it out: that's working. But between the plan and the operation there is always an unknown. That unknown spells defeat or victory, success or failure ... that's where prayer comes in. Up to now, in the Third Army, God has been very good to us. We have never retreated: we have suffered no defeats, no famine. and no epidemics. This is because

a lot of people at home are praying for us. We were lucky in Africa, in Sicily, and in Italy, simply because people prayed. But we must pray for ourselves too ..."

The General went on to talk about Gideon, one of Israel's greatest warriors, and then he gave Chaplain O'Neill his second order of the night. "I want you to write a training letter to all the chaplains in the Third Army on the subject of prayer; nothing else, just the importance of Prayer." (The Command Chaplain used training letters to communicate with the 486 chaplains of the Third Army). The General went on to say, "We've got to get not only the chaplains but every man in the Third Army to pray. We must ask God to stop these rains. These rains ... hold defeat or victory."

With that the conversation was over and Chaplain O'Neill headed back to his quarters to write the training letter. The letter, Training Letter No. 5, as it was known, recounted much of what General Patton said earlier. Chaplain O'Neill urged all of the men of the Third Army to pray: "Pray when driving, pray when fighting, pray alone and pray with others. Pray by night and pray by day ... pray for victory, pray for our Army. Pray for peace ... with prayer we cannot fail."

Training Letter No. 5 was given to General Patton the next day. He made no changes to the letter but ordered every organization commander down to and including the regimental level to receive a copy of the letter. "Three thousand two hundred copies were distributed to every unit in the Third Army," wrote Chaplain O'Neill. Because the distribution was ordered by General Patton the distribution was completed 2 days ahead of schedule. The prayer cards and the Training Letter No. 5 reached the troops December 12-14. The timing is significant.

Two days later (December 16)
Hitler launched a massive offensive
against the allies on the Western
Front (later called the Battle of the
Bulge). "The Germans crept out of
the Schnee Eifel Forest in the midst
of heavy rains, thick fogs and swirling
ground mists that muffled sound,
blotted out the sun, and reduced
visibility to a few yards," wrote
Chaplain O'Neill. United States Army
divisions were brushed aside as it
was difficult to fight someone you

could not see or hear. The heavy overcast weather gave advantage to the Germans. For 3 days the Nazis' surprise attack succeeded. The Sixth Panzer Army sliced through the Ardennes. The Fifth Panzer Army in the North was slugging it out with the Allies and gaining ground. General Patton on December 19, turned the Third Army north to meet the German attack. As he rushed the Third Army towards Bastogne Chaplain O'Neill recalled,

### "His prayer was answered."

On December 20, the skies cleared. For most of that week Allied Air Forces came over by "tens, hundreds, and thousands" and pounded the German soldiers, tanks, and reinforcements. The change in weather changed the course of the Battle.

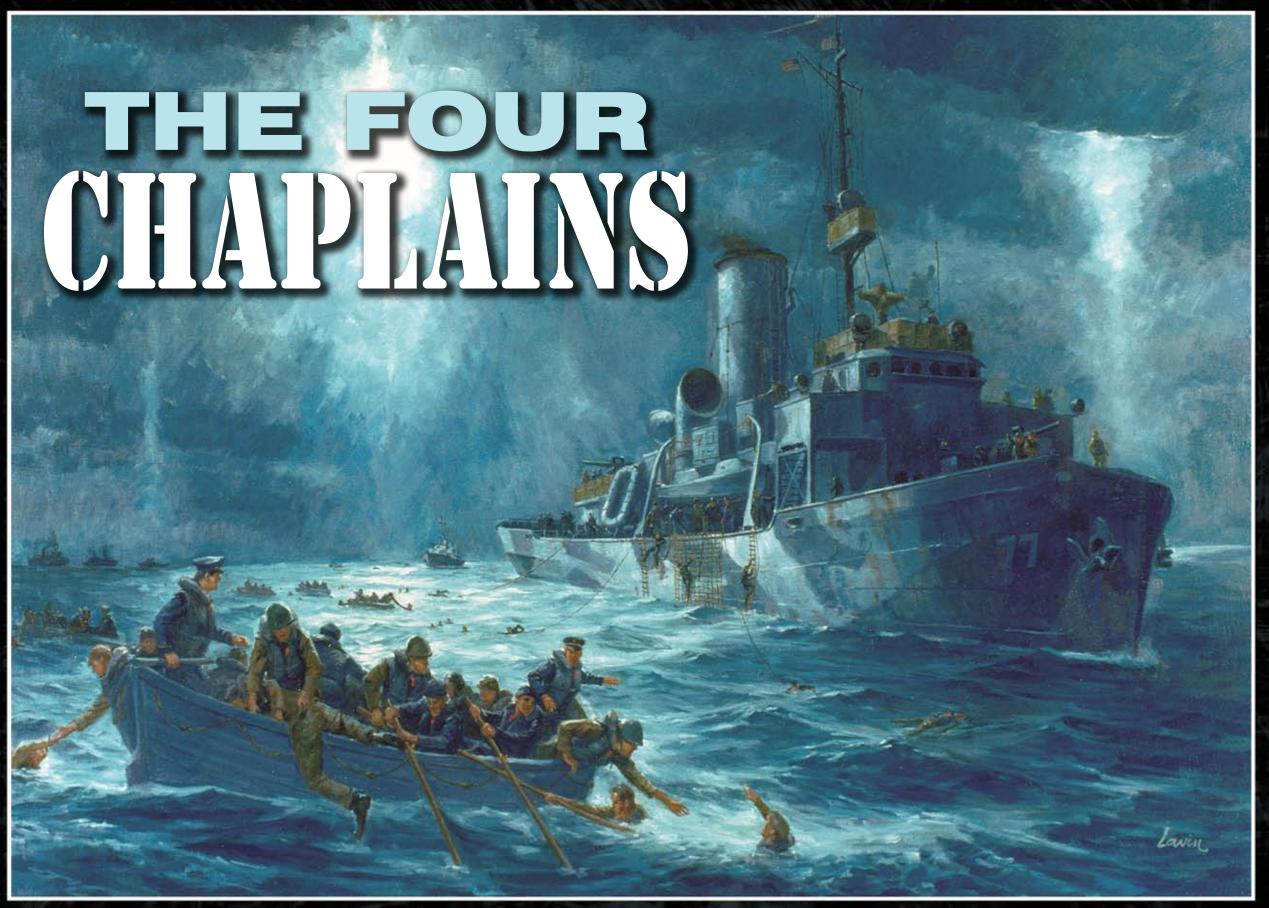
Did God answer General Patton's prayer? General Patton thought so. In late January 1945, one and a half months after the prayer and Training Letter No. 5, Chaplain O'Neill met the General in Luxembourg. General Patton turned to Chaplain O'Neill and said, "Padre, our prayers worked. I knew they would."

The United States Armed Forces have been engaged in war for the last 19 years. World peace does not look promising in the near future. The Combat Air Force Strategic Plan envisions a "most likely future" filled with "persistent irregular challenges," more "counterinsurgency, peer or near peer competition, global

engagement in under-governed or ungoverned regions" as well as "stability, security, and transition operation issues following peace enforcement activities." With this assessment of our future is it not time to ask, "How much praying is going on in Air Combat Command"? Prayer is a component of spiritual fitness. When we pray we are not alone. Prayer is communication with God. We are reaching out to God. And God is ready to hear our concerns, our doubts, our burdens, and our pain. I encourage all persons to "pray without ceasing," pray for our senior leaders, pray for our warriors in harm's way, pray for our wounded (both physically and emotionally), pray for your commander, pray for your family, pray for yourself - but above all, pray for peace.

Information for this article was taken from http://pattonhq.com/prayer.html.







#### BY CHAPLAIN (COL) **HOWARD STENDAHL**

very career field has its heroes. Fighter pilots have their aces, physicians and medical providers have their heroic practitioners who save lives and restore wounded warriors to life. Every group in our profession of arms has pictures in their respective halls of honor providing inspiration to those who stand challenged to emulate the selfless service of heroes in our military history.

Chaplains have four heroes who define for our community what interfaith ministry can be. Four men, all Lieutenants, all on their first deployment, lived out their faith together on a freezing cold, dark night at sea in 1943, when the Army transport ship Dorchester, crowded beyond capacity, was attacked by a German U-boat.

This official U.S. Coast Guard painting depicts the crew of the USCGC Escanaba conducting rescue operations after the sinking of the SS Dorchester on 3 February 1943.

Though directed by the ship's captain to wear their life jackets, many chose to sleep without the uncomfortable weight of their clothing and jackets in the steamy holds below. In the chaotic moments following the blast, many emerged topside to be confronted by the breathtaking blasts of icy air on the North Atlantic night. Many jumped from the ship onto lifeboats, many over-crowded to the point of capsizing. Others found themselves immersed in freezing, oil-smeared water, surrounded by corpses and debris from the ill-fated ship. "I could hear men crying, pleading, praying" recalled Private William B. Bednar. "I could also hear the chaplains preaching courage. Their voices were the only thing that kept me going."

Petty Officer John J. Mahoney had no gloves and with freezing hands, heard Rabbi Goode offer "I have two pairs," The rabbi then gave his own gloves to the petty officer. Mahoney knew that that Rabbi Goode did not conveniently have two pairs but had decided not to leave the Dorchester.

The chaplains opened a storage locker, according to "The Four Chaplains Memorial Foundation" documents, and began distributing life jackets. "It was then that Engineer Grady Clark witnessed an astonishing sight. When there were no more life jackets in the storage room, the chaplains removed theirs and gave them to four frightened young men." Another witness of the chaplains' selfless courage, John Ladd, offered "it was the finest thing I have seen or hope to see this side of heaven."

As the ship's bow went under first, the chaplains could be seen at the stern, arms linked and braced against the listing deck, their voices joined in prayer for others. There were 902 men aboard the Dorchester: 672 perished, leaving 230 survivors. The heroism of the Four Chaplains stands as a model to this day of how persons of different faiths, different backgrounds, form together in the military as perhaps nowhere else, to support one another in the profession of arms and the defense of our

It is instructive that in their heroism. Rabbi Goode did not distribute life-saving measures to members of his faith group, or Father Washington to his nor Chaplains Fox and Poling to Protestants. They served all faiths, all men, without regard to faith or non-faith. Their service was to all created in the Divine image and in need.

"Talent develops in tranquility," Goethe wrote, "but character in the full current of human life." For these four chaplains/officers, their theological and pastoral formation took place in various, relatively tranquil settings. Their character, the selfless service which gave the last full measure of devotion, took place in the "full current" of war, inspiring their warrior-colleagues that devotion to the Creator means respect also for those who may believe or worship differently, but are like brothers in the family of our profession. This respect goes far beyond religious "toleration," and extends to the point of willingness even to give one's life for another: for one different from oneself.

The Four Chaplains were clergymen, officers, and scholars. Rabbi Goode held degrees from the Univ of Cincinnati, Hebrew Union College and a Ph.D. from Johns

at Harvard. Chaplain Fox, a WWI

Purple Heart and the French Croix

de Guerre for his service with the

ambulance corps in 1917. Each of

veteran, was awarded the Silver Star,

These IMMORTAL CHAPLAINS ... IN ACTION 3¢UNITED STATES POSTAGE 3 Hopkins; George Fox from Illinois Wesleyan and the Boston University School of Theology; Clark the Four Chaplains posthumously Poling graduated from Rutgers received the Purple Heart and the Also known as the Chaplain's Medal University and the Yale University Distinguished Service Cross. of Honor and the Four Chaplains' ministry that glorified God, served Divinity School. Father Washington Airmen and exceeded the standards There are many ways our nation Medal, this medal also does not held degrees from Seton Hall and has honored the sacrifice of The appear on any military award of excellence." Four Chaplains. In 1948 the Postmaster General of the United States commissioned Immaculate Conception Seminary in precedence charts, although it is There are countless other New Jersey. Chaplains Fox, Goode considered to be ranking just below commemorations of these heroes and Poling met while preparing to the Medal of Honor. In 2004. a of the Chaplain Corps, but we a stamp commemorating their valor. The Chaplain's Medal serve in the Army Chaplain Corps documentary film entitled "The honor them best, regardless of our

for Heroism is a decoration of the

United States military which was

authorized by an act of the United

States Congress on July 14, 1960.

specific "specialty code," when we

carry on in our duty performance

the selfless service exemplified by

these Lieutenants – on their first

deployment together.

Four Chaplains: Sacrifice at Sea"

portrayed their heroism. Annually,

the "Four Chaplains Award" to an AF

member who exemplified first class

the AF Chief of Chaplains presents





#### BY CHAPLAIN (COL) STEVE SCHAICK

'm not a big fan of pain. In fact, I hate it, I tell the dentist I'd rather drool all day long than feel him mill away at my teeth. My favorite feature on the treadmill is the STOP button because anytime I want to I can hit that little red button and the pain goes away. But we all know life does not come with a little red button.

When a roadside bomb exploded near Baghdad, Army Staff Sergeant Hilbert Caesar thought his life was over. After the smoke cleared, he looked down and saw that his right leg was dangling by a little skin. With his vehicle decimated and the barrel of his howitzer bent like a soda straw. he thought to himself, "This is it. My life is over."

Sergeant Caesar was transported to safety and eventually to Walter Reed Hospital where he was fitted with a new leg made of metal and plastic. Though he was glad to be alive, he could not stop thinking of all the things he'd never do again.

Little by little, his focus shifted from what he may never do again to what he can do now. Caesar met other injured soldiers and heard them tell of their road to recovery. His inward looking despair sprouted into gratefulness. He even told The Washington Post, "I'm thankful for just being here."

Caesar now competes in marathons in his racing wheelchair, and has been hired by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. He sees the loss of his leg as a minor setback in life, and firmly believes his injury has caused him to grow in wisdom, compassion, and appreciation for life.

The Apostle Paul, credited with writing most of the New Testament, spoke often of his "thorn" in the flesh. We don't know what Paul's problem was, but we do know what it did for him. It forced him to take his eyes off of himself, his problems, issues and limitations, and focus rather on the people and things around him. He discovered that the less he sat around feeling sorry for himself and the more he tried to make a positive impact on the people around him, the better he felt. And then ... get this ... one day God whispered in his ear, "Hey Paul, don't ever forget, my power is made perfect in your weakness."

John F. Kennedy once stated in a speech that, when written in Chinese, the word "crisis" is composed of two characters – one represents *danger* and the other represents opportunity.

What in your life feels like a crisis? A relationship? A boss? Your career? Maybe it's a medical issue for you or loved one? As we all know, when it comes to crisis, it's never a matter of if ... but when.

I for one think the Chinese got it right. Danger and opportunity are embedded in every problem you and I will ever face.

Danger and opportunity, with the help of a little hindsight, may even turn out to be your best friend. In fact, right this moment, danger and opportunity are teaming up to make a pretty amazing you!

#### **AUGUST - SEPTEMBER AWARDS OF DISTINCTION**

#### Aircrew Safety



CAPT JOHN M. ROSNER. CAPT RYAN A. MARSHALL. CAPT ALEXANDER M. RISEBOROUGH. CAPT CRAIG A. CLARK. MSGT SAMUEL F. HARRIS, 552 ACW, TINKER AFB, OK. While performing a practice instrument approach and go-around, the copilot of Sentry 50 discovered that he could not advance the number #2 throttle above the approach setting. At 200' AGL, the aircraft commander took control of the aircraft and executed a go-around with the remaining three engines. The crew performed the "Throttle Cable Failure" checklist and completed an uneventful full-stop landing without incident. The crew of Sentry 50 safely recovered a 330 million dollar asset with a serious throttle malfunction during a critical phase of flight with 31 crew members on board. (Aug 10)

CAPT JEFF A. SEARCY, CAPT NICK P. FOSTER, 492 EFS, 455 AEW, BAGRAM AB, AFGHANISTAN. Following touchdown, the F-15 suddenly settled on the right side due to a blown right main tire. At 125 KCAS, and 7,000' of runway remaining, the aircraft was leaning right and yawing due to drag. DE14 immediately notified DE13 of the emergency, rapidly ensuring deconfliction of the F-15Es. DE14 skillfully maintained aircraft control, kept flight lead, ATC and the Operations Supervisor informed throughout the emergency, which resulted in a successful and safe recovery of the aircraft and two crew members. (Sep 10)

#### **Crew Chief Safety**



SSGT ANTHONY G. MCLAIN, 380 EAMXS, 380 AEW, AL DHAFRA AB, U.A.E. While performing leak checks during the launch of an RQ-4 Global Hawk, SSgt McLain discovered hydraulic fluid seeping from the swivel jam nut of the right outboard main landing gear brake assembly. He procured the proper tools and support equipment necessary to correct the discrepancy; replacing the worn o-ring, and expeditiously led his team in completing the required follow on hydraulic bleed and leak checks. (Aug 10)

SRA ALLEN J. MONTGOMERY, 455 EAMXS, 455 AEW, BAGRAM AB, AFGHANISTAN. SrA Montgomery was assisting in the recovery of an F-15E on the fighter ramp when he noticed smoke coming from the left wheel. He approached the aircraft's right MLG wheel to put the chocks in place and observed the left MLG brake glowing. He ran to the 150 pound Halon fire bottle and repositioned it closer to the left MLG and discharged the fire bottle and extinguished the flames. (Sep 10)

#### Flight Line Safety



MR. JOHN C. GRIFFIN, 23 WG, MOODY AFB, GA. While out at the southern wetland area on base on the extended centerline of the runways, JC observed an A-10C approaching the end of runway 18L at a high rate of speed. Nearing the departure end of the runway, the aircraft exhibited no sign of slowing. The aircraft came to an abrupt stop, broke in half, and became engulfed in a post-crash fire. JC aided the distressed pilot and swiftly moved them both to a safe distance until rescue personnel arrived. (Aug 10)

SSGT ERIC T. HOPP, 455 EAMXS, 455 AEW, BAGRAM AB, AFGHANISTAN. An HH-60G helicopter and crew returned back to Bagram after supporting numerous missions at a FOB. During the sortie, the Flight Engineer was performing normal gun test fire operations. When he attempted to fire his GAU-18 he was only able to expend one .50 caliber round before the bolt and barrel extension seized together. The FE tried to fire another round causing a double feed. The crew declared an IFE for "HOT GUN" and landed at the designated area. (Sep 10)

#### 

TSGT JERMAINE BERRY, 355 CES, 355 FW, DAVIS-MONTHAN AFB, AZ. TSgt Berry helped revise the confined spaces training plan which was approved by the Confined Space Team. This plan is now the template used by all base units with confined space programs. He also conducts seat belt checks ensuring all vehicle operators and passengers comply with regulations/state law. He thoroughly checks motorcycle riders for proper PPE and ensures that members complete required training in a timely manor. (Aug 10)

TSGT PAUL W. POCOCK, 355 LRS, 355 WG, DAVIS-MONTHAN AFB, AZ. TSgt Pocock assisted the LRS motorcycle safety representative to ensure compliance of 105 riders in LRS. He created a Supervisor Safety Training spreadsheet, tracking 307 total supervisors, to sign up newly arriving squadron members. He developed a tracking system which eliminated deficient AF Form 164 reports to the Wing Ground Safety office from 5 to 4 days, beating the Wing requirement by 1 day. He is a tremendous attribute to the 355th Fighter Wing. (Sep 10)



CAPT DANIEL DICKINSON, 94 FS, 1 FW. LANGLEY AFB, VA. Capt Dickinson was flying his F-22 Raptor as #2 of 3 on a routine air-to-air training mission. During the RTB, his flight lead experienced an electrical malfunction, and lost the ability to safely lead the formation. The third aircraft in the formation announced his landing gear would not extend. Capt Dickinson did an outstanding job directing the formation, keeping SA on his element's fuel state, assisting his wingman with the EP, and ensuring safe aircraft parameters were maintained. (Aug 10)

LT COL SCOTT VANBEEK, 120 FS, 140 FW, BUCKLEY AFB, CO. While on a maverick re-familiarization mission, Lt Col VanBeek's F-16C received a Master Caution light and a Pilot Fault List "Engine Lube Low Quantity." The engine only had .76 gallons out of the normal 3.2 gallons, or less than 25 percent remaining. His oil gauge was fluctuating between 20 and 60 psi at an altitude of 12,000' MSL (7,000' AGL) 90 miles from the closest base, Buckley AFB. He slowed the aircraft down enough to lower the gear and perform a side-slip maneuver to attain a safe, 11-degree angle of attack approach, safely landing the aircraft. (Sep 10)

#### Weapons Safety

TSGT TRANDIN E. WATKINS, 332 AEW, JOINT BASE BALAD, IRAQ. TSgt Watkins noticed mortar fins protruding out from under a pile of metal and wood. He advised members of the DAV team to clear the area. He also noticed three AMMO cans of .50 cal rounds unsecured and exposed to direct sunlight. His quick actions facilitated the turn in of all 1.1 explosives to the base munitions storage area within hours eliminating all hazards. He identified over 50 pounds of improperly stored C4 having the power to level a complex the size of football field. (Aug 10)

SSGT LEROY M. LANE, JR., 23 AMXS, 23 WG, MOODY AFB, GA. When SSgt Lane started the 36-round check on an A-10C GAU-8 30 mm ammunition system, he noticed the hydraulic line in the gun bay had ruptured spraying hydraulic fluid throughout the gun bay, which stopped the functional check mid-stride. He immediately shut down both electrical and hydraulic power on the aircraft to prevent any further damage. He met the emergency responders at the aircraft and helped verify that there were no injuries and no possibility of the aircraft catching fire. (Sep 10)

#### Unit Safety Management

66TH EXPEDITIONARY RESCUE SQUADRON, 451 AEW KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, AFGHANISTAN. PEDRO 23/24 launched to search a river for a missing US Marine. While preparing for an infill, PD 23 received a main transmission module chip light, with increasing transmission temp and decreasing pressure. The crew quickly assessed the EP as a "land as soon as possible" situation. The quick-thinking and teamwork of both ops and maintenance resulted in the successful recovery of all 10 personnel and a 22 million dollar aircraft, before it could be targeted and destroyed by enemy forces. (Aug 10)

99TH EXPEDITIONARY RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON, 380 AEW, AL DHAFRA AB, U.A.E. A U-2 pilot contacted squadron operations stating he was experiencing Decompression Sickness symptoms including headache, vision impairment, profuse sweating, and extremity numbness. PSD personnel developed a plan to ensure the pilot would remain on 100 percent oxygen after extraction and en route to the dive chamber. They coordinated all first-responder actions for emergency extraction of the pilot and removal of the full-pressure suit should the pilot become incapacitated. (Sep 10)

#### 

MR. JACK A. WYLIE, JR., 7 BW, DYESS AFB, TX. Mr. Wylie's sustained leadership and management skills raised the 7th Bomb Wing Ground Safety programs from the 2004 marginal he inherited, to this quarter's ACC PME "Outstanding" rating like a phoenix rising renewed from the ashes of neglect. He oversees the ground safety programs of 22 units, 5,700 personnel, 36 B-1 and 33 C-130 aircraft. The herculean efforts of Mr. Wylie and his undermanned staff through the development and extensive use of excel files, resulted in "oversights virtually non-existent." Eight "Best Practices" were identified and placed on the ACC Safety CoP further extending Mr. Wylie's improvement efforts beyond the 7th Bomb Wing. The continued downward trend in reportable mishaps in the 7th Bomb Wing were maintained in this 3rd quarter with an average decrease rate over the past 3 years of 13 percent per year. This trend was a direct result of his aggressive report, track, trend and resolve attitude prevalent now in the wing. The 7th Bomb Wing Safety Assessment Checklist was found to be a superior product and has been placed on the HQ ACC Safety Community of Practice website.

#### **Flight Safety**



A1C CHRISTOPHER R. MALLOY, 28 OSS, 28 BW, ELLSWORTH AFB, SD. During the quarter, A1C Malloy single-handedly led eight rapid airfield responses in direct support of in-flight emergencies, ground emergencies, and reported BASH conditions. His actions proved invaluable to supporting the flying mission and earned praise from 28 OG leadership. He meticulously conducted over 150 airfield checks and identified five airfield discrepancies. Using proven inspection methods, A1C Malloy recovered three roller bearing fragments from the runway environment that had been dropped by a B-1 during an emergency landing. His prompt location report provided key information to maintenance personnel during their subsequent investigation. He further demonstrated his keen awareness of airfield safety concerns by coordinating 10 local and safety NOTAMs, alerting aircrew to potentially hazardous conditions in a timely manner, and effectively safeguarding flying operations. Finally, A1C Malloy's swift response during two B-52 weather diverts ensured vital information was passed to multiple agencies, culminating in the safe, uneventful landing of the aircraft, and world-class services rendered to the visiting crew.

#### Weapons Safety

MSGT BRIAN K. KILPATRICK, 332 AEW, JOINT BASE BALAD, IRAQ. MSgt Kilpatrick's weapons safety expertise proved invaluable in the training of 42 newly appointed ADWSRs ensuring a seamless transition during one of the busiest periods of AEF rotation at JBB. He issued 22 new and validated 70 existing explosive facility licenses without discrepancy. He identified a US Army unit lacking proper explosive facility licenses that where 75 lbs. over the allowable Net Explosive Weight, and diligently worked with the unit to correct the error. His efforts ensured proper storage of explosives and all required documentation was correct, bringing the program into compliance. MSgt Kilpatrick performed 101 weapons safety inspections, two unit annual inspections, and two TDY assist visits to Sather Air Base and Al Asad Air Base; exceeding the monthly inspection requirement by 106 percent. He discovered and oversaw corrective actions for 12 safety violations ensuring zero explosive mishaps during this period. He performed four Army DAVs where he identified two units storing small arms ammunition, and worked jointly with units to receive the proper explosive facility licenses.

FY10 Flight  As of September 30, 2010				
	Fatal	Aircraft Destroyed	Aircraft Damaged	
1 AF				
9 AF	ţ	* +	<b>★</b> ★	
12 AF		<u>_</u> **	±** ★	
USAFWC		<b>★</b> "		
ANG		**		
(ACC-gained)  AFRC (ACC-gained)		+		

FY10 Ground As of September 30, 2010				
	Fatal	Class A	Class B	
9 AF	1111	4	0	
12 AF	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	3	0	
DRU's	İİ	2	0	

FY1	0 Weapons	As of September 30, 2010
	Class A	Class B
9 AF	0	0
12 AF	0	0
AWFC	0	0

#### Legend

Class A - Permanent Total Disability: Property Damage \$2,000,000 or more

Class B - Permanent Partial Disability; Property Damage between \$500,000 and \$2,000,000

Class C - Lost Workday; Property Damage between \$50,000 and \$500,000

\* Fatality

(Class Description Effective October 1, 2009)

= Fatal

\*\* Non-rate Producing

= Fatal due to misconduct

#### Flight Notes

In the fourth quarter, ACC experienced three Class A flight mishaps. An F-15E struck a bird while performing low altitude bombing practice; the crew safely recovered from the resulting fire and engine shut-down. An MQ-1 was lost shortly after takeoff, and another MQ-1 was lost on which the investigation is on going.

#### **Ground Notes**

ACC completed FY10 with nine Class A fatalities. This number represents a record low for the command. Six PMV mishaps were experienced with PMV2 and PMV4 mishaps having three each. The command also experienced three sports and recreation mishaps; two of which were the results of heart attacks. FY11 can also bring us continued success with every Airmen's help. Practice good personal risk management and watch out for your wingman.

#### Weapons Notes

Weapons mishaps statistics in ACC moved downward in FY10; that is good news. The last three mishaps we experienced involved an AIM-9 GCS radome damaged during checkout; an AGM-158 scratched during upload; and a sheared AGM-88 umbilical during download. Three separate incidents at three separate locations with one common contributing factor – inattentiveness: a normal human condition, but one that must be eliminated as much as possible during explosives operations. Be vigilant and take care of one other.











## Over the Edge



- 3 | PRICELESS
- MIRACLES ON A MOUNTAINSIDE Air Force News Service. Washington
- 8 | Top 10 Ways To keep the in-laws from STAYING AT YOUR HOUSE OVER THE HOLIDAYS

SNOW SHOVEL: \$10 GREEN FLEEGE JACKET: \$75 FITNESS TEST CANCELED
DUE TO SNOW: PRICELESS





The clinic, which is sponsored by VA and the Disabled American Veterans, teaches veterans with disabilities about adaptive Alpine and Nordic skiing. It also introduces them to a number of other adaptive recreational activities and sports. This year's event will feature Veterans to again co-sponsor this event with from the current conflicts in Iraq and our partners at VA and look forward Afghanistan.

The clinic is an annual rehabilitation program open to U.S. military veterans with traumatic brain injuries, spinal cord injuries, orthopedic amputations, visual impairments, certain neurological problems and other disabilities, who receive care at a VA medical facility or military treatment center.

To meet the unique needs of participants, an estimated 200 certified ski instructors for the disabled and several current and former members of the U.S. Disabled medical centers. DAV is a non-Ski Team will serve as instructors.

"The National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic is the highlight of the year for many of our nation's

most profoundly disabled veterans," said DAV National Commander Roberto Barrera, "There is no event that comes close, either in terms of participation or the availability of rehabilitative events for the veterans who make the journey. We're proud to another year of miracles on a mountainside."

At the 6-day event, veterans also learn rock climbing, scuba diving, snowmobiling, curling and sled hockey. Other highlights include a self-defense workshop taught by the U.S. Secret Service and the attendance of Olympic Alpine skier Bode Miller.

VA is a recognized leader in rehabilitative and recreational therapies, and operates more than 1,400 sites of care, including 153 profit, congressionally-chartered veterans service organization with a membership of more than one million wartime-disabled veterans.



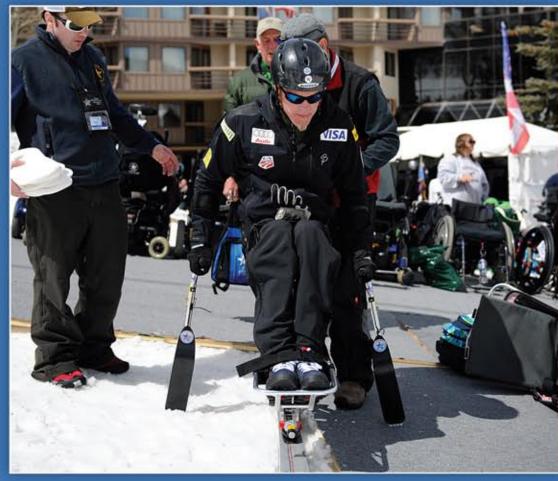
Top Left: Carl Desrosiers skiis SSgt Mareshah Haynes in a mono-ski outside the Silvertree Hotel, Snowmass Village, Colo. Sergeant Haynes is a print journalist assigned to the Defense Media Activity — San Antonio. Mr. Desrosiers is a ski instructor of 23 years covering the 24th National Disabled American Veterans Winter Sports Clinic. The event is sponsored by the Department of Veterans Affairs and Disabled American Veterans.

Bottom Left: Brian Isenhour is assisted by Mark Lozano as they snowboard for the 24th National Disabled American Veterans Winter Sports Clinic in Snowmass Village, Colo. Isenhour is an Air Force vet. Lozano is a snowboard instructor.

Top Right: Glenn Hallberg and Mark Finken teach Michael Murphy how to ski during the 23rd National Disabled American Veterans Winter Sports Clinic. Hallberg and Finken are ski instructors for the sports clinic. Murphy is prior Air Force and his hometown is Dayton, Ohio. This is Murphy's first year attending the Disabled American Veterans Winter Sports Clinic. The Disabled American Veterans Winter Sports Clinic is the world leader in promoting rehabilitation by instructing veterans with disabilities in adaptive Alpine and Nordic skiing, and introducing them to a number of other adaptive recreational activities and sports.

Bottom Right: Sean Halsted gets strapped into a mono-ski outside the Silvertree Hotel for the 24th National Disabled American Veterans Winter Sports Clinic in Snowmass Village, Colo. Mr. Halsted is an Air Force veteran and resides in Rathdrum, Idaho.





## TOP ways to

# keep the in-laws from staying at your house over the holidays.

- 10. Don't water the tree you cut down and brought into your house.
- 9. Count on Santa Claus to clean your chimney on his way down.
- 8. Cook the holiday ham while you run out to finish shopping.
- 7. Do flaming shots with Grandma's homemade egg nog.
- 6. Take the batteries out of all of your smoke detectors.
- 5. Keep counting on your 23-year-old fire extinguisher.
- 4. Run 56 strings of Christmas lights from one outlet.
- 3. Light enough candles to land a 747 at midnight.
- 2. Leave the kerosene heater burning unattended.
- 1. Three words: PROPANE TURKEY FRYER.

