

Spotlight On

Technical Sergeant Jon R. Hazard

By: JO1(SW) Bev Allen, U.S. Northern Command Public Affairs

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Paonia, Colo. native, Technical Sergeant Jon R. Hazard, United States Air Force, is the acting Superintendent for the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) NORAD Operations Division. He is also the representative for NORAD and the United States Northern Command (NORTHCOM) for Airborne Early Warning and tanker issues during normal operations and crisis. "My job involves the core support for NORAD's Operational mission. On a daily basis I am responsible for the air picture assessment. Our center is one of two located in the command that the Commander, Deputy Commander and other command staff can come to and execute their duties short of having to deploy to Cheyenne Mountain. On the whole I am in direct support of homeland defense by providing information on the air defense portion of Homeland Defense and providing an air picture to critical NORAD/NORTHCOM staff in making timely decisions on any developing crisis." Hazard said one of the things he enjoys about his job are all the great people he works with. "We all come from such diverse backgrounds, experiences and ranks to fulfill a very important mission that until recently was undoubtedly taken for granted. That would be the defense of North America both the United States and Canada. Our mission has never been more important in preventing events similar to those that occurred on September 11, 2001." Hazard joined the Air Force initially to travel and gain some life experience. "However, the career field I chose proved to be one that has peaked my interest for the past 19 years. I've been able to travel around the world many times over and given more life experiences than my hometown could have provided." Hazard has had many role models. "But the most memorable would have to be Colonel Jessie Shanks, one of my first unit commanders. He was from Texas and usually spoke his mind and was very to the point. He once told me that you can try and tell people something in flowery words but the best way is to just tell them and skip the beating around the bush. That rings true today, some things require tact but if it is very important or timely just spit it out, even if it isn't pretty." Hazard has been in Colorado Springs since June 2000.



Technical Sergeant Jon R. Hazard
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