

Middle East Region Civil Air Patrol

Commanders Update Briefing 11 January 2017



Col John Knowles
MER/CC



OTY Award Process / Timeline



Maj Rob Orr, MER / A1A



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

Lt Col Ted Lybrand



Top Accomplishments this Period

- 5 Promotions Processed
- 14 Decoration Recommendations
- Additional 42 National Commanders Commendation and 22 Region Commanders Commendations from NCWG sent to board in batch mode
- Anticipate large number of SCWG awards for Hurricane Mathew (estimate 75 awards)
- Began OTY annual awards cycle
- Sent OTY guide to wings for their use and distribution to

Top Goals next Period

- Update Org Chart
- An Awards Preparation Guidance PowerPoint presentation will be posted to the MER website in January and examples of properly prepared CAPF 120 for each award in

Risks / Problems

Assistance Needed



MER/HC



Lt Col Wayne Byerly

Top Accomplishments this Period

- January, 2016
- Conference call with MER wing chaplains to update plans for attending NESAs for MC training and receiving credit for CCSC.
- Following conference call with wing chaplains, met with HC staff for coordination of staff in upcoming MER events.
- Attend Train the Trainer course at NHQ from 23 – 27 January in anticipation of roll-out of new requirements for mission chaplains and chaplain support specialist SQTRs.

Top Goals next Period

- February, 2017
- Attend NC Wing conference in Durham on 3 – 4 February and participate in wing chaplain's seminar.
- Plan and implement training requirements for Mission Chaplain and Chaplain Support Specialist for both current MC and potential MC and CSS.
- Continue to work with wing chaplains and staff on recruiting and retention on MER Chaplain Corps personnel.
- Review of nominees submitted for Senior, Squadron chaplain and CDI of the year awards and make recommendations.

Risks / Problems

*Wing Conferences and Chaplain Corps Staff College are opportunities for continuing education but are not attended by many of our chaplains and CDIs due to cost and time factors. The need is for more opportunities for online training and telephone conferences that offer an alternative.

Assistance Needed

- Recruitment and retention.
- Training for new CDIs and continuing education for all Chaplain Corps personnel.



MER/HO

Maj Joseph Myers



<i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Working on the Annual History Report for 2016.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Select an Assistant HO for MER.2. Promote Professional Development for Historians across the region. Promote the flow of feedback and ideas across the Region.3. Support the development of new Historians in the Region.
<i>Risks / Problems</i>	<i>Assistance Needed</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• New format for Annual history reports coming for this year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Encouragement of Wing Historians to produce and forward Annual Wing History Reports.



MER/IG Col. Ray Harris





Top Accomplishments this Period

Top Goals next Period

- FY 2016 Goals:
- 1. Provide timely, accurate and relevant legal advice to MER CC and staff officers – accomplished and ongoing
- 2. Establish Chief positions within MER Legal Office for legal specialties – Probably not realistic due to insufficient staffing; however, the MER JA team capitalizes upon legal skills within and across the Region and Wing staffs
- 3. Conduct quarterly JA Staff meetings – accomplished and ongoing – To date, MER JA and JAs from DE, MD, WV, VA, NC and SC recurring participation success
- 4. Use CUB slide format with Wing JAs – accomplished (as needed) and ongoing
- 5. Develop and publish best practices – accomplished and ongoing
- 6. Provide JA access avenues and publish contact info – accomplished and ongoing
- 7. Keep MER CC (and others) of MER JA team efforts – accomplished and ongoing
- 8. Identify a JA to activity commanders to be a legal POC for event – accomplished sporadically (needs additional focus)
- 9. Present classes at MER and Wing conferences – accomplished at MER and a few Wings (needs additional focus)

- Continue providing timely, accurate and relevant legal advice to MER/CC and staff officers as required
- Conduct a MER/Wing JA conference call on January 25, 2017 – discussion points:
 1. Discuss CC/Staff Officer/JA relationships
 2. Maintaining open communication channels among MER/Wing JAs
 3. Increase use of CUB format that focuses upon Wing JA goals
 4. Ideas and methods to increase contact with local USAF and Air NG JAs
 5. Continue developing “Best Practice Guides” for publishing on MER JA webpage
 6. Ideas for sponsoring state Bar approved Continuing Legal Education seminars and inviting local Bar members
 7. Encourage attendance at FY 2017 NLOC

Risks / Problems

Assistance Needed

• None

- Encourage Wing Leadership to officially (and publically) recognize the work of their JAs -- in the absence of an established ‘Legal Officer of the Year’ award



MER/PA Maj Julie Holley



Top Accomplishments this Period

- Reaching out to Wing PAOs:
 - Required plans
 - Strategic initiative to move to a standard web design
 - Discuss new NHQ/PA plans

Top Goals next Period

- Explore idea of changing web template to standard CAP template
- Continue to review wing PA and Crisis Communications Plans

Risks / Problems

Assistance Needed

- Inform MER PA if you need help publicizing events around the region



MER/SE, Jan 2017

Maj. Guy Butts



Top Accomplishments this Period

- There are currently 7 Open MER Mishaps in the Mishap Reporting Process with 12 Open Mishaps last Month
- Working with NHQ Safety Team; Col. Brian Ready –SWR/CV, Col. Everett Humme – MA WG/CC to improve SIRS
- Communicating with other Region SE's as coordinated by NHQ Safety
- Communicating with MER Wing SE's
- MER Squadron 2016 Annual Safety Survey is in process: DC-6/6, DE-0/8, MD-11//26, NC-22/31, SC-3/16, VA-6/24, WV-8/14.
- Working with NHQ Safety to coordinate May 2017 NSOC Logistics for 15 Pax Vans

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 Mishaps in SIRS to move them effectively to closure
- Work with NHQ SIRS Redesign Team
- Attend the 2017 National Safety Officers College and serve as Logistics.
- Secure two 15 Pax Vans in coordination with Lt. Col. Chandler

Risks / Problems

- CAP NHQ SIRS Dec 2016 Safety Education
- ❖ MER Staff Safety Briefing 16/42, 38%
- ❖ Wing Nov Safety Currency: DC-67%, DE-41%, MD-42, NC-53%, SC-42%, VA-26%, WV-42%. MER Region – 43%

Assistance Needed

- ❑ Improvement in the MER Monthly Safety Currency Education compliance to >75 %



MER/Command NCO CMSgt Dennis Orcutt



Top Accomplishments this Period

- No new significant events to report

Command NCO appointments Need to know/appoint

- MER – CMSgt Orcutt
 - DCWG – 4 NCOs, 2 in 000 SQ
 - NCWG – 4 NCOs
 - SCWG – 1 NCO
 - DEWG – 2 NCOs
 - MDWG – 1 NCO
 - VAWG – 3 NCOs
 - WVWG – 1 NCO
- (numbers as of Nov CAP/CCC pull)

Top Goals next Period

- For every MER Wing to select its own Wing Command NCO
- To coordinate a strong retention and recruiting initiative with the MER Wing Command NCOs ... as soon as their respective Wing Commanders designate
- Visit Units/Events with MER/CC etc.
- NCO Recruiting Plan for current CAP Officers was slated to start this month. Will verify details info to include CAP NCO ppt presentation

Risks / Problems

- Not all MER Wings have active/retired NCOs

Assistance Needed

- Need each MER Wing to appoint a Wing Command NCO, if able
- Encourage prior active duty NCOs to entertain the idea of selecting CAP NCO path
- CC/CV/CS share calendar for visits



MER/A3

Col David E Crawford, CAP



Top Accomplishments this Period

- 2 of 3 New aircraft received in region
- Intra-Region transfer planning in final stages
- Working plans for basing of potential new aircraft
- ADS-B Transition plan under development, Lt Col Gene Jackson MER/A3G is project officer
- Through Q1/FY 2017 all but 1 wing is within striking distance of required hours per aircraft (50/acft at this point)
- NC:89, DC: 52, VA: 52, WV: 47, MD: 44, DE: 44, SC: 35

Top Goals next Period

- Continue staff selection for MER SAR 2017
- Fill remaining A3 staff positions
- Seeking Region CD Officer
- MER SAR planning
- Will be assisting NC on Capital Hill for Legislative Day.

Risks / Problems

- **SIGNIFICANT RISK**: Training at Ft Pickett may reduce billeting (non-Barracks) by more than **50%** for MER SAR.
- Continuing Resolution reducing training

Assistance Needed

- Staff – please notify A3 staff when you have personal OPS Qual entries to be validated.



MER/A4

Lt Col Calvin Chandler



Top Accomplishments this Period

- MER ROS's generated by annual inventory status: 8 assigned, 5 complete for Region CC approval, 3 under investigation
- All A4 personnel safety current
- Chandler selected as upcoming VAWG Chief of Staff, 1 Feb 2017

Top Goals next Period

- ROS follow up the top priority—complete all MER ROS
- Compile AAR on inventory
- Clean up vehicle retirement list
- Advertise & interview for A4
- Continue clean up of old ROS's, at <Wing
- Continue to plan for A4 staff attendance at key Region events- Wing conferences, SAREX, Encampments, etc.

Risks / Problems

- Backlog of pending retired items and old ROS's
- OLD ROS's---DE has 3 over 60,3 over 90— with 2 of those awaiting CAP-USAF
- MD has 1 >a year waiting on CAP-USAF
- NC has 1 >a year waiting on CAP-USAF
- SC has 2 over a year old awaiting investigator input
- TOTAL ROS's OVER 60 DAYS IS TEN!
- 1 Vehicle report currently overdue
- SC Wing- 39019

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



<i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i>	<i>Top Goals next Period</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Executed Christmas and New Years operations.Incident Commander and Operations Officer for Florida Emergency Services Academy. .	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Drafting MER Area Command Plan from multiple sources. Ongoing.Coordinate Region and Wing OPLANS Folder links.Develop A-58 Plans and Programs Track.Draft FY 17 Annual Training Plan (ATP).
<i>Risks / Problems</i>	<i>Assistance Needed</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Minimal if timelines are met.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Manage strategy planning and programs..



MER/A6

Lt Col Maurice Thomas



Top Accomplishments this Period

- **ACTIVATED!** EFJ UHF Handheld Kit
 - First deployment: Cadet Comp 3/17
- WAA 2016 comm support! MD, DC, MER
- NORAD Santa Net, CAP participation
- Completed 2017 Region Comm Plan
- Continue Strong Comm Participation
 - NTN HF Nets & Exercises
- Renewed Region Evening Nets Began December 7 with good participation

Top Goals next Period

- Emphasize Mission Utilization / Assessment
- Wing ORMS Oversight & Accountability
- Encourage 100% MER HF staff stations
 - Mandatory Radio Path to Command
- Review Wing Comm Plans as submitted
- Review Training Objectives

Risks / Problems

- **ROS of “live” and irreplaceable assets**
- UHF ISR radios: No plan to replace
 - Assess mission impact
- VHF portables – No budget for replacement
- NTC – Understaffed, needs continuous support

Assistance Needed

- **Minimize the loss of irreplaceable assets**
- Reporting of more frequent failures (MTBF)
- Planning assistance to the wings
- AAR to stress mission comm support
- Active inputs from DO and CC
- Need CUL-T training at state level



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• Attended 75th Anniversary at Udvar-Hazy• Attended UAS training with Patuxent Partnership• Wilson Awards Lt Col Frank Jarosinski #3406 (MDWG) Maj Robert Albert #3404 (SCWG)• Spaatz Award C/Col Justin G Desrosiers #2076 (DEWG)• Crossfield Capt Mitchell Brach (SCWG)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• AE - Encourage use of STEM kits - more/new kits/topics coming• PD – Continue Level V completions• Plan/Staff 2017 Activities• Fill additional A7 Positions• Complete staffing of HGA, RCLSs, and RSC
<i>Risks / Problems</i>	<i>Assistance Needed</i>



MER/A7E

Lt Col McLellan



Top Accomplishments this Period

- Continue to work with Wing DAEs via E-Mail
- Participated in phone call this week with Jeff Montgomery, National Asst. Aero Ed Officer, and other Region DCS/AEs
- Lt Col Bob Terry is working on draft lesson plan for MER Aero Ed School to submit to Col Trick and self
- Metrics on track

Top Goals next Period

- Met with Lt Col Bob Terry to discuss MER Aero Ed School via e-mail. Plan to have the school 17- 19 May 2017 at AOPA Community Center.
- Push Brewer Awards, AE Officer of the Year, and Teacher of the Year nominations,
- Plan AE School.
- Cadets members to apply for AOPA and AMA Scholarships this coming year.

Risks / Problems

Assistance Needed



A70

Capt Overman



<i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i>	<i>Top Goals next Period</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• HGA added to NCSA website after National delays• Teleconferences with DCPs planned and beginning 25 Jan• Continuity folders for activities being built, housed on ownCloud• CAC projects:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Warrior Challenge• NRA Marksmanship Program• Next Meeting- 15 Jan 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Interview and choose Activity Directors for HGA, RCLS (North and South)• Continue to organize continuity folders• Secure location/date for RCLS (N)• Have full Cadet Programs staff in place
<i>Risks / Problems</i>	<i>Assistance Needed</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Delay of HGA being added to NCSA website pushes 15 Jan deadline for “green light”	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• None



MER/A7P Lt Col Dunn



Top Accomplishments this Period

- Continue to work with Wing PDs
- give assistance with PD courses
(TLC, CLC, SLS, and UCC)
- Continue to assist NHQ with PD issues
- Metrics on track

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
- Encourage attendance at RSC and NSC

Risks / Problems

Assistance Needed

- NHQ/IT has had an action for some months to allow wings to directly enter SLS, CLC, TLC, and UCCs into e.Services. We need this to be given higher priority.



MER/FM

Lt Col Phyllis Griffin



Top Accomplishments this Period

- Processed all requests for payment/deposits
- Processed monthly credit card bill
- Updating PayPal account
- Updated travel voucher
- Created FY17 HGA budget

Top Goals next Period

- Process all requests for payment/deposits
- Reconcile bank accounts
- Process credit card bill
- Finalize all FY17 FM policies
- Finish updating PayPal account

Risks / Problems

None

Assistance Needed

- Need MER activity directors to submit activity budgets for FM committee approval



MER Command Staff Briefing



- Chief Of Staff
- Region Commander



MER/CS Col Eugene Egry





- **Staff Plays a Vital Role In EVERYTHING we do in the MER**
- **2017 MER Conf – April 7-9 Joint w/ VAWG**
 - **NCWG Conf 3 Feb-5 Feb**
 - **DCWG Conf 11 Mar**
 - **SCWG Conf 18 Mar**
- **Calendar Events FY 17 – add them or update**
- **VAWG Change of Command – 4 Feb 17**
- **MER Website – Keep your functional area current and full of value added content**
- **Winter CC Meeting 3 Mar-5 Mar (Spatz Dinner)**