

Crimson Sky



U.S. Space Force Sgt's. Frank and Jamie Franco pose for a photo following a transfer ceremony at Osan Air Base, South Korea, Feb. 5, 2021. The Franco's volunteered to switch services and are some of the 5,000 initial Airmen selected to help set the foundation for the Space Force. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Betty R. Chevalier)

Married into the space domain

By Staff Sgt. Betty R. Chevalier
51st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- Two Osan Airmen made the jump to become Guardians this week and will start a new chapter of their lives, but with more personal titles for each other: husband and wife. Sergeants Jamie and Frank Franco's career field, cyber systems operations, was eligible to transfer to the U.S. Space Force when the call for volunteers went out to Airmen in early 2020. "It all started back in April when Jamie and I

found out about the ability for our career field to be transfer to the Space Force." Frank said. "For about 2 weeks, she would bring it up all the time how cool it would be to make history and be some of the first people into a new branch. Eventually the idea grew on me and realized I couldn't let her go at it alone so we both volunteered."

The U.S. Air Force and Space Force have selected approximately 5,000 members to make the service transfer, which entails officially enlisting in the Space Force. Jamie, who had a pending promotion, pinned on the rank of staff sergeant on Feb. 1, before taking the oath to enter the Space Force.

Frank followed suit enlisting on Feb. 5.

"It feels a bit unreal," Jamie said about the transfer. "I feel like the time that's passed since the branch stood up has flown by. I'm sure that's how Gen. Raymond (U.S. Space Force, chief of space ops), Chief Towberman (U.S. Space Force, senior enlisted advisor) and all that have been leading this feel the same way. I wish I could talk to someone who transferred from the Army Air Corps to the Air Force, because I'd love to know what was going through their mind at the time and what they wish they would have done."

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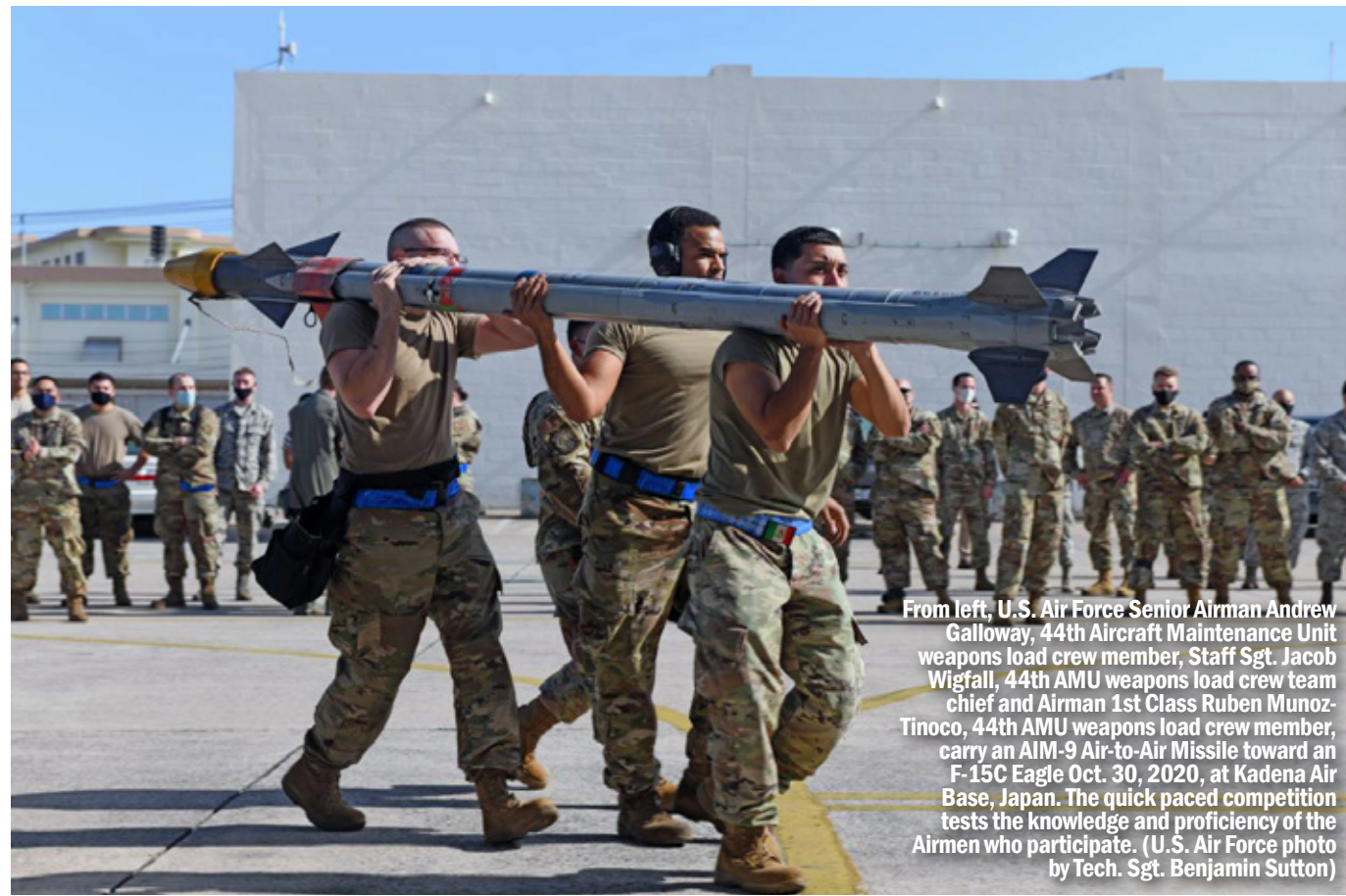
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From left, U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Andrew Galloway, 44th Aircraft Maintenance Unit weapons load crew member, Staff Sgt. Jacob Wigfall, 44th AMU weapons load crew team chief and Airman 1st Class Ruben Munoz-Tinoco, 44th AMU weapons load crew member, carry an AIM-9 Air-to-Air Missile toward an F-15C Eagle Oct. 30, 2020, at Kadena Air Base, Japan. The quick paced competition tests the knowledge and proficiency of the Airmen who participate. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Benjamin Sutton)

PACAF lengthens tours for unaccompanied Airmen and officers in Japan

By Tech. Sgt. Nick Wilson, U.S. Pacific Air Forces Public Affairs

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii -- First-term unaccompanied permanent assignment Airmen tours in Japan will increase from two to three years as part of a Pacific Air Forces effort to bolster force readiness and sharpen mission continuity.

In accordance with Air Force Instruction 36-2110, this policy applies to all Airmen, without dependents, who receive PCS orders to Japan as their first Air Force assignment after Mar 1, 2021, and is estimated to affect approximately 1,000 to 1,500 Airmen within PACAF this year. Retraitees, prior service Airmen and prior service members who receive a commission will not be affected by the policy.

During the initial assignment briefing, orders officials will counsel Airmen (enlisted and officer) departing to their first permanent assignment that they will be serving the accompanied tour length of 36-months and that there is no longer a 24 month option.

"On a 24 month tour, commanders were getting about 12-18 months with fully-trained Airmen," said U.S. Air Force Col. Ralph Taylor, PACAF A1, Director of Manpower, Personnel and Services.

"Now, with the three-year tour for unaccompanied first assignment Airmen, the mission support and expertise from those Airmen will be there a year longer, reducing turnover and training."

When it comes to training, the increased tour length will provide more stability for newly assigned Airmen. It enables them to gain a more solidified understanding of their role within their work center and how their unit fits into the deeper role of supporting PACAF lines of effort.

"An Airman's first assignment is critical to their success in the Air Force," Chief Master Sgt. Katie McCool, 5th Air Force command chief. "This is where they receive practical experience on things learned in Basic Military Training and technical training. For most Airmen, this means completing career development courses and on-the-job training as well as being signed off on all required tasks. This process can be lengthy depending on Air Force Specialty Code and having another year to garner this experience and then apply it to their mission set is critical to long-term success and development."

Not only will the change reduce the amount of initial skills training required, but it will also strengthen teams by helping to balance critical skillsets and capabilities. When experienced first-term Airmen and junior officers are able to help train and integrate newcomers into the unit, it becomes a force multiplier. It not only saves time, but also allows senior leaders to retain Airmen and officers who have a

solidified understanding of their unit's mission.

"It takes time to build a trained, cohesive team where each member understands their unit's warfighting mission and how they contribute to mission success," McCool said. "A three-year tour provides the time for the unit to build Airmen with the foundational experiences for success and provides the unit with the continuity of utilizing the Airmen they train."

For Airmen who enjoy being overseas, this could be a morale boost. Conversely, Airmen who prefer to be closer to their parents and families back home in the states would need more clarification from supervisors as to why the change was implemented and how it will positively impact PACAF.

"Leaders and supervisors must communicate with their Airmen what the new policy is and why it exists," McCool said. "Many times, Airmen are frustrated by things that aren't shared or explained. The 'why' is important; explain why the Air Force made this change and discuss the pros and cons with an Airman and then assist them in how they can address the challenges that come with the new tour length. Also, each supervisor must pay attention to their individual Airmen and help them get connected into their base community and bring them in as a member of a cohesive team."



Survival, evasion, resistance and escape (SERE) specialists going through upgrade training stay over in tents at Utqiagvik (Barrow), Alaska, Jan. 13, 2021. Prior to training in an arctic environment, the SERE students trained in coastal, desert and tropical biomes across the world. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Ryan M. Dewey)

SERE specialists conquer the arctic

By Airman 1st Class Jose Miguel T. Tamondong, 354th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

EIELSON AIR FORCE BASE, Alaska -- Wind gusts as high as 50 miles per hour, wind chills dropping to minus 60 degrees Fahrenheit, and a place where the sun does not rise above the horizon for 65 consecutive days. Arctic Survival training is not for the faint of heart however for the survival, evasion, resistance and escape specialists, it is a rite of passage.

SERE specialists from across the country participated in S-V81-C Barren Land Arctic Survival training from Jan. 9-23, 2021 in Utqiagvik (Barrow), Alaska.

S-V81-C is a part of the SERE five level upgrade course where SERE specialists gain valuable experience surviving in the harsh arctic environment.

"It's the experiential factor that enables Air Force SERE specialists to provide the highest standard of arctic training to the Department of Defense," said U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Garrett Wright, the Detachment 1, 66th Training Squadron, Detachment Survival School superintendent.



U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Jesse Cash, a 66th Training Squadron, Detachment 1 survival, evasion, resistance and escape (SERE) specialist demonstrates how to cut out a block of hard-packed snow at Utqiagvik (Barrow), Alaska, Jan. 11, 2021. The snow blocks were used to construct a wind-wall to shelter students' tents during the first night of training. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Ryan M. Dewey) ▲

Igloos were originally used by the Inuit tribe of northern Alaska and are still in use today. They provide warmth and shelter from extreme winds and sub-zero temperatures. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Ryan M. Dewey) ▶

After leaving Barrow and completing training, SERE specialists have gained a new understanding of the difficult conditions isolated personnel could face in the Arctic. With this knowledge in hand, SERE specialists are able to educate personnel across the globe on the various environments they operate in.

From Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska, five SERE specialists from the 66th Training Squadron, Detachment 1 led S-V81-C training in Barrow.

U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Waterbury, the 66th TRS, Detachment 1 operations noncommissioned officer in charge, once a student, is now responsible for imparting his technical expertise to others at S-V81-C.

"It is cool to teach a course that I came through [years ago]," Waterbury said. "I never really thought that I would be doing it again; especially running operations for it."

This year, two classes trained in Barrow and 44 students graduated the course. 24 participants from Jan. 9-16 and 20 from Jan. 16-23. Active duty, Guard and Reserve SERE specialists attended this year's training along with personnel from the 123rd Contingency Response Group and the Air Force Joint Test Program Office.

This year, Cool School's operations were supported by an independent medical duty technician from the 354th Medical Group and two defenders from the 354th Security Forces Squadron, who provided overnight polar bear guard. Additionally, a team led by Lt. Col. Nathan Barrett, the AFJO Joint Test Director, conducted shelter temperature testing as part of Cool School's efforts to modernize its instructional data.

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The snow caves served as shelter for the SERE specialists during their second night of upgrade training. It can comfortably house a maximum of 3 individuals. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Ryan M. Dewey)



The MK-124 is a smoke and illumination flare used to signal search and rescue personnel in the event of an emergency or extraction situation. (U.S. Air Force photo by Maj. Tyler Williams)

US, Japan, Australia converge on Guam for Cope North 21

Pacific Air Forces

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii -- Air forces from the United States, Japan and Australia will participate in Cope North 2021 at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, Feb. 3-19 to conduct humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HA/DR) operations, as well as to conduct large force employment and combat air forces training.

A multinational task force led by the Japan Air Self-Defense Force, or Koku-Jieitai, will ensure training scenarios are conducted during the exercise and reflect real-world situations.

The exercise kicks off with a HA/DR event to reinforce the three countries' combined ability to support the Indo-Pacific region during a natural disaster. Operations will take place at Andersen AFB, Guam; Northwest Field, Guam; and Koror and Angaur, Palau.

In a first for Cope North, the F-35A Joint Strike Fighter from the 356th Fighter Squadron, 354th Fighter Wing, Eielson AFB, Alaska, will participate, integrating with Koku-Jieitai and Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) aircraft. The focus of this integration is on common communications capabilities and web-enabled logistics support.

The fighters will also conduct close air support and offensive and defensive counter-air and aerial refueling missions, concluding with a large force employment exercise designed to increase readiness and interoperability among the three countries.

Participants will also be exercising their agile combat employment, or ACE, concepts during Cope North. ACE allows for more flexibility by operating more freely with allies and partners throughout the Indo-Pacific, whether that be in a contested environment or in a location without established infrastructure, such as during times of crisis or disaster response.

More than 1,800 U.S. Airmen, Marines and Sailors will train alongside 400 combined Koku-Jieitai and RAAF service members, and approximately 95 aircraft from 23 flying units during CN21.

Established in 1978 as a quarterly bilateral exercise held at Misawa Air Base, Japan, Cope North moved to Andersen AFB in 1999. It is U.S. Pacific Air Forces' largest multilateral exercise.



U.S. Air Force, Japan Air Self-Defense Force and Royal Australian Air Force aircraft fly in formation during a photo exercise at COPE North 20, at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, Feb. 19, 2020. Exercise Cope North is an annual U.S. Pacific Air Forces tri-lateral field training exercise with participants from the U.S. Air Force, U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps, Japan Air Self-Defense Force and the Royal Australian Air Force. The primary intent of COPE North is to enhance coordination of combined air tactics, hone techniques and procedures while strengthening security and stability in the Indo-Pacific region. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Divine Cox) ▲



A Koku Jieitai (Japan Air Self Defense Force) US-2 is refueled by U.S. and JASDF service members during Exercise Cope North 20 at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, Feb. 20, 2020. The 36th Logistics Readiness Squadron Fuels Management Flight won the Pacific Air Forces Best Fuel Flight for 2019, and is one of three bases considered to win the American Petroleum Institute Award, an award given to the best fuels team in the U.S. Air Force. Cope North 20 is an annual trilateral field training exercise conducted at Andersen AFB and around the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), Palau and Yap in the Federated States of Micronesia. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Michael S. Murphy) ▲



Stellar performers pose with their Mustang trophies during the 51st Fighter Wing annual award presentation, Feb. 4, 2021, at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea. Team Osan unconventionally celebrated the ceremony by visiting the winner's work centers to emphasize teamwork and camaraderie. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Greg Nash)

Annual Awards: 51st Fighter Wing honors finest Mustangs



51st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- Congratulations to the 51st Fighter Wing Annual Award winners! These Mustang's exemplary efforts ensured the wing successfully executed the "Fight Tonight" mission through readiness, teamwork and camaraderie. We are honored to serve with you all. Hats off to this year's winners: Airman of the Year: A1C Brandon Tuttle, 51st Mission Support Group NCO of the Year: SSgt Meagan Mackie, 51st Mission Support Group Senior NCO of the Year: MSgt Jason Lane, 51st Wing Staff Agencies First Sergeant of the Year: MSgt Clifford Howey, 51st Maintenance Group Company Grade Officer of the Year: Capt Carey Cain, 51st Wing Staff Agencies Field Grade Officer of the Year: Maj Scott Suter, 51st Medical Group Flight Commander of the Year: Capt Felicia Ticas, 51st Operations Group Civilian Category I of the Year: Mr. Pak U Sok, 51st Mission Support Group Civilian Category II of the Year: Ms. Pamela Allen-Maginley Civilian Category III of the Year: Mr. Joon Choi, 51st Mission Support Group Volunteer of the Year: SrA Chantelle Cabrera, 51st Mission Support Group Team of the Year: Accessories Flight, 51st Maintenance Group Key Spouse of the Year: Mrs. Sarah Reeves, 51st Mission Support Group Honor Guardsman of the Year: SrA Reno Ostronic, 51st Force Support Squadron Honor Guard Program Manager of the Year: SSgt Akin Hyde, 51st Forces Support Squadron.



Loved ones and 51st Fighter Wing Airmen cheer on winners during the 51st FW annual award presentation, Feb. 4, 2021, at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea. Team Osan unconventionally celebrated the ceremony by visiting the winner's work centers to emphasize teamwork and camaraderie. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Greg Nash)

U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Collin Stock, a 66th Training Squadron, Detachment 1 survival, evasion, resistance and escape (SERE) specialist, teaches S-V81-C students about arctic survival at Utqjaġvik (Barrow), Alaska, Jan. 10, 2021. The S-V81-C course is designed for SERE specialists to expand their knowledge about the arctic environment and what is necessary to survive in the event of an emergency or deployment. (U.S. Air Force photo by Maj. Tyler Williams) ▶

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S-V81-C training includes a day of academic instruction where students learned about health, sustenance, personal protection, signaling, recovery and travel in an arctic environment.

Throughout the week, students learn how to operate in the Arctic and build shelters from snow caves to igloos. In total, students construct six different shelter configurations over the course of four days, to enable their survival in the Arctic tundra.

The Cool School team brought the students out to the Chukchi sea where they ignited MK-124s, a smoke and illumination flare, to learn about the intricacies of arctic signaling and recovery.

One of the highlights of the training is the cultural immersion with the local indigenous people, giving many students a broader perspective and appreciation for the Arctic.

"Our students have a unique opportunity to learn from the indigenous people, so they can come to a better understanding of the cultural influences that enabled them to survive in such a harsh region for thousands of years," said U.S. Air Force Maj. Tyler Williams, the 66th TRS, Detachment 1 commander. "Before all of this



modern equipment, it was the cultural values and practices that allowed them to thrive in this region."

This immersion also aligns with the Department of the Air Force Arctic Strategy through collaborative planning opportunities particularly building upon relationships with indigenous communities in the Arctic region to learn from their expertise.

What makes this year's training different from its previous iterations is the introduction of the geopolitical aspects of recovery.

"There's a lot of people who live across the Arctic," Wright said. "Students have to

understand that they might not be picked up by American forces and they may not even be military."

Williams emphasized that this training plays an important role in mission preparation to the Air Force Arctic Strategy. The U.S. Air Force has recognized the importance to prepare aircrew for operations in extreme polar regions, and SERE specialists perform a vital role in doing just that.

"It doesn't matter if you've got the best equipment or aircraft in the world. If you don't have the right training, the Arctic environment will kill you," Williams said.



Wolf Pack brings the heat during Annual Load Crew Competition

Airman 1st Class Natalie Navia, 35th Aircraft Maintenance Unit weapons load crew member, untightens bolts during the Annual Load Crew Competition at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Feb. 6, 2021. Weapons load crews from the 35th Aircraft Maintenance Unit, 80th AMU and 8th Maintenance Squadron were evaluated on how quickly and effectively they could load munitions onto F-16 Fighting Falcons. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Kristin High) ▲



8th Fighter Wing members attend the Annual Load Crew Competition at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Feb. 6, 2021. Weapons load crews from the 80th Aircraft Maintenance Unit, 35th AMU and 8th Maintenance Squadron were evaluated on how quickly and effectively they could load munitions onto F-16 Fighting Falcons. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Mya M. Crosby)



Airmen from the 35th Aircraft Maintenance Unit weapons load crew, transport an AIM 9 L/M Sidewinder with an MJ-1 bomb lift truck during the Annual Load Crew Competition at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Feb. 6, 2021. Weapons load crews from the 35th Aircraft Maintenance Unit, 80th AMU and 8th Maintenance Squadron were evaluated on how quickly and effectively they could load munitions onto F-16 Fighting Falcons. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Kristin High) ◀



Senior Airman Dustin Barrett, 8th Maintenance Squadron load crew team member, secures a Joint Direct Attack Munition, or JDAM, during the Annual Load Crew Competition at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Feb. 6, 2021. Three teams completed in four categories to include dress and appearance, a weapons knowledge test, a toolbox inspection and a weapons load. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Suzie Plotnikov) ▲



Airmen 1st Class Adrien Hurd and Joel Cook, along with Tech. Sgt. Edward Garcia, 80th Aircraft Maintenance Unit weapons load team members, present themselves for the Annual Load Crew Competition at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Feb. 6, 2021. The three-man team raced against the clock and two other units, the 35th AMU and the 8th Maintenance Squadron, as they loaded munitions onto an F-16 Fighting Falcon. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Mya M. Crosby) ▼

Airmen from the 8th Maintenance Squadron survey an F-16 Fighting Falcon prior to the Annual Load Crew Competition at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Feb. 6, 2021. Three teams completed in four categories to include dress and appearance, a weapons knowledge test, a toolbox inspection and a weapons load. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Suzie Plotnikov) ▲



Airman 1st Class Joel Cook, 80th Aircraft Maintenance Unit weapons load crew member, inspects an F-16 Fighting Falcon during the Annual Load Crew Competition at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Feb. 6, 2021. The three-man team raced against the clock and two other units, the 35th AMU and the 8th Maintenance Squadron, as they loaded munitions onto an F-16 Fighting Falcon. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Mya M. Crosby) ◀

U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Jamie Franco, 607th Air Operations Center network defense analyst, recites the oath of enlistment during a change of service ceremony at Osan Air Base, South Korea, Feb. 1, 2021. Jamie and her husband, Frank, both made the jump from the U.S. Air Force to the U.S. Space Force. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Betty R. Chevalier) ▼



U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Frank Franco, 7th Air Force theater communications controller, recites the oath of enlistment during a change of service ceremony at Osan Air Base, South Korea, Feb. 5, 2021. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Betty R. Chevalier) ▲



U.S. Space Force Sgt. Jamie Franco, 607th Air Operations Center network defense analyst, signs enlistment documents during a change of service ceremony at Osan Air Base, South Korea, Feb. 1, 2021. Franco and her husband made the switch from the U.S. Air Force to be some of the first members in the Department of Defense's newest branch. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Betty R. Chevalier) ▲

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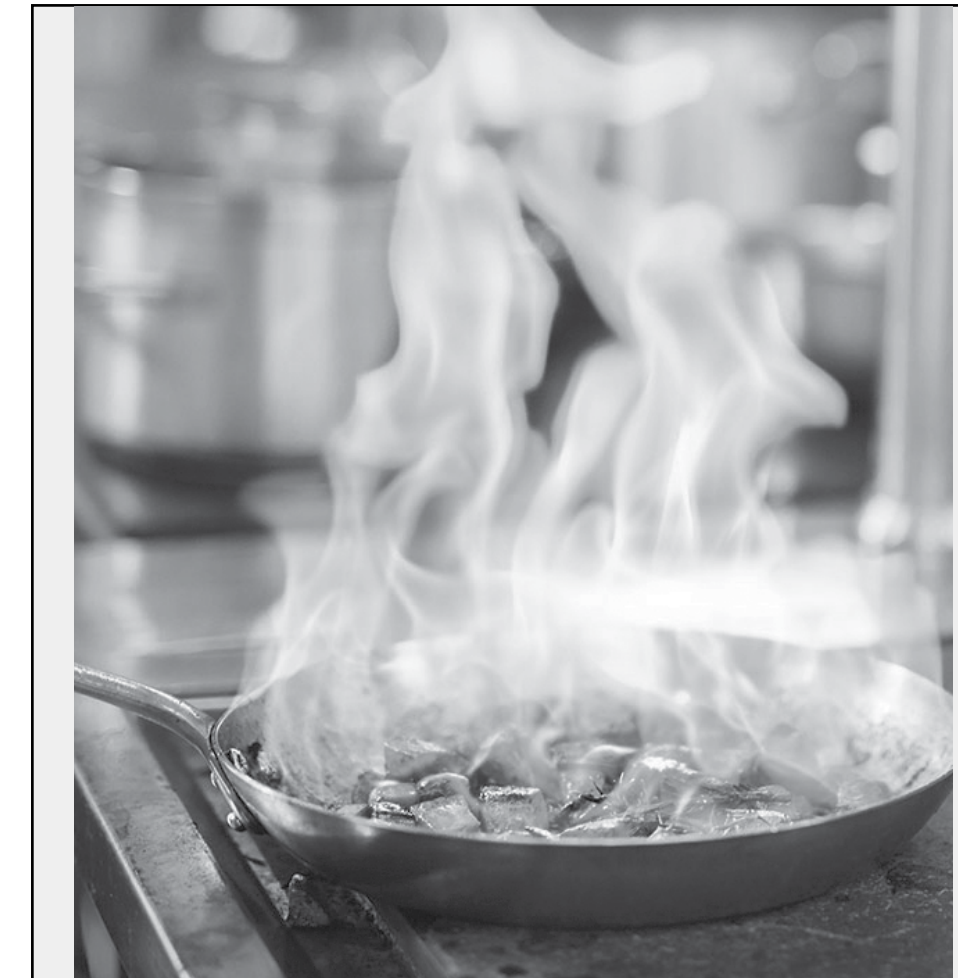
While the color of the Franco's name tapes will change from spice brown to navy, they will still be accomplishing the same duties focused on cyber and communications, supporting the joint warfighter at their next assignment.

Transitioning into the U.S. Space Force can be exciting, albeit overwhelming, as many life changing decisions are. As these Guardians are making history building the foundation to the Department of Defense's newest branch, this process is made easier when an Airman does it with the support of their spouse.

"Transferring to the Space Force with Jamie means everything to me," Frank said. "Without her I most likely would not have taken this opportunity. I'm not sure what's going to happen in the next few years of our Space Force career, but I'm very fortunate I get to start this journey with my best friend."



U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Frank Franco, 7th Air Force theater communications controller, switches out U.S. Space Force Sgt. Jamie Franco, 607th Air Operations Center network defense analyst, nametapes during a change of service ceremony at Osan Air Base, South Korea, Feb. 1, 2021. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Betty R. Chevalier)



Cooking causes over 160,000 home structure fires, annually, and is considered the number one cause of home fires and home injuries.

Of the 160,000 annual cooking fires, two-thirds (66%) started with the ignition of food or other cooking materials. Often, these fires are ignited by grease.

In an effort to keep your home and community safe, please share these tips with friends and family. Knowing how to respond quickly could be the difference between a minor kitchen fire and a devastating disaster.

TIPS TO PREVENT GREASE FIRES:

- Always keep children away from the stove while cooking.
- Stay in the kitchen while you are cooking. The leading cause of fires in the kitchen is unattended cooking.
- Do not use the stove if you have consumed alcohol.
- Keep anything that can catch fire away from your stovetop.
- Remove as much moisture as possible from the food before putting it in hot oil. Do not put frozen foods into hot grease.
- Keep the grease at the recommended temperature. If you see any smoke or the oil smells, it is an indication that it is too hot. Immediately turn off the burner to let it cool down.
- Heat the oil slowly and add food gently to prevent splatter.
- Keep a lid near the pan you're cooking with so that it is accessible if a fire starts.

IF A GREASE FIRE STARTS:

1. Cover the flames with a metal lid. Leave the cover on until it has cooled.
2. Turn off the heat source.
3. Do not try to extinguish the fire with water.
4. Do not attempt to move the pot or pan outside.

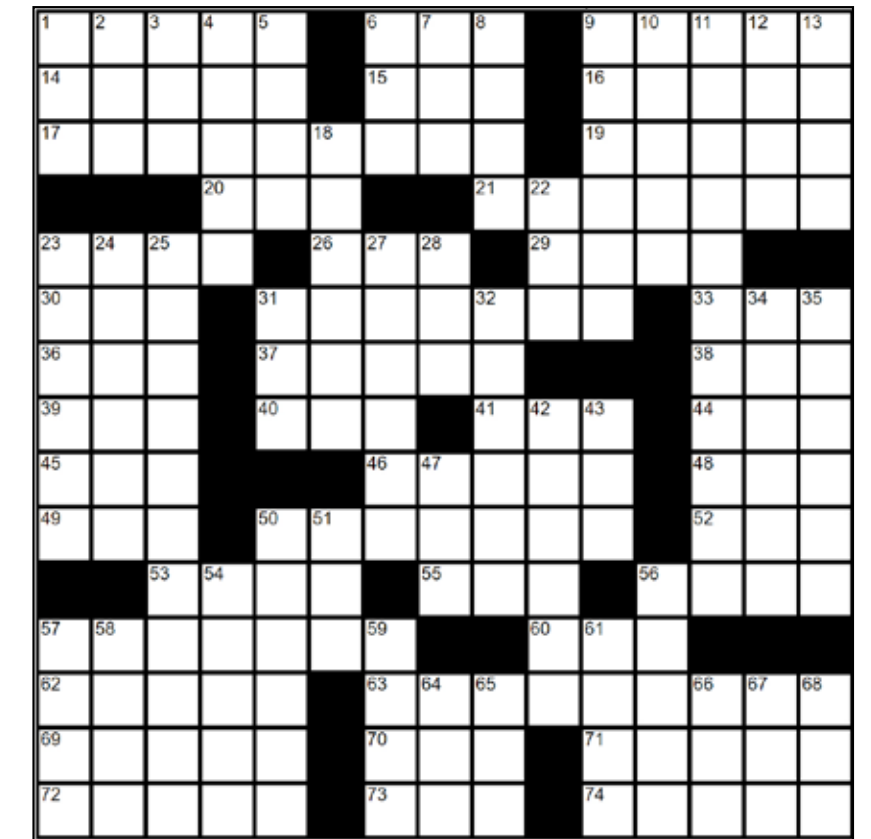
IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO EXTINGUISH THE GREASE FIRE:

1. GET OUT! You and your family members need to leave as soon as you can to prevent injury or loss of life. Do not try to be a hero.
2. Close the door as you leave to help contain the fire.
3. Call 911 as soon as you are at a safe distance from the fire.
4. Do not re-enter your home until the fire has been contained by firefighters.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Fire Prevention Office at 784-4835 (DSN) or 0505-784-4835 (Cell).

The Crossword

By Jon Dunbar



- ACROSS**
- 1 Precedes bravo, charlie
 - 6 "Mad Men" channel
 - 9 Banks or Grey
 - 14 Commonly named dogs
 - 16 Korean apartment brand
 - 16 ___ and unusua punishment
 - 17 Martial arts expert's accessory
 - 19 Astronomical shadow
 - 20 Soldiers' entertainment
 - 21 Buries in a grave
 - 23 Not his
 - 26 Snowden's ex-workplace
 - 29 Cosmonaut Gagarin
 - 30 Abu Nidal's terrorist group
 - 31 Korean wrestling sport
 - 33 Not he
 - 36 Thor and Luke Cage's world
 - 37 Hall's musical partner
 - 38 "Play it again, ___"
 - 39 Empress Myeongseong
 - 40 Said with a salute
 - 41 "I ___ a spell on you"
 - 44 ___ Jima
 - 45 Not the beginning
 - 46 Works for a reward
 - 48 Grass seed
 - 49 President Moo-hyun
 - 50 Alternative to taekwondo
 - 52 US intelligence agency report
 - 53 Follow the command
 - 55 AFSOC officer in charge of training and equipping ground special ops
 - 56 Washington think tank
 - 57 Drainage channels
 - 60 Brig. Gen. immediate subordinate
 - 62 Syrian president
 - 63 Ancient Korean martial art
 - 69 Motif
 - 70 Smartphone software
 - 71 Mix up
 - 72 Got more comfortable
 - 73 NBC's founder
 - 74 Sana'a's country

- DOWN**
- 1 Osan or Kunsan
 - 2 Kim or Wayne
 - 3 Old-fashioned mobile device
 - 4 ___-pocus
 - 5 Questions
 - 6 Wedge tool
 - 7 "Firefly" main character
 - 8 Reference
 - 9 Roman shield
 - 10 Knight's suit of ___
 - 11 Applications
 - 12 Flavorful plant
 - 13 "___ poor Yorick"
 - 18 Japanese tree
 - 22 Greenwich Village school
 - 23 Gun part
 - 24 Brendan Fraser 1992 movie
 - 25 Semicircular kicks
 - 27 Message to command center
 - 28 "Who ___ you?"
 - 31 Distress signal
 - 32 ___ de corps
 - 34 Pearl Harbor site
 - 35 Does very emotionally
 - 42 Decouple
 - 43 Chinese chicken general
 - 47 Soviet firearms
 - 50 Took advice
 - 51 Opposite of nay
 - 54 Accuse
 - 56 Bonnie's partner
 - 57 Actress Blanchett
 - 58 Workplace watchdog
 - 59 General's ranker
 - 61 Approve
 - 64 M113 or BTR060
 - 65 Eco watchdog
 - 66 Techno music
 - 67 Grand ___ Opry
 - 68 NASA's new Ground Network

Answers to Previous Crossword

ACROSS	34 SNAKE	73 ENKA	32 JAMIE
1 AHAS	36 AMG	74 PHEN	33 INTRO
5 ADAM	37 NIT		35 NAZGA
9 RAEI	39 ACID	DOWN	38 TRANS
13 TANK	40 DEMILITARIZED	1 ATTACK	40 DALI
14 SOLOS	41 TAXI	2 HAECHI	41 EXERCISE
16 AIDE	42 EMR	3 ANTHEM	42 IMMOBILE
17 TETE	43 SLEEK	4 SKEE	43 IMJIN
18 AGENT	44 MOONJAEIN	5 ASA	44 TSA
19 TROT	45 AIR	6 DOGLEG	48 KPA
20 ACHES	46 AMC	7 ALEE	50 OCLOCK
22 LEGUMES	47 SLEEK	8 MONGOLIA	51 EIGHTH
24 ONE	48 MOONJAEIN	9 RATE	52 IPHONE
25 UAE	49 MOONJAEIN	10 AIRSPACE	53 NATION
27 ONG	50 AIR	11 EDO	56 HELP
28 PSI	51 PHO	12 LET	60 HTTP
31 KIMJONGIL	52 CSI	13 STUN	61 OMAN
	53 IPA	15 SUOMI	63 ICAP
	54 CHAEBOL	16 WEST	64 EVS
	55 NIGHT	17 MGS	65 MET
	56 EMIT	18 ANGLE	67 NEA
	57 LIMON	19 ATNO	
	58 CHOI	20 STEP	
	59 WEST		
	60 PLACE		
	61 ATNO		
	62 PSI		
	63 ATNO		
	64 PSI		
	65 ATNO		
	66 PSI		
	67 ATNO		
	68 PSI		
	69 ATNO		
	70 PSI		
	71 ATNO		
	72 PSI		
	73 ATNO		
	74 PSI		



Air Force Global Strike Command bombers perform the Super Bowl LV flyover at Raymond James Stadium in Tampa, Fla., Jan. 7, 2021. The trifecta was the first of its kind as it included a B-1B Lancer from Ellsworth Air Force Base, S.D., a B-2 Spirit from Whiteman AFB, Mo., and a B-52H Stratofortress from Minot AFB, N.D. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Jacob B. Wrightsman) ▲

First Lt. Allison Wohnoutka, an AC-130J Ghost rider weapon systems officer with the 4th Special Operations Squadron, places a wreath on a grave during a memorial ceremony for the 30th anniversary of Spirit 03 at Barrancas National Cemetery, Pensacola Naval Air Station, Fla., Jan. 31, 2021. Spirit 03, an AC-130H Spectre gunship with 14 crewmembers, was shot down by an Iraqi surface-to-air missile while conducting a combat mission during Operation Desert Storm. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Miranda Mahoney) ►



A U.S. Air Force nurse assigned to the 18th Operational Medical Readiness Squadron talks with other medical personnel while participating in a simulated mass casualty aeromedical evacuation during exercise Cope North 21 at Northwest Field, Guam, Feb. 10, 2021. Cope North is an annual exercise that serves as a keystone event to enhance U.S. relations with regional allies and partners, promoting security and stability throughout the Indo-Pacific. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Duncan C. Bevan) ▲

Tactical aircraft maintainers assigned to the 34th Fighter Generation Squadron at Hill Air Force Base, Utah, pose for a photo between two F-35A Lightning II fighter jets before a Red Flag 21-1 mission, at Nellis AFB, Nev., Feb. 8, 2021. Red Flag prepares maintenance personnel, ground controllers and space and cyber operators to support missions within the same tactical environment as pilots and senior leaders. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Dwane R. Young) ▼

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."

- 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

- SUNDAY SONLIGHT DINNER -
Every Sunday, volunteers from a spe-

cific 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-HOPE.

- 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

AIR FORCE VIRTUAL EDUCATION CENTER: The new Air Force Virtual Education Center (AFVEC) is currently working intermittently Air Force wide. Please be patient & keep trying to access it. When accessing AFVEC or trying to get MilTA approval in AFVEC from your supervisor, use Google Chrome or Microsoft Edge. Please contact the Education Center at 784-4220 or 51fss.fsde@us.af.mil for further questions/concerns. Thank you!

AFCEA HOSTED GUEST SPEAKER: 3D AFSC TRANSFORMATION: AFCEA is hosting guest speaker CMSgt Stephanie Chrisman for her discussion on the 3D to 1D AFSC transformation! Come by for a better understanding on the future of comm career fields in the Air Force. Also, network with the many communications career fields scattered across Osan Air Base over hors d'oeuvres & open bar sponsored by some of AFCEA's industry partners.

OSAN AB RESTRICTED AREA BADGE MASS RE-ISSUE: The Osan AB mass Restricted Area Badge re-issue will start 1 Nov 2020 and end 1 Mar 2021. Please make contact with your Unit Security Manager for details. (Members with a DEROS 31 Dec 20 and earlier, will not be issued a new badge)

OSAN AB RESTRICTED AREA BADGE MASS RE-ISSUE: The Osan AB mass Restricted Area Badge re-issue will start 1

Nov 2020 and end 1 Mar 2021. Please make contact with your Unit Security Manager for details. (Members with a DEROS 31 Dec 20 and earlier, will not be issued a new badge)

STRESS MANAGEMENT CLASS: Does your head hurt? Are your muscles tense? Irritated around others? Could be signs of stress. Come to the Stress Management Class held every Wednesday from 0900-1000 in the Dental Conference Room. Open to Active Duty/adult dependents/civilians/contractors. For more information or to register, call 784.2148...registration is encouraged but not required.

OSAN BASE HONOR GUARD "TO HONOR WITH DIGNITY": Are you or someone you know highly motivated, dedicated to excellence, and want to be among the sharpest? If the answer is yes, the Osan Air Base Honor Guard Team welcomes you! For more information please contact Program Manager SSgt Akin Hyde at 784-1091 or via email akin.hyde@us.af.mil.

OSAN ANTHEM SINGERS: Osan Anthem Singers are looking for volunteers who would like to sing the Korean and U.S. national anthems during various official/unofficial events throughout the base. You must be able to sing in a group in four-part harmony. Any member with a musical background

and singing talent can audition for the group. Please contact MSgt Knollenberg at minji.knollenberg@us.af.mil if you are interested.

MUNITIONS 100 PERCENT INVENTORY: Ammo will be conducting a 100 percent wall-to-wall inventory of our stockpile. During this time, manning will be strained, so please be sure that all custody issues, expenditures and turn-ins are submitted at least a week prior to the start of this inventory.

SLEEP OPTIMIZATION CLASS: Feeling run down? Need more ZZZzzz's in your life? Come to the Sleep Optimization Class held every Tuesday from 0900-1000 in the Mental Health Clinic. Open to Active Duty/adult dependents/civilians/contractors. For more information or to register, call 784.2148...registration is encouraged but not required.

HEALTHY THINKING CLASS: Want to be the best version of You? It all starts in your head! Come to the Healthy Thinking Class held every Wednesday from 1000-1100 in the Dental Conference Room. Open to Active Duty/adult dependents/civilians/contractors. For more information or to register, call 784.2148...registration is encouraged but not required.

MUNITIONS 100 PERCENT INVENTORY: Ammo will be conducting a 100

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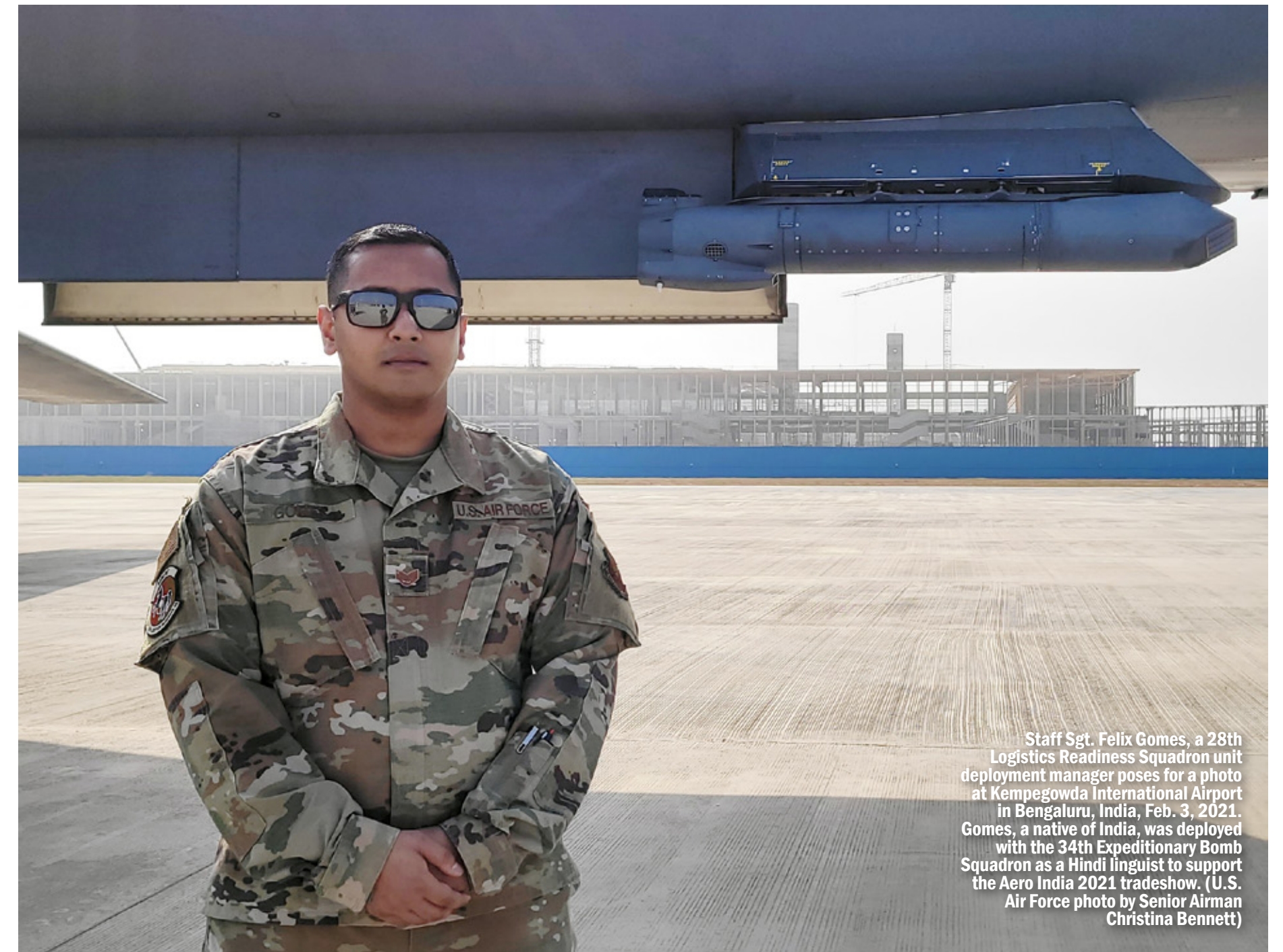
OSAN BASE SHUTTLE CHANGES: Starting 18 January 2021, the base shuttle service will change its schedule and route to the following: Monday through Friday: (0530 – 0830 and 1500 – 1900) The updated route will be posted in the Osan App and on all the stops (new & old) to prevent confusion.

YOUTH SPORTS SOCCER REGISTRATION: Soccer registration is happening now until March 5, 2021! Youth age 5 and up are welcome to participate. Cost per kid is \$55 for YP members and \$60 for non-YP members. Please go to <https://51fss.com/youth-sports/> for all the forms and more info.

GRAPHICS DESIGNER NEEDED: The Osan AB Chapel is looking for a volunteer with Graphics Design skills and experience to create stunning graphics for FB, Worship Services, and other advertising. If you are interested please email osanpccc@gmail.com

Kunsan's emergency phone numbers			
Emergency Services	911		
Off Base/Cell Emergency	063-470-0911	Nurse Advice Line	1-800-723-8255
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



Staff Sgt. Felix Gomes, a 28th Logistics Readiness Squadron unit deployment manager poses for a photo at Kempegowda International Airport in Bengaluru, India, Feb. 3, 2021. Gomes, a native of India, was deployed with the 34th Expeditionary Bomb Squadron as a Hindi linguist to support the Aero India 2021 tradeshow. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Christina Bennett)

Indian-born Airman proudly serves

By Senior Airman Christina Bennett, 28th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

BENGALURU, India -- India native, Staff Sgt. Felix Gomes, is a 28th Logistics Readiness Squadron unit deployment manager (UDM). Usually, he is one of the last stops Airmen make prior to deployment departure.

Recently, the tables have turned, and Gomes was deployed to India as a Hindi Linguist to support the 34th Expeditionary Bomb Squadron and the B-1B Lancer at Aero India 2021 – the largest tradeshow in the Indo-Pacific region.

Gomes was born in Kolkata, a city in West Bengal, India. He immigrated to the United States along with his family at the age of 21. He settled in Silver Spring, Maryland where he enlisted into the U.S. Air Force at the age of 25.

"I always wanted to be a part of something bigger than myself," said Gomes when asked why he enlisted. "It has been rooted in me to serve and have a positive impact on others. I always thought the uniform looked really good as well."

At home station, Gomes is responsible for streamlining 28th LRS troops through the pre-deployment process by keeping track of the

requirements necessary for Airmen to deploy. He ensures that Airmen are medically ready while scheduling individual trainings and briefings dependent on where Airmen are set to deploy.

At Aero India, Gomes was still serving Airmen but in a different capacity.

Gomes has helped minimize the language barrier between the 34th EBS troops and the local community. At one point he was sent out to procure a power drill that was needed to perform maintenance on the B-1. He was able to go out into the city of Bengaluru and communicate what was needed.

In addition, Gomes saw alternate aspects of the B-1 mission.

"As a UDM, I don't get much time to visit the flightline. I'm familiar with what LRS does but I never get to see the mission from the maintenance perspective," said Gomes. "A memorable moment for me was when the B-1 landed here in India and I watched as the maintainers hustled to receive the jet and perform their post-flight operations. Everyone had their own individual roles and jumped into

action. Seeing how everything tied together was amazing to me."

This deployment marks the first time in over 75 years that a U.S. bomber has landed in India. Gomes was appreciative to be a part of history while being a member of the U.S. Air Force.

"A proud moment for me was walking through Yelahanka Air Force Base where the tradeshow was taking place," recalled Gomes. "I was proud because people were staring at me not because I'm Indian or because I have tattoos but because I was wearing the uniform and speaking their language."

Gomes helped broaden knowledge of Indian culture, to include food recommendations, facts about Indian customs and courtesies or general information about the country. He also stressed that respect for people's differences is important when building relationships.

"Humility is key," advised Gomes. "It's critical to understand the differences in people, their values, beliefs and cultures. This trip has been the first step of many in strengthening the partnership between the U.S. and India – two countries that are very important to me."

Spiritual Charge

LOVE NEVER FAILS



By SSgt. Justin Story
Osan Air Base Chapel
Religious Affairs Airman

Any good story has five basic but important elements. These five components are: the characters, the plot, the setting, the conflict, and the resolution. These important elements keep a story running smoothly and allow the action to develop in a logical way that the reader (or movie goer) can follow. The same key elements make up the story of our lives. As we travel through life, we meet all sorts of good and bad characters; we encounter lots of plot twists

and a fair amount of conflict. And just like any good movie, we want peace and resolution in our lives. Let me tell you my story.

Growing up as a kid I had a good life, but a bumpy one that I learned a lot from. My parents had me at a very young age. My dad was 18, and my mom was 16. They tried to make things work as parents and even got married for a short period of time. However, things didn't go quite as they thought it would, and they ended up getting divorced. From there, I went to live with my grandma (Laura) and grandpa (Donnie). My first last name was Rankins (mother's maiden name), but then it changed to *Collum*. Life hit me hard at a young age. My first father figure, that I can remember, was Donnie. Unfortunately, he passed away when I was 3 from an unexpected heart attack.

From that point forward, it was just me and my grandma. She loved me so much and did everything she could to provide the best life for me even though we were poor. My parents started seeing and dating other people. My dad started going through many marriages and my mom married

into a severe abusive relationship. I remember spending time with each of my parents, but sometimes it would be months before seeing them again. My grandma then got into a relationship with a man from church, and soon married him. His name was Terry. He adopted me when I was seven. My last name then changed to *Whitehead*.

Terry was my second father figure. He too tried to provide me the best life he could. He had never had kids before, so I was like his first child. It was pretty cool because my dad started playing a bigger part in my life when I was around nine, so it was like having two dads. Unfortunately, life hit me hard again. Terry passed away when I was just 12. So now it, was just me and my grandma yet again.

On my 13th birthday, I told my grandma that I wanted to go live with my dad. My grandma was not happy with that. She feared I would lose all connections with my mom due to us not being really close at the time and barely being able to see my mom. So I ended up staying with her. My mom, after nearly dying from physical abuse,

got out of the abusive marriage when I was 16. My dad, after multiple divorces, started talking with my mom again. They soon got re-married when I was 17, and have now been happily married for over 10 years.

Life hit me hard again when my grandma passed away at the age of 55 due to medical conditions. My grandma meant a lot to me as she was the primary mother figure in my life for a long time. After she passed away, I surprised my parents by changing my name to theirs. Finally, I became a Story, grew up, joined the Air Force and became a Religious Affairs Airman.

As you can see, my story has a lot of characters, plot twists and conflict. Looking back on my story, I can see how God was there for me, guiding and directing my steps as I passed through the sunny days and the dark valleys. My faith in God has helped me get past the downs in my life, and helped me grow to appreciate the time I have left on earth with those I love. I am constantly reminded that *Love Never Fails* and this is what makes Story's story so special!



An F-15E Strike Eagle departs after receiving fuel from a KC-135 Stratotanker assigned to the 350th Expeditionary Aircraft Refueling Squadron, during an in-flight refueling mission over Southwest Asia, Feb. 1, 2021. The F-15E is a dual-role fighter designed to perform air-to-air and air-to-ground missions. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Trevor T. McBride)

Defenders with the 736th Security Forces Squadron demonstrate cornering techniques and urban-combat during Pacific Defender 21-1 at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, Jan. 28, 2021. This long-standing exercise is designed to enhance multilateral air operations among security forces of the U.S. Air Force, the U.S. Navy, the U.S. Marine Corps, the Koku-Jieitai and the Royal Australian Air Force. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Amir R. Young) ▶



An Airman is greeted by a loved one during a homecoming event at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, N.C. Jan. 13, 2021. The event provided family and friends a chance to welcome service members back home en masse after returning from being deployed. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman Jordan Colvin) ▲



Airmen assigned to the 10th Expeditionary Aeromedical Evacuation Flight unload a litter with a simulated patient from a C-17 Globemaster III aircraft during training at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, Jan. 26, 2021. In a real-world situation, the patient would be transported to the nearest appropriate facility while the crew decontaminated the aircraft and prepared it for the next mission. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Daniel Sanchez) ▶

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, 1:00 p.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

Due to the upcoming demolition and construction of the Osan Chapel facilities, the offices and worship services have been relocated as follows:

Chapel Offices:

The main chapel offices are located on the second floor of building 745 (formerly the Wing Safety building).

Chapel Worship Services:

Protestant service times/location:

Protestant Services are now being held at the base theater across from the Exchange:

- o Community Service @ 0900
- o Gospel Service @ 1100

Catholic service times/location:

Catholic Sunday Masses are now being held at the Mustang Center (multi-purpose room) across from the gym:

- o Confession @ 0830
- o First Mass @ 0900
- o Confession @ 1030
- o Second Mass @ 1100

Catholic Daily Masses will be held in building 769

- (former AFRC bldg):
- o Tuesday – Thursday @ 1130

LDS services are at the Base Theater on Sundays @ 1300.

For the most current updates and announcements, please visit our "Osan AB Chapel" Facebook page.

Find us on the web @

<https://www.facebook.com/OsanABChapel>

HUMPHREYS

Protestant Services

Sundays

9:00 a.m. Liturgical Service - PVC

9:30 & 11:00 a.m. Agape (Contemporary) - 4CMC

11:00 a.m. Common Ground (Traditional) - FRDC

10:00 a.m. Burning Bush (Gospel) - WRC

10:30 a.m. Church of Christ - PVC

11:00 a.m. Spanish Service - PVC

1:00 p.m. Apostolic Pentecostal Lighthouse Service - WRC

- Wednesdays -

6:00 p.m. KATUSA Service - PVC

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (LDS)

Sundays

2:00 / 3:15 p.m. Sacrament Meeting - FRDC

2:30-3:30 p.m. Sunday School - FRDC

3:30-4:30 Unaccompanied/Single SMs Meal - FRDC

POC: CH Brizzee 010-8921-1736; tyler.f.brizzee.mil@mail.mil

Catholic

Saturday, 3:00-5:00 p.m. Adoration - FRDC

Saturday, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Reconciliation/Confession - FRDC

Saturday, 4:40 p.m. Rosary/Benediction - FRDC

Saturday, 5:30 p.m. Vigil Mass - FRDC

Sunday, 9:00 a.m. Mass - FRDC

M-F, 5:30 p.m. Mass - FRDC

Jewish

2nd & 4th Friday, 5:00 p.m. Shabbat Evening Service - 4CMC

POC: CH(Cpt) Daniel Kamzani daniel.j.kamzani@mail.mil

Islamic

Friday, 12:00-13:00 p.m. Jumah Service - PVC

Sunday, 1:00-3:00 p.m. Islamic/Arabic Classes - PVC

POC: Sfc. Kamel 010-8449-3024; mohammed.a.kamel.mil@mail.mil

Seventh Day Adventist

POC: Maj. Delavega 010-3917-6478; david.r.delavega.mil@mail.mil

Pagan

POC: Cpt. Emory Erickson emory.j.erickson.mil@mail.mil



A U.S. Air Force C-17A Globemaster III aircraft assigned to the 176th Wing, Alaska Air National Guard, flies over March Air Reserve Base, California, Jan. 13, 2021. Thirteen Airmen with the 517th AS from Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, trained for a week in the southwestern U.S. with the C-17, focusing on Agile Combat Employment to train and prepare for global operations in a deployed environment. (U.S. Air Force courtesy photo)

Firebirds training in southwestern US highlights C-17 capabilities

By Airman 1st Class Samuel Colvin
JBER Public Affairs

JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, Alaska -- On the morning of Jan. 8, 2021, 13 U.S. Airmen, all assigned to the 517th Airlift Squadron, boarded a C-17A Globemaster III aircraft and flew from Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson to March Air Reserve Base, California. Their mission: to train and prepare for global operations in a deployed environment.

The crew brought computers, printers, projectors and other supplies with them to set up a mobile mission-planning cell (MMPC) to plan airlift operations in a simulated austere environment. An MMPC kit can be set up anywhere in the world to plan airlift operations in locations where a well-established network may not be available.

The week of training focused on Agile Combat Employment (ACE), an operational concept designed to develop Airmen to become multi-functional and operate from smaller, tactical-level forces to increase combat capability.

"Our hosts at March Air Reserve Base afforded the crew a small room where they were able to set up their planning cell and



U.S. Air Force 1st Lt. Alex Martin, a C-17 pilot with the 517th Airlift Squadron, performs defensive maneuvers in a U.S. Air Force C-17A Globemaster III aircraft assigned to the 176th Wing, Alaska Air National Guard, over northwestern Colorado, Jan. 9, 2021. Thirteen Airmen with the 517th AS from Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, trained for a week in the southwestern U.S. with the C-17, focusing on Agile Combat Employment to train and prepare for global operations in a deployed environment. (U.S. Air Force courtesy photo) ▲

U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Brock Waldrup, a squadron aviation resource manager assigned to the 517th Airlift Squadron, pauses for a photo, while U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Valerie Stephens, a loadmaster with the 517th Airlift Squadron, coordinates with pilots to open the cargo door on a U.S. Air Force C-17A Globemaster III aircraft assigned to the 176th Wing, Alaska Air National Guard, in flight over northwestern Colorado, Jan. 9, 2021. Thirteen Airmen with the 517th AS from Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, trained for a week in the southwestern U.S. with the C-17, focusing on Agile Combat Employment to train and prepare for global operations in a deployed environment. (U.S. Air Force courtesy photo) ▶

begin preparations for the first mission of the [exercise]" said U.S. Air Force Capt. Ben Aiken, the 517th AS Weapons and Tactics Flight commander and weapons officer.

"This first mission was a training sortie to enhance the aircrew's effectiveness when operating in a low-altitude environment against advanced adversary threat systems and capabilities including radar-guided missile systems, infrared-guided missile systems, air-defense artillery systems, and non-kinetic threats such as GPS jamming," Aiken continued. "This mission then culminated back at March Air Reserve Base for tactical-arrival training to simulate arrivals into an airfield within a threat environment."

The aircrew operated between hub-and-spoke locations with minimal real-time mission planning. They rapidly transported cargo and personnel from one unfamiliar airfield to another.

"One of the largest challenges to operationalizing ACE at the tactical level is operating in and through domains with degraded or non-existent command and control, called C₂, abilities," Aiken said. "We relied heavily on our training and experience to execute mission-type orders without extreme direction or redirects from our C₂ function – our simulated Joint Forces Air Component Commander who was sitting here at JBER."

While in the MMPC at March ARB, Aiken said he provided additional training for U.S. Air Force Maj. Joe Aubert, a C-17 pilot with the 729th AS, and U.S. Air Force Capt. Joel Cortright, a C-17 pilot with the 517th AS, to better prepare them for their applications to the U.S. Air Force Weapons School. Aubert and Cortright had opportunities to lead the mission-planning cell, fly the missions during the OST, and receive several academic lessons on both planning and operating the C-17. Aubert and Cortright then gave instruction briefings to the other aircrew members involved in the training.

Conducting additional training during a training exercise focused on ACE operations further demonstrates the efficiency and flexibility of U.S. Airmen.

Another highlight from the week was semi-prepared runway operations (SPRO) at Bicycle Lake Army Airfield, California. This exercised one of the primary design elements of the C-17 – its ability to deliver cargo worldwide, even on unpaved runways.

"Airfields like Bicycle Lake afford us training for this mission set, as it is located on a dry lake bed," Aiken said. "We were able to perform multiple landings and takeoffs on this semi-prepared, or dirt, runway for training for our crew members. This training is vital in building their experience and confidence for when they operate in similar environments while deployed."

U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Michael Ryckoff, the



Thirteen U.S. Airmen with the 517th Airlift Squadron from Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, trained for a week in the southwestern U.S. with a U.S. Air Force C-17A Globemaster III aircraft assigned to the 176th Wing, Alaska Air National Guard, focusing on Agile Combat Employment to train and prepare for global operations in a deployed environment. (U.S. Air Force courtesy photo) ▼



821st Contingency Response Squadron airfield manager, was instrumental in making the training possible at the airfield.

"He traveled to Bicycle Lake on short notice to perform landing zone safety officer duties for us," Aiken said. "This position is required for us to perform this training, and it would not have been possible had he not been willing to travel to help us out."

Another capability of the C-17 is using an aerial bulk fuel delivery system to refuel F-22 Raptors – one of the U.S. Air Force's fifth-generation fighter aircraft – in unfamiliar, austere environments. "Although we were unable to complete one of our desired ACE objectives – aircraft-to-aircraft refueling operations from a C-17 directly to an F-22 – we were successful in exercising our willingness to utilize JBER assets to demonstrate the asymmetric advantage the C-17 brings to ACE – capability and capacity to move, operate and maneuver," Aiken said.

Even though the refueling didn't happen, the

week of training was already a major success.

"It included coordination with combat controllers in Fort Irwin, [California], SPRO landings, cargo movements in support of F-22 operations, along with a whole host of C-17 operations and capabilities," said U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Christopher Prentiss, the 517th AS commander. "The training tells some of the great stories of how the 3rd Wing is preparing for ACE operations, and is a great display of how the 517th is preparing to support global ACE operations." The Pacific Air Forces first implemented ACE in 2017, focusing on training to deploy smaller, agile units with mobile secure communications to austere or contested environments where there may not be established infrastructure. "The ACE construct and enduring efforts afford U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, the U.S. Air Force, and our joint and coalition partners greater flexibility when it comes to fighting tomorrow's battles," Aiken said. "What we're doing hasn't changed – how we're doing it has."

Staff Sgt. Ana Frye, 8th Force Support Squadron registered mail NCO in-charge, retrieves a package inside the post office at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Feb. 3, 2021. With a staff of 11 the post office receives and distributes approximately 5,000 packages a week to the members of Kunsan. ▶



Postal operations support Wolf Pack



Packages sit inside the post office at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Feb. 3, 2021. The post office receives packages six days a week to distribute mail to the members of Kunsan. ◀



Tech Sgt. Heather Head, 8th Force Support Squadron postal operations NCO in-charge, scans a mail notification inside the post office at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Feb. 3, 2021. With a staff of 11, post office receives and distributes approximately 5,000 packages a week to the members of Kunsan. ▲

Tech. Sgt. Heather Head, 8th Force Support Squadron postal operations NCO in-charge, gives mail to Master Sgt. Daniel Hansford, 8th Maintenance Squadron mission support equipment maintenance NCO in-charge, inside the post office at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Feb. 3, 2021. With a staff of 11, the post office receives and distributes approximately 5,000 packages a week to the base. ▼



Airmen wait in line at the post office to pick up packages at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Feb. 3, 2021. The post office receives and distributes approximately 5,000 packages a week to the members of Kunsan. ▲



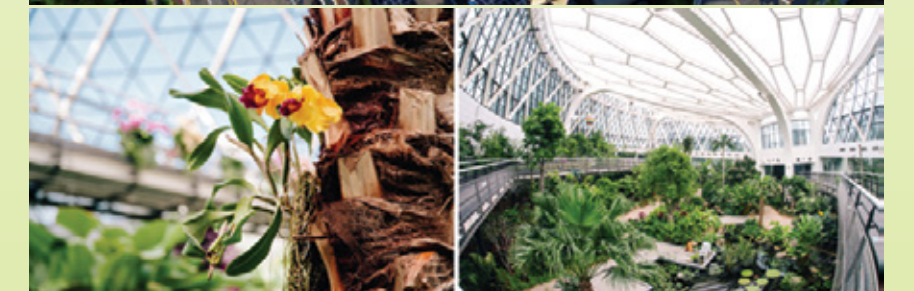
Winter in Korea is COLD, with temperatures remaining at or below -10 °C for days in a row. The biting wind and treacherously icy roads definitely give winter more negative points in many people's perspective. If you're in Korea on a day when there are severe cold warnings, you can still enjoy your time by visiting green spaces, perfect to transport your mind to a tropical paradise.

Green Retreats to Survive Winter

▶ Seoul Botanic Park

Calling the Seoul Botanic Park large is an understatement; two times the size of Yeouido, the first urban arboretum in Seoul is gigantic! The park is comprised of Yeollinsup, an open forest; Jujewon, a theme garden; Hosuwon, a lake park; and Seubjiwon, a marsh eco park. The most popular attraction is the greenhouse in the theme garden, which is filled with plants from twelve countries in the Mediterranean and tropics regions. Be sure to head up to the skywalk for a bird's-eye-view of the entire layout.

- Address: 161, Magokdong-ro, Gangseo-gu, Seoul
- Directions: Walk for approx. 15 min from Magoknaru Station (Seoul Subway Line 9, Airport Railroad), Exit 3
- Operating hours: March-October 09:30-18:00 / November-February 09:30-17:00
- Admission: Adults 5,000 won / Teenagers 3,000 won / Children 2,000 won
- * Adults (ages 19+) / Teenagers (ages 13-18) / Children (ages 6-12)
- Website: botanicpark.seoul.go.kr



◀ All Day Fresh Kitchen

Yeouido is one of busiest areas of Seoul, being the center of the commercial industry. Perhaps this non-stop rush was the driving force behind the opening of All Day Fresh Kitchen, a beautiful restaurant perfect for taking things slow. The restaurant is located on the 50th floor of the Federation of Korean Industries (FKI) building, providing views of the surrounding city through the floor-to-ceiling windows. It is popular for taking in the nightscape, as well as for hosting wedding ceremonies due to the all-white interior design.

As the name implies, All Day Fresh Kitchen serves brunch menus from various countries including France, England, and Greece. Additional menus include desserts, coffees, and wines. No matter what time you visit, you can enjoy a delicious meal in an interior that is equally scrumptious.

- Address: FKI Building 50F, 24, Yeoui-daero, Yeongdeungpo-gu, Seoul
- Directions: Walk for approx. 10 min from Yeouido Station (Seoul Subway Line 5, 9), Exit 2
- Operating hours: 10:00-22:00
- Website: www.theskyfarm.co.kr



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◀ Grand Greenhouse of Changgyeonggung Palace

The Grand Greenhouse of Changgyeonggung Palace was the first greenhouse in Korea. Built in 1909 just before the Japanese colonial era, the greenhouse was designed after the Crystal Palace from the Great Exhibition of 1851 in London. Although rather small in size, the greenhouse is filled with over 70 different types of plants. There is no separate fee charged, but visitors must pay admission to Changgyeonggung Palace to access the greenhouse.

- Address: 185, Changgyeonggung-ro, Jongno-gu, Seoul
- Directions: Walk for approx. 20 min from Hyeon Station (Seoul Subway Line 4), Exit 4
- Operating hours: 09:00-21:00 (Closed Mondays)
- Admission: Adults 1,000 won / Children 500 won
 - * Adults (ages 19-64) / Children (ages 7-18)
 - * Free admission: Preschoolers (ages 6 & younger), senior citizens (ages 65 & older), visitors wearing hanbok
- Website: cgg.cha.go.kr

▶ Urban Plant

Urban Plant is a café filled with greenery! The tasty brunch menus are a perfect match to the cozy interior. The signature Urban Omelet is stuffed with avocado, tomato, and bacon for a filling meal. To go with this, we recommend the fresh grapefruit juice.

With various potted plants creating a cozy atmosphere, dining at Urban Plant will give you some time to relax and enjoy a meal. The café has plenty of seating, taking up three floors, with terrace space as well. The home-like interior will have you wanting to never leave.

- Address: 3, Dongmak-ro 4-gil, Mapo-gu, Seoul
- Directions: Walk for approx. 15 min from Hapjeong Station (Seoul Subway Line 2, 6), Exit 7
- Operating hours: 10:00-21:00
- Signature menus: Urban Omelet 14,000 won / Americano 5,000 won / Grapefruit Juice 7,500 won



◀ Alex the Coffee - Seongbuk Branch

The Seongbuk branch of Alex the Coffee is located in a quiet neighborhood of Seoul. One wall of the café is entirely made up of windows overlooking a small garden, while the café interior is filled with various potted plants. The interior makes this café popular, but the coffee flavor is most important! All the coffee beans used are directly purchased and roasted for a high-quality flavor. To satisfy a sweet tooth, we recommend Charlie Choco, served with ice cream and chocolate cake topped with a marshmallow.

- Address: 9, Seongbuk-ro 28-gil, Seongbuk-gu, Seoul
- Directions: Take Bus No. 1111 or 2112 from Samseonggyo (Seongbuk Cultural Center) Bus Stop in front of Hansung Univ. Station (Seoul Subway Line 4), Exit 6 to Dongbang Culture University Bus Stop and walk for approx. 1 min
- Operating hours: 09:00-18:00
- Signature menus: Flat White 5,500 won / Charlie Choco 7,000 won
- Inquiries: +82-70-7520-7714 (Korean only)
- Website: www.alexthecoffee.com