

Crimson Sky



SecAF visits Osan AB, reaffirms RoK-US alliance

Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson speaks with Airmen from the 51st Fighter Wing, during a luncheon at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Jan. 29, 2018. Wilson visited to reaffirm the commitment to the alliance between the United States and Republic of Korea. During her trip, she met with senior military leaders, toured the Demilitarized Zone and recognized Airmen from various units. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Franklin R. Ramos/Released)

By Staff Sgt. Franklin R. Ramos, 51st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

OSAN AIR BASE -- Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson visited Team Osan while on a trip to the Republic of Korea from Jan. 27-30, 2018.

Wilson visited to reaffirm commitment to the RoK and U.S. alliance, highlight U.S. Air Force cooperation with allies, and ensure Airmen stationed abroad had the opportunity to hear from their senior leaders.

"No place on the world is it more important than here, now, for our Airmen [and allies] to be ready," said Wilson. "And here on the Korean Peninsula, you Airmen are laser focused."

She spoke about some of the challenges the

U.S. Air Force is enduring and the importance of readiness and having no regrets when it comes to future operations.

"The most important thing we're focused on across the entire Air Force is readiness. Making sure we're ready for any fight at any time and that's no more important than here in Korea," said Wilson. "We need to make sure that every Airmen is ready to do the job that we are going to ask them to do on any day."

An all call was also held in which Wilson, along with U.S. Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David Goldfein, spoke with members from Osan AB.

"The main reason we come out to the Korean Peninsula is to see the Airmen," said Goldfein.

Wilson and Goldfein also met with Airmen

from various units throughout the installation to speak about maintaining readiness in the USAF, which is one of their main priorities.

"Secretary Wilson and I have been focused on restoring the readiness of the force. Like all those that have come before us, we will fly to the sound of the guns," said Goldfein. "And where we achieve our greatest lethality, innovate and build our highest level of readiness occurs first and foremost in our squadrons. We are going to continue to push decision authority and resources to that level."

Goldfein and Wilson continue from the Korean Peninsula to visit other bases in the Indo-Pacific region.

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Republic of Korea Maj. Gen. Jun-sik Kim (left), Air Combat Command commander, shakes the hand of Col. Jae-Gyun Jeon, 38th Fighter Group commander "Thor", during the change of command ceremony at Kunsan Air Base, Jan. 17, 2018. Similar to the U.S. military tradition, the Korean change of command ceremony represents a formal transfer of authority and responsibility. (Courtesy photo)

ROKAF 38th FG changes command

By Staff Sgt. Victoria H. Taylor, 8th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

KUNSAN AIR BASE -- Kunsan welcomed Republic of Korea Air Force Col. Jae-Gyun Jeon as the new 38th Fighter Group commander during a change of command ceremony on Wednesday.

"I am greatly honored to be able to work together with Wolf pack members in Kunsan Air Base, a symbol of the strong alliance between ROK and U.S.," said Jeon.

Major Gen. Jun-sik Kim, ROKAF Air Combat Command commander,

presided over the ceremony and took the opportunity to welcome Jeon as the newest leader, while thanking his family in attendance. He also thanked Col. Jun-sun Cha, former 38th FG commander, for his leadership during the past year.

Also in attendance were members of the Wolf Pack leadership, Col. David "Wolf" Shoemaker, Col. Steven "Wolf II" Tittel, and Chief Master Sgt. Reiko "Wolf Chief" Meeks, who presented Cha with a parting gift

for his dedication to furthering the partnership between the ROKAF and Wolf Pack at Kunsan.

"What an honor to be a part of the ROKAF 38th Fighter Group Change of Command on Wednesday," Wolf said. "We enjoy an amazing relationship at Kunsan with our allies and friends. Col. Cha has been a personal friend, which makes 'alliance' easy. I look forward to the same relationship with the new "Thor", Colonel Jeon. We Go Together!"



U.S. Air Force Col. David Shoemaker, 8th Fighter Wing commander, presents Republic of Korea Col. Jun-sun Cha, outgoing 38th Fighter Group commander "Thor", with a parting gift following the change of command ceremony at Kunsan Air Base, RoK, Jan. 17, 2018. Cha recognized the 8th FW in his farewell speech noting that "we are one team," and the partnership between the two groups is something he will remember most. (Courtesy photo)



U.S. Army Maj. Laura Fryar and Capt. Rebecca Marshall, 4-2 Attack Reconnaissance Battalion operations officer and assistant operations officer, teach Osan 51st Civil Engineer Squadron firefighters and explosive ordnance disposal personnel about the AH-64 Apache helicopter at Osan Air Base, Jan. 24, 2018. During an extraction and familiarity training session, the pilots armed base emergency services personnel with vital knowledge ensuring they can effectively and efficiently manage an emergency related to the AH-64 Apache helicopter. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Alex Fox Echols III/Released)

Osan personnel get familiar with Apache

By Staff Sgt. Alex Fox Echols III
51st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

OSAN AIR BASE -- On a frigid Osan afternoon, 51st Civil Engineer Squadron firefighters and explosive ordnance disposal personnel converged on the flightline to get lifesaving helicopter extraction and familiarity training.

U.S. Army Maj. Laura Fryar and Capt. Rebecca Marshall, 4-2 Attack Reconnaissance Battalion operations officer and assistant operations officer, flew their AH-64 Apache helicopter from Camp Humphreys to Osan to provide base emergency services personnel with vital knowledge ensuring they can effectively and efficiently manage an

emergency related to the aircraft.

"We do a lot of operations in and around Osan," said Fryar. "So, it is important that if we need to utilize the base as an emergency recovery airfield for us that the fire department and EOD understand the capabilities and limitations of the aircraft."

"One of the biggest factors during an emergency is time," she continued. "So, if they are unsure how to approach the aircraft, or if they do something that is inherently dangerous, then we'll have to spend more time trying to save the situation versus getting the pilots out safely and making sure that everybody is away from the aircraft."

After a less-than five minute flight from Camp

Humphreys, the helo was on display for Osan's EOD and firefighter personnel to get hands-on interaction with the aircraft and life-saving knowledge directly from the pilots.

"Hands-on training is very important, and having the pilots there was beneficial," said Senior Airman Jonathan Martinez, 51st CES firefighter. "We were able to directly ask them specific questions relating to approach angles, emergency shutdown procedures, pilot extraction, how to handle hung munitions and chaff and flares, and any other safety information we need to know."

More than 25 EOD and firefighter personnel were able to take part in the familiarization training.



U.S. Army Maj. Laura Fryar (left) and Capt. Rebecca Marshall (right), 4-2 Attack Reconnaissance Battalion operations officer and assistant operations officer, teach Osan 51st Civil Engineer Squadron firefighters and explosive ordnance disposal personnel about the AH-64 Apache helicopter at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Jan. 24, 2018. During an extraction and familiarity training session, the pilots armed base emergency services personnel with vital knowledge ensuring they can effectively and efficiently manage an emergency related to the AH-64 Apache helicopter. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Alex Fox Echols III/Released)



U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Marissa Morgan, 86th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron aeromedical technician, and Gabonese air force Capt. Herve Batamio, prepare to load a patient on to a C-130J Super Hercules at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, Jan. 18, 2018. Thirteen countries gathered at Ramstein AB to exchange aeromedical tactics, techniques, and procedures to encourage working relationships between the nations during a week-long symposium. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Rachelle Coleman)

Partnership Flight Symposium enhances cooperation between 13 countries

By Tech. Sgt. Rachelle Coleman, U.S. Air Forces in Europe-Air Forces Africa Public Affairs

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany (AFNS) -- The U.S. Air Forces in Europe-Air Forces Africa hosted the first-ever Partnership Flight Symposium combining both African and European military aeromedical teams at Ramstein Air Base, Jan. 16-19, 2018.

More than 50 representatives from 12 countries including Albania, Angola, Bulgaria, Croatia, Gabon, Hungary, Nigeria, Poland, Romania,

Slovenia, Ukraine and Zambia. It was the first time USAFE-AFAFRICA hosted an event dedicated to medical cooperation that brought both African and European countries together in the same venue.

"The way forward must be based on these two premises: a clear, shared, strategic vision and multilateral cooperation," said Col. Craig Rice, USAFE-AFAFRICA Medical Modernization

Division chief, during opening remarks for the symposium. "We are more alike than we are different, so I am confident, that together, we can continue to build partnership capacity."

"This is a huge step and we are extremely optimistic and excited to host this event," Rice said.

The program was intended to not only develop on U.S., African and European relationships but to promote communication and enduring medical partnerships. The week started with briefings from the participants which outlined each nations' capabilities as well as key units within the aeromedical planning the U.S. uses. The participants toured the local aeromedical evacuation squadron facility, en-route patient staging facility and multiple aircraft to understand how each airframe was configured to provide the best care for patients being evacuated.

"The values and traditions we hold - both medical and military - are strong," Rice said. "I have no doubt that together, we will find the best solutions to advance aeromedical evacuation support to peacekeeping operations around the globe."

The relationships will help to build medical support capacity throughout the area which will enhance regional cooperation and increase interoperability to support future humanitarian assistance and disaster response missions.

"No military in the world has enough people, money, supplies," said Col. Ricardo Trimillos, USAFE-AFAFRICA International Affairs Division chief. "That right there is the recipe for innovation. Smart ideas on how to use what you have at hand to do good things. In the medical community you are bringing relief from suffering, tyranny, and all that is bad in the world and making us and showing us the best of humanity. Your innovation is what I hope that we can learn from."

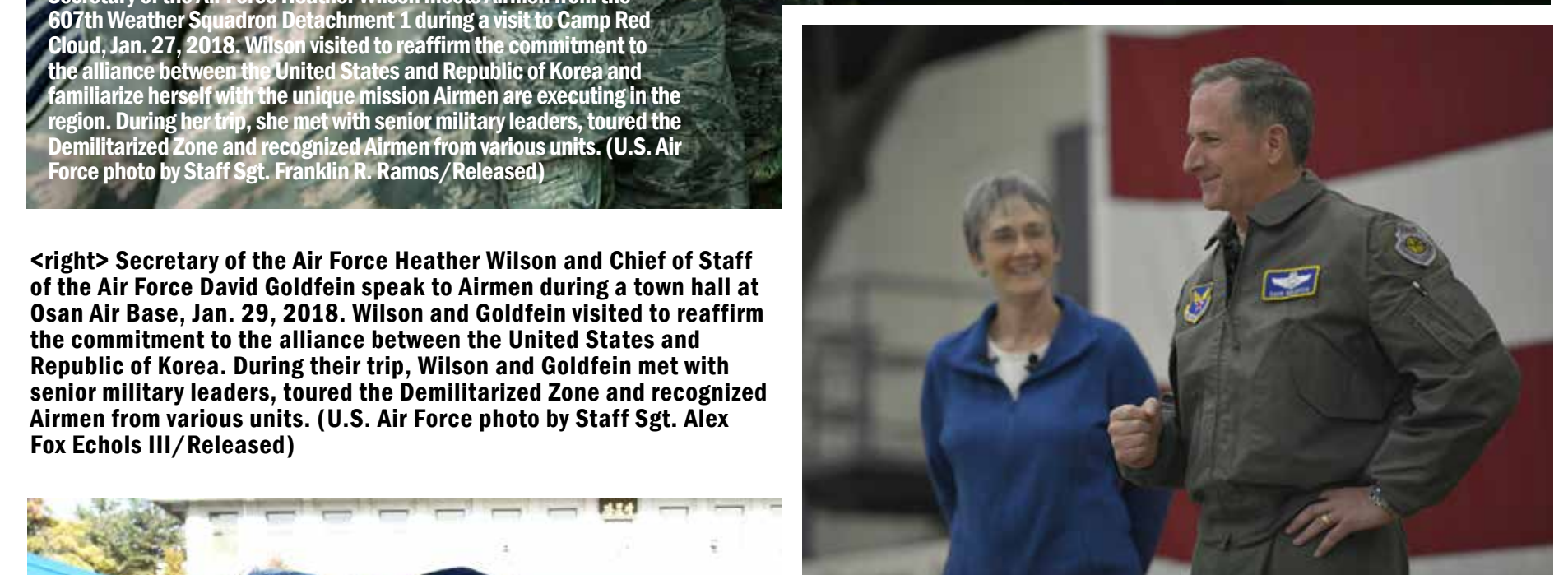


U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Marissa Morgan, 86th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron aeromedical technician, and Gabonese air force Capt. Herve Batamio, secure a patient litter during an exercise for the U.S. Air Forces Europe-Air Forces in Africa Partnership Flight Symposium at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, Jan. 18, 2018. Thirteen countries gathered at Ramstein AB to exchange aeromedical tactics, techniques, and procedures to encourage working relationships between the nations during a week-long symposium. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Rachelle Coleman)



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Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson meets Airmen from the 607th Weather Squadron Detachment 1 during a visit to Camp Red Cloud, Jan. 27, 2018. Wilson visited to reaffirm the commitment to the alliance between the United States and Republic of Korea and familiarize herself with the unique mission Airmen are executing in the region. During her trip, she met with senior military leaders, toured the Demilitarized Zone and recognized Airmen from various units. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Franklin R. Ramos/Released)



<right> Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson and Chief of Staff of the Air Force David Goldfein speak to Airmen during a town hall at Osan Air Base, Jan. 29, 2018. Wilson and Goldfein visited to reaffirm the commitment to the alliance between the United States and Republic of Korea. During their trip, Wilson and Goldfein met with senior military leaders, toured the Demilitarized Zone and recognized Airmen from various units. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Alex Fox Echols III/Released)



<left> Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson and her husband, Jay Hone, speak with U.S. Army Col. Steve Lee, United Nations Command Military Armistice Commission secretary, during a tour at the Joint Security Area at Panmunjom, Republic of Korea, Jan. 27, 2018. Wilson visited to reaffirm the commitment to the alliance between the United States and Republic of Korea. During her trip, she met with senior military leaders, toured the Demilitarized Zone and recognized Airmen from various units. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Franklin R. Ramos/Released)

Breaking the status quo: USAFA educator develops program based on mountaineering, special ops background

By Staff Sgt. Charles Rivezzo
U.S. Air Force Academy Public Affairs

The U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. (AFNS) -- If you told Lt. Col. Marshall leadership starts at the top, he'd take you literally.

Part mountaineer, part special operations pilot, he's spent a lot of time living his life at high altitudes.

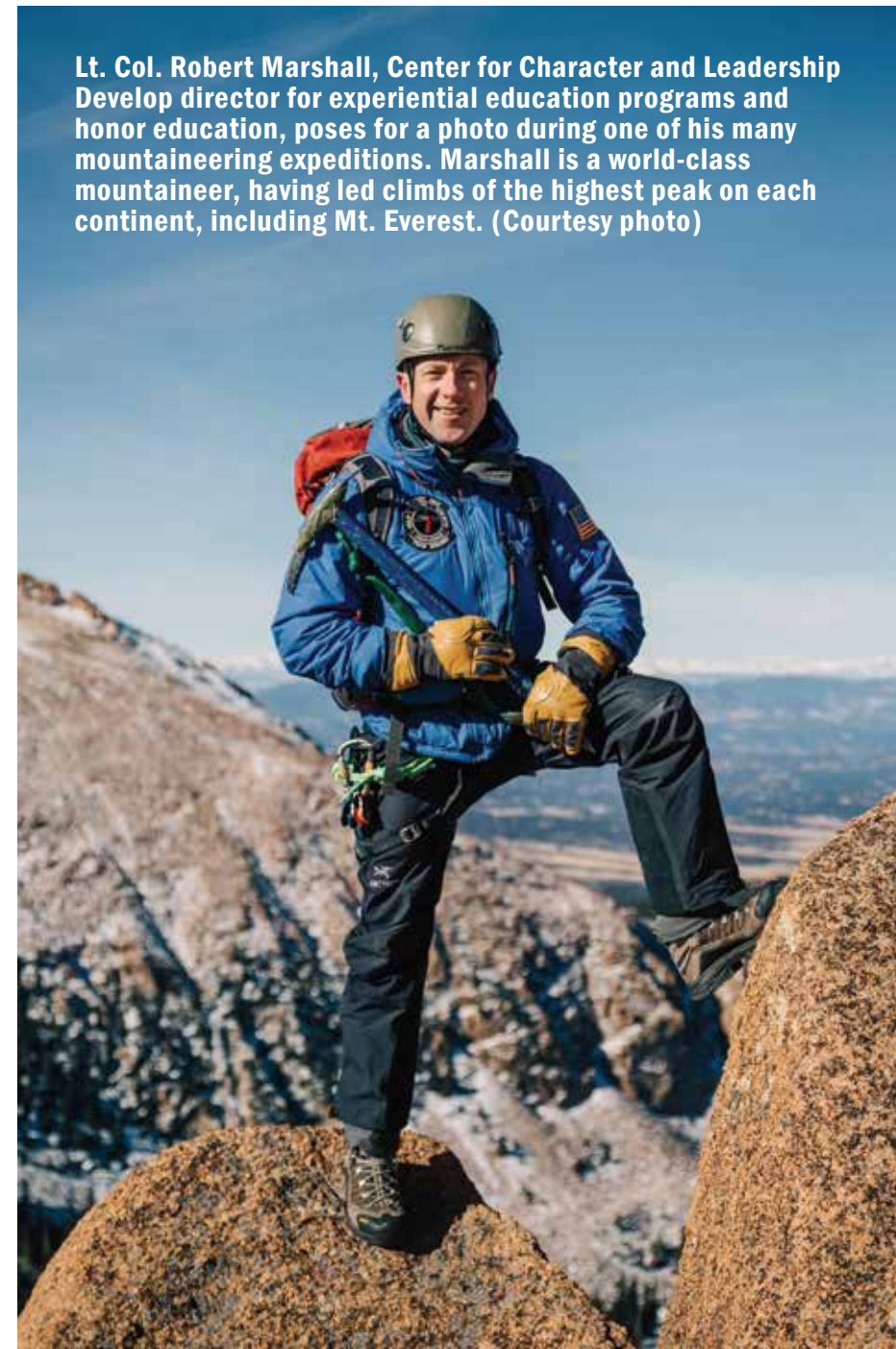
Marshall is by no means the casual adventurer, he's a world-class mountaineer, having led climbs of the highest peak on each continent, including Mount Everest, and ferried special operators in and out of war zones as a CV-22 Osprey pilot.

These days, the 2001 Academy graduate is on the forefront of adventure-based experiential learning at the Air Force Academy. He's in the early stages of developing a summer program that encourages cadets to learn and overcome challenges, risk and failure that can't be replicated in a classroom via outdoor experiences.

"The greatest threat to America is following the status quo," said Marshall, U.S. Air Force Academy Center for Character and Leadership Development director for experiential education programs and honor education. "It inhibits innovation."



Lt. Col. Robert Marshall, right, Center for Character and Leadership Development director for experiential education programs and honor education, speaks with cadets Aug. 7, 2017, at the U.S. Air Force Academy, Colo. Marshall is currently developing a summer program that encourages cadets to learn and overcome challenges, risk and failure that can't be replicated in a classroom via outdoor experiences. (Courtesy photo)



Lt. Col. Robert Marshall, Center for Character and Leadership Development director for experiential education programs and honor education, poses for a photo during one of his many mountaineering expeditions. Marshall is a world-class mountaineer, having led climbs of the highest peak on each continent, including Mt. Everest. (Courtesy photo)



Lt. Col. Robert Marshall, left, Center for Character and Leadership Development director for experiential education programs and honor education, poses for a photo with the Air Force flag May 20, 2013, at the summit of Mt. Everest. Marshall was one of the primary leads for the Air Force Seven Summits team that traveled the world and climbed the highest peaks on each continent. (Courtesy photo)

His vision for the program stems from a career he calls "unconventional." "In a classroom, we mainly learn through reading, discussion, watching and listening," Marshall said. "Experiential learning involves applying the concepts learned in a classroom - often outdoors - experimenting with them and sometimes failing."

Controlled environments can limit learning and it's easy to develop tunnel vision as an Academy cadet, Marshall said.

"There's not a single cadet here who isn't highly intelligent, but how far have they been tested?" he said. "Learning with unpredictability is essential and that's what Mother Nature provides."

There's no one way to do anything

—Marshall vibrates with innovation and ideas. He's a mixture of a mad scientist and athlete, and the walls of his office are covered with floor to ceiling whiteboards dotted with his adventure-based notes.

He's an educational pioneer who admits to sometimes needing to taper his vision into something achievable, but recognizes the need to push cadets to break through their personal limits.

similar programs we will be rolling out will close the gap between how we teach and what these future leaders need as they enter a rapidly changing, hyper dynamic world."

Melding his background as a special operations pilot and mountaineer, Marshall wants to incorporate lessons at the Academy that deal with uncertainty and quick flexibility.

"There is usually only one way to solve things here at the Academy, you need to get an 'A,'" he said. "The further you get to an 'A' the better. But what I always foot stomp to cadets is that there is never one way to accomplish anything. This summer program is an opportunity for cadets to create their own unique strategy to succeed."

Having witnessed the innovations made by enemy combatants during his time in the special operations community, Marshall stressed the need for Air Force leaders to think outside the box and step out from their comfort zones.

"I believe the number one skill that we have to fight our enemies is innovation and the outdoors requires innovation in abundance as the rules and environment are always changing," Marshall said. "I want our cadets to realize that when you walk off the beaten path you're no longer following the status quo and that's okay, because often the status quo is our enemy."

National Space Defense Center transitions to 24/7 operations

By Shellie-Anne Espinosa
Air Force Space Command Public Affairs

SCHRIEVER AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. (AFNS) -- Less than a year after changing the name of the Joint Interagency Combined Space Operations Center to the National Space Defense Center, the NSDC transitioned to 24/7 operations on Jan. 8, 2018, marking a significant step for the expanding, interagency team focused on protecting and defending the nation's critical space assets.

"This is a significant milestone," said Gen. Jay Raymond, U.S. Strategic Command's Joint Force Space Component commander and commander of Air Force Space Command. "We have officially transitioned the NSDC from an experiment to a functioning 24/7/365 operations center focused on protecting and defending the space domain. This advancement immediately expands our space situational awareness and bolsters our readiness - both of which are absolutely critical to maintaining space superiority."

The NSDC is a partnership organization, strongly supported by both the Defense Department and Intelligence Community, that develops and improves U.S. ability to rapidly detect, warn, characterize, attribute and defend against threats to our nation's vital space systems. The NSDC directly

supports space defense unity of effort and expands information sharing in space defense operations among the DoD, National Reconnaissance Office and other interagency partners.

"This successful transition to round-the-clock operations was the result of the hard work of the entire joint and interagency team," said Col. Todd Brost, NSDC director. "With the growing potential threats to our nation's space capabilities, we must adopt a warfighting mindset and be prepared to defend and protect the assets that provide our joint forces and allied partners the asymmetric advantage from space-based capabilities."

The NSDC increases the resilience of the space enterprise and the delivery of space capabilities to U.S., the joint warfighter and allied partners. It works across the space enterprise to aid on-orbit activity characterization and provide enhanced indications and warnings.

"The new 24/7 operations at the NSDC will help ensure the national security space enterprise outpaces any emerging and advanced space threats by facilitating information sharing across the space community," added Col. Dan Wright, NSDC deputy director and Integrated NRO element lead.

Ultimately, this transition will further enhance our ability to protect and defend the space domain which is so critical to our nation and to our joint warfighters.

Although in the nascent stage, Marshall plans to add 10 days onto the Academy's Expeditionary Survival Training. The program would include a 12-hour hike, a 24-hour hike and a 36-hour adventure race in the wilderness west of the Academy. It's slated to be implemented this summer and involve the Cadet Wing's 1,200 sophomore-year cadets with support from approximately 250 junior and senior cadets.

"At the end of each experience, cadets will debrief and reflect upon what they learned," Marshall said. "This way the experience is personalized and they can then try it again and again, each time learning something new and hopefully improving their results."

The CCLD department head, Col. Mark Anarumo, said faculty have been completely evolving the way they deliver character education to cadets.

CCLD officials, including Marshall, plan to develop an adventure-based experiential learning foundation at the Academy and start collecting data to empower the Air Force to implement this style of learning across the enterprise.

"We will push them to their personal limits through these programs and test them in ways they would otherwise never experience short of leading in a combat environment," Anarumo said. "This generation clearly learns differently than any past cohort of young adults."

"Adventure-based experiential learning and similar programs we will be rolling out will close the gap between how we teach and what these future leaders need as they enter a rapidly changing, hyper dynamic world."



51st CES repair underground water line

U S. Air Force Staff Sgts. Shane Wasara and Albert Bullard, 51st Civil Engineer Squadron water and fuels system maintainers, connect a strainer to a water pump hose at Osan Air Base, Jan. 24, 2018. Members from the 51st CES had to repair an underground water line that was damaged due to cold weather. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Franklin R. Ramos/Released)



8AMXS Generation Exercise

U S. Air Force Staff Sergeant Christopher Rose and Senior Airman David Botterill, 8th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron weapons load crew member, prepare to load an F-16 Fighting Falcon during an aircraft generation exercise. Members of load crews precisely and promptly loaded over ten aircraft in under 12 hours confirming the Airmen's abilities to proficiently carry out a concept of operations. Aircraft generations are simulated on a regular basis to confirm the Wolf Pack's capability maintain mission readiness at all times. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Josh Rosales)





AC-130J Super Hercules assigned to the 36th Airlift Squadron flies near Mt. Fuji, Japan, during a routine sortie, Jan. 12, 2018 at Yokota Air Base, Japan. The 36th AS regularly conducts training missions to remain proficient in the necessary skills to support any contingency. (U.S. Air Force photo by Yasuo Osakabe)

Tech. Sgt. Matthew Clark, assigned to the 119th Civil Engineer Squadron, hugs his son after 193 days apart upon completion of a six-month deployment to Southwest Asia, as he arrives at the North Dakota Air National Guard Base, Fargo, N.D., Jan. 15, 2018. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp)



Airmen and Soldiers compete in the 5th annual Army-Air Force hockey game in Anchorage, Alaska, Jan. 13, 2018. The game enhances the relationship between Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson and the Anchorage community. The Air Force team won the game 11-1. (U.S. Air Force photo by Justin Connaher)

Tech Sgt. Matthew Coutts, assigned to the 332d Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, launches a Raven B Digital Data Link drone during a demonstration Jan. 24, 2018 in Southwest Asia. After takeoff, the Raven B uses battery power to patrol the air for 60-90 minutes at a time. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Joshua Kleinholz)



A153rd Airlift Wing maintainer plugs in a generator cable into her C-130H Hercules after arriving at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., Jan. 11, 2018. The Air Force's first fully upgraded C-130H is here for test and evaluation on its new modified propeller system and engines. (U.S. Air Force photo by Samuel King Jr.)



Staff Sgt. Michael Dairymple, 57th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief, checks the exhaust of an F-16 Fighting Falcon on the flight line at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., Aug. 25, 2017. Dairymple is assigned to the Aggressors who are responsible for providing the opposing threat during training exercises at Nellis AFB. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Kevin Tanenbaum)

• BULLETIN •

HOLIDAY OBSERVANCES & CLOSURE:

- SEOL-NAL (LUNAR NEW YEAR): All KN civilian employees will observe 15, 16, and 17 Feb as Seol-Nal (Lunar New Year) holidays. KN employees who are required to work during these days will be paid holiday premium pay.

- PRESIDENT'S DAY, 19 FEB 2018, is an official U.S. holiday. The liberal leave policy will be in effect for Korean National (KN) non-essential civilian employees. Employees who wish to take this day off must request and be approved for the appropriate leave (i.e. annual leave, etc.). Supervisors should ensure the time and attendance card for KN civilian employees who wish to be off are properly coded to reflect the appropriate leave code.

Organizations with KN civilian employees scheduled to work should provide adequate supervision. If an office is going to be closed, KN civilian employees can be required to take annual leave but management must provide them with a 24-hour advance notice.

If you have questions, please contact the Civilian Personnel Office, 784-4434/8177.

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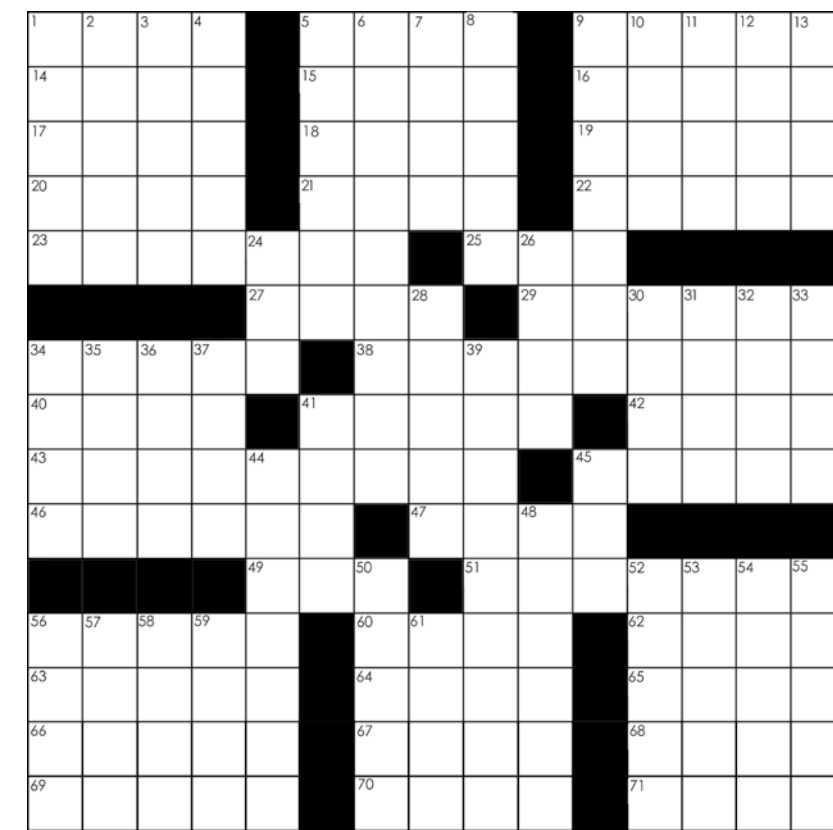
MANDATORY FEEDBACK REQUIREMENTS FOR U.S. CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES:

The current performance rating period for U.S. civilian will end March 31 2018, with appraisal ratings and awards effective June 1, 2018. The law requires feedback at least once during a rating cycle. The Defense Performance Management and Appraisal Program (DPMAP) mandates the use of the "MyPerformance" tool to document mandatory performance feedback sessions between supervisors and employees. Normally, this occurs around the middle of the appraisal period. If supervisors haven't done so already, you are encouraged to meet with your employee(s) now and complete their midterm feedback.

For more information contact Employee Management Relations (EMR) Section of the Civilian Personnel Office at 784-4434/8177.

The Crossword

By Jon Dunbar



- ACROSS
- 1 "Rebel ____"
 - 5 ____, crackle, pop
 - 9 Mindfreak Angel
 - 14 Window
 - 15 Velcro alternative
 - 16 Andong traditional village
 - 17 Curves
 - 18 Actress Watson or Stone
 - 19 Large open space
 - 20 The seven ____
 - 21 Some drinks
 - 22 Chase away
 - 23 Domino's local competitor
 - 25 Electric fish
 - 27 Watched
 - 29 Many Korean War battles happened on these
 - 34 Fourteen divided by two
 - 38 Korean alcoholic drink
- DOWN
- 1 Seizure
 - 2 Attendant
 - 3 Open a bottle
 - 4 Soccer star Lionel
 - 5 Seedy
 - 6 Seoul's oldest market
 - 7 41 Across company
 - 8 Portsmouth airport
 - 9 Between Bravo and Delta
 - 10 Anger
 - 11 Denny's competitor
 - 12 Painful
 - 13 ____ Team Six
 - 24 Type of Buddhism
 - 26 Units of work
 - 28 Foxtrot or waltz
 - 30 Stephen King's "Under the ____"
 - 31 Drinking sound
 - 32 "Frozen" princess
- ACROSS
- 40 Eager
 - 41 Looney ____
 - 42 Should
 - 43 "Sympathy for Lady ____"
 - 45 Las ____
 - 46 Marx's partner
 - 47 Type of fail
 - 49 ER procedure
 - 51 Forays
 - 56 Mr. T show
 - 60 Marvel chief Avi
 - 62 Writer Bombeck
 - 63 Bart's mom
 - 64 Polynesian style
 - 65 Strut
 - 66 Church instrument
 - 67 Opposite of closed
 - 68 Turkish currency
 - 69 Athletic game
 - 70 Flatten
 - 71 Hardworking bugs
- DOWN
- 33 Relaxes in a chair
 - 34 Rescue
 - 35 Opposite of odd
 - 36 Actor Rhames
 - 37 U2 guitarist
 - 39 Mementos
 - 41 Duty
 - 44 Something on the periodic table
 - 45 DVD player predecessor
 - 48 Disinfectant
 - 50 Croc cousin
 - 52 Inventor Nikola
 - 53 Crocodile Hunter Steve
 - 54 Lotte Mart rival
 - 55 Epics
 - 56 "____ and Andy"
 - 57 Tent material
 - 58 Cogito ____ sum
 - 59 Growth medium
 - 61 TV host Kelly

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23 ASPS	51 THAI	3 OREGO	31 NOTS	64 ASE
24 BBC	53 ICHEON	4 MENU	32 HANOI	65 FEAR
26 ILL	55 INA	5 TSO	33 TROT	66 EASE
	56 RAH	6 OPTIC	34 BARGE	67 STYX
	57 ACES		35 TRURO	
	60 NATO		36 ODEON	



Celebrating Seollal in Korea: Glimpse of local New Year's customs

Seollal (Lunar New Year; first day of the lunar calendar) is one of the most celebrated national holidays in Korea. While many observe Sinjeong (Solar New Year; January 1 of the Gregorian/Western calendar), most Koreans celebrate Seollal, which usually lasts for three days (the day of, the day before, and the day after). This year, Seollal falls on February 16 of the Gregorian calendar. More than just a holiday to mark the beginning of a new year, Seollal is truly a special occasion for Korean people. Not only is it a time for paying respect to ancestors, but it is also an opportunity to catch up with family members. During Seollal, Koreans usually wear hanbok (traditional clothes), perform ancestral rites, play folk games, eat traditional foods, listen to stories and talk well into the night. Read on to discover how Koreans celebrate Seollal.

Before Seollal: Busy with preparations

In Korea, the rush to prepare for Seollal begins one week beforehand. Food is prepared in advance and people begin to purchase and package gifts for their parents and relatives. Another crucial part of preparing for Seollal for many people is making

travel arrangements to visit their hometowns. There is a mad rush to book buses, trains, or plane tickets before they all sell out. Traveling during the holiday can take over two to four times the normal travel time due to heavy traffic.

The day of Seollal: Ancestral rites and traditional games

Celebrations have changed from the past but in general, the morning of Seollal begins with the family members gathering in their seolbim (special clothing for Seollal) for an ancestral rite. The ritual is conducted to express respect and gratitude to one's ancestors. Following the rite, everyone gathers together and eats the ritual food. The main dish of the day is tteokguk, a traditional soup made with sliced rice cakes, beef, egg, vegetables, and other ingredients. In Korea, eating tteokguk on New Year's Day is believed to add a year to one's age.

After the meal, the younger generations of the family pay respect to their elders by taking a deep bow called sebae, and by presenting them with gifts. Then, the elders offer their blessings and wishes for a prosperous year. Children often receive sebaetdon (New Year's money) as a Seollal gift. For the remainder of the day, family members play traditional folk games, eat food, and share stories.



Kunsan

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."

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.

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

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.

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

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

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.
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 Tuesday at the Chapel Annex. For more information, send an e-mail to: nicholas.smith.21@us.af.mil or ric.rebullan.1@us.af.mil
*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.

Volunteers for USFK Civilian Employees Appreciation Week
Each year, the USFK Commander takes time to recognize civilian employees for their accomplishments, contributions, and dedication to the USFK mission. This year, General Brooks has designated 11-15 September as USFK Civilian Employees Appreciation Week. We are currently seeking volunteers (US/LN Civilians, Active Duty Military, and Spouses/Family members) to assist in the planning and execution of this wonderful event. If you would like to volunteer to serve as a committee member, please contact Ms. Kim, Min Kyo, min_kyo.kim.kr@us.af.mil or Ms. Precious Clermont, precious.clermont@us.af.mil at 784-4434/8177.
Open Continuous Vacancy Announcement for Pacific West Educational Aide positions
Applicants who previously applied under the Open Continuous Vacancies will need to update their application and required documents under the new announcement numbers if they wish to be considered for the SY 17/18
PLEASE re-iterate to these interested applicants to have a complete resume attached. This includes but not limited to total employment period, i.e., starting and ending dates (month and year) and number of hours per week for each work experience, paid and unpaid. A description of duties and accomplishments for each experience, including volunteer. If a current or former Federal employee, highest Federal civilian grade held, job series, and dates of employment.
Here is the direct link to the 2017 school support positions.
Job Title: Educational Aide (GS-1702-04)
Job Announcement Number: 17-042-KO-LG-1981388
<https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/473464800>

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

CHAPEL SCHEDULE

KUNSAN AIR BASE

Protestant Services
Gospel Service
Sunday, 11:30 a.m.
Main Chapel, Bldg. 501
Contemporary Service
Sunday 5 p.m.
Main Chapel, Bldg. 501

Catholic Services
Sunday Catholic Mass
Sunday, 9:45 a.m.
Main Chapel, Bldg. 501
Daily Mass and Reconciliation
Please call the Chapel

Other Worship Opportunities
LDS Service
Sunday, 11:00 a.m.
SonLight Inn, Bldg. 510

Point of Contact:
Kunsan Chapel, 782-HOPE

Visit us on SharePoint:
<https://kunsan.eis.pacaf.af.mil/8FW/HC>

OSAN AIR BASE

Protestant Services
Gospel Service
Sunday, 12:30 p.m.
Chapel Sanctuary
Community Service
Sunday, 10:30 a.m.,
Chapel Sanctuary

Protestant Ministries
Awana Children's Ministry
Wednesday, 5 p.m., Grades 7-12
Wednesday, 6 p.m., Pre-K to 6th Grade
Chapel
Osan Middle School
Men of the Chapel
Wednesday, 7 p.m., Chapel Annex
Singles & Unaccompanied
Thursday, 7 p.m., Mustang Center
Friday, 7 p.m., Hospitality House
Saturday, 6 p.m., Hospitality House
Women of the Chapel
Monday, 6:30 p.m./ Tuesday, 9 a.m.
Chapel Annex
Youth of the Chapel
Monday, 6 p.m., Chapel Annex

Catholic Mass
Daily Mass
Tuesday – Thursday, 11:30 a.m., Chapel
Reconciliation
Saturday, 4 p.m. (or by appointment), Chapel
Vigil Mass
Saturday, 5 p.m., Chapel
Sunday Mass
Sunday, 8:30 a.m., Chapel

Catholic Ministries
Catholic RE
Sunday, 10 a.m., Chapel Annex
Korean Prayer Group
Tuesday, 9:30 a.m.
Blessed Sacrament
Bible Study
Tuesday, 6 p.m., Chapel Annex Rm 4
Women of the Chapel
Meet Monthly, Please call 784-5000

Other Faith Groups
Earth-Based (Contact the Chapel)
Jewish (Contact the Chapel)
Muslim (Contact the Chapel)
Buddhist (Contact the Chapel)
LDS Sunday, 1 p.m., Contact the Chapel

Point of Contact:
Osan Chapel, 784-5000
Visit us on SharePoint:
<https://osan.eim.pacaf.af.mil/S1FW/S1FW-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, 11:30 a.m.
Memorial Chapel, Bldg 1597
Brian Allgood Hospital Chapel
Sunday, 9:30 a.m.
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

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


Point of Contact:
USAG Yongsan Religious Support Office, 738-3011
Visit us on SharePoint:
<http://www.army.mil/yongsan>



SPIRITUAL CHARGE

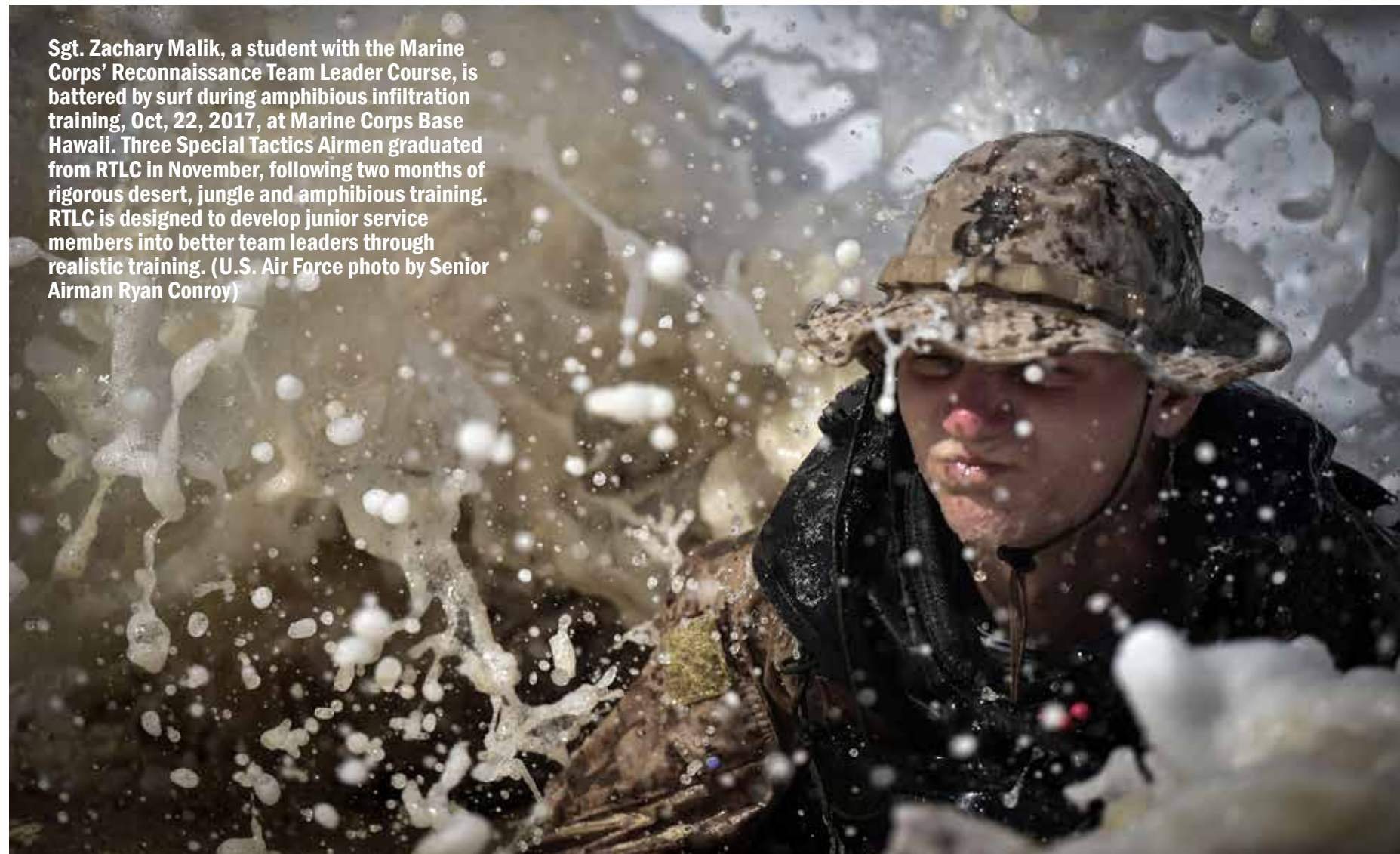
Overcoming Disappointment

Have you ever felt like you were good, but not good enough? Ever been disappointed or let down in life? Not long ago, I was told I was under consideration for a special assignment in the Air Force. It was a selectively manned position and required multiple exams and interviews. The first round involved four stages of examinations, and if I passed, I would be flown back from Korea to the U.S. for a final face-to-face interview.
Thankfully, I made it through all four stages of examination. My trip back to the U.S. felt like the longest flight I have ever taken. I was concerned, and had a myriad of questions, "What would my new assignment entail?" "Who would I be working with?" "Where would the location be?" "How often would I deploy?" Even though I had so many questions, I honestly felt excited and exhilarated by the thought of working with such a selective group of people. When I arrived in the U.S. for interviews, I learned that about 1,000 Airmen were in the initial round of testing. The personal interview round was narrowed down to only 100. I was honored that I made that cut.
The interview round lasted multiple days. The interviews themselves were long and very personally draining, often revisiting information many times over. I felt very invested in this process. They had opened ever corner of my life. By the last day of interviews, they knew more about me than many of my



Ch, Capt Joseph Idomele
51st Fighter Wing Chaplain Corps

Have you ever been passed over for a job or promotion, or rejected in some way? Have you ever been told, "You are good, but not good enough?" The harsh truth is this: dealing with rejection is difficult...dealing with disappointment is hard. It's even harder informing your friends and loved ones – the ones cheering for you – that you didn't make the cut, and you weren't chosen.
So, what did I do? I went to my room, turned off the lights...and prayed. Personally, in prayer, I found peace in going back to why I joined the Air Force. I remembered that I joined the Air Force to care for Airmen and their families. I joined the Air Force to help our Airmen become more resilient and spiritually fit, so they can "Fly, Fight, and Win" daily. I can honestly say my strength to serve with joy and humility, comes from the awareness I have gained through prayer. It is normal to be discouraged when hearing bad news! It is okay to feel disappointed if you have been passed-over for an opportunity or promotion! The important thing to consider is this: "What will you do now?" I strongly encourage you to reach out to a Chaplain, Mental Health Provider, Marriage and Family Life Consultant (MFLC), or any of the helping agencies on base today, if you are dealing with some kind of rejection, stress, unhappiness or disappointment in your life or career. Life is too precious to waste being bitter, so make every day count by serving with joy!



Sgt. Zachary Malik, a student with the Marine Corps' Reconnaissance Team Leader Course, is battered by surf during amphibious infiltration training, Oct. 22, 2017, at Marine Corps Base Hawaii. Three Special Tactics Airmen graduated from RTLC in November, following two months of rigorous desert, jungle and amphibious training. RTLC is designed to develop junior service members into better team leaders through realistic training. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Ryan Conroy)

Recon Marines, Special Tactics groom joint ground leaders

By Senior Airman Ryan Conroy, 24th Special Operations Wing Public Affairs

HURLBURT FIELD, Fla. (AFNS) -- The police officers rush into the compound, weapons drawn, shouting orders at the men inside the building to surrender.

Shots ring out, spent rounds discharge and the police retreat, leaving one officer behind with a gunshot wound. The insurgents drag him through the courtyard for all to see and execute him.

Buried in the thick brush on a hill, a small contingent of Force Reconnaissance Marines and Special Tactics Airmen are watching, waiting and reporting what they see back to the operations center. Their intelligence will provide incoming Marines with vital information to conduct raids later in the day.

This was not a real mission in a foreign land, but rather a Marine reconnaissance proving ground at Bellows Air Force Base, Hawaii.

Three Special Tactics Airmen graduated from the Marine Corps' Reconnaissance Team Leader Course in November 2017, following two months of rigorous desert, jungle and amphibious reconnaissance training.

RTLC is an advanced level reconnaissance course designed to develop junior service members into better team leaders through realistic training.

"Our main objectives in this course is taking young leaders and guiding them into being better ground force commanders," said Gunnery Sgt. Jeremy Froio, noncommissioned officer in charge of RTLC. "Regardless of what service you're in, the reconnaissance mission is so detail oriented and in depth that no matter what your actual mission is, you're going to benefit from this training."

Force Reconnaissance Marines are the Marine

Corps' special-operations-capable forces that provide essential intelligence to the command element of the Marine Air-Ground Task Force. Forging a relationship between conventional and SOF creates unique opportunities and partnerships in the future.

Special Tactics is U.S. Special Operations Command's tactical air and ground integration force and the Air Force's ground special operations force enabling global access, precision strike, personnel recovery and battlefield surgery operations.

To provide realism to the curriculum, students in the course transition to three different geographic locations. Special Tactics regularly trains in extreme conditions to acclimate to any scenario when called upon.

"Much like in a Marine Expeditionary Unit, you find yourself in some other part of the world ... one day you're in the high desert, the next the desert plain, the next in the jungle, et cetera," said Froio. "We try to replicate that aspect of not always knowing your environment."

Beginning at Camp Pendleton, California, students learn public speaking to enhance their briefing skills, and conduct their first patrol as a team. According to the instructors, briefing is the first step of becoming a capable ground force commander.

Froio explained the need for ground force commanders to clearly communicate their intent and objectives during mission planning, because without that capability, the team won't make it to the battlefield.

"We wholly utilize the crawl, walk and run

method during training by having them brief daily, to giving impromptu briefs and finally briefing a real commander after drawing up their mission plan," said Froio.

From there, the course moves to Yuma, Arizona, for desert patrols and reconnaissance. During this portion, instructors incorporated Special-Tactics-unique scenarios for the students such as an airfield reconnaissance and fires planning.

"Since Airmen from Air Force Special Operations Command began to take this course, we have changed our curriculum to accommodate what they bring to the table," said Gunnery Sgt. Edward Brugeman, senior NCO in charge of RTLC. "Each one of the mission sets gives the students - Marines and Airmen alike - the planning, briefing and execution aspect of a multitude of mission sets they will most likely encounter in the real world."

From Yuma, the joint contingent travelled to Marine Corps Base Hawaii-Kaneohe Bay to exercise jungle and amphibious reconnaissance mission sets. Here, they finished the tactical portion of their training with a 3-day, 2-night marathon final exercise.

"We're giving these Airmen the ground-level experience they may not get from other schools in their pipeline," said Staff Sgt. Brandon Mackey, course chief of RTLC. "They bring so much to our class and our students learn a ton from them. In return we give them the ground-based tactical decisions and skills they need to lead a team."

Throughout each portion of the course, each student rotated through multiple graded billets to gain perspective and experience in each position: team leader, assistant team leader, point man,

radio transmission operator and assistant RTO, according to Brugeman.

"Every student is placed in every role, because in order to become an effective leader, you don't only need to know what you need to do, but what every person on your team needs to do," said Brugeman.

During the training, the joint efforts between the Airmen and the Marines lead to them casting aside their differences and embracing their similarities. While the Airmen were sent to RTLC to learn, the joint efforts between the sister services lead to sharing tactics, techniques and procedures to improve processes.

"Once you begin to look through your differences, you start to realize that the personalities are the same," said a Special Tactics officer enrolled in the course. "There's the drive - everyone has the same work ethic and drive to complete the mission."

At the end of the final exercise, one of the Special Tactics Airmen was named overall distinguished graduate for the course, placing first in academic and physical assessments.

"I had little to no experience working with Airmen, but after this course I have nothing but good things to say," said Marine Sgt. Eric Dipietrantonio, RTLC student. "Completely professional, phenomenal at their jobs and they bring a different aspect in terms of tactics that Marines don't usually see."



A Special Tactics operator enrolled in the Marine Corps' Reconnaissance Team Leader Course, performs reconnaissance on a village during a final exercise, Oct. 31, 2017, at Bellows Air Force Base, Hawaii. Three Special Tactics Airmen graduated from the RTLC in November, following two months of rigorous desert, jungle and amphibious training. RTLC is designed to develop junior service members into better team leaders through realistic training. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Ryan Conroy)



<above> Students with the Marine Corps' Reconnaissance Team Leader Course conduct nautical navigation training, Oct. 25, 2017, at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii. Three Special Tactics Airmen graduated from RTLC in November, following two months of rigorous desert, jungle and amphibious training. RTLC is designed to develop junior service members into better team leaders through realistic training. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Ryan Conroy)



<left> A student with the Marine Corps' Reconnaissance Team Leader Course jumps from a CH-53 Super Stallion helicopter during a helocasting exercise, Oct. 25, 2017, at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii. Three Special Tactics Airmen graduated from RTLC in November, following two months of rigorous desert, jungle and amphibious training. RTLC is designed to develop junior service members into better team leaders through realistic training. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Ryan Conroy)



Gerhard Harder, second from right, chairman of the German Maritime Search and Rescue Service, presents the German Medal of Honor on Ribbon for Rescue Missions at Sea in Gold to Senior Master Sgt. George Taylor, 920th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron lead production superintendent, during a presentation ceremony at the German Maritime Museum in Hamburg, Germany, Jan. 26, 2018. Taylor and six other Airmen traveled to Germany to accept the award on behalf of the 920th Rescue Wing. The wing was honored for its rescue of two German citizens after their vessel caught fire approximately 500 nautical miles off the east coast of Cape Canaveral, Fla., July 7, 2017. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Lindsey Maurice)

Reserve wing receives German Maritime Search and Rescue award

By Tech. Sgt. Lindsey Maurice, 920th Rescue Wing

HAMBURG, Germany (AFNS) -- For the first time in 20 years, the German Maritime Search and Rescue Service awarded the Medal of Honor on Ribbon for Rescue Missions at Sea in Gold in a special ceremony to the 920th Rescue Wing Jan. 26, 2018, at the German Maritime Museum.

The wing, based out of Patrick Air Force Base, Florida, was honored for its rescue of two German citizens, a father and son, whose vessel caught fire approximately 500 nautical miles off the east coast of Cape Canaveral, Florida, July 7, 2017.

"The Medal in Gold has been awarded only five times since 1955," said Gerhard Harder, chairman of the German Maritime Search and Rescue Service. "This award reflects all the courage, commitment, compassion, dedication and professionalism that is necessary to make a sea rescue that is 800 kilometers from the coast possible. I feel greatly honored to award the Medal of Honor on Ribbon for Rescue Missions at Sea in Gold to the 920th Rescue Wing."

Col. Kurt Matthews, 920th RQW commander, and a contingent of six Airmen traveled to Germany to accept the award on behalf of the 80 unit members who took part.

"It is an honor to be here today and represent the amazing men and women of the 920th Rescue Wing," said Matthews. "The lengths our Reserve Citizen Airmen went through to save these men is incredible and I am extremely proud of them."

"The specific capability of the 920th RQW's Guardian Angel Airmen, combined with its air

refueling and extended-range airpower make it uniquely able to accomplish the mission where few others in the world can."

Matthews noted the unit was not facing the most ideal circumstances when they received the call for help that morning. The two HC-130 Combat Kings required to transport the Guardian Angel team and refuel the helicopters were broken and the helicopter crews were on crew rest.

However, the team pulled together and within two hours the maintenance crews fixed and launched the first HC-130 carrying the Guardian Angel team and their equipment. Two hours later, the helicopters headed to the scene, while the maintenance crews fixed the last HC-130.

Around this same time, the Guardian Angel team parachuted into the open water out of the back of the HC-130, followed by their zodiac inflatable boat and medical equipment. After reaching the survivors, they provided urgent medical care and transported them to a nearby freighter whose crew volunteered to help. Under the cover of darkness, the HH-60 Pave Hawk helicopter teams arrived and their crews hoisted the men into the aircraft bound for the Orlando Regional Medical Center. The survivors spent roughly two weeks in the hospital before returning to Germany.

"I would like to express my heartfelt thank you to my Guardian Angels for rescuing me," said Karl Meer Jr., who was severely injured in the accident.

"With my injuries and without water, I don't think I would have lived another day. I immediately felt

so safe, because they knew exactly what they were doing and stayed calm."

The father and son were able to personally thank some of their rescuers while undergoing care at the Orlando hospital and some additional 920th RQW team members at the ceremony. It was a reunion that touched more than just the rescuers and rescues.

"This is an awe-inspiring German-American story that unfolded where we didn't expect it," said Consul General Richard T. Yoneoka, the U.S. Ambassador's representative to the German states of Hamburg, Lower Saxony, Bremen, Schleswig-Holstein and Mecklenburg-Vorpommern. "It showcases efficient transatlantic communication channels, the technical material capabilities of the U.S. Air Force and the determination of highly-skilled and superbly-trained individuals to get the job done at great personal risk."

"To me, today's event is much more than a festive awards ceremony that honors brave men and women who stood ready when called upon to engage in a rescue mission at sea," he continued. "To me, above all, this extraordinary rescue story is about a human act of kindness, maybe the most noble, saving another's life, two lives in fact. True to the motto of the 920th Rescue Wing, 'These things, we do, that others may live,' this rescue story is the most meaningful story about German-American relations that I can imagine."

As the Air Force Reserve's sole combat-search-and-rescue wing, the 920th Rescue Wing's mission

is to rescue and recover personnel anytime, anywhere, with combat-ready Airmen overcome any obstacle.

Duties for Airmen can vary depending on the flyer squadron they are attached to. Each flying squadron has an AFE unit attached to provide support to that specific squadron's mission.

However, even with the various duties, the mission for AFE Airmen remains the same – to ensure equipment safety for all aircrew.

"We're in the business of saving lives," said Senior Airman David Texada, 3rd OSS AFE journeyman. "We want to make sure everyone makes it home to their families at the end of the day."

Karl Heinz-Meer Jr., a German sailor, poses with Airmen of the 920th Rescue Wing at the German Maritime Museum in Hamburg, Germany, Jan. 26, 2018. The 920th Rescue Wing was awarded the Medal of Honor on Ribbon for Rescue Missions at Sea in Gold by the German Maritime Search and Rescue Service for their rescue of Heinz-Meer and his father after their vessel caught fire approximately 500 nautical miles off the east coast of Cape Canaveral, Fla., July 7, 2017. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Lindsey Maurice)



Misawa volunteer receives presidential award

By Staff Sgt. Melanie A. Hutto, 35th Fighter Wing Public Affairs



Karen Jorgenson, right, the American Red Cross regional program manager, presents Jessica McCollum, left, the American Red Cross chairman of volunteers, with the President's Lifetime Achievement Award at Misawa Air Base, Japan, Dec. 18, 2017. Jessica accumulated more than 4,000 volunteer hours, earning her the highest honor for volunteerism, which the President of the United States recognizes with a personalized certificate, an official pin, coin and congratulatory letter. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Melanie A. Hutto)

MISAWA AIR BASE, Japan -- The American Red Cross chairman of volunteers, Jessica McCollum, received the President's Lifetime Achievement Award here, Dec. 18.

The President's Volunteer Service Awards honors deeply-invested volunteers whose service multiplies by the inspiration they give to others.

The awards have multiple levels, each designed to recognize milestones of an individual's service achievement. Levels include bronze, silver, gold and the highest honor: the President's Lifetime Achievement Award. Jessica received this level of honor due to her contribution of more than 4,000 hours of service in her lifetime.

"I was shocked when they presented the award to me," expressed Jessica. "I was unaware that a

recognition of this magnitude existed."

Jessica received a personalized certificate, an official pin and a congratulatory letter from the President of the United States.

"I'm very proud of my wife," said Master Sgt. Brian McCollum, the 35th Logistics Readiness Squadron first sergeant. "Receiving this recognition from the president attests to all her hard work and dedication she puts forth everyday to making Misawa's community better."

What takes individuals a lifetime to achieve, as stated in the award's title, took Jessica a mere three years. Since her arrival at Misawa AB, she accumulated a total of 5,444 volunteer hours from Jan. 31, 2015, to Dec. 20, 2017.

Though Jessica volunteers with a number of

organizations across base, one of her favorites was the Misawa Key Spouses Cookie Caper, which provided more than 30,000 cookies to approximately 2,500 single and unaccompanied U.S. and Japan Air Self-Defense Force service members during the holiday season.

Outside of the Key Spouse organization, Jessica also spends time helping sports teams her children are on, and off base, she is the primary lead for the Aomori International Exchange Summer Camp. In addition, she aids the American Red Cross in meeting their mission goals of disaster preparedness, providing relief for families in emergency situations.

As chairman of volunteers, Jessica manages more than 86 American Red Cross recruits. She reaches out to them when opportunities arise and ensures they are properly tracking their hours.

"I am so grateful she signed up to be a volunteer with the Red Cross when she arrived," said Karen Jorgenson, the American Red Cross regional program manager. "The commitment and tenacity she displays every day truly makes her an invaluable member of our team."

Growing up, volunteering was a family affair for Jessica. Her parents were avid volunteers throughout her life paving the way to the mindset she holds today.

"My mom always said, 'volunteering is the right you pay for the space you occupy on the Earth,'" Jessica explained. "Everyone needs to do their part to make the world a better place."

Jessica accredits her ambition and success not only to her family but also to the leadership and spouses she met at their first duty station together at Royal Air Force Lakenheath, England.

"As a young military spouse, I was very fortunate to meet fantastic people who encouraged me and supported my volunteer endeavors," Jessica said. "I wouldn't have achieved so much nor had this level of passion if it wasn't for them."

Jessica dedicates her life to helping people in need and giving back to the community any way possible.

"Everyone can make a difference, even the smallest gesture can improve a person's day or inspire them to get involved in the community," Jessica concluded.



Senior Airman Tobias Budd, 286th Expeditionary Maintenance Squadron, Combat Metals Flight aircraft structural maintenance journeyman, practices welding two pieces of metal together at an undisclosed location in Southwest Asia, Jan. 9, 2018. On Sept. 21, 2017, an EC-130H Compass Call forward nose landing gear door sustained damage caused by a bird strike during flight, requiring combat metals technicians to complete an extensive aircraft battle damage repair. In less than 12 hours the team was able to coordinate with Robins Air Force Base engineers approving a plan to return the asset back to service six days early. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. William Banton)

386th EMXS Combat Metals Flight: fabricating parts, saving money

By Staff Sgt. William Banton, 386th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

SOUTHWEST ASIA (AFNS) -- When listening to Senior Airman Tobias Budd dynamically describe the process of splicing a Royal Netherlands Air Force KC-10A Extender's broken brake line, it's easy to picture him using a swage tool to apply the pressure needed to morph two entangled metal cables into a functioning single line.

"What we did was splice their brake line because they weren't able to get a new one in on time," Budd, 386th Expeditionary Maintenance Squadron, Combat Metals Flight, aircraft structural maintenance journeyman, deployed from the 355th Equipment Maintenance Squadron, Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona, said about the September 2017 repair. "So, we spliced one end, swaged it, which is kind of crimping a piece of fake tube on top of it, and then attached it to the other end after cutting out the damage."

It's clear by his tone the repair itself wasn't what made the job memorable. Budd said the unexpected opportunity to work with coalition forces on an unfamiliar airframe wasn't even on his mind prior to deploying, and alluded that combat metals is constantly called to assist other units, including non-aircraft related squadrons.

"Because we are fabrication, we obviously have a wide range of skills that come in handy anywhere," said Master Sgt. Michael Konegni, 386th EMXS Combat Metals Flight chief, deployed from the Wyoming Air National Guard, 153rd Airlift Wing, Cheyenne, Wyoming. "Anything that needs to be welded from backpack lockers to aircraft parts we can (make), it's not strictly geared towards aircraft

repair. That's what we are trained to do but those skills can also be transferred over to the civilian side of things."

The combat metals flight combines multiple Air Force specialties, including aircraft structural maintenance and aircraft metals technology technicians. This flight tends to be exclusive to deployed environments, allowing the utilization and optimization of available resources.

"While we are different AFSCs (Air Force specialty codes), we can consolidate everything into one area, which is obviously easier in the area of responsibility because of space availability," said Konegni.

Stressing the importance of combat metals because of continuing operations in Iraq, Afghanistan and Syria, Konegni said it's very rare for a structural issue to ground an aircraft but when it does happen it could cause serious delays.

Senior Airman Tyler Case, 386th Expeditionary Maintenance Squadron aircraft metals technician, deployed from the 305th Maintenance Squadron, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey, said a lot of his job while deployed is unscheduled maintenance and that having this capability allows them to fabricate or alter parts which would take weeks to have shipped to Southwest Asia. This in return saves the Air Force money and allows aircraft to resume the mission sooner.

For example, on September 21, 2017, an EC-130H Compass Call forward nose landing gear door sustained damage caused by a bird strike during flight, requiring combat metals technicians to

complete an extensive aircraft battle damage repair. In less than 12 hours, the team was able to coordinate with Robins AFB engineers approving a plan to return the asset back to service six days early.

According to Konegni, by spending approximately \$300 in materials, combat metals Airmen were able to save the Air Force more than \$21,000 if they had to fully replace the part.

What is probably the most unique part of this environment is the diversity of active duty and Air National Guard members, said Konegni.

"It's nice because you get different ideas from different viewpoints, from different places in the world off of different airframes," he said. "I by no means dismiss what (junior enlisted airmen) see because they've worked airframes I've never seen before and they have tricks up their sleeves that come in handy on C-130s that I've never thought of." Tactics officer enrolled in the course. "There's the drive - everyone has the same work ethic and drive to complete the mission."

At the end of the final exercise, one of the Special Tactics Airmen was named overall distinguished graduate for the course, placing first in academic and physical assessments.

"I had little to no experience working with Airmen, but after this course I have nothing but good things to say," said Marine Sgt. Eric Dipietrantonio, RTLC student. "Completely professional, phenomenal at their jobs and they bring a different aspect in terms of tactics that Marines don't usually see."

SPACE HEATER SAFETY

According to United States Fire Administration, an estimated 900 portable heater fires in residential buildings are reported to U.S. fire departments each year and cause an estimated 70 deaths, 150 injuries, and \$53 million in property loss.



Only 2 percent of heating fires in residential buildings involved portable heaters; however, portable heaters were involved in 45 percent of all fatal heating fires in residential buildings. Portable heater fires in residential buildings peaked in January (26 percent).

Safety must be a top consideration when using space heaters.

Safety Precautions

1. Space heaters must be tested by the Underwriter's Laboratories (UL) or other qualified agencies. This will be identified by a clearly visible label somewhere on the unit.
2. Use of portable kerosene space heaters is prohibited in all OSAN Air Base facilities.
3. Space heaters must be equipped to shut off electric power to the unit when tilted or turned over.
4. Space heaters will be kept at least 18 inches away from combustible materials such as papers, furniture, or curtains.
5. The space heater must be plugged directly into an outlet. Do not use a light-duty extension cord or a multi outlet strip/surge protector; it can start a fire with a high-wattage appliance.

Should you any questions or concerns, feel free to contact Fire Prevention Office at 784-4835/4710.



OSAN GRID IRON CHALLENGE

Feb. 2nd
1530-1800
Osan High School Football Field

Teams from Kunsan AB, 7th Air Force, U.S. Army and Osan will compete in a no holds bar flag football tournament at the Osan High Middle School which will be aired on national television. Come out and support your unit and friends to see who is honestly the best on the PEN!!!



Master Sgt. Kyle Anderson, 3rd Air Support Operations Group, runs between two cones during a speed, strength and agility demonstration at Joint Base Andrews, Md., Jan. 9, 2018. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Joe Yanik)

Air Force to enhance physical fitness test, standards for select career fields

By Staff Sgt. William Banton, 386th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

The Air Force began the rollout of Tier 2 physical training standards as more than 100 battlefield Airmen demonstrated new career field specific testing components at Andrews Air Force Base, Maryland, Jan. 9, 2018.

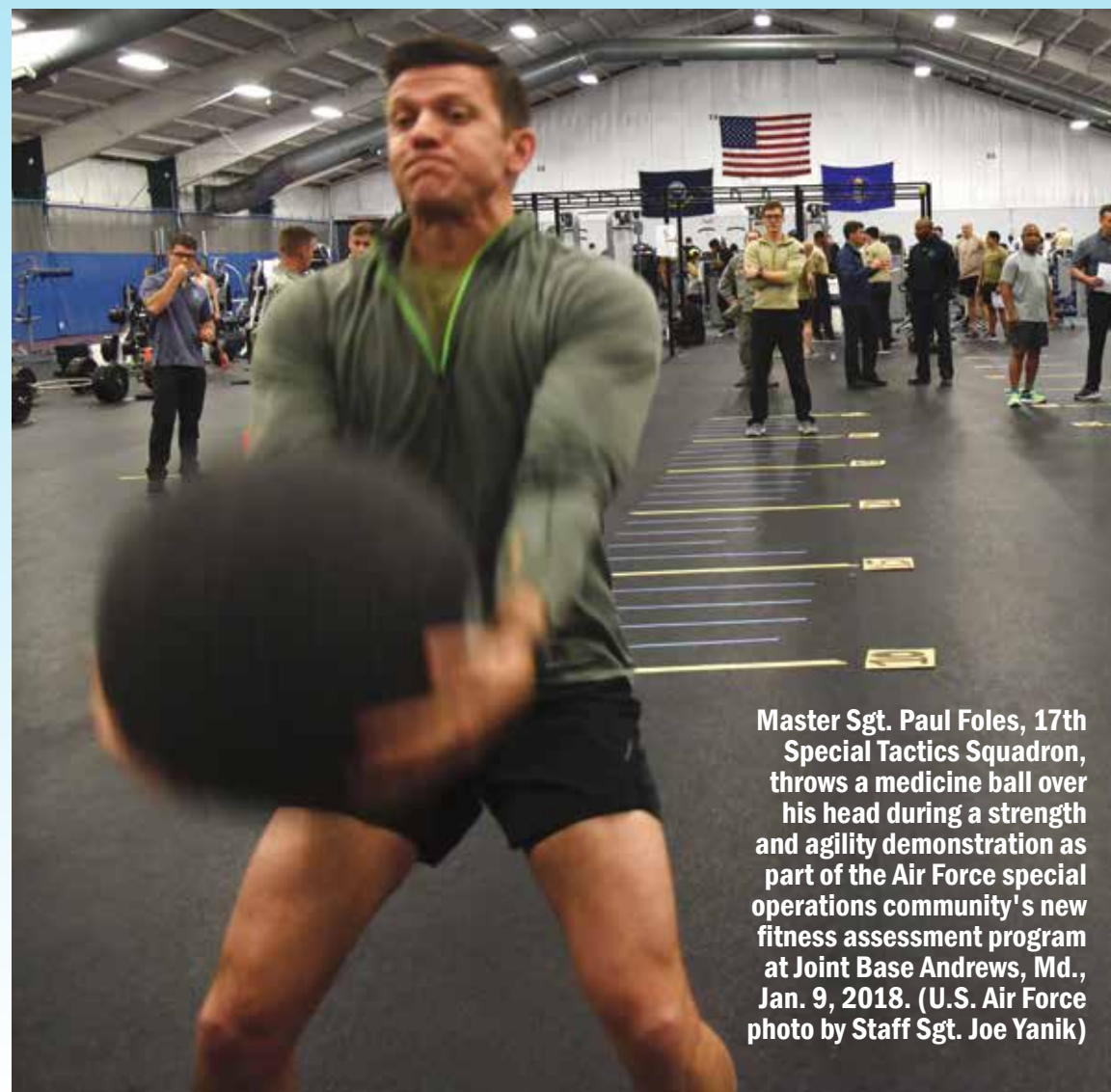
The adoption of the Tier 2 standards will exempt battlefield Airmen from three of the four components of the Air Force fitness assessment because their occupational fitness assessments already effectively measure the fitness required for their missions.

Air liaison officers and tactical air control party operators will soon see the implementation of new physical fitness test requirements, making them the first career fields in the Air Force to have occupationally-specific and operationally-relevant standards, as well as a second fitness assessment.

Officials stated these requirements will ensure operators have the necessary physical ability to perform critical job-related duties beyond what is required of Airmen on the current Air Force fitness assessment.

"ALO and TACP operators will be given a 12-month period after implementation to adapt to these new tests and standards before they are officially enforced," said Dr. Neal Baumgartner, Air Force chief of the Exercise Science Unit.

According to Air Force Instruction 36-2905, Fitness Program, all Airmen are required to maintain a certain level of physical fitness in



Master Sgt. Paul Foles, 17th Special Tactics Squadron, throws a medicine ball over his head during a strength and agility demonstration as part of the Air Force special operations community's new fitness assessment program at Joint Base Andrews, Md., Jan. 9, 2018. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Joe Yanik)

order to meet the science-based health and general fitness criterion standards of the Air Force-wide fitness assessment. Referred to as a Tier 1 physical fitness test, the Air Force-wide Fitness Assessment is designed to ensure Airmen are present for duty in overall good health.

"These Tier 1 scores are critical for all Airmen, but they do not necessarily reflect military task achievement," Baumgartner said. "There are certain career fields, ALO and TACP for instance, that required much higher and broader levels of physical fitness to meet the demands of their operational mission sets. This is why we initiated additional science-based work to determine this additional set of fitness tests and standards, referred to as Tier 2, to more adequately assess unique, physically demanding Air Force specialty codes."

With help and support from RAND Project AIR FORCE, the Exercise Science Unit, or ESU, began developing Tier 2 standards for battlefield Airmen operators in October 2011.

"To properly develop Tier 2 tests and standards, we performed five major steps to develop a final product: identify critical physical job tasks, develop fitness tests and physical task simulations, validate fitness tests and standards versus operational physical requirements, implement and verify these tests and standards, and finally document Tier 2 products and provide recommendations for policy during the adaptation period," said Baumgartner.

While assessing physical job demands in Step 1, three focus groups of ALO and TACP operators were used to identify 44 ALO-TACP Critical Physical Tasks, or CPTs. These were reviewed and approved by senior leaders from the operational community and used as the foundation for the remaining four Tier 2 steps.

To execute the second step of developing physical fitness tests and physical task simulations, ESU used a systematic process that involved evaluating more than 100 physical fitness tests to create the Tier 2 Operator Prototype PF Test Battery, the final prototype consists of 10 test components. Each of these components is accompanied by descriptions highlighting the specific purpose of the test, muscle groups measured, protocol for administration, scoring and relevance – the operational capabilities predicted by the test.

"The important take-away here is that each of these 10 components have specific relevance to unique ALO-TACP operational mission sets," said Master Sgt. Matthew Gruse, ESU NCO in charge. "The grip strength test for example measures muscular strength in the hands and forearms, but why? While some may see this as redundant to other test components, our study found grip strength plays a significant role in performing tasks such as litter carries, casualty drags and rescue sled pulls during casualty movement."

Tier 2 Operator Prototype PF Test Battery components:

- Grip Strength
- Medicine Ball Toss, back and side
- Three Cone Drill
- Trap Bar Deadlift, 5 repetition maximum
- Pull-Up
- Lunges, weighted 50 pound, metronome
- Extended Cross Knee Crunch, metronome
- Farmer's Carry, 2x50 pound, 100 yards
- Row Ergometer, 1000 meters
- Run, 1.5 miles

In addition to the test battery, ESU and RAND designed eight broad physical task simulations, or PTSs, to approximate the CPTs performed by ALO and TACP operators. Like the fitness test battery components, these simulations were developed in collaboration with special operators, reviewed by senior leaders, and pretested during a pilot study. PTSs provide a realistic approximation of physical operational actions ALO and TACP could



Master Sgt. Eric Rideaux, 9th Air Force, performs lunges using shoulder weights during a fitness demonstration for the Air Force's special operations community at Joint Base Andrews, Md., Jan. 9, 2018. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Joe Yanik)



Master Sgt. Paul Foles (left), 17th Special Tactics Squadron, squeezes a dynamometer that measures grip strength during an occupational fitness demonstration performed by members of the Air Force's special operations community at Joint Base Andrews, Md., Jan. 9, 2018. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Joe Yanik)

be confronted with during an operational mission. During Step 3, the ESU tested 171 Airmen on both the fitness test battery and the PTSs, validating the linkage, and developed the top 10 fitness test components for predicting operational physical success.

Physical Task Simulation components:

- Rope Bridge
- Rope Ladder
- Cross Load Personnel and Equipment
- Casualty Movement
- Small Unit Tactics (Parts A - D)

Baumgartner noted that the scoring system is a prototype, and the ESU, in conjunction with ALO-TACP leadership, will adjust scoring per data collected in the Step 4 verification phase of testing. To complete Step 4, the ESU conducted final verification testing of the prototype tests and standards between January and February 2017 with 30 ALO-TACP operators.

While there were no women represented among

those operators, officials clarified that women are eligible for either career field provided they meet all minimum standards outlined in respective qualifications summaries.

In the coming months, additional information will be made available to the Total Force on how to prepare for testing and how to improve physical readiness. The ESU is also updating their Exercise Principles and Methods, or EPM, Course to train ALO and TACP physical leaders. The EPM Course includes recommendations and specific activities to better address weaknesses and build on strengths made clear by the Tier 2 test.

"Members can contact their unit physical training leader or strength and conditioning coach for feedback on form and techniques, and may contact us in the ESU regarding other questions they might have about the final Tier 2 ALO-TACP operator tests and standards," said Baumgartner.

For more information about fitness programs, visit the Air Force Personnel Center website.

February is National Children's Dental Health Month

By Story by U.S. Air Force SSgt Fidel Ababa, 51st Dental Squadron

OSAN AIR BASE -- Do you know what your kids are consuming when you are not around? When your children are with you, you can monitor what they eat, as they usually only have access to what you give them. However, when you are not with them, children often have access to other unhealthy food items. When given the means to choose their own options, children may purchase sugar-loaded snacks and drinks.

According to the American Dental Association, tooth decay or dental cavities is the number one chronic childhood disease. Recent studies show that 25 percent of school-aged children have significant tooth decay which can affect the quality of life and self-esteem of your child. You often hear that sugar is the source of tooth decay. However, it is interesting to know that tooth decay is actually a bacterial disease. Dental plaque is a soft and sticky film that constantly builds up on your teeth, and contains millions of bacteria. The bacteria in plaque breaks down the sugars and carbohydrates we consume, produce acids that dissolve the tooth structure and cause cavities.

How can we prevent cavities? Since we know that cavities are caused by bacteria in plaque, it is also important to know that the longer we allow plaque to sit on our teeth, the more damage it causes. Therefore, removing plaque daily is key to preventing cavities. This can be accomplished by brushing and flossing your teeth. In addition to your daily oral hygiene, diet control is also very important. Limiting the intake of sugar-containing food and drinks can greatly improve your oral health. Sipping drinks that are carbonated or contain sugar is very detrimental to teeth. It is better to finish a drink in one sitting rather than sipping on it the entire day, and rinsing with water between sips is beneficial as well.

It's very important for parents to monitor and guide children when they begin to brush their own teeth. Children need help brushing their teeth until they develop full manual dexterity, which is typically around ages 8-10. Always use age-appropriate soft-bristled toothbrushes. Soft bristles are safer for the gums and thinner bristles can clean more effectively in the crevices and grooves on the teeth. Brushing for two minutes twice a day is essential to remove the majority of the plaque.

Brushing only cleans up to about 60-70 percent of teeth surfaces. In order to clean the all-the-hidden surfaces, you need to floss between your teeth. Children also need to start flossing once daily as soon as the sides of their teeth start to touch each other. Flossing may seem difficult at first, but once you get used to the technique it is very easy and takes only a small amount of your time. Oral hygiene habits are established at an early age, and these habits are critical in maintaining good oral health throughout life.

Annual dental check-ups are important for early detection of tooth decay. The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry recommends that



February is National Children's Dental Health Month and the 51st Dental Squadron is on a mission to help parents combat tooth decay in the children of Osan Air Base. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Gwendalyn Smith/Released)

a child go to the dentist by age one or within six months after the first tooth erupts.

February is National Children's Dental Health Month, an annual celebration to spread awareness to our children and to help maintain their beautiful smiles. The 51st Dental Squadron, Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, has school visits throughout the month and a Saturday Sealant Clinic scheduled as well. For more information or to schedule an appointment please contact the Dental Clinic at 0505-784-2108. Aster Sergeant of the Air Force Kaleth O. Wright said he feels the Air Force is headed in the right direction concerning education and enlisted-force structure, but Airman resilience is an area that needs more attention.

He's starting the new year with that focus, he told the crowd during an all-call in the Polifka Auditorium at Maxwell Air Force Base Jan. 10, 2018.

"What I'm most concerned about, and where my priority will be in 2018, is the area of resilience," he said. "I still feel like there's work to be done. I want to get out there and spend more time and energy this year getting after what's causing our Airmen to be less resilient. What's causing us to have less of a wingman culture?"

His desire to see the Air Force go back to more of a "wingman culture" stems from strong personal relationships that helped him get through difficult times. He said support from fellow Airmen and building a strong sense of resilience is key to what he predicts will be a tougher operations tempo in the future.

"The reason I've decided to place this laser focus on resilience is because ... it gets tougher," he said. "It's tough now, but it gets tougher. With what's happening in the world with the level of

global insecurity and instability, our jobs will only get tougher. I don't look out a year or two or three from now and see less mission. I see more deployments to Europe. I see more deployments to Africa. I see continued deployments to the Middle East, and I also see, at some point, some deployments to the Pacific."

The chief pointed to not only the strain on those on the deployments, but also the strain on the families left behind and the Airmen who remain to continue the mission.

"The mission here never stops, and the folks who are left behind are the ones who have to pick up the slack," he said.

Finding the correct work-life balance, the chief said, is key to building better resilience.

"A big goal of mine is to be able to give you as much time back as possible," he said. "I want you to be able to focus on the mission. I want you to be able to take care of each other and take care of yourselves. And I want you to be able spend time with your family. Family time is very important."

To find that balance between focusing on the mission, one's self and personal relationships, Wright introduced what he called the "2-10-5-7 philosophy."

The philosophy is a way to structure time: two hours of personal time in the morning, 10 hours for work, five to family and other personal relationships, and the remaining seven to sleep.

He emphasized the five hours to family should be "unplugged," referring to smartphones and social media. He admitted the five hours unplugged was his greatest struggle in trying to follow the regiment. "I won't say I've been successful, but I've made a conscious effort to maintain more balance."