

Middle East Region Civil Air Patrol

Commanders Update Briefing 13 January 2016



Col John Knowles
MER/CC



MER Staff Briefing



- A1 – Personnel/Admin
- HC – Chaplain
- HO – Historian
- IG – Inspector General
- JA – Legal
- PA – Public Affairs
- SE – Safety
- CMC – Region Command Chief
- A3 – Operations
- A4 – Logistics
- A5/8 – Plans and Programs
- A6 – Communications
- A7 – Mission Support
- A7E – Aerospace Education
- A7O – Cadet Programs
- A7P – Professional Development
- A9 – Finance



MER/A1

Maj James Brogan



<i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i>	<i>Top Goals next Period</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 13 Promotions Processed• 5 Decorations Processed• Online Annual Award evaluation form created• Tracking Spreadsheet created for annual award processing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• First MER/A1 telecon 20 Jan 1900 hours• A1 Needed• Need the annual awards tracker posted to MER website
<i>Risks / Problems</i>	<i>Assistance Needed</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wings still submitting eServices awards• Sertifi NOT optimal (requires FIVE [5] different applications to use)• eCAPF 120 not functional<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Citation not retrievable• Board must use separate system to concur/nonconcur• Future end date not avail (IOT pin it where you win it)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Need additional A1 personnel to assist w/ awards/promotion processing/stats/comm for boards• NEED announcement : All docs requiring MER/CC action should be directed to the following:• ALL Awards: awards@mer.cap.gov• ALL Promotions: promotions@mer.cap.gov• All other correspondence: mer_a1@mer.cap.gov



MER/HC

Lt Col Greg Hill



<i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i>	<i>Top Goals next Period</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• December 2015• Coordinated with Chaplain, Lt Col Byerly re: next Wing Chaplains Teleconference.• Continued processing applications for Chaplains and CDIs.• Provided CDI training for Myrtle Beach Squadron.• Continued working with Chaplain, Lt Col Kennedy re: Chaplain Corps Seminary Training Program in DC area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• December 2016• Wing Commanders and Wing Chaplains urgently recruit CDIs per new CAPR 265-1 guidelines.• Oversee VAWG Chaplains' Peer Mentor Initiative.• Continue PhD project contract meetings with Ch Kennedy and team re: Chaplain Corps seminary training program in DC area.• Continue coordination with Maj Reed re: 2016 MER Annual Conference.
<i>Risks / Problems</i>	<i>Assistance Needed</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not meeting recruiting goal to have at least one chaplain or CDI in each Squadron.• Inability to establish Chaplain Corps seminary training program in DC area.• Low CDI attendance at May CCRSC.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recruitment and retention.• TOP 3 GOALS: Begin emphasis on CDI attendance at 2016 CCRSC; Each Squadron in MER have an assigned CDI or Chaplain; 100% reporting of HC/CDIs on semi-annual electronic reporting end of period 31 Dec 15.



MER/HO

Maj Joseph Myers



<i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i>	<i>Top 3 Goals 2016</i>
<p>1. Continuing Education course for collections management for CAP Historians. (<i>this course is currently being reviewed prior to rollout</i>)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Promote Professional Development for Historians across the region. Promote the flow of feedback and ideas across the Region.2. Support the development of new Historians in the Region3. Complete Annual Region History & submit to NNQ Prior to deadline.4. Work to get History on line and accessible for the Region.
<i>Risks / Problems</i>	<i>Assistance Needed</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lack of understanding of the Historian's function• Lack of information	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Encourage reporting of events at all levels.• Encouragement of Wing Historians to produce and forward Annual Wing History Reports.



MER/IG



Lt Col Cheryl Fielitz-Scarborough

<i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i>	<i>Top Goals next Period</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Complaint resolution – 1 case open.<input type="checkbox"/> On the National IG report – we had <u>no</u> RED for SUI 27 month time frame and <u>no</u> RED for DTS 6 month time frame.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Keep DTS and SUI Status out of the RED<input type="checkbox"/> Next IG Conf call – 26 Jan, 2000hrs<input type="checkbox"/> Continue discussion for date and location for IG Summit 2016.<input type="checkbox"/> Wing IGs submit annual POA <p><u>Goals:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Well trained and highly qualified IG Corps2. No MER units in RED for SUI timeline or DTS3. Comp Res conducted and closed in timely fashion.
<i>Risks / Problems</i>	<i>Assistance Needed</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Two units <u>potentially</u> turn RED in January for DTS.	



MER/JA Lt Col Tim Corrigan



Top Accomplishments this Period	Top Goals next Period
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conducted a MER_JA team meeting and invited a Wing Legal Officer to participate, as well• Assisted a Wing JA with developing plan of action for his Wing to support a non-CAP event• Provided timely advice to the MER CC on current Wing level legal matters that require Region awareness.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prepare JA presentation for MER conference.• Begin planning for JA support to upcoming activities
Risks / Problems	Assistance Needed
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• None	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• None



MER/PA

Maj Brenda Reed



<i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i>	<i>Top Goals next Period</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2016 PA Plan and Crisis Communications Plan written, approved by MER CC, and submitted to NHQ• Article on SC flood published in recent <i>Volunteer</i> magazine• Assisted wing PAOs with Legislative Day handouts when requested• MER Conference:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Registration open- conference sessions full	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue to review wing PA and Crisis Communications Plans for CY 2016•• MER Conference:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Marketing- Scripts (work with command)
<i>Risks / Problems</i>	<i>Assistance Needed</i>
	<p>MER Conference: Looking for MER staff to volunteer to help in various ways during event</p> <p>1/16</p>



MER/SE

Maj. Guy Butts



<i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i>	<i>Top Goals next Period:</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ There are 13 MER Mishaps in the Mishap Reporting Process down from 19 last month➤ Reviewed DE, DC, NC, VA and WV completed Annual Safety Surveys➤ Completed my Mission Safety Officer, MSO, requalification➤ Updating the MER 2016 Safety Blitz material and forwarding to MER CC.➤ Sent email to all MER SE's to begin looking for their Paul W. Turner, Safety Officer of the Year, and Distinguished Aviator nominees	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Review MER Wing Squadron Annual Safety Surveys MD, SC.➤ Review and send out the MER 2016 Safety Blitz to all wings➤ Continue to talk with MER Wing SE's on a frequent basis/daily/weekly via email text and cell phone➤ Work on my MER Wing Conference 2016 presentation➤ Complete the MER Annual Safety Survey
<i>Risks / Problems</i>	<i>Assistance Needed</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ MER Monthly Safety Education participation is 13.95% 6/43, Dec 26.85%▪ Wing Monthly Safety Currency: DC-23%, DE-37%, MD-32%, NC-20%, SC-26%, VA-16%, WV-19%.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Ensure Squadron Cadet Programs do not perform the Shuttle Run



MER/CMC Chief Rommel Inoa



<i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i>	<i>Top Goals next Period</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thanks to MER PA, we have an article on one of 15 MER NCO's: https://www.mercap.org/index.php/mer-news/93-a-staff-sergeant-s-journey-and-achievements-through-one-year-in-civil-air-patrol http://tiny.cc/6q9b7x• Visited two CAP squadrons• Contacted known NCOs in the Region via emails	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Educate MER members on the role and responsibilities of NCOs in CAP• For every MER Wing to select its own Wing Command NCO
<i>Risks / Problems</i>	<i>Assistance Needed</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Need each MER Wing to appoint a Wing Command NCO, if able• Help advertising the “new” career (NCO) path in CAP• Encourage prior active duty NCOs to entertain the idea of selecting CAP NCO path



MER/DO A3 January 2016 Slide

Lt Col Langley / Maj Stuart



<i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i>	<i>Top Goals next Period</i>
<p>Remember MER staff has AF training budget for our use in maintaining our currency and readiness. Contact the A3e or A3 for sortie entry and approval.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participated in Retirement / Change of command ceremony for Lt COL Hubbard• Assisted wing DO Counterparts daily as needed. <p>Glider Update: NC: 33 total for the year so far. Glider is being inspected in January. SC: SC Has not flown in the last month due to weather and holidays. WV: No reported sorties in last month next annual due March 2016. VA: 7 glider sorties for December. New glider O-ride pilot got his F5 and new tow pilot trainee got his required glider sorties.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Planning for MERSAR 2016• Preparation for MER Conference in May• Recruiting and Attempting to Staff the open positions in the Operations A3 Team • Review and assist wing DO Counterparts daily as needed.
<i>Risks / Problems</i>	<i>Assistance Needed</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Constant monitoring of AIR and Ground ops for safety issues and trends	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• None at this time.



MER/A4

Lt Col David Oldham



<i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i>	<i>Top Goals next Period</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Working on replacement vehicles for the wings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Distribute remaining laptopsVehicle for CAP Use – I have Van 99065 it is a cargo van without windows and only the two front seats (no bench seats in the rear). It is available to MER Staff members on a per use basis for CAP business. As usual, please return it with a full tank of fuel and clean. Hopefully without damage.
<i>Risks / Problems</i>	<i>Assistance Needed</i>



MER/A5/8 Plans and Programs

Lt Col Haertel



<i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i>	<i>Top Goals next Period</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Working with MER staff, Wing staffs, to develop, program guidance, strategy, and support their training plans.• Assisting with Wreaths Across America IC as OPS Chief	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Refine/staff FY 17 ATP's• Refine/fuse FY 17 OP Plans Suite• Attend MER CC retreat 19-20 May ICW MER Conference• Develop/staff FY 17-21 MER Strategy from NHQ FY16-20 Strategy.• Finish Gen Chrystal's book Team of Teams.
<i>Risks / Problems</i>	<i>Assistance Needed</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• New processes needs to produce immediate, recognizable, actual results.• Processes need stakeholder acceptance or they are feckless.• Develop shared vision, lateral adaptability, and	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Go forward and establish CAP LNO positions inside the CNGB JOC and the NORTHCOM JOC?• Relationships to build or actions while at National Staff College• None



MER/A6

Lt Col Maurice Thomas



<i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i>	<i>Top Goals next Period</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2015 WAA Mission support – outstanding!• <u>Outstanding Participation in NTN.</u> MER communicators, Number One!• 2016 Region Communications Plan – must be written, revised and approved• Continued direct support to NHQ-NTC – travel approved visit 23-30 Jan 16• National Communications Training Program to go live• Ft. Pickett UHF Repeater may require redo• 2016 NESAS School attendance• 2016 MER-SAR College planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wing Communications Plans constantly reviewed• Assessment of communications equipment life cycles• National Traffic Net – Goal of 100% HF participation by all region assets• National Traffic Net – Daily representation by all wings• Be “value-added” asset to wings• Recruitment of new technical talent• CUL + RDO training modules
<i>Risks / Problems</i>	<i>Assistance Needed</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ROS of “live” and irreplaceable assets• Justification for future replacements• UHF ISR radios will not be replaced• VHF handhelds will be in short supply• NTC demand for itinerant radios shortfall• Region staff and command to regularly utilize/exercise assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minimize the loss of irreplaceable assets• Reporting of frequent equipment failures• Awareness of maintenance cycles and costs• Planning assistance to the wings• AAR must stress comm support• Active feedback from DO and CC – focus on command concerns• Increase CUL-T training opportunities



MER/A7 Col Trick



<i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i>	<i>Top Goals next Period</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue to work with Wing PD, CP, AE• R/C aircraft reporting.• Dates for RSC• Wreaths Across America	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Finish Of the Year Awards• AE - Encourage use of STEM kits - more/new kits/topics coming soon• CP – Fill Region DCS CP• PD - More Level V completions
<i>Risks / Problems</i>	<i>Assistance Needed</i>



MER/A7E

Lt Col McLellan



<i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i>	<i>Top Goals next Period</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue to work with Wing DAEs• R/C aircraft reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• MER AEO School Planning for 2016• Finish Brewer Awards, AE Officer of the Year, and Teacher of the Year nominations
<i>Risks / Problems</i>	<i>Assistance Needed</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• None	



DCS/CP (A70) Lt Col Dan Brodsky



<i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i>	<i>Top Goals next Period</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Finalized flyer for DDR 2016 challengeAppointed Warrior Challenge director, core staff membersProvided MER NCSA information to NHQAdministered two Spaatz exams<ul style="list-style-type: none">Newest MER Spaatz cadet is... C/Col Leah Schweigert-Opas Burke Composite Squadron, Virginia Wing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Wing DCPs/DDROs teleconference on Sunday, Jan 17thNHQ webinar on QCUA, Jan 19thWind down / transition planningShip CAP laptop back to MER/LG
<i>Risks / Problems</i>	<i>Assistance Needed</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">CP plays a big role in conferences, and the transition will hamper planning<ul style="list-style-type: none">Capt Fassero has agreed to keep the planning moving forward if there is a gap in the DCS/CP role	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Will need a new CAC advisor in the coming months; Capt Fassero will be stepping down in first half of 2016We could use another writer for the CLS curriculum committeeCall for staff for the Warrior Challenge will be going out soon



MER/A7P Lt Col Dunn



<i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i>	<i>Top Goals next Period</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue to work with Wing PDs - give assistance with PD courses (TLC, CLC, SLS, UCC)• Online TLC is out• MER Members completing Level V Lt Col Peter K. Bowden (MDWG)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Planning for MER RSC 2016• Get more Master Levels in specialty tracks• Get more members to Level V• Decrease time to Process PD Awards
<i>Risks / Problems</i>	<i>Assistance Needed</i>



MER/FM

Lt Col Phyllis Griffin



<i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i>	<i>Top Goals next Period</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Processed all requests for payment/deposits• Processed monthly credit card bill• Attended National Cadet Competition to serve as Finance Officer for the activity• Met with Susan Easter to discuss finance issues (flight academy, FM seminar for region FMs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Process all requests for payment/deposits• Reconcile bank accounts• Process credit card bill• Work with Susan Easter on changes to Flight Academy accounting• Work with Conference Project Officer to handle finances for conference• Work with Finance Committee to approve proposed MER SAR Budget
<i>Risks / Problems</i>	<i>Assistance Needed</i>
None	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plan to get assistant more involved



MER Command Staff Briefing



- Chief Of Staff
- Region Commander



MER/CS Col Eugene Egry



<i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i>	<i>Top Goals next Period</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Happy New Year!• Worked with A1 to establish OTY Awards Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work with A7 to find new A7EX – External AEO• Work with A1 to find new A1D - Director of Recruiting and Retention• Find new A7O• Find new A1• Work with Staff to complete MER Scorecard
<i>Risks / Problems</i>	<i>Assistance Needed</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• MER Supplements and Forms• Safety Currency• Establish remaining MER Staff to Wing Staff conference calls. Minimum Quarterly• CUB slide should follow this naming convention: MERXX CUB.pptx	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vacancy of the North Carolina Wing Commander• Need help finding A1, A6I, A1D and A7EX, A7O



MER/CC Col John Knowles



- **Staff Plays a Vital Role In EVERYTHING we do in the MER**
- **MER Wing Commander Retreat – Keep them informed on any issues that you have**
- **Fill in the information requested for the goals**
- **We will need your help at the MER Conference!**
 - **Got an Email from Maj Reed? – Lets all step up to help**
- **MER “Of The Year” – We WILL NOT have any empty slots**
 - **If no wing nominates anyone the MER staff officer will select someone**
- **Still looking for an R & R Officer**