

Crimson Sky

CMSAF visits the ROK



Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James Cody, the Air Force's highest ranking enlisted Airman, speaks with members from the 51st Security Forces Squadron town patrol July 1, 2015, outside Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea. Chief Cody spent the day personally thanking the Airmen and getting a first-hand look at some of the unique aspects of living in Korea. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Benjamin Sutton)



Dragon Brigade changes command

By Spc. Kendrix Lima
6-52 ADA Unit Public Affairs
Representative

OSAN AIR BASE, South Korea – Col. Thomas Nguyen relinquished command of the 35th Air Defense Artillery Brigade Dragons to Col. Mark Holler during a change of command ceremony here, June 24.

As the only forward-stationed air defense brigade in the Army, the unit plays a key role in defending critical U.S. and ROK

assets, deterring hostile aggression, and promoting stability in the region.

Nguyen assumed command of the Dragon Brigade in July of 2013, overseeing all air and missile defense operations on the Korean Peninsula, and immediately dedicated his efforts to ensuring training, equipment, and Soldier readiness were the unit's top priorities.

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Lt. Gen. Bernard Champoux, commanding general of Eighth Army, passes the guidon of the 35th Air Defense Artillery Brigade to Col. Mark Holler, the brigade's incoming commander, during the unit's change of command ceremony on Osan Air Base, June 24. The passing of the guidon is a traditional ceremony honoring the service of the outgoing commander, Col. Thomas Nguyen, and entrusting the incoming commander with charge of the unit. (U.S. photo by Pvt. Yoseup Kim, KATUSA, 6-52 ADA Unit Public Affairs Representative)



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Crimson Sky

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Leadership is a choice

By Master Sgt. Michael Carrera
6th Air Intelligence Squadron

OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- The imperative to making smarter choices despite austere times with ever-shrinking resources amidst competing commitments can only be accomplished successfully with the right leadership. Leadership is a term often cited, seldom practiced and requiring more than just lip service. Question is: are our choices made through the right prism of leadership? Before I answer this question I must first explain bit about myself against the backdrop of my own military experience so as to define how my leadership "lens" has been shaped.

I joined the U.S. Navy in February 1996 as a sonar technician for the Trident-class Ballistic Submarines. After 5 years, I separated and did a short stint in the civilian sector leading a small fluorescent penetrant inspection team for an engine blade manufacturing company in Georgia. In January 2003, I joined the U.S. Air Force as an aircraft maintenance apprentice working various fighter aircraft such as the F-117A and the F-16CJ before becoming a noncommissioned officer in charge at the 432nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron and subsequently a geospatial intelligence flight chief at Osan AB, Republic of Korea.

There are virtually hundreds of books, publications, blogs and think-tank articles discussing and dissecting the very idea of leadership, but I like to keep things simple. Simplicity, in my view, is not only more efficient but caters well to our learning ability. Would we be more apt to apply 48 rules of leadership, 15? 10? How about one? I am in the crowd where we only need 1 or a couple of rules at most. My core leadership recommendation for today's Air Force leader is to possess courage.

Often times, we mistakenly gravitate to the common Hollywood depiction of courage as something only exhibited under fire and in the heat of battle. The courage I speak of, however, is the one closer and most commonly ignored: the courage to make tough choices. Throughout our careers, we have been trained to perfection but while we should target perfection for sake of overall direction, its pursuit has been corrupted into a source of fear. Though failures should be avoided I have learned, though painfully at times, that success REQUIRES failure. The best leaders I've witnessed were the same ones who made the hard choices even at their own expense to ensure success.

Case in point, as a senior airman, I drove a bobtail in reverse to attach a -86 power generator for towing. I ended up twisting the 1-inch thick steel connective tongue to where it was unserviceable. The chief, at the time, delegated a staff sergeant to immediately read me my rights and jot down what I had done. Luckily, another seasoned staff stepped in, made the tough choice to challenge the chief with alternatives and everything was subsequently dropped. The chief and the staff's corrective response were diametrically opposed but where one would have had a crushing effect the other used my failure as a learning tool. My punishment was to simply assist in the repair and move on. The lesson here was: mistakes happen, failures happen, expect them, welcome them and use them as a learning tool and a great mentorship opportunity on your path to success.

Lastly, motivational speaker Simon Sinek once said that "the strength of an organization can be measured by how it

behaves in times of adversity".

I witnessed this firsthand.

In 2000, while attached to the SSBN 737, Kentucky (Gold) crew. Captain Michael McKinnon was in command. The man was unlike any other officer I've met. From the very beginning he said he was "proud to be our skipper and hoped in the coming months he could earn our trust." This was unusual to me because up until then no one had ever said that. A commissioned officer automatically commands respect, is already a leader and our guide -- or so I thought. What he taught us is that although he was in command he needed to earn our trust or the organization would not succeed, end of story. In the subsequent months we worked hard, trained hard, laughed hard (he was quite the prankster) till it was time for the ORE, the Navy equivalent to our operational readiness inspections. Something happened that I had never seen before or since, we all wanted to pass the inspection with perfection.

Now, although a necessity, nobody in their right mind likes military exercises yet we toiled long hours in preparation like it was game day. All of us, 150 crewmembers in all, unanimously decided to "do this for the old man." Not only did we meet expectations, we surpassed it by a mile. We even played in a no-win scenario in which the inspectors themselves said would "not be possible so don't worry about it." We pinpointed and tracked a more advanced tactical ship with our outdated equipment and had it been war, we would have won. I look back at that time as a mental playbook as to how we beat the odds and it came to the following:

- 1) Our captain understood our motivations
- 2) Fostered trust
- 3) Made the tough choices whether it be to correct us (like me) or push back when it was the right thing to do
- 4) He clearly communicated his expectations to his staff which in turn cascaded down to every one of us

It is not easy being an effective leader, but leadership is a choice and not a popularity contest. It took me years to finally understand this and it also takes a lot of effort. Captain McKinnon never made admiral but he won the respect and admiration of our crew. We could have been on course to sailing into hell itself and we would have done so unflinched. In the end, we coalesced around him and made his visions a reality not because of the position he held but because of what he ultimately represented. He was our captain, and he was one of us.



MERS

Middle Eastern Respiratory Syndrome

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<http://www.osan.af.mil/middleeasternrespiratorysyndrome.asp>

Kunsan surge operations generate 350 sorties

By Senior Airman
Divine Cox
8th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

KUNSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- The 8th Fighter Wing tested its flying and maintenance operations during Surge Week here June 15-18.

F-16 Fighting Falcon pilots from the 35th Fighter Squadron "Pantons," 80th FS "Juvats" and the 175th FS "Lobos," deployed here from Sioux Falls, South Dakota, flew together generating over 350 sorties during the four-day event.

Surge Week tested the skills and wartime capabilities of Wolf Pack operators, maintainers and supporting agencies over a four-day window to simulate pilots' wartime flying rates.

"A collective effort from multiple units made this surge a success," said Senior Master Sgt. Benjamin Carpenter, 8th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron assistant superintendent. "If aircraft can't fly, the Wolf Pack can't fight."

Airmen from the 8th Logistics Readiness Squadron, the 8th Aircraft Maintenance Unit and the maintenance back shop quickly collaborated to keep jets airborne. The surge also tested the Airmen's ability to fix and refuel the F-16 in a short timeframe.

"This was my first time conducting hot refueling operations," said Airman 1st Class Daniel Langer, 8th LRS refueling equipment operator. "I'm amazed at how many jets we can refuel in such a short period of time. It was really exciting!"

Airmen conducted hot pit refueling to rapidly refuel each aircraft and allow



An F-16 Fighting Falcon takes off during Surge Week at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, June 17, 2015. Surge Week tested the skills and wartime capabilities of Wolf Pack operators, maintainers and supporting agencies over a four-day window to simulate pilots' wartime flying rates. (U.S. Air Force photos by Senior Airman Divine Cox)

it to complete a second sortie, thereby maximizing the sorties flown in a short amount of time.

"The surge operations relied largely on the hot refueling program," said Master Sgt. Aaron Gammill, 35th AMU lead production superintendent. "We had coordination with LRS for fuel support and coordination with the wing to be able to

get the fuel and trucks for this operation."

The surge operation is held twice a year with maintainers going on 12-hour shifts to ensure the heavy demands of flying and fixing aircraft are met.

"A typical day for us is a 12-hour shift," said Senior Airman Zachary Gant, 8th AMXS crew chief. "But during this surge, we were constantly launching

aircraft, which kept us extremely busy; busier than normal."

Overall, Surge Week played a robust role in keeping the wing mission-ready.

"Completing over 350 sorties in four days is not an easy task," said Gammill. "This would not have been probable if it wasn't for the hard work of these dedicated Airmen."



Above: Kunsan Airmen stand by to refuel F-16s during Surge Week at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, June 16, 2015. Pilots and maintainers conducted hot pit refueling to rapidly refuel each aircraft and allow it to complete a second sortie, thereby maximizing the sorties flown in a short amount of time.

Left: Senior Airman Miller Gardner, 8th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron avionics technician, monitors hot refueling performed on an F-16 Fighting Falcon during Surge Week at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, June 16, 2015.

From page 1, Dragon Brigade changes command



Lt. Col. Ethan Hall, commander of 6-52 Air Defense Artillery, sings the Air Defense Artillery March and Army Song at the conclusion of 35th ADA Brigade's change of command ceremony at Osan Air Base, June 24. The ceremony honored outgoing commander, Col. Thomas Nguyen, and welcomed incoming commander, Col. Mark Holler, to the Dragon Brigade. (U.S. photos by Pvt. Yoseup Kim, KATUSA, 6-52 ADA Unit Public Affairs Representative)

By Spc. Kendrix Lima
6-52 ADA Unit Public Affairs
Representative

"Col. Nguyen's tenure as commander of the Dragon Brigade has been marked by unwavering commitment to their mission," said Lt. Gen Bernard Champoux, commanding general of the Eighth Army. "This unit has maintained the highest operational rhythm of any air defense unit in the Army and [Nguyen] has delivered remarkable performance time and time again."

The changing of command was completed, following the traditions and rich heritage of the U.S. Army, by a ceremony known as the "passing of the colors." Historically, a unit's colors, also known as its guidon, served as a rallying point for troops and symbolized the strength and character of the unit.

The 35th ADA Brigade guidon passed from Command Sgt. Maj. Jose Villarreal, the senior enlisted advisor to the brigade commander, to Nguyen, symbolizing his loyalty to the outgoing commander. Nguyen then handed the guidon to Champoux, representing his relinquishment of command to a higher authority. Champoux then passed the colors to Holler, symbolizing the transfer of responsibility to the incoming commander.

Holler comes to Korea from Fort Bliss, Texas where he served as the assistant chief of staff, G3 of the 32nd Army Air and Missile Defense Command.

Holler, a native of Jacksonville, Florida and recent Distinguished Graduate from the U.S. Army War College, expressed his gratitude for the privilege of leading the brigade.

"It is a proud and humbling experience to serve with the premier air defense unit in the Army," said Holler. "I am truly blessed to be among you and serve as your commander."

The passing of colors concluded when Holler handed the colors back to Villarreal, representing the



Sgt. Anthony Nunez assigned to 2-1 Air Defense Artillery at Camp Carroll, winner of the brigade's best warrior competition, presents Jill Nguyen, wife of outgoing 35th Air Defense Artillery Brigade commander Col. Thomas Nguyen, with a bouquet of roses during the unit's change of command ceremony on Osan Air Base, June 24. The bouquet serves as a token of appreciation for Mrs. Nguyen's dedication and service over the last two years to the Soldiers and family members of the unit.

concept that, although commanders change, the unit's colors remain with the dedicated Soldiers of the unit, Soldiers that Nguyen said he was honored to have led.

"Our officers, noncommissioned officers, and Soldiers have met every one of our goals and have never let me down," said Nguyen in his farewell remarks.

"They have been the most professional and dedicated Soldiers I have ever witnessed."

Col. Nguyen's next assignment takes him to Huntsville, Alabama where he takes over as the chief of staff at the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command.

Buddy Wing 15-4: ROKAF, USAF ready together



1st Lt. Brad Leffler, 35th Fighter Squadron F-16 Fighting Falcon pilot, prepares for takeoff during Exercise Buddy Wing 15-4 at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, June 3, 2015. In an effort to enhance U.S. and ROKAF combat capability, Buddy Wing exercises are conducted multiple times throughout the year on the peninsula to sharpen interoperability between the allied forces so that if need be, they are always ready to fight as a combined force. (U.S. Air Force photos by Staff Sgt. Nick Wilson)



U.S. Air Force Capt. Walt Coombs, 35th Fighter Squadron pilot, briefs Republic of Korea Air Force pilots from the 123rd Tactical Fighter Squadron, Seosan Air Base, at Kunsan Air Base, ROK, during Exercise Buddy Wing 15-4, June 4, 2015.

By Senior Airman Katrina Heikkinen
8th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

KUNSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- Wolf Pack pilots practiced combined flying operations with their ROK Air Force counterparts during Exercise Buddy Wing 15-4 here, June 1 to 5.

During this iteration of Buddy Wing, the 8th Fighter Wing hosted Airmen from the 123rd Tactical Fighter Squadron, 20th Fighter Wing, Seosan Air Base, to train alongside the Wolf Pack's 35th Fighter Squadron as they sharpened their air combat capabilities together at Kunsan.

"This is my first Buddy Wing, and I gained a lot of insight on how the U.S. and ROK air forces integrate together," said 1st Lt. Brad Leffler, 35th FS F-16 Fighting Falcon pilot. "We train and work together, and we also learn from our strengths and weaknesses. If the time comes to take the fight north, we will work better as a combined force."

During Buddy Wing, the two countries' pilots operated as one force as they integrated mission planning, briefing, flying and debriefing together, while practicing air-to-air and air-to-ground tactics.

"We may operate differently during the execution of various formations, but we train on very similar tactics," Leffler said. "At the end of the day, we all work together to accomplish the same mission. The fundamental purpose of [ROK and U.S. Air Force] practicing together is to tighten up our combined wartime readiness."

Capt. Bong Seop Kim, 123rd TFS KF-16 Fighting Falcon pilot, discussed how Buddy Wing 15-4 provided a great opportunity for ROKAF and U.S. Air Force pilots to exchange knowledge on their tactics and weapons system posture.

"When we work together as a combined military, we can exert such power that enables us to always be ready," Kim said. "We may face obstacles, to include the language barrier and other challenges during combined operations, but we overcome these barriers through continued discussions and understanding each other's differences and cultures."

According to Capt. Matthew Kimmel, 35th FS F-16 Fighting Falcon pilot and Buddy Wing 15-4 project of-



F-16 and KF-16 Fighting Falcon pilots from the U.S. Air Force 35th Fighter Squadron and Republic of Korea Air Force 123rd Tactical Fighter Squadron gather together during Exercise Buddy Wing 15-4 at Kunsan Air Base, ROK, June 4, 2015.

ficer, an additional aspect of strengthening combined, allied military operations is enhancing personal partnerships.

"This exercise provided not only the tactical integration with our counterparts, but also provided an opportunity to create new friendships as we - the U.S. Air Force and ROKAF - got to know each other at various social events outside of the flying operations here," he said.

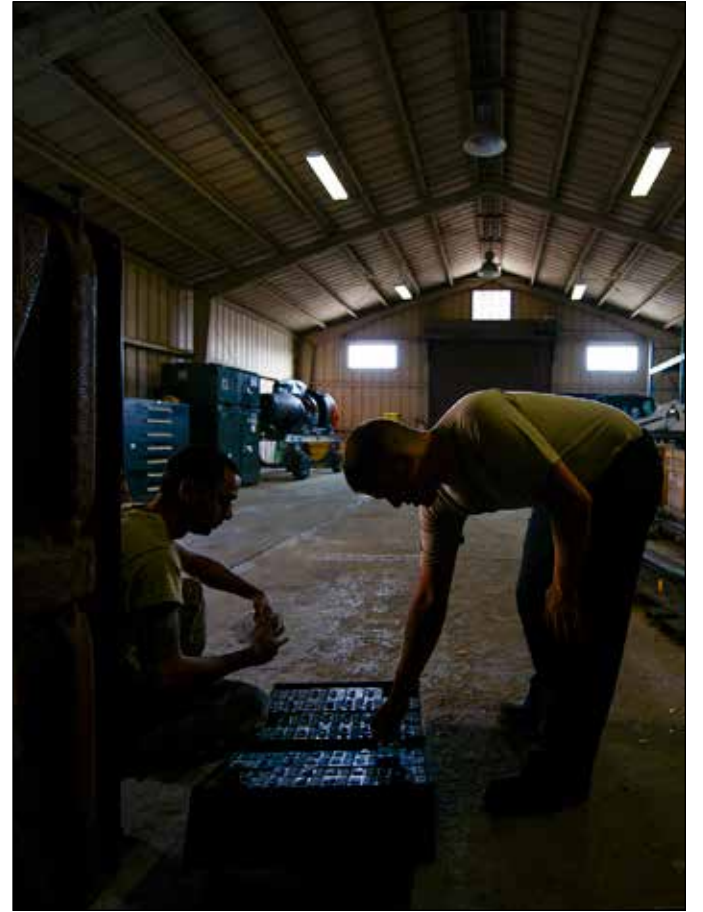
Kim added how working and spending time together increases interoperability and combat capabilities.

"As two countries, we create and carry out combined operations to deter the same enemy," Kim said. "By coordinating with each other through programs such as this Buddy Wing training as well as other combined operations, these experiences add to the success of combined operations and the continued success of the ROK-U.S. Alliance."



Above: Airmen from the 25th Aircraft Maintenance Unit weapons load section install pylons on an A-10 June 22, 2015, at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea. The weapons section of the 25th AMU is responsible for the maintenance and loading of various missiles, pylons, and other weapons onto the base's A-10 fleet. (U.S. Air Force photos by Staff Sgt. Jake Barreiro)

Right: Staff Sgt. Christopher Simison, 25th Aircraft Maintenance Unit weapons load team chief, inspects materials in storage June 22, 2015, at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea. Simison and other weapons Airmen are responsible for inventory and the proper storage of equipment, which can be inspected by the unit's quality assurance personnel.



Weapons flight arms most prolific A-10 unit

By Staff Sgt. Jake Barreiro
51st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- It obscured the sun, but the hazy June-time skyline did nothing to change the heat. Warm temperatures and moist air permeated the Draggins' Lair here as six Airmen got into the back end of a blue-painted "bread truck." They had just finished moving a slew of munitions, some by hand. They stood by as each pilot finished their pre-flight checklists, started their aircraft and prepared to taxi. But in the back of the bread truck there's no vent for air conditioning and, cramped by equipment, little personal room. The enclosed space spikes heat and humidity, turning an already hot space into a sweatbox. And, like watching an opposing player over-enthusiastically spike the football after scoring a touchdown, the crew is taunted by two small windows in the back. These windows are enclosed and un-openable, guarded by metal bars. "Those bars are there so we never forget where we're at," one jokes. "But seriously, now you're getting just a little look of what life in maintenance is like."

The 25th Aircraft Maintenance Unit weapons flight here is manned by Airmen dedicated to the upkeep and loading of weapons onto the base's resident A-10 fleet. Ensuring the 25th Fighter Squadron remains employable at a moment's notice is an indispensable capability for military readiness, and one that's equally important in and out of a contingency, said Master Sgt. William Warren, 25th AMU weapons section chief.

"If you don't have the personnel to load and maintain a weapons system, then you can't have weapons delivery," said Warren. "Our capabilities are influential for enemy deterrence, but we make sure we also bring the actual ability. Everybody has a role, and our role is making weapons delivery happen."

The section typically splits their personnel into crews of three, with a mission-essential requirement of 12 crews, said Warren. Each crew has a team chief and two crew members with designated jobs, and they can work on any number of aircraft any day.

Airmen of the weapons flight are currently working 12-hour shifts five days a week. Staff Sgt. Christopher Simison, 25th AMU weapons load team chief, said duties on the team vary by shift. The job includes moving and loading munitions, helping generate sorties, and recovering the planes once they return.

"A normal day really depends on what shift you're working," said Simison. "On dayshift, we mostly focus on getting jets in the air and working any maintenance we can on ones that aren't flying. Swing shift normally recovers jets and works a lot of scheduled maintenance on the aircraft, and mid-shift finishes up any left-over issues or maintenance to get the jets ready for flying the next day."

And while a typical duty day for Simison and his peers includes routine checkups and loading munitions, there are also additional responsibilities to take care of, including properly organizing and storing old or unused parts. A lot of these responsibilities are inspected by the unit's quality assurance personnel, who are dedicated to inspecting and grading the team's adherence to various checklists. Failing one of these inspections can have serious consequences.

Even beyond the scope of traditional and additional duties, one of the biggest responsibilities and challenges is ensuring everyone on the team stays current with all job and non-job related training and certification. There are multiple documents printed and displayed on a corkboard tracking training requirements, and at the June 22 Monday-morning roll call, Warren reminds his team to finish the eight-hour long SERE 100.1 Level A training.



Airmen from the 25th Aircraft Maintenance Unit move a missile before sortie launches June 23, 2015, at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea. The weapons section moves the weapons in order to maintain a balance across the fleet in each bay.

"We have to make sure everyone gets their training and stays certified," said Warren. "I actually miss working (on the flight line), the Airmen here get all the fun, even though they probably don't think it's fun when they're doing it."

Simison said certification is something most people don't know about the job. Weapons flight Airmen are required to load 10 family-grouped munitions every quarter to maintain their certifications. He added that in between the 12-hour shifts, additional duties, and mandatory training, finding time to do the ancillary stuff can be hard, especially considering Osan's high operations tempo.

"This place has one of the highest tempos I've ever seen," said Warren. "All of our Airmen work extremely hard here. Here in Korea there's a sharp learning curve, but we all work together to get everyone on track and get it right."

Simison added that the work can be hard, but rewarding, and one of his favorite parts about the job is the quarterly load crew competition.

"I love the competitions because it lets you know who's really the best load crew on base," said Simison. "We're a competitive group of people, so those are a lot of fun."

Still, beyond all the requirements, the Airmen know there's a job to be done, and it's a job that doesn't rise or fall with personal comfort, hence the back-seat oven in the bread truck. The sweat lost and skin tanned can't be quantified, but it has led to making the 25th Fighter Squadron become what Warren calls "The highest flying A-10 unit in the Air Force." It's not just an achievement for his flight, but something the entire squadron contributes to.

"Of course all the jobs out here make it happen," said Warren. "From the crew chiefs to avionics, everybody has their roles. The proof is in the numbers. We have the most flying hours of any A-10 unit in the Air Force. It's a source of pride, and sometimes pain for our guys, but we get it done and it's all because of the dedication and hard work our Airmen do."

F-16 maintenance: the down and dirty perspective

By Staff Sgt. Nick Wilson
8th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

KUNSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- Growing up with a passion for mechanics, one Airman likes to get her hands dirty, turn wrenches and troubleshoot broken machinery.

In a career field predominantly filled by men, Staff Sgt. Elizabeth Dietrick, 8th Maintenance Squadron inspection team member, doesn't consider her career decision unusual.

"I always loved going through the mechanical tools in my dad's garage as I was growing up, while on the other hand, my sisters were more feminine," Dietrick said. "I'm glad this was the job I was able to get coming into the Air Force."

Born and raised in Toledo, Ohio, the 23-year-old staff sergeant joined the Air Force at 18 to take advantage of tuition assistance opportunities.

"I had an aunt and uncle who were also in the Air Force," Dietrick said. "My uncle was a weapons troop when he was in. Hearing some of his stories and all the cool places he was able to travel to made me aspire to become a maintenance Airman as well."

Dietrick was stationed at Aviano Air Base, Italy, and Luke Air Force Base, Arizona, prior to joining the Wolf Pack.

Dietrick feels that she found her niche after serving in the Air Force for five years.

"I enjoy taking things apart," Dietrick said. "I like getting dirty and being able to move around a lot. Being a crew chief has been fun for me and it definitely suits me well."

Dietrick's love for the job and attention to detail led her to be recommended as the inspection team floor chief. She is training for the job now.

"The floor chief manages the people on the job making sure they stay busy and the jobs for the day get accomplished in a timely manner," Dietrick said. "I could be tasked with the management of a wide range of projects, from towing an aircraft to installation or removal of parts."

Dietrick and her team are also responsible for inspecting to ensure hardware is still serviceable.

"For instance, if we find a mark or bolt that is dam-



Staff Sgt. Elizabeth Dietrick, 8th Maintenance Squadron inspection section team member, inspects the landing gear of an F-16 Fighting Falcon at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, June 9, 2015. Dietrick works with a team of Airmen during phase inspections to take an in-depth look at aircraft before and after flight. Phase inspections are performed on aircraft every 400 flight hours and involve procedural maintenance actions that require robust attention to detail. (U.S. Air Force photos by Staff Sgt. Nick Wilson)

aged, then we'll mark them and write them up so they can be changed out by more functional parts," Dietrick said. "We could end up replacing anything from a two-dollar bolt to a multimillion-dollar engine."

When it comes to the mission of generating sorties at Kunsan Air Base, Dietrick and her Airmen all get the opportunity to take an in-depth look at aircraft before and after flight.

"We get the unique opportunity to really ensure aircraft are safe," Dietrick said. "We get to look inside bunch of panels that crew chiefs on the flight line won't typically see."

From a combination of troubleshooting and procedural checks, Dietrick and the nine others on her shift

must work quickly, but efficiently, to keep aircraft flying.

"If it wasn't for our phase inspections, incidents and in-flight emergencies with aircraft would significantly increase," Dietrick said. "Figuratively speaking, we're like doctors who ensure the jet is completely healthy and serviceable before flight."

Overall, Dietrick has enjoyed her experience at the ROK, and says she will enjoy the remainder of her tour and career.

"I look forward to learning as much as I can while I'm here," Dietrick said. "I feel that I need to lead by example as an NCO. I like to share my knowledge, so the more I know, the more I can give back to the next generation of Airmen."

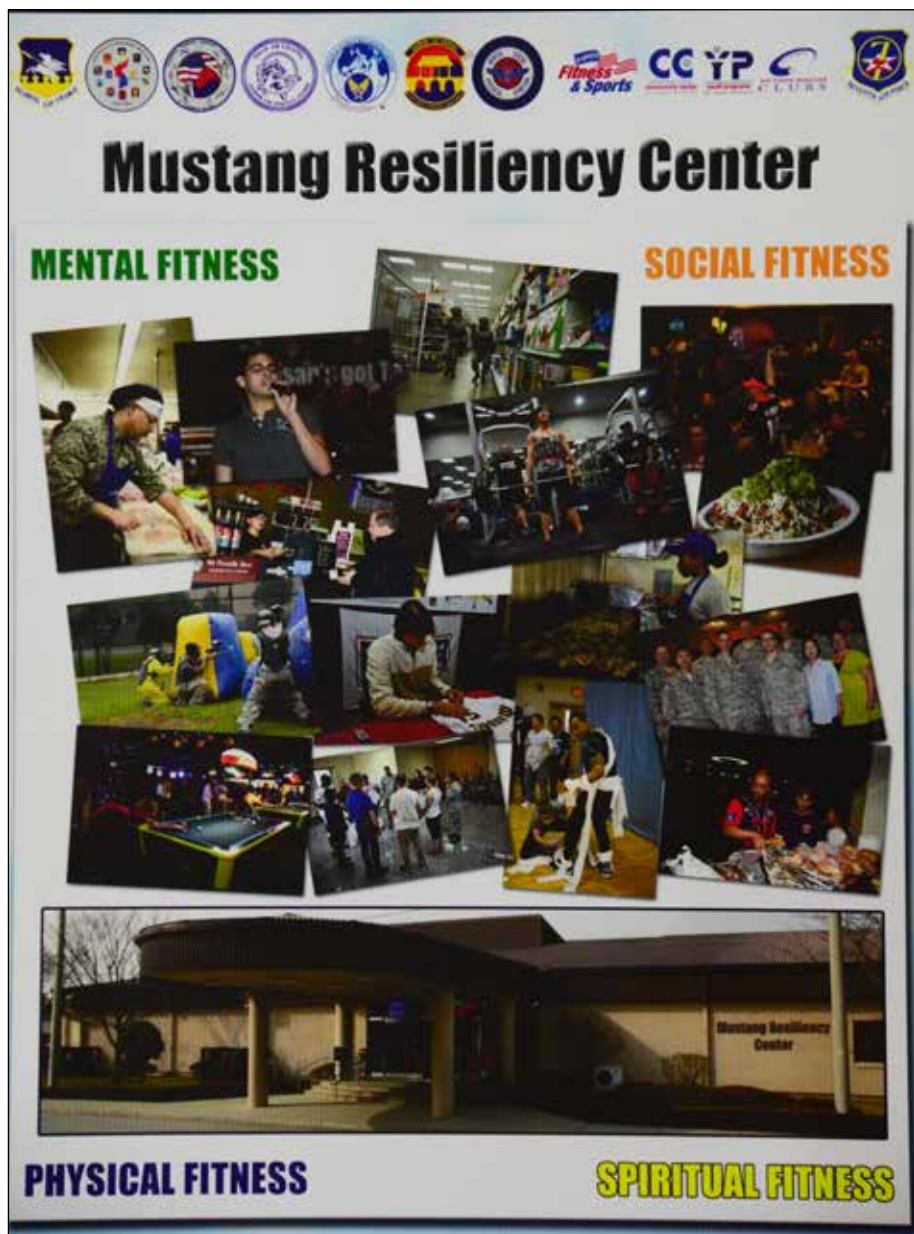


Staff Sgt Dennis Lamm, 8th. Maintenance Squadron inspection section floor chief, and Airman 1st Class Emiliano Silva, 8th MXS inspection section team member, inspect the landing gear of an F-16 Fighting Falcon at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea June 9, 2015.



Airmen from the 8th Maintenance Squadron inspection section tow an F-16 Fighting Falcon into a hangar at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea June 9, 2015.

New Mustang Center to improve resiliency for Team Osan



By Staff Sgt. Amber Grimm
51st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- *This is the sixth article of a series focusing on the 12 key tasks found here. This week we explore the 10th key task, the Mustang Resiliency center. In the coming weeks we will conclude this series will be a wrap-up article showing the comprehensive spectrum of how Team Osan works on the key tasks.*

As a member of the most forward deployed wing in the world, being stationed in a foreign country so far from home is bound to increase the stress levels of what is already considered one of the highest stress inducing careers. To combat this and improve the resiliency of their Airmen, the 51st Fighter Wing is in the process of transforming the Mustang Club into the Mustang Resiliency Center.

The building was previously associated with a night club atmosphere. With features like full bars, dance floors and even rooms filled with slot machines.

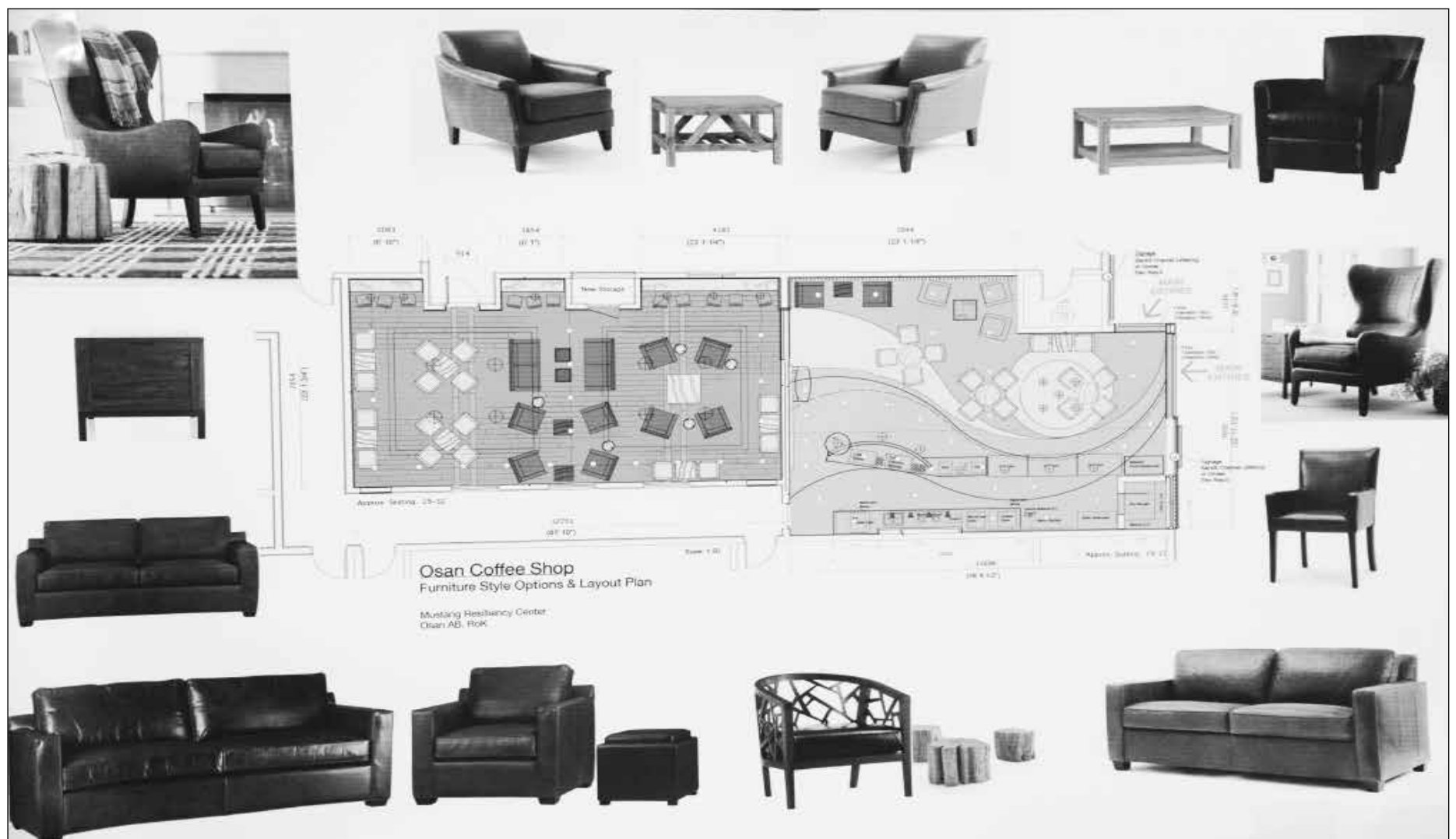
“We’re really turning the page on what this place is used for,” said Anthony Dalton, 51st Force Support Squadron Fitness Center director. “This was a club, and you’d when we came in on Monday there would be an alcohol-related incident. We’re starting to overcome that by changing the tone here. This is a resiliency center now, when you come here it’s all about tapping into one of those four pillars of resiliency.”

Those four pillars being mental, physical, spiritual and social health, each of which will be addressed through different programs offered in the new Mustang Resiliency Center. Planned renovations include putting in a sound-proof fitness/aerobics room for yoga, various martial arts and other fitness classes. Creating a technical equipment room and offering classes to utilize the newly installed equipment. There will be an office available for speaking with the chaplain, and a brand new Rickenbacker’s coffee shop that will be a place for Airman to relax, study and basically congregate.

“This is going to be a place where someone can come learn; come expand their knowledge, that type of stuff,” says Dalton, “So I just think the whole concept of changing it over from a club, into a resiliency center, that’s kind of showing where we’re going with the Air Force.”

Squadrons from across the 51st FW, Pacific Air Force and Army contracting as well as the Airmen and Family Readiness Center have banded together, offering up funds and support to create a place that will care for all members of Team Osan. The newly remodeled Rickenbacker’s will be the first renovation to be finished in the new Mustang Resiliency Center; it is scheduled to open this fall as “the best coffee shop in the Air Force.”

To improve the resiliency of their Airman, the 51st Fighter Wing is in the process of transforming the former Mustang Club into the Mustang Resiliency Center at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea. The newly remodeled Rickenbacker’s will be the first renovation to be finished in the new Mustang Resiliency Center; it is scheduled to open this fall as “the best coffee shop in the Air Force.” (U.S. Air Force photos by Staff Sgt. Amber Grimm)



Major John F. Bolt – The 51st Fighter Wing’s Marine Corps Ace



Lieutenant John Bolt during World War II in December 1943. (National Archives Photo)



Major John Bolt in July 1953 with his F-86 Sabre nicknamed “Darling Dottie” in tribute to his wife, Dorothy. (U.S. Marine Corps Photo)

By Robert Vanderpool
7th Air Force – 8th Fighter Wing Historian

On July 11, 1953, Marine Corps pilot Major John F. Bolt shot down two enemy MiG-15's becoming the 37th ace of the Korean War. At the time of his action, Bolt was assigned to the 39th Fighter-Interceptor Squadron, 51st Fighter-Interceptor Wing, during an “exchange officer” tour between the Air Force and Marine Corps. Bolt was the 14th and last pilot to become an ace with the 51st FIW during the Korean War.

John F. Bolt was born on May 19, 1921 in South Carolina. Bolt began attending the University of Florida in 1939, enlisting in the U.S. Marines Corps Reserve in the summer of 1941 in order to train as a pilot and to earn additional money for to pay for his studies. After the Japanese attack at Pearl Harbor brought the United States into World War II on December 7, 1941, Bolt left school and transferred to active duty subsequently earning his pilots wings in August 1942.

In June 1943 Bolt shipped overseas to the Pacific where he flew 92 combat missions in the F-4U Corsair over the Marshall Islands, Solomon Islands, and New Guinea. Bolt is credited with shooting down six enemy aircraft during World War II earning his status as an ace. Between September 1943 and January 1944, Bolt flew with the Marine Corps’ storied VMF-214; better known to history as the “Black Sheep Squadron.” During one combat sortie with the Black Sheep, Bolt ignored orders and single handedly attacked a Japanese convoy of barges and troop ships, sinking several vessels all the while earning the displeasure of his commander, Medal of Honor recipient and Marine Corps flying legend Major Gregory “Pappy” Boyington. In addition to becoming an ace, Bolt earned two Distinguished Flying Cross awards during World War II.

Bolt returned to the United States in May 1944 where he remained until the end of the war. Following World War II, Bolt served in a variety of duty assignments on both coasts of the United States. During 1950-1951, Bolt transitioned to flying jet fighters piloting the F-2H Banshee and later the F-9F Panther. In September 1951, Bolt served with the 318th FIS, 325th FIW at McChord Air Force Base, Washington during his first stint in the Air Force and Marine Corps “exchange officer” program. At McCord Air Force Base, Bolt learned to fly the F-94 Starfire before becoming qualified in the F-86 Sabre.

In November 1952, Bolt returned to flying with the

Marine Corps serving with VMF-115 during combat operations in Korea. Bolt piloted 94 combat missions with the Marines in Korea flying the F-9F Panther conducting primarily close air support missions with heavy bombers while also flying a variety of ground attack missions. A desire to engage enemy fighters led Bolt to arrange for another “exchange officer” tour with the Air Force. After being refused the opportunity to fly in combat with the 4th FIW, Bolt contacted 39th FIS Commander Lieutenant Colonel George Ruddell, whom Bolt knew from his time at McChord AFB. Ruddell made arrangements for Bolt to join the 51st FIW.

Flying in the F-86 Sabre with the 39th FIS’s “Dog Flight,” Bolt initially served as wingman for legendary 51st FIW ace, Captain Joseph McConnell. Bolt earned his first aerial victory in Korea on May 16, 1953 over a North Korean MiG-15. Two days later McConnell scored his 16th aerial victory of the war and was ordered back to the United States. The Korean War finished with McConnell’s 16 aerial victories making him the leading American ace of the conflict. In McConnell’s absence Bolt assumed command of Dog Flight, a position he remained in until the end of the war. Bolt shot down three more MiG-15’s during the month of June 1953 bringing his Korean War aerial victory total to 4.

On July 11, 1953, Bolt was leading Dog Flight on a patrol over North Korea near the Yalu River and the border with China flying at an altitude of approximately 20,000 feet when he observed four enemy MiG-15’s take to the skies and head south from an air base on the Chinese side of the river. Seizing the altitude advantage, Bolt and his wingman pounced on the unsuspecting MiG’s, while the other two aircraft in Dog Flight remained high as top cover. More in danger of running into each other’s fusillade of .50 caliber bullets than from any defensive response from the ‘sitting duck’ MiG-15’s, Bolt and his wingman downed two of the enemy aircraft forcing the other two MiG’s to flee north back across the Yalu River. Returning to base, Bolt’s gun camera footage clearly showed that he was responsible for shooting down both aircraft giving him his fifth and sixth aerial victories of the conflict and his status as a Korean War ace. He accomplished this feat on his 36th combat sortie with the 51st FIW (Historians Note: Harrumph!).

Bolt later recalled: “We hadn’t seen anything of the MiG’s in over 10 days when all of a sudden I spotted four of them taking off from an air base on the other side of the Yalu. I nosed over and hit them just as they

began to gain altitude. I fired four bursts and a MiG began to smoke. It rolled over and slipped into the ground. I made the second kill when this other dude drifted my way. Pulling nose-up, I closed to within 500 feet and started firing up his tailpipe. I saw the pilot eject himself and the action was over. It took about five minutes for the whole show.”

Also earning the Navy Cross for his feat, Bolt’s citation reads in part: “By his exceptional courage and superb airmanship in destroying the two aircraft, Major Bolt raised his total of enemy jet planes destroyed during the Korean War to six, thereby becoming the first jet ace in Marine Corps aviation history. His inspiring leadership and great personal valor reflect the highest credit upon himself and was in keeping with the highest traditions of the Naval Service.”

With his two aerial victories on July 11, 1953, Bolt became the only Marine Corps ace of the Korean War and the first and only jet ace thus far in Marine Corps history. Coupled with his six aerial victories during World War II, Bolt is also the only Marine Corps pilot ever to have achieved ace status in two different wars. He is one of only seven men in United States military history to have accomplished the feat of becoming an ace in two different wars; the other six having all served with the Army Air Force and Air Force respectively. All six of Bolt’s aerial victories in World War II were over the Japanese A-6M Zero fighter, while all six of his aerial victories in Korea were over the North Korean flagged but Soviet-built MiG-15 fighter.

On July 27, 1953, two weeks after Bolt earned his status as a Korean War ace, the armistice went into effect bringing an end to open hostilities on the Korean Peninsula. Bolt finished his combat flying career with 12 total aerial victories. After the Korean War, Bolt served as an analyst of Marine Corps tactics in the Pentagon retiring on March 31, 1962 as a Lieutenant Colonel. During his 21-year career in the Marine Corps, Bolt earned the Navy Cross, three Distinguished Flying Crosses, and two Air Medals among a multitude of other awards and commendations.

Nearly 41 years old at the time of his retirement from the military, Bolt returned the University of Florida some 21 years after he first left the school to serve during World War II. Bolt attended law school and eventually became a real estate lawyer and a law professor. Bolt practiced law for 29 years before retiring again in 1991. John F. Bolt passed away at the age of 83 years old on September 8, 2004.

CHAPEL SCHEDULE

KUNSAN AIR BASE

Protestant Services

Gospel Service
 Sunday, 1 p.m.
 Main Chapel, Bldg. 501
Contemporary Service
 Sunday, 5 p.m.
 Main Chapel, Bldg. 501

Catholic Mass

Catholic Mass
 Sunday, 10:30 a.m.
 Main Chapel, Bldg. 501
Daily Mass & Reconciliation
 Please call the chapel

General Services

Church of Christ
 Sunday, 11 a.m.
 SonLight Inn, Bldg. 510
LDS Service
 Sunday, 2:30 p.m.
 SonLight Inn, Bldg. 510
Earth-Based Religions
 Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
 SonLight Inn, Bldg. 510

Point of Contact:
 Kunsan Chapel, 782-4300

Visit us on Share Point:
<https://kunsan.eim.pacaf.af.mil/8FW/HC/default.aspx>

OSAN AIR BASE

Protestant Services

Gospel (Praise Joy Night)
 Friday, 7:30 p.m., Osan Chapel Sanctuary
Traditional Service
 Sunday, 10 a.m., Osan Chapel Sanctuary
Gospel Service
 Sunday, Noon, Osan Chapel Sanctuary
Contemporary Service
 Sunday, 5 p.m., Osan Chapel Sanctuary
Church of Christ
 Sunday, 10 a.m., Elementary School Cafeteria

Catholic Mass

Daily Mass
 Tuesday – Thursday, 11:30 a.m.
 Saturday, 5 p.m.
 Sunday, 8:30 a.m.
Reconciliation
 Saturday, 4 p.m.

Other Faith Groups

Earth-Based
 Contact the Chapel
Jewish
 Contact the Chapel
Muslim
 Contact the Chapel
Buddhist
 Contact the Chapel

Point of Contact:
 Osan Chapel, 784-5000

Visit us on SharePoint:
<https://osan.eim.pacaf.af.mil/51FW/51FW-HC/default.aspx>
Visit us on Facebook (OSAN AB CHAPEL)
<https://www.facebook.com/OsanABChapel>

USAG-YONGSAN

Protestant Services

Traditional Service
 Sunday, 9:30 a.m.
 Memorial Chapel, Bldg 1597
 Sunday, 9:30 a.m.
 Brian Allgood Hospital Chapel
Contemporary Service
 Sunday, 9 a.m.
 South Post Chapel, Bldg 3702
 Sunday, 10:30 a.m.
 K-16 Chapel

Nondenominational Service

Sunday, 11 a.m.
 South Post Chapel, Bldg 3702
Gospel Service
 Sunday, 1 p.m.
 South Post Chapel, Bldg 3702

Pentecostal

Sunday, 1:30 p.m.
 Memorial Chapel, Bldg 1597
Latter Day Saints (LDS)
 Sunday, 4 p.m.
 South Post Chapel, Bldg 3702

Seventh-Day Adventist

Saturday, 9:30 a.m.
 Brian Allgood Hospital Chapel
KATUSA
 Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.
 Memorial Chapel, Bldg 1597

Point of Contact:
 USAG Yongsan Religious Support Office, 738-3011

Visit us on SharePoint:
<http://www.army.mil/yongsan>

Catholic Mass

Sunday, 8 a.m.
 Memorial Chapel, Bldg 1597
 Sunday, 11:30 a.m.
 Memorial Chapel, Bldg 1597
 Saturday, 5 p.m.
 Memorial Chapel, Bldg 1597
 1st Saturday, 9 a.m.
 Memorial Chapel, Bldg 1597
 M/W/T/F, 11:45 a.m.
 Memorial Chapel, Bldg 1597
 Tuesday, 11:45 p.m.
 Brian Allgood Hospital Chapel

General Service

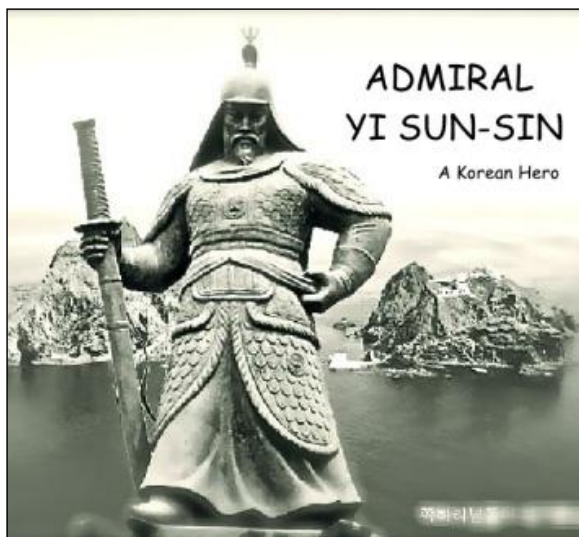
Episcopal Service
 Sunday, 11 a.m.
 Brian Allgood Hospital Chapel

Jewish

Friday, 7 p.m.
 South Post Chapel, Bldg 3702



Spiritual Charge



Ch, Capt. Myung K Cho
 51st Fighter Wing Chapel

In October 1597, a Japanese fleet of approximately 333 ships attempted to invade Korea through Myeongnyang Strait. The unpredictable current immediately wreaked havoc on the Japanese, and many of their ships collided with each other or outright sank while sailing through this strait. The still superior Japanese fleet, that made it through the current, had to face 13 Korean (Joseon) warships with only 200 sailors. Admiral Yi,

“Fear into Courage”

leader of the Korean force, surprisingly caused the superior Japanese fleet, which outnumbered him 25 to 1, to retreat. At the end of the Battle of Myeongnyang, Admiral Yi had a miraculous victory.

Before this battle began, Admiral Yi’s 200 sailors were very terrified and lost the will to fight. The sailors were fearful because the Japanese had already conquered the southeastern part of Korea (Busan Area). They heard the news that the Japanese devoured the Joseon military power in every inch of the Korean land, and there was no support from King Joseon or anyone else. Admiral Yi faced one of the greatest challenges and darkest hours in his life. He knew that without his sailor’s courage there would be no victory. The only way to change his sailor’s fear into courage was to personally demonstrate courage with his own ship. As Admiral Yi and his crew faced the entire Japanese fleet, the other 11 Joseon warships watched from behind, and slowly developed the courage to support Admiral Yi. At the end of that battle the Joseon fleet won and became a legend in Korea.

Sometimes we too face dark hours in our lives. It feels like nothing when our finances are

a wreck, our relationships are in trouble, or our career is floundering. Some issues we face and we get along just fine. It is the impossible issues, where it is too much to handle and too overwhelming, we face the fear of failure and lose our courage. One of Admiral Yi’s said, “The soldier who fights to death never dies, but the soldier who fights for existence never truly exists.”

When we may face difficult situations, we have to fight like there is no tomorrow. We have a motto at Osan Air Base, “ready to fight tonight.” In order to be ready tonight, we need to have exercises and training, though it is not all. Along with the preparation on base, we have to take care of our family here or back home. If we don’t fight with everything we have for our freedom, family and friends, the fear will conquer us all.

It says in the Bible, “Do not be afraid, but be strong and very courageous...for I will be with you wherever you go.” With a reminder that the Bible mentions, “do not be afraid” 365 times, it means that we can’t live out of fear, but we have to be strong and courageous every single day of the year. So fear not but have courage to take care of those issues one by one and have your own victory.

7th AF vice commander visits the Wolf Pack

Brig. Gen. Kyle Robinson, 7th AF vice commander, spent time with Wolf Pack Airmen today to see firsthand how we defend the base, accept follow-on forces, and take the fight north!



Kunsan

Claims announcement

ATTENTION ALL PERSONNEL:
Anyone having claims or indebtedness to the estate of Airman 1st Class Kevin T. Welsh should contact 1st Lt. Christopher Foti, Summary Court Officer, at DSN 782-5638, or christopher.foti.2@us.af.mil.

Illmagwon Orphanage

Join Airmen from across the base in a wing chapel-sponsored event as they travel down to the Illmagwon Orphanage in Gunsan City every Tuesday at 6 p.m. for an evening of playing games and learning more about the local culture. For more information, contact the chapel at 782-4300.

Single Airmen Game Night

Fridays at 7:30 p.m., Sonlight Inn. Everyone's welcome, special invite for all Single Airmen!
For more information contact, Senior Airman Jenfil Morillo-Burgos.

Kunsan Photo Club

Interested in sharing your photography experience with others and exploring Korea along the way? Have a camera, but want to learn how to use it more completely? Then join the Kunsan Photo Club as they delve into the finer qualities of photography where the key concept is: "It's not the camera that makes a great photo, but the photographer." If interested in joining, the group can be found on Facebook, just search for "Kunsan Photo Club."

Wolf Pack Lodge

Lodging Space A Policy
Need a break? Got family visiting and no room to house them? You can book lodging rooms on a space available basis up to 120 days in advance for a maximum of 30 days depending on availability. You can also book reservations for the holiday season (November and December) up to 30 days in advance for a maximum of 15 days. (Depending on availability) Book now for all of those relatives coming for the holiday!

Reservations – Front Desk-DSN 782-1844 or Commercial (82)63-470-1844
FAX: DSN 315-782-0633 Commercial (82)63-470-0633

Children's English class

Team 5/6 is looking for volunteers to support the Children's English class weekly, for children 2-15 years of age. We will break you up into groups to read, talk, or play board games with the children. Civilian attire is preferred however, UOD is allowed.

Classes are held from 7 to 8 p.m. at the Sonlight Inn.

For more information, contact Tech. Sgt. Justin Worthen.

Sunday Sonlight dinner

Every Sunday, volunteers from a specific unit cook dinner for their fellow Wolf Pack members at the Sonlight Inn. The dinner begins at 6 p.m. following grace led by a chaplain. Meals range from "breakfast for dinner" to "Italian cooking" to "Southern style." For more information or to volunteer, contact the chapel at 782-4300.

Sponsor training

Learn creative ways to assist newcomers reporting to Kunsan AB. Registration required. Class is held at the Airman and Family Readiness Center. Call 782-5644 for more information, dates or to sign up.

ROKAF English Class

Team 5/6 is looking for volunteers to support the ROKAF English class every Saturday, at the Sonlight Inn. You will be talking to ROKAF Airmen (enlisted) for approximately one hour. This event is open to all ranks! Civilian attire is preferred, however, UOD is allowed.

For more information, contact Staff Sgt. Charles Nelson.

Ping Pong tournament

Free to all. Prizes for first and second places. Prizes include Wolf Pack Won. To sign up, dates or for more information, call the CAC at 782-5213 or 4679.

Osan

Airman and Family Readiness Center programs

***Bundles for Babies** - A workshop for expectant parents who want to learn more about parenting and support programs here at Osan. The class also offers you a finance piece that focuses on budgeting for your new baby from conception to college years and a chance to meet other new parents. Additionally, you'll receive a free "bundle" from the Air Force Aid Society.

***Separation & Retirement Benefits** - This is an optional workshop where separating and retiring members can learn about their benefits- includes briefings by MFLC, TMO, CPO, Finance, Tricare and SBP.

***Spouse Orientation** - This is a great opportunity for spouses to learn about the 51st Fighter Wing Mission, Non-combatant Evacuation Operation (NEO) process, and receive a protective (gas) mask demonstration. Spouses will also have an opportunity to meet key base representatives and learn about Korean Culture. As a bonus, a community information fair will end the day.

***Volunteers' Training** - The goal is to ensure all our volunteers are registered and they receive all tools and information to keep them informed of volunteer opportunities.

For more information, call 784-0119.

Monthly PCS Briefings

Every first Thursday of the month at 9 a.m. in the base theater Osan's Outbound Assignments Team hosts a PCS briefing that provides essential information to relocating members. They are joined with other wing agencies such as Passports, Travel Management Office, Tricare and Finance to make the process as smooth as possible. Don't miss this critical briefing to ensure YOU have all the tools necessary to out-process hassle-free!

E-mail security

There has been a rising trend of unencrypted e-mails containing FOUO, PII, or other sensitive/critical information due to recipients not being on the USAF GAL. Please exercise good infor-

mation security and call the Help Desk if you are having problems sending an encrypted e-mail.

2015 Osan Air Base Chapel Survey

The Chapel is currently assessing the spiritual and religious needs of Osan Air Base. Would you please take a few minutes to better ensure we are meeting the needs of our community? Thank you for your time and input in this effort.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/osanchapelneedsurvey>

Anthem Singers

Sopranos, altos, tenors and bass vocalists are needed to sing the US and ROK National Anthems at various events on base. Practice is held at 5 p.m. every Thursday at the Chapel Annex. Send an e-mail to abigail.boyd@us.af.mil or afryea.clark@us.af.mil for more information.

Military Tuition Assistance Briefing

Presented by the 51 FSS Education & Training Center, this is mandatory for all first time users, officer/enlisted, for military TA. No appointment necessary! Held every Tuesday at 8 a. m. in Bldg 787, Rm. 10. For additional information or questions please contact the Education Center at 784-4220.

Preschool Playgroup

Family Advocacy hosts Preschool Playgroup at the Youth Center from 10-11 a.m. Ages are 0-5 years old. Come join the fun. It is good for YOU and your little one. Playgroup is every Monday when school is in session and runs thru June 8. We will not meet on no school days, holidays, spring and winter break, and during summer break. Call Family Advocacy for more information 784-5010.



Kunsan's emergency phone numbers

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Emergency Services | 911 | Commander's Hotline | 782-5224 |
| Off Base/Cell Emergency | 063-470-0911 | After-hours medical advice | 782-4333 |
| Crime Stop: (to report a crime) | 782-5444 | IG Complaints FWA Reporting: | 782-4850 (duty hours) 782-4942 (anytime) |
| Base Locator: (after duty hours) | 782-4743 | Chaplain (After duty hours) | 782-6000 |
| Law Enforcement desk | 782-4944 | Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) | 782-7272 |
| Emergency Leave / Red Cross | 782-4601 (on base) 1-800-733-2761 (anytime) | | |

Osan's emergency phone numbers

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------------|----------|
| Emergency Services (Fire, Medical, Security Police) | 911 | Commander's Hotline | 784-4811 |
| Off Base/Cell Emergency | 031-661-9111 | Crime Stop: (to report a crime) | 784-5757 |
| Emergency Room: | 784-2500 | IG Complaints FWA Reporting: | 784-1144 |
| Base Locator: (after duty hours) | 784-4597 | Emergency Leave | 784-7000 |
| Force Protection Information Hotline: | 115 | Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) | 784-7272 |
| Chaplain (After duty hours) | 784-7000 | Security Forces Control Center | 784-5515 |

Barbeque Safety

Barbecue season is finally here! Summertime, however, also brings fires and injuries due to barbeque grills. According to the United States Fire Administration, grill fires on residential properties result in an estimated average of 10 deaths, 100 injuries, and \$37 million in property loss each year. Knowing a few fire safety tips and practice the following guidelines will help everyone have a safe summer.

Before Barbecuing

1. Check your grill thoroughly for leaks or cracking before using it.
2. Make sure the grill is at least 25 feet away from a building or 50 feet from an aircraft and flammable storage. Do not BBQ under overhangs or indoors.
3. Keep children away from fires and grills. It is a good idea to establish a safety zone around the grill and instruct children to remain outside the zone.
4. Have fire extinguishers or a garden hose attached to a water supply.

During Barbecuing

1. Do not wear loose clothing while cooking at a barbecue.
2. Use only a labeled starter fluid to start fires in the grill.
3. Never leave the grill unattended.
4. Keep alcoholic beverages away from the grill, they are flammable.
5. Make sure everyone knows to STOP, DROP and ROLL in case a piece of clothing does catch fire.

After Barbecuing

1. Keep your grill and free of grease buildup that may lead to a fire.
2. Never store liquid or pressurized fuels inside your home.



In case of fire or emergency, **dial 911 or 0505-784-9111**. Any questions on this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Fire Prevention Office at 784-4834 or 4835.

Kyung Dong bus schedule (Yongsan - Osan - Humphreys)

MONDAY-FRIDAY

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|--|
| | | | | | | | | | | * | | | |
| Lv. Yongsan | 0550 | 0700 | 0830 | 1000 | 1100 | 1300 | 1430 | 1630 | 1720 | 1720 | 1900 | 2130 | |
| Ar. 121st GH | | | | | | | 1435 | | | | | | |
| Lv. Osan AB | 0650 | 0810 | 0940 | 1110 | 1210 | 1410 | 1540 | 1740 | 1830 | x | 2010 | 2240 | |
| Ar. Humph | 0740 | 0850 | 1020 | 1150 | 1250 | 1450 | 1630 | 1820 | 1910 | 1850 | 2050 | 2320 | |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|--|
| | ** | * | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Lv. Humph | x | 0550 | 0700 | 0830 | 1000 | 1100 | 1230 | 1330 | 1530 | 1710 | 1910 | 2100 | |
| Lv. Osan AB | 0600 | x | 0750 | 0920 | 1050 | 1150 | 1320 | 1420 | 1620 | 1800 | 2000 | 2140 | |
| Ar. 121st GH | | 0720 | 0850 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ar. Yongsan | 0710 | 0730 | 0900 | 1030 | 1200 | 1300 | 1430 | 1530 | 1730 | 1910 | 2110 | 2250 | |

* Bus stops at Humphreys main gate

** Bus stops at Yongsan Dragon Hill Lodge

“Price \$6.00 or ₩6,200 one way,
For more info (DSN)784-6623”

WEEKEND & U.S. HOLIDAYS

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| | | | | | | | | | | * | | | | |
| Lv. Yongsan | 0700 | 0800 | 0900 | 1000 | 1100 | 1200 | 1300 | 1400 | 1500 | 1600 | 1700 | 1800 | 1930 | 2130 |
| Lv. Osan AB | 0810 | 0910 | 1010 | 1110 | 1210 | 1310 | 1410 | 1510 | 1610 | 1710 | 1810 | 1910 | 2040 | 2240 |
| Ar. Humph | 0850 | 0950 | 1050 | 1150 | 1250 | x | 1450 | 1550 | x | 1750 | x | 1950 | 2120 | 2320 |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| | * | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Lv. Humph | 0620 | 0800 | 0930 | 1030 | 1130 | 1230 | x | 1400 | 1530 | x | 1700 | x | 1900 | 2100 |
| Lv. Osan AB | 0700 | 0840 | 1010 | 1120 | 1220 | 1320 | 1400 | 1450 | 1620 | 1700 | 1750 | 1850 | 1950 | 2140 |
| Ar. Yongsan | 0820 | 0950 | 1130 | 1230 | 1330 | 1430 | 1510 | 1600 | 1730 | 1810 | 1900 | 2000 | 2100 | 2250 |

* Bus stops at Humphreys main gate

** Bus stops at Yongsan DHL

x Bus doesn't stop at this station

POC for the bus schedule

Osan: 784-6623, Yongsan: 723-4499, Humphreys: 753-7354

Kunsan Shuttle Bus Schedule

* Osan to Kunsan *

- Monday & Wednesday
5 p.m.

* Departs from Osan Passenger Terminal (Bldg. 648) only

- Tuesday & Thursday
1:30 p.m.

- Friday
1:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.

- Weekend
1:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.

* Departs from Turumi Lodge 30 minutes before departure.

* Departs from ITT(Bldg.954) on time

* Kunsan to Osan *

- Monday & Wednesday
1 p.m.

- Tuesday & Thursday
8:00 a.m.

- Friday
8:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.

- Weekend
8:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m.

* Departs from Community Center (Bldg. 1027)

Wolf Pack Changes of Command

8th MDG Change of Command

The Wolf Pack welcomed Col. Kathleen Jones to the 8th Medical Group as Col. Tandra Yates, outgoing commander, relinquished command during a change of command ceremony June 19. Welcome to the Mighty Wolf Pack!



8th SFS Change of Command

The Wolf Pack welcomed Lt. Col. Benjamin Jacobson to the 8th Security Forces Squadron as Lt. Col. Ian Dinesen, outgoing commander, relinquished command during a change of command ceremony June 26, 2015.



8th CS Change of Command

The Wolf Pack welcomed Maj. Frank Theising to the 8th Communications Squadron as Maj. Scott Metzler, outgoing commander, relinquished command during a change of command ceremony June 25.



8th MS Change of Command

The Wolf Pack welcomed Maj Adam C. Hauer to the 8th Maintenance Squadron as Maj Charles Ploetz, outgoing commander, relinquished command during a change of command ceremony June 25, 2015.



8th AMS Change of Command

The Wolf Pack welcomed Maj Christopher Dunston to the 8th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron as Maj John West, outgoing commander, relinquished command during a change of command ceremony June 26, 2015.



WINGs paves way for Osan Women

By Senior Airman Kristin High
51st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- Women in the military often face challenges as a minority. Through the years, women have slowly been able to take on roles in various high level positions that were once prohibited. But, there has been little-to-no mentorship in guiding professional and leadership development to suit the minority.

Here on Osan, Women Inspiring the Next Generations provide an opportunity for women to not only develop as a service member, but to grow and learn about themselves.

"WINGs is a group working to inspire the current and next generation of women to be strong, independent and resilient within our military community," said Master Sgt. Shawntell Miller, 51st Logistics Readiness Squadron and WINGs president. "It was established here because the need was recognized. We have a lot of younger females new to the Air Force or new to Korea who are seeking that guidance or mentoring in an environment free from work."

WINGs is mostly a mentoring or fellowship group and a safe haven from the daily grind.

"At the gatherings, we discuss things that may be happening in the work center or off-duty," said Miller. "There are no barriers on what we discuss. I have a lot of stories, resources and avenues that could help almost anyone."

The members from the group vary from airman basic to lieutenant colonel, along with first sergeants, chief master sergeants and some Army soldiers.

"We call them gatherings to allow for a more relaxed environment of discussion," said Chief Master Sgt. Shelina Frey, 7th Air Force command chief. "WINGs is not about being a woman entitled, it's about being a woman inspired to lead, teach, coach, mentor, and grow at all levels and within any organization. It's through the stories of others that we are inspired and encouraged to



Women of Team Osan discuss various topics during a Women Inspiring the Next Generations, meeting on Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea June 16, 2015. The group gathers to inspire the current and next generation of women to be strong, independent and resilient within the military community. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Kristin High)

believe 'we can.'"

Frey has led three gatherings so far.

"It was evident by the response and interaction of the females present, this is needed," she said. "All three sessions have been powerful and I can sense an environment of trust and comfort listening to each woman reveal one word that describes what they want to accomplish this year and leaving looking forward to the next gathering."

Currently, the group is available here and recently activated on Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea as well. The group is open to all female military, active, guard and reserve, along with Department of Defense employees and spouses.

"My hope is that WINGs expands, not just here in Korea but throughout our Air Force as an platform for women to learn and gain confidence from women; and

couple that with the mentorship of their male counterparts and mentors because both are vitally important," said Frey. "As I grew in our Air Force, there weren't many women I could seek out for a female point of view, I was mentored by great male leaders, however; there was still a void, a missing link.

"I would like to see a cross-section of women inspiring each other, where women can come and feel safe laying down their vulnerabilities, exposing their fears, and sharing their stories to inspire and be inspired."

WINGs hosts monthly gatherings on the second Tuesday of each month at 4:30 p.m., location TBD. WINGs has teamed with the Army 35th Air Defense Artillery Brigade to participate in their "Female Mentorship" classes. For more information about WINGs contact them at Osan_WINGs@us.af.mil or like their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/OsanWINGs.

Enlisted evaluation, promotion systems to use new EPR forms, forced distribution, stratification restrictions

By Secretary of the Air Force
Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- With static closeout dates for each rank in place, the Air Force announced it will update the enlisted performance report forms and utilize new forced distribution and senior rater stratification restrictions to round out the incremental changes to enlisted evaluation and promotion systems with performance as the driving factor in promotions.

For technical sergeants and below, forced distribution limits the top-two promotion recommendations a commander is authorized to give to promotion-eligible Airmen. The restrictions under forced distribution are tied to historical promotion rates in each grade designed to ensure those Airmen receiving a top tier promotion recommendation have a distinct advantage for promotion. The total number of forced distribution quotas is based on the total number of promotion-eligible Airmen a commander has in a specific grade on the SCOD.

"The revised enlisted evaluation system provides rates with meaningful feedback on rater expectations, a

reliable, long-term cumulative record of performance and a clear indication of their promotion potential," said Lt. Gen. Sam Cox, the deputy chief of staff for manpower, personnel and services. "With nearly 90 percent of Airmen receiving 'truly among the best' assessments, a better means of identifying the top performers was absolutely necessary."

New regular Air Force promotion eligibility cutoff dates for promotions to master sergeant and technical sergeant took effect this past fall to correlate with the new SCODs and in support of the master sergeant promotion process and forced distribution requirements scheduled for implementation beginning in November 2015.

Airmen who are not eligible for promotion on their EPR static closeout date will receive an assessment of performance without a promotion recommendation.

"This is one of the key steps we need to take to truly ensure performance counts and that the promotion system is about performance first," said Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James Cody. "There has to be a level of discernment when it comes to promotions;

this step gives us the tools to do just that."

For senior NCOs, stratification restrictions will limit the number of stratifications a senior rater may give to their master sergeant and senior master sergeant promotion eligible populations. Endorsement by senior raters will be restricted beginning with senior master sergeant EPRs closing out in July 2015. Senior raters will be restricted to endorsing only the top 10 percent of their master sergeant promotion-eligibles for promotions to senior master sergeant, and the top 20 percent of their senior master sergeant promotion-eligibles for promotions to chief master sergeant.

The forced distribution process was built with similarities to the senior airman below-the-zone promotion process. There will be large units, with enough Airmen to earn outright promotion allocations, and small units which will roll-up nominated promotion eligibles to an Enlisted Forced Distribution Panel led by the senior rater.

Once the EFDP selects the eligibles who will receive the top promotion recommendations, the remaining eligibles will receive outright promotes. Airmen receiving "promote" recommendations

from the EFDP or directly from their unit continue to have significant opportunities for promotion as overall promotion percentages exceed the allocations controlled under forced distribution.

Although changes to the EES are a total force initiative, the Air Reserve component will not enforce forced distribution across their junior enlisted promotion eligible grades; however, both the Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard will utilize senior rater endorsement restrictions across the senior NCO grades.

Three teams of personnel experts will be visiting Air Force bases worldwide to conduct town halls including leadership briefings and question and answer sessions on the enlisted evaluation and promotion system changes. The town halls began at Joint Base Andrews, Maryland, June 11, with all team visits scheduled to be complete by late July.

Airmen with questions are encouraged to attend briefings at their installation or the installation nearest them. For installation briefing times and locations, contact the local military personnel section or public affairs office or visit the Air Force Personnel Center website or myPers.

Kunsan Celebrates LGBT Pride Month

By Senior Airman Divine Cox
8th Fighter Wing, Public Affairs

KUNSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- June is Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride Month and it has been celebrated throughout June with organized activities to raise cultural awareness through interactive experiences here.

"The month-long celebration exceeded everything I could have hoped for with the help of the planning committee," said Staff Sgt. Adam Branham, 8th Fighter Wing drug testing program administration manager. "Each event was a success."

The LGBT committee kicked off the festivities with a heritage breakfast at the O'Malley Dining Facility.

"We had a good time at the breakfast," said Staff Sgt. Timothy Sands, NCOIC of wing administration. "Just the opportunity to sit down in a group setting and talk about such a touchy subject openly was refreshing."

Also featured throughout the month were a 5k Glow Run, a pool party with a cardboard boat race, and a Pride Month cosmic bowling event.

"The 5k Glow Run was a big hit for everyone involved," said Senior Airman Denasha Mondy, 8th Force Support Squadron food services journeyman. "More than 50 people showed up for the run which was surprising to me."

In 1993, the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy was instituted in the U.S. military in accordance with a law passed by Con-



Members of the Wolf Pack participate in a cardboard boat race during Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Pride Month at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, June 11, 2015. Also featured throughout the month were a pool party with a cardboard boat race, and a Pride Month cosmic bowling event. On May 30, 2014, President Barack Obama signed a proclamation designating June as LGBT Pride Month. (U.S. Air Force photos by Senior Airman Divine Cox)

gress that allowed gays and lesbians to serve in the military so long as they did not participate in homosexual activities.

This law was in place for 17 years until it was repealed by Congress in

2010. This repeal allowed gays and lesbians to openly serve in the United States military.

On May 30, 2014, President Barack Obama signed a proclamation designat-

ing June as LGBT Pride Month.

"Times have changed now," Branham said. "Being able to serve my country openly and not be judged or treated differently is truly rewarding."



Members of the Wolf Pack participate in a 5k Glow Run during Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Pride Month at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, June 11, 2015.

Father's Day 5K/10K Fun Run

Members of the Wolf Pack participated in a Father's Day 5K and 10K, hosted by the Kunsan Fitness Center. Congratulations to all runners and Happy Father's Day Wolf Pack!



Leave the lounge, plunge into Ara Waterway



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Incheon International Airport and Korea Water Resources Corporation are providing transit tours to Gyeongin Ara Waterway free of charge.

The Ara Waterway tour runs once a day, taking up to a maximum of 20 passengers. Booking in advance is required, either online or at the airport. The tour is only offered to transit passengers and the tour booking process requires you to pass through immigration and present a plane ticket for your next flight.

The waterway tour is accompanied by an English speaking guide, and starts at Ara Tower, continuing to Ara Maru, with a stop to experience water leisure sports at Ara Marina before returning to the airport. In the event of rain, the water sports experience will be replaced with a tour to the National Institute of Biological Resources.



More info

* Operating Hours: 14:00-17:30 (3 hours 30 minutes)

* How to Apply :

Online: www.cyberairport.kr (Korean, English)

- Click Reservation.

- Select tour date.

- Select 'Incheon City Tour(3.5Hours)' with the tour time starting from 14:00 to 17:30.

- Fill out the form with your personal information.

On-site: Passenger Terminal on the first floor near Gate 8 or,

Transit tour desks near the departure area in either East or West Wing on the second floor.

* Website: www.airport.kr (Korean, English, Japanese, Chinese)

* Inquiries: +82-32-741-3139 (Korean, English)

Explore Korea with Rail-Ro unlimited



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The Rail-Ro pass (Naeillo in Korean, meaning "to tomorrow"), an exciting and wallet-friendly way to explore the best corners of Korea through seven days of unlimited travel, has just opened for sale.

Rail-Ro passes are being sold during the peak travel season each year from June to August and from December to February. Only people under 25 years of age are eligible to purchase the pass.

The 2015 summer sales start on June 1 and will stay open until August 31. Tickets can be purchased at any train station across Korea, and the ticket issued is available until September 6. Those who wish to purchase Rail-Ro passes are required to present a passport.

The Rail-Ro pass allows you to get on any train at anytime you desire, with the choice of either standing or sitting in unreserved seats. Trains participating in the Rail-Ro program include ITX Cheongchun, ITX Saemaul, the Saemaul, Nuriro, Mugunghwa, as well as commuter trains, but the pass cannot be used to board KTX trains and subways.

<More info>

* Sales Period: June 1 - August 31, 2015

* Ticket valid until September 6, 2015

* Ticket Booth: Ticket booth or travel center at any train station.

* Please have your passport with you.

* Price: 56,500 won (5 days) / 62,700 won (7 days)

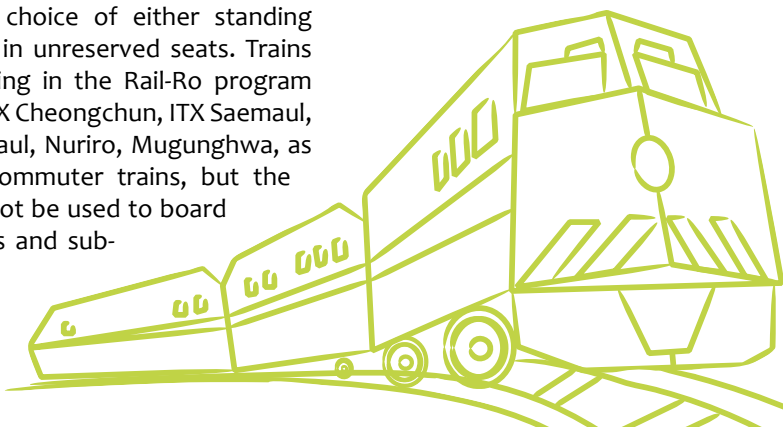
* Ticket Inquiries: +82-1599-7777 (Korean, English)

Yeongdeungpo Station Travel Agency: +82-2-2639-3650 (Korean, English)

* Website: www.letskorail.com (Korean, English, Japanese, Chinese)

* 1330 Korea Travel Hotline: +82-2-1330 (Korean, English, Japanese, Chinese)

Courtesy of Korea Railroad Corporation



10 Summer Beach Destinations



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sides by water, giving it plenty of beaches in a variety of shapes and sizes that offer a welcomed escape from everyday life. Since most beaches in Korea officially open in June or July and close towards the end of August, visitors have only a few months to splash around in the water and soak up the rays. But don't worry if you miss out on the official summer beach season, as there are plenty of beachside festivals, water sports, and events all year round!



The scenic coastline of Donghae, Korea's East Sea

The East Sea (Donghae), known for its clear waters and expansive, white sandy beaches, is one of the most popular summer vacation spots in the nation. People come from far and wide to catch the stunning view of the sun rising over the East Sea, and most beaches in the area even hold an annual Haedoji (Sunrise) Festival. Though these festivals only take place in the wee hours of New Year's Day, the sight of the sun slowly peeking over the ocean's horizon is a mesmerizing sight any day of the year.



Sokcho Beach in Sokcho-si, Gangwon-do

Sokcho Beach is well known for the picturesque pine trees that stand proudly along its white sandy coast. One of the perks of this particular beach is that there are many tourist attractions in the surrounding area, including Yeongnangho Lake and Seoraksan Mountain, one of Korea's most famous mountains.

Given the beach's range of facilities (parking lots, campsites, and accommodations), Sokcho Beach is a convenient place for a weekend trip. Visitors can even rent a fishing rod and go fishing at nearby Jodo Island, or walk towards the pier to get some fresh sushi at one of the local fish markets.

One of the biggest draws of Sokcho Beach is that it is located only 500 meters from the Express Bus Terminal, making it easy to find for even first-time visitors. Festivals held at Sokcho Beach include the Haedoji (sunrise) Festival on January 1 of every year and the Sokcho Beach Festival, held mid-July to early-August annually.

* Opening Date: July 10-August 23, 2015

* Beach Stats:

Sand: White / Length: 700 m / Width: 50 m / Area: 29,000 m²

* Visitor Facilities:

Shower rooms (2) (max. occupancy: 24 each), locker room, RV campsite (about 12,000 m²), volleyball court, small soccer field, jokgu (Korean foot volleyball) field, outdoor stage, parking lot (capacity: 300 small cars, 70 large cars), beachside walkway (1.2 km), & information center (Korean, English, Japanese, Chinese), only open from early July to late August, beach path (1.2 km)

Gyeongpo Beach in Gangneung-si, Gangwon-do

Gyeongpo Beach is the largest beach on the east coast, and is only about a kilometer away from Gyeongpodae Pavilion, which is famous for its sunrise view.



Perhaps the most striking characteristic of Gyeongpo Beach, however, is its fine powdery sand, which is perfect for barefoot walks along the beach.

Beach activities include banana boating, jet skiing, and waterskiing. In addition to the annual Summer Beach Art Festival, held towards the end of July, there are also a number of cultural events and folk performances held throughout the year.

* Opening Date: July 10-August 23, 2015

* Beach Stats:

Sand: White & Powdery / Length: 1.8 km / Width: 80 m / Area: 144,000 m²

* Visitor Facilities: Shower room (80 shower stalls), locker room, campgrounds (2,800 campsites), RV campsite (23,000 m²), drinking fountain, and parking lot (capacity: 1,000 cars) will be available



Naksan Beach in Yangyang-gun, Gangwon-do

Naksan Beach is one of the top beaches in Gangwon-do, located northeast of Seoul, drawing more than a million visitors each summer. Its sandy beach runs along clean waters and is bordered by rows of pine trees. In addition to its natural beauty, Naksan also has a variety of activities such as banana boating and jet skis, adding a little variety to the typical beach experience.

The beach is also a top pick for those who are interested in Korea's traditional culture, as it is close to Naksansa Temple and Uisangdae Pavilion, which was built to commemorate Great Monk Uisang. As an added bonus, the pavilion is one of the best places in the area from which to view the sunrise.

* Opening Date: July 10-August 23, 2015

* Beach Stats:

Sand: White / Length: 1.8 km / Max. Occupancy: 60,000

* Visitor Facilities: Campgrounds, locker rooms (14), shower room (6 buildings), drinking fountain, restrooms (14), and parking lot

Guryongpo Beach in Pohang-si, Gyeongsangbuk-do

Guryongpo Beach is about 24 kilometers away from Pohang and 1.5 kilometers from Guryongpo-eup. The beach is lined by thick groves of pine trees on one side and affords a wide-open view of the coast out towards the sea. Thanks to the gentle slope of the ocean floor and the clean sea water, Guryongpo Beach is a favorite vacation spot for swimming enthusiasts. The beach is also popular among fishermen, many of whom troll their lines in Yeongilman Bay.

* Opening Date: June 27-August 23, 2015

* Beach Stats:

Sand: White / Length: 400 m / Width: 50 m / Area: 20,000 m² / Max. Occupancy: 10,000

* Visitor Facilities: Shower rooms (2) (max. occupancy: 24 each), locker room, public restroom, drinking fountain, and parking lot (2,200 m²)

Eco experiences at Seohae, Korea's West Sea

Beaches along the West Sea (Seohae, Hwanghae, or Yellow Sea) are easily accessible from Seoul and are therefore extremely popular among citizens and travelers who may not have a lot of time on their hands. The beaches of the West Sea are also great places to catch the sunset, and many have tidal flats teeming with small marine life.



Eurwangni Beach in Incheon

Eurwangni Beach, located near Seoul and Incheon International Airport, is a popular west coast beach. Aside from its gorgeous views and white sand, the beach's shallow water provides the perfect place for children to go swimming. Nearby amenities include a number of lavish resorts and restaurants serving fresh seafood. Having dinner outside on the terrace of one of these restaurants is the perfect way to watch the final rays of sunlight as they disappear over the horizon, not to mention a great way to impress your date!

Beachgoers can also rent a fishing boat or rent a fishing rod to fish off the side of the pier. The beach holds a sea festival every August with swimming, beach wrestling, and other events.

* Opening Date: July-August, 2015 (exact dates TBA)

* Beach Stats:

Sand: White with shells and rocks / Length: 700 m / Max. Occupancy: 30,000

* Visitor Facilities: Shower rooms (2), locker rooms (2), drinking fountains (3), restrooms (3), campsites, fields, training center, and parking lot (capacity: 600 cars), pitching a tent 5,000 won per day

Daecheon Beach in Boryeong-si, Chungcheongnam-do

Daecheon Beach is the biggest beach on the west coast, and is known for its shallow and calm waters. The sand at Daecheon Beach is especially soft and easy to wash off because it is composed of tiny bits of eroded shells.

Daecheon Beach is also home to one of the most well-known festivals among international visitors in Korea—the annual summer Boryeong Mud Festival. In the winter, the beach draws large crowds again as locals and tourists flock to the shores for the annual winter Sunset Festival.

* Opening Date: June 2-August 23, 2015

* Beach Stats:

Sand: White sand of finely ground shells / Length: 3.5 km / Width: 100 m / Max. Occupancy: 500,000

* Visitor Facilities: Shower rooms (3) (max. occupancy: 90), locker room, campsites, drinking fountain, cooking area, snack bar, parking lot (capacity: 10,000 cars), tourist information center (Korean, English, Japanese, Chinese)

Muchangpo Beach in Boryeong-si, Chungcheongnam-do

Known for its scenic coastal drive, clusters of pine trees, and beautiful sunsets, Muchangpo Beach is regularly visited by vacationing families throughout the year. The beach is particularly famous for what is known as the "Moses Miracle," a natural phenomenon in which extreme tides reveal the seafloor for only a few short hours two or three times a month (around the 15th and 30th days of the lunar calendar). The exposed sea floor makes a path about 1.5 km long that reaches all the way from the beach to Seokdaedo Island. Many visitors stop along the path to gather sea cucumbers, turban shells, and baby octopi. The hours of the sea parting differ each month, so make sure to check the exact time before visiting by calling +82-2-1330.

Visitors to the beach may also be able to see traditional fishing in which stacked stone formations rely on tides to catch fish.

* Opening Date: June 27-mid August, 2015

* Beach Stats:

Sand: White / Length: 1.5 km / Max. Occupancy: 120,000

* Visitor Facilities: Shower room (1), locker room (1), campsite, drinking fountain, and parking lot (capacity: 800 cars)

Clear waters and local flavors at Namhae, the South Sea

There are countless numbers of islands (and therefore, beaches) along the South Sea (Namhae) of Korea. Each beach has its own local flavor, meaning that there are almost limitless options for visitors willing to travel a little further from Korea's capital. The South Sea is also home to Jeju Island, a favorite tourist site in Korea. Islands in the South Sea provide visitors with vastly different experiences from those along the east or west coast.

Jungmun Beach in Seogwipo-si, Jeju Special Self-Governing Province

Jungmun Beach inside of Jeju Jungmun Resort is a unique beach made of a gradient of black, white, red, and gray sand, as well as the famous black volcanic stone of Jeju Island.

To the right of the sandy beach is a natural cave that was created by coastal erosion. Rare plants flourish near the cave, offering a convenient spot for some eco-focused sightseeing. The waves and tides can be rather rough along Jungmun, so while conditions are great for wind surfing and jet skiing, weak swimmers and young children are advised to stick close to the shoreline under the careful watch of lifeguards.

Jungmun Resort is also home to an aquarium, Yeomiji Botanical Garden, Cheonjeyeon Waterfall, and displays of the traditional houses of Jeju Island. Various events are held along the beach and in the complex throughout the year

* Opening Date: July 1-August 31, 2015

* Beach Stats:

Sand: White, black, red, grey / White sand length: 560 m /

White sand width: 50 m

* Visitor Facilities: Shower rooms (3), locker rooms (3), campgrounds, drinking fountain, and parking lot (capacity: 150 cars)

Hyeopjae Beach, Jeju Special Self-Governing Province

Hyeopjae Beach is one of the best beaches on Jeju Island for swimmers, since the waters are shallow with no sudden drops. Tiny shells in the sand give the beach a silver sheen and make for a firm feel that is perfect for long walks along the water's edge. Once you get into the water, you'll be pleased to discover that the water is so clear that you'll be able to look down and see your toes!

A pleasant beach with plenty of space, Hyeopjae is all the more beautiful because of the black basalt rocks to one side and the view of Biyangdo Island stretching out in the distance. Overnight visitors to the beach are welcome to set up tents on the sand or in the adjacent grove of trees.

Hallim Park, a major tourist attraction, is only 5 minutes away on foot, and is well worth a visit. Landscaped with an abundance of subtropical plants and topiaries, the park is also home to lava tubes, which are natural wonders that also serve as a cool escape from the summer heat.

* Opening Date: July 1-end of August, 2015

* Beach Stats:

Sand: White with some small shells / Length: 200 m / Width: 60 m /

Max. Capacity: 6,000

* Visitor Facilities: Shower room (1) (occupancy: 10+), locker rooms (3), campgrounds (occupancy: 2,000-3,000), police stand (open during beach season only), first aid center, and parking lot (capacity: 177)

Haeundae Beach in Haeundae-gu, Busan

Haeundae Beach is perhaps the most well-known beach in the country, transforming into a sea of red beach umbrellas in the summer months. The waters are shallow and there is little change in tide. The sand at the beach is coarse, which makes brushing yourself off at the end of the day a breeze. Since Haeundae Beach is located right in the city of Busan, it is extremely popular and is always packed with vacationers, so make sure to get there early if you want to grab a spot.

The beach is famous for its view of the sunrise and moonrise as seen from Hae-woljeong Pavilion. Haeundae's Dalmaji-gil Road, which is located between Haeundae Beach and Songjeong Beach, is another recommended spot for a romantic view of the moonlight glistening off the water's surface. Yet another attraction of the Haeundae area is its natural hot springs.

Haeundae Beach is also extremely well known for its many cultural events and festivals that are held throughout the year. The Haedongji Festival and Polar Bear Swimming Contest are held in the winter; the Haeundae Sand Festival and Haeundae Beach Festival are held in the summer; and the Busan International Film Festival is held in the autumn.

* Opening Date: June 1 – September 9, 2015

* Beach Stats:

Sand: White, rough / Length: 1.8 km / Width: 50 m / Max. Occupancy: 120,000

* Visitor Facilities: Shower rooms (3), locker rooms (3), drinking fountains (3), restrooms (3), and parking lot (capacity: 4,800 cars)

* Facility availability and festival schedules subject to change.

