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512th Airlift Wing, Dover Air Force Base, Del.

Mission Accomplished: Team Dover passes ORI

Capt. Marnee A.C. Losurdo
512th AW Public Affairs

Team Dover Airmen earned Satisfactory scores during the Dec. 7-14 Operational Readiness Inspection, proving they are ready to meet wartime taskings and deliver airlift anywhere, anytime.

The Air Force Reserve Command's 512th Airlift Wing and Air Mobility Command's 436th AW deployed more than 600 personnel to the Combat Readiness Training Center in Gulfport, Miss., to participate in the inspection. They were also joined by about 60 reservists from the 433rd AW, Lackland AFB, Texas.

"Team Dover did a great job all through the inspection," said Col. Steven W. LeGrand, AMC Inspector General Team, during a briefing today at the base theater. "Team Dover came together and had a positive attitude and a sense of urgency that made a difference in this inspection."

Each unit undergoes an ORI, every three to five years. Active and Reserve Airmen are challenged with various wartime sce-

narios to assess their preparedness for war and their ability to fulfill their mission. The IG evaluated the wings in three major areas: employing the force, sustaining the force and the ability to survive and operate. There was a five-tier rating system of Outstanding, Excellent, Satisfactory, Marginal and Unsatisfactory.

"This is such a great team, and that came through in all areas," said LeGrand, who added the total force integration between the active and Reserve wings here is amazing. "Team Dover is more than ready to conduct their wartime mission."

Despite the challenges associated with these inspections, Col. Mark D. Camerer, 436th AW

Col. Mark D. Camerer (middle in fleece), 436th Airlift Wing commander, and Col. David K. Berkowitz (left), 512th AW vice commander, greet Operational Readiness Inspection players upon their return home to Dover Air Force Base, Del., Dec. 13. Both wings earned a satisfactory grade.

commander, lauded the participants for their tenacity and a job well done.

"No one gave up, and it made a big difference in our overall grades," said Camerer.

"I am very proud of this team," said Col. Randal L. Bright, who was an ORI participant serving as the vice commander for the wing of deployed Airmen. "It took more than just the deploying Airmen to earn the grade. It

also took the support from the personnel at home station. I thank each of you for all of your hard work and the role you played in the wing's success."

Team Dover celebrated with a burger burn at the Landings Club, celebrating their passing grade just before the holidays. Traditional reservists who were unable to attend the AMC IG briefing, will receive an ORI outbrief during the January UTA.



Photo by Roland Balik

Adhere to political season do's and don'ts

2nd Lt. Abraham J. Raymond
71st Flying Training Wing Legal Office

With the excitement of the presidential primaries lurking around the corner, there are a few things Airmen must remember during this upcoming political season.

When you joined the military or became a federal employee, you did so with the knowledge that this decision came with some sacrifice.

Everyone is encouraged to register to vote, research candidates and vote for the candidates. However, in order for this representative democracy to function properly, civil servants and military professionals cannot be seen as

partisans.

Both military members and federal employees work for the government and in doing so they must support elected officials regardless of whether or not they voted for, or against, particular candidates. For this reason, among others, getting a paycheck directly from the federal government necessarily limits a person's ability to participate in some aspects of the political process.

Military members who violate these rules may face punishment under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

Read the full story at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123283838>.

TSP limits increase

The Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board has announced the 2012 elective deferral limit for regular Thrift Savings Plan contributions has increased from \$16,500 to \$17,000 for 2012, Air Force Personnel Center officials said. The TSP catch-up plan contribution limit will remain at \$5,500. TSP is a long-term retirement savings plan which allows investors to build an investment portfolio while lowering their taxes each year they contribute. (Courtesy AFPS and Manpower News)