

AIRLIFTER

SOONER

August 2012



Photo by Senior Airman Patricia Baker

Airmen from Will Rogers Air National Guard base arrive on the base flight line June 15, and take a deep breath after a week long operational readiness inspection held in Alpena, Mich. The 137th Air Refueling Wing received an overall rating of excellent during the inspection.

ORI complete, excellence in all we do

**By Senior Airman Patricia Baker,
137 ARW Public Affairs**

The Airmen of the 137th Air Refueling Wing, from Will Rogers Air National Guard base, mobilized to Alpena, Mich., in June and scored an overall rating of excellent after a week long operational readiness inspection, which tested their ability to execute a wartime mission or contingency mission and successfully operate under

mission conditions.

The 137 ARW scored excellent for the conventional operational readiness inspection, in addition to scoring excellent for their efforts in the nuclear operational readiness inspection. This NORI was a first for the 137 ARW.

Not only is it an amazing accomplishment to receive two excellent scores, but to score excellent on the base's first NORI is also a great

accomplishment, said an inspector general.

In Alpena the 137 ARW teamed up with the 507 ARW and 459 ARW. The wing was graded in the major areas of initial response, employment, mission support, and ability to survive and operate during the inspections.

While mobilized, Airmen had to demonstrate their abilities to

See ORI pages 4, 5

EXCELLENT Over All



**By Col. Glen Baker,
137th Air Refueling
Wing Commander**

Congratulations to all the men and women of the 137th ARW on achieving an EXCELLENT overall grade on the recent inspections! It feels good for the Wing to be recognized for all the hard work over the past twenty-plus months in preparation and execution.

In discussions with Wing leadership before the inspections, I expressed I was not concerned with

the overall grade. Major inspections of this type are graded on a five-tier system and our experience shows if we worry about being graded the mission suffers. What I wanted to focus on was our level of effort and energy applied to the inspection. And to emphasize this, I applied my own parameters to the top two tiers of the grading system.

Outstanding: Let's display Outstanding attitudes, sense of urgency and attention to safety.

Excellent: Let's exhibit Excellent levels of Wingmen consideration, teamwork and professionalism.

That is exactly what each of you delivered. Whether or not you were an active participant in the inspections, your day to day standard levels of Excellence and Outstanding shined brightly, and helped us succeed in this significant endeavor.

It is truly an honor and privilege to be a part of the 137th ARW, sincerely, Col Glen Baker

Info for Airmen

NCOA facilitators needed:

Facilitators needed Sept. 3-14, to facilitate a two-week NCOA course. This is a great opportunity to help build the futures of potential NCOs. If you are interested, please contact Chief Geberth at 686-5794 or 517-7999.

The 137 CES will be accepting applications, for 2 Traditional 32E Civil Engineer Officers, through COB August 26.

Undergraduate academic specialization is mandatory in architecture or civil, electrical, general, environmental, construction, architectural, or

mechanical engineering in a school that has at least one program accredited by a nationally recognized body in engineering. Interviews of qualified candidates will be scheduled after the applications deadline of 26 August 2012.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please feel free to contact LtCol Michael R. Spaulding Work Phone: (405) 686-5310

The 137 ARW will be accepting applications for a public affairs officer through COB September 12. This candidate will be classified as a public affairs officer and tasked as a special projects officer for the wing. Inter-

views of qualified candidates will be conducted during September UTA. For more information call Capt Thomas Bryceland at 686-5039.

Undergrad pilot board

The 185th Air Refueling Squadron is currently accepting application packages from prospective Undergraduate Pilot Training candidates to meet the 2012 UPT Interview Board.

Interviews will be held during September drill. To be considered, application packages must be received by COB August UTA. Please contact Justin Walker at 686-5797 for full details.

137th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs Staff

Contents of the Sooner Airlifter are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the Department of the Air Force. The content is edited, prepared and provided by the 137th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs Office.

For consideration, all submissions must be provided to the PA Office, at 137ARW.PA@ang.af.mil or in Bldg. 1046, 686-5227, no later than 10 a.m. Saturday of drill weekend. The PA Office distributes the Airlifter ten months each year according to training needs.

PA Officer: 2nd Lt. Jennifer Lavin; NCOIC: Senior Master Sgt. Kevin Tucker; public affairs specialists: Senior Airman Patricia Baker, Airman 1st Class Kasey Phipps; photographers: Tech. Sgt. Roberta Thompson; videographer: Master Sgt. Jun Kim, Airman Dustin Wheeler.

Personnel Updates

Newcomers:

Airman Basic Breanna Cronic
 Airman Basic Garin King
 Airman 1st Class Avery Allsbury
 Airman 1st Class Henry Castagnetta
 Airman 1st Class Everett Eugenio
 Airman 1st Class Bryce Henry
 Airman 1st Class Tynisha Mannie
 Airman 1st Class Tyler Woodward
 Staff Sgt. Jeremiah Blanchard
 Staff Sgt. Randy Pace

Promotions:

Tech. Sgt. Drew Stanley
 Tech. Sgt. Christopher Johnson
 Master Sgt. Brian White
 Capt. Brandon Bowen
 Capt. Adam Gobbo
 Capt. Zachary Shuster

Retirements:

Tech. Sgt. Robert Miller
 Tech. Sgt. Jimmy Murphy
 Tech. Sgt. Michael Smith
 Tech. Sgt. Julie Sutton
 Master Sgt. Calvin Musgrove
 Master Sgt. Cynthia Nall
 Master Sgt. Billy Newton
 Master Sgt. Kristy Williams
 Senior Master Sgt. Daniel Heiser
 Lt. Col. Jacqueline Deedsbuford
 Lt. Col. Kenneth Kleid

101 critical days of summer

Troops are reminded that the 101 critical days of summer campaign continues through Sept. 4.

Our vision this year is to have an injury and mishap-free summer. Look out for yourself and your wingman, and be safe.

2012 Drill Dates

July	N/A
August	18-19
September	15-16
October	13-14
November	3-4
December	1-2

Menu

Saturday:

Box lunch with sandwich, chips and a cookie

Sunday:

Box lunch with sandwich, chips and a cookie

New officer vacancy pool

Officers and those interested in becoming officers can now submit their name, info and job interests into a nation-wide officer recruitment pool for the Air National Guard.

This system allows members seeking ANG officer positions and units trying to fill positions to more effectively connect and find each other. Putting your information in this vacancy pool allows you to market your talents and interests to a much bigger audience.

Members and units interested should contact Tech. Sgt. Ekarath Lavarn at 568-6698 or at ekarath.lavarn@ang.af.mil for more details.

Numbers to know

(Area code 405)

Angie Cunningham
(Psychological Health): 686-5145
Security Forces: 686-5301
Emergencies: 911, then 686-5117
ID card appointments: 686-5212
Medical appointments: 686-5245
Comm Help desk: 686-5000
Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Hotline: 686-5561
Mishap reporting: 686-5555
Chaplain's office: 686-5145
Base information line: 686-5627
Jennifer Lain, Airman & Family Readiness: 686-5683

1st shirt announcement

Three first shirt positions are open on base for the AES, SFS and the MSG. Applications are due COB Sunday, Sept. 16. Please contact Chief Geberth at 686-5794 or 517-7999 for more information.

Worship services

Wing Conference Room 10 a.m.

Saturday: Catholic mass

Sunday: Protestant worship

SARC and SAPR information

If you have been a victim of a sexual assault contact the SAPR hotline 24/7 at 550-5561.

You are entitled to make a restricted or confidential report about the sexual assault.

The Sexual Assault Response Coordinator, Victim's Advocate, Health Care Provider or a Chaplain can all help you confidentially.

Talk to your SARC, Capt. Jessica Chapa at 686-5039 for more information.

Excellent score, o

ORI from page 1

perform their daily Air Force duties under simulated wartime incidents and situations.

They also had to complete extra tasks, specific to being in a deployed setting, that they would not normally have to do at home base.

“The 137th Air Refueling Wing (is) capable and ready to execute their nation’s nuclear mission and their air refueling mission,” said an inspector general, “I think you just set the bar for everyone else.”

Col. Glen Baker, commander for the 137 ARW, said, “I couldn’t be more proud of the men and women of the 137th Air Refueling Wing and their outstanding level of effort preparing for these inspections.

To receive such high scores during these inspections back- was our first NOR

The wing had several members recognized by the CORI and NC

Baker said the 137th ARW guardsmen were not only excellent performers along with the 137th ARW, they showed how even in a deployed setting, completing the mission with the same abilities.

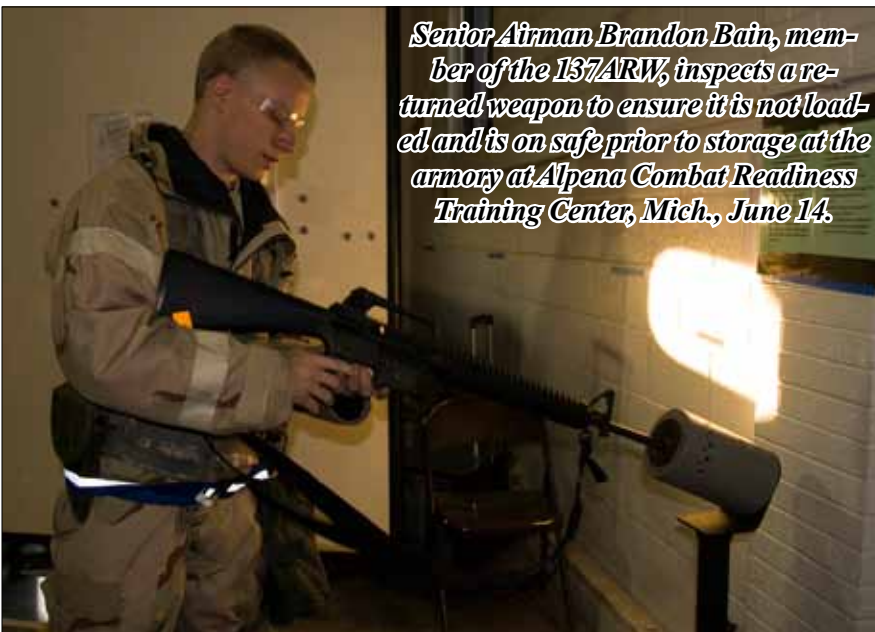
Col. Dave McCallister, commander of the 137 ARW, said, “The 137th ARW wing is just increasing its role as a crucial part. I’ve seen it done before, and if we do it again, we’ve got to be ready for the Air Force.”

Col. Devin Wo



Photos by Tech. Sgt. Roberta Thompson

Staff Sgt. Hector Flores, with the 507 ARW, stands guard in a defensive fighting position barricade June 13, at Alpena, Mich.



Senior Airman Brandon Bain, member of the 137ARW, inspects a returned weapon to ensure it is not loaded and is on safe prior to storage at the armory at Alpena Combat Readiness Training Center, Mich., June 14.



Airman 1st Class Isabelle Stewart, assigned to the 137th ARW, uses chalk to arrive back from the ORI at the base. The troops had to don chemical warfare gear, and casualties, perform self-aid and buddy aid, and also maintain the day-to-day function

Outstanding effort

high marks for two major
to-back, one of which
ORI, is truly remarkable.”
77 exceptional perform-
the inspector general for
ORI.
fact that traditional
recognized as exceptional
with full-time members
everyone was devoted to
mission to the best of their
Cormack, member of
d, “everything about this
dible. Everybody plays a
said it before, and I’ll say
ot the best unit in the Air
Wooden, vice commander

for the 137 ARW, said, “I couldn’t be more proud of a group than I am now.”
Wooden said he would like to challenge the Airmen of WRANGB to keep on using the programs and plans that have made the base so successful during these inspections.
“It is important to keep the efforts going and to exercise what we have learned from these key experiences,” said Wooden.
“We can bring what we bring to the fight in a way that is not only accepted but relished,” said Brig. Gen. Greg Ferguson, former commander for the 137 ARW, “to continue to take the 137th into the future with this kind of style, kind of pride, kind of professionalism, is all we could hope for.”



Members with the 459 ARW, run through a functional check using the aircrew checklist prior to accepting patients for transport during a crisis reach mission June 12.



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Kevin Tucker
ed to the 137 ARW, marshals in the last
base flight line June 16. During the ORI
respond quickly to simulated accidents
ly care, deal with other war simulations,
as of their base area.

Members from the 137th, 459th and 507th Air Refueling Wings work to load patients and equipment for transport during an exercise crisis reach mission June 12, at the 124th Air Expeditionary Wing in Alpena, Mich. The 137th, 459th and 507th Air Refueling Wings joined forces for the operational readiness inspection.





AIRMAN SPOTLIGHT

Staff Sgt. Jesse Mott



Public Affairs courtesy photo

Unit/Position... 137th Operations Group non-commissioned officer in charge.

In the Air Guard... since August 2008.

How long have you been in this position... four years.

Job Duties... Take accountability.

Special Awards... 2011 Team Tinker Enlisted Individual Reservist of the Year.

The following is a quote from Jesse's award biography, "her mission first, people always attitude helped her collaborate with project managers on 13 aircraft modification templates that provided real-time spare parts computation to the depot. Using her supply savvy, she re-allocated critical parts from local material readiness spares package kits to satisfy an immediate need in Al Dhafra, United Arab Emir-

ates."

Career goals... I want to serve my country and state and stay in until retirement age.

Hobbies... In my spare time I enjoy drawing, working out and watching movies.

What does the rest of your month between drills look like... I work Full-time for the transportation security administration, and I am a single parent.

I especially like spending time with my family and my son, Jayden.

What has been one of the most rewarding experiences while serving in the Air Guard... Being part of something that is bigger than everyday life.

Advice to new Airmen... Only you are in charge of your future and can insure that you succeed.

Facebook photo caption contest winner

Will Rogers Air National Guard Base is proud to announce August's photo caption contest winner Master Sgt. Scott Kenney with the 137th Maintenance Group.

His clever caption was one of many quality descriptions posted to the base's Facebook page over the past month.

Each week there will be a new photo posted to the base's



137 ARW members announce plans for a competing water taxi company on the Bricktown canal. Caption by Master Sgt. Scott Kenney.

Photo by Senior Airman Patricia Baker

page. Members and followers of the page can write their own

funny and witty captions for the photo in order to see if they

can win the ultimate monthly challenge and have their entry

and photo printed in the Airlifter.

Check out and join the 137th Air Refueling Wing on Facebook for full stories, event photo albums, videos and other news from base. It's a great way to keep in touch with people and receive updated information each week and in between guard drill weekends.

The page is open to family members and to the public.

How well are you taking care of yourself?



**By Angela Cunningham,
137 ARW Wing Director
of Psychological Health**

How well do you take care of yourself? When we ignore our own needs and forget to physically or emotionally refuel, we begin running on fumes.

We need to do good things for ourselves in order to do good things for those around us.

Consider your needs: Take a few minutes to sit down and think about what gives you energy, strength and a sense of calm.

There are no right answers. However, make sure that

the activities you consider are healthy for you. Self-care is about nurturing yourself, not engaging in behaviors that are temporarily distracting but potentially risky.

For example, if you do something for yourself that would increase your debt it will ultimately increase your stress level. This is not an activity to put on your list.

Instead, think about budgeting the time rather than the money.

It is important to take time for yourself on a daily basis. Enjoying coffee with the morning paper, taking a power walk, and so forth can all help recharge our batteries each and every day.

Schedule a recurring appointment with yourself, as little as a half hour and enjoy some quality “me” time on a regular basis.

Self-care is a gift to share with others.

Once you have learned the importance of caring for yourself, support others in doing the same.

Teaching others about self-care will reinforce the lesson that you have already learned. YOU are important.

Airman medic helps save teenager

**by Senior Airman Patricia Baker,
137 ARW Public Affairs**

Maj. Tanya Keck-Smith, a physician’s assistant with the 137th Medical Group at Will Rogers, helped save the life of a 14-year-old boy after a boating accident at Lake Arcadia in Edmond, Okla., on Memorial Day, May 28.

Keck-Smith and her family took their boat out that afternoon for some fun in the sun and some tubing on the water. As they were coming in for the day, she said a boat came up next to them with the people on board screaming and yelling. They were saying that they had an injured person on their boat and that they needed to dock quickly.

The dock was already jammed up with others getting vessels out of the water, but Keck-Smith said she could see the injured boy from their boat.

“It was instinct,” she said, “it was second nature, being medical, to want to help him.”

She hopped onto a nearby Sea-Doo then onto the injured person’s boat and told his family members she was a medic.

“When I got on the boat he was completely ashen gray,” she said, “(from) huge amounts of blood loss.”

The teen had been run over by the boat and hit by its propeller while the family was tubing. She said she grabbed whatever she could, shirts, towels, and started packing his severe wounds and applying pressure to try and stop the continued loss of blood.

Within 15 minutes the teen was air lifted to the nearest hospital. Keck-Smith later found out he would live after multiple surgeries, muscle and tendon reconstruction, and grafting procedures.

Keck-Smith received all of her medical training through the Air Force after switching to medical from the intelligence unit.

“The biggest thing I felt,” she said, “is that could have been us. That was a big boat safety awareness weekend for us.”

“I think the reality of the incident was; that could be anybody if you’re not careful, or if you have too many distracters.”

She said the incident made it clear that things like too many people on a boat, a crowded lake, drinking while boating, or not wearing your life jacket, can become a real problem when it comes to boat safety.

Keck-Smith has been first on the scene to several car accidents and ER incidents. She said it is amazing how quickly your training kicks in, “you just do what you’re trained to do.”



Photo by Senior Airman Patricia Baker

Amber Backaus, a camper at Kids Kamp 2012, prepares to launch an arrow while at Camp Gruber in Braggs, Okla., June 18. Kids Kamp is put on each year by the Family Support and Readiness personnel of both the Air and Army Oklahoma National Guards. For 15 years it has allowed military dependents, ages 9-13, to participate in activities such as repelling, camping, fishing, military marching, ceremony procedures, and more. For full story and photos visit 137th Air Refueling Wing on Facebook.

Air Force Core Values

Integrity First
 Service Before Self
 Excellence In All We Do

WILL ROGERS MISSION STATEMENT

“To enhance global reach by serving our nation, state and community through the unique capabilities of the 137th Air Refueling Wing, the 205th Engineering Installation Squadron, and the 146th Air Support Operations Squadron.”

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To the family of: