

Middle East Region Civil Air Patrol

Commanders Update Briefing 08 February 2017



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

Lt Col Ted Lybrand



Top Accomplishments this Period

- The asst. A1 who handles awards is no longer with A1
- 4 Promotions Processed
- 16 Decoration Recommendations
- 42 National Commanders Commendations extracted from one PDF submitted to us from NCWG to submit to NHQ
- Anticipate large number of SCWG awards for Hurricane Mathew (estimate 75 awards)
- OTY annual awards preparation moving forwarded

Top Goals next Period

- Update Org Chart
- OTY Awards Processing Critical Dates
- 15 Feb – All nominations in
 - 24 Feb SMEs completes review and scoring
 - 25 Feb A1 has nominations ready for Awards board
 - 7 Mar awards board completes review and scoring
 - 8 Mar–board recommendation sent to CC
 - 14 Mar – A1 receives selections from CC
 - 15 Mar – A1 submits awards to NHQ

Risks / Problems

Assistance Needed

- Need an Assistant A1 to handles awards



MER/HC



Lt Col Wayne Byerly

Top Accomplishments this Period

- February, 2016
- Attended NC Wing conference in Durham on 3 – 4 February and participated in NC Wing Chaplain’s briefing.
- Review of nominees submitted for Senior, Squadron chaplain and CDI of the year awards and make recommendations.
- Attended 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

- March, 2017
- Plan and implement training requirements for Mission Chaplain and Chaplain Support Specialist for both current MC and potential MC and CSS.
- Conference call with MER wing chaplains to update plans for attending NESA for MC training and receiving credit for CCSC.
- Member of HC staff to participate in SC Wing conference in Columbia, SC and brief SC Wing chaplains and CDIs on changes to MC and CSS requirements.

Risks / Problems

Maintaining full strength (and number) of Mission Chaplains through the transition period of bringing new SQTRs and new training requirements “on-line.”

Assistance Needed

- Making the MER Wing Commanders aware of the changes to MC training and encourage



MER/HO

Maj Joseph Myers



<i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i>	<i>Top Goals 2017</i>
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Attended NCWG Conference2. Starting to compile Data for the 2016 Annual History report.3. Introduced the new format for Annual History reports from NHQ	<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. Early completion of the 2016 History Reports.
<i>Risks / Problems</i>	<i>Assistance Needed</i>
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Lack of understanding of the Historian function.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support for Wing Historians to produce and forward Annual Wing History Reports.



MER/IG

Col. Ray Harris



Top Accomplishments this Period

- On the National IG report – we had **no** RED for SUI 27 month time frame and **no** RED for DTS 6 month time frame.
- New CAPR 20-3 awaiting release.
Replaces 123-3.
- Complaint resolution – One open case

Top Goals next Period

- Keep DTS and SUI Status out of the **RED**
- IG Conf Call – Next Call 28 Feb 17
- IG of the Year submission from each Wing
- Conduct IGSC in conjunction VAWG Conf.
- Conduct IG Summit at VAWG Conf

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

Assistance Needed



MER/JA

Lt Col Tim Corrigan



Top Accomplishments this Period

- Conducted MER/Wings JA Coordination Conference Call
- Participated in National Group of 8 for review (Napoleon's Corporal) of the draft **CAPR 35-9, *Board of Governors and Region and Wing Commander Selection Procedures***

Top Goals next Period

- Continue providing timely, accurate and relevant legal advice to MER/CC and staff officers as required

Risks / Problems

- None

Assistance Needed

- 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 (Due end of Quarter)
- Creating a meeting schedule

Top Goals next Period

- Continue to review wing PA and Crisis Communications Plans
- Determine areas of need for training
- SCWG Conference – March
- VA/MER Joint Conference - April

Risks / Problems

Assistance Needed

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



MER/SE, Feb 2017

Maj. Guy Butts



Top Accomplishments this Period

- There are currently 5 Open MER Mishaps in the Mishap Reporting Process with 7 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 all Complete except DE as of 2/5/17.
- Working with NHQ Safety to coordinate June 2017 NSOC Logistics for 12 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 for NSOC
- Region Safety Directors are compiling Safety Survey Data, Due to MER 28 Feb 2017

Risks / Problems

- CAP NHQ SIRS Jan 2017 Safety Education
- ❖ MER Staff Safety Briefing 15/41, 36%
- ❖ Wing Jan Safety Currency: DC-67%, DE-54%, MD-46%, NC-54%, SC-46%, VA-35%, WV-56%. MER Region – 48%

Assistance Needed

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



MER/Command NCO CMSgt Dennis Orcutt



Top Accomplishments this Period

- Assisted w/NatCap Wing SLS. Talked cadet programs @ specialty track session, Leadership 4.1, and gave presentation on CAP NCO program
- Corresponded with NHQ/CCC on current CAP Officer Recruiting Chief Eldridge is now hoping for March kickoff

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.
- Push NCO Recruiting Plan for current CAP Officers once approved and released by NHQ

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

- All 3 new aircraft are now based
- Working plans for intra region transfers of aircraft for fleet mix
- ADS-B Transition plan under development, Lt Col Gene Jackson MER/A3G is project officer (ADY from VAWG as of 2/4)
- 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

- Fill remaining A3 staff positions
- Seeking Region CD Officer
- Mountain Fury Planning
- Will be assisting NC on Capital Hill for Legislative Day.

Risks / Problems

- Continuing Resolution reducing training funds

Assistance Needed

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



MER/A4



Lt Col Jeff Focke (Asst)

Top Accomplishments this Period

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

Top Goals next Period

- 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 over 60---DC has 1, DE has 3, MD, SC has 3
- TOTAL ROS's OVER 60 DAYS IS SEVEN (down from 10)!

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">• Preparing for 21-23 April Staff Retreat• Working on MER Area Command Plan from multiple sources. Ongoing.• Building relationships in SER & FLWG	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Draft FY 18 MER Annual Training Plan for staffing.• Prepare slides and packets for April Staff Retreat• Reconcile and analyze 1 & 2 Qtr Metrics
<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**
- Continue Strong Comm Participation
 - NTN HF Nets & Exercises
- Region Evening Nets - 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• Prepping for AMA Competition• Metrics on track• Submitted inputs on new CAPR 20-3• Working with NHQ on Scholarships• All Directors filled for 2017 PD, CP, AE activities.	<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



<i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i>	<i>Top Goals next Period</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Interviewed Lt Col Bob Terry for Aero Ed School Director. He was approved by the MER Commander as the Director.• Met with Lt Col Bob Terry at MDHQ to discuss MER Aero Ed School. The school is scheduled for 17-19 May 2017 at AOPA Community Center and/or College Park Aero Museum.• Lt Col Bob Terry is working on lesson plan for MER Aero Ed School.• Notified MER Wing Aero Ed Officers to submit their nominations for Aero Ed Awards by 15 Feb 2017 to the MER A1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Push Brewer Awards, AE Officer of the Year, and Teacher of the Year nominations and to recruit AEMs,• Plan AE School, Encourage Cadets members to apply for AOPA and AMA Scholarships this coming year.• Send Aero Ed School notification to members on or by 17 Feb 2017 or as soon as Lt Col Bob Terry hears from the NASA Speakers.
<i>Risks / Problems</i>	<i>Assistance Needed</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• None	



A70

Capt Patti Overman



<i>Top Accomplishments this Period</i>	<i>Top Goals next Period</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Activity Directors in place• All Activity Directors using Owncloud for files• CAC projects:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Warrior Challenge• NRA Marksmanship Program• Next Meeting- 19 Feb	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue to organize continuity files• Continue DCP Monthly Meetings
<i>Risks / Problems</i>	<i>Assistance Needed</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• None	<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
- MER RSC Director Appointed

Top Goals next Period

- Encourage attendance at RSC and NSC
- Plan and Staff MER RSC 2017
- Encourage members to achieve more Master Levels in Specialty Tracks
- Encourage more members to go to Level V
- Process PD “Of the Year” awards

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
- Accepted Finance Officer position for National NCC.
- Working with Lt Col Mayhew on HGA
- Working with Capt Muse on region Cadet Comp

Top Goals next Period

- Process all requests for payment/deposits
- Reconcile bank accounts
- Process credit card bill
- 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



Top Accomplishments this Period

- Attended NCWG Conference - 3 - 5 Feb
- Reviewed and revised the MER OTY Awards Process
- Selected A6IA Candidate – Lt Col Kertis Henderson, NCWG
- Posted MER Position Vacancies. Re-posted on all Wing list servers by Wing/CC's
- Selected MER Activity Directors:
 - MERSC – Col William “Ziggy” Bernfeld
 - RCLS/N – Maj Stacey McManus
 - RCLS/S – Col Cheryl Fielitz-Scarborough
 - HGA – Lt Col Jett Mayhew
 - AE School – Lt Col Robert Terry

Top Goals next Period

- Find A6PA – Assistant Historian
- Find A4 / A4A – Deputy Chief of Staff, Logistics and / or Assistant
- Find A1A – Assistant Director of Administration and Personnel
- Find Coordinator: Wreaths Across America-Arlington National Cemetery Event
- Serve on the SCWG / CC Candidate Review Board - 24 – 26 FEB
- Attend Winter Command Council Meeting – 3 - 5 MAR
- Attend DCWG Conference - 11 MAR
- Possibly attend SCWG Conference 18 MAR
- MER Staff retreat – April 21-23, Camp Pendleton
- 2017 MER/VAWG Conference – 7 – 9 April
 - Work with counterparts for seminarsa1@mer.cap.gov
- OTY Awards submitted to the MER from Wings using new email: OTY Awards@mer.cap.gov NLT 15 FEB
- Out of town 16 – 21 FEB

Risks / Problems

- Naming convention for CUB Slide
- Establish remaining / new MER Staff to Wing Staff conference calls. Minimum Quarterly

Assistance Needed

- None



- **Staff Plays a Vital Role In EVERYTHING we do in the MER**
- **Winter CC Meeting 3 Mar-5 Mar (Spatz Dinner)**
- **2017 MER Conf – April 7-9 Joint w/ VAWG**
 - **DCWG Conf 11 Mar**
 - **SCWG Conf 18 Mar**
- **MER Staff retreat – April 21-23, Camp Pendleton**
- **Calendar Events FY 17 – add them or update**
- **MER Website – Keep your functional area current and full of value added content**
- **Own Cloud – You can use it too**