

BIG SKY FLYER



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Command Information

Col. Buel Dickson
120th Maintenance Group Commander

With our ever busy lives which we all seem to be facing each day, it's easy to let time with our families slip lower and lower on the priority list.

Spending time with family, helps create strong bonds with our spouses and children that can carry them and you through difficult times. These times seem to be popping up more frequently in today's fast paced world.

Whether you are married or not, relationships can ground us, giving us a sense of purpose and well-being. Quality time with family and friends will be different for each person, but it is important that you make it a priority for yourself, your family, and your important support people.

I know this may sound a bit mushy coming from me, but I [CLICK FOR COMPLETE STORY](#)



A C-130 Hercules assigned to the 120th Airlift Wing of the Montana Air National Guard performs a flyover of the Montana Veterans Memorial in Great Falls, Mont. during the Memorial Day observance May 30, 2016.

Welcome home to the 219th RED HORSE Squadron!

By Senior Master Sgt. Eric Peterson



Eighty members of the 219th RED HORSE Squadron of the Montana Air National Guard returned home from an eight month deployment to Southwest Asia May 7.

MTANG leadership joined a large group of family members and friends in a Holman Aviation

hangar to welcome them back home to Montana.

The late evening arrival of the chartered 747 aircraft was the end to a 28 hour trip home for the 219th RHS personnel. The aircraft had made one stop in New York to deliver another military unit home.

Loud cheers erupted from the reception group as the wheels of the plane touched down at the Great Falls International Airport.

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Featured video story-120th Mission Support Group FTX



MTANG family grows by six

By Staff Sgt. Lindsey Soulsby

The Montana Air National Guard conducted a mass enlistment ceremony on the flight line April 30 for new members of the unit.

Student flight, members of the MTANG, and friends and family came out to support the six newest members entering the unit.

Col. Thomas Mora, 120th Airlift Wing vice commander, administered the oath to Capt. Kevin Ochs, 219th RED HORSE engineer, to continue his service as a commissioned officer in the MTANG.

[CLICK FOR COMPLETE STORY](#)



**Building the crew—
loadmasters**

(Part one in a five-part series on flight crew positions)

By Tech. Sgt. Michael Touchette

Loadmasters are enlisted flight crew members aboard C-130 Hercules aircraft who are responsible for properly loading,

securing and accompanying cargo and passengers. From calculating proper weight distribution to providing for passenger comfort throughout the flight, loadmasters safeguard equipment and personnel on flights around the world.

“The best part is flying with other units and being an integral part of the mission,” said Senior Airman Jake Weisen, a loadmaster with the 120th Airlift Wing.

“You know that what you’re doing is important; you’re helping others get trained up as well as training yourself.”

Initial training to become a loadmaster begins with the Aircrew Fundamentals Course at Lackland Air Force Base in San [CLICK FOR COMPLETE STORY](#)

HAZWOPER class held at the 120th Airlift Wing

By Senior Master Sgt. Eric Peterson

The 120th Airlift Wing of the Montana Air National Guard conducted a Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) class on the base located at the Great Falls International Airport May 16-20.

[CLICK FOR COMPLETE STORY](#)



**Even without snow
biathlete will go**

By Staff Sgt. Lindsey Soulsby

Staff Sgt. Ernst Visscher, a 120th Airlift Wing crew chief journeyman and the only Air National Guard member of the Montana National Guard Biathlon team, competed in the 41st Annual National Guard Bureau Biathlon Championships February 26 to March 4 at the biathlon course [CLICK FOR COMPLETE STORY](#)

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**History of the Montana Air National Guard
(From the June 1966 Scorpion newsletter)
MTANG deploys to Cold Lake, Canada**



The 120th Fighter Group of the Montana Air National Guard deployed a limited amount of personnel and aircraft to participate in an exercise held at Cold Lake, Canada June 14, 1966.

This was the first time unit members would operate from a Royal Canadian Air Force Base.

The Guardsmen remaining at the base in Great Falls participated in a week-long encampment June 13-19.

MTANG Annual Family Day

Date: Saturday, June 4th, 2016

Fun Run registration: 9:30 a.m.,

safety briefing: 10 a.m., **warm**

up: 10:10 and start: 10:30 a.m.

Barbeque: 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Games, cotton candy, ice

cream, dunking booth, photo

booth and more!

GO FOR GREEN

Eating well to perform



June Dining Facility menu

Saturday-Family Day Picnic

Sunday-Chili Mac, Lemon-

Herb Chicken, Steamed Rice,

Mashed Potatoes, 5 Way

Mixed Vegetables, Green

Beans, Chicken Grave

Desserts-Soft Ice Cream and a

wide variety of desserts