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185th Air Refueling Wing earns Outstanding Unit Award

by Siouxland News

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AA



The Iowa Air National Guard's 185th Air Refueling Wing recently learned that they have been awarded the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for their efforts during 2019. (Courtesy 185th ARW)

SIOUX CITY, Iowa — The Iowa Air National Guard's 185th Air Refueling Wing recently learned that they have been awarded the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for their efforts during

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The award is earned by units like the 185th for exceptionally meritorious service to the mission
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This is the fourth year in a row the unit has earned this award.

The citation mentions the unit's high operations tempo that included thousands of flying hours. The award cited the unit's recruiting and retention efforts that led to maintaining 100% manning in 2019.

During the 2019 evaluation period, the 185th Medical Group's humanitarian efforts were also highlighted. Medical personal were part of the Innovative readiness training exercise in Puerto Rico where they provided care to over 9000 people during the two-week exercise.

With the New Year, the Wing's tasking's have not let up. During 2020 members of the 185th were part of the natural disaster response where they assisted with debris cleanup operations in Cedar Rapids following the derecho wind storm. Unit members were also activated throughout the spring and summer months where they provided support for the Testlowa COVID-19 test initiative.

The western Iowa based Air National Guard unit has over 900 full and part-time members. The main mission of the unit is flying and maintaining the KC-135R Stratotanker mid-air refueling aircraft as well as the test and evaluation mission in Fort Dodge.

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