

THE STINGER

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COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

LEADING THE NEXT GENERATION

By Capt. John Griffiths
Maintenance Group Executive Officer

Is it me or are the Airmen in this organization getting younger every year? Perhaps I am just showing my age, but there are some differences between today's young Airmen and the way it was when I was coming up as part of the 180th TFG. Supervisors have expressed their frustrations: they ask way too many questions, they let their pants sag and they listen to their mp3 players constantly. As a schoolteacher I spend my days with teenagers, so it is no surprise to me that there are differences between people of different ages. They are, in fact, part of a new generation.

There are four distinct generations in today's workforce: The Radio Generation, The Baby Boomers, Generation X and The Echo Boomers.

The "Radio Generation" is comprised of those born before the end of World War II, and while many have retired from the military, a few remain in important leadership roles.

Much of the senior leadership of our organization are "Baby Boomers." Born between 1946 and 1964, this generation is known for their strong work ethic and organizational loyalty.

Following them is the smallest of the generations, "Generation X". This group is known for a strong sense of individuality, maintaining a balance between career and family, and the end of life-long dedication to one employer.

The 70 million Americans that make up the next generation are the very ones that will soon rise through the ranks and assume leadership positions in the 180th Fighter Wing. They are called the "Echo Boomers," the "digital generation" or simply "Generation Y" and they represent the fastest growing segment of the workforce. Born between 1986 and 2005, this generation has been criticized for everything from short attention spans to taking longer to settle into established careers and relationships.

But they are also likely to be better educated, more technically savvy, and more ethnically diverse.

This is the generation that grew up with computers in the home, listening to compact discs with only vague memories of the cold war. Employers, including the military, have sought to understand these differences in order to best exploit the abundant talent this generation has to offer. Among their findings are reasons to believe that the 180th Fighter Wing is an ideal and challenging workplace for this generation: Workers from Generation Y **have high expectations of their employers.** They want to be led by example, not be directed by order. It is far more



Capt. John Griffiths
Maintenance Group Executive Officer

valuable for them to witness their peers demonstrating excellence than reading about it.

They have a need for ongoing learning. The upgrade training process, as well as professional military education opportunities provide continual opportunities for learning and career advancement.

They desire immediate responsibility. Drill weekends can be frustrating and boring if Airmen are not given tasks that contribute to the mission and challenge their minds. Preparing for an Operational Readiness Inspection is the ideal time to give responsibilities to young Airmen.

Are Airmen from Generation Y really all that different from those of us who remember working A-7s, wearing green fatigues, and keeping our hair in 35-10? We are more alike than different. In other words, this new generation is ideally suited to be an important part of, and eventually lead, our organization. Their Boomer parents have been telling them since the day they were born that they can do anything. Now it is up to us to train, mentor, and lead them so that they can.

FEATURE

180TH MEMBERS WIN STATE HONORS

Participants will move on to compete at National Guard Bureau level

By Lt. Col. Tom Gee
Public Affairs Officer

The State of Ohio Command Chief Christopher Muncy recently announced the Airman of Year winners for Ohio with 180th members earning honors at the Airman, Noncommissioned Officer and also Human Resources Advisor of Year categories.

Recently promoted Staff Sgt. Paul Dangelo was named "Airman of the Year", Tech. Sgt. Janeen Przysiecki captured "NCO of the Year" and Senior Master Sgt. Lee Ann Burgy won "Human Resources Advisor of Year". Dangelo, Przysiecki and Burgy will all move on and compete at the National Guard Bureau level.

"We had a lot of outstanding packages and as always some absolutely amazing Airmen in Ohio!" said Muncy. "Their accomplishments, education and deployments just blew us away."



Senior Airman Paul Dangleo
Ops intelligence journeyman

Dangelo, an operations intelligence journeyman in the Operations Group was honored to earn the award.

"I am obviously very excited, humbled and honored to win this award," said Dangelo.

Dangelo currently resides in Columbus, Ohio and is a full-time student at The Ohio State University.

Przysiecki, a medical service Craftsman in the 112th



Tech. Sgt. Janeen Przysiecki
Medical services craftsman

Fighter Squadron was not only excited for herself but for the unit when learning the news of her selection.

"I am very excited about the award and even more excited for the 180th Fighter Wing," said Przysiecki. "No one gets here without being with great supervisors and I appreciate all of the guidance and support that I have received." This is truly a shared victory."

Przysiecki, a resident of Rossford, Ohio is employed full-time at Jobst Vascular Center



Senior Master Sgt. Lee Ann Burgy
Human resources advisor

in Toledo, Ohio where she functions as a Research Coordinator.

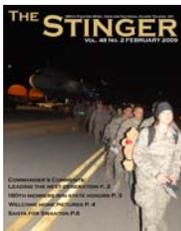
"I am here to tell you that we are raising the bar, one Airman at a time," said Burgy, when she heard she had been selected as the state Human Resources Advisor of the Year.

Burgy had several outstanding achievements in 2008 including her participation in several events including the Patriot's Day "Support the Troops Rally" and WTVG 13 ABC Roundtable discussion on veteran's participation in Toledo's "Heroes in Action" program. She is the manager of the Diversity Education and Awareness program and active member of the 180th Fighter Wing Honor Guard. Burgy is also a member of the unit's Top 3 Council, Ohio National Guard Enlisted Association and Air Force Sergeant's Association.

Congratulations to our distinguished winners and the best of luck in the upcoming National Guard Bureau competition.

WELCOME HOME

MEMBERS RETURN FROM AEF DEPLOYMENT



On the cover: Approximately 140 180th Fighter Wing personnel return home from an Air Expeditionary Forces rotation to Balad Air Base December 12, 2008. The members were greeted by about 300 family members and well-wishers who waited patiently in the hangar to be reunited with their loved ones who had been on this deployment since October, 2008.

Cover photo by Senior Airman Jodi Leninger, Public Affairs. Photos below by Leninger and Airman 1st Class Amber Williams, Public Affairs.





THE HOMEFRONT

Family Programs Office
Judy York, Wing Family Program Coordinator
Judy.york@ohtole.ang.af.mil
419-868-4550 or 1-800-495-4250 ext. 4550
Cell 419-356-5841
Available 24/7 for information, referral and emergency assistance

2009 Tax Preparation Announcement for Military Members

You have many choices when the time comes to file your 2008 tax return. We have highlighted 3 programs which offer free or discounted tax services. Each program has its own eligibility criteria.

Operation: CPA - CPAs from throughout Ohio have volunteered their time and expertise to prepare 2008 tax returns free of charge for deployed Ohio residents this filing season. Military personnel who are Ohio residents *currently deployed outside of the state*, (not necessarily deployed to combat theater) will qualify for free preparation of their 2008 individual or joint local, state and federal personal tax returns. To take part in *Operation CPA*, qualified service personnel or their spouse or family member may call The Ohio Society of CPAs toll-free at 888.959.1212 or e-mail cpanswers@ohio-cpa.com. Military personnel will be matched with a CPA volunteer from their area.

Military One Source - Military OneSource offers free tax preparation services through the H&R Block TaxCut program. Those eligible for the program are active duty, Guard and Reserve (regardless of activation status), spouses and dependent children (authorized in DEERS), family members handling the affairs of a deployed service member, and severely injured service members or family members handling their affairs. To take part you must register by going online to Military OneSource at www.militaryonesource.com

Collins & Associates Military Appreciation Drive - During this year's tax season Collins & Associates will prepare 2008 tax returns free of charge for any Ohio or Michigan residents who are members of the armed forces (Active Duty as well as National Guard & Reserve Members), no matter their deployment status. They will also reduce their normal preparation fees by \$60 for all US Armed Services veterans. For each military return prepared, Collins & Associates will donate \$10 to military & veteran friendly non-profit organizations, Heroes In Action or Vets, Inc. To take part in the *Military Appreciation Drive*, qualified service personnel, their spouse or family member may call Bill Huckaby at 734-854-2926 or email at WmFHuckaby@aol.com for more information.

Wiseman joins the recruiting team

**By Lt. Col. Tom Gee
Public Affairs Officer**



**Master Sgt. Robin Wiseman
Production recruiter**

Master Sgt. Robin L. Wiseman was recently selected for a production recruiter position at the 180th Fighter Wing. Wiseman has been with the unit since 2006 and had previously been serving as legal office superintendent in the Fighter Wing section. Wiseman's career began in 1994 when she joined the Illinois Air National Guard and entered the personnel career field. She has served at the 126th Air Refueling Wing, Chicago, Illinois and the 159th Fighter Wing, New Orleans, Louisiana. Wiseman holds a 7-level in personnel and a 5-level in the paralegal career field that includes Distinguished Graduate Award honors at the Paralegal Apprenticeship Course.

Wiseman's military awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Force Longevity Service Award, Small Arms Marksman, Basic Training Ribbon, Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal 2 OLC, State of Illinois Military Attendance Ribbon numeral 4. Wiseman, a resident of Perrysburg, Ohio is married to Victor Wiseman and has two children. Best wishes to Wiseman in this key unit position.

COPS PLAY SANTA

Santa for Swanton serves local needs

**By Annette R. Kornasiewicz,
Public Affairs**

On December 17th, local residents were able to provide their children a 'merrier' Christmas thanks to toys donated by 180th members at the 2nd annual Santa for Swanton event. Outside the McQuades Law Offices in Swanton, home of the Christian Food Pantry, Security Forces Squadron members gave away toys to about eighty families, along with bags of food donated by the Toledo Seagate Food Bank.

Tech. Sgt. Scott Batch, Security Forces member and organizer of the event, said the idea was born last year as he looked to serve the needs of the local community during the holiday season.

"There was a notably higher turnout this year of families in need," said Batch. "Everyone was very enthusiastic to see us."

SFS members handed out hundreds of new toys to Swanton residents. Master Sgt. Dave Polsdorfer, MOC, arrived with a car load of toys donated from the 180th members working in the hangar. Larger items were then raffled off to the waiting families, such as a CD player, skateboard and a boy's bike. A girl's bike, provided by Tech Sgt. Jason Kolcinski, SFS member, was raffled off as well.

Swanton Middle School Youth to Youth program ran a drive at their school, adding approximately 200 toys to the 200-300 toys provided by the 180th members. Jennifer Bedee, wife of Master Sgt. Scott Bedee, SFS

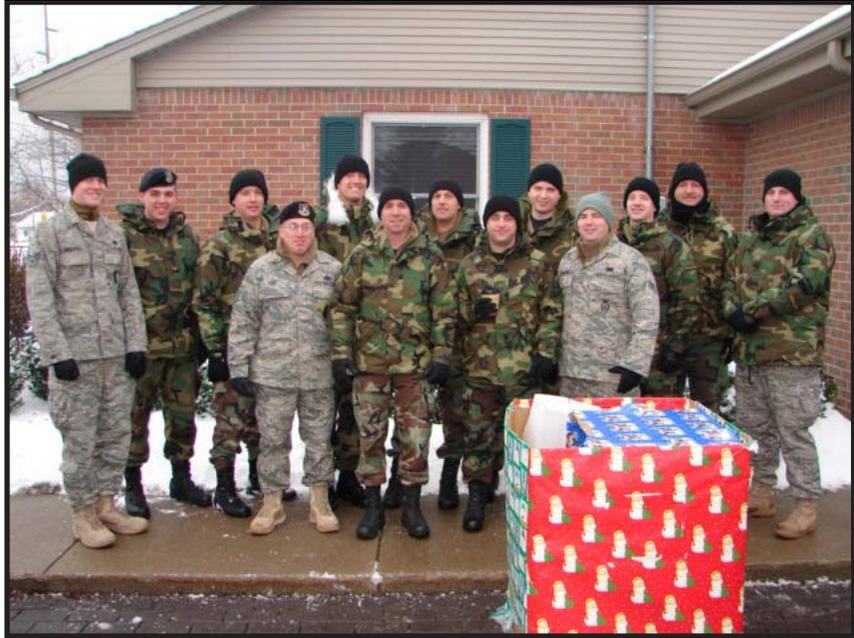


Photo by Tech. Sgt. Annette Kornasiewicz, Public Affairs

Security Forces Squadron members who participated in the Santa for Swanton event December 17, 2008, are, front row: Master Sgt. Richard York, Master Sgt. Dwight Coffield, Tech Sgt. Brett Lohman, Senior Airman Pete Cushman. Back row: Senior Airman Nathan McKarns, Senior Airman Timothy Covey, Master Sgt. Dean Butler, Staff Sgt. Russell Bacon, Tech Sgt. Jason Kolcinski, Tech Sgt. Scott Batch, Staff Sgt. Justin Tucholski, Master Sgt. Tony Steffel and Tech. Sgt. Eric Hoskinson.

member, donated items collected from her place of business, Reminger Co. L.P.A. In addition, Security Forces donated \$200 worth of canned goods to the Christian Food Pantry.

The drive was a welcomed event to Swanton area families judging by the turnout on that snowy, cold morning.

"There were definitely more emergency situations this year," said Julie N. Gorrell, Legal Secretary at McQuades. "There are lots of new people we

have never served before – families that never planned on a lay-off."

The Swanton Christian Food Pantry serves their community every 4th Wednesday of the month. There had been an approximately 25 percent increase in requests for aid to the pantry in recent months, said Gorrell. Along with the toys drive, SFS members gave out about 100 bags of food.

"It is something the residents have been asking about all year," said Gorrell.

Promotions

Tech. Sgt.

Phillip J. Pilcher
Steven A. Smith

Senior Airman

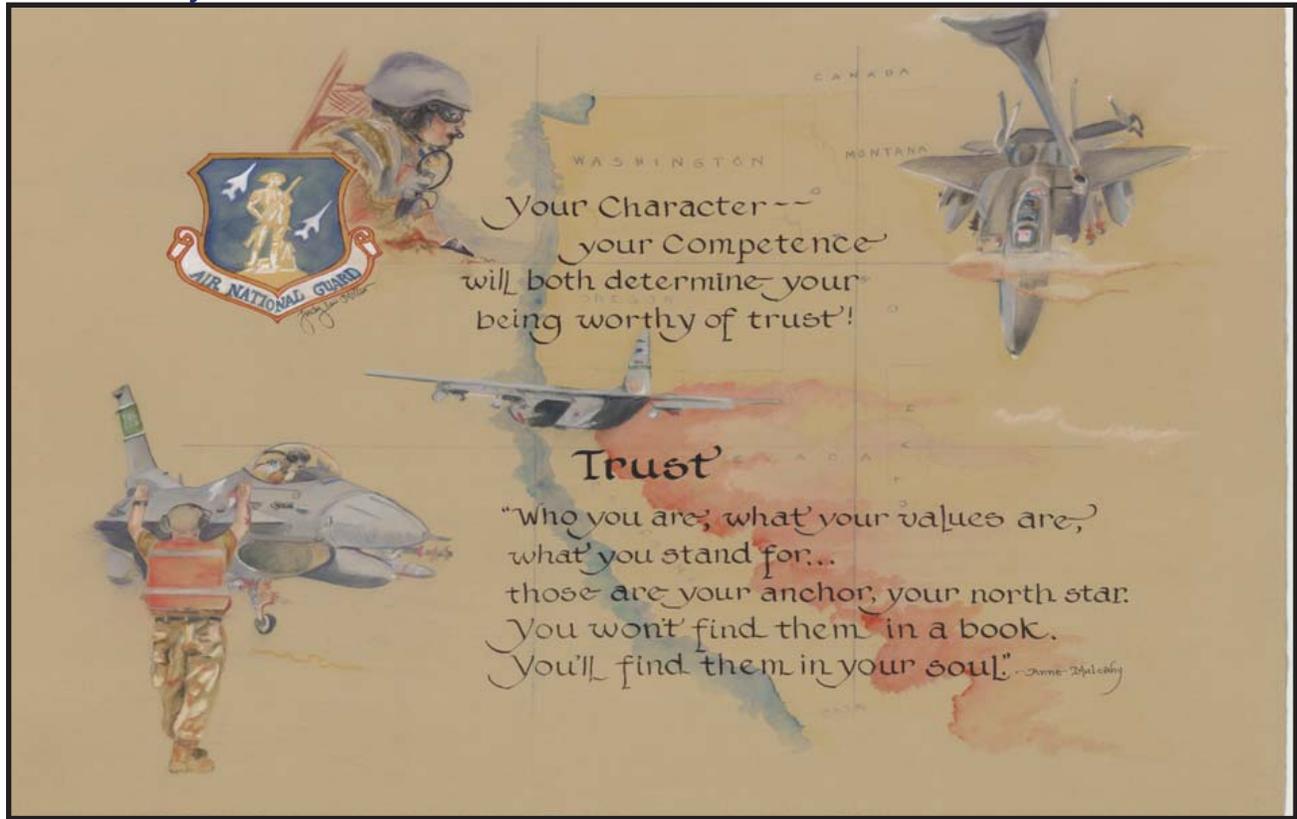
Aaron S. Grime
Xavier R. Graciani
Steven T. Havens

Airman 1st Class

Jared J. Fox

HUMAN RESOURCES

Diversity Poster of the Month



THE AFTERBURNERS

COMMENTS FROM THE 180TH RETIRED COMMUNITY



By Steve Drake, President 180th Afterburners

It has been several years since our retirees group has had an article in the Stinger. We are still around and prospering. The purpose of the 180th Afterburners group is to encourage and maintain the friendships and fellowship of the retired members of the 180th FW and their military associates. Membership is open to all 180th FW retirees, their spouses and those with past working associations with the 180th. Annual dues are \$12 per calendar year. Monthly breakfast meetings are

held on the third Saturday of each month at 10 a.m. at Charlie's Restaurant on Airport Highway and Route 295, just west of the airport. Normally, we have a picnic at the base in August in lieu of the breakfast.

Primarily, the Afterburners eat breakfast and talk to one another. We also highlight changes in 180th activities, pharmacy issues, taxes, and retiree's benefits. A normal breakfast has 40-50 members and spouses attending, and last about 1 1/2 hours.

Of special interest, we have scheduled a speaker from

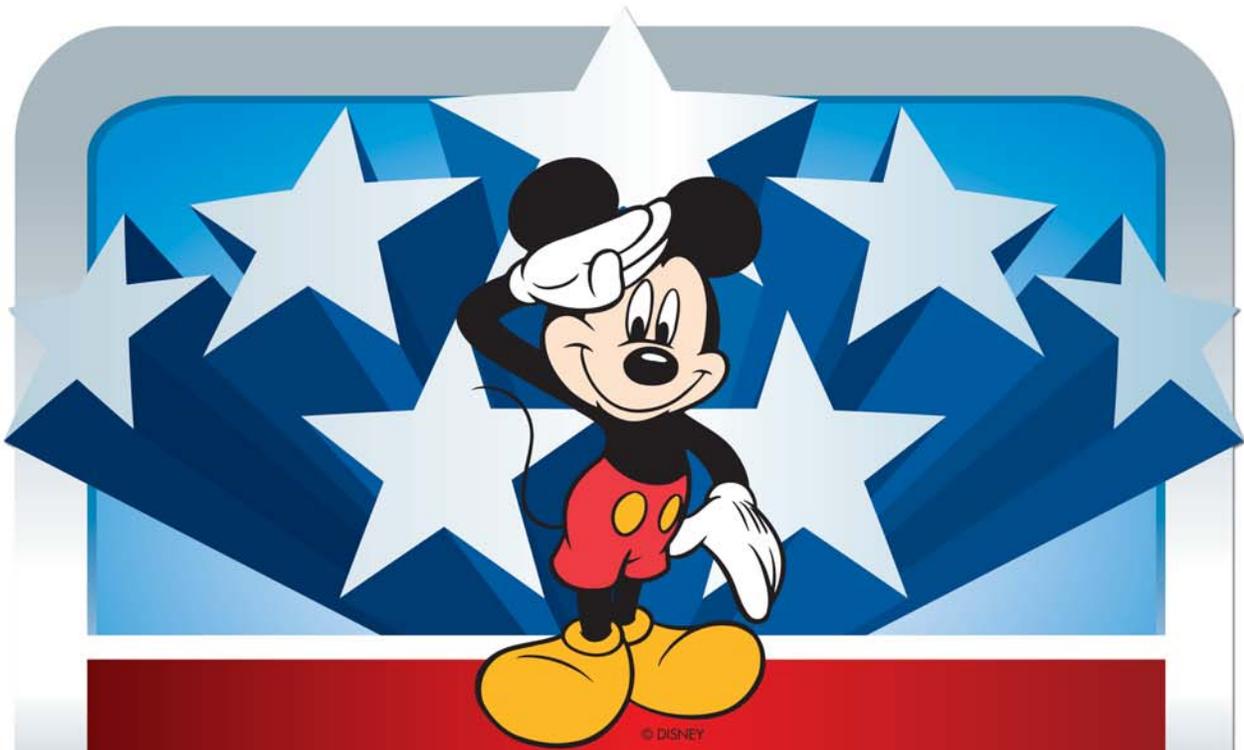
Tricare on Feb. 21, 2009. Tricare is a great benefit and is available when the military sponsor reaches age 60, and it supplements Medicare at age 65.

Retirees and future retirees are all welcome to the Tricare question and answers briefing. For non-Afterburners members, please call to make a reservation to either Steve Drake, 419-475-7342, or Chief Master Sgt. Laurie Liebatt, 180th MDG/SGA, 419-868-4120, so we don't overrun the restaurant. We look forward to seeing you!

Vacancies

Please see the Air Force Portal for vacancies:

<http://www.ong.ohio.gov/jobs/>



JANUARY 4 - DECEMBER 23, 2009

WALT DISNEY World Resort
Salutes The U.S. Military With A
**FREE FIVE-DAY
TICKET**

Disney's
ARMED FORCES SALUTE

Active and Retired U.S. Military personnel may obtain one complimentary 5-Day Disney's Armed Forces Salute Ticket with *Park Hopper*[®] and *Water Park Fun & More* Options and may purchase up to five 5-Day Disney's Armed Forces Salute Companion tickets (one theme park per day) for \$99 per ticket, tax not included.

Disney's Armed Forces Salute tickets for *Walt Disney World*[®] Resort can be obtained at participating military base ticket offices, including Shades of Green Resort at *Walt Disney World*[®] or at Main Entrance theme park ticket windows. Tickets are not valid until activated at the theme park ticket window. Tickets and options must be used by December 23, 2009.

Valid military ID required. See your military base ticket office for details.

**From the State of Ohio
Adjutant General's Dept.**

**Please refer to the
MEMORANDUM
29 December 2008**

**Ohio National Guard
Scholarship Program
Suspense Dates**

**Due to the ongoing state
budget challenges, effective immediately the
ONGSP will no longer
accept late applications for
the Ohio National Guard
Scholarship**

<u>Academic Term</u>	<u>Deadline</u>
----------------------	-----------------

Spring Quarter	Feb 1
Summer Term	April 1
Fall Term	July 1
Winter/Spring	Nov 1

**Please Contact Ms. Toni
Davis at 614-336-7143 for
further information**

10 quick facts about the new post 911 G.I. Bill

1. The Montgomery GI Bill is not going away and the rules governing MGIB have not been changed.
2. If you left active duty anytime before September 11, 2001, your GI Bill benefits have not been changed and you do not qualify for the Post 911 GI Bill.
3. The new Post 911 GI Bill does not go into effect until August 1, 2009. Any classes taken before that date will be paid under the MGIB payment plan.
4. The New Post 911 GI Bill is NOT retroactive. It will only cover courses taken after July 31, 2009.
5. Using the MGIB now will not disqualify you from switching to the Post 911 GI Bill later.
6. If you elect to switch to the new Post 911 GI Bill, your remaining months of MGIB benefits will be switched to the new program.
7. Once you switch to the new Post 911 GI Bill you cannot switch back.
8. The ability to transfer your MGIB benefits has not changed.
9. Several factors determine how much of a benefit you will receive from the VA under the Post 911 GI Bill.
10. The Post 911 GI Bill housing stipend is only payable to veterans and members of the Guard and Reserve who are taking classes **on campus** and are considered by the school to be **three-quarter or full-time students**. Remember, only the Dept. of Veterans Affairs can answer your person and specific benefit questions. Call them at 1-888-GIBILL-1 if you have questions about your GI Bill eligibility.

Please visit <http://military-education.military.com/2008/09/10-quick-facts.html> for the full article.

STINGER

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Deadline

Deadline for the next Stinger is the Saturday of the UTA @ 3 p.m. Hand deliver articles to the Public Affairs Office in the Sonnenberg Complex or e-mail: 180.stinger@ohtole.ang.af.mil. For more information call ext. 4014 during the UTA.

About the Stinger

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To the family of...