

# THE EN GARDE



174TH ATKW, NYANG, HANCOCK FIELD ANGB, SYRACUSE, N.Y.



174<sup>th</sup> Attack Wing  
Change of Command

Adirondack Warrior 25-1

Exercise Tapio 2025



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# The En Garde



The En Garde is an official publication of the New York Air National Guard's 174<sup>th</sup> Attack Wing. Headquartered at Hancock Field Air National Guard Base in Syracuse, NY, the Wing's primary mission is to operate the MQ-9 Reaper remotely piloted aircraft.

The En Garde is published quarterly by the 174<sup>th</sup> Attack Wing's Public Affairs Office. Views which appear in this publication are not necessarily those of the Department of Defense, the Air Force or the National Guard Bureau. To contribute to the En Garde contact the PA office by phone at (315) 233-2651 or email at [174.ATKW.PAO.Org@us.af.mil](mailto:174.ATKW.PAO.Org@us.af.mil).

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## Front Cover Photo:

Wing members stand in formation during a 174<sup>th</sup> Attack Wing change of command ceremony at Hancock Field Air National Guard Base in Syracuse, NY, Dec. 6, 2025. During the ceremony Col. Brett Batick assumed command of the wing from outgoing commander Brig. Gen. John O'Connor. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Liam Eveleigh)

## Back Cover Photo:

The 174th Attack Wing headquarters building pictured during a winter snow storm at Hancock Field Air National Guard Base in Syracuse, NY, Jan. 2, 2025. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Dylan McCrink)



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# 174<sup>th</sup> Attack Wing Commander's Comments

Thank you for reading the first copy of the new version of the En Garde. This publication was a big part of the 174<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing for many years. We are bringing it back in digital form with some limited copies printed and distributed to Groups. We will not be able to mail physical copies to all members like was done with the previous version, but we will be able to digitally mail this to everyone.

My intent for this publication is not to take the place of newsletters that your Squadrons or Groups may have. This is to be the Wing magazine, published by our Public Affairs Office, where we can tell the stories of the Airmen in this Wing. We will publish this quarterly prior to one of the drill weekends.

I would also like to hear from you. I offer anyone in this Wing an opportunity to write a story that we can publish here. There will be some guidelines for that going forward but I hope that some of you will take me up on that offer. If you have a good idea, please reach out to our public affairs office to discuss it and talk about a few of those guidelines.

We do unbelievable things in this Wing. I hope that you will find this to be a magazine where we can showcase some of those things and one that we are all proud to show to our families and friends. We're also open to new ideas for content as the publication evolves. If you have suggestions, please let our public affairs shop know.

Thanks again 174<sup>th</sup>, I could not be more proud of this Wing.

Col. Brett Batick  
174<sup>th</sup> Attack Wing Commander

# A Message from the Commander

To the Men and Women of the 174<sup>th</sup> Attack Wing,

During my time as commander of the 174<sup>th</sup> ATKW, I intend to be driven by my priorities of Warfighting, Readiness, and Civil Support. These priorities define what I believe are the most important keys to our success. I expect these to stay the same each year. Our goals will be driven by these priorities and are likely to change each year. Your Group and Squadron goals will be directly supportive of the Wing goals.

## Warfighting

What is it: To me warfighting encompasses all of the things that qualify us to serve our fellow citizens. We cannot forget that our job is to fight our nation's wars and support our state in times of need. Warfighting starts with discipline, discipline to be the best at whatever your individual job is. But also discipline that is tempered with the understanding of the toll that service takes on our minds, bodies, and families. Warfighting also includes the resiliency to serve as a profession. This includes long-term adherence to standards, the mastering of your craft, and moral integrity. To me, warfighting is a mindset and we are going to break it down into individual goals for the Wing and Groups this year.

Why is it important: Warfare is constantly changing. To thrive in that uncertainty, by being experts, we will find adaptation becomes easy and we are able to more quickly evolve our skills to new scenarios.

## Readiness

What is it: Readiness means we are all trained, qualified, resourced, and prepared to do our jobs. Readiness has become high on our list of priorities in the last few years, and it goes hand in hand with Warfighting. Readiness starts with Recruiting and Retention where our efforts recently have been remarkable. From there, all the training upgrades, qualifications, medical requirements, fitness, etc. are included. I'm asking that all of us understand these requirements and work as a team to be ready. Your squadron staffs are going to help program these things for you throughout the year, but I need each of you to understand the expectations and actively see them through to completion. And then we need to report correctly and accurately to show that we're the team of choice when it's time to execute.

Why is it important: We never know exactly when or where we will be called to execute our mission. Your job is to have the discipline to maintain your ability to perform. The DOCCS mission was a powerful example of your ability to adapt and overcome new challenges. No one saw that one coming but we were able to keep safety and security in the communities of New York because we had "Ready" forces able to deploy and adapt quickly.

## Civil Support

What is it: Civil Support IS part of your job. This is one of the things that makes the Guard great and unique. We have the privilege of being able to serve not just our nation, but also our fellow citizens within the state. I fully understand that this can be frustrating at times especially when you get called to State Active Duty and then don't actually get tasked to do the job. But when we are called on and when we do get to support the mission, it is often the critical difference between life and death. Or, in the case of the DOCCS mission, it's the thin line between order and chaos. We will continue to train for this and evolve our capabilities in this noble service that we provide to our community.

Why is it important: The civil support role is a cornerstone of our identity. We provide a direct and immediate response force to our communities and stand as a beacon of hope when disaster strikes or civil order is threatened. It is a sacred honor, and we will always be ready.

## My vision for the 174th Attack Wing

My vision for this Wing is to position us at the forefront of Air Power innovation, where we seamlessly integrate modern combat aviation, command and control, and civil support operations to deliver decisive capabilities for the nation. As the highly skilled and adaptive force that we are, the 174<sup>th</sup> ATKW will be a cornerstone in executing and shaping the future of air combat operations, while remaining an invaluable asset in domestic and humanitarian missions. Similarly, our command and control mission is a critical capability of the nation but, it too, will continue to evolve. Thirty years from now we will look different than we do today, from mission sets to structure. But the core concepts and expertise that define us will enable that future.

Considering these things, there is only one possible avenue for success. It is to continue to invest in, empower, and develop our Airmen. Commanders/Enlisted Leaders – I call upon you to do exactly that. If you aren't leading by example and seeking out feedback of your people while ensuring that every Airman within the Wing is empowered to succeed, then you aren't doing your job. Mission-command is alive and well in this Wing and we must all embrace those concepts to be successful in future endeavors. In an era of evolving threats and rapid technological advancements, our Wing will be prepared to provide air power that is not only effective and lethal but also adaptable. Our focus will be on developing capabilities that support both combat readiness and the vital civil support missions that are central to the National Guard's unique role. We must be equipped with the right tools, the best training, and the strongest culture of accountability and discipline. Every member of this Wing plays an integral part in ensuring we maintain operational readiness. This isn't just about the aircraft, the technology, or the systems—it's about the people who make up this team. Our readiness is driven by you and your ability to react swiftly and decisively in the face of uncertainty.

The only guarantee of the future is change, but one thing is clear: With Warfighting, Readiness, and Civil Support as our guiding principles, we will meet the challenges of tomorrow with the confidence, skill, and determination that defines us as Airmen of the United States Air Force.

## Our new mission statement in the 174th Attack Wing

Advancing Air Power together by integrating Modern Combat Aviation, Advanced Command and Control, and Essential Civil Support to deliver Decisive Capabilities for the Nation.

BRETT M. BATICK, Col, NYANG  
Commander

# 174th Attack Wing Welcomes New Commander



Story and photos by Senior Airman Liam Eveleigh



SYRACUSE, NY – U.S. Air Force Col. Brett Batick succeeded Brig. Gen. John O'Connor as the 174<sup>th</sup> Attack Wing commander during a change of command ceremony at Hancock Field Air National Guard Base, Dec. 7, 2025. The ceremony was held in the 174<sup>th</sup> Attack Wing's aircraft maintenance hangar with over 1,000 members of the 174<sup>th</sup> Attack Wing in attendance.

Batick graduated from the University of Florida with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering before joining the Marine Corps in 1998. Beginning his career as an F/A-18 pilot, he became an advanced jet fighter instructor in Training Squadron 9 in Meridian, Miss. before transitioning to the Air National Guard in 2013.

After joining the Air National Guard as the flight commander with the 138<sup>th</sup> Attack Squadron at Hancock Field, he worked his way up through successive command positions. He commanded the 138<sup>th</sup>, the 174<sup>th</sup> Operational Support Squadron and the 174<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Group before becoming the deputy wing commander in 2024.



Batick has flown in over 170 combat missions and 190 combat support missions in operation Iraqi Freedom, Enduring Freedom, Inherent Resolve and Freedom Sentinel, and flying for more than 3,500 total flight hours during his career.

Batick will prioritize operational readiness and supporting the local communities during his time as wing commander, continuing the tradition of commanders guiding the professional development of their airmen.

His plans for the future of the wing include continuing to instill the warrior ethos into the airmen of the 174<sup>th</sup>, ensuring the mental, physical and emotional readiness of Air National Guard members under his jurisdiction, and leveraging the unique nature of the Air National Guard by continuing to contribute to the local communities well-being.

Maj. Gen. Michael Bank, commander of the New York Air National Guard presided over the ceremony. As the NYANG commander, Bank is responsible for the operational effectiveness and mission readiness of more than 5,800 airmen across five different wings.

“You have my utmost confidence in your ability to lead this fine organization and take care of the airmen who serve,” said Maj. Gen. Bank, addressing Batick. “They’re our most precious resource, and I have no doubt your vision and your priorities will align with our organization’s priorities of safety, strength and readiness.”

*U.S. Air Force Maj. Gen. Michael Bank passes the 174<sup>th</sup> Attack Wing colors to Col. Brett Batick at Hancock Field Air National Guard Base, NY, Dec. 6, 2025. The passing of the colors is part of the ceremony promoting Batick to wing commander of the 174<sup>th</sup> Attack Wing.*



“You have my utmost confidence in your ability to lead this fine organization and take care of the airmen who serve.”



O'Connor served as the wing commander since June 2023 and will be stepping into the chief of staff position at the NYANG headquarters in Albany, NY. His role will include advising the adjutant general on NYANG issues.

“Part of my job is to leave this wing prepared for what comes next,” O'Connor remarked. “As I hand this flag off to Col. Batick, I am confident that you are in the most capable of hands.”

His dedication to the mission throughout his time working with the 174<sup>th</sup> Attack Wing will prove valuable as he steps into the next position in his career.

The 174<sup>th</sup> Attack Wing is one of five wings that make up the NYANG. Headquartered in Syracuse, NY, the unit's primary mission is to operate the MQ-9 Reaper remotely piloted aircraft.

# Airmen of the Year



## Company Grade Officer - 1st Lt. Tyler Heggelke | MXG

Heggelke, with more than 11 years of service is the director of operations for the 174th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron where he serves as a key leader responsible for MQ-9 aircraft maintenance in support of the 174th's Formal Training Unit, providing oversight of operational effectiveness and the organization, training, and equipping of enlisted Airmen.

*"As a company grade officer, winning this award is bittersweet. It is sweet because it is such a great honor, but it is bitter because all of my success is due to the Airmen I worked with, and I feel they deserve the credit, not me. Without the Airmen around me, this would have never happened."*

## First Sergeant - Master Sgt. Cara Sturdivant | OG

Sturdivant, the first sergeant of the 138th Attack Squadron, has served since 2010 and is a highly accomplished enlisted Airman with extensive operational and leadership experience as a C-130 Hercules loadmaster and MQ-9 Remote Piloted Aircraft sensor operator, Instructor, and evaluator, including combat deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and hundreds of combat-support missions executed across the Total Force.

*"I am both proud and humbled by this. Joining the First Sergeant's Council has afforded so much opportunity. I am grateful for the ability to serve alongside and influence all members of the wing; I am especially grateful to leadership across the Operations Group."*



## SNCO - Master Sgt. Jessica Ashford | OG

Ashford, an MQ-9 sensor operator and flight chief with the 174th Operations Support Squadron, has served since 2010 and is a highly accomplished enlisted aviator with distinguished experience as a C-130J loadmaster and MQ-9 instructor/evaluator, including multiple combat deployments and a proven record of excellence in operations and leadership.

*"I am incredibly grateful for this award, which reflects the trust, mentorship, and support of my team and leaders. This past year challenged me to grow, make decisions, and learn from mistakes, and I was empowered every step of the way. I am thankful for the mentorship and encouragement of Maj. Elise McMillan, Capt. Walter Pigeon, and Lt. Col. Katie Masters. Most of all, I thank my wife, Cara Sturdivant, whose constant support and motivation made this possible. Thank you for being my rock."*

## NCO - Staff Sgt. Dylan Kimball | MSG

Kimball, a Security Forces craftsman with the 174th Security Forces Squadron has served since 2018, supporting multiple deployments in support of Operations Inherent Resolve, Freedom Sentinel, Red Flag, and Pacer Goose. Throughout his career, he has demonstrated exceptional leadership and operational excellence while serving in a wide range of security, investigative, and emergency response roles.

*"Receiving the AOY award is a profound honor reflecting the trust and teamwork of those I serve alongside, particularly during an emergency at Pituffik Space Base, Greenland. I am grateful to my leadership, fellow Airmen, and family for their continued support."*



## Airman - Senior Airman Austin Conaway | MSG

Conaway, a fuels distribution operator with the 174th Logistics Readiness Squadron who has served since 2019, distinguishing himself through deployments supporting Operations Prosperity Guardian, Spartan Shield, and Inherent Resolve, while demonstrating exceptional skill in safely fueling Air Force aircraft.

*"I am deeply humbled to receive this honor. Understanding and following the whole airman concept led me to this recognition. I could not have received this award without the strong leadership and co-workers behind me, backing me everyday."*



## Chief's Corner

### Farewell to the Airmen of the 174<sup>th</sup> Attack Wing

As I prepare to step away from my role as Command Chief this March and retire after 28 years of service, my heart is full of gratitude. Serving alongside you has been one of the greatest honors of my career. Thank you for your trust, your support, and, most importantly, your unwavering dedication to this Wing. You are the reason the 174<sup>th</sup> stands among the finest Wings in the entire Air National Guard.

When I accepted this responsibility in 2023, I promised to focus on three things, **Empowering, Engaging, and Enriching** the lives of the Airmen of the 174<sup>th</sup>. Looking back, together we achieved that and so much more.

**Empowerment:** Your Senior Enlisted Leaders, First Sergeants, Council Officers, and I have spent countless hours discussing how to open doors for you, how to help you grow, lead, and see the bigger picture of the mission you support. One of the moments I'm most proud of was in December 2025, when fifteen of your fellow Airmen, some brand new, some recently reenlisted, traveled to the Enlisted Field Advisory Council meeting at the ANG Readiness Center. They heard directly from senior NGB leaders, including ANG CCM Chief Moore and Brigadier General Timothy Martin. Experiences like that change perspectives, strengthen commitment, and remind us why what we do matters.

**Engagement:** I will always cherish the conversations we shared, whether you stopped by my office, caught me in the hallway, or chatted with me during a visit. Some of you came with concerns, others with ideas, and many simply wanted to talk about your future. Every one of those moments mattered to me. They helped me understand you, understand this Wing, and understand what you needed from your leadership. I've always believed that if we want change, we must speak to the people who can help make it happen.

**Enrich:** Please keep investing in yourselves. Take the leap and attend that in-residence PME course. Start, or finish, that degree you've been thinking about. Volunteer to teach a module in the Leadership Development Course. Push yourself into spaces that feel unfamiliar. Growth rarely happens in comfort, and you are capable of far more than you realize.

As I close this chapter, I ask only that you continue to remember why we wear this uniform. Be the Wingman others can rely on. Lead with integrity. Treat every person with dignity and respect. These are not just expectations; they are the foundation of who we are.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Command Chief. It has been my privilege.

Chief Master Sgt. Sonja Williams  
174<sup>th</sup> Attack Wing Senior Enlisted Leader

## Brig. Gen. John O'Connor Promoted

During Nov. RSD, former 174<sup>th</sup> Attack Wing commander John O'Connor was promoted to the rank of brigadier general. The wing thanks Brig. Gen. O'Connor for his outstanding leadership and dedicated service during his time as commander. His lasting impact on the wing and its Airmen will continue as he assumes his new role as the New York Air National Guard chief of staff.



# 174<sup>th</sup> Attack Wing Completes Adirondack Warrior 25-1 Exercise

Story and photos by Master Sgt. Tabitha Hurst



WHEELER-SACK ARMY AIRFIELD, NY – The 174<sup>th</sup> Attack Wing conducted Exercise Adirondack Warrior 25-1, a biannual combat readiness exercise, Sept. 5-8 at Wheeler-SACS and the Adirondack Range.

Senior Master Sgt. Joshua Johnson, inspector general superintendent, said the exercise was designed to validate mission essential tasks across the wing.

“The combat readiness exercise was planned by a team with representatives from every squadron,” Johnson said. “It allows us to validate the mission essential tasks that are reported to ensure mission readiness.”

A total of 144 members deployed from Hancock Field Air National Guard Base in Syracuse to Wheeler-Sack Army Airfield where they established base operations, set up communications, prepared unitized group rations, serviced MQ-9 Reapers and forward-deployed 43 personnel into the Adirondack Range.



Airmen trained in mission-oriented protective posture gear while Wing Inspection Team evaluators presented scenarios simulating a hostile environment. The scenarios tested mission essential tasks ranging from missing personnel searches to medical emergencies and simulated base attacks.

Master Sgt. Sarai Mason, a member of the inspector general team, praised the unit's performance. "I think it went really well," Mason said. "Collaborating in contested environment and doing things they're not used to doing – I'm very impressed with everybody's efforts and teamwork."

The exercise involved every Air Force Specialty Code in the wing from working base operations, servicing MQ-9s to working a Forward Operating Base in the Adirondack Range. Forward deployed personnel included 22 augmentees from logistics readiness, force support, communications, and maintenance. They joined security forces as augmentees where they defended against simulated ground and air attacks while in protective MOPP gear.

This type of training is instrumental in creating multi-capable Airmen.

Master Sgt. Tim Moore, a finance Airman who served on the Wing Inspection Team, said the exercise was challenging but rewarding.

*A security forces defender assigned to the 174<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron cleans an M4 carbine while participating in exercise Adirondack Warrior 25 at Fort Drum, NY, Sep. 7, 2025. During the exercise, 174<sup>th</sup> Airmen deployed to Fort Drum, NY to test their combat readiness.*



“It was energizing to see all the different units working cohesively in multiple locations while navigating the complexities of the exercise.”



“This was my first time evaluating a combat readiness exercise and my experience was extremely positive,” Moore said. “It was energizing to see all the different units working cohesively in multiple locations while navigating the complexities of the exercise.”

Airmen worked 12-hour shifts around the clock, eating MREs and unitized group rations while focusing on tasks not normally practiced at home station. The long days fostered teamwork and camaraderie.

“It was awesome from the planning team down,” Johnson said. “Everyone was very positive. There were a lot of challenges because it was such a large exercise with multiple locations and many mission essential tasks needing validation. Overall, it was a successful exercise.”



## Chaplain's Message

Why do we have chaplains? How can the government spend money on paying religious professionals to wear a uniform and pass out candy? Two things. First, we don't just pass out candy; we make slushies and hot cocoa as well. Second, it's all because of the First Amendment to our Constitution, which states, *"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof..."*

Chaplains do a bunch of things. They offer confidential counseling for personal and spiritual issues, plan team building and relationship-enhancing events, interrupt your workday, advise leadership on moral and ethical issues, and much more. But fundamentally, the Chaplain Corps is here to ensure you can freely exercise your faith or not be forced to participate in something that violates your beliefs. It includes the freedom to practice your faith and the freedom from faith beliefs being forced upon you. All this takes a few basic forms.

One main job we have is to facilitate 'religious accommodation'. This is everything from ensuring that there is food to meet religious dietary restrictions (like Kosher and Halal), to processing beard waivers for those who have this as a requirement of their faith, to navigating questions about vaccines or religious jewelry or articles of clothing. We're here to help you find a way to practice your faith while maintaining Air Force standards.

Another major line of effort is what I call our work to 'perform or provide.' We do our best to provide religious support to all Airmen. Sometimes, we can directly perform rites and rituals that align with the faith background of the chaplain. Religious services on drill, Catholic sacraments by our priest, and weddings, baptisms, and funerals are a few ways we do that. When we cannot perform direct services, it's our job to provide you a way to practice your faith. This means seeking out lay leaders, finding resources, discovering off-base opportunities, or gathering religious materials for you.

Our goal is to help every Airman grow in their chosen faith, no matter what that faith is. We already have a variety of services on drill weekend and offer other religious celebrations throughout the year. If there is any way we can support you on your faith journey, or if you are looking for special events, holidays, or religious materials, please let us know. As always, we are here for you.

Lt. Col. Matthew Hallenbeck  
174<sup>th</sup> Attack Wing Chaplain

# 174<sup>th</sup> ATKW



# PROMOTIONS

**Col.**

**Master Sgt.**

**Master Sgt.**

**Tech. Sgt.**

**Tech. Sgt.**

**Tech. Sgt.**

**Tech. Sgt.**

**Tech. Sgt.**

**Tech. Sgt.**

**Tech. Sgt.**

**Staff Sgt.**

**Staff Sgt.**

**Senior Airman**

**Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class**

**Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class**

**Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class**

**Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class**

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**Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class**

**Airman**

**Airman**

**Airman**

**Airman**

**Airman Basic**

**Airman Basic**

Diego Uribe

Kurt Decker

Zachary Keohane

Jenna Ford

Isis Fields

Gregory Oistad

Austin Sikora

Nicholas Holcomb

Sierra Miller

Brian Maloney

Griffen Smith

Anthony Latessa

Kyle Hemingway

Kemryn Pisa

Jenna Reyes

Michael Provvidenti

Dimitriy Sergeev

Nikolas Sergeev

Dylan Anderegg

Seongshik Choi

Lucas Pobutkiewicz

Logan Longley

Isaac Duncan Jr.

Titus Scott

Agudelo Florez

Richard Carias-Hernandez

Emma Spaulding

# Lean in Circle - “The Perfect Storm”

The 174<sup>th</sup> Attack Wing hosted retired Lt. Col. David Ruvola for a Lean In Circle discussion, where he shared his firsthand account of the mission known as “The Perfect Storm.” He reflected on the events of Oct. 30, 1991, when the crew of “Jolly 110” flew into extreme weather during a rescue hundreds of miles off the East Coast. Ruvola’s story highlighted leadership, teamwork, and resilience, offering a chance to honor the courage and sacrifice of those who serve.



Tech. Sgt. Arden R. Smith, pararescue jumper with the 106<sup>th</sup> Rescue Wing, New York Air National Guard, who was lost at sea during the mission known as “The Perfect Storm.”

# 174th Attack Wing Strengthens International Cooperation at Exercise Tapio 2025

Story and photos by Tech Sgt. Duane Morgan

CAMPO GRANDE, Brazil (August 17, 2025) – Over 60 New York Air National Guard members participated in Exercise Tapio alongside their Brazilian Air Force counterparts from July 28 to August 17. The training is part of New York's State Partnership Program with Brazil, which began in 2019.

The 105th Airlift Wing, based at Stewart Air National Guard Base in Newburgh, transported an MQ-9 Reaper, Ground Control Station and over 60 people to and from the Brazilian Air Force Base in the southern Brazilian state of Mato Grosso in two C-17s.

Of the 62 members of the New York Air National Guard who traveled to Brazil, 40 were Airmen from the 174th Attack Wing (ATKW), based at Hancock Field Air National Guard Base in Syracuse, New York. The remaining 22 were from the 106th Rescue Wing's 101st Rescue Squadron.





The 106th Rescue Wing is based at F.S. Gabreski Air National Guard Base in Westhampton Beach on Long Island.

Airmen from the 174th's operations squadron, logistics readiness squadron, communications squadron, and maintenance squadron worked around the clock to make sure day to day operations ran smoothly.

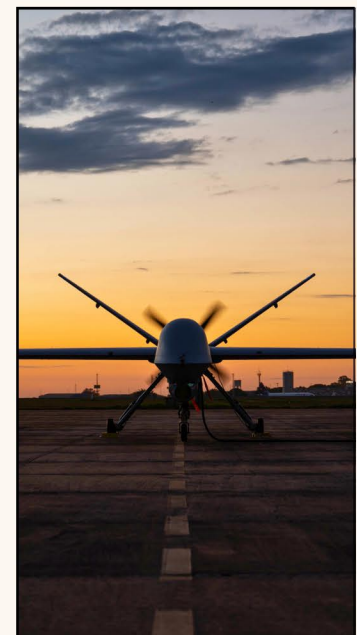
"This is an example of what deployments will look like in the future," said Chief Master Sgt. Sonja Williams, Command Chief for the 174th ATKW. "It will be a small contingency of Airmen with different AFSCs coming together to complete a mission."

Working with the Brazilian Air Force allowed the Airmen to build a sense of camaraderie. "When it comes to building confidence, empowerment, and having agility, this exercise was spot on," said Williams.

During the training, the Brazilians and Americans familiarized themselves with each other's aircraft and tactical practices. Members went through various training scenarios, to include helicopter infiltration and extrication, separated survivor scenarios, and an urban operations.

The main element of the exercise from New York was the 174th ATKW, who deployed air assets and personnel to conduct combat search and rescue and close air support operations.

*Members of the 174<sup>th</sup> Attack Wing pose for a photo with thier Brazilian military counterparts while participating in exercise Tapio in Campo Grade, Brazil, Aug. 17. During the exercise the 174<sup>th</sup> Attack Wing used their air assets to conduct combat search and rescue operations and cloe air support*



“This is an example of what deployments will look like in the future,”



“This year the New York Air National Guard is showcasing an MQ-9 in the U.S. Southern Command theater for the very first time, which is a very significant milestone for the MQ-9 platform,” said Col. John O’Connor, Commander of the 174th ATKW.

The exercise was designed to improve the ability of the American and Brazilian aircrews to work together and achieve practical solutions to reach regional and global security objectives.

“The Airmen that we brought here are getting a chance to experience how an Agile Combat Employment works. They also get the satisfaction of seeing how we can take our capabilities, bring them anywhere in the world, integrate with our international partners, execute the mission jointly, and most importantly-win. It’s awesome to watch,” said O’ Connor.

The State Partnership Program, through the years, has been an innovative, cost-effective program that supports Combatant Command, U.S. Embassy and partner nation objectives. It also builds defense capability, capacity and fosters enduring and personal relationships.

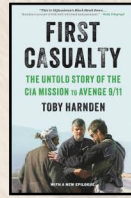
# Commander's Reading List

## Strategy, Leadership and Warfare



### **A Message to Garcia**

Elbert Hubbard



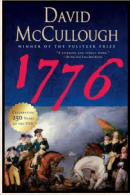
### **First Casualty: The Untold Story of the CIA Mission to Avenge 9/11**

Toby Harnden



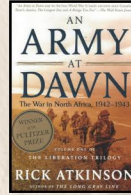
### **Turn the Ship Around!**

David Marquet



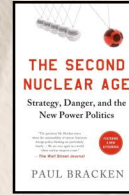
### **1776**

David McCullough



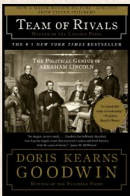
### **An Army at Dawn: The War in North Africa (1942-1943)**

Rick Atkinson



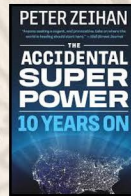
### **The Second Nuclear Age: Strategy, Danger, and the New Power Politics**

Paul Bracken



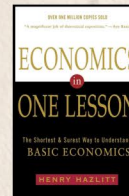
### **Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln**

Doris Kearns Goodwin



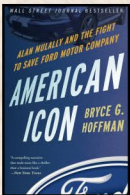
### **The Accidental Superpower: Ten Years On**

Peter Zeihan



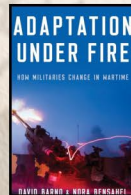
### **Economics in One Lesson**

Henry Hazlitt



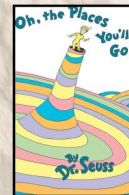
### **American Icon: Alan Mulally and the Fight to Save Ford Motor Company**

Bryce G. Hoffman



### **Adaptation Under Fire: How Militaries Change in Wartime**

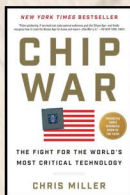
Barno/Bensahel



### **Oh, the Places You'll Go!**

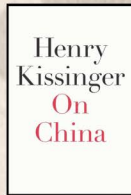
Dr. Seuss

## Technology



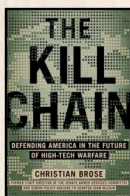
### **Chip War: The Fight for the World's Most Critical Technology**

Chris Miller



### **On China**

Henry Kissinger



### **The Kill Chain**

Christian Brose



### **The Hundred-Year Marathon**

Michael Pillsbury



### **White Sun War: The Campaign for Taiwan**

Ryan/Saxon

## Podcasts

- War on the Rocks
- Defense One Radio
- Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS)
- WSJ What's News
- Economist Podcasts



*Airmen Helping Airmen*

# AIRMAN'S ATTIC

## PURPOSE

This space provides **free**, gently used uniform items to Airman. *No civilian items. No clutter. Just gear that gets you mission-ready.*

### ✓ WHAT WE ACCEPT

- OCPs, Blues, flight suits, PT gear
- Boots, shoes, belts, hats
- Rank insignia, tapes, patches
- Cold weather gear & outerwear

### ✗ WHAT WE DON'T ACCEPT

- Civilian clothes or shoes
- Household goods, toys, books
- Food, toiletries, electronics
- Used socks/undergarments

## PICKUP GUIDELINES

- Open to all Airmen on Hancock Field
- Limit: 4 items per visit
- No resale for profit
- Take only what you need

## DONATION GUIDELINES

- Items must be clean, undamaged, and ready to wear
- No stained, torn, or excessively worn gear
- Drop off items neatly on table outside Airman's Attic
- Drop off Mon-Thurs – 0800-1700

## HOURS & LOCATION

- Drill Saturday – 1200-1400
- Wednesday – 1300-1500
- Building 648 – by The Oasis

## QUESTIONS? WANT TO VOLUNTEER?



174th ATKW Airman's Attic

**Congratulations to our  
newly inducted  
noncommissioned and senior  
noncommissioned officers!**





174th ATTACK WING



HEADQUARTERS