

# Mohawk RI



Training and Deploying Ready Reservists in September 2011



Tech. Sgt. Darrin Rawson, Staff Sgt. Brian Bilbruck and Senior Master Sgt. Regina Brewer work in the 442nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron support section during the phase-one operational readiness exercise. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Danielle Wolf)



## ORI

4 Wing leaders confident as inspection draws near

## Contents

3 Commander's commentary

4 442nd Wins ORI!

6 Superior Performance Awards

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**Staff Sgt. Marc Sindelar**  
442nd Medical Squadron



442nd Fighter Wing

## Tip of the Spear: September 2011

Staff Sgt. Marc Sindelar serves as a medical service specialist for the 442nd Medical Squadron. As a recent acquisition to the unit, Sindelar sets the bar for others to follow.

Once assigned to the squadron, he quickly and accurately integrated in the physical examination process through hard work and a boundless desire to know and understand the requirements and established himself as a leader and organizer.

He continually increases his skills and knowledge of his job through self-directed study and interactions with senior personnel, as well as continually seeking out new opportunities within the processes of the medical squadron.

When the phase one operational readiness inspection came on the horizon, Sindelar increased overall wing individual medical-readiness statistics by completing more than 40 physical health assessments and 100 quantitative fit tests during a one week period in preparation for the inspection. He also ensured 100 percent medical readiness for all ORI participants through diligent attention to detail, countless after-duty hours and a no-holds barred approach to getting the job done.

Sindelar's performance, ethic and service, extensively sets the standard for his fellow noncommissioned officers and Airmen to follow. The 442nd Medical Squadron is proud to hail him as this month's Tip of the Spear!



Col. Eric Overturf is the commander of the 442nd Fighter Wing, Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo.

## Total-team effort wins ORI for wing

Commentary by Col. Eric S. Overturf, 442nd Fighter Wing commander

We won!

If I only got two words for this commentary, that's what I'd say. Luckily I get a whole page to brag about how 442nd Fighter Wing team at Whiteman showed the Air Combat Command Inspector General that we are more than ready to execute our mission to **Train and Deploy Ready Reservists!**

Our top two priorities for 2011 are to **Support AEF Deployments and Win the ORI**, and the strong "satisfactory" phase-one grade from the IG team proves you are succeeding on both counts. The IG gave us a tough evaluation and didn't pull any punches, and you responded with hard work, dedication, positive attitudes and the PRIDE that comes with being the best A-10 wing in the world. The IG team chief's quote during the inspection out brief says it all, "This wing knows how to get iron downrange!" I'm so proud of this wing that I am about to bust.

What makes me happiest about this inspection is the way the entire 442nd Whiteman team came together to win the ORI war. While maintenance carried the heaviest load, the rest of the wing stepped up to support them while completing their own tasks.

I had the best job of all during the ORI: Walking around with the command chief to see America's finest Citizen Airmen in action. From the bomb dump to the medical clinic and the mobility warehouse to the wing assembly area, and everywhere in between, you were demonstrating the combat capability of our wing, and doing it with a contagious positive attitude that prompted an IG inspector to tell me "I don't know what you've been feeding those people, but I want some of it!"

I saw ammo building bombs so fast that

the inspectors asked them to slow down and leave something for the night shift to do. I saw maintainers generate all 16 jets in about half the allotted time, and then launch and recover 100 percent of the deployment missions on time and "code 1."

I saw our pilots fly a textbook deployment sortie and execute flight and intel briefings that were "best seen to date."

I saw our crisis action team and command post controllers coordinate and communicate a calm, focused plan no matter how hectic the scenario got.

I saw our loggies (logistics team) juggle airplanes, people and cargo to build the ideal deployment plan despite IG injects designed to trip them up. I saw cargo pallets built with speed and precision that allowed us to turn them over for inspection hours before they were due.

I saw our WAA and medical teams efficiently process and deploy hundreds of Airmen and never miss a chalk time. I saw IG team inspectors go through 20 personal mobility bags without finding a single mistake – an amazing tribute to your attention to detail (and the vigilance of our phenomenal unit-deployment managers!)

I saw first sergeants caring for Airmen as if they were their own family, with services and wing staffers pitching in to make sure everyone was fed and cared for physically, spiritually and emotionally.

I saw defenders helping Airmen from across the wing set up and enforce force protection condition procedures, and I saw fuels and transportation keeping our people, jets and cargo moving.

When the last jet was regenerated just before the end of the inspection, I watched hundreds of you come back out onto the flightline at the end of a very long work day to cheer on **Staff Sgt. Dave Green-**

**berg** as he put down the last green cone – a sight I will never forget.

The only we didn't see much of during our inspection was our civil engineers, because most of them are already down-range. I'm glad to know that they will see us and feel our presence overhead when we take what we've learned from this ORI and apply it as combat air power to protect and defend them later this year with the help of our teammates in the **917th Fighter Group** at Barksdale AFB, La.

The IG team couldn't have come at a better time to help us fine tune our preparation for our upcoming aviation package deployment to Southwest Asia. Although this will be our first large-scale deployment since the 442nd FW grew to add three fighter groups and all the operational A-10s and A-10 pilots in the Reserve, it's not the first deployment for our geographically separated units. The **476th Fighter Group** at Moody is completing its fourth AEF rotation, and the **924th Fighter Group** at Davis-Monthan has already deployed personnel even though they stood up less than two years ago.

In fact, 442nd Fighter Wing reservists have volunteered so willingly to defend our nation we can't even take everyone who volunteered for our upcoming rotation (but rest assured, more opportunities are on the way!)

Now that the ORI is over, we will focus our attention on the Whiteman and Barksdale Airmen who will support the next AEF deployment, and we will reintroduce terrorists to the fearsome combat capability of the 442nd FW.

Thank you for all you do, and congratulations on your inspirational performance during the ORI. It's an honor to be your commander.



# Reservists win ORI for wing

By Staff Sgt. Danielle Wolf

The 442nd Fighter Wing received a satisfactory rating for the phase-one operational readiness inspection, Aug. 31 at the inspector general's out brief.

"We are impressed with the dedication and professionalism of this wing," said Col. Rickey Rodgers, Air Combat Command IG team chief. "Your hard work was evident. We do these inspections all the time, but when we were here (Aug. 28,) and the last jet was accepted, it was phenomenal – literally, nothing we've ever seen before."

While the satisfactory rating was not what some reservists expected, Rodgers, who was formerly the 509th Bomb Wing vice commander here, said he saw the wing deploy many times and knows they are fully combat capable.

"You haven't fallen short," he said. "You know how to get downrange, and I have extreme confidence in your ability to give any deployment commander exactly what he or she needs. The (inspection criteria we have to go by) cannot give you a grade on pride, professionalism and dedication – that's a grade this wing would certainly excel in."

Col. Eric Overturf, 442nd Fighter Wing commander, agreed with Rodgers that the wing knows how to deploy and how to complete the job – and hundreds of members will deploy in January and prove just that.

"Right now, there's a soldier, sailor, Airman or Marine serving in Afghanistan who is putting his life in the hands of an A-10 unit," Overturf said. "He doesn't know it yet, but the greatest A-10 unit is on its way. We're going to make sure at the end of his deployment, he comes home safely to his family."

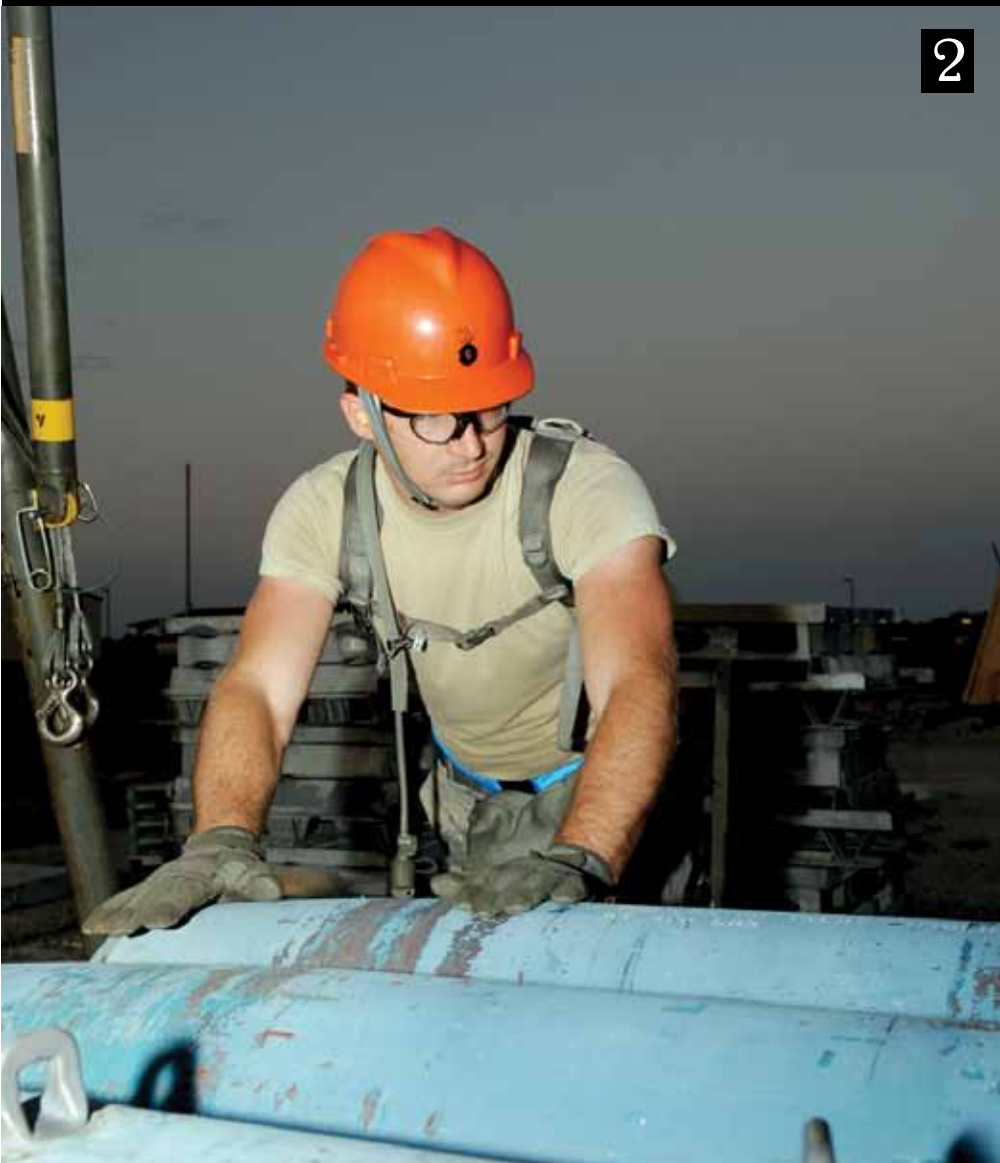
Overturf said that while this may not be the rating some were expecting, wing members should be proud of themselves.

"I know some of you are disappointed that we didn't get an excellent or an outstanding,"



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1. Chief Master Sgt. Mike Pignotti, 442nd Engine Shop chief, and Lt. Col. Donald Bohney, 303rd Fighter Squadron A-10 pilot, conduct a pre-flight inspection of the aircraft, Aug. 27. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Kent Kagarise)  
2. Senior Airman Kevin Frye, 442nd Maintenance Squadron ammunition technician, assembles GBU-12s, 500-pound laser-guided bombs, Aug. 27. (Photo by Senior Airman Wesley Wright)



2

**“**Right now, there's a soldier, sailor, Airman or Marine serving in Afghanistan who is putting his life in the hands of an A-10 unit. He doesn't know it yet, but the greatest A-10 unit is on its way. We're going to make sure at the end of his deployment, he comes home safely to his family.  
**”**

- Col. Eric S. Overturf, 442nd Fighter Wing commander



3



he said. “That’s the grade we earned during this two-day snapshot, but I’m glad you’re disappointed because that means this wing strives for excellence.”

Overturf said the most important thing the wing should focus on now, is the direction it’s headed. “Don’t let your disappointment change the future, especially when you’re with your families. Focus on them right now, and focus on the fact that we have a real deployment coming up.”

Tech. Sgt. Daniel Wirt, 442nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief, said training for the phase-one inspection for the last year is going to benefit him as he helps prepare the wing for deployment.

“When you get deployed, you go into auto-pilot, because of training like what we (did) for the ORI,” Wirt said. “It becomes second nature when you’re there doing it for real.”

Like Rodgers, Staff Sgt. Donald Johnston, 442nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief, said it was fulfilling to see the aircraft taxi to the runway with zero discrepancies.

“We’ve drilled and practiced using our (personal protective equipment) and our technical data is where it (needed) to be.”

During the exercise, the wing generated 16 aircraft to ensure the wing’s tasking. Two ground spares were not necessary when 14 aircraft departed as scheduled with zero discrepancies. The aircraft generation and operations teams were rated, ‘excellent’ while the aircraft deployment team was rated, ‘outstanding’ – the highest rating the IG can give.

During the IG out brief, Rodgers said the IG team was especially impressed with the maintainers, who had an outstanding attitude.

“Everything that goes into an inspection like this – command and control; deployment processing; employment processing; information operations; and force protection – if any of those five pillars had failed, we wouldn’t have passed this ORI,” said Col. Gregory Eckfeld, 442nd FW vice commander. “All five areas met the stringent standards and expectations of the IG. Nobody was below the line; I’m very proud of this wing.”

**3. Capt. James Patrick Chevalier, 442nd Maintenance Group, congratulates Senior Airman Kenneth Vaughn, 442nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief, after 14 aircraft departed on schedule with no discrepancies. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Danielle Wolf)**

**4. Senior Airman Jonathan Mahan, 442nd Fighter Wing crew chief, proceeds through an entry-control point, Aug. 27. (Flightline badge blurred for security purposes/Photo by Staff Sgt. Danielle Wolf)**

# IG announces ORI S

## 442nd Operations Support Flight

Master Sgt. Peter K. Filis, Jr.

Tech. Sgt. Kenneth E. Kephart, Jr.

## 442nd Force Support Squadron

Master Sgt Christina A. Suratos

TSgt Shannon G. Kennedy

Tech. Sgt. Sonija D. Nelson

## 442nd Maintenance Squadron

Capt. Robert R. Mehan, Jr.

Tech. Sgt. Earl A. Dundas III

Tech. Sgt. Sigmund D. Gross

Tech. Sgt. Richard S. Jones

Tech. Sgt. David B. McDonough

Tech. Sgt. Robert A. Nakoneczny

Tech. Sgt. Michael R. Schuler

Staff Sgt. Joseph P. Barnard

Staff Sgt. Zachary T. Ledsworth

Senior Airman Joshua M. Barnett

Senior Airman Ashley M. Beard

Senior Airman Benjamin R. Valenti

## 442nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Nicholas A. McRoberts

Staff Sgt. Kevin J. Balandron

Staff Sgt. Jeremy W. Hankins

Staff Sgt. Jasen Z. McLendon

Staff Sgt. Russell R. Roberts

Airman 1st Class Anthony L. Kemper

## 442nd Fight

Capt. Keith C. Yersa

## 303rd Fight

2nd Lt. Shanen M. Lacy

## 442nd Security

Master Sgt.

## 442nd Mission

Master Sgt A

## 442nd Maint

Tech. Sgt. Dew

## 442nd Comm

Staff Sgt. Tir

## 442nd Mainten

Senior Airman M

## 442nd Med

Maj. Sabrin

Master Sgt.



# Superior Performers

**Center Wing Staff**  
Staff, 442nd Fighter Wing

**Center Squadron**  
Staff, 303rd Fighter Squadron

**Forces Squadron**  
James M. Dorl

**Support Group**  
Chris D. Villamayor

**Maintenance Group**  
Wayne R. Magnuson

**Communications Flight**  
Timothy A. Caudill

**Base Operations Flight**  
Matthew D. Bounds

**Medical Squadron**  
Lana R. Hawkins  
Karen S. Hahn

## Superior Performer Team Units

### 442nd Maintenance Group

Cargo Tiger Team  
Lead Crew 10 Team  
Last Look Team  
RAT Team  
Mode IV Team

### 442nd Fighter Wing

Command Post Team  
Military Deception Team

### 442nd Security Forces Squadron

Equipment Ammunition Pallet Team

### 442nd Mission Support Group

Reserve Deployment Readiness Cell Team

### 442nd Operations Group

Unit Deployment Management Team



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442nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs  
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Wing to-do List - 2011 Priorities:

1. Support AEF deployments
- ~~2. Win the ORI~~
3. Incorporate GSUs
4. Develop and care for Airmen and their families

To:

**Priority: Win the ORI**

Photo by Senior Airman Wesley Wright

During the Air Combat Command Inspector General out brief, Aug. 31, Team Chief Col. Rickey Rodgers, said the 442nd maintainers did an excellent job generating aircraft and had an outstanding attitude to accompany their work.



The 442nd Fighter Wing is an Air Force Reserve unit at Whiteman AFB, Mo.

To find out more about the 442nd Fighter Wing...

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