



Thule Times



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Shock and Awe! Over \$4,000 raised for Operation Julemand



Photo by 1st Lt. Jeremy Eggers

Lt. Col. Thomas "Dingo" Doyne, 12th Space Warning Squadron commander, is taken hostage by the "Return Of All Guidons," or ROAG, organization during "Shock and Awe" Wednesday. See story Page 2.

Days until compliance
inspection (a/o July 17):

46

Climb Mount Dundas, 1
p.m., July 20. Sign up at
Community Activities
Center by Friday.

Radio Show!
July 18
Music by request
Tune in to 97.1 FM



Photos by 1st Lt. Jeremy Eggers

Above: Lt. Col. Thomas "Dingo" Doyne is wrestled to the ground by hostage takers kicking off events for the Operation Julemand fundraiser. Above left: Doyne before the prisoner exchange; 12th SWS members march to meet the ABG for the prisoner exchange and meet Cmdr. Holmer Sogaard in the middle.

"Prisoner" exchange ends guidon search

Over \$4,000 raised for Operation Julemand—money will benefit Qaanaaq children at Christmas

"Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much"—Helen Keller

What began as a 12th Space Warning Squadron prank ended as a huge showing of selflessness from all members of "Team Thule."

Base personnel raised over \$4,000 in less than six hours Wednesday for Operation Julemand, an ongoing fundraising activity where base personnel give cash and gift donations

that benefit the children of Qaanaaq each Christmas.

Thule's radio station, 97.1 FM, a private organization on base, served as the focal point for contributions.

"I expected to raise about \$500," said Maj. Mike Gresham, co-host of Radio Free Greenland, the radio show

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“Guidon”—continued from Page 2



Photo by Richard Evans

Richard Evans, a contractor here, spotted the caribou above while mountain biking near P-Mountain July 6. News of the caribou sighting spread fast throughout the base, and many set out Thule Trippin' to find it.

responsible for running the Operation Julemand drive. That expectation was beat 8-fold.

The event began as a 12th SWS prank involving the illegal procurement—call it theft—of the 821st ABG and SPTS colors after the group and squadron change of command ceremonies June 19. Signs periodically surfaced regarding “demands” for the safe return of the guidons.

After failed negotiations, the ABG launched its “Shock and Awe” campaign Wednesday, a campaign aptly named for its purpose of “taking out” the 12th SWS’s key leadership target—Lt. Col. Thomas “Dingo” Doyne. After one failed attempt to abduct the colonel, the “Return of All Guidons,” also known as ROAG, group captured Doyne during a staff meeting and took him hostage.

Shortly after the abduction, a telethon was launched—organizations were making bids to keep Doyne held captive, to release him, and also to earn rights to return the ABG and SPTS

guidons. All the while, the goal was to raise money for Operation Julemand.

With some friendly competition and occasional prodding, organizations started challenging other organizations to outdo respective bids. Furthermore, individuals challenged other individuals to contribute to the fund.

At 4 p.m., a “prisoner exchange” occurred, where Doyne was traded for the ABG and SPTS colors. Also, Capt. Kiley Stinson, 821st Security Forces Squadron commander, presented the raised money to Cmdr. Holmer Sogaard, Danish Liaison Officer, who accepted the money raised on behalf of the people of Qaanaaq. “It’s great to give without any expectation of receiving anything in return,” said Chief Master Sgt. Vance Clarke, 21st Space Wing command chief master sergeant, who called into the radio telethon to thank members of Team Thule and to make a pledge.

“Great job to all members of Team Thule,” said Brig. Gen. Duane Deal, 21st SW commander, who also called into the radio show and pledged.

New vice commander appointed for AF Space Command

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo.—The U.S. Senate has confirmed the Air Force’s nomination of Maj. Gen. Dan Leaf, to be the new vice commander of Air Force Space Command.

He is currently the director of operational capability requirements, deputy chief of staff for air and space operations, at Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C.

Leaf began his Air Force career after earning his commission as a distinguished graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison Air Force ROTC program in 1974. In addition to

commanding a flight, two squadrons, an operations group and two fighter wings, he has also directed joint operations.

Leaf commanded the 31st Air Expeditionary Wing comprised of F-16, F-15, F-117, A-10 and EC-130 aircraft during Operation Allied Force.

During Operation Iraqi Freedom, the general was the Air Component Coordination Element director to the Coalition Forces Land Component Commander where he provided an airman’s perspective on ground operations.

Leaf is a command pilot with more than 3,600 flying hours, including Allied

Force, Joint Forge, Northern Watch and Southern Watch combat missions.

Leaf has been in his current position at the Pentagon since January 2000. He is currently responsible for the definition and validation of operational capabilities required to complete Air Force missions. That effort supports Air Force-wide modernization programs from bombers to space systems.

The general will assume his new duties Aug. 1 following the retirement of the current vice commander, Lt. Gen. Robert Hinson.

**Send story ideas to the Thule Times at ThuleTimes@thule.af.mil.
Want to submit a story or photograph? Call the 821st Air Base Group Public Affairs office at ext. 5678, or stop by Bldg. 461, rm. 9**



Photo by 1st Lt. Jeremy Eggers

The only tugboat in the Air Force, USAF TG-71-9001, takes Thule Trippers to the waters of North Star Bay for a look at vast iceberg fields.

Tugboat Tours take Thule Trippers to the water

Tugboat tours have been ongoing for nearly two weeks offering Team Thule members opportunities to see icebergs up close; many have also seen seals during their trips.

Tugboat tours will continue throughout the summer. Check with services and/or the Community Activities Center for more information regarding the tours.

People are encouraged to dress warmly for the 1.5 hour trip.



Photo by 1st Lt. Jeremy Eggers

Ann. Francisco Muro, 821st Security Forces Squadron, takes a picture of an iceberg during one of the Tugboat tours offered here. The tugboat tours will continue so long as the boat isn't being used to fulfill mission requirements. Tours are scheduled July 19 and 20—sign up at the Community Activities Center.

Services director visits Thule



Photo by 1st Lt. Jeremy Eggers
Maj. Neil Wentz, 821st Support Squadron commander, and Col. Rosemary Norman, Air Force Space Command services director, look out onto Thule's runway after completing a helicopter tour of the Thule Defense Area. Norman spent a day visiting the various services facilities here, gaining a better understanding and appreciation for life at "the Top of the World."

Highlights of upcoming Services events:

Community Center:

August 30 and 31—Birthday Cake
Movie will be shown in the movie theater every Thursday and Sunday at 7 p.m.

Outdoor Recreation:

August 2 at 1 p.m. —Half and Full Marathon
August 9 at 1 p.m.—Biathlon
August 16 at 1 p.m.—Polar Bear Swim
August 23 at 1 p.m.—Ice Cap/Garnet Hunt
August 30 at 1 p.m.—Bus Tour/Walk Ice Caves

Skills Development Center:

Instructional classes every weekend from noon-1 p.m.

Bowling Center:

August 10 at 2 p.m.—Scotch Doubles
August 3, 17, and 31 at 2 p.m.—King/Queen of the Hill
August 23 at 4 p.m.—Cosmic Bowling

Fitness and Sports Center:

Softball League Play-Off

821 SPTS, 12 SWS take base quarterly awards

By 1st Lt. Jeremy Eggers
821st Air Base Group
Public Affairs

The 821st Support Squadron swept the Thule Air Base enlisted quarterly awards and the 12th Space Warning Squadron earned top honors in the company grade officer category during a recognition ceremony July 8 at the Top of the World Club.

The base winners were: Senior Airman Renae Willis, 821st SPTS personnel, Tech. Sgt. Terri Hartmann, 821st SPTS airfield operations; Master Sgt. Mike Shonka, 821st SPTS civil engineering; and 2nd Lt. Maggie Krase, 12th SWS.

Airman category: Willis, a member of the commander's support staff, earned a recognition for her performance report and decorations management and running Thule's leave program. She identified deficiencies in the Arctic Start newcomer's briefing, streamlining presentations and eliminating repeated information. Willis is currently working toward a Bachelor's degree, having earned nine credits during the quarter while maintaining

a 4.0 average. Noncommissioned officer category: Hartmann, a master sergeant select, is the assistant complex chief controller lauded for innovative thinking and decision making. Along with taking responsibility for the air traffic control section's space inspection program, Hartmann was also the key architect for this spring's Operation Boxtop. She is the Thule Top 4 Association's secretary and also serves as treasurer for the Thule Booster Club.

Senior noncommissioned officer category: Shonka, formerly the mechanical and electrical quality assurance evaluator, received praise for accomplishing resource and requirement quality assurance evaluator duties during a 4-month vacancy. He chaired the Top 4 Professional Development committee and implemented a "Sharp Troop" award for the 821st Air Base Group. Shonka completed six semester hours toward a Masters in Business Administration, nearly finishing the degree during his Thule tenure.

CGO category: Krase, 12th SWS chief of standardization and

evaluation, earned praise for her work as chief evaluator for the 12th SWS and for her work as the unit's test director. She was noted as being the only squadron operator to achieve instructor, evaluator and test controller certifications. Krase was also responsible for arranging a simulation for members of the Danish and Greenlandic Parliaments, who were on an orientation visit at Thule en route to Greenland's capital for missile defense debates.

- Winners at the squadron and group levels were:
- 12th SWS:
 - NCO: Staff Sgt. James Browning
 - Senior NCO: Master Sgt. Walt Merriam
 - CGO: Krase
 - 821st SFS:
 - Airman: Airman Kyle Waldo
 - NCO: Staff Sgt. James Everman
 - 821st SPTS
 - Airman: Willis
 - NCO: Hartmann
 - Senior NCO: Shonka
 - CGO: Capt. Brady Vaira
 - 821st Air Base Group
 - Airman: Willis
 - NCO: Hartmann
 - Senior NCO: Shonka
 - CGO: Vaira



From top left: Willis, Hartmann, Shonka, Krase, Merriam, Parra (for Waldo and Everman) and Willis (for Vaira)

Military monologues: The meaning of Patriotism

Editor's Note: May 2003, Senior Master Sgt. Jeff Haynes, 821st Air Base Group superintendent, offered all at Thule an opportunity to participate in "Military Monologues," a means to reflect on the meaning of Memorial Day and military service in general. The Thule Times will reprint those articles in the coming months.

By Tech. Sgt. Jerrod Willis
821st Support Squadron

Patriot: one who loves and loyally or zealously supports one's own country.

When first approached about this article I was asked if I was a patriot. I thought, of course, all members of the military have to be considered patriots.

I mean, we all have different reasons for joining and remaining in the military, but I think most of us get a sense of pride wearing the uniform and knowing everyday we are working hard to defend our country.

If you don't believe me, next time you are at a sporting event and the national anthem starts to play, look around. You can tell who is currently or has been a member of the military; usually they are standing a little straighter, being a little quieter, and showing a real sense of respect.

However, the more I started talking and thinking about it, I started questioning, does it take more to be a patriot?

Like most of my friends I watched the news constantly for the first week of the war against Iraq. The next week, I turned it on occasionally, and by the third week I was back to regular TV.

I am really ashamed about that especially because most of us that have been in the Air Force for several years have friends over there. I didn't even know how many Americans had died in the war...128 as of April 20th. I was not feeling so much like a patriot now.

Then I started thinking about my neighbor in Clovis, N.M. Her name is Millie.

Millie was in her late sixties to early seventies and about 4 ft 10 inches tall. She would talk to me about her husband who was with Patton during WWII and how she had volunteered to be a nurse during the war, but was told she was too small. They obviously didn't know this lady.

Millie could do anything she put her mind to. Her parents brought her to the United States from Italy when she was a baby, and she felt that she had a debt to repay to her adopted country—the country she loved.

Since she couldn't join the military, she decided she would help the war effort by making Springfield riffles for the soldiers. She talked about standing on a box for 12 to 14 hours a day so she could reach and work on the riffles.

How many of us would do that?

I also thought about my Grandfather who passed away a few years ago. At his funeral, his arms were crossed over two of the most important things in his life—his Bible and the American flag.

I asked my dad, "Where did the flag come from?" I knew my grandfather served in the Navy for a while but I didn't know when. Then my father told me that my grandfather was in WWII and how all of the veterans received flags.

He also told me that my grandfather's ship was sunk. He survived by floating on a piece of the ship for several days before being rescued. It made me remember little things like how he seemed to have a tear in his eye when he toured the battleship USS North Carolina when I was young. Or, like how the family always got together on the 4th of July.

He never talked about the war or his time in the military but he did tell me how proud of me he was when I joined. He was definitely patriotic, even though not everyone knew it.

I guess there are many ways to be patriotic; each of us has our own unique way. I personally think one of our most important roles as military members is to think about and show respect for all of those who came before us. Our actions allow those who come after us to have all of the freedoms that we have enjoyed.

Recently promoted or awarded a medal? Did you just arrive at Thule Air Base? Let folks back home know about it! Fill out a Hometown News Release—stop by Public Affairs, Bldg. 461, rm. 9, or call ext. 5678

ATWIND!
Win instantly with this services program—collect game pieces by participating in services events and then log-on to: www.atwind.com

The Lighter Side of Thule



Photos by 1st Lt. Jeremy Eggers

Above: The smell of latex gloves filled the air as the combined 821st Air Base Group staff and 821st Support Squadron/OS team took the lead in the annual Raft Regatta July 4. The ABG/SPTS team took first place honors during the competition, much to the dismay of competitors such as 12th SWS, who scarcely finished the competition, and Det. 3, whose only comment was, "We were the only team to finish without having to get off our rafts and push."

Left: Lt. Col. Thomas "Dingo" Doyne, 12th Space Warning Squadron commander, dons fake bandages for effect after being taken "hostage" by the Return of All Guidons, or ROAG, organization during the Operation Julemand fundraiser Wednesday. Doyne is sitting in a sea of 12 SWS memorabilia procured throughout the effort to retrieve the 821st ABG and 821st SPTS guidons.



Have a picture or story for "The Lighter Side of Thule," submit it to thuletimes@thule.af.mil or bring it over to public affairs, Bldg. 461, rm. 9

Thule Times Editorial Staff

Col. Thomas Walker, 821st Air Base Group commander
1st Lt. Jeremy Eggers, chief, public affairs
Add your name here as a staff writer!—call PA at 5678

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