

READINESS | LETHALITY | RELATIONSHIPS

LOCKED ON

138 MAGAZINE FW

VOLUME 3 / ISSUE 1



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THANKING THOSE IN THE FIGHT
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**GUARDSMEN SUPPORT
COVID-19 RESPONSE**

@138FW

#138THFW

#TSGTMARSHALROBERTS

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#OKGUARD



An F-16 Tulsa Viper salutes Oklahoma COVID-19 health care workers and first responders May 1, 2020. Over a two day period the Tulsa Vipers flew over more than 30 regional medical locations on the front-lines battling COVID-19.

(Oklahoma Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. Rebecca Imvalle)

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Mrs. Bonnie Smith

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- Command NOT notified
- NO Investigation initiated
- Victim receives support services from SARC or victim advocate
- Get medical care
- Get counseling

Restricted Reporting
CONFIDENTIAL

Unrestricted Reporting
NOT CONFIDENTIAL

- Contact SARC
- Command IS notified
- Investigation IS initiated
- Victim receives support services from SARC or victim advocate
- Get medical care
- Get counseling

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ACCEPTABLE MASKS

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Neck Gaiter

T-shirt Mask

T-shirt Mask

Surgical Mask

FACE COVERINGS SHOULD BE CONSERVATIVE, PROFESSIONAL AND IN KEEPING WITH DIGNITY AND RESPECT.

DO NOT USE OLD UNIFORMS/WEIGHT SUITS. THEY MAY HAVE INSECT REPELLENT OR FLAME RETARDANT IN THE FABRIC.

INFOGRAPHIC BY AIC ALLEN TYLER

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HIDDEN SOMEWHERE WITHIN THIS
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SALUTE

06



The 138FW thanks all healthcare workers, first responders and other essential personnel working the front lines to fight COVID-19.

ROBERTS

08



Tech Sgt. Marshal Roberts will always be remembered for the love and sacrifice that he made on behalf of his country and fellow wingmen.

FOODBANKS

13



Twenty-five members of the 138th Fighter Wing packed crisis relief boxes, worked at mobile pantry sites and transported food to local communities.

VIRTUALLY

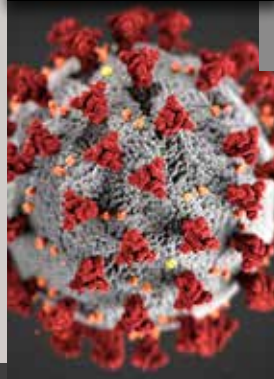
15



The Tulsa Air National Guard recruiting office was forced to cease enlistment ceremonies for new recruits in March 2020 due to the pandemic.

WARPAINT

17



Several of our Tulsa Air National Guard service members are serving in their civilian jobs on the front lines in the fight against COVID-19.

RESPONSE

19







In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, 56 Airmen from the 138th Fighter Wing were activated by Oklahoma Gov. Kevin Stitt in support of the state's response to the virus.

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138 MAGAZINE FW

VOLUME 3 / ISSUE 1

FALL/WINTER 2020

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VECTOR

COL. MICHAEL B. MEASON
COMMANDER, 138TH FIGHTER WING

R e a d i n e s s | L e t h a l i t y | R e l a t i o n s h i p s

The enduring focus on our 138th Fighter Wing priorities have served us well in this constantly crazy year of 2020. However the stories, words and pictures contained in this edition of LOCKED ON vividly illustrate many characteristics of the "Tulsa Standard" that you – the Citizen Airmen of the 138th consistently demonstrate.

Whether you were on duty here at the Tulsa Air National Guard Base, serving and assisting our state in support of COVID-19 operations, deployed halfway around the world providing Agile Combat Support to Combatant Commanders, or serving on the front lines in your community as a healthcare hero or first responder – your service and character define the "Tulsa Standard" we're all so proud of. Your stories reflect that standard, defined by:

Courage – Excellence – Innovation – Hope – Resolve – Service – Vision – Sacrifice – Community – Growth – Heart – Teamwork – Professionalism – Healing – Dedication – Adaptability – Family

I'd add two additional words that best capture what this Wing has demonstrated in 2020 – PERSEVERANCE and RESILIENCE. As we continue to navigate through all this year presents, I am encouraged and inspired by the way the Airmen of the 138th Fighter Wing have displayed these two traits every day. The challenges have been many: grieving with and supporting each other through the tragic loss of Tech. Sgt. Marshal Roberts, honoring his character and service to all that knew him, learning to live and work with a pandemic in our midst, meeting challenging mission requirements, sustaining readiness, assuming new responsibilities, learning new ways to accomplish our missions, new ways to communicate and stay connected.

As we look forward to the continued challenges ahead, I encourage you to be thankful and be hopeful. Together, we have proven unstoppable. With this confidence, continue to watch out for each other, refine your personal knowledge and professional skills, stay safe and stand ready to answer the call – with STRENGTH & HONOR!



Col. Mike "Mouse" Meason



BRAVE ONE

TECH SGT. ARIEL WHITE
219TH ENGINEERING INSTALLATION SQUADRON

An Oklahoma Air National Guardsman who was wounded during a rocket attack in Iraq has returned to the United States. Tech. Sgt. Ariel White, logistics management specialist with the 219th Engineering Installation Squadron (EIS), 138th Fighter Wing, Oklahoma Air National Guard, was wounded in action on March 11, 2020 while deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Inherent Resolve.

After a brief stay at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Germany, White returned to the U.S. via Andrews Air Force Base and then to Kelly Field, San Antonio for complete medical treatment March 21.

Aircrew and ground support from the 137th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, 137th Special Operations Wing, Oklahoma Air National Guard, were deployed in support of military operations conducted in the Middle East. By complete chance, three of the medical air crewmembers from the 137th AES were on the flight with White from Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar, to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Germany, and again provided care for her on the flight from Germany to Kelly Field, San Antonio.

As White was loaded on the aircraft, 1st Lt. Stephenie Tatum, flight nurse with the 137th AES, immediately approached her and identified herself and four other Airmen from the 137th AES, and gave her a unit patch. After speaking for a few minutes, they identified a mutual friend. White said she had an immediate feeling of comfort.

"I felt safe and relieved to see them because I didn't think I was going to know anybody," White said. "The fact that I sort of knew people on the flight because I know where they are from or they know people I know made me feel safer."

White praised the 219th EIS command and leadership who have sent flowers, continually ask what they can do and have even had lunch with White's family in Oklahoma.

"I am definitely feeling the connection of family with the 219th [EIS], 138th [FW], and other units I haven't even thought about, like the 137th [SOW]," White said. "Everybody has stepped up and made me feel comfortable. I feel a sense of family and connection more than I ever had before. I always knew that existed but now I am really feeling it."

Lt. Col. Stephanie Lane, 137th AES acting commander, has worked overseas with Soldiers from the Oklahoma Army National Guard who wore the iconic Thunderbird unit patch. She said it was comforting for White to have some home away from home on her return flight to the U.S.

"When you get on the plane and you see morale patches from Oklahoma that you recognize, you see something come over [the aircrew and patients] that's special," Lane said. "[The aeromedical Airmen] see they are taking care of their own and the patient sees a little bit of home. When you have that much in common it becomes easier. To have everything in common, it's a comfort."

Tech. Sgt. Marshal D. Roberts, 28, of Owasso, Oklahoma, who lost his life during the same attack, was the first Oklahoma Air National Guardsman killed in action, and the 20th Oklahoma National Guardsman who has died while deployed overseas since Sept. 11, 2001.

The 219th EIS deploys worldwide to establish communications systems for American and allied forces and ensure they remain functional. They deployed to Iraq in late 2019.



From right to left, Tech Sgt. Kyle Henry, aeromedical evacuation technician with the 137th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, Tech Sgt. Ariel White, logistics management specialist with the 219th Engineering Installation Squadron, 138th Fighter Wing, Oklahoma Air National Guard, 1st Lt. Stephenie Tatum, flight nurse with the 137th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, MGST Ed Bayones, aeromedical evacuation technician with the 137th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, and SSG Drew Sarmiento, aeromedical evacuation technician with the 137th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, currently attached to the 10th Expeditionary Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, pose for a photo March 21, 2020 as White arrives at Kelly Field, San Antonio.

(Oklahoma Air National Guard courtesy photo)

SALUTE TO OKLAHOMA

138th Fighter Wing Flyovers

(Oklahoma Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. C.T. Michael)



(Oklahoma Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. Rebecca Imwalle)



In an effort to salute and thank all healthcare workers, first responders and other essential personnel working the front lines to fight COVID-19, The 138th Fighter Wing conducted multiple flyover missions around Oklahoma.



Oklahoma Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. Rebecca Imwalle)

"This is our way of showing our gratitude and thanks to all of the doctors, nurses, medical staff and first responders who are selflessly and tirelessly working to keep Oklahoma safe and healthy during this pandemic."

-Maj. Gen. Michael Thompson, adjutant general for Oklahoma



VISUAL: The 2020 Salute to America was an event arranged by the Trump administration. It is the second event of its kind, with the first being held in 2019. This year's event was especially notable for being held amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

1 - Cornerstone Specialty Hospitals, Muskogee, Okla. (Courtesy photo)

2 - (Courtesy photo)

3 - Oklahoma Health Department, Stillwater, Okla. (Courtesy photo)

4 - (Courtesy photo)

5 - Saint Francis Hospital, Tulsa, Okla. (Courtesy photo)

6 - (Courtesy photo)

7 - Saint Francis Hospital South, Tulsa, Okla. (Courtesy photo)

8 - (Courtesy photo)

9 - Sequoyah Memorial Hospital, Sallisaw, Okla. (Courtesy photo)

10 - Saint Francis Hospital, Tulsa, Okla. (Courtesy photo)

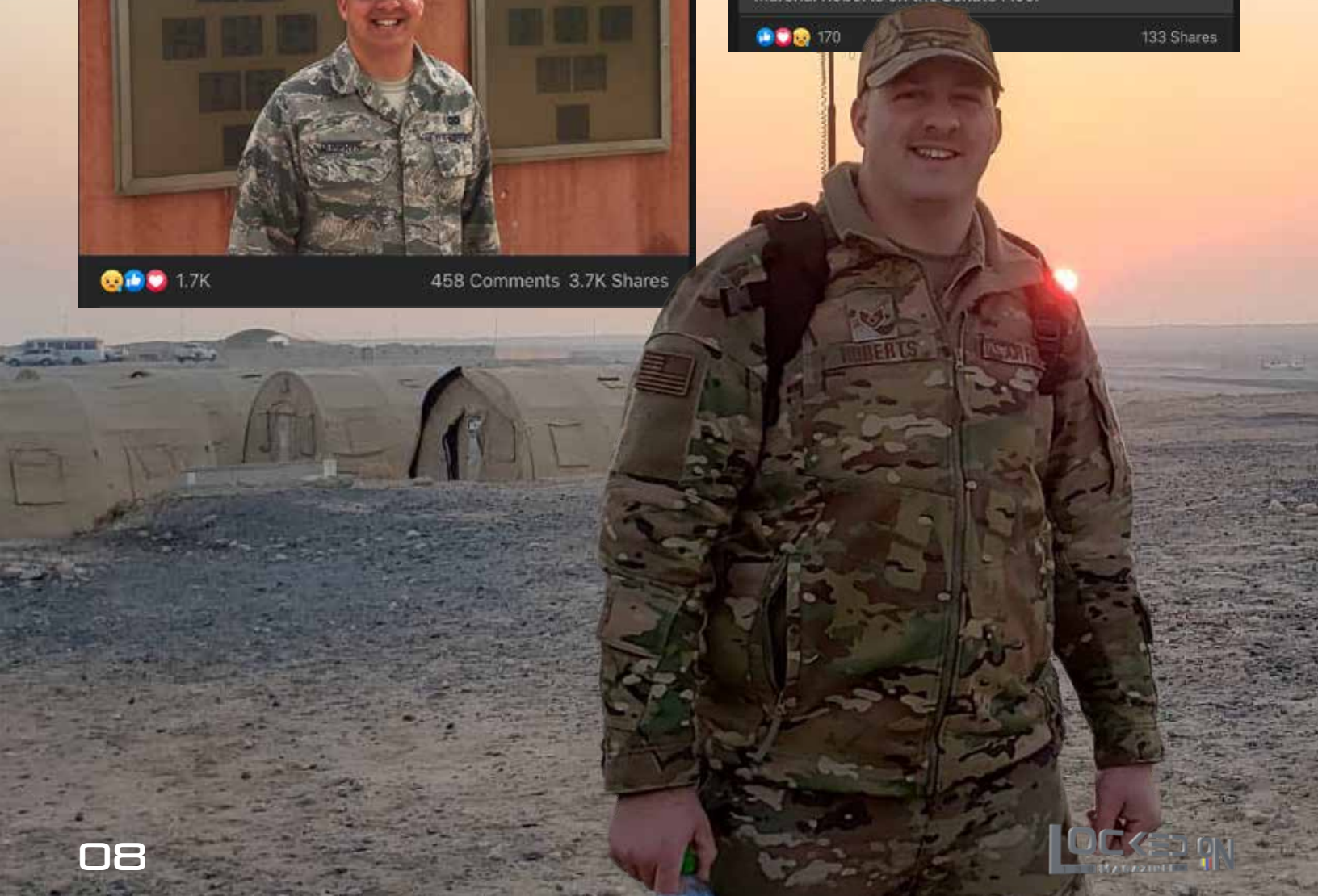
11 - Stroud Regional Medical Center, Stroud, Okla. (Courtesy photo)

#AMERICASTRONG



TSgt. MARSHAL D. ROBERTS

219TH ENGINEERING INSTALLATION SQUADRON
138TH FIGHTER WING



The Tulsa community joined members of the 138th Fighter Wing, headquartered at the Tulsa Air National Guard Base in Oklahoma, to line the streets in honor of Tech. Sgt. Marshal D. Roberts, the Oklahoma Air National Guard's first fallen Airman during a dignified transfer ceremony to finally welcome the Airman home.

While deployed in support of Operation Inherent Resolve, Roberts, a member of the 219th Engineering Installation Squadron, 138th FW, was killed when his base was struck by multiple rockets on March 11, 2020.

Roberts joined the Oklahoma Air National Guard's 138th FW as a civil engineer operations manager in May 2014. Several years later, he accepted an opportunity to become a command support staff member with the 219th EIS, which deploys worldwide to establish communications systems for U.S. and allied forces and ensure they remain functional.

"Roberts served as the noncommissioned officer in charge focal point for the entire 219th EIS and modeled impeccable qualities of mentoring Airmen and ensuring the Squadron was always at the highest level of readiness to execute the mission," said Maj. TJ Love, 219th EIS commander. "He will be greatly missed."

"Roberts was proud to serve in the Air Force, and the members of the 138th FW and 219th EIS are all better for having the privilege of serving with him," said Tech. Sgt. Roxane Mock, 138th Force Support services craftsman. "He will always be remembered for the love and sacrifice that he made on behalf of his country and fellow wingmen."

After serving for two months in Iraq, Roberts became the first Oklahoma Air National Guardsman killed in action and the 20th Oklahoma National Guardsman who has died while deployed overseas since Sept. 11, 2001.

(Oklahoma Air National Guard official release)



Oklahoma Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. Rebecca Imwalle)



Oklahoma Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. Rebecca Imwalle)



Oklahoma Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. CT Michael)



(Oklahoma Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. CT Michael)



(Oklahoma Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. Rebecca Imwalle)



(Oklahoma Air National Guard photo by Senior Airman Brigitte Waltermire)



(Oklahoma Air National Guard courtesy photo)



(Oklahoma Air National Guard courtesy photo)



(Oklahoma Air National Guard courtesy photo)

TSGT. MARSHAL D. ROBERTS

CONT.



"No hero ever truly dies until the last time someone speaks their name"



A memorial service for Tech. Sgt. Marshal Roberts, 219th Engineering Installation Squadron, 138th Fighter Wing, was held Saturday, May 16, 2020, at the Claremore Expo Center in Claremore, Oklahoma.

Chief Master Sgt. Derrick Hildebrant, 138th Civil Engineer Squadron, 138th FW, opened the service by welcoming all attendees to honor him. During the service, Hildebrant also provided a message and gospel about Roberts' life.

"We're here today to celebrate the life of Marshal Roberts, the first Oklahoma Air Guardsman to be killed in combat, and his is a life certainly worth celebrating," Hildebrant said. "On behalf of the family, I want to welcome you all today to honor him and grieve with the family as well."

Hildebrant spoke about several life lessons that Roberts had taught those who knew him, one of which was love through sacrifice. He explained that Marshal was the kind of person who would always put others before himself, and that his last act on earth was to put another's well-being before his own, even at the cost of his own life.

"The night of Marshal's death, when the rockets were coming in, he took cover with a friend. As they heard the commotion, they discussed running to a bunker for cover," he said. "Not knowing if they would make it, Marshal told his fellow Airman to go and get her [body] armor on. As that friend went and got her [body] armor on, the rocket landed. Marshal lost his life that day, but heroically, he saved another."

Two of Roberts' good friends, Josh Hale and Staff Sgt. Taylor Pate, 138th FW, spoke during the service, reading the obituary and giving the eulogy.

"Marshal joined the Oklahoma Air National Guard in 2014," Hale said. "He proudly served in the Air Force, and the members of the 138th Fighter Wing and the 219th [Engineering Installation Squadron] are all the better for having had the privilege of serving with him."

While reading the obituary, Hale explained that Roberts was raised in the Owasso area and graduated high school in 2010. He said Roberts embodied courage and spirit, noting that he always placed God and others before himself.

"If ten people came to him and needed help, he would find a way to help 11, no matter what it took," Pate said during the eulogy. "He never expected anything in return, and was loyal beyond imagination. If you were lucky enough to call him friend or family, you could call him that for life."

Pate explained that Roberts was known by many names to a lot of people, including husband, father, son, brother and friend, but that he was most proud of being a husband and a father.

"Whenever he would talk about [his wife] Kristie, or [his daughter] Paityn, the look on his face was amazing," Pate said.

Following his death, Roberts was posthumously promoted from the rank of staff sergeant to technical sergeant, which is the rank held by the organization's technical expert. They continuously strive to further their development as technicians, supervisors, leaders and mentors through professional development opportunities.

During the promotion ceremony, Col. Robin Cavanaugh, 138th FW, spoke on the enlisted force structure and what it means to be a "tech sergeant." She spoke on a few key points mentioned in the promotion order to highlight how they related to Roberts, including the words special trust, confidence, qualities and demonstrated potential.

"Marshal had the utmost trust, not only from me but from his leadership, peers and subordinates," Cavanaugh explained. "He was a trusted confidant. I had the utmost confidence in Marshal and his ability to perform...not only at a technical level, but far beyond. He was an exceptional Airman. He was often the calm voice of reason and embodied the whole Airman concept, always striving to improve himself, not only professionally but personally and spiritually. He was a mentor and a friend to everyone he came in contact with. I had zero doubt that Marshal could have accomplished anything, enlisted or officer, that he set his mind to."

The service concluded with the 138th FW Honor Guard performing a flag ceremony, Taps and a three round volley, as well as an F-16 flyover performed by the 125th Fighter Squadron, 138th FW, in honor of Roberts.



(Oklahoma Air National Guard photos by Senior Master Sgt. Andrew LaMoreaux)



(Oklahoma Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. Rebecca Imwalle)



A pair of F-16 Tulsa Vipers salute Oklahoma COVID-19 health care workers and first responders May 1, 2020. Over a two-day period the Tulsa Vipers flew over more than 30 regional medical locations on the front-lines battling COVID-19.



THE DRIVE TO DELIVER

AIRMEN SUPPORT FOOD BANK



The Oklahoma National Guard delivered more than 300,000 pounds of food and 65,000 meals in a month-long mission supporting the Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma. Throughout the mission, 25 members of the 138th Fighter Wing packed crisis relief boxes, worked at mobile pantry sites and transported food to local communities.

"I think we were all overwhelmed when we learned how much of a need our fellow Oklahomans have for food support during these times," said Senior Master Sgt. Andy Fraser, 138th FW human relations officer and the noncommissioned officer in charge of food bank operations. "Our eyes were really opened during a mission where we were handing out 40,000 pounds of chicken at a mobile pantry site and the cars in line were backed up for 5 miles."

While activated April 21-May 21, the Airmen drove 15,990 miles to deliver more than 319,000 pounds of food and more than 65,000 meals.

"These Airmen are working really hard," said Fraser. "At the start of this mission, they didn't know what to expect, but they all had a willing heart and impeccable attitudes."

Airman 1st Class Justin Perry, a heavy equipment operator with the 138th Civil Engineer Squadron, said he wanted to be a part of the food bank operations to help people in the community, and because he did not have a civilian job due to COVID-19.

"No one really knew what to expect coming into this," said Perry. "All the past [temporary duty assignments] I have been a part of are construction-based because of my job. This is similar because of the manual labor involved, but we also get to hand meals out to the community and pack boxes of food that we know are going to help people."

Master Sgt. Michael Haywood, air transportation section chief for the 138th Logistics Readiness Squadron, said helping the state is a part of being in the Oklahoma Air National Guard.

"I've lived in Oklahoma my entire life," said Haywood, "Every time something happens, whether that is a tornado, a flood, wildfires or even a pandemic, Okies come together and take care of our own."

While supporting the food bank, Airmen worked with Tulsa Kitchens Unite, a program that partners with restaurants to provide free meals to families during the pandemic.

"It's great seeing how many restaurants and people are contributing to try to help take care of those in need," said Haywood. "Those that can provide and help take care of those who can't. It's pretty cool to see that."

The Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma distributed 50 percent more food to the 24 counties it supports in April compared to the typical monthly average due to the impact of COVID-19.

"I'm proud to be able to tell people what we are doing here," said Fraser. "It's an honor to tell the story."

Operation Inherent Resolve

(Oklahoma Air National Guard photo courtesy photo)
(Oklahoma Air National Guard story by Master Sgt. C.T. Mitchell)



VISUAL: Operation Inherent Resolve (OIR) is the U.S. military's operational name for the military intervention against the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria, including both the campaign in Iraq and the campaign in Syria.

While deployed in support of Operation Inherent Resolve at Camp Taji Joint Operations Base, Iraq, a 138th Fighter Wing, 219th Civil Engineering Installation Squadron team endured a rocket attack that knocked out vital threat systems. The team was devastated by the combat loss of teammate Tech. Sgt. Marshal Roberts.

In the aftermath of the attack, other contracted teams were unable to execute the requirements to secure essential base systems, allowing the 219th EIS team to showcase their skills by repairing force protection and aerial defense systems that over 12,000 coalition members rely on in theater. The 219th EIS team didn't stop there and installed 19,800 feet of fiber optic cable, resolving latency and intermittent interference issues with field radars.

"The 219th EIS ability to pivot operations to focus on the most significant war-fighter requirements is a hallmark of their expeditionary capabilities," said Col. Frank Dominguez, commander, 251 Cyber Engineering Installation Group.

The tireless efforts did not go unnoticed and the team won the 9th Air Expeditionary Task Force - Levant monthly best team award for April 2020. Staff Sgt. Dillon Lewis, 219th EIS, achieved the top award for AETF-L non-commissioned officer in the same month. In March 2020 Senior Airman Codie McNatt, 219th EIS was awarded the Combined Joint Task Force - Operation Inherent Resolve Airman of the month.

Sen. Inhofe visits the second-largest combat-coded F-16 unit in the Air National Guard

With considerations on the horizon for any future F-35A or F-15X basing decisions, the 138th Fighter Wing has focused on improving operational training infrastructure, installation facilities, weapon system sustainment and support of the F-16CM mission, displaying the Wing as an excellent candidate to receive a next generation fighter.

To discuss the posture of a future fighter airframe to Tulsa, leadership from the 138th Fighter Wing and Oklahoma National Guard sat down with the Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, Oklahoma Sen. Jim Inhofe.

"Oklahoma military communities, particularly the Oklahoma National Guard, enjoys a great relationship with Chairman Inhofe and his staff," said Director of Government Affairs, Brig. Gen. Brent Wright, Oklahoma National Guard. "It's always a tremendous honor to have the chairman of the Armed Services Committee visit his hometown Air National Guard Base."

Sen. Inhofe commended the Wing on how exceptional the fleet continues to operate at a high level due to maintenance upgrades but also expressed his concern with the aging Tulsa jets.

"There's one problem, we've done too good of a job on upgrading our aircraft," said Inhofe. "That's one thing that doesn't work in our favor, because another base in need of newer equipment could possibly be first for a next generation fighter."

What does work in Tulsa's favor is expanded airspace, advanced ranges, great weather and installation infrastructure upgrades that have been planned, designed and executed with future mission compatibility built-in.

A substantial upgrade the 138 FW executed was a City of Tulsa Vision 2025 initiative Mission Training Center that houses four state-of-the-art F-16CM simulators with an option to easily support future airframe simulators. The MTC facility is the largest in the Air National Guard, able to support F-16 aircrew from all over the nation to train in Tulsa.

"We have the best F-16 unit in the country, and they're doing a tremendous job, but we want what's best for the future of the 138th Fighter Wing and the state of Oklahoma," said Inhofe.



(Oklahoma Air National Guard photo by Al Cullen Tyler)
(Oklahoma Air National Guard story by Master Sgt. C.T. Mitchell)

VIRTUALLY UNSTOPPABLE

RECRUITERS BRIDGE THE SOCIAL DISTANCING GAP

COVID-19 has dramatically impacted almost all ways of life. This is especially true for the 138th Fighter Wing, its military members and how its mission is accomplished.

When the Tulsa Air National Guard recruiting office was forced to cease enlistment ceremonies for new recruits in March 2020 due to the pandemic, it didn't take long for Tech. Sgt. Brittany Erler, 138th Fighter Wing recruiting supervisor, to begin looking for a way to get back to work.

Erler was inspired by recruiters in other states who worked around the challenge of recruiting with social distancing by implementing virtual enlistments. Upon learning this, Erler started to integrate the concept of virtual enlistments to the 138th FW. After receiving guidance on how to correctly implement the plan, Erler and her recruiting team began virtual enlistments in April 2020.

"COVID-19, as a whole, set us back," Erler said. "Virtual enlistments was my way to try and combat that setback. I wanted to prove that COVID-19 couldn't stop us or our mission." While virtual enlistments allowed recruitment efforts to resume for the 138th FW, Erler notes that there were challenges that had to be tackled.

"Virtual enlistments lack the personal touch that we pride ourselves on in the Oklahoma Air National Guard when we recruit," said Erler. "As recruiters, we care about each of our enlistees and their futures. We missed being able to witness their journey from the start of the recruiting process to the finish line and being able to congratulate them in person."

Erler and her team are now able to safely resume in-person enlistments on base, all while practicing social distancing. While the need for virtual enlistments has lessened, it is a concept that is here to stay according to Erler.

"Virtual enlistments still give us the opportunity to enlist new members from other states and receive state-to-state transfers a lot easier than we did in the past," said Erler.

While there are still a lot of unknowns surrounding this pandemic, what we can be sure of is, that through innovation and teamwork, it will not stop our mission to fly, fight, and win.

138TH FIGHTER WING RECRUITERS



LINE-OF-SIGHT



Maj. T.J. Love, assumes command of the 219th Engineering Installation Squadron, 138th Fighter Wing Dec. 8, 2019, at Tulsa Air National Guard Base, Okla. The change of command ceremony is a time-honored military tradition which visibly recognizes and assures the responsibility and authority of the incoming commander. (Oklahoma Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. Rebecca Imwalle)



Maj. Kurt Stephens, assumes command of the 138th Fighter Wing Civil Engineer Squadron, Dec. 8, 2019, at Tulsa Air National Guard Base, Okla. The change of command ceremony is a time-honored military tradition which visibly recognizes and assures the responsibility and authority of the incoming commander. (Oklahoma Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. Rebecca Imwalle)



Senior Airman Lesley Cox, 138th Fighter Wing, assists Airmen in a decontamination line during a CBRNE exercise, February 1, 2020 at Tulsa Air National Guard Base, Okla. During the decontamination process, Airmen go through several stations to clean any uniform parts that may have been exposed to chemicals. (Oklahoma Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. C.T. Michael)



Several members of the 219th Electronics Engineering Installation Squadron and Logistics Readiness Squadron, 138th Fighter Wing, return home after a deployment June 1, 2020 at Tulsa International Airport, Tulsa, Okla. The Airmen were deployed for six months in support of Operation Inherent Resolve. (Oklahoma Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. C.T. Michael)



Staff Sgt. David Foster, Security Forces, 138th Fighter Wing, stands ready in the rain during an active shooter exercise July 28, 2020, at Tulsa Air National Guard Base, Okla. The exercise tested 138th Fighter Wing emergency responders and support agency procedures in the event of an active shooter. (Oklahoma Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. C.T. Michael)



Lt. Col. Chris Wells, Operations Group, 138th Fighter Wing, assumes command of the 125th Fighter Squadron, August 2, 2020, at Tulsa Air National Guard Base, Okla. The change of command ceremony is a time-honored military tradition which visibly recognizes and assures the responsibility and authority of the incoming commander. (Oklahoma Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. C.T. Michael)

WARPAINT

SERVING ON THE FRONT LINES

VISUAL: Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea



MAJ. JENIFER STOCKTON
138TH FIGHTER WING
NURSE PRACTITIONER

WHEN NOT ON DUTY FOR THE
TULSA AIR NATIONAL GUARD,
MAJ. STOCKTON WORKS AS A
PULMONARY NURSE PRACTITIONER
AT INTEGRIS BAPTIST
MEDICAL CENTER IN OKLAHOMA
CITY, OKLA.

SEVERAL OF OUR TULSA AIR NATIONAL
GUARD SERVICE MEMBERS ARE
SERVING IN THEIR CIVILIAN JOBS ON
THE FRONT LINES IN THE FIGHT
AGAINST COVID-19.



MAJ. GEOFFREY SHARPE
138TH FIGHTER WING
PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT

WHEN NOT ON DUTY FOR
THE TULSA AIR NATIONAL
GUARD, MAJ. SHARPE WORKS
AS AN ER PHYSICIAN
ASSISTANT AT LABETTE
HEALTH IN INDEPENDENCE,
KANSAS.

GUARDSMEN SUPPORT COVID RESPONSE

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, 56 Airmen from the 138th Fighter Wing were activated by Oklahoma Gov. Kevin Stitt in support of the state's response to the virus.

Members were activated between April 24 and Sept 30, 2020 as they worked alongside the Oklahoma Army National Guard and participated in various missions, to include conducting COVID-19 tests, disinfecting long-term care facilities, assisting the Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma and facilitating contact tracing missions.

Master Sgt. Eraker, 138th Fighter Wing command post, worked as a liaison between Army and Air National Guardsmen to communicate mission details and updates.

"The 138th Fighter Wing was integral in getting these missions done," Eraker said. "They were doing a lot of different missions while providing community support. I think we were a very valuable addition to the state's response."

While providing support to the states COVID-19 response, Guardsmen across Oklahoma conducted more than 26,000 virus tests, disinfected 232 long-term care facilities, and facilitated 30,000 contact tracing calls. While with the community food bank, Airmen delivered a total of 300,000 pounds of food and 65,000 meals to families in need.

The Airmen activated for this response came from ten different squadrons across base, providing a unique opportunity for members to enhance interoperability skills.

"This was also a really good team building mission," Eraker noted. "A lot of these Airmen have fostered working relationships across squadrons and groups that they would not have had contact with if it wasn't for this mission."

Eraker noted that this is one of the most community-based missions he has seen happen while at the 138th FW, and that it is focused on one of the Wing priorities that most Airmen don't get to concentrate on as much, which is building relationships.

"Missions like this contribute to the sense of appreciation that the public feels towards the military and the National Guard," Eraker said. "When Oklahomans see local service members stepping in to fill gaps like we saw during COVID-19, it personifies the mission of the National Guard which is 'always ready, always there.'"





Master Sgt. Jonathan Gibson, Maintenance Squadron, 138th Fighter Wing chocks the tires of Air Force One June 20, 2020, at Tulsa International Airport, Tulsa, Okla. Air Force One is the official air traffic control call sign for a United States Air Force aircraft carrying the president of the United States. (Oklahoma Air National Guard photos by Master Sgt. C.T. Michael)

VISUAL: The "Air Force One" naming convention was established for communication purposes. The name was adopted in 1953, after a commercial plane, Eastern Air Lines Flight 8610, entered President Eisenhower's airspace when he was on board his plane, which had a similar name – Air Force 8610. After the incident, the term "Air Force One" was coined to avoid any confusion about which aircraft is carrying the commander-in-chief.



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