



Air Combat Command NEWS SERVICE

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Bomber gets 9-11 art, readies for war

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DYESS AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (ACCNS) -- A B-1 here joined other Air Force aircraft in representing the spirit of 9-11 when it was given the honor of bearing the Air Force's "Let's Roll!" nose art Feb. 15.

The bomber -- tail number 6123 -- was selected by Brig. Gen. Wendell Griffin, 7th Bomb Wing and 405th Expeditionary Wing commander, because it will eventually play an active part in Operation Enduring Freedom and had no previous nose art on it, said Chief Master Sgt. Robert Sherry, 7th Equipment Maintenance Squadron chief enlisted manager.

Until recently, the aircraft belonged to and was maintained by the 13th Bomb Squadron. It has been transferred to the 9th BS to aid that squadron's support for Enduring Freedom.

Todd Beamer, a passenger on Flight 93, made the phrase "Let's roll!" famous when he and other passengers rushed terrorists for control of the aircraft before it crashed into a field in western Pennsylvania. He was overheard on a cellular phone reciting the Lord's Prayer and saying, "Let's roll!" before the rush.

"Let's roll!" has served as a rallying cry for this nation as we go forward in our war on



Senior Airman Mark Stimmler carefully places the bottom half of the 9-11 commemorative nose art on a B-1B Lancer from the 9th Bomb Squadron at Dyess AFB, Texas. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Tracy Reisinge)

Note: Click on image for higher-resolution copy.

terrorism,” said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper. “We are proud to display this new nose art on our aircraft.”

The nose-art design depicts an eagle soaring in front of the U.S. flag with the words “Spirit of 9-11” on the top and “Let’s roll!” on the bottom. The design was created by Senior Airman Duane White, a graphic artist from Air Combat Command’s multimedia center at Langley Air Force Base, Va.

The Thunderbirds and other Air Force demonstration teams will apply this nose art on all aircraft. Major commands and wings will be authorized to apply the nose art to one aircraft of their choice.

The “Let’s Roll!” nose art is being used to continue the remembrance of the events of Sept. 11 and pay tribute to the heroes and victims in the war against terrorism, Air Force officials said. (Tech Sgt. Tim Dougherty, Air Force Print News, contributed to this story)

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