

Terror war constitutional

By Dr. (Maj.) Earl Tilford
(Ret.) U.S. Air Force

On Sept. 11, 2001, at the behest of radical Islamic jihadist Osama bin Laden, 19 Muslim terrorists hijacked four American airliners and used them to kill almost twice as many people as the Japanese did with their sneak attack on Pearl Harbor. There was one big difference, however. While most of the people the Japanese killed were soldiers and sailors, except for the military personnel who died in the Pentagon (evidently a "secondary target"), the vast majority of victims on 9/11 were civilians: men, women and children totally uninvolved in whatever inspired the hatred that drove the terrorists who murderously snuffed out their lives.

"To Provide for the Common Defense..." is a Constitutional imperative of Government. It also is a moral responsibility of all governments to protect their citizens from aggression. The government of the United States is fulfilling both its legal and moral responsibilities and doing so decisively in Afghanistan, Iraq and other places in the global War on Terror. Consequently, Afghanistan, free of a murderous radical Islamic regime, is progressing toward a

democratic form of government. Iraq has been liberated from the sadistic despotism of Saddam Hussein. Libya recently renounced its nuclear programs and claims it wants to rejoin the community of civilized, law-abiding nations. Despite what many would have you believe, the United States is safer today than it was on Sept. 10, 2001, thanks primarily to the American military. It will be even safer after Task Force 121 extends its activities into Pakistan to eliminate the remnants of al-Qaeda.

It takes only one visit to Auschwitz or the Lubyanka Prison in Moscow to understand the reality of evil.

For evil to triumph, good men need do nothing.

I undertook my doctoral studies in the immediate aftermath of the Vietnam War. In a graduate seminar in military history, I recall one young student who intoned the tired old antiwar shibboleth, "It would be nice if they gave a war and nobody showed up." The professor, a Marine veteran of the Korean War, responded, "Young lady, the aggressor always shows up." If we fail to use our military forces decisively in support of policies that deter aggression, we will invite aggressors to show up. When they do, it will be the innocent who suffer.



Commander's Connection

Editor's note: Due to Col. Sam Angelella's TDY, Col. Billy Uhle, 20th Fighter Wing vice commander, will answer Commander's Connection questions.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Josef Cole

Col. Billy Uhle checks an angle of attack probe on one of Shaw's jets prior to a recent flight.

"Commander's Connection" is a link between Col. Sam Angelella, 20th Fighter Wing commander, and the Shaw community. Questions or concerns that can't be resolved through normal channels can be called in and recorded at 895-4611 or e-mailed to **commandersconnection@shaw.af.mil**.

Callers should leave a name and telephone number in case questions need clarification. Comments of general interest may be published in *The Shaw Spirit*.

Q Why doesn't the base recreational vehicle lot have an automated fence to allow persons who pay for RV storage access to their vehicle without having to stop by Outdoor Recreation or Base Billeting (weekends/after-hours) to get a key? Each person pays \$10 per month for parking in an unimproved dirt lot. Why can't some of this money be put back into the facility we are paying to use?

A We are happy to note you now have a key. There are currently no plans for an electronic gate, but we recently revised our operating instruction, allowing annual payees to sign for and receive a key. This will eliminate the need to stop by Outdoor Recreation or lodging. The storage lot helps us offset the cost of the lot itself, as well as other programs such as equipment rental, Skeet & Trap, etc. so the costs can remain lower than off-base.

The Shaw Spirit

Shaw Air Force Base editorial staff

Col. Sam Angelella.....20th Fighter Wing commander

Maj. Lisa Caldwell.....Public Affairs chief

Staff Sgt. Lee Watts.....Internal Information chief
earl.watts@shaw.af.mil

Airman 1st Class Susan Penning..... Editor
spirit.editor@shaw.af.mil

Staff Sgt. Alicia Prakash.....Staff writer
alicia.prakash@shaw.af.mil

Ms. Adriene M. Dicks.....Correspondent
adriene.dicks@shaw.af.mil

Information intended for the *The Shaw Spirit* must be submitted Thursday the week prior of intended publication. Direct e-mail correspondence to **spirit.editor@shaw.af.mil**, call (803) 895-2018, fax (803) 895-2017 or mail to:
20th Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office
517 Lance Ave., Suite 107
Shaw Air Force Base, S.C. 29152-5041

The Shaw Spirit is published by the Camden Media Co., a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 20th Fighter Wing.

This civilian enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services.

Contents of *The Shaw Spirit* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force. The appearance of advertising in this publication, includ-

ing inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by DoD, the Air Force or the Camden Media Co., of the products or services advertised.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

The 20th Fighter Wing commander and public affairs office are the determining authority as to whether a particular item will appear and its placement within the paper.

All copy submitted will be edited to conform to Air Force and local policy and style standards. All photos are U.S. Air Force photos unless otherwise noted.

Direct classified ads to Camden Media Co. at (800) 450-1437 or fax (803) 432-7609 or e-mail **skaress@camden.com**. All are run on a space-available basis.

Classified ads may also be dropped off at *The Shaw Spirit* office in Bldg. 1122.

Are you up to the task?

By Lt. Col. Eric Lorraine

100th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron commander

ROYAL AIR FORCE MILDENHALL, England-- It has been said that without quality people, the mission cannot succeed. Every day the Air Force is engaged in challenging, tough missions throughout the world and continues to need quality people.

Of course, the Air Force also needs quality equipment to do the mission -- aircraft, computers, communications technology and so on that it must have to be successful. But above all, the Air Force needs people who can live up to and follow its core values: integrity first, service before self and excellence in all we do. Are you up to the task?

Integrity is essential. It is the inner voice, the source of self-control and the basis for trust in our Air Force. It means you always try to do what is right, and you always try to do what is right regardless of whether anyone is watching or whether the issue at hand is pleasant or painful.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said, "The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands in times of challenge and controversy."

Integrity is not something that can be taken away from you, but it is something that can be lost based on your actions and words.

Believe me, your integrity is not something you want to lose, because it takes a long time to get it back. I fully realize integrity is not always easy to practice.

It is a tough and demanding challenge, because so many situations come in shades of gray. But I have found, those things that demand the most out of you pay the biggest dividends and bring the biggest rewards in the long run. Are you up to the task?

People of integrity say what they mean and do what they say. If you can't perform a particular task, inform your chain of command. If you inadvertently pass on bad information, correct it as soon as you find out. People of integrity do the right thing not because it is convenient or because they have no other choice. They choose the right thing because their character permits no less. Are you up to the task?

Service before self means placing the needs of the many over the needs of the individual. You have often heard the military referred to as "the service." As a member of the Air Force, you serve the United States. Service before self means doing what is right for the nation, the Air Force, your unit and your subordinates -- and putting these responsibilities above your own interests. The needs of the Air Force and the nation come first. Are you up to the task?

This doesn't mean you neglect your family or yourself; in fact, such neglect weakens you and can cause more harm than good in the long run. Service before self doesn't mean you can't have a strong ego, high self-esteem or even healthy ambition.

We all have personal goals and ambitions, and it is important to take steps to realize those goals and ambitions. That is what adds richness, depth and diversity to your own life.

Rather, service before self means you don't make decisions or take actions that help your image or your career but hurt others or even harm the mission. The Air Force can't function except as a team, and for a team to work, the individual has to give up self-interest for the good of the team.

Excellence in all we do is the difference between simply getting by and striving for perfection. It is the personal satisfaction and thrill of performing at the peak of your abilities.

If you live your life with a passion for excellence, you can reshape the world. When you look back after a job is complete, you want to be able to say to yourself, "I couldn't have given any more."

Paraphrasing Gen. Hal Hornburg, Air Combat Command commander, there are only two directions to move in life: forward or backward. It is impossible to maintain the status quo. Maintaining the status quo means you are actually falling behind. Live your life with a passion for excellence and you can make a difference. Are you up to the task?

Motorcycle safety is for on, off base

By Mrs. Deborah Duggin

20th Manpower Office

This is for the motorcycle rider who comes to work before dawn. I want you to know your reckless driving, passing vehicles on DesChamps Road in a 45 mph zone going 55 or more, has not gone unnoticed by me or the other drivers you have passed. It is ironic even when you pass me you do not seem to get very far, as you are right in front of me at the stop sign at DesChamps and Patriot Parkway, so what did you gain? Then, you continue to weave in and out of traffic at a high rate of speed (definitely faster than the posted speed limits of 45 and 55 mph) on Patriot Parkway. We have also seen you pass vehicles in one of the intersections on Patriot Parkway using the left turn lane. This is not only dangerous but against the law. Once again, you are usually only one vehicle ahead of me at the base turn, so all the reckless driving did not get you very far.

I know you must have on the required reflective vest because security forces allows you to enter the base. However, when you pass me on the road, I cannot see you very well as your backpack hides the vest.

Several people who work with me have experienced your passing them

and seeing you weave in and out of traffic. We have all attempted to get your license plate number, so I can find out who you are for a heart-to-heart talk.

The reasons I am writing this to you is because you are a valuable member of society, especially the Air Force, and I am sure your parents, sweetheart or wife would be devastated if something happened to you.

I can understand you wanting to ride a motorcycle; my husband and I own one and I really enjoy riding it.

However, we lost a good friend this past August when a truck pulled out into his lane (it was dark) and he was killed instantly. The only good thing about the accident--if you can call it good--is his wife survived and is doing well after months of therapy and his two girls were not orphaned.

You must remember the Air Force has strict rules such as wearing a helmet and reflective vest for a reason. We would like to see you continue your career in the Air Force and continue to be a valuable member of society. So remember, the next time you decide to ride recklessly: you are putting not only yourself in danger, you could possibly hurt those school children waiting for their bus and possibly the operator of a vehicle you pass dangerously on the roads.

AIRMAN 24/7

INTEGRITY
 **SERVICE** 
EXCELLENCE

20th Fighter Wing Mission Statement

To provide, project and sustain combat - ready air forces

ANY CHALLENGE
ANYTIME
ANYWHERE

