122nd Fighter Wing Command Messages and Talking Points- 2014 Deployment

EM=CM+A2Q

Effective Message= A Command Message + Answer to the Question (Talking Points)

- Theme: Deployment
  - ***Command Message:*** The 122nd Fighter Wing is prepared to provide accurate and efficient combat support overseas during their upcoming deployment.
  - ***Talking Points:***
    - Approx. 300 Airmen deployed to the U.S. Central Command region from Fort Wayne and a handful of airmen from the 181st at Terre Haute will be joining them to support.
    - The upcoming deployment is a historic event, with more airmen deploying longer than ever from an Air National Guard base.
    - Considering the fact that most Air National Guard members deploy for a period rarely longer than 90 days, the Blacksnakes will be one of the only Air National Guard bases in history to be overseas for a six month period.
    - The Blacksnakes are at the highest readiness level possible, having completed training that includes cultural awareness, weapons qualifications and medical education, all in preparation for heading overseas.
- Theme: Mission
  - ***Command Message***: The 122nd Fighter Wing is dedicated to supporting Hoosiers and US citizens through the Air Force's approach of fly-fight-win.
  - ***Talking Points***:
    - From its experience overseas defending the nation, the fighter wing has established itself the proven choice as a warfighter.
    - The 122nd is the first choice when it comes to homeland defense, confirmed by its assistance in disaster response both inside and outside the state of Indiana.
    - When it comes to global partnerships, the 122nd Fighter Wing is the enduring choice as is displayed by its over 20 year partnership with Slovakia and its continuing positive relationships with countries around the world.
- Theme: Readiness
  - ***Command Message***: We are equipped and ready at all times to defend the state and nation in combat operations and combat support.
  - ***Talking Points***:
    - The 122nd has recently taken part in multiple exercises, helping to increase readiness. These exercises include: Greenflag, Hawgsmoke and an active shooter scenario.
    - With yearly inspections and exercises, the fighter wing remains prepared to take the lead in defending the United States and its citizens.

Quick 122nd FW Deployment Facts:

2000 - 248 pax, 15-30 days First AEF deploy, Operation Southern Watch
2001- 254 pax, 15-30 days AEF , Operations Southern Watch
2004 - 345 pax, 45-120 days, Operations Iraqi Freedom
2006 - 305 pax, 60 days, Operations Iraqi Freedom
2007- 345 pax 45 days, Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operations Enduring Freedom
SFS members have been mobilized for 6 month periods since 2001- In groups of 13 CES and LRS personnel have been mobilized for 6 month periods since 2009 - 50 CES members deployed to GITMO.
6 months is the new standard for deployments

122nd Fighter Wing Factsheet

Created by the 122nd Public Affairs Office

122nd Fighter Wing Facts:

- **Baer Field**:
  - Named after Paul Baer, WWI 16 victory ace
  - Built in 1941 for $10 Million

- **Fort Wayne** itself is named after **General Mad Anthony Wayne**, who earned his nickname for his reckless courage in battle
    - The Delaware Indians called him a "**Blacksnake**" because he waited patiently for the right moment to strike.
    - The nickname "Blacksnakes" started at the 122nd in the 1990s
- The 122nd also hosts the **Army's** 338th Quarter Master Field Service Company
- **Base Statistics**:
    - Around 1,100 **total staff** (Around 100 officers and 950 enlisted)
    - 33 Buildings on 395,000 square feet of land/ $204 million replacement value
    - $65 million impact on the local economy
    - Operated the F-16 for 18 years (1992-2010)
    - Currently operate the A-10 Warthog
    - Hoping to receive the F-35 around 2020
- **Awards and Achievements**:
    - Have received 5 outstanding unit awards (2007 and 2011 most recent)
    - NGAUS Distinguished Flying Unit in 2000 and 2011
    - Received the Air Force Flying Safety Award in 2008 and 2010
    - No Class-A Mishaps since 1989
    - Entered A-10C conversion in 2010 and completed conversion six months early in 2012
- **122nd Mission:** to maintain a well trained and equipped A-10C unit available immediately for combat operations and combat support with adaptable Airmen. During peacetime operations, assist local authorities with rescue and relief operations in the event of a natural disaster, disturbance or other emergency while protecting the citizens of Indiana and their property
- **Base History**:
    - 1941: Baer Field construction begins
    - 1941-1945: Baer Field serves as a maintenance center for C-47 transports heading to war (Including most of the C-47s that were used in the invasion at Normandy)
    - 1943-1945: The 358th Fighter Group from Richmond Virginia flies P-47D Thunderbolts in WWII
    - 1945: Baer Field closes
    - 1946: 358th Fighter Group is re-designated as the 122nd Fighter Group and is stationed at Stout Field in Indianapolis
    - 1954: 163rd Fighter-Bomber Squadron was activated and Wing Headquarters were transferred to Baer Field
    - 1949: 122nd Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron formed at Baer Field
    - 1954: Unit converts to F-80 Shooting Star jet fighters
    - 1955: Unit converts to F-86 Saber jet fighters
    - 1957: F-84's arrive at Baer Field (Portions of the base were activated for the Korean war around this time)
    - Early 1960's: The wing activated for the Berlin crisis
    - 1971: Unit converts to F-100D/F jet fighters
    - 1978: Unit converts to F4C Phantoms
    - 1985: Unit converts to F4E
    - 1991: Unit convers to F16C Fighting Falcons
    - 1991: Base security unit is deployed to Saudi Arabia (First time the wing is activated to serve in a combat zone)
    - 2006 & 2007: Over 400 members of the unit deployed to Balad, Iraq
    - 2010: Unit converts to A-10 Warthogs
    - 2012: Pilots are in combat before mission ready deadline (finished transition six months early)

<u>A-10 Facts</u>:

- The only USAF aircraft designed solely for Close Air Support (CAS)
- 21 Currently assigned to the 122nd
- Basic Stats
    - **Weight**: 24,959 lbs. empty/ 47,094 lbs. on a CAS mission
    - **Length**: 53 ft. 4 in./ 57 ft. 6 in. wingspan
    - **Speed**: 138 mph stall/ 340 mph cruise/ 439 mph maximum

    - **Range**: 2,580 miles ferry range/ 288 miles 1.88 hr. loiter on a CAS mission
    - **Cost**: $11.8 million on average per aircraft in 1994 dollars
- Designed around the **GAU-8 Avenger**
- First flew on May 10, 1972
- Built as a low-cost attack aircraft with high survivability and a better loiter time than jets of the time
- Has been **upgraded** with:
    - Laser receiver pod (1978)
    - Inertial navigation systems (1980)
    - GPS navigation systems and multi-function displays (1999)
    - Precision Engagement upgrades: fire control systems, electronic countermeasures and the ability to aim smart bombs (2005)
    - Wing replacements (2011- currently in progress)
- High wing aspect ratio allows: superior maneuverability at low speed and altitude along with short takeoff and landings
- Contains triple redundant flight systems with mechanical systems backing up double redundant hydraulic systems (allowing a pilot to fly and land the A-10 when hydraulic power or part of a wing is lost)
- Designed to fly with one engine, one tail, one elevator, and half of one wing missing
- Its **fuel tanks** are self-sealing and protected by fire-retardant foam
- The main **landing gear** is designed so that the wheel partially protrude, even when in flight, so that if the landing gears fail completely the plane can still land on its underside
- The **cockpit** is protected by a 1,200 lb. titanium armor casing that has been referred to as a "bathtub"
    - This can withstand 23mm cannon fire and some 57mm rounds
    - 0.5 to 1.5 in. thick titanium plates
    - Makes up 6% of the aircraft's weight
    - Front canopy and windscreen are also resistant to small arms fire

<u>General Electric TF34-GE-100 Turbofan Engines</u>:

- Provides 9,250 lbf maximum **thrust**
- **Weight**: 758-1676 kilograms (around 1,671- 3694 lbs.)
- **Length**: 2.616-3.696 meters long and 1.118-1.346 meters in diameter
- The engines are angled up by nine degrees so that they cancel out the nose-down pitching moment that would otherwise be generated due to being mounted above the aerodynamic center of the aircraft
- The engines are placed where they are so that engine exhaust passes over the aircraft's horizontal stabilizer and between the twin tails.
    - This decreases the plane's infrared signature significantly
    - It also allows the A-10 to take off from forward air bases with semi-prepared runways because they take less damage from FOD (foreign object damage)
    - The engine's placement also shields them behind the wings partially from anti-aircraft fire

<u>GAU-8 Avenger Facts</u>:

- **Weight**: The heaviest rotary cannon that has ever been mounted on an aircraft at 619.5 lbs. (4,029 lbs. with the feed system, drum and max ammo load)
- **Length**: 19 ft. and 10.5 in.
- **Service Period**: 1977-present
- 7 barrels, Hydraulic-Driven/Electric Motor
- 30mm caliber bullets; 1,150 rounds total held in the drum at the 122nd
- 4,200 rounds per minute
- 3,500 feet per second
- 4,000 foot **effective range**/12,000 foot **max range**
- Link-less feed system
- The barrel fires when reaching the 9 o'clock position when viewed from the front
- Because the gun's recoil forces could push the entire plane off target, the weapon itself if mounted off-center so that the firing barrel lies in the line of flight.

- The firing barrel also lies just below the aircraft's center of gravity to help prevent changed in pitch and/or yaw when receiving recoil from firing.
- 10,000 lbs. of force when firing, slightly more than the output of one A-10 TF34 engine (9,065 lbf.); This only slows the aircraft a few miles per hour in reality

A-10 Weapons facts:

- **30mm**:
    - Anti-Armor bullets
    - Aluminum body cast around a smaller caliber depleted uranium penetrating core
    - **Type/Weight**: PGU-14/B Armor Piercing Incendiary (15 oz.)
    - **Type/Weight**: PGU-13/B High Explosive Incendiary (12.7 oz.)
    - **Length**: 11.4 inches in length
- **AGM-65 Maverick** air-to-surface missiles:
    - Uses electro-optical (A, B, H, J, and K models), infrared targeting (D, F, and G models) or laser (E model)
    - **Weight**: 462-670 lbs.
    - **Length**: 8 ft. 2 in.
    - **Speed**: 1,150 kilometers per hour (714 mph)
    - **Range**: greater than 22 km (13.6 miles)
    - **Cost**: $17,000 to $110,000 per missile depending on variant
- **AIM-9** Sidewinder air-to-air missiles:
    - Infrared homing guidance system
    - Were produced starting in 1953
    - **Weight**: 188 lbs.
    - **Length**: 9 ft. 11 in.
    - **Speed**: Mach 2.5
    - **Range**: 0.6 to 22 miles
    - **Cost**: $664,933 per missile
- Also flies cluster bombs, rocket pods and smart bombs