



ILLINOIS AIR NATIONAL GUARD
HEADQUARTERS 183D FIGHTER WING (ACC)
SPRINGFIELD ILLINOIS

22 December 2011

TO: ALL MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE 183D

FROM: 183FW/CC

SUBJECT: Holiday Message

I would like to wish you and your families the most special of holiday seasons. May you experience joy and happiness as you celebrate the holidays this year.

We have much to be thankful for as a unit. We have been blessed as a unit in that many deployed members have returned home safely. We are justly proud of the sacrifices and accomplishments of our deployers. We are so thankful for the great support we receive from the families of all our members, especially those whose loved ones deployed this year and are still deployed.

Collectively and individually we have accomplished much this year, both on and off the base. Unit members assigned to the JTF answered the call during the winter storm and the Ohio River flooding. Base improvement continues at a rapid pace with work on the new front gate and renovation of our communications building, P-8. Our Engine CRF began work in their newly renovated facilities in P-1. We have hosted numerous official visits, including one from Senator Mark Kirk. We have worked hard in the area of unit manning and are now beginning to make gains in our overall manning. This is just a small portion of all of the great things that have occurred this year. To accomplish this it has taken a unified effort by everyone. It has taken a team consisting of Airmen, full-time and part-time; state employees; and contract employees to insure that all facets of our mission are accomplished safely and properly.

With your help, I believe the 183d can have an even more successful year in 2012. Our goals for next year are (1) to have no loss of life, major personal injury, or Class A accidents; (2) to strengthen the resiliency of all of our member, and to be a good "wingman" by looking out for each other and helping each other; (3) reach 100% manning; (4) to successfully assist the State and Federal government in support of the combined G-8/NATO meetings; (5) to successfully accomplish our role as lead unit of JTF-South; (6) to continue to break ground on new facilities and make improvements to existing ones; and (7) to insure that are members are properly led, properly trained, and properly equipped. With your help we will succeed.

Finally, I extend to you and your families the most heartfelt wishes for a happy and safe holiday season. I eagerly look forward to all the exciting things we will accomplish in the coming year.

Gratefully and humbly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael A. Meyer".

MICHAEL A. MEYER, Colonel, ILANG
Commander