We are the 27<sup>th</sup> Special Operations Wing. We carry a lineage of unparalleled sacrifice, courage, and determination.

The history of the 27<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group, who transformed into the 1<sup>st</sup> Provisional Infantry Regiment of the US Army Air Corps – is America's history – it is *our* history. They were tasked with an impossible mission, against impossible odds, in the most miserable of circumstances they held the line faithfully despite being outnumbered, out gunned, they knew their duty and they knew the cost – and they held the line…steadfast.

It is now our duty to hold that line.

We are the 27<sup>th</sup>, The Steadfast Line. It doesn't matter how you got here or where you came from. All that matters now is that you are here, standing on The Line with us. We come from every corner of America, and from every corner of the globe, and we stand here now shoulder to shoulder forming A Steadfast Line.

We stand on this line in defense of our great Nation. We stand on this line to ensure that our children, and their children, inherit a world in which America forever stands as a beacon of freedom liberty!

When the bright light of fate shown upon the brave Airmen of the 27<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group, it found them prepared to answer the call of history – it found them willing to sacrifice their utmost in service to our Nation and each other. Our promise is this: When the bright light of fate shines upon us, it will find us ready, it will find us lethal, it will find us committed to our cause and to one another...it will find us standing on this line together, ready to roll, ready to fight, ready to face any enemy, to rescue any friend, or execute any mission.

The promise we make to each other is this – I stand on this line next to you and I will not let you down.

Every generation must bear the burden of sacrifice to preserve this great Nation. Those before us bore that sacrifice – they formed a line and they held it. That burden is now ours and *we* will hold it! We do not stand alone! When you are tired, when you are hurt, when you are in the dark, when you reach out, you will find me standing next to you.

And that is what it means to be in the 27<sup>th</sup>. And that is what it means to hold the line STEADFAST.