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MFR 03012971  
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**MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD**

Event: Interviews at Otis Air Force Base (Otis AFB)

Type of event: Initial overview of Otis AFB operations by Colonel Paul Worcester

Date: October 14, 2003

Special Access Issues: None

Prepared by: Geoffrey Brown

Team Number: 8

Location: 102<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Wing, Otis Air National Guard Base, Massachusetts Air National Guard (102<sup>nd</sup>)

Participants - Non-Commission: Col. Paul G. Worcester, Lt. Col. Margaret C. Quenneville, Lt. Col. Timothy M. Lynch, Tech. Sgt. Michael Kelly, Andrew Huddleston (Dep Ch, Plans, Integration & Transformation Division, AF/XOHP, phone: 703 696-0024, fax: 703 588-0636)

Participants - Commission: John Azzarello, Geoffrey Brown

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**Base Assets:**

Regarding base resources and assets over the years, Worcester recalls that at one point Otis AFB had 19 F15s; but in the "F106 days" the base had about 20 or 21 air alert fighters. Now the base has 18 F15s. In the 1990s the Air Force restructured the unit to include 18 Primary Assigned Aircraft (PAI), and thereafter "at some point" in the mid-1990s the unit downsized to 15 PAA, with 3 Back-up Assigned aircraft (BAI); thus a total of 18 aircraft, officially 15 PAI, 3 BAI. Worcester believes the drop in fighters is tied into the loss of an alert fighter detachment in 1994.

**NORAD/NEADS/FAA:**

Worcester explained that the two active air alert fighters at Otis AFB are NORAD assets. Those fighters are kept armed and are ready to be scrambled at all times. NORAD passes the fighter mission through NEADS, and NEADS coordinates and controls them once they are airborne. If for some reason NEADS ability to control the fighters is compromised, the FAA is passed that responsibility. This process would include involved level of authenticating authority. Worcester noted that the only time there is a problem with this is when the fighter being controlled is out of communication range.

**Planning for threats:**

Worcester noted to Commission staff that in to order comprehensively address the issues facing the alert capacity of air defense two factors would need to be considered: first, the overwhelming expense of creating a system for total national radar monitoring;

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and second, creating a robust command and control protocols to make clear, streamlined and rapid use of the system. Worcester commented that these steps require tax payers to consider how much they are willing to invest in the same type of response and capability that was involved in Cold War planning to be applied to terrorist attack scenarios.

Worcester explained to Commission staff that part of the Alert Force Evaluation considered hijack scenarios. NORAD has an exercise function in which scenarios are run and then evaluated at the C2 (command and control) centers (NEADS), and then again at the fighter wings (like the 102<sup>nd</sup>).

**Hijacking Response:**

The Alert Packages that pilots are given for their missions include criteria for responding to a hijacking, and include direction for "shadowing" (following) distances (which are different between US and Canadian airspace). According to Worcester, and evidenced by the contents of the Alert Package, hijacking scenarios pre-9/11 were classically discussed and trained for within air defense planning, but Worcester also noted that these plans did not address a 9/11 type scenario. Normally the response would entail an escort procedure. Worcester commented regarding the purpose for a fighter escort of a hijacked aircraft that military personnel "always joked that it was plotting the wreckage...you would mark the debris circle...the Egyptian air loss comes to mind – similarly the TWA Air crash."

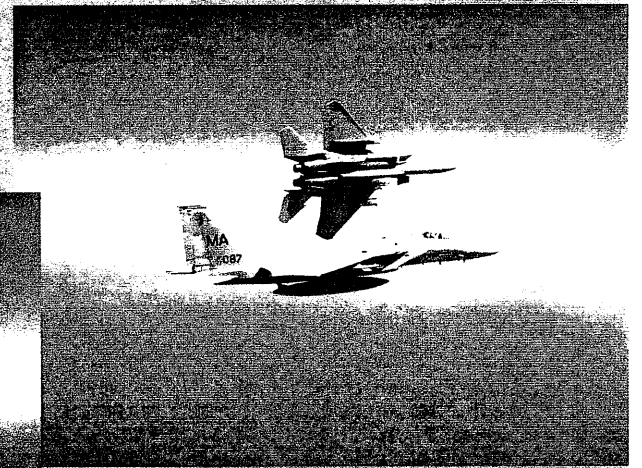
**Attachment:** "9/11 Commission In-Brief" – PowerPoint Presentation created by Col. Paul Worcester.

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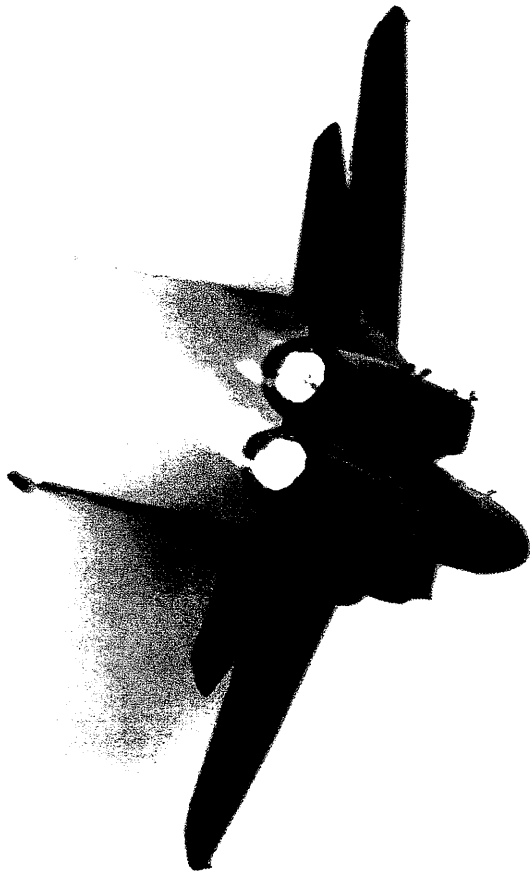


**Welcome**  
**9/11 Commission**  
**to the**  
**102nd Fighter Wing**





Col Paul Worcester,  
Commander



# **State Mission**

**To protect life  
and property  
and to  
preserve peace,  
order and public  
safety as  
directed by  
the Governor.**

# Federal Mission



Provide well-equipped,  
well-trained men and women  
to support National Security Objectives...

in simple terms...

**Fight and WIN America's wars !**

# Mission



- **18 F-15 Eagles**
- **Air Superiority**
- **24/7 Homeland Defense Alert**



# Operational Activities

<b>Apr 01</b>	<b>Unit Compliance Inspection</b>
<b>Sep 01</b>	<b>102CES - Cold Lake, Canada</b>
<b>Sep 01- UFN</b>	<b>Operation Noble Eagle</b>
<b>Oct 02</b>	<b>COMSEC Inspection - Outstanding</b>
<b>Nov 02</b>	<b>Weapon System Evaluation Program, Tyndall AFB, FL</b>
<b>Feb 03</b>	<b>Snowbird - Luke AFB, AZ</b>
<b>Mar 03 - UFN</b>	<b>OIF</b>
<b>Jun 03</b>	<b>Alert Force Evaluation - Outstanding</b>
<b>Dec 03</b>	<b>1AF Standardization Evaluation</b>
<b>Apr 04</b>	<b>Health Services Inspection</b>





# Total Fighter Wing Strength

<u>UMD</u>	<u>Authorized</u>	<u>Assigned</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Officers	102	85	83
Enlisted	910	737	81
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1012</b>	<b>822</b>	<b>81</b>
Title 32	360	360 (81 AGR)	100
Title 5	149	170 (30 temp)	108
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>509</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>104</b>



# *Operation Noble Eagle*

The first 24 hours



## **THE FIRST 24 HOURS**

- 0839 - Rec'd call from Tower that TRACON was alerted to possible hi-jacking**
- 0846 - Fighter Scramble Order**
- 0852 - Fighters Airborne**
- 0900 - Local training sorties launched**
- 0910 - BS/SRC Activated**
- 0925 - Local training sorties recalled**
- 0958 - Force Protection Condition "C"**
- 1030 - 4 A/C Launched to CAP Points**
- 1154 - Force Protection Condition "D"**



## THE FIRST 24 HOURS

- **Airborne A/C on training mission instantly recalled & force generation started**
- **Began with 6 MC jets – tech force fixed, turned & configured**
  - **Centerline only – began to preposition wing tanks to increase CAP time on future flights**



## **THE FIRST 24 HOURS**

**-- Began loading AIM-9 missiles on all MC aircraft first; switched to 7's & then 120's to ensure maximum a/c in min time**

**-- 5 A/C with 4x2x2xG configuration within 4 hours**

**-- Backshop maintenance increased tempo to support the massive generation effort**



# THE FIRST 24 HOURS

- **Support Group**

**CES - 24 Hr Operation**

**SFS – 90% vol**

**MPF – 24 Hr Ops w/no additional folks**

**SVF – 90% vol: served 1100 meals w/in 48 hrs**

**CF – 24 Hr Comm Center**

**MDS – 8 vol conduct med screening**



## **THE FIRST 24 HOURS**

- **14 A/C were fully configured & on status in under 17 hours**
- **Continuous flying operations were supported throughout the generation**



# THE FIRST 24 HOURS

- **# of Sorties Flown: 27**
- **Total Hours Flown: 106.6**
- **# of A/C Generated: 14**





# Quick Facts for 2002-2003

- More than 750 members were mobilized in support of ONE, OEF, OIF
- 4 new alert facilities were constructed on the flightline
- Since 9/11 1303 personnel and 1,215,644 lbs. of cargo were deployed from or employed to Otis
- Since 9/11 more than 1200 combat air patrol sorties totaling more than 4200 flight hours
- Winston P Wilson Trophy
- Pitzenbarger Award
- Aviation Excellence Award - 70K Accident-free flying hours
- ANG Explosive Safety Award
- ACC Flight Safety Award

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**AIR NATIONAL GUARD**

***"Now More Than Ever!"***

