

# Middle East Region Civil Air Patrol

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## Commanders Update Briefing 17 August 2016



**Col John Knowles**  
**MER/CC**

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# MER Staff Briefing



- HC – Chaplain
- HO – Historian
- IG – Inspector General
- JA – Legal
- PA – Public Affairs
- SE – Safety
- A1 – Personnel/Admin
- 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/HC



## Lt Col Wayne Byerly

### *Top Accomplishments this Period*

- August 2016
- Attended Annual Conference.
- Represented MER at CCAC (Chaplain Corps Advisory Council) meeting in Nashville, TN.
- Continued processing applications for Chaplains and CDIs.
- Review assignments of MER Chaplain's staff with the intention of recommending changes.

### *Top Goals next Period*

- September 2016
- Processing Form 35 and 35a applications for Chaplain and CDI appointments as needed.
- Preparing quarterly conference call briefing with MER Wing Chaplains to update them on the actions and discussions of the CCAC during the Annual Conference.
- Begin planning for the Chaplain Corps Staff College in May, 2017. Location: TBD.

### *Risks / Problems*

### *Assistance Needed*

- Recruitment and retention.



# MER/HO

## Maj Joseph Myers



<b><i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i></b>	<b><i>Top Goals 2016</i></b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Completed NCWG and MER Annual History reports for 2015 sent to NHQ.</li><li>2. Collections Management course is now live and initial feedback from the field is positive</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Promote Professional Development for Historians across the region. Promote the flow of feedback and ideas across the Region.</li><li>2. Support the development of new Historians in the Region</li></ol>
<b><i>Risks / Problems</i></b>	<b><i>Assistance Needed</i></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lack of understanding of the Historian's function</li><li>• Lack of information</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Encouragement of Wing Historians to produce and forward Annual Wing History Reports.</li></ul>



MER/IG



# Lt Col Cheryl Fielitz-Scarborough

## *Top Accomplishments this Period*

- Complaint resolution –
- On the National IG report – we had no RED for SUI 27 month time frame and no RED for DTS 6 month time frame.
- RCLS-South
- Successfully taught IGSC at Nat Conf

## *Top Goals next Period*

- Keep DTS and SUI Status out of the **RED**
- Next IG Conf call – 23 Aug, 2000hrs
- Annual evaluation of wing IG programs

### Goals:

1. Well trained and highly qualified IG Corps
2. No MER units in **RED** for SUI timeline or DTS
3. Complaint Resolution conducted and closed in timely fashion.

## *Risks / Problems*

- IGSC taught in conjunction with MD Wing Conf.

## *Assistance Needed*

- Org IGSC



**MER/JA**

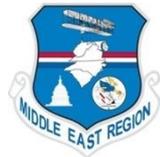


## Lt Col Matthew Phillips (MER/JAA) for Lt Col Tim Corrigan

<b>Top Accomplishments this Period</b>	<b>Top Goals next Period</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Assisted SCWG/JA with CAP and SC State regulatory interpretations</li><li>• Assisted VAWG/JA on multiple occasions with regulatory interpretation</li><li>• Consultation with NCWG/JA re new JAA appointment issue</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continue providing timely, accurate and relevant legal advice to MER/CC and staff officers as required</li><li>• Restart recurring MER and Wing JA teleconferences</li></ul>
<b>Risks / Problems</b>	<b>Assistance Needed</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• None</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• None</li></ul>



# MER/PA Maj Julie Holley



## *Top Accomplishments this Period*

- Resolved posting problems on the MER website.
- Provided PIO support for the SCWG during their search for crashed Georgia ANG F-16s
- Reviewed North Carolina Wing's public affairs plan and provided feedback
- Increased frequency of social media posts

## *Top Goals next Period*

- Continue to review wing PA and Crisis Communications Plans for CY 2016
- Increase direct interaction with wing PAOs
- Broaden social media posts

## *Risks / Problems*

### **Reputation Management**

- Former NCWG member arrested
- VAWG attended political rally in uniform

(Important Reminders)

## *Assistance Needed*

- Share the message for PAOs in all MER wings to consider CCing MER PAO on stories they submit so we can share them too. (This includes very local stories.)



# MER/SE Maj Guy Butts



## ***Top Accomplishments this Period***

- There are currently 25 Open MER Mishaps in the Mishap Reporting Process with 13 Open Mishaps in June
- I visited the NHQ Flight Academy at Ft. Pickett on Saturday July 9, 2016
- MER Wing Cadet Encampments are completed with a few Wings with many Mishaps and several Wings with no Mishaps
- Communicating with other Region SE's as coordinated by NHQ Safety
- Working with NHQ to improve SIRS

## ***Top Goals next Period***

- Continue to work with MER Wing SE's on a daily/weekly basis
- Communicate regularly with CAP NHQ Safety George Vogt and Bob Castle
- Coordinate/communicate with all Region SE's.
- Assist with the management of the Mishaps in SIRS to move them effectively to closure

## ***Risks / Problems***

- New CAP NHQ SIRS Program Data-
- ❖ MER Staff Aug Safety Briefing 12/43, 28%
- ❖ Wing Aug Monthly Safety Currency: DC-29%, DE-38%, MD-30%, NC-38%, SC-22%, VA-26%, WV-30%. MER Region

## ***Assistance Needed***

- Ensure Squadron Cadet Programs do not perform the Shuttle Run
- Improvement in the MER Monthly Safety Currency Education compliance to >75 %



# MER/A1

## Lt Col Ted Lybrand



### *Top Accomplishments this Period*

- Welcome to Lt Col Harry Lloyd Harting to the A1 Staff as Assistant A1
- 9 Promotions Processed
- 85 Decorations Processed
- Re-announced Vacancy for A1
- Completed Org Chart Update for June & sent to IT for posting on the website
- Established MER Staff Vacancies Posting on the Website
- Completed review of 21 wing supplements

### *Top Goals next Period*

- Schedule phone conference w/counterparts
- Conduct interview with candidates for A1 positions
- Update Org Chart
- Place Guide Section on Webpage for Submission of Promotions & Awards
- Process Large Number Decorations for WVWG

### *Risks / Problems*

- 65 Decorations for SC Flood caused backlog

### *Assistance Needed*

- Need to recruit one person on A1 staff



# MER/A3

## Col David E Crawford



### *Top Accomplishments this Period*

- Transitioned A3 position
- Finalized Annual Training Plans
- Attended National Conference
- Developed basing plan for new C182T coming to region (Aug 2016)

### *Top Goals next Period*

- Finalize FY17 Aircraft Basing Plan
- Begin staff selection for MER SAR 2017
- Establish regular A3 staff conference calls
- Fill remaining A3 staff positions

### *Risks / Problems*

- N/A

### *Assistance Needed*

- Need assistance with getting ADY A3 staff members access to WMIRS and E-Services functions – wing level assignment is overriding Region level needs



MER/A4

Lt Col Calvin Chandler



***Top Accomplishments this Period***

- Newly appointed A4 (Me!) & Asst. A4- Lt Col Jeff Focke
- Lt Col Richardson continues as Transportation Officer to cover MER Vehicles & backstop as interim Supply- this will be rectified- Job Well Done!!
- Initial briefings complete but still working on the overall situation awareness

***Top Goals next Period***

- Completion of item(s) on the disposal list
  - 1) Vehicle 92004, 1998 Plymouth 7 Pax
  - 2) Video Camera
- Review and get ROS's in motion, there are at least six (6) items that need attention
- Meet & greet virtually with all Wing DLs
- Review with CS priority list, wants, & wishes
- Determine if Asst A4 will serve in supply role or if needs dictate an additional person
- Communicate to Wings that with the end of FY coming, NOW is the time to get vehicle MX completed

***Risks / Problems***

- Lots of items need to be completed before inventory—we have **just** enough time to complete

***Assistance Needed***

- Please advise if you have any knowledge of issues that need to be addressed



# MER/A5/8 Plans and Programs

## Lt Col Haertel



### ***Top Accomplishments this Period***

- FY 17 Strategic Review
- FY 17 ATP Cycle Review for Wings in progress
- National Staff College-16 Command Track and Mentorship development project on track.

### ***Top Goals next Period***

- Continue developing the A-5/8 division
- Manage Wing FY 17 Annual Training Plan developing process.

### ***Risks / Problems***

- Summer encampments, special activities, family vacations, SAR evaluation season, and summer household move season will impact individual participation in squadron and staff meetings at all levels until after Labor Day weekend.

### ***Assistance Needed***

- Set reasonable expectations.
- Come back refreshed after Labor Day
  
- 12 Aug 16



MER/A6

Lt Col Maurice Thomas



***Top Accomplishments this Period***

- **MER Wings had Outstanding Participation in NTN all month**
- **MER Wings participation in No-Notice USAF Commex this month**
- **Repeater at Ft. Pickett operational full-time**

***Top Goals next Period***

- Wing Communications Plans
- Utilization / Assessment of communications equipment life cycles
  - Justification for future replacements
- National Traffic Net
  - 100% MER HF stations
- Continue National Traffic Net participation
  - Daily representation by all wings
- Be “value-added” asset to wings
- Recruitment of new technical talent
- CUL + RDO training modules

***Risks / Problems***

- **ROS of “live” and irreplaceable assets**
  - **Mission loss if not attended**
- UHF ISR radios at end-of-life cycle
  - Repair parts limited
- VHF portables to be funded for replacement
- NTC – needs additional support

***Assistance Needed***

- **Minimize the loss of irreplaceable assets**
- Reporting of more frequent failures (MTBF)
- Need our own region UHF go kit
- Planning assistance to the wings
- AAR must stress comm utilization/ support
- Active inputs from DO and CC
- Need CUL-T training at state level



# MER/A7 Col Trick



<b><i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i></b>	<b><i>Top Goals next Period</i></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continue to work with Wing PD, CP, AE</li><li>• A7 – Attended:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Tri-Wing Encampment</li><li>AFCEA Tyndall AFB, FL</li><li>RCLS - North</li></ul></li><li>• C/Col Emmy Hoyt - Spaatz #2052 (MDWG)</li><li>• Maj Joel Lipsey – Wilson #3371 (NCWG)</li><li>• Lt Col Tim Tessin – Wilson #3372 (NCWG)</li><li>• Lt Col Bryan Pettigrew - Wilson- #3381 (DCWG)</li><li>• Capt Todd Parsons - Wilson #3383 (VAWG)</li><li>• Maj Blake DeVold - Crossfield (VAWG)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• AE - Encourage use of STEM kits<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- more/new kits/topics coming</li></ul></li><li>• STEM4UAS AMA Competition<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Muncy, IN</li></ul></li><li>• PD – Continue Level V completions</li><li>• Complete AARs for MER activities</li><li>• Plan/Staff 2017 Activities</li></ul>
<b><i>Risks / Problems</i></b>	<b><i>Assistance Needed</i></b>



# MER/A7E

## Lt Col McLellan



### *Top Accomplishments this Period*

- Continue to work with Wing DAEs
- Quad Rotor STEM kits to all DAEs
- Attended National Conference – Aero Ed training sessions

### *Top Goals next Period*

- MER AEO School Planning for 2017 – Lt Col Bob Terry accepted to be Aero Ed School Director
- Inform MER Wing DAEs to apply for model airplane and Quad copter simulators.
- Push Brewer Awards, AE Officer of the Year, and Teacher of the Year nominations

### *Risks / Problems*

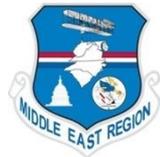
- None

### *Assistance Needed*

- Need MER/Wing Conference date for planning



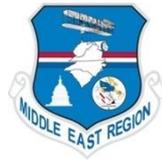
**A70**  
**Lt Col Ryan**



<b><i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i></b>	<b><i>Top Goals next Period</i></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• RCLS – North</li><li>• RCLS - South</li><li>• MER Honor Guard Academy</li><li>• Several Wing Encampments</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Plan and Staff 2017 RCLSs</li><li>• Next DDR In-Service day session 11 Sep 16.</li></ul>
<b><i>Risks / Problems</i></b>	<b><i>Assistance Needed</i></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Only NC &amp; SC wings completed DDR FY-16 Strategic plans and goals.</li><li>• Only SCWG turned in DDR supporting documentation.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Looking for Director of Cadet Warrior Challenge.</li><li>• Changes within DDR duty assignments –working toward primary and assistant 2 senior and 2 cadet members within all levels. Due date 31 Oct 16.</li></ul>



# MER/A7P Lt Col Dunn



## ***Top Accomplishments this Period***

- Continue to work with Wing PDs  
- give assistance with PD courses  
(TLC, CLC, SLS, UCC)
- MER RSC
  - Congrats to VA and DCWGs who  
have already processed many of the  
graduates for Level IV and subsequent  
promotion to Lt Col.
- New TLC is out

## ***Top Goals next Period***

- Plan and Staff MER RSC 2017
- Get more Master Levels in specialty tracks
- Get more members to Level V
- Decrease time to Process PD Awards

## ***Risks / Problems***

## ***Assistance Needed***



# MER/FM

## Lt Col Phyllis Griffin



### *Top Accomplishments this Period*

- Processed all requests for payment/deposits
- Processed monthly credit card bill
- Finished draft budget
- Served as Admin/FM at MER HGA
- Reviewed activity FM reports and processed FM items for activities
- Attended National Conference

### *Top Goals next Period*

- Process all requests for payment/deposits
- Reconcile bank accounts
- Process credit card bill
- Finalize MER HGA FM report
- Close current PayPal account and open new one
- Review all FM policies to prepare FY17 policies

### *Risks / Problems*

- None

### *Assistance Needed*

- None



# MER Command Staff Briefing



- Chief Of Staff
- Region Commander



# MER/CC

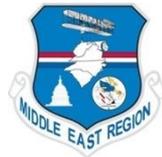
## Col John Knowles



- **Staff Plays a Vital Role In EVERYTHING we do in the MER**
- **Summer Months – some super busy / some a bit slow – sprint across the finish line FY16**
- **Upcoming reviews of all CAPR's – Be prepared to timely submit your reviews and recommendations when tasked**
- **Change's at NHQ – COO**
- **Monthly or Quarterly Staff Meetings with your wing counterparts**
- **MER Website – Keep your functional area current and full of value added content**
- **Welcome to new staff members**
- **Thank you!**



# MER/CS Col Eugene Egry



## ***Top Accomplishments this Period***

- Visited MERSC and later also attended MERSC Dinning Out
- Visited Hawk Mt Ranger School. Participated in Lt Col Jay Langley presentation of his Expert Ranger Award #266
- Visited RCLS / N
- Attended National Conference / Command Council in Nashville, TN
- Successfully on-boarded new Assistant A1 – Lt Col Harry Harting, VAWG
- Successfully interviewed and on-boarded new A4 – Lt Col Calvin Chandler, VAWG
- Successfully interviewed and on-boarded new Assistant A4 – Lt Jeff Focke, NCWG

## ***Top Goals next Period***

- A7 will facilitate MER Activity Review with Directors presenting to MER/CS and providing summary to MER / CC
- Find Assistant A6I
- Continue to work with the A6I to establish all MER staff have and use MER email address IE: [mer\\_a1@mer.cap.gov](mailto:mer_a1@mer.cap.gov) [mer\\_a1@mer.cap.gov](mailto:mer_a1@mer.cap.gov)
- Teaching at UCC in DEWG 27 AUG
- Continue to develop depth in staff areas – assistants
- Each “A Level” Staff Officer review on ATP Goals and Metrics. How are you tracking? Do you know the Goals and Metrics of your counterparts at the Wings?
- Start thinking about and preparing for the MER Staff Retreat / MDWG Conference – 11 - 13 NOV 2016
  - Golf outing - Friday, 11 NOV
  - Retreat - Saturday, 12 NOV
    - ✓ Report against FY 16 Metrics / Align to FY17 Metrics

## ***Risks / Problems***

- Attendance at National Conferences
- MER Staff Safety Currency – 100%
- CUB slide should follow this naming convention: MERXX CUB
- Establish remaining / new MER Staff to Wing Staff conference calls. Minimum Quarterly

## ***Assistance Needed***

- None



# MER Staff Briefing



*Time Permitting:*

- A6I – Director of IT



MER/A6I

Maj Jim Holcomb

